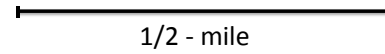
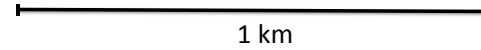


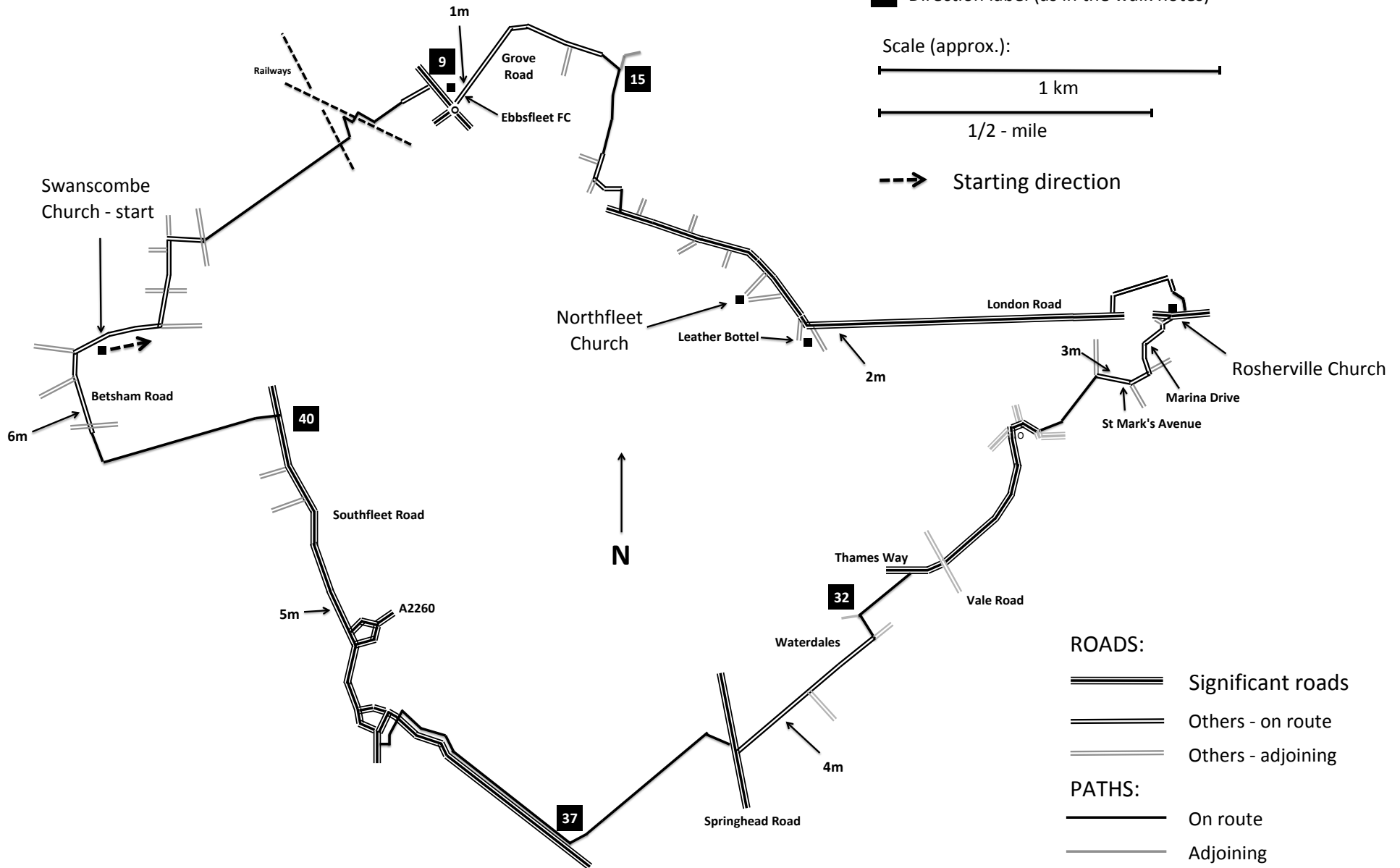
LOCAL CIRCUIT NG2: EBBSFLEET

88 Direction label (as in the walk notes)

Scale (approx.):



--- Starting direction



LOCAL CIRCUIT NG2: EBBSFLEET - 6.16 miles

Linked churches:

Swanscombe (start and finish)

Northfleet (Direction 20)

Rosherville Church (23)

Roads and hindrances:

There are several brushes with busy main roads, but none which present unreasonable difficulties. Remember that there are competing bicycles in Direction 37!

While not exactly a hindrance, the disused railway (Direction 35) is - currently, at least - a thoroughly unpleasant sight, with miscellaneous items of rubbish randomly strewn along it.

Notes taken: Summer 2017 and Spring 2018

The start and finish is at Swanscombe Church (Swanscombe Street, DA10 0BD).

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
1		From the entrance to <u>Swanscombe Church</u> , turn right along Swanscombe Street.	605 740	
2	2	After crossing the road when convenient, turn left along Church Road.		
3	5	Turn right along Herbert Road.		
4	6	At the end cross the road and directly opposite go ahead along the joint-use cycleway (walkers entitled to the right-hand lane).		
5	11	Continue to follow it as it takes you ahead over the railway bridge; then left; then, doubling back, sharp right.		
6	13	About 50 yds. after this switchback, turn left under a railway arch.		
7	14	Immediately after passing under the arch (without going as far as the roadway visible ahead), turn right along a metalled pathway, then follow it as it bends to the left.	612 747	
8	16	Go between bollards and straight ahead.		0.84
9	17	[Map point] Reach the main road at Ebbsfleet FC, cross it immediately with the help of a traffic island, then turn right briefly towards the roundabout.		
10	18	At the roundabout turn left along Grove Road.		
11	20	Follow the road as it bends to the right, ignoring plant entrances to left and right.		
12	23	Keep straight on at the road junction.	618 749	
13	24	Go ahead past a barrier.		
14	25	Swing right, but then keep left along the short, narrow track which starts to the left of the big metal gate.		
15	26	[Map point] At the end, after a squeeze gate, turn right, away from the river, along a narrow, enclosed track.		
16	29	Emerge at the dead end of a cul-de-sac (with a parking area on the right), and continue ahead up towards the main road.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
17	30	About 100 yds. short of the main road, turn left into an access road.	619 745	
18	32	Faced by gates, turn right up a passageway towards the main road.		1.64
19		Turn left along the pavement on the left-hand side of the main road.		
20	39	Pass Northfleet Church (opposite on the right) and follow the pavement as it bends gently left. Then go ahead along the long straight road towards Gravesend.		
21	52	Turn left along Fountain Walk, following it as it soon turns right.		2.57
22	54	And follow it through another right turn.		
23	55	When the roadway swings back to the left, instead leave it on a walkway which goes straight ahead from its left-hand pavement, to pass Rosherville Church on your right.		
24	56	Go through the gate and turn right, back on to London Road. Then immediately cross the road at the zebra crossing, go a few yards to the right on the other side, and turn left down the winding Marina Drive.		
25	58	At the T-junction at the end, turn right.		
26	60	At the end, where the road turns right and becomes Beresford Road, instead go ahead past the barrier into the open space. Turn half-left across it and head for the far left-hand corner, passing immediately to the right of the enclosed basketball court.	634 739	
27	62	At that corner continue ahead, slightly right, down an enclosed metalled walkway.		
28	63	Go straight on, ignoring the steps to the left.		
29	64	Reach the busy roundabout junction at the bottom, and set about crossing roads with the ultimate intention of turning left to go along the right-hand pavement of the main road (Thames Way). To achieve this, go anti-clockwise around the roundabout, crossing first the two halves of Rosherville Way, then the two halves of the (unnamed) feeder road which leads to Perry Street. This will bring you alongside Thames Way: set out along it, starting straight away with its slight right-hand bend.		3.17
30	70	At the first lights, use them to go diagonally across the junction, crossing first Thames Way itself, and then the end of Vale Road, so that you are, beyond, continuing along the left-hand side of Thames Way, towards a bus stop.		
31	72	About 40 yds. after the bus stop, fork left up a joint cycle-and-pedestrian path.		
32	74	[Map point] As the metalled path turns right (towards the corner of a pleasant open space), instead turn left to go under a bridge.		
33	75	At the end, turn right along the long straight road (Waterdales), and walk the rest of its length, keeping on its right-hand side.		

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

	Mins.*		OS	Miles
34	82	Reaching the main road at the end, the route continues down a short, steep slope opposite, immediately to the right of the Sainsbury's delivery access road. To reach the slope, detour a few yards to the right to cross the road by way of the island.		4.10
35	83	At the bottom of the slope bend left to go along the course of a disused railway - now a desperately rubbish-strewn chaos.	623 728	
36	88	Emerging from the gloom of the enclosing embankments, continue ahead as straight as possible towards the A2 which soon comes into sight ahead, in particular ignoring the gate and path which go down to the right. Instead head down to meet, at an angle, the A2's long slip road.		
37	90	[Map point] Merge rightwards on to the cycle path below, and follow it alongside the remaining length of the slip road, up to and beyond the first roundabout which finally appears on the left. <i>(Be aware that this is a shared cycle and pedestrian path. Cyclists at times approach rapidly from behind. Walking in predictable straight lines will help to avoid situations which would not end well for anyone. And there are for the most part opportunities to walk on the grass, and, in places, behind little screening hedges, on the right.)</i>		
38	97	Approaching the second roundabout, about 80 yds. before it cross the road leftwards, protected by the lights (noting that the traffic comes from both directions!). Then continue to walk towards the roundabout, and, although it is a short detour, turn left on reaching it, to enable safe crossing by use of further lights. After crossing, turn back to the right and continue, clockwise, around the roundabout. Then take the exit signposted 'A2260 Gravesend West, Northfleet, etc.'		4.86
39	103	At the next roundabout, take its exit on the left, abandoning the A2260 and following the sign for Swanscombe and Castle Hill. The footway varies between one side of the road and the other.		
40	110	[Map point] At the bottom of a dip, cross the road on the left, then immediately swing left to go along a tree-lined avenue parallel to it.	610 738	5.58
41	117	After a short rise, turn right to cross a metal stile and go ahead, with fences on both sides.		
42	119	Over another stile, and ahead along a brief roadway to a junction. There continue ahead along Betsham Road.		
43	121	Turn right down Swanscombe Street.		
44	122	Turn right again (still Swanscombe Street).		
45	123	Reach the entrance to Swanscombe Church on the right, the starting point of the walk.	605 740	6.16

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

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!

LOCAL CIRCUIT NG2	Direction numbers	% of walk
Busy road	1, 9-11, 19-20, 24a, 29-30, 34a, 37-39, 43-44	50
Quiet road \$\$	2-3, 8, 12, 16-17, 21-22, 24b-25, 33, 42	22
Open field with livestock		0
Edge of field with livestock		0
Field (or edge) without livestock **	26	1
Path (hedged, or otherwise forced)	4-7, 13-15, 18, 23, 27-28, 31-32, 34b-36, 41	22
Woods	40	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 2017, but **subject to frequent change**:

Both stiles (in Directions **41** and **42**) have easy gaps.