**HERTS HOBBLE**  **LONG ROUTE** **26 June 2022** **26.40 Miles** (**Final 17/06/2022**)

**Emergency Telephone No**. **07815 779201**

If you need to **retire from the walk** please do so **at a checkpoint** and transport will be arranged to take you to Buntingford Scout Hut. **Do not miss out a checkpoint or go home without informing a marshal** as we have wasted much time in the past searching for people who were not genuinely lost.

**All participants should aim to be back by 6.00 pm**.

**Abbreviations**. TR turn right; TL turn left; FL/FR, fork Left/Right; X cross; TK track; RD road, WM Way mark; ST stile; KG kissing gate; CP checkpoint; AH ahead; thru through; junc. junction; GD Grid reference; immed. immediately, BW Bridleway; PF/FP Footpath; M, metre. **All bearings in degrees**

**I**. Exit into car park and AH on concrete TK to **R** of hedge to reach pavement. X RD and **TL** into **Norfolk RD**, then **R** into **High St**, X RD and in **100M,** immediately before **Hall & Glory Boutique** (sign above), (**Mark Doel** (butchers) opposite) **TL** into alleyway. Exit alleyway, **TR** to reach bench on **L,** X RD and **TL** over ford and **BL** into **The Causeway**. (**Long/Short Routes Diverge Here).** AH to **TR** into **Paddock RD,** keep on **LH** pavement and in **50M,** by metal barrier**, TL** onto FP and follow enclosed path to exit into estate. AH to **TL** onto **FP 12** to **Dellow Close,** then **TR** into **Miles Way** and AH with large pond to **L**. At far end **BR** uphill on **Pipkins Drive**, passing **Rayment Close** on **R,** to reach entrance/exit to estate **by** PF **(PF 12, Buntingford 440Yds)** on **R**. **0.80 Miles** **GD 367294**

**2.** X RD **½R** to metal railings by house, **TL** into enclosed path, and **TimmedL** before poo boxonto enclosed path. At fence before house at far end **TR** and in **100M** by TK/WM junc. **TL** across field and continue on **LH** side of tree line. In corner of field, **AH** thru gap in hedgerow, X wooden bridge, thru KG and continue **½L** **(050⁰)** toward old wooden gate post/WM. AH at post across centre of field **(080⁰)** to **R** of avenue of trees to reach and pass thru wooden gate by WM in **RH** corner of field onto TK. **1.42 Miles GD 377293**

**3**. **TimmedR** on TK to reach WM (up on **L**) just before wooden bollards, **TL** and AH on **LH** edge of field. At TK junction, **BR** then AH with wood on **L** to **BR** to WM by gap in hedge. **Do not** pass thru gapbut **BL** and AH with treeline/hedgerow on **R**. Continue to treeline on **L** to enter enclosed path by WM to emerge on RD. **2.31** **Miles GD 390293**

**4**. X RD, **TR** and in **40M** at WM, **TL** onto PF (**PF 024 Hormead**) and AH to transformer. **T½R** and diagonally (**135⁰)** across field to pass thru gap in hedge to RD by PF/WM sign. **TL**, cross bridge, **TR** by FP (**FP 16, Mutfords Farm ½Mile),** thru gap by log and AH with hedgerow on **L**. **Ignore 1st WM/gap** in hedge to **L** and in bottom **LH** corner of field **TL** thru gap by WM. AH on **RH** edge of field with ditch/stream to **R**. At WM **TR** over earth bridge and AH with treeline/hedgerow to **L**. AHon **LH** edge of fieldfor **450M** to reach X TK. **TL** over earth bridge and AH on **path 23** with trees/hedge on **R** to reach WM. **TR** onto narrow enclosed path and AH to reach WM by TK junc. where **TL** and **AH** past fences/houses to reach and pass thru wooden gate by WM sign. **TR** on RD and AH for **350M** to pass entrance of large black wooden house (**The Glebe Barn**) and in **30M** **TL** onto PF. **3.77** **Miles GD 404289**

**5.** Follow wooden fence to wood, **TR** and AH on **LH** side of field in line with white topped posts on **path No.18** parallel with power line. At end of wood by hedgerow/WM to front continue in same direction on **path No18**. with tree line on **R**. Where treeline ends, pass thru gap by WM, **TL** and follow **LH** edge of field. At TK junc. with compacted farm TK by multi-WM post continue AH on **path No19**. Where TK bends **sharp L** at next WM by tree on R, **TR** on FP **(FP17, Conduit Lane ¼ Mile**) on grass path and AH to corner of field, **TR** thru KG, and AH on path to bottom of field where pass thru KG onto enclosed path, and down steps by WM to reach RD **(Exercise caution exiting onto RD)**. **4.53** **Miles GD403300**

**6**. **TR** and AH to reach ‘**Shambles’** on **R**, X RD **With care, blind bend** and **TL** into lane where RD begins to bear **R**. AH to entrance to **Great Hormead Hall** by cattle grid, **TL** thru gap in fence then **immed R** and in **150M,** **TR** thru KG (**beware stumps**), X field to pass thru KGto exit onto farm TK. **TL** and AH to pass under double set of high-tension wires to reach RD by PF sign. **(Long/Short Routes Merge Here). TR** on RD and at end of wood **TL** onto PF **(PF 26, Ansty1¼),** X field (**020⁰)** to gap in hedgerow AH. X wooden bridge, **TR** and follow path around on **RH** edge of fields. AH down then uphill to pass to **R** of copse at top of rise. Continue on TK to where TK **bears sharp L** by WMand **AH** on grass path to reach metal barrier and exit on RD**. 6.10 Miles GD 406322**

**7**. **TR,** and in **5M** at **Daw’s End**, **TL** onto PF (**PF Anstey 006**) thru gap in hedgerow and AH to **R** around small orchard to pass thru wooden KG. X field **(000⁰)** to further wooden KG at bottom end**.** Thru KG, X wooden bridge and **TL** onto wide enclosed TK. AH to X-TK, pass thru gap, over bridge and AH on enclosed path with wire fences to both sides towards gap in treeline AH. **Do Not** pass thru gap but **TL** with treeline on **R** and AH to **TR** over concrete bridge then **L** to reach and cross RD and AH into checkpoint. **6.68** **Miles GR 404327**

 **CP 1 Anstey Village Hall Opening Times 1015 – 1300**

**8**. Return to and X RD and AH on farm TK to **TR** over concrete bridge, then **L** and AH to X TK by gap in treeline/hedgerow on **L**, **TL** thru gap in hedge and AH with hedgerow on **L** to reach WM/gap in hedge on **L**. Cut back **sharp L**, X wooden bridge and **TimmedR** (**050⁰)** and AH on **RH** side of field to RD. **TL,** and in **300M,** beside white house on **R**, **TR** onto enclosed PF (**PF 013 Anstey**) and AH. On entering farmyard **TimmedL** then **R** with wire fence and farm on **R**. Where fence ends,AH to pass thru gap in hedge by WM and AH on wide TK with wood on **R**. Continue with wood on **R** to reach perimeter TK (old WW2 airfield). **TL,** on perimeter TK passing ‘**Runway’/’No Dogs** sign on **R**, and continue around on perimeter TKto WM sign on **L** by track**,** opposite largecircular aircraft beacon to **R. TL** onto concrete TK and continue to grass TK with tree line/hedgerow on **L** and AH to pass the **Woodman PH** and Memorial to **398th Bombardment Group (Heavy)** to reach RD. **8.50** **Miles GD 41234**

**9.** **TR** on RD to T-junc. with **Bell Lane**, X RD and **TR** then **L** to pass entrance to **Bulls Farm.** In **50M**, **TL** thru KG onto PF (**PF 2, Earl’s Wood 1 Mile),** X field diagonally **(290⁰)** towards 6-bar gate/yellow sign on far side. Pass thru gate (**Beware electric fence close to gate latch**) and next gate. **TL** with fence and AH towards 6-bar gates to **R** of black barn, thru KG then diagonally (**320⁰)** across field to white topped WM sign in tree line AH. At WM, AH on **path No.2** with hedgerow on **L**, and in **20M,** **TL** thru narrow strip of wood. On emerging into field by WM, **T½L** toward WM **(path No.11)** in treeline AH. **TR,** **Do Not** pass thru gap in hedge), and AH **on path No.11** with tree line/ditch on **L.** In **350M,** at next WM **bear L** on **path No.11** over ditch onto narrow path across field (**270⁰)**, then AH in same direction on narrow grass path, **t**o WM in wood, X bridge and onto enclosed TK to reach wide TK, with farm on **R** and houses **L** to reach RD. **9.42** **Miles GR 400349**

**10.** **TR** into entrance to **Bury Farm,** **TimmedL** thru KG and diagonally X field (**320⁰)** to double KGs in hedgerow AH. Thru double wooden KGs **(Long/Short Routes Diverge Here)** and AH **(322⁰)** towards white topped post AH where hedgerow meets wood. Pass thru KG by WM, AH up field with wood to **L** to gap at top end of woodby WM**.**  **Do Not pass thru gap** but **TR** on **path** **No.12** to cross over two wooden bridges and continue uphill to wood. AH thru wood to pass thru KG at far end and AH with wire fence on **L**. At end of fence bear **L** then **immed R** over stream z §and continue AH for **80M** to **TL** on path across field to reach compacted TK. **TL** and in **20M** **TR** then **½L** (**010⁰)** past WM on path thru field towards wood. At wood **BR** over earth bridge and AH thru wood to emerged by WM. **B½L** on wide grass path towards wood. Pass thru edge of wood, over X TK and AH to pass to **R** of tree line AH to reach TK junc. **11.40** **Miles GD 402367**

**11**. **TR** and AH downhill to pass by green metal barrier to RD. **TL** on RD and at junc. with driveway on **R** pass thru gap in treeline onto PF (**PF 16, Chishill, 1 Mile**). **TR** on concrete driveway then **L** and to pass to **L** of metal portacabin onto TK with WM on **L** in barbed wire fence. Continue AH to wooden bollards by metal gate and continue downhill to white topped post/WM at gap in hedge. **TL** and AH for **50M** to WM where **TR** between fields to start of treeline. **TL** onto path with wood on **R**. At WM, AH with hedgerow/treeline/powerline to **R**. Where treeline turns right by WM, AH **(300⁰)** on wide grass TK towards metal gate. Pass thru gate and AH in same direction to gate at far end of field. Pass thru gate, **TR** on driveway and AH to RD. **12.40** **Miles GD 407378**

**12**. **TR** on RD then **L** at green triangle and AH for **450M** to **TL** onto PF (**PF 9, Smith’s End** **¼**). Keep to **R** and AH on enclosed path. Continue to end of enclosed path by bench/sign board to exit into cricket ground. AH for **30M** past sign at entrance to cricket ground, and **BR** to pass thru wooden KG. AH to further KG where continue on enclosed path to WM by TK junc., by bench. **TR** and AH over TK thru 2 wooden barriers, and at next TK junc. **TL** on enclosed path with graveyard to **R** to reach RD (**School Lane**). **X RD with care** and AH into **Town House** carpark and bear **R** on tarmac path to checkpoint. **13.40 Miles GD 401385**

 **CP 2** **7th Royston Scout** **Hut** **Opening Times 1130 – 1430**

**13**. Exit Hall and return to RD. **TR** and AH to war memorial and PF sign on L. **X RD with care** and AHinto **RD** byblack building on **L.** (**Crossways)**. AH onto enclosed PF to TK junc. by dog poo box. **TR** and AH to exit on RD. **TL** and at bend in RD **TR** onto PF (**PF 7, Cambridge RD ¼ Mile).** **TL** towards WM by black shed. Pass to **R** of black shed to WM. **TR** to start of fence and AH **(260⁰**) across field parallel with electric fence on **R** to pass thru metal KG to exit onto RD **(exercise caution, fast busy RD).** X RD**, TL** and AH uphill on grass verge for **320M** to **TR** thru gap in hedge onto PF (**PF 8, Newsells ½Mile.**) **BL** to pass thru gate and **BL** across tarmac RD. In **10M BR** on wide grassy path thru young wood. Thru KG and AH between paddocks on wide enclosed path with wire fences to both sides. At bottom end, **directly AH** to WM in wood and AH onto narrow path thru wood. Exit wood, and **directly AH** over drive, to WM in treeline, where continue on **enclosed** path thru wood. Descend steps to exit at junc. of RDs by PF (**Public Highway Stock Bank ½Mile**) and war memorial to **L**. Continue **directly AH** and before large cream house on **R,** **TL** onto BW up steep wooden steps. AH on enclosed path to pass beside wooden gate, and AH to path junc. **TL** on path thru wood. AH to pass thru wooden gate to tarmac lane where **BR** towards cottage (**The Thatched Cottage**). Pass cottage and **TL** thru metal gate onto enclosed path. **15.13** **Miles GD 385369**

**14**. AH uphill to metal gate at top of rise by bench, thru gate onto enclosed path with wire fence on **L**. At end of enclosed path continue downhill to bottom of field, **BL** onto enclosed path to exit on RD (**B1039**) by BW (**BW 17 Newsells** **¾ Mile). TR** on RD and AH to junc. opposite war memorial**.** X RD **with care, blind corner** to war memorial where **TL** onto enclosed PF (**PF 15, Nuthampstead 1½Miles)**. Where path emerges into playing field by WM/poo box **TR** and AH with treeline on **R**. At semi-circular chair **BL** with treeline on **R** to WM sign, **TR** thru gap to next WM where **TR** and AH on path with treeline to **R.** Pass thru gap, over wooden bridge to WM and continue on **path No.15** **bearing R** to next WM and AH on wide grass path. AH to reach WM by corner of fence, where AH to reach gravel drive. **TR** then **TL** with drive and AH on enclosed drive to TK junc. by WM/start of wood. AH on TK **path No13** with wood to R to far end of wood, pass WM and thru gap to emerge in open. **TR** on **path No 4** and AH with wood to wooden KG at bottom end. Thru KG, **TR** and follow tree line to **R** to post with WM in corner. **TR,** pass thru KG by WM in far **LH** corner. **Long/Short Routes Merge Here).** AH on path with wood on **R** then AH on enclosed path to far end. AH on compacted TK between fields towards houses AH. At WM by TK junc. **TR** on TK then **L** across drive to TK on far side, passing **Oak Hall** on **L**. AH to pass by wooden gate to reach WM at bend in path by bench/power pole. **TL** onto enclosed PF to emerge on RD.

 **17.90** **Miles GD 383352**

**15**. X RD and **TR**, and at end of brick wall **TL** onto PF (**Reed 1½ miles**) and AH on enclosed PF. Follow to emerge in corner of field by WM where **TR** and AH with hedge on **R**. At corner of wood/treeline, **TR** onto permissive path (ignoreTK **AH)**. AH to corner of field and descend to farm TK (**beware hole**). **TL** and in **100M** at junc. of 3-way BW (**BW 5, Reed 1¼ Miles**) **TR** passing old barn on **L**. At next WM by bench **BL** on path with wood on **R** to end of wood. AH at WM on compacted TK bearing **L** then **R** to far end of wood and continue to pass thru wide gap in treeline/hedgerow onto TK junc. **TR** on compacted TK then **L** to corner of wood on **R** by WM. **TR** and continue to wood AH by WM, where pass thru gap, over ST and AH diagonally **(285⁰)** to top **RH** corner of field towards high tension wires to gap/WM. **BR** thru gap and AH on path to reach broken ST/WM. AH to WM/TK where **TR** and **AH** to sharp bend in RD by BW (**BW Barkway 1¼).** **19.50 Miles GD 364359**

 **(Note: from this point onwards, you may encounter others travelling in the opposite direction. Stick to your respective route description).**

**16**. **AH** on **High Street** to pass **Rosslyn Cottage** on **R** by PF and in **25M** **TL** thru wooden KG onto narrow PF (**PF 4, Jackson’s Lane 470 Yds**). AH and continue on wide path with electric wire fence to **R**, towards gap in hedge by WM. **BR** **(327**⁰) across field towards power pole to gap in hedgerow by WM. Continue on same bearing across centre of field toward PF/pole AH in treeline, to exit onto RD thru wooden KG. **TL** into **Hobbs Hayes/Blacksmiths Lane** and continue AH to **BR**, and at green triangle AH to phone box to **TR** into CP. **20.00 Miles GD360362**

 **CP 3 Reed Village Hall Opening Times 1330 - 1630**

**17**. Exit Hall, **TL** then **TR** into **Church Lane** and AH past last house on **L** (**Greenside**) and in **30M TL** thru wooden KG by 6-bar metal gate by footpath. AH on wide grassy TK gradually bearing **L** to gap in hedge by WM. Continue AH with electric wire fence on **L** towards hedgerow AH by clump of trees and **BR.** AH on narrow grass TK to pass thru wooden KG by PF sign **(PF 4, Jackson’s Lane 470 yds)** to exit on RD**. TR** and AH to sharp **RH** bend in RD and AH onto enclosed path by BW (**BW** **Barkway 1¼ Miles**). AH to cross farm TK and AH onto enclosed path opposite. AH on enclosed path for **1KM** X-ing compacted farm TK, ignoring all WM to **R** and **L** to emerge into open by WM. **TR** and then **L** and AH on enclosed path once again to reach open field by WM. AH on grassy farm TK with ditch on **R** for **850M** to where TK bends sharp **L**. **TR** over earth bridge and follow path with ditch on **L** to reach RD by line of trees AH by PF (**PF Buckland, 014**). **21.80** **Miles GD 361340**

**18**. **TR** on RD and AH uphill to WM, to ‘**To The Church’** sign (propped up on wooden fence), where **TL** onto driveway. **Do Not** bear right towards graveyard/church but continue **AH** on grass path to ente**r** open area. **BL** and AH downhill thru wood. At bottom TR and continue to WM sign AH. **TimmedL** at WM onto rough path on field edge with ditch on **L** and AH uphill (**070⁰)** to wide gravel TK with WM on **L.** **TR** on wide gravel TK, over TK junc. and continue uphill in the same direction to BW sign by wooden gate on **L**. **TL** (**090⁰)** immediately after WM/gate on rough path to WM just before the start of treeline. **TR** (**165⁰)** and cross field diagonally to meet compacted TK at top of rise where **TR** and AH to reach hedgerow on **L**. In **350M**, at **2nd** WM sign on **L,** **TL** over earth bridge thru gap in hedge and AH on wide grass path between field **(130⁰)**. At hedge on **R,** AH on enclosed grass path. At far end continue on compacted track to reach RD junc. with **Cherry Orchard Lane** and BW (**Wyddial**, **BW 005, Chipping 1½Mile**). **TR** on RD towards junc./wooden seat where **TL** into **Moles Lane**. **24.47** **Miles GD** **372314**

**19**. At end of lane AH on enclosed path (**BW 009, Wyddial, to St. Bartholomew church, Buntingford ¾ Mile**). At BW sign (**to Buntingford 1**) AH with wooden fence on **R**. At end of fence AH with treeline on **L** to WM. Continue to next WM and in **45M** **BL** thru gapand AH with treeline on **R**. At next WM, **TR** thru gap in hedge and AH to follow path to **L** then **R** to pass large grey corrugated building on **R** to lane by BW (**BW 003 Buntingford**) on **R**. **TR** and AH past church on **R** (now private residence) and continue to pass thru metal bollards, and in **75M** **TL** onto PF (**PF 032, Buntingford**) towards wooden fence and AH on enclosed path with wooden fence to **R**. **BR** onto enclosed path with wooden fences on both sides, heading towards shed at far end on **L**. Follow **L** on narrow path (RD visible to R) to exit on RD where **TL** and AH to X bridge. AH on **Vicarage RD**, keeping on **RH** pavement, to roundabout where **TR** and X RD into **Ermine Street**. In **25M** **TL** onto enclosed PF (**PF 036, Buntingford**) to exit on RD, where **TL** and in **100M** **TR** into Scout Hut and checkpoint. **26.40 Miles**

**We hope you enjoyed the walk and that you will come again next year - Well done.**