**East Croydon to Caterham, Sunday 3rd January 2010**

23 walkers, 17 miles – leader Peter Buchwald

We walked out along the Vanguard Way

As Croydon City was waking up in sun

Twenty-two brave men and women

Led by a sick man, coughing and wheezing.

We passed the water tower near the park

Climbed Croham Hurst with its suburban view

Crossed icy magical dark woodland places

Where some laggards were nearly left behind.

We lunched at the White bear in Fickleshole

Then set off again through country lanes

Passed Epicure's Garden where lunatics

May once have revelled in the country air.

We returned to a more genteel place

A neatly manicured golf course, a public school

Then up a hill along the North Downs Way

And back to Caterham in dark suburban streets