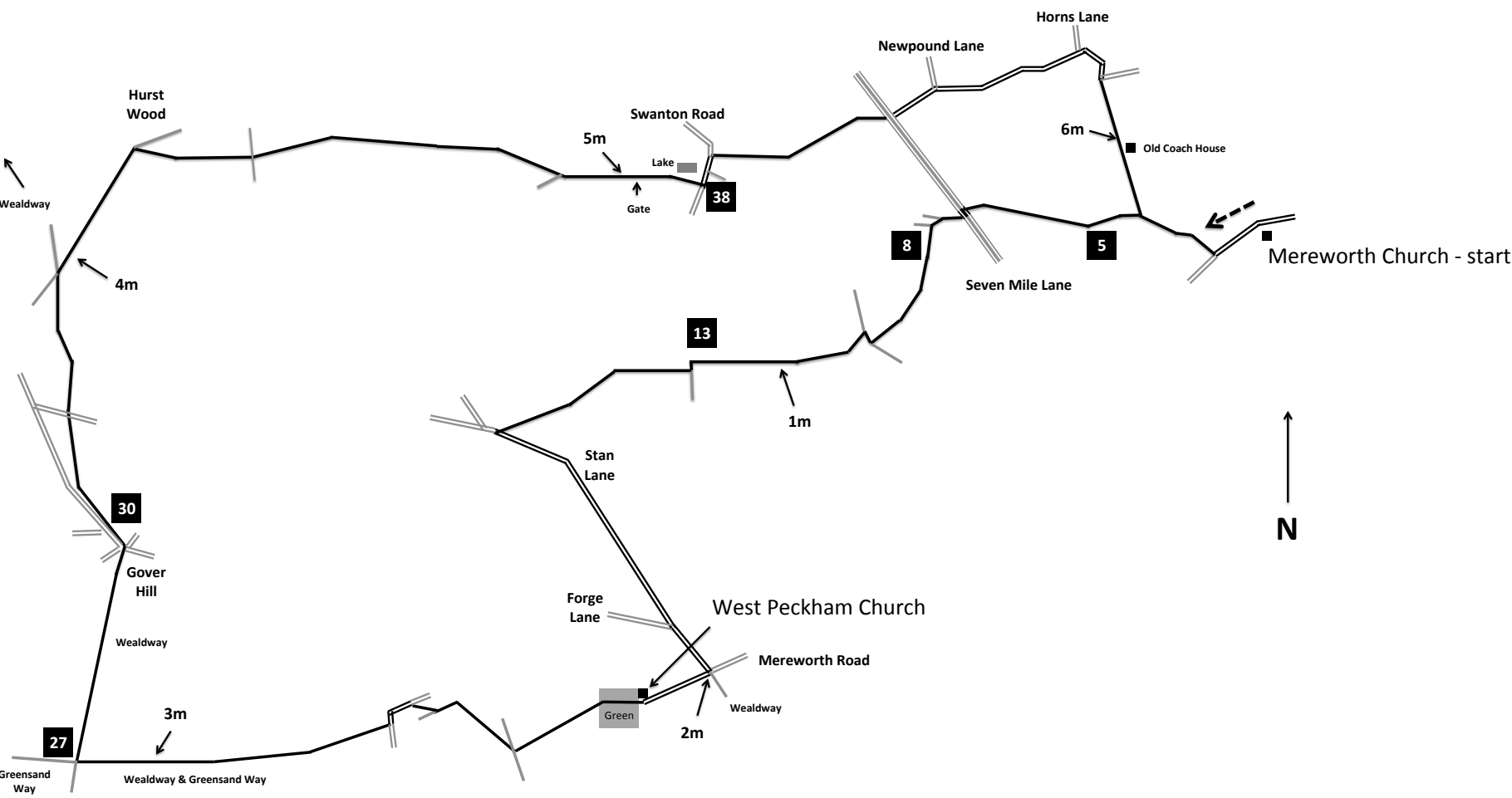


LOCAL CIRCUIT OF1: MEREWORTH & WEST PECKHAM



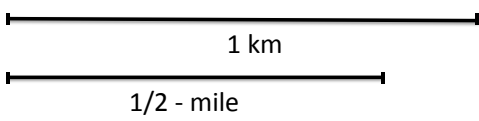
ROADS:

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

PATHS:

- On route
- Adjoining

88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)



--> Starting direction

LOCAL CIRCUIT OF1: MEREWORTH AND WEST PECKHAM

Linked churches:

Mereworth (start and finish)

West Peckham (Direction 19)

Roads and hindrances:

The route twice crosses the busy Seven Mile Lane. The sightlines are good at Direction 7 and reasonable at 40. All the other roads involved are generally quiet.

Notes taken: June and July 2015

The start and finish is at Mereworth Church (ME18 5LY).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		Leave the churchyard of Mereworth Church by the main gate near its west door and go ahead along the main road, westwards. Cross it when convenient and continue along the right-hand side of the road.	660 538	
2	1	Cross Torrington Close and keep ahead along the main road.		
3	2	Turn right along a rough roadway, and go past a small shop. Then keep to the right of the forecourt of house number 99.		
4	5	Take the left fork.	657 538	
5	6	[Map point] At the corner go slightly right, then left, and set off along the broad unmetalled roadway, gently uphill between fruit fields.		
6	10	At the junction go left, then immediately right, heading towards the road visible ahead.		
7	11	Cross the main road (Seven Mile Lane - good sightlines) and go down the driveway opposite, about 10 yds. to the left. There is a signpost but it is currently very well hidden.	652 538	0.55
8	12	[Map point] Twice in quick succession fork left, eventually on to a slatted wooden walkway. Both these turns are waymarked, but again not very visibly. Keep to the main path, such as it is, as it winds its way through the trees (and mud in places).		
9	15	Emerge to go ahead along a grassy avenue between fields.		
10	18	Among buildings, turn right up a stony path.		
11	19	Fork left, uphill, between fences on both sides.		
12	22	Carry straight on at the cross-paths.		
13	26	[Map point] At another cross-paths after a house on the left, go effectively straight ahead, uphill (in fact left then immediately right, keeping to the right of an apparently redundant pole).	646 534	
14	29	Keep ahead on the main track as it bends a little to the left, and the field-edge disappears behind a screen of trees on the left.		
15	34	Turn left into the road (Stan Lane).		1.47
16	43	At the road junction and the green triangle, keep to the left.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
17	45	Turn right at the next road junction, into West Peckham.		
18	47	Use the walkway which rises on the right of the road.		
19	48	Pass West Peckham Church and continue alongside the road for the few further yards before it bends to the right. Then, cricket permitting – if there is cricket you will need to deviate slightly – abandon the road and carry straight on across the green towards the old kissing gate in its far-right-hand corner.		2.12
20	49	Go through the gate and continue ahead (now on both the Wealdway and the Greensand Way) along a path enclosed by a hedge on the right and a fence on the left.		
21	52	Keep to the right of Pear Tree Cottage and its driveway, by turning half-right to go through a MKG. Then turn half-right again (so that in total you have carried out a right-turn) and carry on along the right-hand side of the field.		
22	55	Swing to the left to continue along the far edge of the same field.		
23	56	Follow the waymark to go away from the field, through a MKG and into trees.		
24	57	Merge with the road as it joins from the right, and follow it in a swing to the left.		
25	58	Take the broad footpath to the right (still WW/GSW).		
26	65	Map, signpost and waymark are at variance whether at this point to continue along the main track or to go parallel to it on the right of the trees (alongside an orchard). It makes no practical difference.		
27	70	[Map point] You reach the waymarks which signal the divergence of the Wealdway and the Greensand Way. (If you have taken the orchard-option above you achieve this by a slight bend to the left when forced.) At the junction stay with the Wealdway as it turns right, uphill – gently at first but more steeply later on – between a hedge and then a fence on the right and fruit trees over to the left.		3.40
28	77	Ignore the farm track on the left and carry straight on ahead.		
29	78	Reach a complicated junction with minor roads. Go across half-left on a track uphill into trees, as waymarked ‘WW’, immediately to the right of the National Trust ‘Gover Hill’ sign.		
30	79	[Map point] Indicated on the left is a tiny diversion to a view-point, complete with bench. But the route itself continues uphill.		
31	85	Go straight across the road and continue ahead.	629 533	
32	90	At a major cross-paths, turn right. Continue on this path, ignoring turnings to right and left.	629 536	3.96
33	94	The main path swings significantly to the right. Just before this there is a track to the right, but ignore this one, and after about 40 yds. more, having started on the right swing, turn along a second path to the right.	631 540	
34	98	Go straight ahead at a major cross-paths.		
35	105	Emerge from the trees, and go ahead along a fairly narrow grassy glade, keeping reasonably close to the left-hand side.		
36	110	Go through a metal gate to leave the field.		5.03

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
37	112	Pass a house on the right, then swing slightly to the right with the path, alongside a small lake on the left.		
38	113	[Map point] Turn left along the road, with the lake still to your left. Ignore the first footpath on the right.		
39	114	But just before the road swings to the left, turn right past a metal gate on to the signposted footpath, and walk, uphill at first, along the broad path as it swings gently to the left.	646 539	
40	120	Cross Seven Mile Lane (reasonable sightlines) and continue ahead along the minor road opposite (Willow Wents).		5.50
41	122	Keep right and carry on along the road.		
42	127	Follow the road as it swings to the right, downhill.		
43	128	As the road swings to the left, abandon it and keep straight ahead, keeping to the right of the entrance to Smartswell.		
44	130	After the Old Coach House, pass a redundant stile and continue ahead along an enclosed track.		
45	132	Turn left at the end, and begin to retrace your steps from the start of the walk.	657 538	
46	135	Turn left on to the main road.		
47	137	Reach Mereworth Church , the starting point of the walk.	660 538	6.35

* *"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 (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 OF1	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	1-2, 46	3
Quiet road \$\$	5, 15-18, 24, 38, 40-43	22
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	9, 13, 21-22, 35, 39	15
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	3-4, 6-7, 10-12, 14, 19-20, 23, 25-28, 36-37, 44-45	37
Woods	8, 29-34	23

** 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.