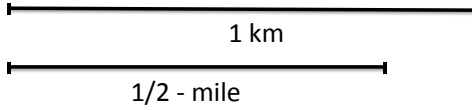


SLADE GREEN & BARNEHURST

FULL CIRCUIT - Sheet 1
(first section)

Scale (approx.):



---> Starting direction

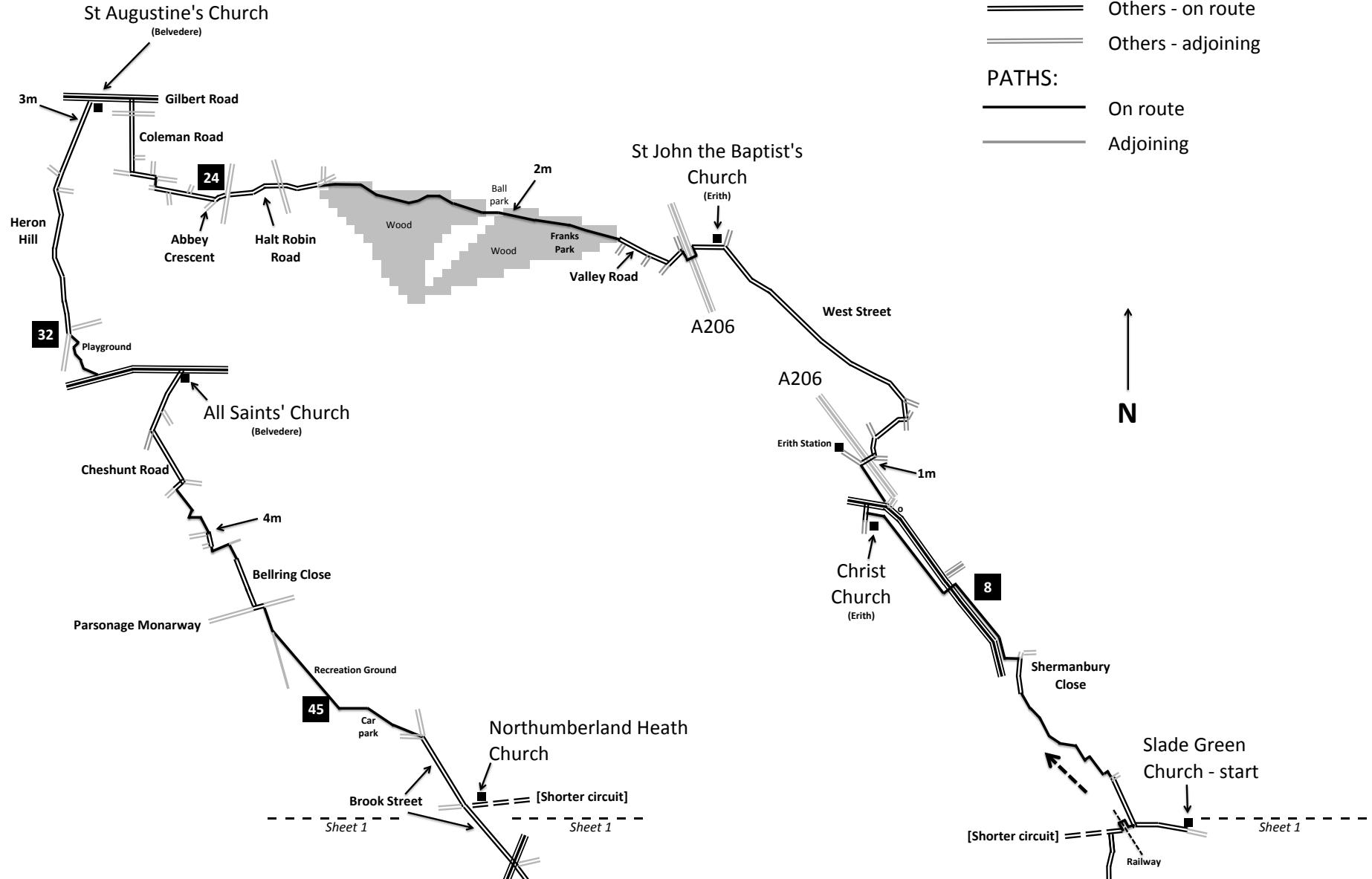
88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)

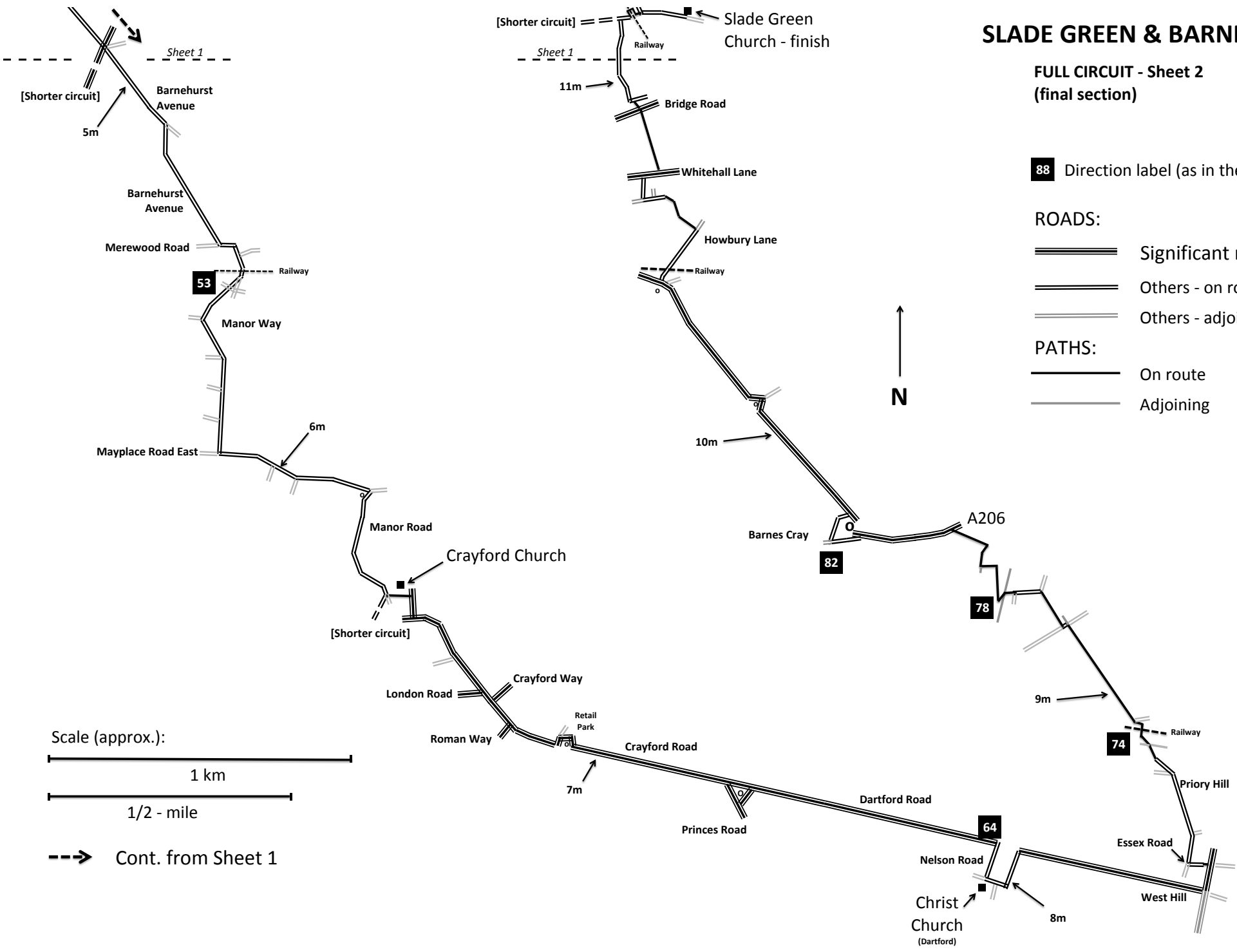
ROADS:

- Significant roads
- Others - on route
- Others - adjoining

PATHS:

- On route
- Adjoining








SLADE GREEN & BARNEHURST



FULL CIRCUIT - Sheet 2 (final section)



88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)


ROADS:

-  Significant roads
-  Others - on route
-  Others - adjoining

PATHS:

-  On route
-  Adjoining

Scale (approx.):
 1 km
 1/2 - mile

 Cont. from Sheet 1

SLADE GREEN & BARNEHURST CIRCUIT - 11.31 miles

Churches in the full circuit:

Slade Green (start and finish)

Erith Christ Church (Direction 9B: Detour 1 - see Appendix)

Erith St John the Baptist (13)

Belvedere St Augustine (29)

Belvedere All Saints (34)

Northumberland Heath (48B: Detour 2 - see Appendix)

Crayford (57)

Dartford Christ Church (64)

Associated local circuits

- SB1: Slade Green - Erith - Belvedere - Northumberland Heath - Slade Green
- BH2: Barnehurst - Bexleyheath - Bexley - Crayford - Barnehurst
(to be published summer 2020)
- DA1: Dartford

Full circuit: A mile or so of the Green Chain Walk (from Direction 13) provides a break from (in general perfectly pleasant) suburbia. (Indeed it would be possible to join the GCW earlier by following the longer riverside path in Erith (12), rather than the parallel West Street.)

Roads and hindrances:

The straight footpath currently OS mapped at the start (north-west from the railway footbridge) now instead zigzags its way through a partially completed development (as described in Directions 2 and 3), but finishes in the same place. The criss-crossings of the A206/A2016 are all protected (lights, underpass, footbridge), and the roads in Belvedere, Crayford and Dartford present no special problems.

The path alongside the stream in Direction 78 is slightly hidden and unhelpfully narrow, but reasonably short.

FULL CIRCUIT

Slade Green - Erith - Belvedere - Northumberland Heath - Crayford - Dartford - Slade Green

Notes taken: May and June 2020

The start and finish is at **Slade Green Church** , Slade Green Road (DA8 2LW).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the exit from Slade Green Church , turn right along the roadway.	521 770	
2	3	At the railway, bend right with the road, into the estate.		
3	5	Where the roadway bends away to the right, instead (as things are currently - May 2020) turn left to embark on crossing the construction works along a protected walkway, which proceeds by further turns, right then left, then right.		
4	7	Go leftwards along a footpath over a bridge.		
5	10	Reach the dead end of a cul-de-sac, and start along it.		
6	11	At the end turn left up a passageway leading to the main road.	517 775	
7	12	At the top turn right alongside the main road.		
8	15	[Map point] Cross to its left-hand side by means of the lights (just before James Watt Way), and continue to the next junction at the roundabout.		
9	19	<i>[To visit Christ Church, now divert instead to Detour 1 in the Appendix.]</i> Main route: Use the lights a little to the left to cross the A220/A206, before then correcting to the original direction, down a passageway leading in the direction of Erith station.		0.91
10	21	But reaching the roadway at the bottom, turn right, away from the station and under the main road above.		
11		Follow the road left, then right.		
12	24	Reaching the main road turn left (West Street, the continuation of Erith High Street), and follow it all the way to the church at the end.	513 782	
13	32	Facing the lych-gate to St John the Baptist's Church , turn left along Jesset Close and past the bollards.		
14	33	At the end use the footbridge on the left to cross the road.		
15	35	Coming down from the footbridge, turn left along Battle Road.		1.71
16		Turn right up Valley Road.		
17	38	At the top go ahead into Franks Park. Take the middle of the three paths. Go ahead on the broad path, ignoring the first fork on the right.		
18		At the next major fork keep right.		
19	42	Entering an open area, pass a ball park on the right and a playground on the left, before going into trees again.		
20	45	Take the right fork.		
21	46	But ignore the next right fork.		
22	50	Leave the trees after some gentle steps downhill, merge left into the road and walk uphill, crossing to its right-hand side.	496 788	
23	52	At the junction continue ahead along Halt Robin Road.		2.45
24	54	[Map point] At the next, slightly angled, junction go as straight across as you can, to start along Upper Abbey Road (avoiding the left fork down to Abbey Crescent).		
25	57	After house no.53 on the right, turn right down an enclosed path (Footpath 13).		
26		At the bottom turn left.		
27	58	At the end turn right, and go all the way down to the end, notwithstanding the 'No Entry' sign for traffic.		

* *"Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.*

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
28	61	At the end turn left along the main road.		
29	62	At the junction ahead turn left (St Augustine's Road) and immediately pass the entrance to St Augustine's Church , and begin the long climb to Upper Belvedere.		2.93
30	66	Continue the ascent as the road swings left and becomes Heron Way.		
31	74	Cross the road (Lessness Park) at the top of the hill.		
32		[Map point] Go into the playground through the gate on the left and head diagonally across to the gate at the far corner on Woolwich Road.		
33	76	Going out through the gate, use the zebra crossing a few steps to the left to cross Woolwich Road, and turn left on the far side.		
34	79	At the mini-roundabout cross Nuxley Road and turn right along its far side, at the entrance to All Saints' Church .		3.62
35	81	Turn second-left along Cheshunt Road, just after the traffic constriction.		
36	83	At the T-junction at the end turn right.		
37	84	After about 70 yds. turn left along a passageway (Footpath 230), and follow it through its windings and down steps.		
38	86	At the bottom cross a stream by way of a footbridge on the right, then go ahead, straight on up an estate road.		
39	87	At the top of the road, walk up Footpath 211, which leads uphill to the left, to reach the end of the terrace at house no.28. <i>The footpath is signposted (correctly) but at a slightly misleading place. To reach it, after the roadway swings to the right, continue straight ahead (past the signpost), keeping on the right-hand edge of the parking area and heading for the wall at the right-hand edge of the small service unit. Here (surprisingly) is the start of the tarmac footpath. Turn left up it.</i>		
40	88	At the junction at the top turn right along another tarmac footpath.		
41	89	At the end reach the dead end of a cul-de-sac and go ahead.	494 778	
42	90	At the main road, turn left briefly.		
43		After about 40 yds. turn right, away from the road, along Footpath 44.		4.21
44	91	Turn left through a gate into a large playing field and head across it towards the diagonally opposite corner, which is about 40 yds. to the right of the largely white buildings of the Erith Rugby Club. <i>This direct route across the playing field to reach, eventually, the Duchess of Kent depends on its three gates being unlocked. I am assured that (if only to save costs!) they are now permanently open, despite the remnants of a notice showing closing times. If necessary, however, there is an alternative – continuing along Footpath 44, turning left along a path level with the end of the field, and then continuing ahead along a road to reach the corner at Direction 47, turning right there to rejoin the main route.</i>		
45	95	[Map point] At the corner by the rugby club go through the metal gate and on along a passageway.		

* "Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
46	96	At its end carry on, slightly right, across an open area, following the path which edges across towards the road on the right.		
47	98	Reach the road through a gate at the corner and turn half-right along Brook Street, keeping the Duchess of Kent on your right.		
48	101	<i>[To visit Northumberland Heath Church, now divert instead to Detour 2 in the Appendix.]</i> Main route: At the junction with Mill Road, continue ahead, walking along its right-hand pavement.		
49	104	At the major junction at the end, use the crossing to go over Erith Road and take the road which goes slightly right on the other side (Barnehurst Avenue).		4.88
50	108	Follow Barnehurst Avenue as it bends to the right.		
51	115	At the bottom turn left along Merewood Road. Cross to its right-hand side when convenient.		5.37
52	116	Follow the road as it swings right, and go under the railway bridge.		
53	117	[Map point] Stay on the right-hand pavement as it passes the children's playground and continue ahead (Manor Way, avoiding the continuation of Old Manor Way as it goes away on the left.)		
54	126	At the end turn left along Mayplace Road East. Stay on its left-hand side.		5.88
55	132	At the mini-roundabout, turn right, first using the island to cross the continuation of Mayplace Road East, then going ahead along the left-hand side of Manor Way.		
56	137	START OF THE SPINE SECTION Reach the lych-gate of Crayford Church on the left, and go through it and ahead into the church grounds.		
57	138	Pass the south door of Crayford Church and continue ahead along the path.		6.45
58		Reaching the road (Perry Street), turn right along it.		
59	139	At the mini-roundabout, cross Perry Street and turn left down the hill, staying on the left-hand pavement.		
60	144	Cross both sections of Crayford Way.		
61	148	Cross both sections of Tower Park Road, the entrance to the retail park. Continue ahead, still on the left-hand pavement.		
62	151	Cross both sections of the entrance to Acorn Industrial Park.		
63	156	Pass the mini-roundabout on the right and continue ahead (now Dartford Road). Cross to its right-hand side in due course.		7.30
64	168	[Map point] Turn right into Nelson Road, go ahead to reach the Christ Church building, and there turn left.		
65	170	At the T-junction at the end turn left.		
66	172	Reaching the main road, turn right along it. Cross to its left-hand side as soon as possible, and at least before the far end of the green railings on that side (St Anselm's Parish Centre).		
67	174	Continue ahead on the left-hand side of the road, passing the Shepherds Lane junction opposite.		8.19

* **"Mins."** is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
68	177	Use the lights to cross King Edward Avenue, and continue ahead down the last descent of West Hill.		
69	180	END OF THE SPINE SECTION At the major junction at the bottom of West Hill, follow the pavement round to the left along Highfield Road.		
70	181	Opposite the sign for Essex Road, turn left up a few steps and continue up along the continuation of Essex Road.		
71	182	At the top, turn right (Priory Hill).		
72	186	At the top of the hill, where the road bends left, instead go more or less straight ahead up the 'No Through Road' slightly to the left (Priory Gardens).		
73	187	At the end of the road keep straight on along a metalled passageway.		
74	188	[Map point] Reach the start of the footbridge over the railway and go ahead over it.		
75	190	At the end of the footbridge ignore the cul-de-sac on the right, and start down a broad path past the back of houses on the right, and later also a playground on the left.		
76	195	Reach a road, and continue on the other side in the same direction, but not along the narrow, overgrown (and unhelpfully signposted) path directly opposite, but along the parallel tarmac path about 10 yds. further to the left.		9.14
77	197	At the end turn left, cutting the corner to join an estate road, and continue down along it all the way to the end.		
78	198	[Map point] Cross the footpath at the end. The next objective is to cross the little stream a few yards ahead and follow it to the right, but to achieve this the access is by going left for a few yards to start with, and then turning sharp right beyond the stream. The path becomes overgrown and almost unbelievably narrow, but is passable.		
79	200	At the end turn left along a rough roadway.		
80		And then turn right at the end - an equally rough roadway - and follow it as it bends right and left, and then goes straight ahead to the main road next to the railway bridge.		
81	203	At the road turn left and go under the bridge, and on towards the major roundabout ahead. Although the route will continue with this major road (A206), which turns half-right at the roundabout, it is worth parting from it briefly by walking about 100 yds. past the roundabout, to use the lights to cross, to the right, a less busy road.		
82	208	[Map point] Cross at these lights, and carry on, slightly right, to rejoin the main road.		
83	209	Now reaching again the A206, after this broad clockwise sweep at arm's length from the roundabout, turn left alongside it, making use of the immediately adjacent parallel roadway. Cross the main road to its right-hand side at some point. (There are light-controlled crossings, and there is a pavement the whole length of the other side.)		9.77

* *"Mins." is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.*

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
84	222	Having reached the second roundabout and made the double crossing of the works access road, turn right along the second exit road to go under the railway bridge. Walk along its left-hand side, ignoring Lincoln Road and a cul-de-sac on the left.	520 761	10.43
85	225	At the bus stop turn left to walk along the tarmac path across the recreation ground, going ahead to start with, then swinging left with it at the far end of the enclosed basketball court.	522 763	
86	227	Leave the ground at the dead end of a cul-de-sac, and go ahead briefly along it.		
87		Just before the end, turn right along Dale View (second-right).		
88	228	At the T-junction turn right along the major road.		
89	229	Cross the road to turn left along a path (number 235) bordering another recreation ground.		
90	231	At the end cross the road and continue ahead along a short pathway past the front of houses (no.76 etc.).		
91	232	At the end turn left along the road, and immediately swing right with it.		
92	236	At the T-junction at the end turn right and cross the railway over the footbridge.		
93**	238	Coming off the footbridge: <u>either, to continue the circuit</u> (if not visiting, or finishing at, Slade Green Church), carry on from Direction 2, by turning sharp left along the road into the estate;		11.13
** or 93A	238	<u>... or, to detour to, or finish at, Slade Green Church</u> , turn 90-degree left along the main roadway.		
93B	241	On the left reach <u>Slade Green Church</u> , the starting point of the walk.	521 770	
93C	241	If returning to the circuit having visited the church, resume from Direction 1.		11.31

* **"Mins."** is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

APPENDIX to Full Circuit

Detour to Christ Church, Erith (Detour 1)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
9A	0	Instead of crossing the A220/ A206 at Direction 9, continue along the left-hand pavement and turn left along Victoria Road.		0.00
9B	1	Reach the entrance to <u>Christ Church</u> on the left. After visiting the church retrace your steps to the nearby lights.		0.05
9C	2	Use these lights to rejoin the main route at Direction 9 by now crossing the A220/ A206 (Bexley Road), and going briefly ahead on the far side, then turning left down the passageway. Add 2 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.10 miles to cumulative distances.		0.10

* **"Mins."** is very approximate! See 'Introductory Notes' for an explanation of how this column is used.

Detour to Northumberland Heath Church (Detour 2)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
48A	0	Instead of continuing ahead at Direction 48, turn left off Brook Street into Mill Road.		0.00
48B	1	Reach Northumberland Heath Church on the left. After visiting the church retrace your steps to Brook Street.		
48C	2	Turn left along Brook Street to rejoin the main route at Direction 48, crossing to its right-hand side when convenient. Add 2 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.09 miles to cumulative distances.		0.09

* *“Mins.” is very approximate!* See ‘Introductory Notes’ for an explanation of how this column is used.

FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

I do not venture to give advice about walking with your dog. As well as the joys, you will be well aware of the issues involved, and particularly that relationships between dogs and other countryside animals potentially involve mutual suspicion, or worse.

But what this footnote does try to do, in response to requests, is to give some indication of the nature of the walk from a dog’s point of view, to enable you to decide whether it is suitable.

The percentage distances on the right (on the next page) should be self-explanatory.

The information in the middle column may look a bit cluttered, but I think it should enable you (if the detail is of interest) to mark up within a few minutes a print-out of the walk notes, so that you have some idea what might be round the next corner.

The risk in all this is that **things change so quickly** in the agricultural working world; and what I describe might become misleading after subsequent changes. I have done my best, but there is no guarantee that you will find the information up to date!

SLADE GREEN & BARNEHURST - FULL CIRCUIT	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	7-8, 10-12, 24, 28-31, 33-34, 42, 47-48, 51-55, 58-63, 66-69, 81, 83-84, 88	54
Quiet road \$\$	1-2, 5, 15-16, 22-23, 26-27, 35-36, 38b, 41, 49-50, 64-65, 70b-72, 77, 79-80, 82, 86-87, 91-92a, 93A	23
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	4b, 19a, 32, 38a, 44, 46, 76, 85, 89	7
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	3-4a, 4c, 6, 9, 13-14, 25, 37, 39-40, 43, 45, 56-57, 70a, 73-75, 78, 90, 92b	12
Woods	17-18, 19b-21	5

** This is not a promise, just a statement of fact - that, having walked these sections perhaps two or three times, I have found no animals or any sign of them.

\$\$ Again, not a promise that there will be no traffic to worry about. Just a personal judgement of conditions as I have found them.

STILES: There are currently no stiles on this walk.