Shooters Hill Ramble 12th May 2023 led by Elaine

**Due to London train and tube strikes our planned walk to the Queen Elizabeth II Olympic Park was put on hold for a date in the future and a local walk around the Oxleas Wood area was quickly put into place. The May weather was forecast for rain throughout the day but 7 intrepid walkers turned out in their appropriate coats and footwear.**

**We met at the top of the hill by the Oxleas Cafe at 10.30 and we proceeded to walk down towards the Rochester way and into The Sheperdleas Wood. The path here took us up to the pond where we were fortunate to admire a pair of Canadian Geese and their 5 goslings. We then ventured down along the road to Eltham Park and a well needed coffee as by this time the rain was settling in for the day. After walking around the park we proceeded through the Sheperdleas Wood to the Falconwood Field and across back into Oxleas Woods. Along the path through the woods we were at least able to take some shelter from the rain. Our walk took us back past the Oxleas Cafe and onto the Sevendroog Castle, a folly dating to the 18th century with magnificent views from the top, but with the rain it certainly wasn't the day to be doing this. Finally we arrived at The Red Lion Pub for lunch.**

**The May weather certainly wasn't favourable but this walk made the most of this beautiful ancient woodland, and we all felt better for it.**