

Major Updates for Country Walks near London – volume 2

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Purpose of this document: List of major updates.

Latest updates plus other information available on www.walkingclub.org.uk

The following are major changes to Country Walks near London that we are currently aware of. It is NOT, however, an exhaustive list of every change that has occurred on the walks. For the sake of brevity, we have listed here only major ones that could seriously confuse walkers.

You may well find other minor alterations to the routes as you walk along. Side paths in woods can be prominent one year, and overgrown the next (or easier to see in one season, than the other). Stiles, gates and fences fall down, or are repaired where they were formerly dilapidated. Kissing gates sometimes replace stiles. Signposts and footpath posts also appear and disappear, and a tree with a white arrow on it may get cut down. Fields can be arable one year, and pasture (or full of pig pens) the next, and electric fences appear or disappear to control livestock. Tea rooms are especially prone to closure.

So be aware as you walk that such changes may occur to your route. But also guard against the common error of assuming that details of the route have changed when you have in fact just missed your way. If you are unsure about the route, retrace your steps a little: this often makes a navigational error clear.

2 – Saunderton via Bledlow Circular		
Edition	Location	Update
Aug 04	Page 33, col 2,	The Boot has reopened as Darusso– upmarket bar and restaurant, with full set lunches. (Phone no. unchanged.)
3 – Saunderton via West Wycombe Circular		
Aug 04	Page 38, col 1, para 4	Replace: “..Rose Cottage on your left. After 60 metres.....your direction 120 degrees.” With “..Rose Cottage on your left. After 60 metres, <i>where the lane curves to the left by a car turning area; continue straight on</i> taking the left hand path entrance (rather than the right hand entrance with bollards) into a wood, your direction 120 degrees.”
Aug 04	Page 44, col 2,	Hughenden Manor Stables Restaurant Replace: Open/food served Apr – Nov noon – 5pm Wed – Sun. Nov – Mar noon – 5pm Sat, Sun.
Jul 06	Page 44, col 2,	With: Open/food served Apr – Oct noon – 5pm Wed – Sun. Nov – mid Dec noon – 4pm Sat, Sun.
5 – Tring Circular		
Aug 04	Page 63, Col 2,	“Follow this path...”: the old wooden post mentioned in the second sentence seems to have gone: In 250 metres a path (more evident in summer than winter) merges from the right, and 50 metres beyond this, the ways divide.
Jul 06	para 3	
6 – Henley via Stonor Circular		
Aug 04	P75 c2	Flying Pig closed. Remove all references to it in the text.
Aug 04	Page 68 Col 2,	Replace: “ Beyond the stile follow the footpath as it veers left across an open field, heading towards another stile to the right of a telegraph pole, your direction west. ” With: “Beyond the stile <i>follow the footpath as it veers left across an open field, between wooden fences,</i> your direction west.”
Jul 06	para 6	

7 – Henley via Hambleden Circular

Aug 04	Lunch & tea places	A tearoom has now opened in Hambleden at the Hambleden Post Office and Stores (The “village store” mentioned in bold on page 80, col two). It has a few tables and homemade cakes. Open 8.30 am to 5.00 pm daily. Tel 01491 571 201
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8 – Marlow Circular

Aug 04	Page 90, Col 1, Para 2	Replace “ Cross over this road to continue straight ahead up a farm track, on the right hand edge of a field. ” With “ <i>Cross over this road and through a fieldgate to continue straight ahead up a farm track.</i> ”
Aug 04	Page 90, Col 1, Para 3	Replace: “ Walk straight ahead into the wood for 220 metres, passing a white arrow cross on a tree and then a green arrow, and another white arrow cross. 10 metres beyond the second white cross and 40 metres before the forest edge ahead, ... ” With: “ <i>Walk straight ahead into the wood for 220 metres, passing a white arrow cross on a tree in 60 metres and another in 150 metres. Immediately beyond the second cross, ignore a faint track slanting back to the right, but 10 metres further on, and 40 metres before the forest edge ahead, ...</i> ”
Aug 04	Page 91, Col 1, Para 2	: “ In 220 metres, you come out of the trees into an open field (though there is a newly planted wood ahead) and the path forks. ”
Aug 04	P92 c1 p3	“ .Hambleden Circular chapter in this book at point [5][6]. ”

9 – Kintbury to Great Bedwyn

Aug 04	Page 97, Col 1, Page 2	Replace “ ...with a handrail to your left, to immediately cross a stile with a public footpath signpost. Cross the field half left and in 170 metres pass over the crossing place in the electric fence, (30 metres to the right of a metal fieldgate in the left corner), your direction 220 degrees.
Jul 06	Page 97, Col 1, Page 2	<p>Turn half left to cross the next field, with a tree encased by fencing to your right, to cross a wooden stile in the left hand corner. Cross a wooden footbridge to turn right along a tarmac ear-wide track, following a yellow public footpath arrow, your direction 240 degrees.</p> <p>With “<i>...with a handrail to your left, to go through a wooden gate. Follow the fenced in footpath across the field aiming for the far left hand corner, your direction 220 degrees.</i></p> <p><i>After 300 metres at the far corner you go through a wooden gate and cross a wooden footbridge to turn right along a tarmac car-wide track, following a yellow public footpath arrow, your direction 240 degrees.</i>”</p>

10 – Alton Circular

Aug 04	Page 105,	Replace “ After 300 metres the path follows a car wide earth
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	col 2, para 5	track...where you go right.” With “In 400 metres, keep straight on at a three armed footpath sign. In a further 180 metres <i>you come to a tarmac lane, where you go right.</i> ”
Aug 04	Page 106, col 1, para 3 onwards	p106 Most stiles between King John’s Hill (first col, third para) and the end of page 106 have been replaced by kissing gates. The following changes to the route are potentially confusing and need special note, however. p106: first column, sentence preceding second [!]: Current text: “In 30 metres you have to climb a metal fieldgate (there should be a stile to its left but at time of writing this had collapsed)”: Both stile and fieldgate are now gone. Ignore this direction. Beyond this point, turn right in 50 metres, roughly at the end of the pond, following a green Hangars Way on a post, your direction 140 degrees. In 30 metres, you pick up a line of trees, and in 150 metres pass through a kissing gate to the left of a metal fieldgate into a wood (in the Aug 04 edition of the book, this is specifically stated NOT to be the route, but the route has been changed by Hampshire County Council). Beyond the gate curve left immediately with the path, and in 50 metres turn right downhill on a broad path between the trees, your direction 170 degrees. You now resume the existing (Aug 04 edition) directions on page 106, top of column two: “In 200 metres cross a barrier of three logs...” except that this, and a whole series of subsequent stiles are now kissing gates, as stated above.
11 – Petersfield to Liss		
Aug 04	Page 121, col 2, last para	Replace " Go down an enclosed footpath on the left hand field edge ". With “Go through a fieldgate into a field and go along the left hand edge of the field.”
Aug 04	P121 c2 last para	“..follow the enclosed footpath as..”
Aug 04	Page 122, col 1, para 3	Replace " After 200 metres, cross a two plank bridge " With "After 200 metres, in the corner of the field, go through a metal fieldgate, then across a two plank bridge....."
Aug 04	Page 122, col 1, para 4	Replace " In 100 metres... right hand edge of a field. " With “In 100 metres, once over this stile, continue ahead along the right hand edge of a field.”
12 – Guildford to Farnham		
Aug 04	P139 c1 last para	... the main walk directions above after point [8][9]
13 – Guildford to Gomshall		
Aug 04 Jul 06	Lunch & tea places	The Ramblers Rest is sadly now closed. Note that on the website there is now an alternative afternoon route, which leads to another tea room in Abinger Hammer. Alternatively on the route in the book, the Compasses Inn is a possible tea stop.
14 – Effingham to Westhumble		
Aug 04	P152 c2 p 6	“In 50 metres <i>pass through a gate to the left right of a concrete block building.</i> ”
Aug 04 Jul 06	P153 col. 1 last para	The path here has changed, and for the better. Instead of turning left at the corner of the hedge with the drinking fountain next to

		it, it goes straight on across the golf tee ahead, and, following a yellow arrow on a post, into the woods on a new path. Keep straight on through the woods, crossing several crosspaths, until you come out onto another fairway. Head straight across it for a footpath post 60 metres away on its far side, and turn right through the hedge here. You can now resume the directions at the top of page 154. "You are now on an enclosed pathway...."
Aug 04 Jul 06	P153, col 2, last para	"...to a pathway whose start is marked by two wooden posts.": the posts are currently missing: it is now just a gap in the bushes, but in summer vegetation can make the opening hard to spot.
16 – Hurst Green to Chiddingstone Causeway		
Aug 04	P177 c2	Elan Arts Centre closed. Remove all references to it in the text.
17 – Snodland to Sole Street		
Aug 04	Page 184, col 1, para 4	Replace " <i>After 800 metres ... your direction 300 degrees.</i> " With "In 150 metres, at the top of the hill keep straight on along a narrow path that contours along the side of the hill. In 650 metres, <i>you emerge into a clearing with a junction of car-wide tracks. Cross diagonally over one track, to carry straight on down another into the wood, as marked by a dilapidated footpath post, your direction 300 degrees.</i> "
Aug 04 Jul 06	Page 187, col 1, para 3	"This path soon narrows and may be overgrown in summer. In 120 metres the path plunges into a dense wood.": In Spring 2006, there was a track forking left about 60 metres before the wood. It may have been temporary, but if it is still there it could confuse: the correct route is the narrow path going straight on.
18 – Wadhurst		
Aug 04	Page 189, Col 2, para 3	Replace (the 16 lines of text): Turn right for 70 metres.....footpath leading down to the railway, your direction 160 degrees. With: Turn right for 70 metres to leave the car park and cross over the main road to turn right up the pavement. In 100 metres you pass a driveway on your left and after a further 20 metres, <i>re-cross the main road to take a footpath leading down to the railway.</i>
Aug 04	Page 198, Col 1, last para	Replace the 3 paragraphs: "After 100 metres at a T-junction...your direction 340 degrees. In 15 metresyour direction 350 degrees. In 60 metres go up some steps to cross a lane, and continue up the a footpath, your direction 10 degrees...." With: "After 100 metres at a T-junction, cross over a lane to go through a wooden fieldgate, and <i>turn half right down through a wood, your direction 40 degrees. In 150 metres, at the bottom corner of the wood, veer left to cross a car wide plank bridge after 20 metres, to then reach the bottom of a small field.</i> <i>Turn right to go diagonally up across this field, aiming for the top right hand corner, your direction 60 degrees.</i>

		After 120 metres <i>at the top right hand corner go through a wooden gate and turn left to go up some steps to cross a lane, and continue up a footpath, your direction 10 degrees....</i> ”
Aug 04	Page 200, Col 1, Para 6	Replace “ After 40 metres, turn right along an unmarked footpath, your direction 260 degrees, to emerge by the Rock Robin opposite Wadhurst station. ”
Jul 06	Page 200, Col 1, Para 6	With: “After 140 metres, the footpath leads out to a driveway. Go down the driveway to join the main road after 70 metres. <i>Turn right</i> down the pavement to reach Wadhurst station on your left after 100 metres.”
Aug 04	Page 201, col 2,	Rose & Crown Replace: noon – 2.30pm, 6-9pm daily. With: noon – 2pm, Tue – Sat; noon – 3pm Sun.
Aug 04	Page 201, col 2,	Lunch & tea places Add: The Carpenters Arms <i>Fletching Street, Mayfield, TN20 6TB (01435 873294)</i> . Food served noon – 2.30pm, Mon - Sat; noon – 3pm Sun. (From the front of the Rose and Crown turn right up Fletching Street to reach The Carpenters Arms after 150 metres.)
Jul 06	Page 201, col 2,	
19 – Stonegate Circular		
Aug 04	p.205, col 2, last para	Replace: “In 120 metres <i>take the footpath on the left-hand side of the road, crossing a stile to the right of a metal fieldgate. In 10 metres follow the fenced-in footpath as it turns left away from the road gently downhill between two fields.</i> ”
Jul 06	p.205, col 2, last para	With “In 120 metres you pass by a metal fieldgate on your left (with an abandoned stile to its right). In a further 10 metres, <i>turn left through a metal gate to follow a fenced-in footpath gently downhill between two fields.</i> ”
Aug 04	P217 col 2	Bear Inn 01435 882260540
23 - Hassocks to Upper Beeding		
Aug 04	P251 c2 p4	“...Just after an Esso petrol station a car showroom,”
Aug 04	P253 c1 last para	“In 650 60 metres pass through.....”
Aug 04	P253 c2 p1	“...and emerge onto the banks of a much larger water channel.”
Jul 06		
25 – Lewes via West Firlie Circular		
Aug 04	P264 c2 p4	“..two fieldgates then bear half right downhill and continue downhill with the main path,”
Jul 06		
Aug 04	p.268, col 1, para 4	Replace: “..track, eventually coming down to the mainand arrive at the station after 200 metres.”
Jul 06	p.268, col 1, para 4	With: “..track. 80 metres before the main road (A26) fork left down a fenced in car wide track leading to a bridge across the A26. In 100 metres, cross over the bridge to go down a car wide shingle track curving to the right. After 160 metres at a T-junction, turn left along a lane to reach Southease station after 120 metres.”
29 - Hastings to Rye		

Aug 04 Jul 06	p.298, col.2, 1st para	Insert following text after [3] “(Note: If you have not exited Hastings Country Park before 13:15 then you should consider the Cove pub for lunch given that The Smuggler pub (2km further on) stops serving food at 14:00 Mon – Sat)”
Aug 04 Jul 06	p.298, col.2, 3rd para	Replace: “ In 75 metres ignore Smugglers Way on your left to continue .. ” With: “In 75 metres ignore Smugglers Way on your left. [Note if taking an earlier lunch stop at The Cove turn left down Smugglers Way. After 170 metres where the road forks at the bottom, fork left. In 120 metres at a t-junction turn right along Waites Lane to reach The Cove on your right after 50 metres. After lunch retrace your steps to the point where the road forks at the bottom and turn left along Lower Waites Lane for 250 metres to pass Rockmead Road on your right to resume the directions from the asterisk [*] below.] Continue ..”
Aug 04/Jul 06	p.299, c1,p1	Insert “[*]” into text: “50 degrees. [*] After 180 metres ...”
Aug 04 Jul 06	p.304, col.2,	Lunch & tea places Add: The Cove Waites Lane, Fairlight, TN35 4AX (01424 812110) . Food served noon – 2.30pm, daily.
30 - Dover to Deal		
Aug 04	p.308, col.2, para 3	Replace: “ Follow this for 80 metres to a kissing gate. ” With: “In 80 metres you pass a kissing gate on your right.”