

**u3a SIDCUP – RAMBLER 2 – Blackheath Station to the Cutty Sark via Greenwich Park –Tuesday 24 October 2023 – leader Helen Salmon**

A small group of us met at Blackheath Station and walked up to and over Blackheath Common. There was a circus near the main entrance to Greenwich Park so we kept to the left and entered at the gate next to the Rangers House. Just before the entrance to the Rose Garden a couple in the group spent time photographing Queen Caroline's bath remains. This is all that is left of Montague House, home of the queen who was the estranged wife of King George IV. The rose garden looked a bit bedraggled after all the rain we have had. We made our way to Blackheath Avenue where the leaves on the trees were beginning to turn a golden colour and there were many fallen conkers underfoot, thanks to the dry summer. At the end of the avenue is the General Wolfe statue, one of the focal points of Greenwich Park. This stands next to the Royal Observatory overlooking the magnificent views of the London skyline. Following photo opportunities we made our way down the steep path eventually coming to the National Maritime Museum where a couple of us were nearly tempted to go in for a cream tea! As we entered King William Walk we became very aware of the Cutty Sark. We spent a while looking down at the Thames and spotting various landmarks before going to lunch. A lovely walk on a sunny autumn day.