**A May Day on the Downs, Circular from Amberley Station, Saturday 29th May 2022**

12 walkers, 21.5 miles – leader Jerome Ripp

A cold sunny day, perfect for hill walking in splendid isolation. The packed car park that we saw at Gatwick on the way down in the train suggested that many people prefer crowds. By contrast one of our group had travelled from Wiltshire to be on this walk. A brisk start on the South Downs Way took us up Westburton and Bignor Hills passing Toby's Stone, with the famous lines from Robert Louis Stevenson's Requiem. A break on Bignor Hill then the Barlavington ridge north to Duncton Mill, and Seaford College for lunch on the green. Lots of shady woodlands followed on Graffham Down and eventually we picked up the Monarch's Way almost all the way back to Amberley getting back for the hourly train without the need for a sprint finish.

Photographs by Jerome Ripp