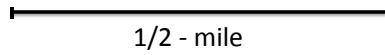
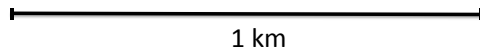


# LOCAL CIRCUIT WS1: HEXTABLE

Scale (approx.):



## ROADS:

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

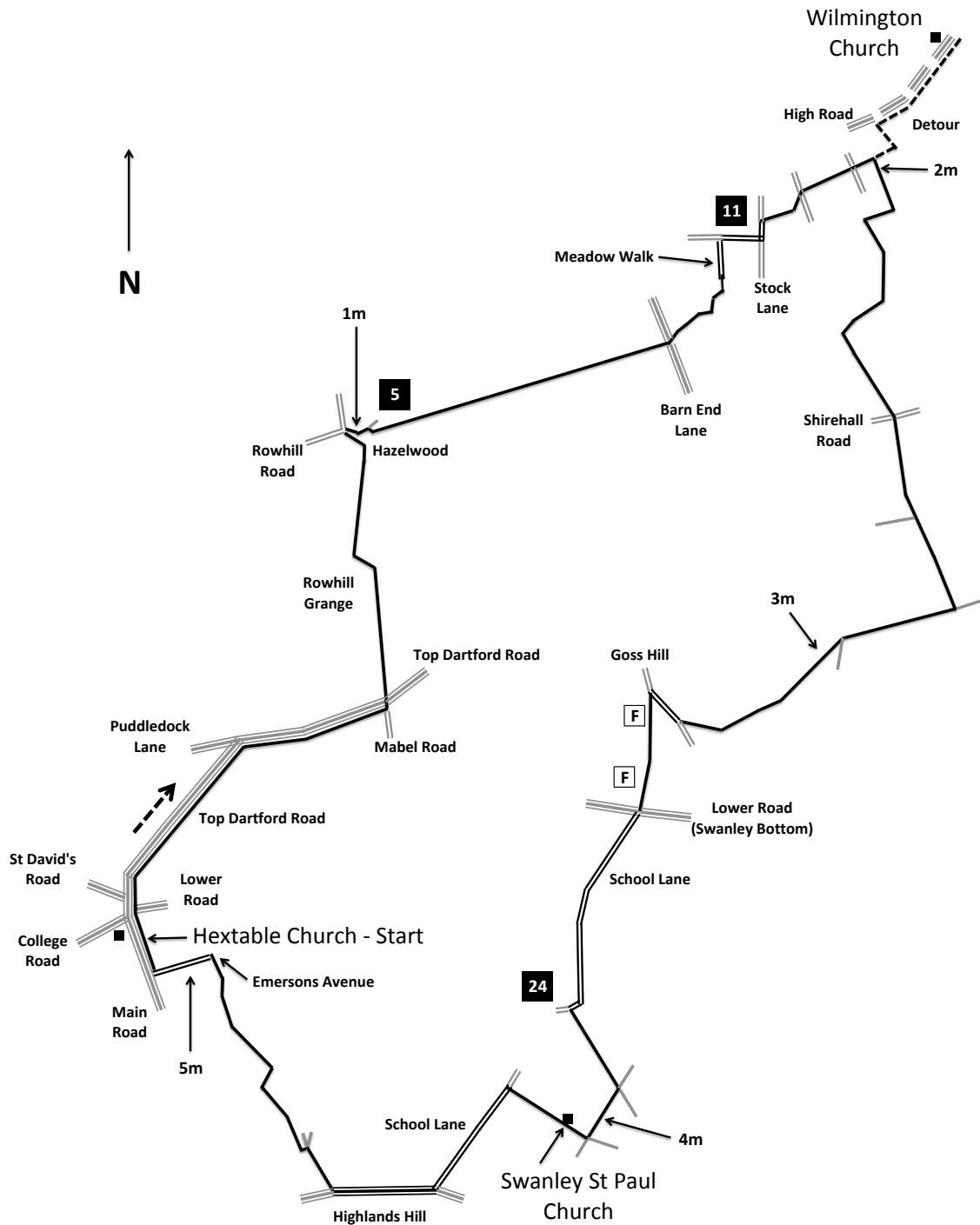
## PATHS:

- On route
- Adjoining

Starting direction

Open fields (see 'Introductory Notes')

Direction label (as in the walk notes)



## LOCAL CIRCUIT WS1: HEXTABLE - 5.21 miles

### Linked churches:

Hextable (start and finish)

Wilmington (Direction 14D: Detour - see Appendix)

Swanley St Paul (26)

### Roads and hindrances:

Highlands Hill (29) is a bit too busy for comfort, but not unduly dangerous and quite short.

Notes taken: February 2012. Updated October 2014 and January 2017.

The start and finish is at **Hextable Church** (BR8 7QF) at the junction of College Road, Main Road and Top Dartford Road.

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the end of College Road, next to the modern building of <b>Hextable Church</b> (currently - January 2017 - hidden behind works and their green boarding), cross the road and turn left along the main road. This becomes Top Dartford Road and goes up to the left of an attractive open space.	518 702	
2	<b>6</b>	Stay with the main road as it swings a bit further to the right (as Puddledock Lane comes in from the left).		
3	<b>11</b>	Cross the road and leave it by turning left, opposite Mabel Road, up a narrow footpath between fences on both sides. Follow this path gently uphill into trees. Continue to follow the obvious path as it wanders right and left among trees and fences.	524 708	
4	<b>20</b>	After passing a big house on the left, you reach a road. Turn right, not along the road itself, but on the sharper right turn on to a footpath.	524 715	0.98
5	<b>21</b>	[Map point] This path emerges from the trees into a field (by way of a little kick to right, then left) and sets out across it towards Wilmington, visible in the distance.		
6	<b>30</b>	When you reach the main road, cross it, turn left, then after about 20 yds. (next to New Barn Cottages) turn right along the footpath. Then start working your way through a small residential estate. The prevailing direction is diagonally leftwards.		
7	<b>31</b>	First go ahead and slightly left across the garage court and a small parking area. Go between numbers 34 and 35, and then diagonally across another parking area beyond, aiming at the far left-hand corner, to the left of six parking spaces. Go slightly left along an alleyway. This then turns right between the sides of houses.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
8	<b>33</b>	At the end of this short path, turn left at a T-junction of paths, and go along with numbers 28 and 26 on the left. The path leads to the end of a cul-de-sac. Continue straight on along this road, which turns out to be Meadow Walk.		
9	<b>34</b>	At the end turn right.	533 719	
10	<b>35</b>	At the end turn left along Stock Lane (towards The Laurels).		
11	<b>36</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> Turn right, opposite 'Kanderboden', at the first lamp post, along footpath DR110. Though indicated this turning could easily be missed.		
12	<b>38</b>	Go straight ahead across a private driveway, past the front doors of houses.		
13	<b>39</b>	Go straight across a road and continue along the footpath opposite.		
14	<b>40</b>	<i>[To visit <u>Wilmington Church</u>, now divert instead to the <u>Detour</u> in the Appendix.]</i> <b>Main route:</b> Just after green verges on the left (alongside a cul-de-sac), turn right along a narrow path between tall wire fences.	536 721	2.01
15	<b>41</b>	At the end go straight ahead on to a field-edge path. It is on the right-hand side of the field and turns right, then left, then right, then left - following the field-edge itself, immediately alongside the fence or hedge on the right.		
16	<b>47</b>	Instead of making a third right-turn, go virtually straight on between fields towards a small gap in the trees opposite.		
17	<b>50</b>	This gap is at a road. Cross it and continue ahead on path DR56.		
18	<b>53</b>	Ignore the first opportunity to turn right and go straight ahead. (The paths here are not quite where they are marked on the map: hence this rather surprising direction!)	538 712	
19	<b>56</b>	But at a crossing path, turn right along a narrow track (not ahead down the indistinct track across the grass towards trees.)	539 710	2.80
20	<b>66</b>	After the track swings to the right, you reach a road. Turn right along it.		
21	<b>67</b>	<b>[!!F!!]</b> Turn left on to a footpath at a stile, and go ahead.		
22	<b>68</b>	<b>[!!F!!]</b> Go ahead over another stile, and follow on, downhill, in the same direction.		
23	<b>71</b>	At the bottom cross another stile and the main road, and start out along the road ahead.		
24	<b>77</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> After the road bends to the right, turn left along a footpath with a hedge on the left and trees on the right.		
25	<b>81</b>	Look out for a stile on the left, and turn away from it along a path to the right, between trees.	530 699	
26	<b>84</b>	Turn right through an old metal gate into the churchyard, then straight ahead past <b>Swanley St Paul Church</b> , and on alongside a playing field on your right.		4.09
27	<b>87</b>	Turn left along the road.		
28	<b>91</b>	Turn right at the T-junction along Highlands Hill.		
29	<b>92</b>	Carry on down the rather unpleasant road, ignoring the right turn at Tudor House and Anthony's Lane.		

\* "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
30	<b>94</b>	Turn right at the main (second) entrance to Highlands Farm. (There is no signpost, but there is an SD reference (SD67) on the Highways notice.) Keep to the left past the farm buildings. There is then a fierce sign saying that there is no public footpath. I think this refers to the path up to the right, or possibly to the one which goes straight ahead. Best anyway to do a quick left-right just after this notice to continue in more or less the same direction. This takes you on to a path along the top, right-hand edge of a big field. Walk the length of this path.	523 696	
31	<b>98</b>	At the end, just before the houses, swing right, then left (with the field to your right), so that you are going alongside the houses on your left.		
32	<b>99</b>	Ignore the main path as it turns right: instead carry straight on along the lesser path, keeping the back gardens of the houses on your left.		
33	<b>102</b>	After passing tennis courts and a playing field on your right, turn left down Emersons Avenue, next to number 28.		
34	<b>104</b>	At the T-junction at the bottom turn right along Main Road.		
35	<b>106</b>	Reach the crossroads at the start of the walk, by <u>Hextable Church</u> .	518 702	5.21

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

## APPENDIX to Local Circuit WS1

### **Detour to Wilmington Church**

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
14A	<b>0</b>	Where the main route turns right at Direction 14, instead go straight ahead.		0.00
14B	<b>1</b>	Follow the path as it turns left between fences.		
14C	<b>2</b>	When you reach the main road, turn right.		
14D	<b>7</b>	After crossing the A2 on a bridge, reach <u>Wilmington Church</u> . Then retrace your steps to the start of this detour.	539 725	0.28
14E	<b>15</b>	Turn left where you left the main route at Direction 14. <b>Add 15 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.56 miles to cumulative distances.</b>		0.56

\* *"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!

<b>LOCAL CIRCUIT WS1</b>	<b>Direction numbers</b>	<b>% of walk</b>
Busy road	1-2, 28-29, 34	16
Quiet road \$\$	8b-10, 20, 23, 27, 33	16
Open field with livestock	21-22	3
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	5, 15-18, 30b-31	27
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	3, 6-8a, 11-14, 19, 24-26, 30a, 32	37
Woods	4	1

\*\* 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 (3)** - Details noted in May 2015, but **subject to frequent change**:

The stiles in Directions **21**, **22** and **23** all have easy gaps.