

## **ESSEX WAY STAGE 1 - EPPING to CHIPPING ONGAR (7.5 miles)**

### **START - EPPING STATION (MapRef: TL 462016)**

#### **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 X railway FB and TL. Ahead 100M to main RD. X main RD and TR for 50M downhill to FPS.  
TL and go ahead 150M (hedge on your R) to field. CONT ahead HALF R 200M to gap in hedge. THRU gap and TL. Ahead 400M to meet RD by red brick house.**
- 2 TL at RD for 30M and TL at FPS. Ahead 150M and bear R at fork (WM). Follow enclosed TK for 700M to small clearing. X clearing straight over, under power lines, and CONT on track (more power lines on your R) 250M to RD.**
- 3 At RD TR ('Theydon Oak' pub on your L)X RD and continue for 100M. TL at FPS by twin telegraph poles just BEFORE red 'PRIVATE' sign on tree.**
- 4 Pass THRU posts and CONT ahead 75M to go THRU gap. Bear L (keeping hedge on your L) for 350M to gap. THRU gap follow field edge L (it is legitimate to partly cut this corner) 300M to gap. THRU gap and ahead 300M to ST beside the Nomads' bench.**
- 5 X ST (or THRU gap in fence) and FB and TL immediately at WM. CONT 250M (ditch on L/woods on R) over 2 FBs then bearing L up steps & CONT on TK to WM. At WM TR to follow TK for 200M past school on your L to KG. THRU KG to cricket field. (2 miles)**
- 6 Follow R edge of cricket field 40M to end of fence. TR down steps, ignore TK on R. 5M on, at TK fork, take R fork THRU woods to new red dirt path & finally over ramp to FPS. At FPS TR.**
- 7 CONT ahead 250M and X FB over M 11 (enjoy the view!!). Ahead 200M on TK with fields on your L to join wide TK. Straight ahead – do NOT bear R (keep wooden fence on your L) short way on Wide TK then narrow TK to enter forest.  
**ABSOLUTELY STRAIGHT AHEAD 900M (ignore all crossing tracks) to X low bank ahead, X bridleway to WM & X 2<sup>nd</sup> low bank shortly to another WM.****

- 8 ABSOLUTELY STRAIGHT AHEAD** (on narrow TK now) for 400M to emerge at field. Straight ahead 500M on grass TK between fields to corner of small wood. Ahead 450M uphill (wood on your **R**) and follow TK over open land to corner of wooded area. **TAKE CARE NOW.**
- 9** Ahead 70M and **TR** (WM) **THRU** gap – warning, easily missed (**DO NOT GO UP TO THE WATER TOWER**). **X** field diagonally **L** towards wooden power cable pole (uphill of the obvious pole straight across from the gap). Go **THRU** gap just before pole. **CONT** ahead 300M with hedge on your **L** (ignore turnings to **L**). At field corner **CONT** ahead to **ST**.  
**X ST** and go ahead between electric fences 200M to **X ST** at main RD. **(4.5 miles)**
- 10** At RD **TL**. Pass ‘Green Man’ pub (sorry!!). **CONT** 500M on this main RD to sharp **L** bend with large black and white chevron signs. **TR** here, **X** grass (keeping houses/cottages ‘Weald’s Farm’ on your **R**). Ahead **THRU** gap into field. **TR**. Follow field edge for 30M and **TR X FB** and immediately **TL**.
- 11** Ahead 150M on narrow track (wire fence on your **R**) to **X FB** and **ST**. Ahead 150M on **L** field edge to **X ST** and **FB**.  
Ahead 800 M on **L** field edge (**KEEP HEDGE ON YOUR L AT ALL TIMES**) to pass black wooden farm building ‘Widow’s Farm’ (on your **R**).  
At fence corner **CONT** ahead 40M on **L** field edge to **WM**. **TL THRU** wooden **KG**.
- 12** **Ahead THRU** 4 paddocks and metal curtain gates (lift clasp, pull posts apart).  
Bear **L** downhill 40M and **TL THRU** wooden **KG**.
- 13** **TR** and follow **R** field edge closely 150M to **FPS** at RD. **X RD HALF L** (**Do NOT enter ‘GREENSTED WOOD FARM**) and **X FB**.  
Ahead 400M on **L** field edge (under twin power lines) to **X FB**. Follow **L** field edge 400M to go **L** of fence by lone tree. Ahead following **L** field edge (fence on your **R**) 200M to **X FB** to partially concreted TK.
- 14** **TR** uphill 100M to **WM** and **THRU** forecourt of brown wooden houses. **CONT** uphill and pass Greensted Church to **FPS**.  
**TL** at **FPS** (Ongar) and ahead 40M to pass **THRU** wooden gate in white metal railings. Ahead **SLIGHTLY L** to gap. Ahead **HALF L** barbed wire fence on your **R** to follow field edge 200M to **KG** and tarmac TK.  
**X** tarmac TK and **X FB**. Straight ahead 850M on obvious TK. **Eventually over concrete bridge to \*finish stage uphill past Sainsbury’s in Chipping Ongar.**  
\* Map Ref: TL 552032