**A Visit to Uphusband, Saturday 5th March 2011**

14 walkers, 22 miles – leader Jerome Ripp

A bitterly cold day and even some sunshine kept the 14 of us going at a brisk pace all day. A frustrating start from Andover as massive new housing developments had obliterated some of the paths and we ended up on the road to Smannell. From there it was superb countryside to the north with woodland and then glorious views to the Purbecks as we followed the newly signposted Betty Parker Way, named after the devoted Ramblers campaigner. Lunch at Hurstbourne Tarrant (the Uphusband of the walk title, a media guru of 200 years ago) was at the George and Dragon, a lovely pub furnished as if it were someone's front room. The longer afternoon followed the Test Way, over the hills to St. Mary Bourne and then south to the edge of Harewood forest. It was time to head west back to Andover which was reached in time for the 17.04 train having covered nearly 22 miles in 8 hours in a fine walking area.