

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** for 650M to **X** FB to RD.

2 **TR** at RD and **CONT** for 300M to 2nd sharp **R** bend in RD (ignore 1st bend and FPS). **TL** here (FPS) onto Byway and **CONT** 500M to sharp **L** turn. Here **TR** at red gate with WM. **CONT** ahead 300M, between fences, to black metal gate. **IGNORE L OR R TURNS** follow enclosed bridleway 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 track, 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) onto Bridleway opposite road junction. **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 passing WM to **X** ditch on earth bridge by another 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 WM following TK at bottom of bank.

7 **TL** (with field edge) for very short distance then **TR** & **CONT** on TK with hedge on your **L** (**ditch parallel on R about 50M away**). Follow this TK for 450M until just before next reservoir. **TR off main TK** at WM for 50M and **CONT** on TK as it bears **L**. Follow **TK** (bank 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 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 **bear L** 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. **(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 **THRU** Chatham Green Village for 500M to RD junction. **X** straight over past FPS and 'NO THROUGH ROAD' sign & **CONT** on concrete TK (houses on your **R**). TK becomes dirt/grass. **CONT** straight ahead (ignore TK on **L**) to emerge at field. **X** field slightly **R** to gap by FPS.

13 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**