

## 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 – Autumn Walk

Nine of us gathered in Dunsfold on a sunny and very pleasant autumn morning for a 4½ mile walk towards Hambledon and back. We divided into 2 groups (so we could follow the Rule of Six), with the second group following the first at a distance. It turned out to be a lovely walk full of interesting places en route. We soon passed the lovely Sun Inn and before long reached Dunsfold Church with its attractive lych-gate set up in 1901 to commemorate Queen Victoria.



From there we left the village and headed into the countryside, passing along the edge of a number of farms,. Horses, cows and pigs were the main animals we encountered. This pair seemed just interested in us as we were in them.



As the path climbed away from the farm there were some lovely views at the top before we encountered the first patch of woodland and then we reached Vann with its beautiful, rambling Victorian mansion, and the gardens which open up to the public every summer (except 2020!).

More farmland and woodland followed before we reached the Hookhouse hamlet and from there we pressed on back towards Dunsfold. We knew we were near when we reached the village pond with its swans and cygnets.



Our lunch venue at the Sun was in sight now so it wasn't long before we were tucking into some delicious pub food in their tented dining area, with its socially distanced seating arrangements.

It was probably one of our most successful walks. Good weather, good company and good food - a wonderfully refreshing change from the rigours and restrictions of lockdown.

*James Cooke*