**High Weald Woodland, Saturday 8th May 2010**

10 walkers and a dog, 22 miles – leader Jerome Ripp

A group of 10 and a dog braved the prospect of a long journey due to rail repairs and ominous weather warnings of showers and rain. The reality turned out to be much more pleasant; the rambling bus journey to the start was through pleasant countryside and although we had intermittent drizzle, with colourful ponchos going on and coming off, there was no solid rain. One of the nicest things about the London group is the variety of interesting walkers one meets and this time it was good to meet up again with a multi-addiction mentalist. Anyway, on to the walk which went southwest, passing close to Darwell Reservoir and down to the amusingly named hamlet of Brown Bread Street for lunch. This was the only habitation we saw all day apart from isolated farms, as the route was in woodlands and across open country with fine views which even the low clouds could not deprive us of. The afternoon was considerably longer with a section of interesting gates and stiles to test the physical and mental ability and agility of us all. Eventually over Brightling Down with a second view of the Gypsum conveyor belt, the obelisk of Jack Fuller's folly, and the splendid pile of Stocknersh manor with its lake to return to Robertsbridge. It was, as is often the case with this leader, a generous 20 miles, probably more like 22 miles, but everyone enjoyed and that after all is the purpose of walking.