**Witley to Haslemere, Sunday 15th March 2009**

33 walkers, 19 miles – leader Peter Buchwald

We met at Witley station at 10:09 on a warm, sunny Spring morning where I was amazed at the crowd which alighted from the train. I counted about 33 people and another person later confirmed that number. We started along the Greensand Way between houses and were soon walking through woods. The ground had dried up a bit from the previous week but was still muddy and we passed rivers and streams as we meandered through the trees to the Wheatsheaf Hotel at Grayswood where I had reserved a table for about half the group. After a hearty meal we started on the walk uphill out of Grayswood, going away from Haslemere in a long loop. Through more woods and a steep hill to the top of Black Down and the Temple of the Winds which was a bit busy that afternoon, being occupied by us and a group of volunteers who were clearing vegetation. It was still early and we had time to return along the bottom of a small, muddy stream to Fernhurst where we had some afternoon refreshments. From there on, the last part of the walk was messy, and we made slow progress past a horse, through a field where we seemed to be sinking into a mixture of horse manure, urine and mud, and several people were electrocuted by some white wires on a fence. There was a last hill into Haslemere and then down to the station. Some of us ran the last kilometre or so of the walk to comfortably catch the 18:17 train back to London. One of the group overheard whispers in the train, about the strong smell of horse manure which seemed to accompany us. Thanks to Janette and Glenys for indicating the way from Temple of the Winds to Fernhurst and Fernhurst to Haslemere which I had mapped out on my GPS, but which I hadn't had the time to walk beforehand.