

## **HADS venture out.....for walk no. 3.**

This time we all met by Compton Church at Compton Street. It was Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September and it was a beautiful sunny afternoon. 14 members and friends gathered to undertake the walk up to Whiteshute Ridge, from where we were promised an amazing view looking down on the city of Winchester. Before we set off Don showed us on the map where we had been over the last 2 walks. Then he showed us where the Roman Roads went when they left Winchester.

We had one visitor who was joining us for the first time, so Don demonstrated dowsing and explained what he thinks it is. Chris from Alton was very interested and immediately had a go with the rods.

Don explained that the ancient trackway follows the line of Compton Street, and later pointed out the Hurdle Way which is an old hollow way. As we climbed the hill up to the ridge we looked across the field where we could see lots of lynchets, ridges or ledges formed by ancient ploughing on a slope. They were clearly visible and probably made in the Iron Age. Along with the ancient trackways in evidence, this was further proof that man has lived here over many centuries.

Passing the Celtic field-systems we came at last to the top of the ridge. What an amazing view! We stopped here for some time taking in the sight of the cathedral and the city surrounding it. It was well worth the 4-mile walk, the climb up the hill and the opportunity to learn more about our local area. Thanks to Don for sharing his enthusiasm and knowledge with us all.

Edwina Cole  
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