

The Essex Walker 2024 (27 miles)

Abbreviations: **AH** Ahead, **BL** Bear Left/Bearing Left, **BR** Bear Right/Bearing Right, **BW** Bridleway, **BWS** Bridleway Sign, **E** Enclosed, **EB** Earth Bridge, **EP** Enclosed Path, **FB** Footbridge, **FC** Field Corner, **FD** Field **FPS** Footpath Sign, **GR** Grid Reference, **KG** Kissing Gate, **L** Left, **LHFE** Left Hand Field Edge, **MP** Marker Post, **P** Path, **R** Right, **RHFE** Right Hand Field Edge, **ST** Stile, **TK** Track, **TL** Turn Left, **TR** Turn Right, **WM** Waymark. **X** Cross/Crossing/Across/Go through.

1. TL downhill for 100m to BWS. **TR** downhill with garden on L. **TR** at bottom with path and cont. **AH** onto **RHFE** to **MP**. **BR**, then immediately **L** on narrow **EP** (**MP**). **BL** on metalled **TK** to **LH** bend (**WM** on fence). **TR** on **EP** with fence on L to climb steps up to road (**FPS**). **TL** over bridge. **T** sharp **L** at **BWS** on **EBW** with **A12** below on L. **TR** at **BWS** on **EBW** for 800m, **X** **FB** and drive. **AH** on **TK**, and at **LH** bend, go **AH** on **EBW** to meet lane. **Routes diverge here TL** (**FPS**) **X** gap in hedge. **BL** **X** **FD** to **MP** in **FC**. **X** **EB**, **AH** to **MP**, then **AH** **LHS** of golf course for 500m following **MPs** with hedge, then ditch on L, to **MP** by **FB** with metal handrails. **X** **FB** and **TL** to hedge corner. **AH** **X** fairway (**beware golf balls coming from to R**) to copse. **AH** copse on **R** and **X** 2nd fairway (**beware golf balls**) to **FPS**. **TR** alongside metalled drive. When drive turns **L** at **MP**, go **AH** on gravel **TK**, pass brick house on L, to second gate on R. **GR TQ 692 993 3.1 miles**

2. X **KG** and **AH** downhill with telephone mast on L. **BR** at bottom and follow ditch on L to **X** **FB** over ditch. **AH** to **X** 2 more **FBs** and **BL** uphill on **P** inside edge of wood to **X** gate to road. **BL** **X** road to car park and **X** gap between posts to enter wood. **BR** downhill on middle **P** and **BR** along bottom of wood. **BR** on **P** uphill, pass depression on L, and **BL** to find steps - **1st number on post at the top of steps** - down to road. **BL** **X** road, go up steps, and **AH** on **P**. At **X** path with bench on R, **TL** downhill on **P** through wood. **BL** at fork, then **BL** again to **X** **KG** to road (house opp.). **TR with care** for 50m to **FPS** by metal gate. **TR** on **EP** wood on R to **MP**. **TL** (golf course on R) to **X** stile to road. **TL**, then **R** on Fristling Hall drive for 600m (30m before main gate) to **X** **KG** on L. **Routes converge here AH** fence on L to **X** **FB**. **AH** down **FD** with hedge on R to trough. **AH** down next **FD** following telegraph poles (**WMs**) to **X** **KG**. **BL** **X** **FD** to **MP** **R** of the barn on L. **AH** barn on L to **TK**. **GR TQ 679 993 5.0 miles**

3. TL and TR with TK for 250m to TK on R. **Routes diverge here** TR, pass Imphy Hall, and **AH** on concrete, then gravel TK for 900m to X gate (MP) at RH bend. **TL** LHFE to X FB and gate. **AH** uphill LHFE to MP. - **2nd number on MP - AH** X FD to treeline (CB 94°). **TL** on grass TK RHFE for 300m to MP hidden in narrow gap in hedge. **TR** to MP, **TL** on EP to FPS on R. **TR** on EP (Metal bollard) **Routes converge here** **AH** X ST, AH LHFE, X ST in FC, **AH** fence on R, to lane. **TR** to **TL** on gravel TK before RD. With seat on R, AH to **X busy road with care**. X church car park to X gate to churchyard. **GR TQ 687 986 7.4 miles**

4. BR on P with church on L. Pass church porch and **BR** on path X graveyard to X gate (WM). **AH** on EP, X FB, and AH to the end of the wooden fence on L (WM). TR downhill, over boardwalk, X FB, X 2nd FB, X drive, X 2 more FBs, to open FD. **BL** LHFE to X FB in FC. Follow EP **L**, then **R** at pond, to meet RD. **TL** to Marigold Lane on R. **TR** for 160m to FPS on R. X KG, **AH** on LHFE, keeping barn on R, pass KG, to X KG and FB in FC. **AH** on narrow EP to X ST and FB to lane **TR** to T junction. **GR TQ 700 976 8.9 miles**

5. TR (Goatsmoor Lane) for 300m to BWS. **TL** between brick pillars on BW for 750m, **BR** at gate, **AH** at Xing TK (MP), to MP and BWS. **TL** on E wide BW to T junction. **TR** for 150m to X FB on L (WM). AH RHFE, X FB (MP), and AH on drive to RD. **GR TQ 710 967 10.2 miles**

6. TR with care facing traffic for 140m to X RD **with care** to FPS by traffic signs. **TL** on EP to MP and info board. **AH** for 100m to X EB and immediately **TR**. AH for 120m to wide greensward on L and yellow gas hydrant on R. **BL** on P middle of greensward. BR as it widens out and X to MP. Follow P around to R, then L, to X FB on L (MP). **TL** to X gap and **AH** on wide greensward. Keep to RH hedge as it **BR** and X to broken fence. TR on narrow P. **AH** at MP with fence on R and follow P to X 2 FBs. **AH** fence now on L to FPS before RD. **TL** with fence to lane. **TR** to School Road and **TL single file** for 300m to checkpoint on L.

Downham Village Hall GR 726 960 11.8 miles
(opens 10.30 am closes 1.00pm)

7. TL, pass pond, and at no.42, X RD **with care** to dog bin. **TL** on narrow concrete path, **BR** before seat to gate (FPS). **AH** on grass path LHFE to FC (ST and seat). **Routes diverge here**.

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8. Pass seat and **AH** downhill X FD (towards church) to LHFE. X gap in FC and **AH** uphill on P to road. X road, **TL** on grass verge, and cont. to Grange Lane. **TR** to end (Plumtrees) and **AH** on TK/Byway. At gate on R, **AH** on gravel path, **TL** at BWS 92, and follow to end. **AH** on Downham Road to T junction. **TR** on pavement for 360m to X road at traffic island and **TL** on Church End Lane. **AH** to **TL** at RH bend on South Hanningfield Way (FPS). **GR TQ 750 948 14.6 miles**

9. Follow for 500m to 'Witsend'. **AH** on E TK and around barrier on to FD. **TR** on RHFE, **AH** X gap in FC, **AH** in 2nd FD to X FB in FC. X corner of FD to **BL** on TK RHFE. **AH** to X FB at junction. **TR** RHFE to meet TK, and **AH** to MP. **BL** X FD uphill (CB 42^o) aiming for the highest point, then wooden shed, to MP at corner of laurel (garden) hedge. – **3rd number on MP** – **GR TQ 749 965 15.8 miles**

10. Follow hedge on L around garden to drive and **TR** to lane. **TL** to FPS (black gate) on RH bend. **TL** fence on L and **TR** X gap after passing barns. **TL** LHFE to go up bank in FC. **TL**, then **R** uphill LHFE. At MP in FC, **TR** uphill LHFE to FC. **AH** X FD to small brick building and lane. **TR** for 70m to **TL** around concrete block. **AH** RHFE to **TL** at bend on P following telegraph poles downhill (reservoir AH). X car park to road and **TR** passing pub to X road **with care** to **checkpoint**.

South Hanningfield Village Hall GR TQ 742 976 17.3 miles
(opens 12.00 closes 2.30pm)

11. **TR** to junction and X road to FPS opp. Village sign. **AH** on EP between high fences to reach FD. **AH** uphill LHFE to MP. **BL** X FD (CB 100^o) towards pylon near dip in treeline. keep same line X old corn stubble to tall MP and X FB. - **4th number on ST** - X ST and **AH** to FC. **TL** LHFE to MP. **TL** X EB and **TR** RHFE to gap. **BR** to MP, **TL** on EP for 280m to X ST (MP) on L. **AH** paddocks on R, X FB, **AH** to drive and road. **GR TQ 752 977 18.5 miles**

12. **TR** for 50m, X road **with care**, **TL** on metalled BW, pass 'Ridgemount', and in 50m, X ST on L opp. old chicken sheds. X FB and follow WMs to X ST and 2nd FB. **AH** LHFE to X broken stile 70m past FC. **AH** LHFE to X ST by green fence 80m past FC. **AH** to X 2nd ST. **AH** LHFE to X ST in FC. **AH** LHFE again to X stile in FC. **TL**, then **R** on gravel path with church on R. **GR TQ 744 980 19.4 miles**

13. AH to X KG and follow RHFE to X ST to road. X road **with care** and **TR** for 1.1K to end of pavement. X road and cont. on pavement RHS of road for another 1.1K to FPS at the 4th single metal gate on R. X gate and go down steps and **AH** on EP to X wobbly ST (gate opens). **TL** on concrete TK to WM and **TR** with fence on R. **AH** on EP to X FB. **TL** to X 2nd FB and **AH** to MP. **AH** on LHFE to road. X **with care, TL**, then **TR** on Church Lane. **AH** on wide EBW to T Junction. **TL** and follow EBW for 420m to end. **TL** on Lane to 'Stonecroft' and **checkpoint**.

(opens 1.00pm closes 4.00pm) GR TQ 730 999 21.6 miles.

14. TR on lane and **AH** on drive. **BL** on EP with fence on R. **AH** downhill on RHFE to lane. **TL** to junction, **BR** on road **facing traffic**, and pass 'Wanted Dead or Alive' poster on R. X busy road **with care** before junction to **TL** at FPS. X by gate and **AH** X FD to X gap. **AH** X FD to X FB. **AH** with fence to lane. **TR** for 440m to BWS at Brookside Cottage. **AH** on EBW for 1K to end. **TR** on lane to road. **TR** on pavement and **BR** to pass the Ship PH. **GR TL 704 004 23.8 miles**

15. TR on road and X **with care** before bend to X gap at FPS R of gate. **AH** downhill on LHFE (now following wire fence on L for the next 1.3K) X gap and FB in FC, X squeeze gate on to EP, and X 2 more FBs, to fence corner (gravel). **TR** X bridge (leaving wire fence on L). **GR TL 715 011 24.7 miles**

16. TL on EP with wire fence on R. X squeeze barrier and FB. **AH** LHFE for 60m. **BL** X ST, **TR** on EP (warning notice). Follow EP, X ST, pass pond on R, to X ST on to open FD (MP). **TL** LHFE, X KG (WM) with paddocks on R, ignore ST in FC, **TR** to X 2nd KG. **TL** on TK (paddocks on L) to FPS. **TR** X bridge over A12. **AH** to blue topped post, **BL** X gap (MP), and **AH** RHFE. X FB, **AH** RHFE, and **AH** X gap in FC. **AH** RHFE to 20m before gate. **GR TL 708 022 25.9 miles**

17. TL staying on RHFE and **AH** to X KG. **BR** to drive. **TR** for 80m to **TR** around concrete block on to grass. Follow RHFE to X drive. **AH** on P X FD for 200m (FD narrowing) to meet P near top (gate on R). **TL** to concrete block and **X busy road with care** to take P opp. **BR** X barrier and **AH** on greensward. **TL** on P between wood and wooden posts and go **AH** close to edge of wood to X car park (WM). **TR** on greensward for 35m to X green gate on L. Follow P to **Finish**.

Congratulations!

GR TL 702 025 26.7 miles

