

ESSEX WAY STAGE 2 - CHIPPING ONGAR to GOOD EASTER (9.5 miles)

START - CHIPPING ONGAR (Banson's Lane Car Park – Map Ref: TL 552032)

Key

**L = left; R = right; TL = turn left; TR = turn right; X = cross over;
CONT = continue; THRU = through; ST = stile; WM = waymark;
FPS = footpath (or bridleway) sign; FB = footbridge (normally wood);
TK = track; RD = road; KG = kissing gate.**

All distances are approximate

- 1 **X** main RD by Zebra Xing and **TR**. Ahead 100M to large round 'Ongar' sign & **TL**. **CONT** past 'White House' gates bearing **R** into narrow alley. **TL** at RD. **THRU** KG and **CONT** ahead on TK, passing farm buildings (on your R), staying on main TK as it twists and turns until it eventually goes under power cables. Immediately **TL** and follow TK, in direction of power cables, to corner. Bear **R** downhill and **TL** at end of hedge (on your L) by WM. Follow TK to RD ... **BUT** ... just **BEFORE** RD turn **R** at gate. **CONT** downhill (hedge on L then wooden fence). **TL** over ST in wooden fence & up steps to RD. (1¼ miles)
- 2 **X** RD carefully. Ahead at FPS bearing **R** then **L** for 30M to RD. **X** RD. **CONT** **HALF R** ahead at FPS and **X** field to hedge corner. **TL** and now follow tracks near the river for 1.5 miles **Xing** STs and FBs (over ditches) en route but **NOT Xing** river yet. Ignore first bridge (wooden) over river but **TR** & **X** second bridge (metal). (2¾ miles)
- 3 ***TL** and **CONT** ahead almost immediately into green lane (hedges both sides). Exit green lane and **CONT** on broad TK to RD.
[* in practise, most people seem to take the following route though it is not a footpath: **TL** into field. Immediately **TR** (hedge on R) & **CONT** 250M to broad TK. **CONT** ahead on broad TK to RD.]
- 4 **CONT** ahead on RD for 50M and then **TR** at FPS (Bridleway) by telegraph post into green lane. **CONT** ahead to emerge at field edge for 200M then re-enter green lane and **CONT** ahead to RD.
- 5 **TR** passing 'Little Witney Green, & 'Rectory' (on your L) and then **TR** at FPS (ignore 'private' sign). **IMMEDIATELY** head **HALF L Xing** field 20m **R** of telegraph post in line with WM post. Aim for gap in hedge with church tower behind it and pass **THRU** then ahead (still aiming for church tower) to exit by WM and FB to RD. (4¼ miles)

- 6** At RD **TL** for 400M. **TR** at road signs, towards Millers Green, and **IMMEDIATELY** **TR** at FPS THRU hedge, **X** FB and **TL** (keep hedge/fence on **L** now) to WM. **TR** (aim for church tower) to **X** field and **X** FB. **TL** before bearing **R**. CONT on field edge uphill (ignore **L** turnings) to eventually **X** FB and pass between Willingale churches to RD. **(5 miles)**
- 7** **X** RD & CONT ahead at FPS (with hedge on **R**) for 2½ fields then **X** to follow other side of hedge to FPS at field corner. **TL** over FB and CONT ahead (hedge on **R**) to corner. **X** ditch and **TL**. CONT with hedge on **L** to FPS at field corner.
- 8** **TR** following TK , ditch on **L**, for 100M to **TL** on FB over ditch and straight ahead on raised TK (ditch on **L**) for 300M to arrive at RD. **(5¾ miles)**
- 9** **X** RD & CONT ahead on Byway at FPS for 700M to T junction at narrow lane. **TR** and CONT for 500M then **TL** at FPS on bend. **(6½ miles)**
- 10** CONT 1000M (stony ground) & **TL** at sharp corner (beware! WM sometimes tampered with) then 1300M on rough TK, ignoring any TKs off, to eventually emerge at FPS by lane. **TR** and CONT ahead on lane for 500M to main RD. **(8¼ miles)**
- 11** **X** RD (carefully) **HALF L** to FPS in lay-by and CONT on Byway for 900M (hedge on **R** at first then bearing **R** on deeply rutted TK between hedges). Emerge on hard surfaced lane passing house and barn to reach RD at junction.
- 12** **TL** over bridge past 2 white houses and then very soon **TL** at FPS by telegraph post. Ahead following **L** side of field to **X** FB in corner and **TR**. CONT 200M up **R** edge of field to FPS and then **HALF L X** field aiming for **R(ish)** side of church tower. (Warning – this mud **REALLY STICKS** to your shoes!!)
- 13** **X** FB and follow **L** edge of graveyard to pass **L** side of church exiting onto RD. **TL** and finish is 100M away by ***CROSSROADS**. **(9½ miles)**

*** Map Ref: TL 626123**

Revised 24 Aug 2005 (Ken Parry/Robert Teer)