

MEDIEVAL MINGLE



An Endless Trail Afoot through many
Medieval settlements aligned in three stages
from Mucking, through Messing on to Ugley,
returning via Matching to Thurrock

208 kilometers

Derek Keeble. LDW 495. 2020

Graphics: Roy Tover

Copy Production: Spingold Print, Nayland CO6 4NT

Preamble

I am not a historian, but I do know some history, mostly garnered whilst probing minor highways in Essex, and the remainder garnished from Lucy's compelling fibs on tv.

Trawling lesser highways as a recreational exercise can be rewarding. Uplift occurred at Maldon, Coggeshall, Felsted, Stebbing, Stansted Mountfitchet, Horndon-on-the-Hill, Thaxted; the list dips below the horizon. A collective name for such places eluded me until 1999 when I read John Hunter's "The Essex Landscape". It interlocked the jig-saw, to show a version of our legacy of a "thousand medieval years of life" after the fifth and before the sixteenth centuries.

Many Walk Trail titles reflect our history, viz:- Offa's Dyke, Saxon Shore Way, Monarch's Way, Hadrian's Wall, Hereward Way, Weavers' Way, Icení Way,, Icknield Way, St Cuthbert Way etc whilst in Essex - Camulodunum, Byrhtnoth's Last Visit, St Peter's Way (to St Cedd's), Maria Mehalah Macabre, and Jonathon's Journey, all hark back to centuries spent.

The 1998 "Mucking Ugley Ways through Messing" book, with illustrations by the late long-distance walker Sid H, was a Mapjog product. It threaded clockwise through many of those places, and had an inspirational moment at Matching's Wedding Feast House (see cover). My policy was not to point out what I thought was beautiful, but to let beauty be defined and noticed by the beholder. The book's feedback told me, "You might have attracted more readers if you had placed more emphasis on the Medieval content". So in "Mingle" the direction is reversed with an emphasis on the medieval places involved, whilst not over-cooking the statistics.

Mucking is the starting place for the 208 km circuit, because it was a Saxon stronghold, won by the invaders at the first big bend up the Thames, in the late fourth and fifth centuries. The measure of activity was revealed in the late 20th century by archaeologists as the last gravels were extracted and before their hollows were infilled.

Mucking, in Essex, could have been equally as important to the development of England by Saxons, as Camulodunum, also in Essex, was to the development of Britannia by Romans half a century earlier. *The "could" in that sentence is used as Heineken use "probably" in their advertisements.*

Stebbing in my list above, fails to feature on any of Jessie's Score of Trail creations. Yet the wonderful hub of Thaxted gets visited by at least one other Trail. So to equalise their foot traffic, mingling includes Stebbing at the cost of getting no closer to Thaxted than Horam Hall by Cutlers' Green.

Ted G of Chelmsford led a ramble one day, with me in the peleton, by Horam Hall; indeed we had an apple stop on the nearest path. Then I heard somebody ask Ted what was his aim as a walk-leader. Ted replied that he would like to take Derek K somewhere in Essex not previously visited by him. I was not joking when I confessed the lost village of Horam was not hitherto known by me. "Super walk Ted; glad to know I completed your day, and I learned a little more history of my native county".

CONTENTS

Mucking Messing Way

A > B Mucking to Runwell	29 kms	O.S.175	02
Via Stanford le Hope, Corringham, Basildon, Great Burstead, Ramsden Heath, Downham,			
B > C Runwell to Hazeleigh	18kms	O.S. 175 183	03
Via Rettendon, South Woodham, Stow Maries, Purleigh			
C > D Hazeleigh to Great Totham	12 kms	O.S 183	04
Via Malddon, Heybridge,			
D > F Great Totham to Messing	14 kms	O.S. 183 184	05
Via Tolleshunts D'Arcy, Tolleshunt Knights, Layer Marney			

Messing to Ugley Way

F > G Messing to High Garrett	17 kms	O.S. 183 195	06
Via Feering, Kelvedon, Coggeshall, Pattiswick			
G > H High Garrett to Stebbing	18 kms	O.S. 195	07
Via Shalford, Great Saling.			
H > I Stebbing to Ugley	24 kms	O.S. 195	08
Via Linsell, Great Easton, Tilty, Hamperden End, Widdington, Quendon			

Ugley to Mucking Way

I > J Ugley to Hatfield Heath	18 kms	O.S 195 183	09
Via Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger, Great Hallingbury,			
J > K Hatfield Heath to Stanford Rivers	21 kms.	O.S. 183	10
Via Matching, Magdalen Laver, Moreton, Chipping Ongar			
K > L Stanford Rivers to West Horndon	22 kms.	O.S. 183 175 11	
Via Kelvedon Hatch, Navestock Side, South Weald, Brentwood, Herongate			
L > A West Horndon to Mucking	13 kms	O.S 175	12
Via Bulphan, Orsett, Chadwell Heath Linford			

Abbreviations

01

DB	Domesday Book Record
C	Century with a recording
E N S W	Cardinal Compass Points
F-o-t	Face oncoming traffic See Highway Code
N T	National Trust
PH	Pre-historic record
R	Roman record

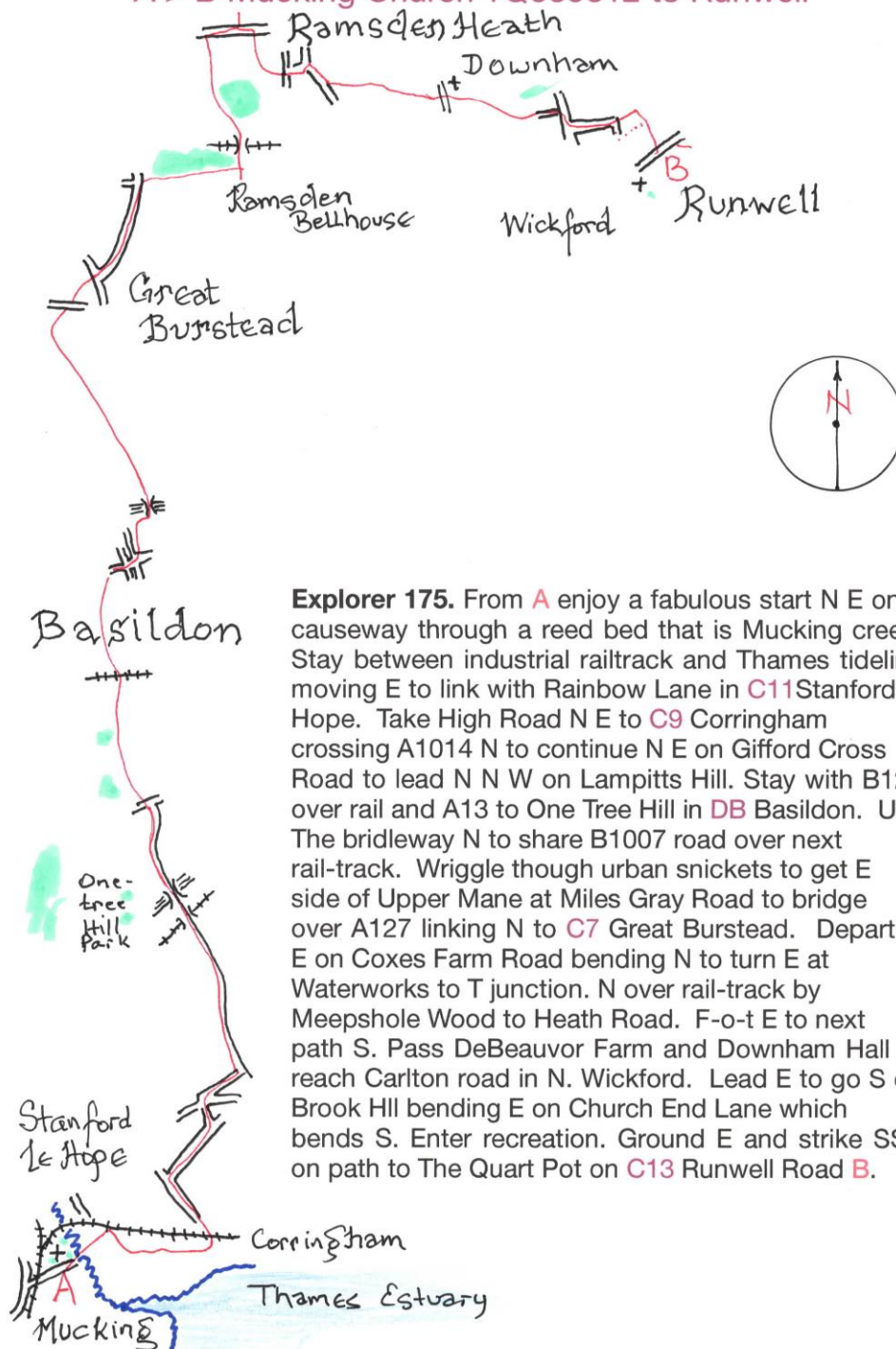
Anita's Mucking Ugley Ways through Messing Essex

Appeared as a paperback in 1998 see rear cover.

It was developed from Jessie Keeble's archival files named Anita Totham and Percy Wood. Illustrated by Long Distance Walker Sid Hawker of Tollesbury.

Now out of print.

A > B Mucking Church TQ685812 to Runwell

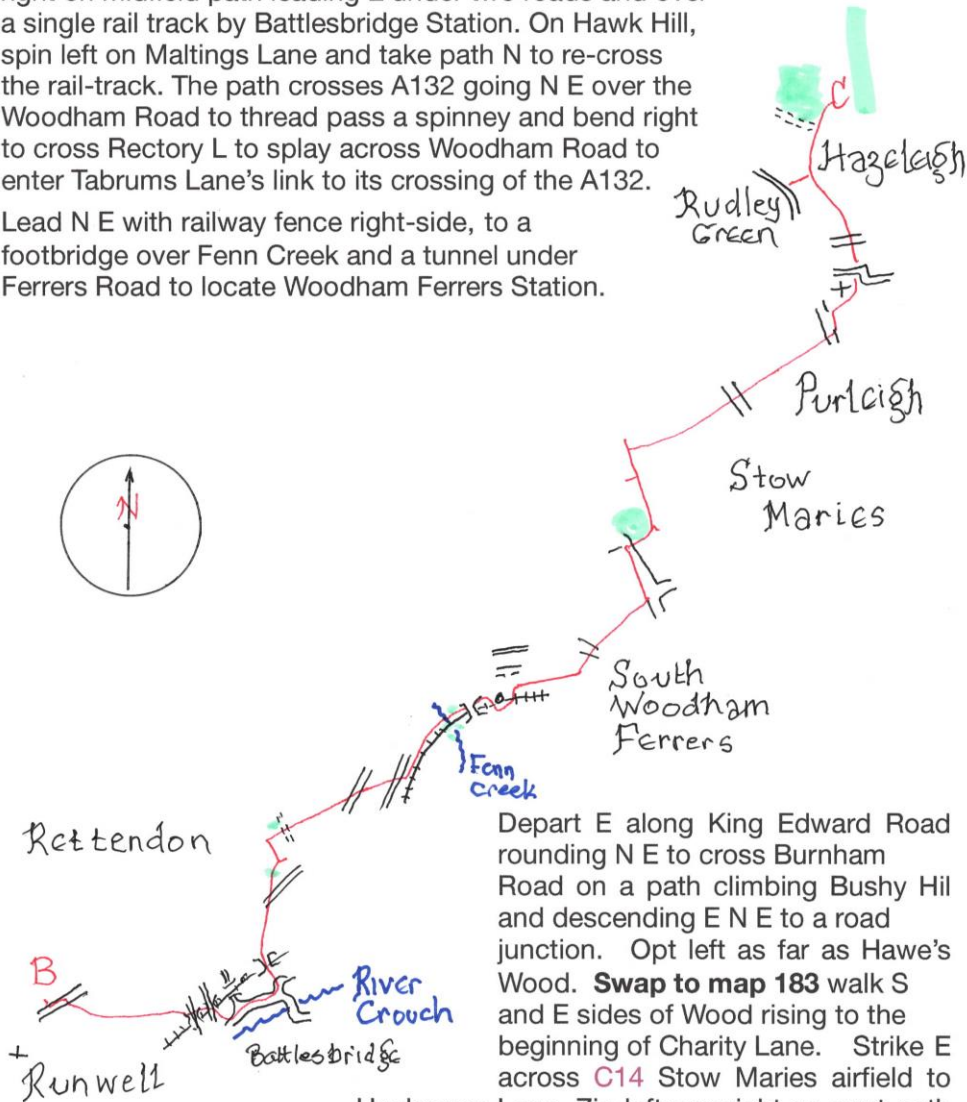


Explorer 175. From **A** enjoy a fabulous start N E on a causeway through a reed bed that is Mucking creek. Stay between industrial railtrack and Thames tideline moving E to link with Rainbow Lane in **C11** Stanford le Hope. Take High Road N E to **C9** Corringham crossing A1014 N to continue N E on Gifford Cross Road to lead N N W on Lampitts Hill. Stay with B120 over rail and A13 to One Tree Hill in **DB** Basildon. Use The bridleway N to share B1007 road over next rail-track. Wriggle though urban snickets to get E side of Upper Mane at Miles Gray Road to bridge over A127 linking N to **C7** Great Burstead. Depart N E on Coxes Farm Road bending N to turn E at Waterworks to T junction. N over rail-track by Meepshole Wood to Heath Road. F-o-t E to next path S. Pass DeBeauvoir Farm and Downham Hall to reach Carlton road in N. Wickford. Lead E to go S on Brook Hill bending E on Church End Lane which bends S. Enter recreation. Ground E and strike SSE on path to The Quart Pot on **C13** Runwell Road **B**.

B > C. Runwell Quart Pot TQ756944 to Hazeleigh

Explorer 175. From **B** push 100 metres E on A132 to fork right on midfield path leading E under two roads and over a single rail track by Battlesbridge Station. On Hawk Hill, spin left on Maltings Lane and take path N to re-cross the rail-track. The path crosses A132 going N E over the Woodham Road to thread pass a spinney and bend right to cross Rectory L to splay across Woodham Road to enter Tabrums Lane's link to its crossing of the A132.

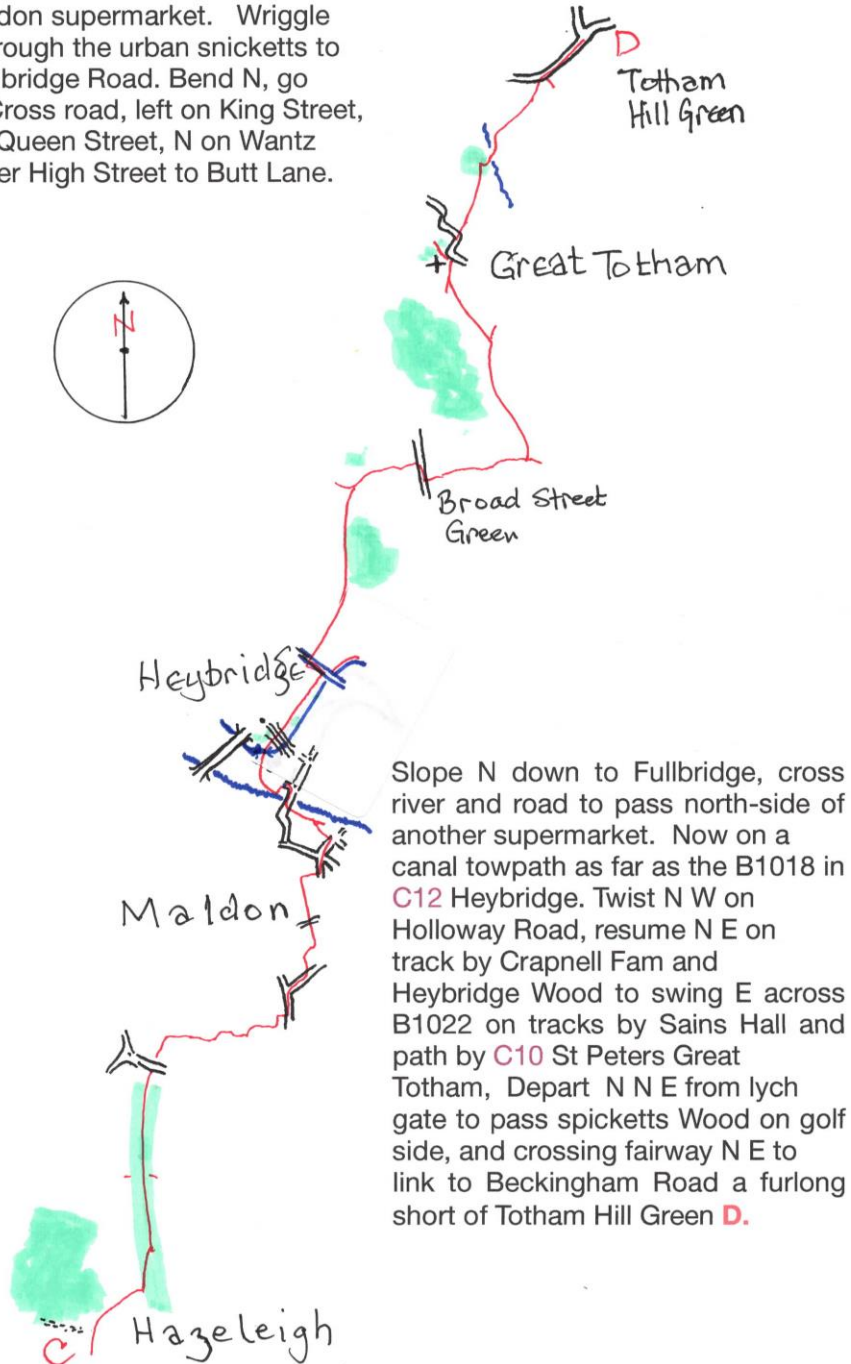
Lead N E with railway fence right-side, to a footbridge over Fenn Creek and a tunnel under Ferrers Road to locate Woodham Ferrers Station.



Depart E along King Edward Road rounding N E to cross Burnham Road on a path climbing Bushy Hil and descending E N E to a road junction. Opt left as far as Hawe's Wood. **Swap to map 183** walk S and E sides of Wood rising to the beginning of Charity Lane. Strike E across **C14** Stow Maries airfield to Hackmans Lane. Zig left zag right on next path to Howe Green. Pass **C14** Purleigh Church on path N over Barons Lane, passing New Hall and Rudley Green to S E corner of **C16** Hazeleigh Hall Wood **C**.

C > D Hazeleigh Hall TL837039 to Great Totham

Explorer 183 Depart **C** E to vegetated embankment and steer by it N to a **C12** Maldon supermarket. Wriggle E N E through the urban snicketts to find Fambridge Road. Bend N, go N E on Cross road, left on King Street, right on Queen Street, N on Wantz Road over High Street to Butt Lane.

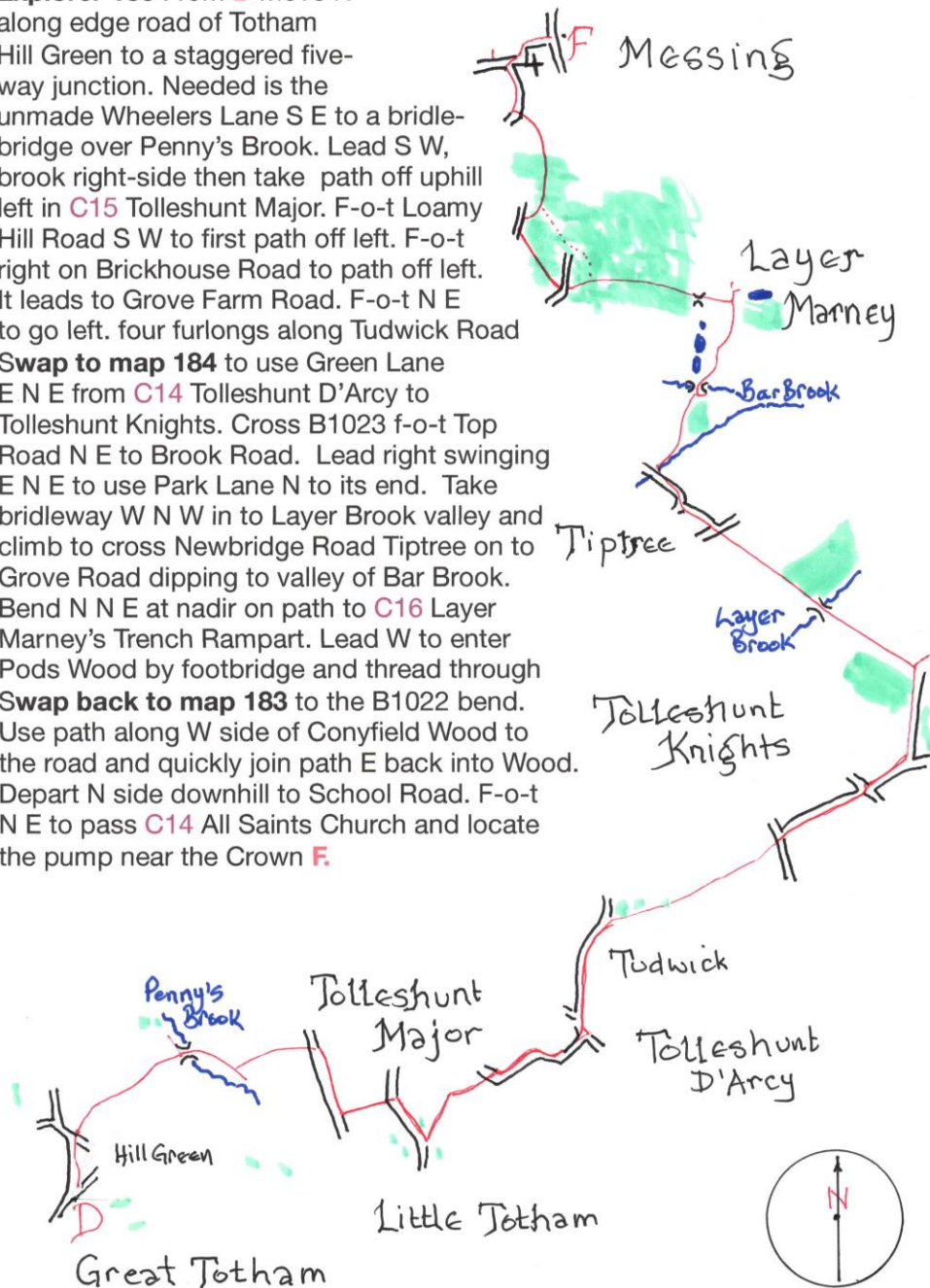


D > F Great Totham Green TL871124 to Messing

Explorer 183 From **D** move N along edge road of Totham Hill Green to a staggered five-way junction. Needed is the unmade Wheelers Lane S E to a bridle-bridge over Penny's Brook. Lead S W, brook right-side then take path off uphill left in **C15** Tolleshunt Major. F-o-t Loamy Hill Road S W to first path off left. F-o-t right on Brickhouse Road to path off left. It leads to Grove Farm Road. F-o-t N E to go left. four furlongs along Tudwick Road

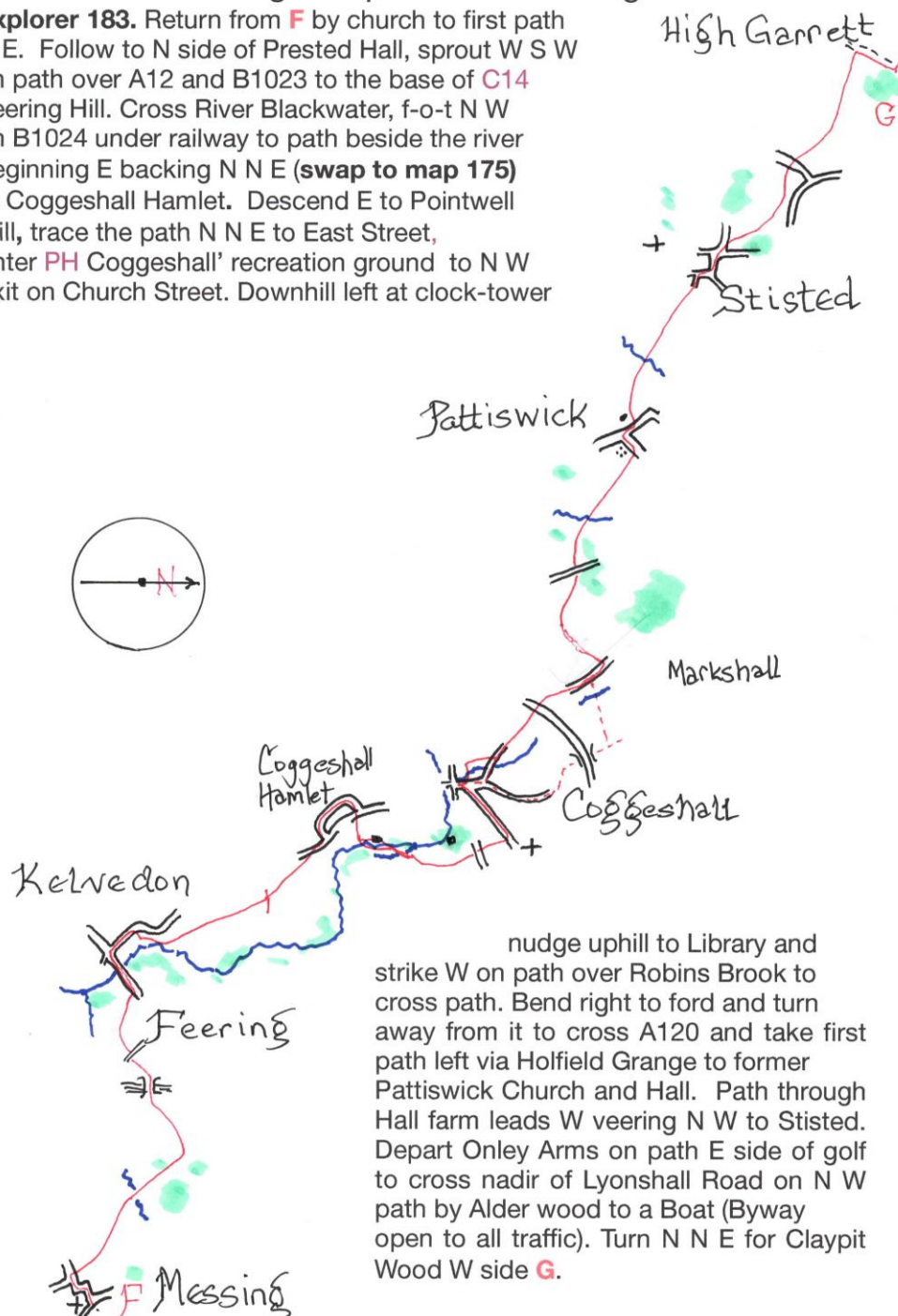
Swap to map 184 to use Green Lane E N E from **C14** Tolleshunt D'Arcy to Tolleshunt Knights. Cross B1023 f-o-t Top Road N E to Brook Road. Lead right swinging E N E to use Park Lane N to its end. Take bridleway W N W in to Layer Brook valley and climb to cross Newbridge Road Tiptree on to Grove Road dipping to valley of Bar Brook. Bend N N E at nadir on path to **C16** Layer Marney's Trench Rampart. Lead W to enter Pods Wood by footbridge and thread through

Swap back to map 183 to the B1022 bend. Use path along W side of Conyfield Wood to the road and quickly join path E back into Wood. Depart N side downhill to School Road. F-o-t N E to pass **C14** All Saints Church and locate the pump near the Crown **F**.

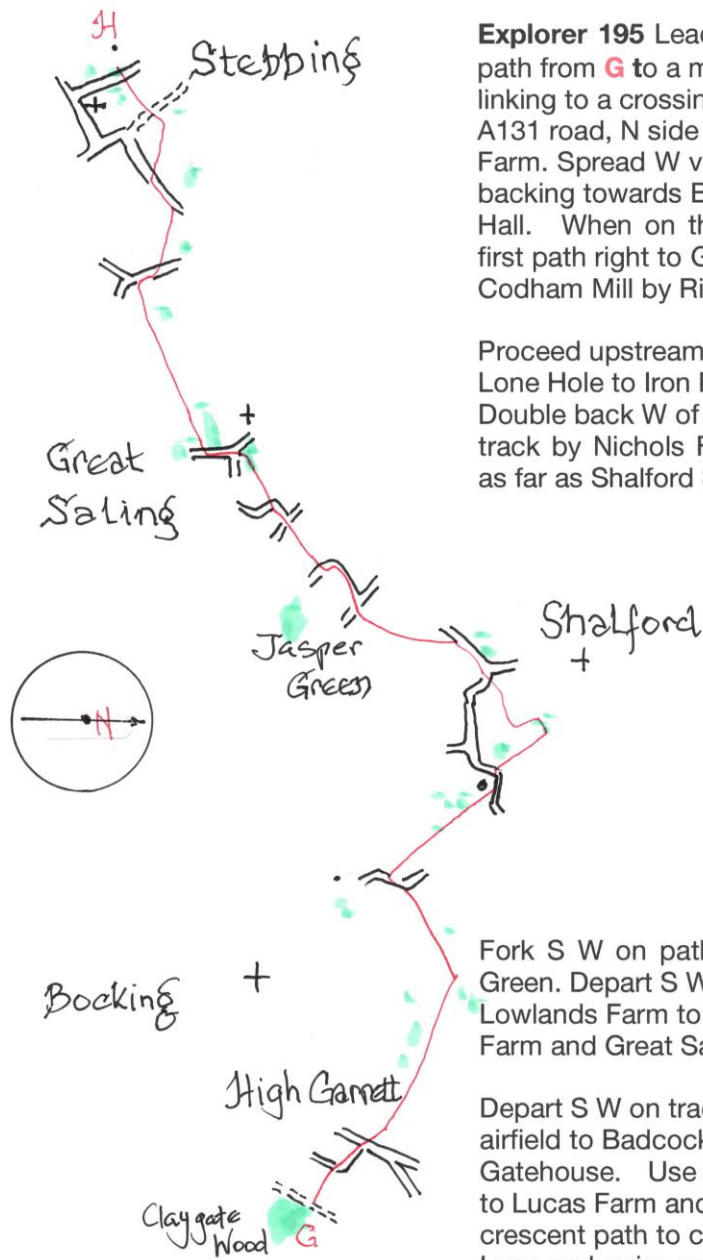


F > G Messing Pump TL897190 to High Garrett

Explorer 183. Return from **F** by church to first path N E. Follow to N side of Prested Hall, sprout W S W on path over A12 and B1023 to the base of **C14** Feering Hill. Cross River Blackwater, f-o-t N W on B1024 under railway to path beside the river beginning E backing N N E (**swap to map 175**) to Coggeshall Hamlet. Descend E to Pointwell Mill, trace the path N N E to East Street, Enter **PH** Coggeshall' recreation ground to N W Exit on Church Street. Downhill left at clock-tower



G > H High Garrett Claygate Wood TL782264 to Stebbing



Explorer 195 Lead W N W on path from **G** to a minor road linking to a crossing of the A131 road, N side Garrett Farm. Spread W via Beckwiths backing towards Bovington Hall. When on the road take first path right to Great Codham Mill by River Pant.

Proceed upstream W of Lone Hole to Iron Bridge. Double back W of river for track by Nichols Farm to f-o-t as far as Shalford School.

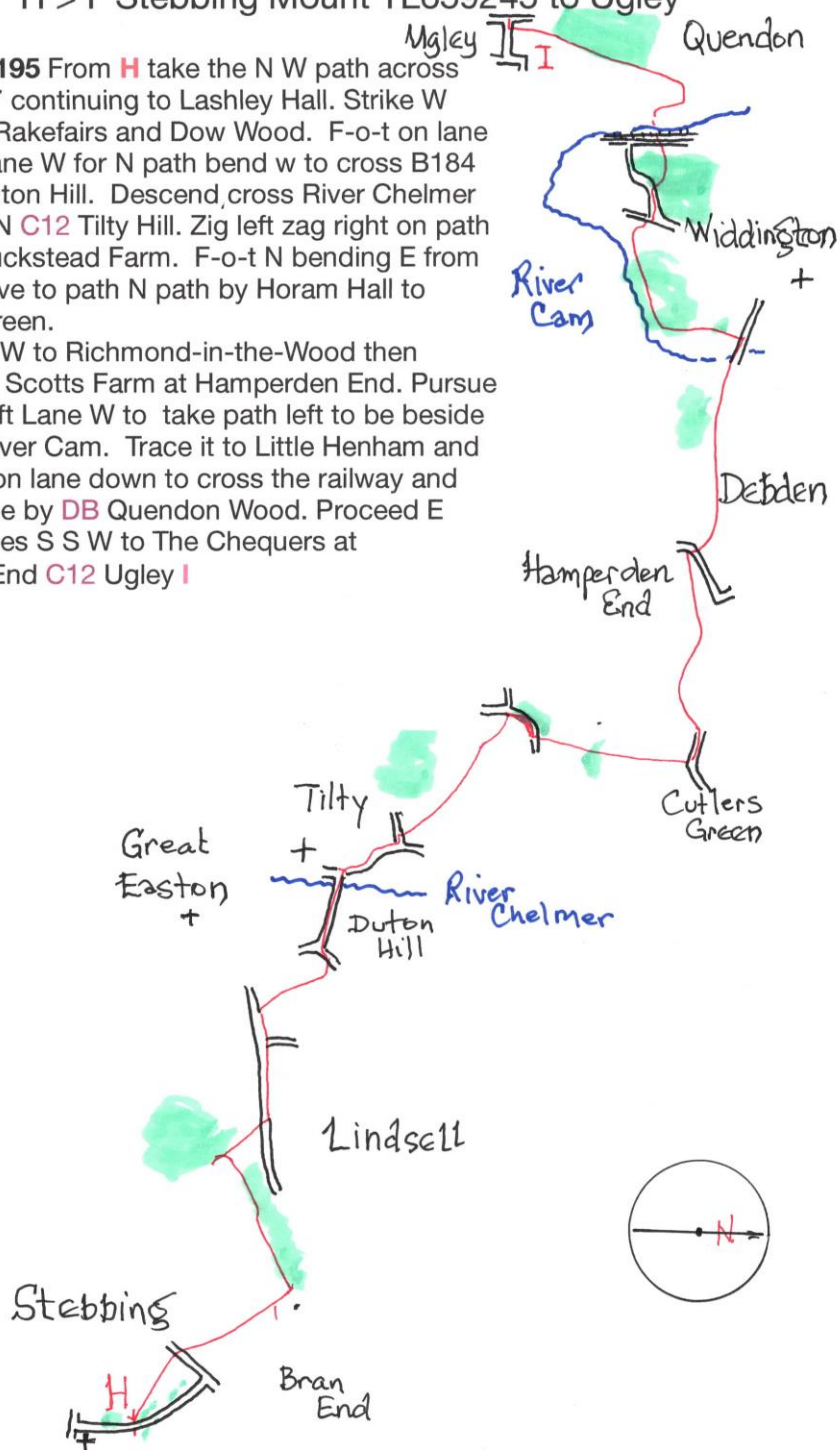
Fork S W on path to Jaspers Green. Depart S W by Lowlands Farm to Picotts Farm and Great Saling.

Depart S W on track around airfield to Badcocks for path to Gatehouse. Use lane W S W to Lucas Farm and take crescent path to cross Clay Lane and arrive on **C11** Stebbing High Street by The Mount **H**.

H > I Stebbing Mount TL659245 to Ugley

Explorer 195 From **H** take the N W path across the B1057 continuing to Lashley Hall. Strike W for Great Rakefairs and Dow Wood. F-o-t on lane 1.5 kms lane W for N path bend w to cross B184 to **C12** Duton Hill. Descend, cross River Chelmer and f-o-t N **C12** Tilty Hill. Zig left zag right on path N W to Suckstead Farm. F-o-t N bending E from Harts Grove to path N path by Horam Hall to Cutlers Green.

Take lane W to Richmond-in-the-Wood then path W to Scotts Farm at Hamperden End. Pursue Great Croft Lane W to take path left to be beside a young river Cam. Trace it to Little Henham and continue on lane down to cross the railway and M11 to rise by **DB** Quendon Wood. Proceed E side of trees S S W to The Chequers at Patmore End **C12** Ugley **I**



I > J Ugley, Patmore End TL512290 to Hatfield Heath

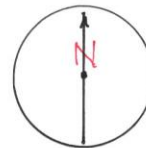


Explorer 195 From **I** walk lane S E up to Ugley Church. Depart S S E on track continue S W through Ugley Green to turn S by Harewood over Alsa Street to Gall End in **PH** Stansted Mountfitchett.

Trace railway S S W from Station, rails right-side, to diverge S on West Road, crossing Stoney Common and Foresthall Road to approach **C12** Birchanger.

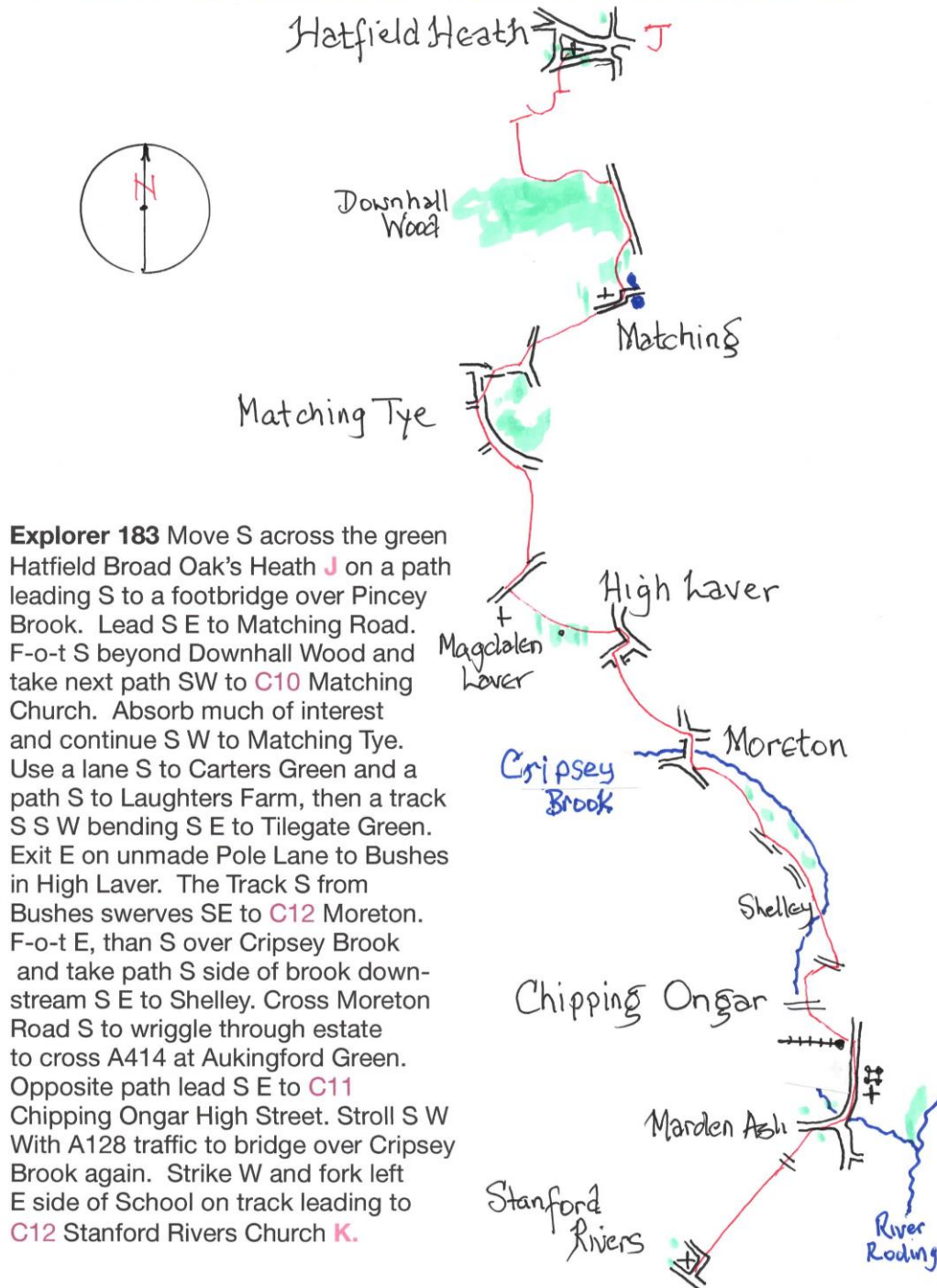
Depart S E over on bridlebridge over M11 and through the junction 8 complex to Thremhill Priory on B1056. Lead S on opposite path for Bedlars Green.

Takeley

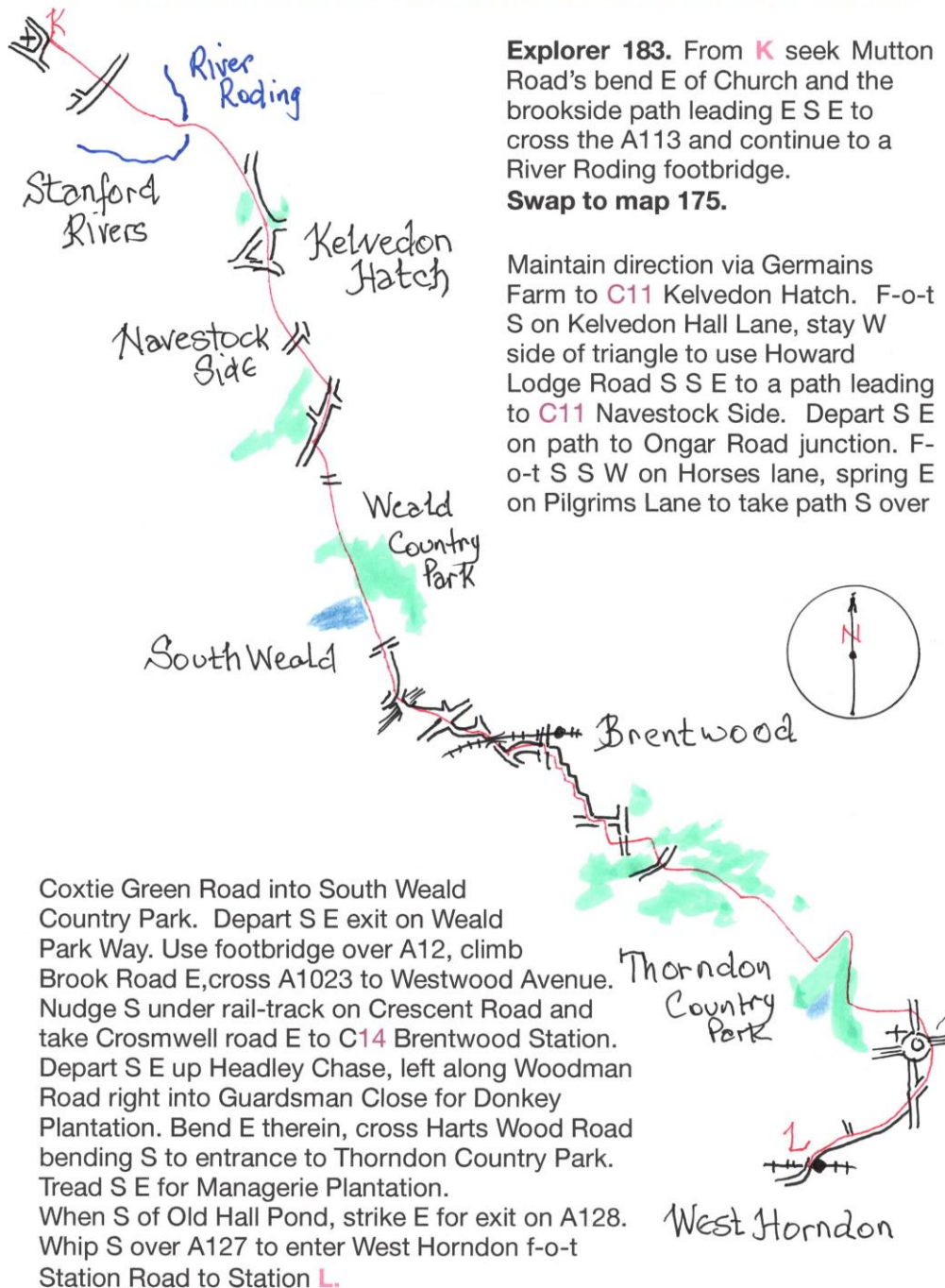


Swap to map 183 Walk lane SSE to **C11** Hallingbury Street, fork right on path for Woodside Green. Cross Green S with Monks wood left-side. Stay with track's right and left turns to **C11** Little Hallingbury Park. Resume S direction via Camp Farm to Hatfield Heath, the A1060 and the lonesome Church on the Green **J**.

J > K Hatfield Heath Church TL522150 to Stanford Rivers

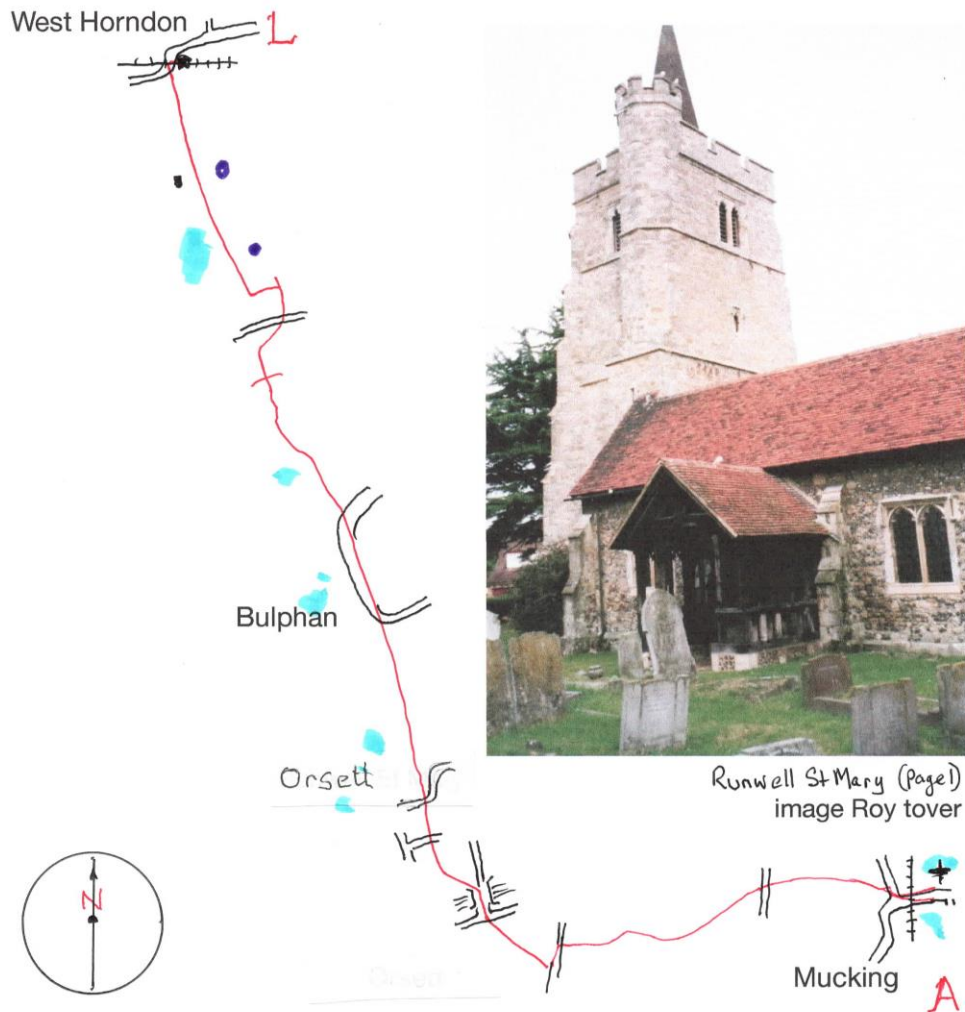


K > L Stanford Rivers TL533009 to West Horndon Station



L > A West Horndon Station TQ623880 to Mucking

Explorer 175 From a bend of St Marys Lane by **L** Lead S on path by Tillingham Hall to Conway Farm. F-o-t W to next path S leading into Orsett. Thread through Rowley Road to fieldpath S. Deflect S E for Rectory Road's bridge over the A13 to cross Stanford Road too. Link to a S E path backing E by Red House and Old Kennels Farm to cross Buckingham Hall Road and Butts Lane to enter **C7** Mucking Wharf Road by the Church and entrance to the Thurrock Thames Wildlife Park **A**.



Needs.

Maps. These routes were made for walking. The basic tool for countryside navigation is the Ordnance Survey Explorer Map - the best.

Roy Tover's sketch maps indicate which part of the Explorer is needed. Do you need a compass too? You probably have one featured in your mobile phone; if not, the answer is "Yes".

Total estimated distance is 208 kms. If walking all day, organised vehicular support to meet walkers at pre-arranged road intersections.

Backup. Although the entire plan is continuous, each daily sector will be linear, *(unless you create a chain link system of day-circuits)*. The common solution is two-car trickery whereby pairs of cars, each with five seat-belts, can transport five ramblers from one end of the ramble to the other. It has been a convivial modus operandi arranged impromptu on each day for Mapjog ventures on the Essex Way, The Icknield Way Path, Angles Way, Weavers Way, Viking Way, Weald Way, Stour Valley Path, 1066 Way, Staffordshire Wa Saxon Shore Way, Norfolk Coastal Path (before Hopper Services) Peddars Way, Saint Edmund Way, Jonathon's Journey

1. The trick works like this. Ramblers are marshalled by programmed invitation to the chosen Finish of the day's event dated and timed.
2. The minimum number of vehicles needed to carry every walker are indicated. Walking gear is loaded into these. The other vehicles to remain parked, are loaded with redundant indoor shoes.
3. The selected vehicles drive to the Start.
4. The walk proceeds as planned to arrive at the Finish before dark.
5. Shoes, boots, passengers and vehicles are re-arranged to resemble the pattern seen at the beginning of the event. Cheerio

Other Mapjog Trackers 2020

Booklets of Jessie Keeble's Score of Trails re-presented in colour are **LASSE ESSEX**. 17. Re-presents 1983 Abounding An Essex Edge as 17 linked linear marathons

GREEN CORRIDOR 10 plus wanderings anchored to A12 rail corridor

ENDLESS TRAIL CASCADE 12 successive circuits in one slim volume.

CORDUROY COUNTRY STRIDES 6 linear trails with beginnings, middles and ends

Medieval Mingle

The routes are here revised, reversed and re-presented in colour 2020 by Derek Keeble. The cover image of Matching is by Roy Tover who provides the other graphics too, and proof reads.

The limited edition booklets are distributed free to keen walkers.

Copy production by Spingold Print, Nayland CO6 4NT

MINGLE SCATTER MAP



1998
Cover

