**London Parks and Riverside, Saturday 12th September 2020**

6 walkers, 14 miles – leader Adam Dawson

Our walk on Saturday followed the first half of the sadly-cancelled 2020 Capital Challenge and was one of a number of walks held to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the formation of the London Group.

From St James’ Park we headed east to follow an anti-clockwise loop taking in, among other notable locations: Green Park, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Holland Park, Brompton Cemetery and Battersea Park. We took a brief diversion down Hyde Park Gate to check out Winston Churchill’s former residence, before breaking for a picnic lunch in Holland Park.

As we made our way back round the loop to St James Park again, we crossed over Battersea Bridge where, very much to our surprise, we spotted a large black seal taking a leisurely swim in the murky waters of the Thames.

The warm sunshine throughout the route made the walk particularly enjoyable and brought out an abundance of late summer flowers to add colour. The welcoming glass of Prosecco in St James Park, kindly organised by Marie and Colin, added the final touch to a perfect day out.  Even the social distancing rules couldn’t dampen the enjoyment of catching up with old friends and familiar faces at the end.

Photographs by Adam Dawson