




NORTHFLEET & GRAVESEND



FULL CIRCUIT - Sheet 1
(first and last sections)

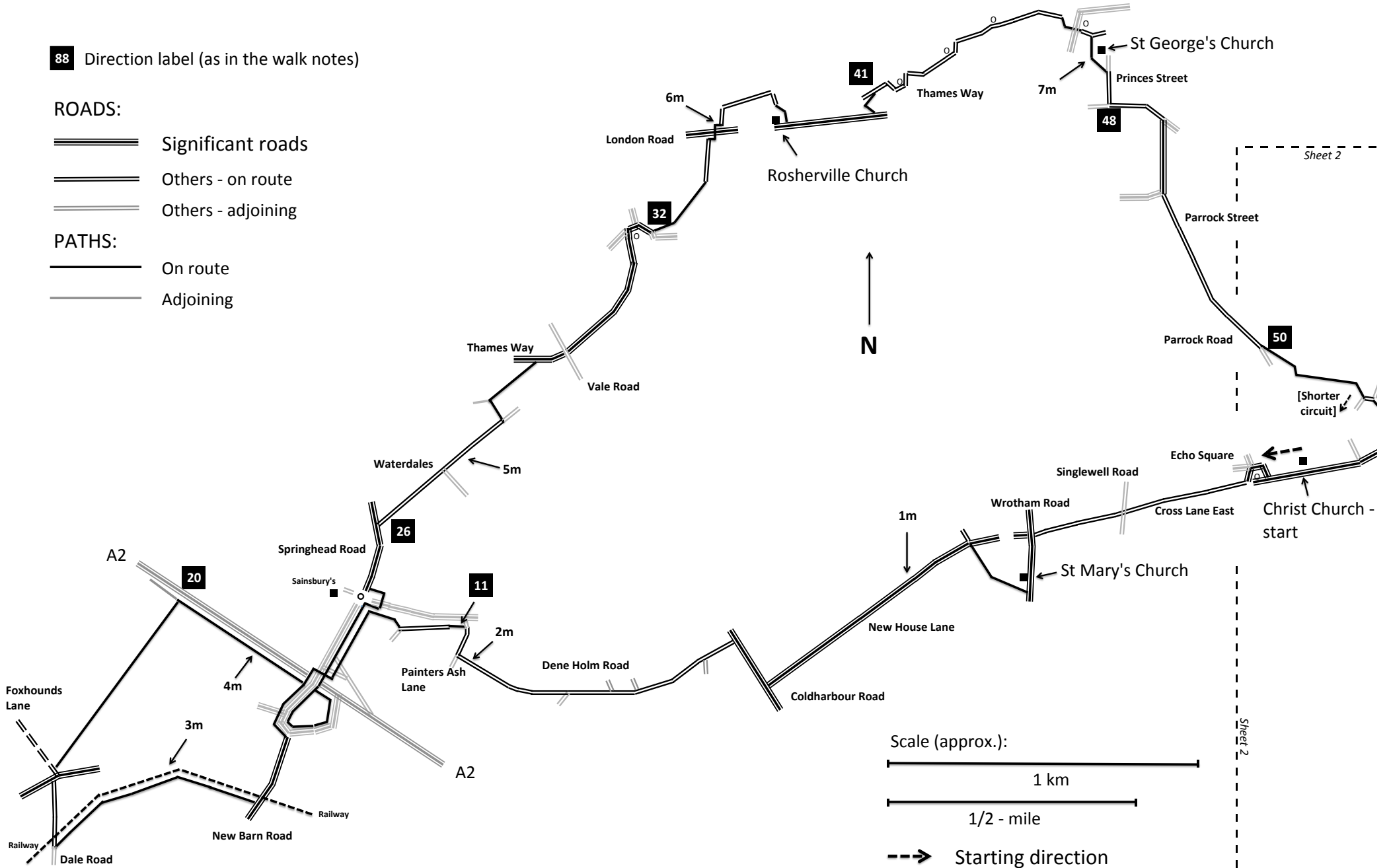
88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)

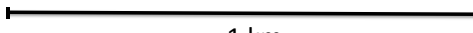
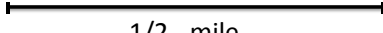

ROADS:

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

PATHS:

-  On route
-  Adjoining



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




NORTHFLEET & GRAVESEND

FULL CIRCUIT - Sheet 2 (final section)



F Open fields (see 'Introductory Notes')

88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)

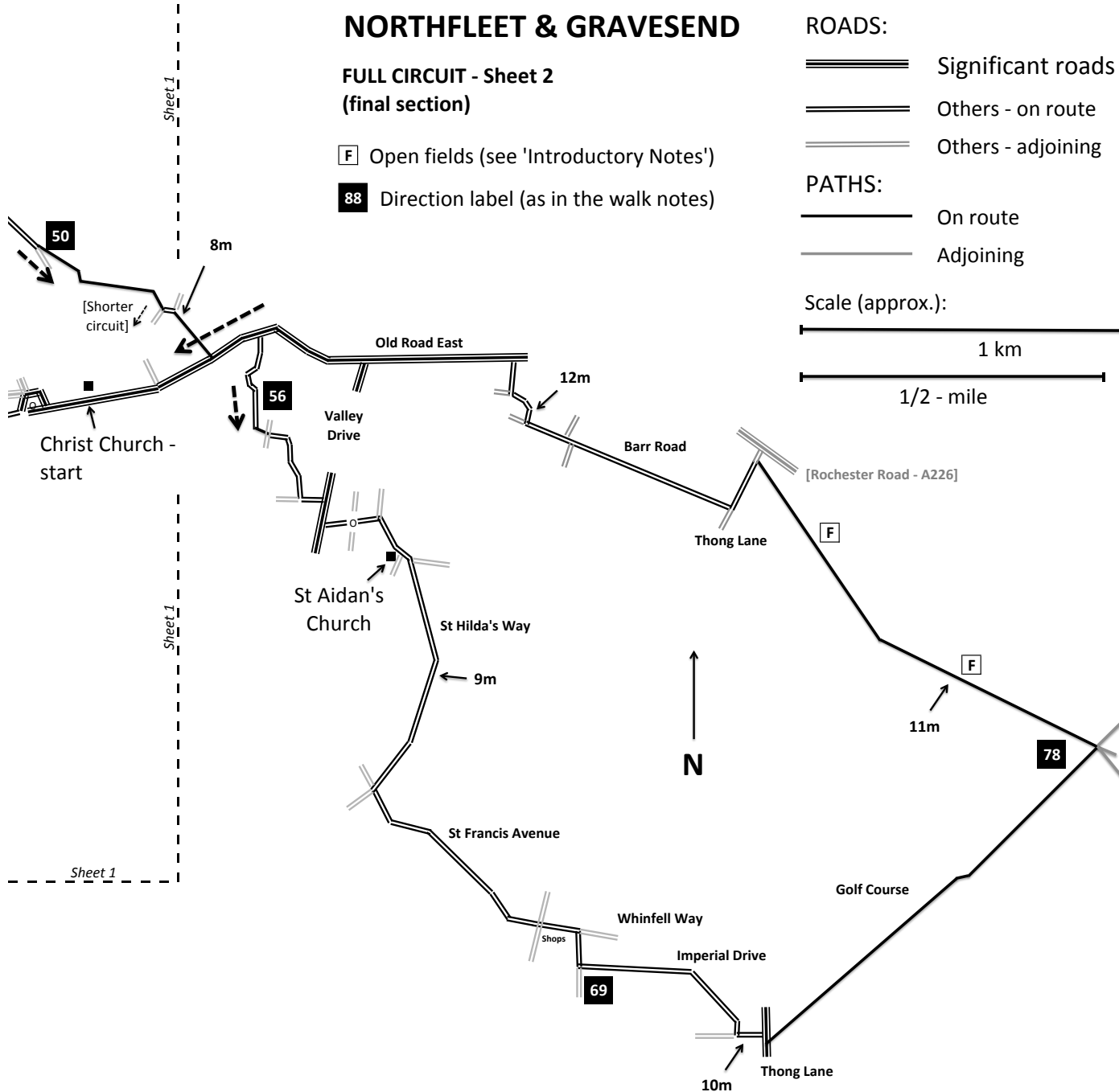
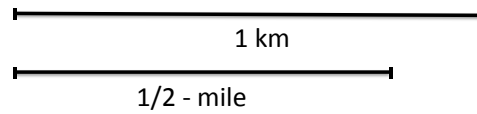
ROADS:

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

PATHS:

-  On route
-  Adjoining

Scale (approx.):



NORTHFLEET & GRAVESEND CIRCUIT - 12.83 miles

Churches in the full circuit:

Christ Church, Milton (start and finish)

Gravesend St Mary (Direction 5)

Rosherville (38)

Gravesend St George (45)

Gravesend St Aidan (64)

Associated local circuits

- NG1: Christ Church – Perry Street – Northfleet – Gravesend – Christ Church
- NG2: Swanscombe – Northfleet – Springhead - Swanscombe
- CH1 (From Summer 2019): St Aidan’s – Milton – Chalk – Riverview - St Aidan’s
- SN1 (From Summer 2019): Shorne – Riverview – St Aidan’s – Chalk - Shorne

Full circuit: The spine section in this walk exists as a link between the fringe of Southfleet and the heart of Gravesend and is predominantly urban, though not unpleasantly so. To preserve the sequence in the spine, the route meanders along a kind of double figure-of-eight. Towards the end it ventures out of town across a golf course and over fields, providing variety and pleasant views.

Roads and hindrances:

There are several brushes with busy main roads, but none which present unreasonable difficulties.

FULL CIRCUIT

Christ Church – Painters Ash – Rosherville – Gravesend Centre – Riverview – Christ Church

Notes taken: Summer 2017 and Spring 2018

The start and finish is at **Christ Church, Milton** (Old Road East, DA12 1NU).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the main entrance to Christ Church, Milton , go to the main road (Old Road East) and turn right along it.	653 730	

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
2	2	Begin the tricky transit of Echo Square. It is on the whole simpler to do this in the anti-clockwise direction, approaching from the right-hand side of Old Road East, and crossing first both halves of Parrock Road, and then another road (the continuation of Old Road East): the latter offers limited visibility looking left for roundabout traffic, and it might be worth crossing a little further to the right and returning on the other side. Then, opposite a little row of shops, turn right along Cross Lane East (without crossing it yet).		
3	8	Cross Singlewell Road at the junction at the bottom (traffic lights) and continue ahead, now crossing to the left-hand side when convenient.		
4	12	Reaching Wrotham Road (the A227), cross it at the lights and turn left along its far side.		
5	14	Pass the entrance to St Mary's Church on the right.		
6		Turn right down the enclosed alleyway, signposted as a footpath, cross the end of the cul-de-sac at the bottom by the school gates, and continue up the alleyway opposite, following it as it bends to the right at the school's pedestrian gate.	644 726	
7	17	At the end, turn left up New House Lane, which the route now follows uphill to its end: cross it when convenient.		0.83
8	28	At the top, turn right into Coldharbour Road: immediately cross it at the traffic island, and walk down its left-hand side.		
9	30	Turn left to walk the whole length of Dene Holm Road: down, past the shops, and up again.		1.44
10	42	At the end, turn right up Painters Ash Lane.		
11	43	[Map point] At the end of the houses, about 40 yds. short of the main road, turn left along a grass-flanked passageway (which soon becomes a quiet road), marked as leading to Fleet Road.		
12	46	When the roadway bends left, instead slip down the footway on the right, and on along the left-hand side of the main road towards the roundabout. There follow the road round to the left.	624 725	2.25
13	50	At the lights, cross the first of the A2's slip roads, then, turning right, cross the main road and on the other side turn left to follow the pavement on its right-hand side, to cross the bridge.		
14	53	Reaching the roundabout go 'straight across', anti-clockwise, crossing the intervening road with the guidance of the barrier. Then go ahead on the right-hand side of New Barn Road.		
15	56	Slip behind the barrier on the right, then turn right along the signposted footpath, down steps and beside a redundant stile; then keep right and follow the field-edge, alongside the railway fence on the right, down and up, all the way until you meet Dale Road, at a stile, at the far end.	620 719	2.79
16	68	Cross the stile, then turn right, over the railway bridge. Cross to the left-hand side when convenient, for a good verge and better sightlines at the road crossing ahead.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
17	70	START OF THE SPINE SECTION Cross the main road (Station Road), and also, over to the right, the end of Foxhounds Lane. Then start along the broad path which bisects the angle between these two roads and leads towards the busy A2, clearly visible ahead.		3.37
18	74	Pass under power lines which connect with a pylon on the right. Carry straight on ahead, towards the left-hand side of another pylon.		
19	76	Continue ahead, ignoring the main path which veers off to the right.		
20	79	[Map point] At the boundary of the A2, turn right along the metalled footway.		
21	85	Go under the road bridge.		4.13
22	86	Start to swing right, staying alongside the slip road without crossing it, and embarking on the clockwise three-quarter circle which will lead to the road above.		
23	88	Keep right at the roundabout to complete the turn and continue over the bridge, along the right-hand side of the road.		
24	91	Start the crossing of the two slip roads which feed the eastbound A2, keeping as straight ahead as possible.		
25	94	At the next roundabout go straight ahead. Achieve this by using the light-controlled crossing over to the right, then returning leftwards to regain the 'straight-ahead' line down Springhead Road.		
26	97	[Map point] Turn right into Waterdales.		4.79
27	104	Immediately after house number 85 on the left, turn left down an alley to go under a bridge.	628 731	
28	105	After the bridge, turn right on to a joint cycle-and-pedestrian path.		
29	107	Reaching the main road, continue along the pavement on its right-hand side, passing a bus stop.		
30	108	Reaching a road junction with lights, use them to go diagonally across, first ahead across Vale Road, and then crossing the main road (Thames Way) itself, so that you are, beyond, continuing along the left-hand side of Thames Way.		5.36
31	115	Reaching a roundabout, go clockwise round it, crossing the Perry Street, feeder road, and then (turning to the right) Rosherville Way.		
32	116	[Map point] Climb the metalled walkway which sets out above and (initially) parallel to the next stage of the main Thames Way, but then angles gradually up and away to the left.		
33	117	When a green opens up in front of you at the top, go directly across to the exit on the far side, keeping just to the left of the enclosed basketball court and continuing along the same line.		
34	119	Reaching the exit, turn left along Beresford Road.		
35	122	At the end turn right along the main London Road, cross it by means of the zebra crossing after a few yards, and go along a short way to the junction of Fountain Walk.		
36		Turn left along Fountain Walk, following it as it soon turns right.		6.00

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
37	124	And follow it through another right turn.		
38	125	When the roadway swings back to the left, instead leave it on a walkway which goes straight ahead from its left-hand pavement, to pass Rosherville Church on your right.		
39	126	Go through the gate and turn left, back on to London Road.		
40	129	Go down the gently falling pathway on the left, and follow its zig-zag course to the main road (Thames Way again) below.	639 741	
41	130	[Map point] Walk along the main road, with Asda on the right and the other retail areas on the left, passing a series of three roundabouts on your left.		
42	137	Carry on, along the right of what now becomes West Street.		
43	139	At the roundabout at the end, go a little to the right to cross the road, and then go up the right-hand side of Church Street towards the church visible up ahead.		6.88
44	141	At the start of its railings, turn right, through a gate, into the church grounds.		
45		Pass the end of the short path leading to the Pocahontas statue and the main entrance to St George's Church .		
46	142	Turn half-left on the path between the grass and the buildings.		
47	143	At the end turn half-right up along the minor road.		
48	144	[Map point] Turn left, along the traffic-restricted New Road.		
49	146	At the junction dominated by St John's Roman Catholic Church, turn right. This is Parrock Street. The route goes up its whole length. Cross over early to its left-hand side - at the lights ahead, if not before.		7.21
50	157	[Map point] At the top (now on Parrock Road) at the junction with Bronte View, turn half-left to go down across the open space, aiming at the gap down at its far left-hand corner.		7.74
51	159	Go through the gap and along an enclosed path, following it as it bends a little to the left.		
52	161	END OF THE SPINE SECTION Reaching the road at the end, go briefly straight ahead along the start of Milton Hall Road.	655 732	7.98
53	162	As the road turns left, instead go straight ahead up the footpath.		
54	163	At the top turn left alongside the main road, crossing as soon as convenient.		
55	165	Turn right into The Turnstones, and follow the roadway as it swings, first right, then left.		
56	167	[Map point] At the T-junction at the end, turn right.		
57	168	Opposite The Lapwings turn left along the metalled footpath leading to steps down to the road below.		
58	169	At the bottom, go ahead, almost opposite, along The Curlews, winding downhill.	658 729	
59	171	At the end turn left (Hillside Avenue).		
60		Turn right along the main road (Valley Drive).		
61	172	Turn left up St Benedict's Avenue.		
62	174	At the roundabout continue ahead up the road opposite.		
63	175	At the top turn right.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
64	176	Pass St Aidan's Church on the right, and continue ahead, crossing St Aidan's Way.		8.74
65	177	Turn right along St Hilda's Way.		
66	185	Turn left up St Francis Avenue, staying on its left-hand side.		
67	193	Reaching a road junction with shops, go over the crossing road and continue almost directly ahead along Whinfell Way.	665 716	
68	194	Turn right along Latona Drive.		9.59
69	195	[Map point] Turn left into Imperial Drive, and follow it through its rightward swings.		
70	201	At the end turn left (Vigilant Way).		
71	202	At the end, cross the road and, a few yards over to the right, continue, through a gate, in the same direction, keeping alongside the golf course. Before long pass the 9 th tee, keeping it on your left.		10.04
72	204	Go straight on, ignoring the more prominent golfers' track which goes left after the tee.		
73	207	Go ahead along briefly grassy ground, again ignoring the more prominent track which crosses at an angle.		
74	209	Still straight on, keeping alongside a row of bushes and small trees on your right.		
75	212	At the 17 th tee, keep ahead along the gravel path for about 50 yds.		
76	213	Go straight on along the lesser path between small trees.		
77	214	Again straight on along the lesser path, on the right-hand side of the field, with small trees on the right.		
78	216	[Map point] [!!F!!] When the trees on the right come to an end, turn left to go across the large field. (Bearing 295.) <i>There have been times when this crossing has appeared very unlikely – just a ploughed field and no sign of a track across it, although it is perfectly passable and legitimate. The direction can be defined by the distant wind turbines, of which four are visible ahead. Two are spaced out a little to the right: ignore these, but aim at the other two which are close together to the left of them. The line becomes a clear path further on.</i>		10.76
79	223	Follow the path slightly left, alongside a small embankment.		
80	224	[!!F!!] Turn slightly right (currently along a visible path) making for the bottom (right-hand) end of the line of houses ahead in the middle distance. (Bearing 325.)	674 723	
81	230	Reaching the bottom of Thong Lane, next to a redundant MKG, turn left, uphill, along it, crossing when convenient.		11.51
82	231	Very soon turn right along Barr Road.		
83	237	Continue ahead, crossing Forge Lane.		
84	238	Turn right at the crossroads and follow the road (Hampton Crescent, but not marked) as it goes downhill and swings to the left.		
85	240	Turn right (Brown Road, again not marked at this end).	664 730	

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

!!F!! : Field crossing might be unmarked. See 'Open Fields' in 'Introductory Notes' for some thoughts about dealing with this.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
86	241	Turn left along the main road, Old Road East. Cross immediately at the zebra crossing, then go along its right-hand pavement, in due course crossing Abbey Road and passing the end of Valley Drive opposite, and continuing as the road winds its way uphill.		12.11
87	253	Continue ahead past the end of Milton Avenue.		
88	255	Reach Christ Church, Milton , the starting point of the walk.	653 730	12.83

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

FOR THOSE WHO WALK WITH THEIR DOGS

See footnote on next page.

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 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!

NORTHFLEET & GRAVESEND - FULL CIRCUIT	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	1-5, 7-10, 12-14, 16, 22-25, 29-31, 35, 39, 41-43, 49, 54, 59-60, 71a, 81, 86-87	46
Quiet road \$\$	11b, 26, 34, 36-37, 47-48, 52, 55-56, 58, 61-70, 82-85	25
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	11a, 15, 17-19, 33, 46, 50, 57, 72-73, 74b, 77-80	19
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	6, 20-21, 27-28, 32, 38, 40, 44-45, 51, 53, 71b, 74a, 75-76	11
Woods		0

** 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.

STILE (1) – Detail noted in March 2019, but subject to frequent change:

The stile in Direction **16** is wired down, with rises of about 12 ins. and 12 ins.