

ASH CHURCH WALKS - NO. 19

F Open fields (see 'Introductory Notes')

88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)

ROADS:

==== Significant roads

==== Others - on route

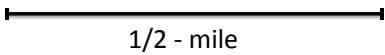
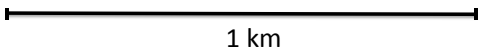
==== Others - adjoining

PATHS:

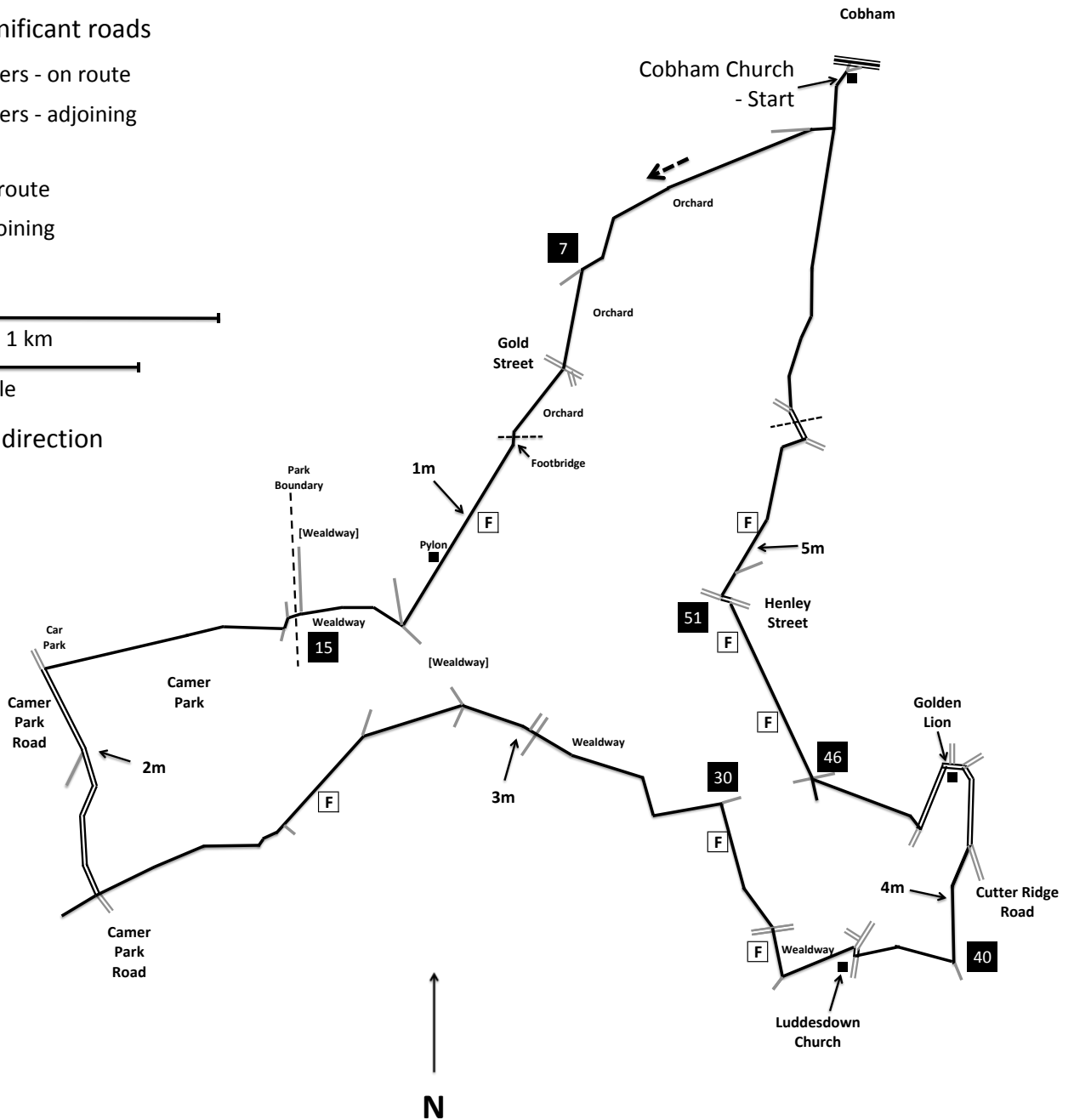
— On route

— Adjoining

Scale (approx.):



---> Starting direction



ASH CHURCH WALKS - No.19 (1 July 2018) - 5.73 miles (Cobham - Camer Park - Luddesdown - Henley Street - Cobham)

Orchards at first, then the grand open space of Camer Park, sandwiched between sections of the Wealdway. The tea-room at the end of Camer Park provided a welcome break, and my silly error at 21 caused some amusement, followed by the satisfaction of the team effort in navigating back on to the route. Then scenic Luddesdown, and back, over Henley Down, to the start.

Roads and hindrances:

Just a couple of reasonable climbs, which the group took in its stride.

Notes taken: September 2018

The start and finish is at Cobham Church (DA12 3BG).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the main road through Cobham go into the churchyard and start along the path around the west (right-hand) end of Cobham Church. Follow the path - the one which is a few yards to the right of the church, not the narrower one which follows the church building itself.	669 685	
2	2	At the first opportunity (just before a stile on the left) turn right along an unsignalled path. There is a bench on the right, and a MKG ahead.		
3		Go through the MKG and beyond it turn about 20 degrees left through the fruit trees.		
4	5	Cross a roadway and continue straight ahead across an open field, a few yards to the left of the first of two pylons, then about 40 yds. to the right of the second one.		
5	7	Go on, very slightly left, back into the orchard, on the path which crosses diagonally through the lines of trees.		
6	8	Go over a grassy crossing track and adjust by two rows to the right to pick up again the diagonal path through the gaps.		
7	10	[Map point] Continue ahead, ignoring the alternative route to the right.		
8	11	Cross another grassy area and again adjust by two rows to the right to find and follow the continuation of the diagonal path after about 25 yds..		
9	12	Briefly zigzag across one row, right then left, to resume the diagonal path.		
10	13	Go through the MKG, cross the road, find the gap opposite and continue ahead beyond, on a clear path diagonally through the trees, towards a bridge over the railway.	633 677	
11	16	[!!F!!] Cross the bridge, and continue, slightly right, across the large field, passing about 40 yds. to the left of the pylon.		0.85

* "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
12	23	After passing through a screen of undergrowth at the end, turn right along the broad path (now briefly joining the Wealdway).		
13	26	Where the Wealdway swings away to the right, instead go straight ahead, through a MKG into trees, a side entrance into Camer Park. Go ahead for about 100 yds. along the winding track through the trees.		
14	27	Then turn left along a broad crossing path.		
15		[Map point] And then right, through the edge of the trees and into the open space of Camer Park. The line is now straight ahead, passing a litter bin and going midway between benches dedicated to Terry Bartholomew on the left and Eileen Martin on the right.		
16	30	Go immediately past another bench (John Henry Raven) and then a few trees, continuing reasonably close to the right-hand edge of the large open field.		
17	33	Beyond another litter bin pass the back of an information board and continue straight along the broad, partly woodchip, track, heading, finally over a grassy space, between the car park on the right and the refreshment area and toilets (currently open) on the left.	652 670	
18	35	Turn left out of the car park on to the road.		1.81
19	43	Reach and pass through a gap on the left, beside a redundant MKG, and continue ahead along the right-hand edge of a huge field.		
20	49	About 40 yds. after bending leftwards at the end of the field, follow the path down a dip, then up again to the right, in trees.		
21	50	<i>[This is what was supposed to happen! Deep in conversation I overlooked this Direction, and led the group to the right here, instead of at 22. In the event we improvised our way ahead to rejoin the intended route at 25.]</i> !!!F!!! Emerging from the trees, go very slightly left and follow the broad path between the fields, heading towards the left-hand edge of the trees in the middle distance.		
22	53	Pass through those trees, and immediately after them turn right, along the field edge, with the trees now on your right.		
23	56	At the end of the field go ahead into trees.		
24	57	At the end of the trees turn right into a broader path, now joining the Wealdway.		2.88
25	59	Go straight ahead, ignoring paths to left and right, and go down and then up, along the left-hand edge of a rough field, passing under power lines which cross at an angle.		
26	62	Having continued to the corner at the very end (ignoring a crossing path just before it) follow the path as it bends leftwards into trees, then winds on towards a MKG.	664 667	
27	63	Go through the MKG and turn right to go down along the right-hand edge of a field.		
28	65	Carry on through a wooden kissing gate and down steps.		

* **"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
29	[65]	At the end of the steps turn left along the top, left-hand edge of the large sloping field.		
30	68	[Map point] [!!F!!] Reaching a waymark, turn right to go steeply down, directly across the field, heading towards a small gap in the hedge below. (Bearing 165.)		
31	70	Go through the gap and on, down even more steeply.		
32		At the bottom, turn slightly right to go up along the left-hand side of a field, keeping on the right of the line of trees, when it begins about 100 yds. further on.		
33	73	Up at the end, go through the metal gate, and follow the track as it winds left and right and up to the road.		
34	74	Cross the road and go up the steps directly opposite and through the MKG at the top. [!!F!!] Then, very slightly leftwards, head across the field towards the right-hand edge of the trees in the middle distance ahead. (Bearing 170.)		3.57
35	76	Reaching those trees, turn left to walk along the right-hand edge of the field, with the trees now alongside you on the right.	668 662	
36	78	At the end go through the MKG and down steps to the road. Turn right along it.		
37	79	Turn left on to a narrow footpath opposite the entrance to Luddesdown Church.		
38	80	Go through a wooden kissing gate, and then ahead along and up the edge of a huge sloping field.		
39	82	Reaching a wooden kissing gate on the left go through (or round) it and ahead, steeply up, into trees.		
40	83	[Map point] Emerge at the edge of a large field, and turn left along its edge.		
41	86	When the trees on the left come to an end, continue ahead over a small open area towards the left-hand edge of more trees ahead, and on reaching them go ahead alongside them.		
42	87	Just before the field begins to drop more steeply, go through a gap on the right to join the road, and follow it downhill.		
43	89	At the bottom turn left, then after about 60 yds. follow the road as it swings to the left alongside the Golden Lion.		4.24
44	90	After passing a working yard on the left, at a point where the road bends slightly to the right, take the footpath which forks away up to the right through a wooden kissing gate.		
45	91	After a further 40 yds. turn right to go quite steeply up along the field-edge path, keeping the field on your left.		
46	98	[Map point] Reach a bench (commemorating the silver jubilee of the local rights-of-way group) and immediately afterwards turn right through a gap and follow the winding path up among trees, partly helped by steps.		
47	99	[!!F!!] Emerge through a wooden kissing gate and continue along the clear path, which goes somewhat leftwards up to the top of the rise, and then down to a wooden kissing gate at the edge of more trees.		
48	104	Go through the gate and on, down through the trees.		

* **"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
49	[104]	!!!F!!! Cross a stile and go diagonally across the field towards a stile in the fence at the bottom, just to the right of the dark buildings.		
50	106	Cross the stile and turn left, briefly, along the road.		4.87
51		[Map point] After about 25 yds. turn right along a narrow alley between fences.		
52	107	!!!F!!! Emerging at the top you have a choice of two tracks which go up across the field. Take the one which goes more or less straight ahead, ignoring the one further to the right.		
53	110	Go through the MKG at the top, and on across a piece of open ground to another MKG beyond (not getting drawn across towards the building on the left).		
54	111	Go through this second MKG, and ahead among trees.	668 674	
55	112	Reach a metal gate, and turn right along the field edge.		
56	114	Nearing the end bend rightwards towards gates, pass through, and turn left along the road.		
57	115	Immediately after the railway bridge turn right away from the road, and follow the track as it bends slightly left to start along the left-hand edge of a huge field.		5.20
58	124	At the top go through the metal gate and ahead, alongside the burial ground on the left.		
59	125	Reaching the point where, at Direction 2, you set off towards the orchards, now go straight ahead and retrace your steps to Cobham Church.		
60	127	Arrive back at the starting point at Cobham Church.	669 685	5.73

* *“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!

ASH CHURCH WALKS - No.19	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road		0
Quiet road \$\$	18, 36, 42-43, 50, 56	12
Open field with livestock	52-54	2
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	11, 15-17, 19, 21-22, 24-25, 27, 29-35, 38, 40-41, 44-45, 47, 49, 55, 57	59
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	1-10, 12, 28, 37, 51, 58-59	22
Woods	13-14, 20, 23, 26, 39, 46, 48	5

** 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 (2) - Details noted in September 2018, but **subject to frequent change**:

Both stiles (in Directions **49** and **50**) have easy gaps.