

The Essex Walker 2024 (17.5 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 - **AH/L** on lane to **LH** bend. **AH** **X** gate and **AH** on **EBW** for 180m to **X** **KG** on L. **AH** with black fence on R to **MP**. **X** **KG** (pond on L), **AH** for 10m, then **TR** **X** **FD** to **X** **KG**. - Routes converge here - **GR TL 681 000 2.5 miles**

2. X drive to **X** **KG**. **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**. **TL**, then **TR** with **TK**, passing **TK** on R after 200m, - routes diverge here - **and AH** to pass houses on L. **AH** on lane to **FPS** on R. **TR** on **EP** to **FPS** on L (Metal bollard in middle of path). **TL** on **EP**, - routes converge here - **AH** to **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 into churchyard. **GR TQ 687 986 3.9 miles**

3. BR on path 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. **GR TQ 693 980 5.00 miles**

4. 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.

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. **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. **GR TQ 714 966 7.1 miles**

5. 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 path middle of greensward. **BR** as it widens out and X to MP. Follow path 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 path. **AH** at MP with fence on R and follow path 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 TQ 726 960 8.3 miles
(opens 10.30 am closes 1.00pm)

6. 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** - **TR** staying in the same FD LHFE (WM). Before next FC, **BL** on narrow path (MP) through wood to X wooden gate (WM). **BR** downhill on concrete path. X gate and **AH** through farmyard to X ST on R (WM). X ST to meet TK. **GR TQ 723 952 8.9 miles**

7. TR for 220m to X FB on R (WM on FB). **AH** on EP to X FB and KG. **TR** RHFE for 2 sides to X KG in top FC. **AH** on LHFE for 20m to find MP on edge of wood. **TL** to MP and **AH** on EP and follow to RD. **GR TQ 714 954 9.6 miles**

8. TR on pavement to no.47. X RD and **AH** on Short Lane. At end, **BR** to pass post box, and X Park Lane to FPS. **TL** on drive to WM on fence and **BR** on EP to X FB. **BR** on EP between high metal fences. **AH** X gap in hedge in FC and **AH** RHFE. **AH** in FC on EP (WM), X FB, X gate, **AH** to X ST to RD (Nags Head PH). **TR** on pavement for 160m to X RD **with care** to BWS at Mill Lane. **AH** on Mill Lane, then **AH** on wide EBW for 1K to reach Broomwood Lane. **AH** on lane for another 600m to Byway sign by gate on L. **TL** on EBW to end. **TR** on lane for 230m to FPS on L, 30m before junction. **GR TQ 702 978 12.00 miles**

EMERGENCY NUMBER 07427 857003

9. **TL** and follow path, passing **ST**, to **FC** (**MP**). **TL** to **TK**, **TR**, then **AH** to junction. **BR** on Madles Lane to **FPS** in hedge on **R**, 60m before **T** junction. **TL** X gap (**MP**), **AH** through garden, and **AH** on narrow **EP** to lane. **TR** for 40m to **FPS** on **L** (dog bin). **TL** on **EP** with wooden fence on **R**, X **KG** (now metal fence on **R**), to **MP**. **TR** with fence to **RD**. **GR TQ 691 988 13.2 miles**

10. **TL** on pavement to **TR** and pass The Bear Inn. **AH** with chain link fence on **L**, pass Memorial, and **AH** on pavement for 600m to **X road with care** to grass verge far side of Crondon Park Golf Club entrance. **TR** keeping close to hedge on **L**. At end of hedge **TL**, then **R** X gap, and **AH** on path, which becomes enclosed. **AH** **RHFE** to hedge corner. **AH** on path (towards mast) to **WM** on telegraph pole by garden. **AH** (garden on **R**) to X gap in hedge. **TR** to road. **X busy road with care** and **TL** on pavement. **GR TL 703 003 14.5 miles**

11. **BR** to pass The Ship **PH**. **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**, X 2 more **FBs**, to fence corner (gravel). **TR** X bridge (leaving wire fence on **L**). **TL** on **EP** with wire fence on **R**. **GR TL 715 011 15.5 miles**

12. 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**) paddocks on **R**, ignore **ST** in **FC**, and **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 16.7 miles**

13. **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, **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 17.5 miles

