
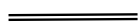





# LOCAL CIRCUIT BH2: BEXLEY & CRAYFORD

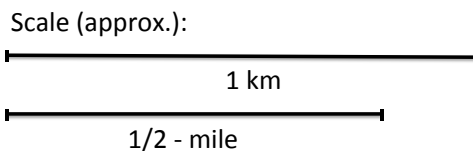
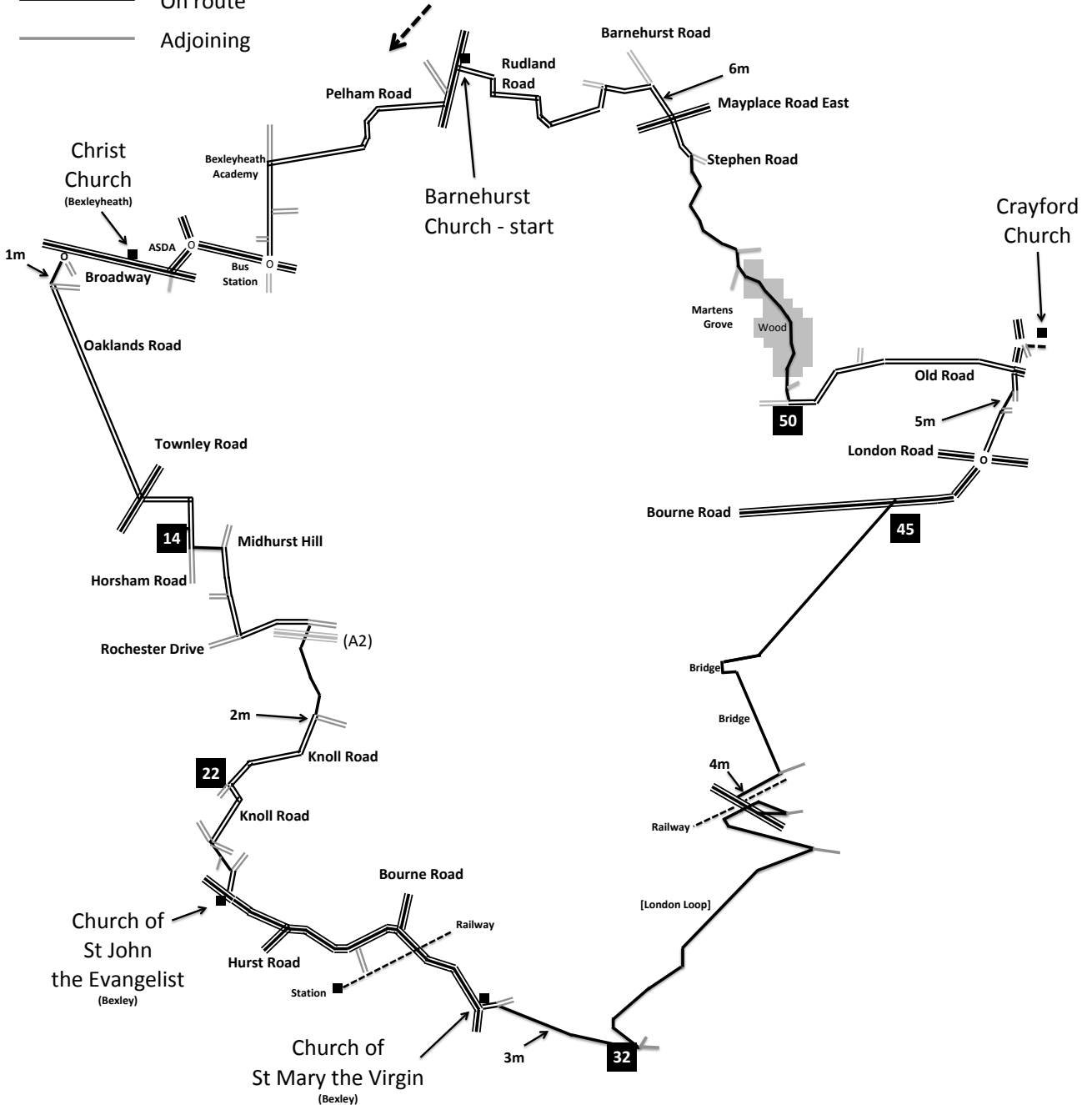
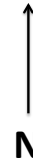
**88** Direction label (as in the walk notes)


## ROADS:

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

## PATHS:

-  On route
-  Adjoining



 Starting direction

## LOCAL CIRCUIT BH2: BEXLEY AND CRAYFORD - 6.43 miles

### Linked churches:

Barnehurst (start and finish)

Bexleyheath Christ Church (Direction 8)

Bexley St John the Evangelist (25)

Bexley St Mary the Virgin (30)

Crayford (50C: Detour – see Appendix)

### Roads and hindrances:

Beyond usual prudence there are no significant traffic issues. Townley Road (Direction 12) can be busy, but an island is available close by.

The section from Bexley to Crayford follows the London Loop, and includes its intricately protected crossing of A2 and railway (35-39), which surprisingly works, as described!

Notes taken: June and July 2020

The start and finish is at Barnehurst Church, Erith Road, DA7 6LE.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		On Erith Road, with your back to <b>Barnehurst Church</b> , turn left along the road and cross it as soon as possible.	497 758	
2	<b>1</b>	Turn right along Pelham Road, and follow it as it bends left and then right.		
3	<b>8</b>	At the end, facing Bexleyheath Academy, cross the road and turn left to walk along its right-hand side.		
4	<b>10</b>	Continue ahead, ignoring Russell Close.		
5	<b>11</b>	At the mini-roundabout, cross the road and turn right along its far side, alongside the bus station and then the car park.		
6	<b>14</b>	At the mini-roundabout at the end, facing ASDA, cross the road and turn left along its far side.		
7	<b>15</b>	Swing right with the road along Bexleyheath Broadway.	489 753	
8	<b>16</b>	Pass the entrance to <b>Christ Church</b> , and continue ahead along the right-hand side of the road.		0.83
9	<b>18</b>	Beyond the Albion Road roundabout turn left to cross the road and continue ahead, away from the main road, with the access road to the car park on your left.		
10	<b>19</b>	Go through a metal archway into gardens, with Tenpin on your right, and pass the obelisk, slightly to the left.		
11	<b>20</b>	At the end of the gardens continue straight ahead to start down Oaklands Road.		
12	<b>26</b>	Cross the busy Townley Road (using the island on the left if necessary) and continue ahead along Highfield Road opposite.		
13	<b>28</b>	At the end turn right.		1.47
14	<b>29</b>	[Map point] After house no.27A turn left down an enclosed alleyway.		
15	<b>30</b>	At the bottom turn right along the road.	491 746	
16	<b>33</b>	At the end turn left up Rochester Drive.		
17	<b>35</b>	Just after the brow of the hill, turn right over the footbridge.		
18	<b>36</b>	Take the right-hand descent from the bridge, down steps.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
19	37	At the bottom turn sharp left on a tarmac path alongside railings and a playing field beyond them.		
20	38	Continue ahead on a footbridge over a stream, followed by another playing field on the right.		
21	39	Go straight on at the end, up Knoll Road.		1.99
22	44	[Map point] Turn left (still Knoll Road) rather than going ahead on to Back Lane. Then follow Knoll Road round its right-hand bend.		
23	46	Reach the junction at the end and go half-left into the gardens over the road. In the gardens keep left at the fork.		
24	47	At the end rejoin the road and turn right.	491 738	
25	48	Reaching the main road, <b>St John the Evangelist's Church</b> is directly ahead on the other side of the road. But to continue on the route turn left and remain on the left-hand side of the road.		
26	50	Go ahead along Bexley High Street, which begins at the major junction with Hurst Road (A222). After this point cross to the right-hand side of the High Street when convenient.		
27	52	Continue ahead, crossing the end of Tanyard Lane (at this point joining the London Loop, which the route now follows to Crayford).		2.62
28	54	Turn right at the mini-roundabout.		
29	55	Continue along the road, but cross to the left-hand side by means of the zebra crossing.		
30	57	Start to walk alongside <b>St Mary the Virgin's Church</b> .		
31	58	At the corner turn left up the roadway still next to the church. But after about 40 yds. go through an unusual kissing gate on the right to start along a long, straight tarmac footpath.		
32	64	[Map point] About 30 yds. before a fork in the path, turn, with the London Loop, sharp left into the trees (signposted Footpath 127).		3.15
33	65	Follow the track as it bends to the right.		
34	74	Reaching the A2, audible if not visible ahead, pass a redundant stile and turn left down a tarmac path.	506 738	
35	77	At the end start on the complicated crossing of the A2 and the railway. First follow the path to the right to go under the A2 and alongside the railway on your left.		3.78
36		After the bridge follow the path, surprisingly, away from the railway, briefly over a relatively open area.		
37	79	Turn sharp right up a steep tarmac path leading to the road above.		
38	81	At the top go through a little gate to cross the railway, walking briefly alongside the A2, protected by a crash barrier.		
39	82	Turn right to go down steps, reaching a gate at bottom next to the railway.		
40	83	Go through the gate and ahead alongside the railway.		
41	84	When a wide gap appears in the trees on the left, turn left to go through it, away from the railway,		
42	87	Cross a bridge over a stream and continue ahead along the left-hand edge of a large field.		
43	89	Turn left, then right, to go over another footbridge (over the River Cray). After the bridge turn right again to go along the right-hand edge of a parking area, and on, parallel to the river.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
44	<b>90</b>	After a few yards go a little to the left, into a huge field at its corner. Over on the left it is bounded by Bourne Road, and ahead across its width there is a line of trees. But beyond the trees is hidden another open space doubling the size of the field. The route goes diagonally to the left across this double field, eventually to reach the far-left corner at Bourne Road, by the Bourne Road Garage (visible, once beyond the trees).		4.36
45	<b>99</b>	[Map point] At that corner go through the gate and turn right along Bourne Road, crossing it to its left-hand side.		
46	<b>103</b>	At the mini-roundabout, cross the road ahead, and then walk up the steep Orchard Hill opposite.		
47	<b>106</b>	Nearing the top, where the road bends to the right, instead carry straight on up steps and along a passageway.		
48	<b>107</b>	Merge with Chapel Hill, coming up from the right, and continue ahead to cross Old Road.		
49	<b>108</b>	[To visit <u>Crayford Church</u> , now divert instead to the <u>Detour</u> in the Appendix.] <b>Main route:</b> Turn left along the right-hand side of Old Road.		5.04
50	<b>116</b>	[Map point] At the bottom, opposite the gas-holder and just after house no.7, turn right along a narrow path.		
51		Keep on the main path (ignoring the one leading up to the right) and continue ahead winding gradually uphill.		
52	<b>122</b>	Emerge from the trees and turn right along the tarmac path.	504 753	
53		Swing left with the path (next to a bench and a dog-waste bin) and follow it, at first round its gentle right-hand bend, then on ahead towards the park's exit gates.		5.72
54	<b>126</b>	Go through the gates and turn left up the road, crossing it and following it around a slight right-hand bend.		
55	<b>128</b>	Reaching the main road, cross it by means of the zebra crossing, and go ahead along Barnehurst Road directly opposite. Cross to its left-hand side as soon as is convenient.		
56	<b>129</b>	Turn left along Lyndhurst Road.		
57	<b>131</b>	And left again along Rudland Road, following it through its turns – right, right, left, right and left.		
58	<b>137</b>	At the end, on the right at the corner, reach <u>Barnehurst Church</u> , the starting point of the walk.	497 758	6.43

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

## **APPENDIX to Local Circuit BH2**

### **Detour to Crayford Church**

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
49A	<b>0</b>	To reach Crayford Church, instead of turning left along Old Road at Direction 50, go straight ahead along Manor Road, crossing over to its right-hand side to reach the lych-gate of the church.		
49B	<b>1</b>	Go through the lych-gate and ahead along the path towards the church.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
49C	2	Reach the south door of <b>Crayford Church</b> . After visiting the church retrace your steps to the lych-gate, and, then by turning left along the major road there, to the start of Old Road.		
49D	3	Rejoin the main route, by turning right along the right-hand side of Old Road, continuing the walk from Direction 50. <b>Add 3 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.14 miles to cumulative distances.</b>		

\* **"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!

LOCAL CIRCUIT BH2	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	1, 3-9a, 24-30, 38, 45, 49, 55	28
Quiet road \$\$	2, 11-13, 15-16, 21-22, 31a, 46, 48, 54, 56-57	31
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	10, 23, 36a, 40b-42, 44, 52-53	14
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	9b, 14, 17-20, 31b, 35, 36b-37, 39-40a, 43, 47, 50	13
Woods	32-34, 51	14

\*\* 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.