

ESSEX WAY STAGE 3 - GOOD EASTER to LITTLE LEIGHS (9.5 miles)

START - GOOD EASTER (Map Ref: TL 626123)

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** From crossroads follow **RD** signed 'Pleshey' for 50M to FPS (Bridleway) and **TL**. Ahead 10M and **TR** at FPS to follow field edge (houses to **R**) for 200M to TK junction. At TK junction turn **L** and **CONT** with ditch, then hedge, on your **R** dead straight for 650M to **X** FB to RD.
- 2** **TR** at RD and **CONT** for 300M to sharp **R** bend in RD. **TL** here (hidden FPS) onto Byway and **CONT** 500M to sharp **L** turn. Here **TR** at red gate with WM. **CONT** ahead 300M, fence on **L**, to black metal gate. **IGNORE L OR R TURNS.** **CONT** ahead on narrow TK, trees both sides, for 1200M to RD (Stagden Cross).
(2 MILES)
- 3** At RD **TR**, past red postal box, for 50M to RD junction. **CONT** ahead, signed 'Chelmsford', for 150M and turn **L** at FPS (BYWAY) just after end of hedge. Ahead on gravel TK between trees (ignoring **L/R** turns) for 1000M to emerge at field. **CONT** ahead on field edge, with hedge and ditch on **R**, eventually becoming TK for 1000M to RD (just after farm buildings on your **R**).
- 4** At RD **CONT** straight ahead for 400M (passing 'Pleshey Grange' & red post box on your **R**) to **TR** at FPS (Bridleway) opposite driveway to cream house. **CONT**, sticking to main bridleway at all times, for 800M to RD.
(4 MILES)
- 5** At RD **TL** and follow main road through Pleshey village (ignore **L** RD turns) for 850M to reach Anglia Water metal gate, on your **R**, just past 'Mount House'. Go up to gate and **TL** following extremely close by fence then ditch (on your **L**) for 450M to **X** ditch on earth bridge by WM.
- 6** Immediately **TR**, ditch now on your **R**, and **CONT** ahead on field edges for 1000M to where concrete bridge crosses ditch. **TL** for 50M towards reservoir and **TR** at metal gate following TK at bottom of bank.

- 7 TL** for very short distance then **TR & CONT** on TK with hedge on your **L (ditch parallel about 50M away)**.
Follow this TK for 450M until just before next reservoir. **TR off main TK** between reservoir and wire fence for 50M and **CONT** on TK as it bears **L**. Follow **TK** (reservoir on **L**, ditch on **R**) for 200M to RD.
- 8 X RD** to FPS and **CONT** ahead, hedge on your **L**, for 800M (ignoring path to **L**) to **X ST** and reach RD (Great Waltham). (**6.5 MILES**)
- 9 X main RD CAREFULLY** to FPS and go **THRU KG**. **CONT** slightly half **R** (ish) across park passing just to **R** of metal railings encircling three trees to reach white **KG** after 200M. **THRU KG**, immediately **X drive** and pass **THRU** another **KG**. **CONT** 100M across park to next **KG**. Pass **THRU** this **KG** and **TR** on drive.
- 10 CONT** 250M down drive and bear **L** at end (Pets' cemetery) to soon **X bridge** over river and **CONT** short distance to **X next bridge**. Immediately **TL** for 50M across grass to white **KG**. Pass **THRU KG** and **CONT** ahead, fence on **L**, 450M to **X ST** and **X RD** to FPS. **CONT** ahead, fence and ditch on **L**, for 400M to **X ST** and reach main RD (A130, Essex Regiment Way).
X RD EXTREMELY CAREFULLY to FPS and **X ST**. (**7.5 MILES**)
- 11 CONT** ahead, with ditch then hedge on **L**, 200M to field corner (telegraph post). **CONT** ahead **THRU** gap following line of telegraph posts to next corner. **CONT** ahead **THRU** gap and **X FB** to **CONT** with hedge/ditch on **L** (passing under triple overhead wires) for 800M to eventually pass between two tall hedges and reach RD by group of buildings.
- 12 At RD TL** and follow RD through Chatham Green village for 500M to where RD turns sharply **R** (by Hyde Hall Lane). Go straight across here (**DO NOT FOLLOW RD**) past FPS and 'No Through RD' sign on concrete TK – houses on your **R** – for 200M, TK becoming dirt/grass, to where TK turns sharply **L**.
- 13 DO NOT TL BUT GO STRAIGHT AHEAD (WM) TO PASS BY FIELD GATE.**
X field bearing very slightly **R** to ST by FPS.
- 14 CONT** ahead with hedge on **R** for 250M to where fence starts.
Immediately **TL** on broad grass TK (wire fence on **R**) for 100M and **TR** at FPS.
CONT ahead, with hedge on left, for 300M to reach lane by *Little Leighs Church.
(**9.5 MILES**)

* **Map Ref: TL 719167**

Revised 27 JULY 2005 (Howard Jardine)