

## Royal Parks Ramble 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022



On a beautiful spring day fifteen members of The Sussex Hive travelled up to London to do The Royal Parks Ramble Challenge, organised by ICANDO. We were briefed about the ramble and then set off up Buckingham Palace Road armed with laminated maps of the three parks we were to explore, St James's Park, Green Park and central London's largest park, Hyde Park. As we went round we had information and question sheets with things to look for, various letters from which spelt out a word, the clue for which was "what Lord and Lady Baden-Powell are to us". The spring blossom and flowers were well out, as was the wildlife on the water although, sadly, we did not see any pelicans in St James's. Green Park was next on our walk and was also our lunch spot, sitting in a semicircle on the grass. I think we were all impressed by the RAF Bomber Command Memorial as we left Green Park. In Hyde Park we walked round the Serpentine, still on the look-out for clues and photo opportunities. Our return took us alongside the boundary of Buckingham Palace, past various embassies and back to ICANDO for our cream tea and to receive our badge. Well, it wouldn't be guiding without a badge! Eight miles later we were back at Victoria Station for our journey home. Thank you very much indeed to Gill who organised the day for us.

Margery Nash