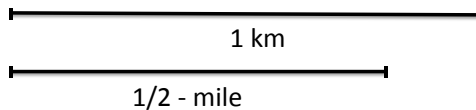


# COXHEATH

## SHORTER CIRCUIT - Sheet 1 (first and last sections)

Scale (approx.):



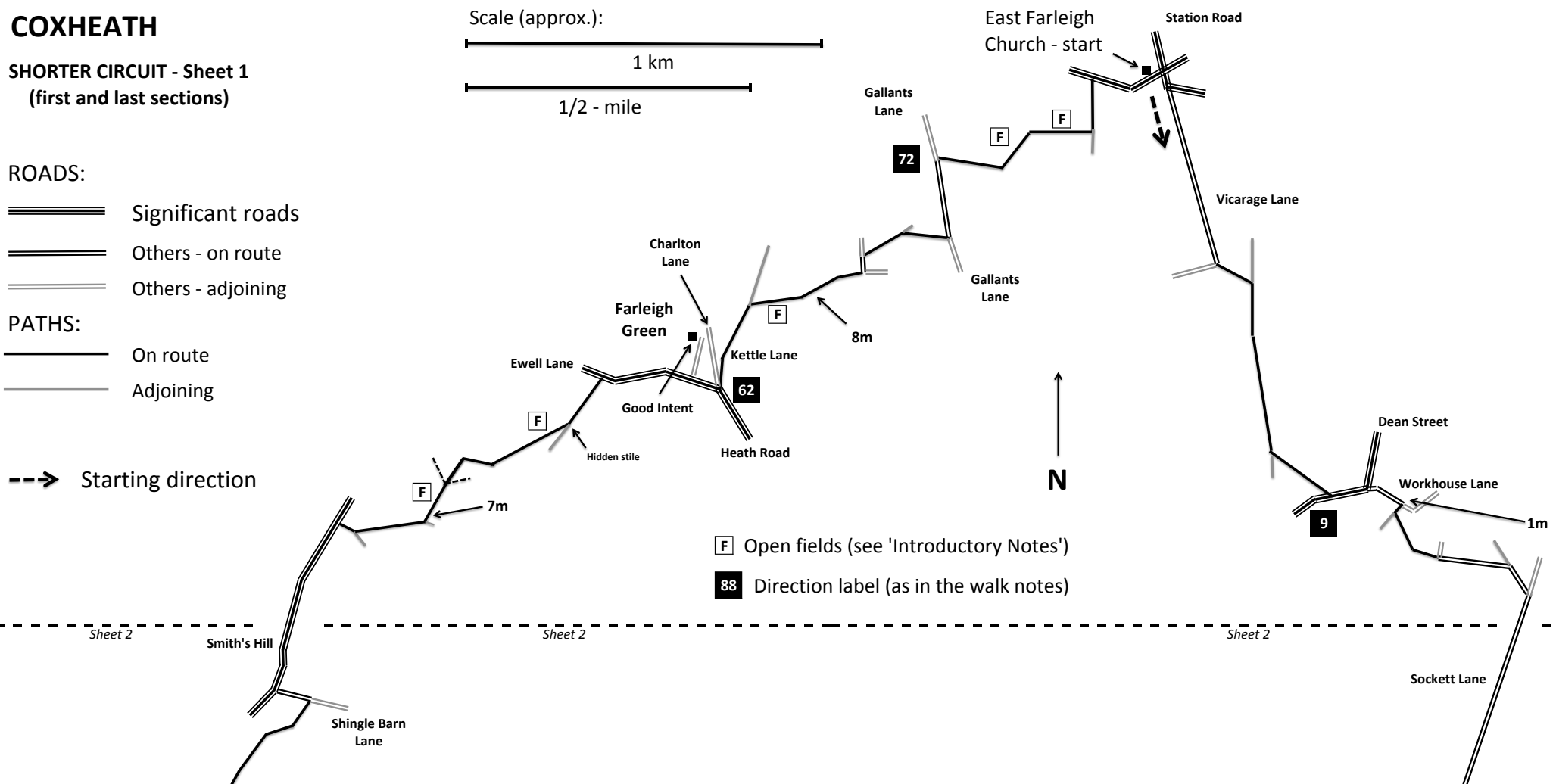
### ROADS:

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

### PATHS:

- On route
- Adjoining

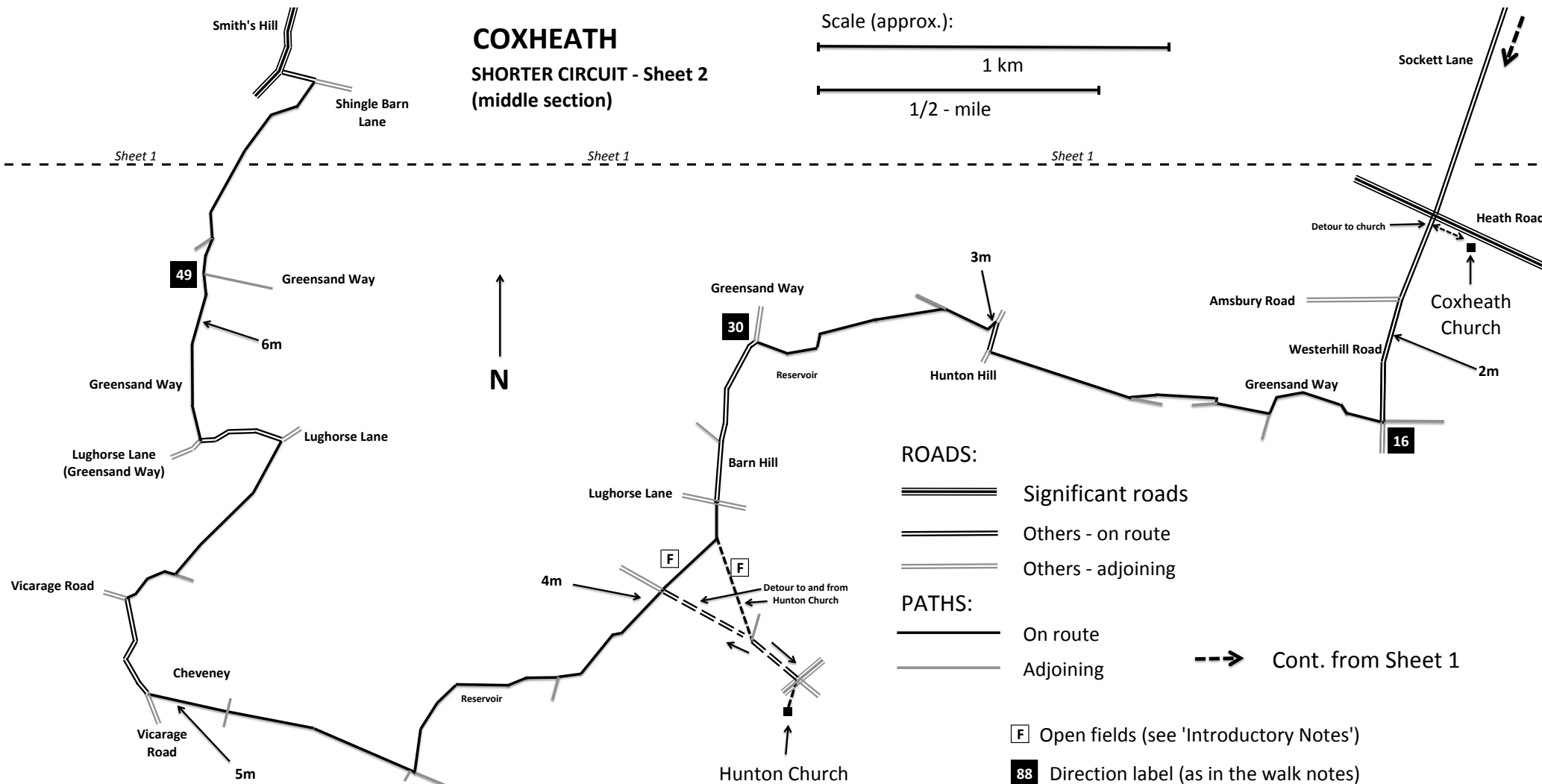
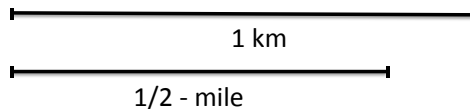
Starting direction



# COXHEATH

## SHORTER CIRCUIT - Sheet 2 (middle section)

Scale (approx.):



## COXHEATH CIRCUIT

### Churches in the shorter circuit:

East Farleigh (start and finish)

Coxheath (Direction 14B: Detour 1 - see Appendix)

Hunton (Direction 33C: Detour 2 - see Appendix)

### Associated local circuits

- CX1: Coxheath - Hunton
- NY3: Hunton - Cheveney

**Shorter circuit:** Much of the route is in countryside which is unremarkable but perfectly enjoyable. The central section along the Greensand Way provides some pleasant views.

### Roads and hindrances:

Heightened care is called for at the crossing of Dean Street (Direction 9), and the short stretches along Vicarage Road (42-43), Smith's Hill (52) and Ewell Lane (60). And when joining the roads in Directions 22, 60 and 71 the proximity of the roads might be an unwelcome surprise.

## SHORTER CIRCUIT

**East Farleigh – Coxheath – (Hunton – Cheveney -) East Farleigh**

Notes taken: July 2016

The start and finish is at **East Farleigh Church** (ME15 0JD).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From <b><u>East Farleigh Church</u></b> , cross Lower Road and head for the nearby junction on the left, by The Bull. There turn right, up Vicarage Lane.	734 533	
2	1	Walk along the pavement up Vicarage Lane, passing near the top East Farleigh Primary School.		
3	8	As the road swings to the right, instead turn sharp left just before a driveway proclaimed by a notice as private. Your path is confirmed as a public bridleway by a signpost a few yards further on.		
4	10	Merge rightwards up a concrete roadway.		
5	12	Ignore gates on both sides and continue ahead, directly under power lines.		
6	16	Once again ignore gates at the sides and follow the main path, slightly leftwards into trees (abandoning the direction of the power lines, which go straight on).		
7	17	Go ahead down an enclosed pathway between tall hedges.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
8	<b>18</b>	Pass Horseshoes Riding School on the left, and continue up along the driveway to the road at the end.		0.82
9	<b>19</b>	[Map point] Turn left along the road. It is fairly busy, but the sightlines are quite good. You will need to cross, and on balance it is probably better to do this early rather than late, to walk along the correct right-hand side and for the best sightline for crossing, even though there is a bit of a verge later on the left.		
10	<b>20</b>	Turn right along the quieter Workhouse Lane.		
11	<b>21</b>	After ignoring the turning into Pleasant Valley, turn right by a ground-level slab next to The Chestnuts; and then, after about 50 yds., left along a narrow track (marked by a currently fragmentary waymark) into trees.		
12	<b>24</b>	Go through a wooden kissing gate, and, rejoining Workhouse Lane at its bend, ahead up a short, steep rise, and on.		
13	<b>28</b>	Turn right alongside the grass triangle at the end, along the verge to start with, then crossing to the pavement once it starts.		
14	<b>38</b>	[To visit <u>Coxheath Church</u> , now divert instead to <u>Detour 1</u> in the Appendix.]  <b>Main route:</b> Reach the Coxheath crossroads and go directly ahead over the main road (Heath Road). Sightlines are excellent, and if needed there are zebra crossings nearby to right and left. Continue ahead along Westerhill Road.		1.78
15	<b>41</b>	Pass the end of Amsbury Road on the right.		
16	<b>46</b>	[Map point] Turn right to go between hedges along the Greensand Way, which the route now follows until Direction 30.		
17	<b>49</b>	Continue ahead as straight as possible among the houses.		
18	<b>50</b>	Turn left, downhill, with the main path.		
19	<b>51</b>	Faced by a big gate, turn right, away from it, as waymarked.		
20	<b>53</b>	At the start of the trees turn right and then left, as waymarked.		2.53
21	<b>56</b>	Emerge from the wood and turn slightly to the right to go along the top, right-hand edge of a huge field of fruit trees, passing under power lines. Ignore the track forking down to the left.		
22	<b>62</b>	At the far corner find an exit gap and beyond it go down steep steps to the road. Turn right along the road, uphill.		
23	<b>64</b>	Just before the road swings to the right, instead turn sharp left up a steep footpath.		
24		At the top follow the field edge, first left, then after about 25 yds. right, along the left-hand edge of a field of fruit trees.		
25	<b>66</b>	Look out for a gate in the hedge on the left, and set out gently downhill along the right-hand edge of a massive field, in more or less the same direction as before the gate.	729 508	
26	<b>71</b>	Continue ahead down the field-edge, ignoring the path to the right.		
27	<b>72</b>	At the fence-corner before the oasthouses, turn left as waymarked, down a narrow enclosed path inside the edge of the trees.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
28	<b>73</b>	At the bottom follow the path it as swings to the right, to keep along the right-hand (top) edge of a field which falls down towards a lake on the left. A fence and bench are on your right.		
29	<b>74</b>	Go straight on to join a gravel roadway which emerges from the right, and follow it as it curves gently up to the right.		3.39
30	<b>75</b>	[Map point] At the T-junction at the top, turn left along the quiet road, now leaving the Greensand Way.		
31	<b>79</b>	Carry on down the road, ignoring the footpath which joins on the right.		
32	<b>81</b>	Go across Lughorse Lane and ahead along the narrow path opposite.		
33	<b>83</b>	[To visit <i>Hunton Church</i> , now divert instead to <i>Detour 2</i> in the Appendix.]  <b>Main route:</b> [!!F!!] Emerge from the trees on to a field and go across it (or, currently simpler, go round the edge), slightly to the right, aiming at a gateway about 250 yds. away. (Bearing 225.)		
34	<b>86</b>	Go through the gate, and carry on in roughly the same direction after crossing the broad track. Walk along the left-hand edge of this new field, keeping reasonably near to the trees on the left.		
35	<b>91</b>	Swing rightwards, with the field edge.		
36	<b>92</b>	At a gap, ignore the path which turns left, and carry straight on; but use the gap to move over to the left of the hedge and head towards the corner of the lake visible ahead.	717 498	
37	<b>94</b>	Swing slightly to the right with the path, to keep to the right of the lake.		4.31
38	<b>96</b>	Swing left with the path at the far corner of the lake.		
39	<b>97</b>	Emerging from the trees move slightly to the right, and join a path going ahead alongside a fence on the right.		
40	<b>99</b>	At a junction of paths, ignore the one almost opposite, and turn right, to pass under power lines a little way ahead.	713 495	
41	<b>105</b>	Go over a stile, cross the minor road beyond, and, after another stile, continue opposite across the middle of a rough field.		
42	<b>108</b>	Cross a stile and and turn right along the road.		5.06
43	<b>109</b>	Ignore the enclosed track leading off to the left.		
44	<b>112</b>	<b>START OF THE SPINE SECTION (from here to the end)</b> Nearing the end of the road's swing to the left, turn sharp right along a minor roadway signposted as a footpath.		
45	<b>114</b>	After following the roadway through a right-hand bend, cross a stile on the left and walk along the left-hand edge of a field.		
46	<b>118</b>	As the field narrows to a point, continue ahead along a narrow passageway next to private gardens.		
47	<b>120</b>	At the end turn left on to Lughorse Lane.		
48	<b>122</b>	Turn off the road to the right (Greensand Way), at the end of a gentle descent and a left-hand bend in the road.		
49	<b>130</b>	[Map point] Continue ahead at the point where the Greensand Way turns off to the right. Keep on the main track all the way to the road at the top.		

\* "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
50	<b>140</b>	Turn left along the road.	711 515	
51	<b>141</b>	Reach the major road and turn right, crossing to use the pavement on the other side, while it lasts.		6.58
52	<b>142</b>	After the pavement ends, spend a few careful minutes walking down along the road. The sightlines are adequate throughout, but you will want to cross a couple of times to achieve them.		
53	<b>147</b>	When the road starts to drop a little more steeply, turn right along a signposted footpath, and go through a gate, and ahead along the right-hand edge of a big grassy field.		
54	<b>150</b>	<b>[!!F!!]</b> When the line of trees on your right swings away further to its right, abandon it by cutting leftwards down across the field towards the nearest corner of the woods in the middle distance.		
55	<b>151</b>	At that corner, just to the left of a big metal gate, cross a well-concealed old stile and continue ahead into the woods.		
56	<b>153</b>	At the bottom cross another stile and immediately turn right alongside a barn with a corrugated metal roof. Follow the path along, and then leftwards over (currently) a fallen tree, to a rusty old gate.		
57	<b>156</b>	<b>[!!F!!]</b> Go through the gate, and then diagonally to the right, up across a steep field, gradually edging towards its right-hand border. (You may find faint traces of a track.) You are aiming at a point which is still about 50 yds. to the left of that border, where there is a complex stile in an intervening fence.		
58	<b>158</b>	Cross the stile and continue converging on the right-hand hedge, to meet it at an old metal gate about 70 yds. along.		
59	<b>160</b>	Cross the hedge by means of a concealed, rickety stile immediately alongside the gate, and then turn left to go between the hedge (now on the left) and fruit trees on the right.		
60	<b>162</b>	In the corner go over a delapidated stile and turn right along the road. Once again you will want to walk along either side of the road, in turn, to achieve the reasonable sightlines available.	719 524	
61	<b>165</b>	Reaching Farleigh Green, continue alongside the road, but escape from the tarmac by walking along the edge of the green, opposite the Good Intent over to the left.		7.65
62	<b>166</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> At the end of the green, where the main road swings right, turn left, not along Charlton Lane but along Kettle Lane, a rough track just beyond it, between hedges.		
63	<b>169</b>	<b>[!!F!!]</b> Just after a big metal gate on the left, turn right (no sign or waymark) through a wooden kissing gate and set out across a field, under power lines. (Bearing 085.)		
64	<b>171</b>	At the end of the field carry on along the path, into woodland.		

\* ***“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
65		<p>Emerge from the trees into an orchard and follow its transport tracks, which alternate between going ahead and to the right. First go ahead as directly as you can towards the nearest such track, and turn a little to the left to follow it.</p> <p><i>Directions in the orchard are not obvious. The turns and the approximate distances between them, as described here, are the current ones, and they give the impression of being pretty well permanent. But even if they do change over time, cling to the fact that to reach the road bend at Direction 68 (after which navigation become easier) you never stray very far from the line you originally followed across the field in Direction 63.</i></p>		
66	<b>172</b>	After about 60 yds. turn right.		
67	<b>173</b>	After a good 100 yds. turn left.		
68		Then, after about 40 yds. meet a roadway as it bends through a right-angle. Turn leftwards along it, in the direction of a gate.		
69	<b>174</b>	But just over halfway to the gate (about 30 yds. before it) turn half-right to go along the right-hand side of a fence, with fruit trees still on your right.	726 528	
70	<b>176</b>	About 20 yds. after a shed over on the left beyond the fence, look out for waymarks (easily missed) hiding in the vegetation in the left-hand hedge, and there turn right along one of the avenues between the fruit trees, angling away from the hedge.		
71	<b>177</b>	At the end go very slightly right along the hedge, then carefully down well-hidden steep steps through it to the road below, and turn left along it.		
72	<b>180</b>	[Map point] Soon after passing Parsonage Place on the left, turn right along a signposted footpath into woods.		
73	<b>182</b>	[!!F!!] Turn half-left, going through a wooden kissing gate, and cross the field ahead, making for the gap in the tall trees beyond. (Bearing 050.)		
74	<b>184</b>	[!!F!!] At the gap turn a little further to the right to cross a similar field with more tall trees beyond. (Bearing 090.)		
75	<b>186</b>	At the end turn left along the far edge of the same field, heading towards a road, with those trees now on your right.		
76	<b>188</b>	Turn right along the road, crossing it to use the pavement along its left-hand side.		
77	<b>190</b>	Reach the path leading to <b>East Farleigh Church</b> , the starting point of the walk.	734 533	8.87

\* ***“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.

## APPENDIX to Shorter Circuit

### Detour to Coxheath Church (Detour 1)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
14A	0	For the very short detour to <b>Coxheath Church</b> : Instead of Direction 14, after crossing Heath Road, turn left along its right-hand side, alongside the shops to start with.		0.00
14B	2	Reach the pathway on the right leading to the west end of the church. After visiting the church, retrace your steps to the crossroads.		0.09
14C	4	At the crossroads turn left along Westerhill Road and continue the main route from Direction 14.  <b>Add 4 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.20 miles to cumulative distances.</b>		0.20

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

### Detour to Hunton Church (Detour 2)

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
33A	0	To reach <b>Hunton Church</b> : <b>!!!F!!!</b> Instead of Direction 33, on emerging from the trees on to the field go slightly to the left across it, aiming a little to the right of a cluster of buildings (including the conical-topped church) in the middle distance.		0.00
33B	3	Go slightly further to the left to join a metalled roadway and pass to the side of a gate and past playing fields on the left.		
33C	5	At the corner cross the main road to reach the church on the far side.		0.29
33D	6	After visiting the church, retrace your steps back across the road and along the metalled roadway as far as the gate. But now, instead of re-crossing the field on your right, continue straight ahead along a clear track.		
33E	12	Reaching another gate (which is the one at Direction 34) rejoin the main route by turning left beyond it.  <b>Add 9 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.49 miles to cumulative distances.</b>		0.64

\* **"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.

## 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!

<b>COXHEATH - SHORTER CIRCUIT</b>	<b>Direction numbers</b>	<b>% of walk</b>
Busy road	1-2a, 9-10, 12-14, 22b, 42-43, 51-52, 60, 71, 76	22
Quiet road \$\$	2b, 2d, 4, 8, 15, 29-31, 44, 47, 50	14
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	24-28, 33-36, 40-41, 45, 53-54, 57-58, 61, 63, 73-75	26
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	2c, 3, 5, 7, 11b, 16-19, 21-22a, 23, 32, 37-39, 46, 48b-49, 59, 62, 65-70	29
Woods	6, 11a, 20, 48a, 55-56, 64, 72	8

\*\* 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 (9) – Details noted in July 2016, but subject to frequent change:**

Most of the stiles have easy gaps (the pair in 41, and those in 42, 45, 58, 59).

But the one in 55 is a double-stile, wired down, with rises of about 12, 6 and 18 ins.; the one in 56 (wired down double-stile, rises of about 12, 12 and 18 ins.) is a bit delapidated and might perhaps offer a dog some space to clamber through at the side; and the one in 60 (also delapidated) is wired down with rises of about 6 and 12 ins.