






# EAST MALLING

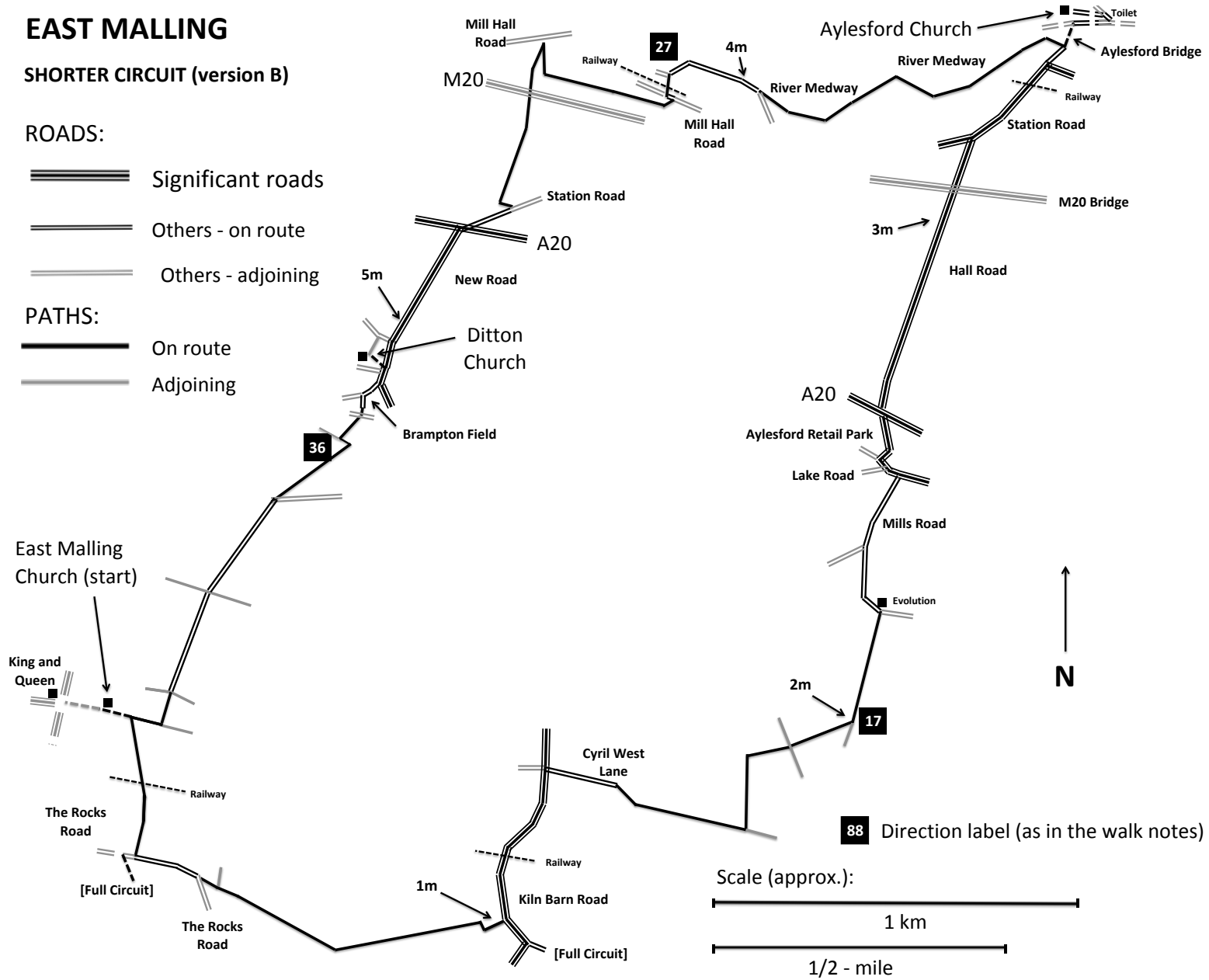
## SHORTER CIRCUIT (version B)

### ROADS:

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

### PATHS:

-  On route
-  Adjoining



## **EAST MALLING CIRCUIT - in this version, 6.00 miles**

### **Churches in this version of the shorter circuit (version B):**

East Malling (start and finish)

Aylesford (Direction 24D: Detour - see Appendix)

Ditton (34)

### **Associated local circuits**

- EM1: East Malling – Ditton – Barming Heath – East Malling
- EM2: East Malling – Ditton – Aylesford – East Malling (almost the reverse of this walk!)
- WA1: Ditton – Larkfield – Leybourne – East Malling - Ditton

**Shorter circuit (B):** A bit of a mixture! Semi-rural at first, with some lovely views. Later a retail park and suburban roads and paths, but with a riverside interlude included.

### **Roads and hindrances:**

The A20 (twice) and Aylesford's main Station Road need to be crossed – on each occasion with the protection of lights.

### **SHORTER CIRCUIT (B)**

**East Malling – Aylesford – Ditton – East Malling**

Notes taken: November 2016

The start and finish is at East Malling Church (ME19 6AH).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the west door of <u>East Malling Church</u> , turn to the left to pass immediately along its south side.	703 571	
2	<b>1</b>	At the railings at the end of the churchyard turn right.		
3	<b>4</b>	Cross the railway and continue ahead in the same direction.		
4	<b>7</b>	On reaching the road at the top, turn left alongside it.		
5	<b>9</b>	As the road bends sharply to the right after house number 154, instead go straight ahead, at first over a rough space used as a parking area, and then along a rough roadway keeping to the left of number 179.		
6	<b>10</b>	Continue straight ahead.		
7	<b>12</b>	And continue ahead along the tarmac footpath, ignoring the vehicle track which forks down to the left.		
8		Go to the right of the bordering trees, for a stretch of open space, continuing in the same direction, parallel to the path.		
9	<b>13</b>	Return to the path on your left, and continue ahead.		
10	<b>20</b>	Follow the path downhill as it turns right, then left.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
11	<b>21</b>	<b>START OF THE SPINE SECTION</b> After passing between metal barriers, turn left along the road.	714 565	1.01
12	<b>23</b>	Go under the railway bridge and continue ahead.		
13	<b>26</b>	At a crossroads turn right along Cyril West Lane.		
14	<b>33</b>	Turn left along a narrow footpath.		
15	<b>36</b>	Follow the path as it turns to the right.		
16	<b>38</b>	At the crosspaths go ahead, alongside the fence immediately on your left.		1.89
17	<b>40</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> At the T-junction turn left.		
18	<b>44</b>	Turn left, opposite the Evolution Strength and Fitness building, to join an access road, and follow it as it swings gently rightwards down to a junction with a larger road.		
19	<b>45</b>	At the junction cross the road and turn right along the pavement beyond.		
20	<b>49</b>	At the roundabout at the end follow it around leftwards (clockwise) and exit to continue down along the left-hand side of the main road, with a car park down to your left, and the main shops of the Aylesford Retail Park over beyond it.	724 577	
21	<b>52</b>	Reach the A20 and cross it at the lights a few yards to the left, at the bus stop. Then go down Hall Road opposite, crossing to its right-hand side at the first zebra crossing.		2.65
22	<b>61</b>	After walking down the length of Hall Road swing right at the junction at the end, soon after the motorway bridge.		
23	<b>62</b>	At the lights, cross to the left of the road; and after the level crossing part company with the major road as it swings to the right, and continue ahead towards Aylesford Bridge.		
24	<b>66</b>	<i>[To visit <u>Aylesford Church</u>, now divert instead to the <u>Detour</u> in the Appendix.]</i>  Main route: Reaching the start of the bridge, do not cross it, but turn left through the gate to go alongside the river.		3.36
25	<b>78</b>	Go ahead as a green space opens out briefly on the left, with a merging road beyond it.		
26		Continue ahead by joining the road as it merges.		
27	<b>81</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> As the road swings to the right, go ahead to cross the railway bridge instead.		
28	<b>82</b>	At the end of the bridge follow the road to the left for about 20 yds. and then go across and turn right to walk along a wide footpath between a fenced-off area on the right and the motorway running parallel on the left.		
29	<b>87</b>	At the far end, faced by an embankment ahead, swing to the right towards a minor road. But immediately before the road double back to the left to go up along the embankment.	715 588	4.36
30	<b>89</b>	<b>END OF THE SPINE SECTION</b> (After the Spine Section turns away along a path to the right ...) reach the bridge over the motorway and cross it.		
31	<b>90</b>	After the bridge go ahead past a rough area and then along a narrow enclosed path alongside a sports field.		
32	<b>93</b>	After the path bends to the left, reach a road and turn right along its right-hand pavement.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
33	<b>95</b>	Reach the A20, cross it (using the lights slightly to the right), and continue ahead along the right-hand side of New Road.		
34	<b>101</b>	Pass <b>Ditton Church</b> over to your right.		
35	<b>102</b>	After crossing St Peter's Road, fork right into Brampton Field. Then after about 40 yds. turn left along an estate road (alongside house number 1) and continue straight ahead over another road, along a footpath and across a garage court.		
36	<b>104</b>	<b>[Map point]</b> At the end turn left and after another 25 yds. sharp right along an enclosed footpath.	709 578	5.29
37	<b>109</b>	Go between metal barriers and straight on ahead.		
38	<b>115</b>	Cross the road and continue up the footpath opposite.		
39	<b>116</b>	Turn right and follow the path towards the church.		
40**	<b>117</b>	At the start of the churchyard: <b>either, to continue the circuit</b> (if not visiting, or finishing at, East Malling Church), turn left (the 'right' turn at Direction 2) and continue from there;		5.93
** or 40A	<b>117</b>	<b>... or, to detour to, or finish at, East Malling Church</b> , go straight on through the churchyard.		
40B	<b>119</b>	Reach <b>East Malling Church</b> , on the right.	703 571	6.00
40C		If returning to the circuit having visited the church, resume from Direction 1.		

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## **APPENDIX to Shorter Circuit (B)**

### **Detour to Aylesford Church**

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
24A	<b>0</b>	Instead of Direction 24, carry on straight ahead to the traffic-free Aylesford Bridge.		
24B	<b>1</b>	At the T-junction beyond, turn right along High Street, then after about 80 yds. (at the toilets - currently open) sharp left, uphill, along Church Walk.		
24C	<b>2</b>	About 50 yds. up, turn left along a road marked as a footpath.		
24D	<b>4</b>	Reach the south door of <b>Aylesford Church</b> . After visiting the church retrace your steps to Church Walk and High Street and back over the bridge.	729 590	0.18
24E	<b>7</b>	Rejoin the main route at the far end of the bridge, turning right to go through the gate at Direction 24; and resume from there.  <b>Add 7 minutes to subsequent total times and 0.36 miles to cumulative distances.</b>		0.36

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## 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>EAST MALLING - SHORTER CIRCUIT (B)</b>	<b>Direction numbers</b>	<b>% of walk</b>
Busy road	11-12, 19-23a, 32-34	30
Quiet road \$\$	4-7, 13a, 18, 23b, 26, 28a, 35, 37	18
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	8, 25, 31a	2
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	1-3, 9-10, 13b-17, 24a, 24c, 27, 28b-30, 31b, 36, 38-40	47
Woods	24b	3

\*\* 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.