**Southend West, Saturday 26th September 2020**

12 walkers, 19 miles – leader Ron Williamson

The shorts and T-shirts so prevalent earlier in the week had been replaced with winter warmers when today’s adventurers ventured forth under grey skies into a fresh North-Westerly. Not the most encouraging morning for an early start, but having pre-booked we had to turn up and is so often the case in such circumstances the strong wind soon blew any cobwebs away whilst the arctic-like temperatures ensured that we did not overheat on the hill climbs. Never far from the urban jungle of South-East Essex our route linked various pockets of wood and parkland before a somewhat undulating introduction to the sea front.

Only one brave soul partook of an ice cream but 7 members defied the elements to walk the pier and thereby complete the 19 miles and 1,000 ft of climb.

Photographs by Gavin Fuller, George Johns and Ian Watson