

Danbury walks

Six circular walks around
the Danbury Countryside

Prepared for the Danbury Society by Wendy & David Moore
& Essex County Council Public Rights of Way



This booklet will help you explore
the countryside walks around Danbury.

The booklet contains six illustrated Walks:

- Thrift Wood
- Waterhall Meadow
- Butt's Green
- Pheasanthouse Wood
- Blake's Wood
- Sandon Brook

Each walk contains a detailed map and
information to enable you to enjoy your walk.



Follow the Waymarks



Byway



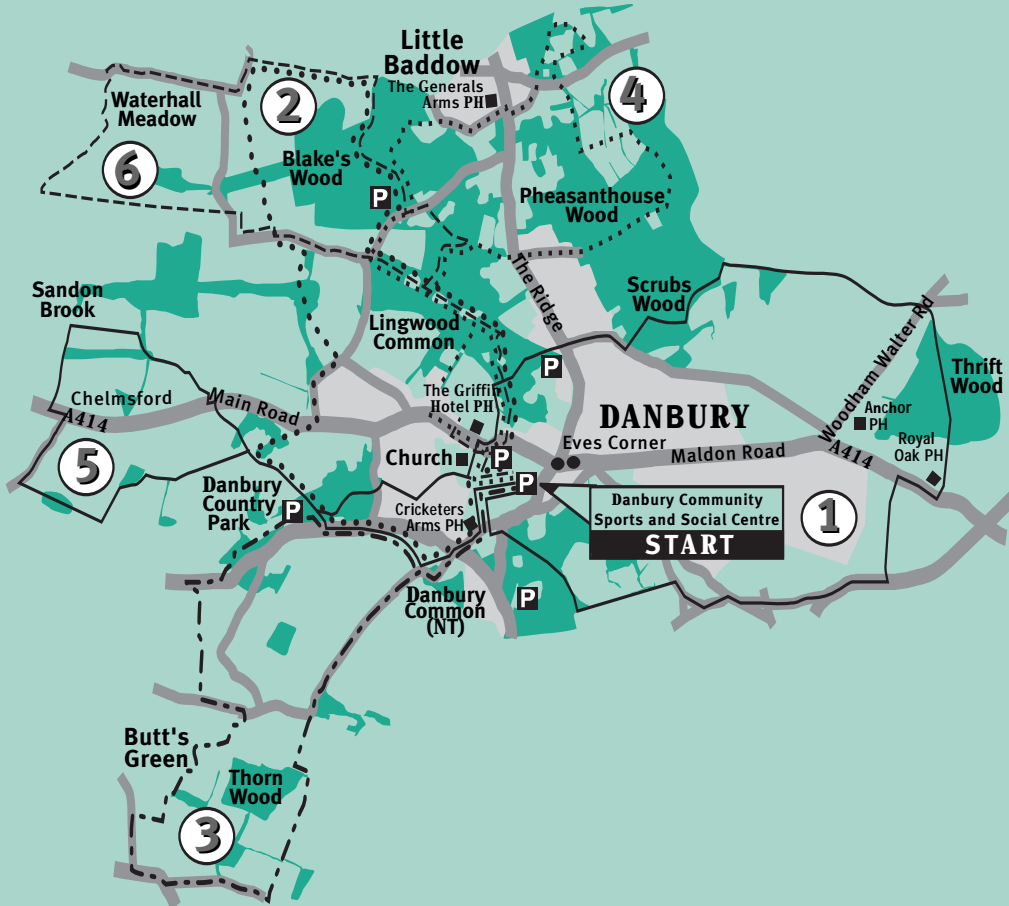
Footpath



Bridleway



Restricted Byway



Waymarker arrows are attached to fingerposts, stiles, gates and posts.

Yellow arrows are used on Public Footpaths, Blue arrows are used on public Bridleways (look out for cyclists and horse riders).

Red arrows are used on public Byways (look out for motor vehicles as well as cyclists and horses).

Permissive Footpaths (arrow colours vary) are not 'official' public rights of way. Most permissive paths are found in Country Parks and Nature Reserves and are provided by the landowner.

Please remember the countryside is a work place so please keep to paths and use stiles and gates when crossing fences. Keep dogs on leads where animals may be grazing and take care when walking along, or crossing, roads.

Follow the Countryside Code.

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
 - Keep dogs under close control.
 - Consider other people

For further information about Public Rights of Way in Essex

Tel: **01245 437291** www.essexcc.gov.uk

Danbury Walk

One



Thrift Wood



Distance and time taken

5.6 miles (9.0 km) Approx. 2½ hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.
Royal Oak P.H. at Woodham Mortimer.



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608
Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park



Parking

Danbury Community Association
Sports and Social Centre.
Little Baddow Rd. (opp Runsell Ln)
Danbury Common.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

Danbury - Scrub's Wood - Thrift Wood - Danbury Common - Danbury

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks and up past the Armada Beacon to the Radio Mast. At the end of the path turn right and continue along past the Church to the A414. Cross over the road and turn right and after about 30 metres turn left down a concrete gravelled drive. Follow the drive for approximately ¼ mile until a wooden fence is reached on the right.

Turn right with the fence on your left and continue along this path. At the end of the path turn right to come out onto Little Baddow Road. Cross over and walk down Runsell Lane until Scrubs Wood Nature Reserve is reached on your left. Enter the reserve (opposite Simmonds Way) via the boardwalk and continue straight ahead until you reach a large dip, known as "Glacier Road". Follow the

path down into the dip, turn right and follow the wide track until you reach the timber yard and turn left once timber yard fence is reached. Continue along the path skirting around the timber yard and pass through a kissing gate.

Turn left onto the track, walk to the end by a house called Robin Wood and turn right. Follow this track along the side of the golf course until the Woodham Walter Road is reached. Cross straight over the road to a stile, cross over and continue ahead into Thrift Wood. Carry on for approximately ½ mile, and where path forks take the right-hand path crossing over a bridge. Continue along this path until you reach the end of the wood, follow the path left then turn right out of the woods. Continue along this path to come out at the Royal Oak P.H. on the A414.

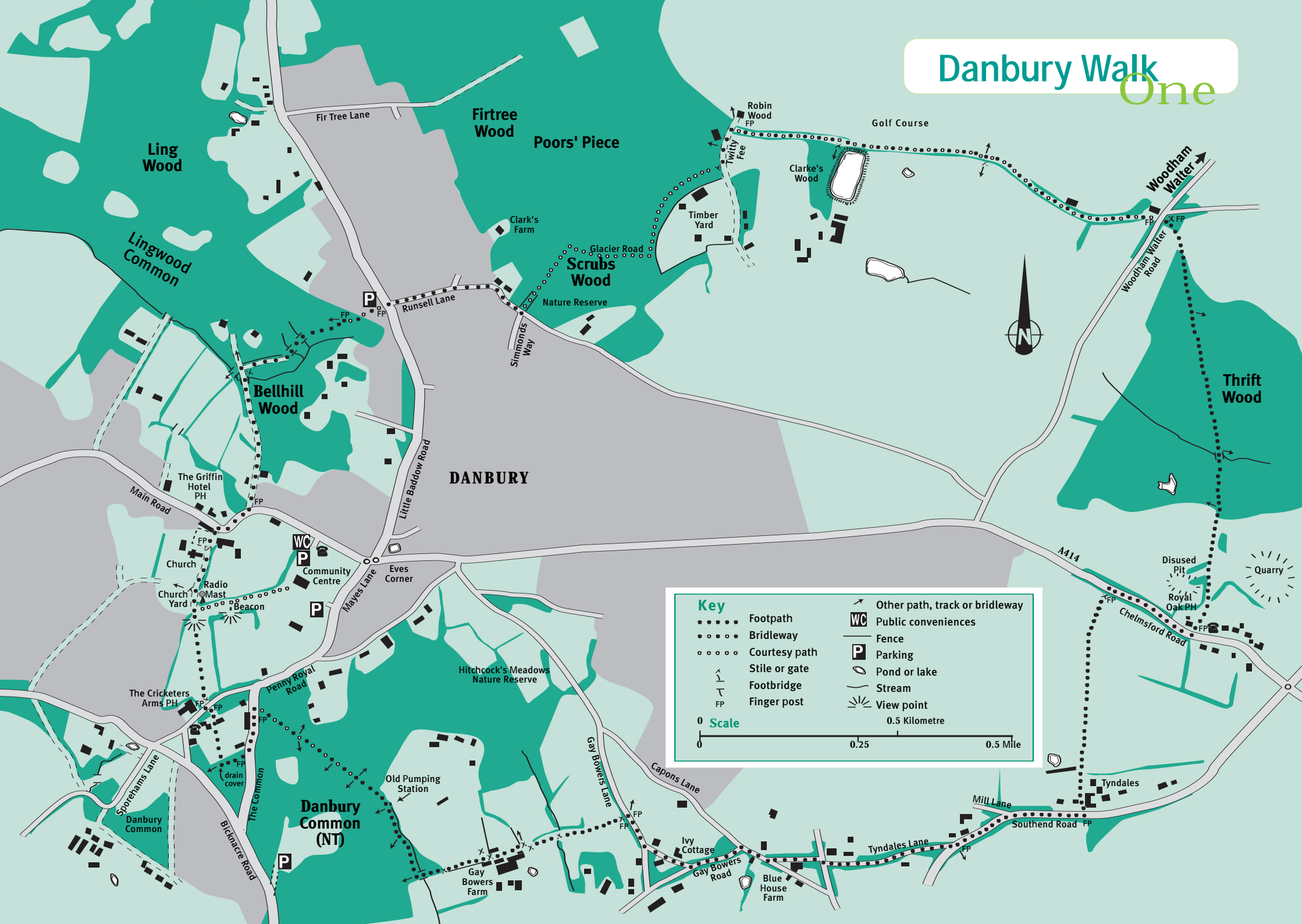
Turn right and walk for approximately 200 metres before crossing the road and passing through a gate into the fields. Follow this path to Tyndales Farm and continue ahead to the road. Turn right and take the second right into Tyndales Lane. At the cross-roads continue straight ahead, turning right at the end and then immediately left into Gay Bowers Road. After approximately 100 metres turn right into a track, pass Ivy Cottage and turn right at the end. Walk approximately 30 metres and cross a stile on your left into an open field.

Follow the footpath across the field and up to the farm. On arriving at a gate turn right over a stile and then immediately left over the next stile. Continue straight ahead and pass between the stables. Cross a stile and carry on straight ahead, through a staggered barrier, with a barbed wire fence on your left. Cross over another stile into the woods (you are now in Danbury Common, which is open access land).

Carry straight on into the woods and turn right after crossing the bridges over a stream. Follow the path along the side of the stream past the site of the old pumping station on your left hand side, for which the foundations are still visible. Continue ahead along this path ignoring other paths, until the road is reached. Turn left and after approximately 100 metres cross the road to follow the footpath. Turn right after 100m by a manhole cover and follow the path to Penny Royal Road. Cross the road and walk up the path towards the church. Turn right before the Radio Mast, pass the Armada Beacon and return to the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk One



Key

.....	Footpath	↗	Other path, track or bridleway
.....	Bridleway	WC	Public conveniences
o o o o	Courtesy path	—	Fence
∧	Stile or gate	P	Parking
∩	Footbridge	○	Pond or lake
FP	Finger post	—	Stream
		☀	View point

Scale

0 0.25 0.5 Mile

0 0.5 Kilometre

Danbury Walk

two



Blake's Wood



Distance and time taken

5.5 miles (8.8 km) Approx. 3½ hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608

Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park &
Danbury Country Park



Parking

Danbury Community Association
Sports and Social Centre.

Blakes Wood

Danbury Common.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

Danbury - Danbury Country Park - Blakes Wood - Lingwood Common - Danbury

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks and up past the Armada Beacon towards the Radio Mast and at end of path turn left down the hill. At the bottom turn right, past the pub, walk to the cross-roads, cross over into Sporehams Lane and then take the footpath on the right-hand side going diagonally across the common over a small bridge to Fitzwalter Lane.

Turn immediately right into Fitzwalter Lane and walk past the houses. After the last house (Wildcroft) take narrow path on left to Woodhill Road. Walk along Woodhill Road and about 20m past the Danbury Park car park entrance go through a kissing gate on the right and take the footpath into the Park. Carry on straight ahead following the yellow arrow signs, go over a stream

and leave the wood.

Cross an open area and go through a kissing gate into the Youth Camp field, then immediately turn left at the fingerpost and follow the yellow arrows across the park. Turn right, just before a marker post indicating a junction of paths, taking the path just north of a dip and continue following the yellow arrows, past a pond to come out on the A414.

Cross the A414 into Riffhams Lane and continue until a footpath sign on your left is reached (opposite Elm Green Lane). Cross over the stile into the field and continue across the field to the next stile. Cross over into the wood and follow the main path over a bridge and past pipes, until you reach a field. Keep walking around the right-hand edge of the field until a stile is reached, cross the stile and turn left into Graces Lane and then almost immediately right again through a kissing gate into an old orchard.

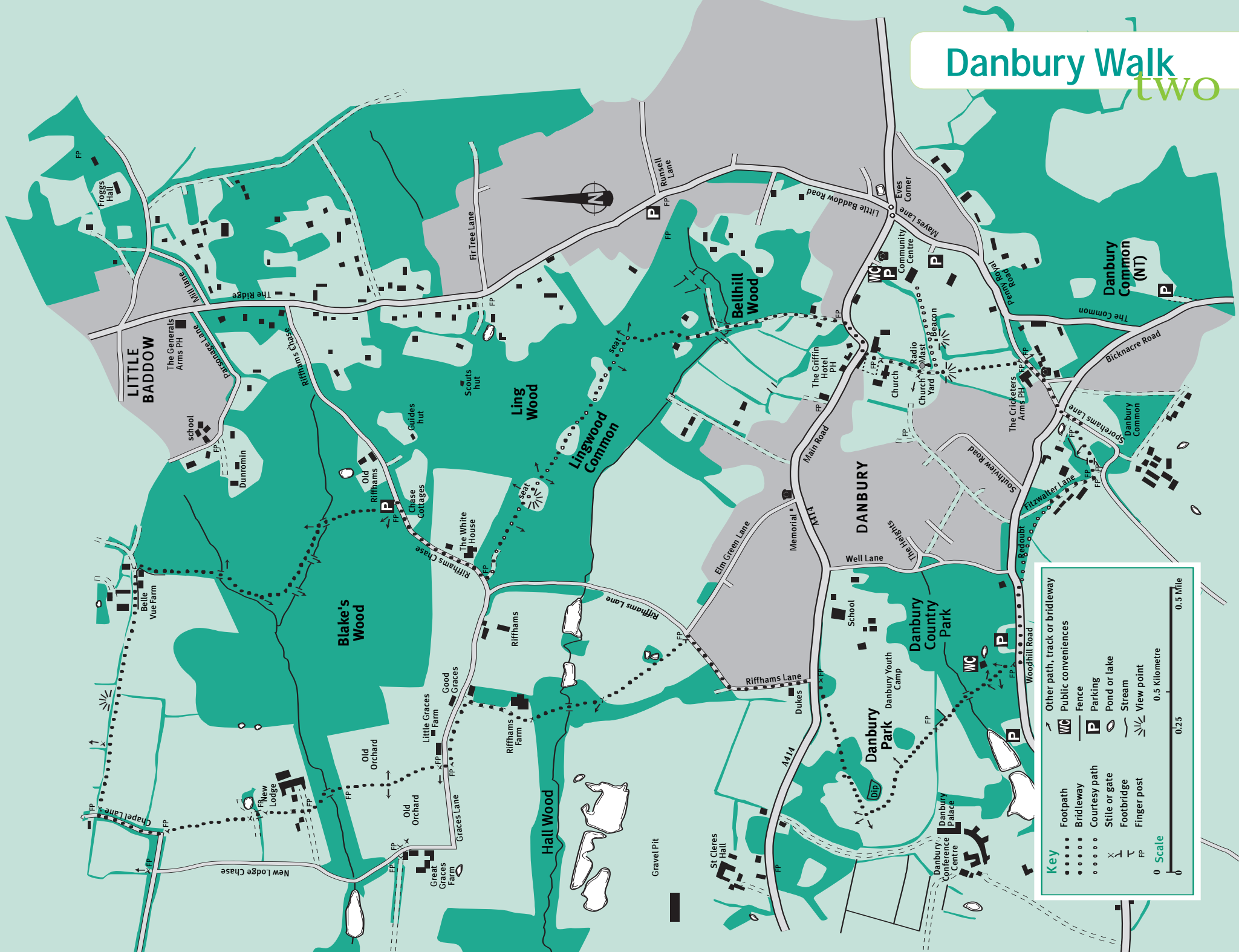
Take the path going straight on and continue down into Blakes Wood. Head over a stream and at the end of the wood cross a green and a drive and pass through the gap between the houses in front of you. Carry on along this path and cross a stile, bridge and a track. Go over another stile and head straight across the field. Turn right into Chapel Lane, take the next footpath on the right and continue along this path turning immediately right after Belle Vue Farm.

Follow the path past a National Trust sign into Blake's Wood and follow the 'Wildside walk' signs through the wood. Cross over the third bridge (it has a brass memorial plaque on it). You then reach Riffhams Chase. At the top of the slope turn right and continue for approximately 300 metres, before turning left into Lingwood Common just after the White House.

Continue on along this path, passing a seat on the left, until you reach a marker post by another seat. Turn right and follow the 'Wildside Walk' signs until you reach a concrete driveway between two houses. Follow this drive until you reach the A414 road, turn right and then cross over at the church. Take the path to the left of the church turning left after the Radio Mast, pass the Armada Beacon and return back to the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk two



Key

- Footpath
- Bridleway
- Courtesy path
- Stile or gate
- Footbridge
- Finger post
- Other path, track or bridleway
- MC Public conveniences
- Fence
- P Parking
- Pond or lake
- Stream
- View point

Scale

0 0.25 0.5 Kilometre

0 0.25 0.5 Mile

Danbury Walk three



Butt's Green



Distance and time taken

5.3 miles (8.6 km) Approx. 3 hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608

Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park &
Danbury Country Park



Parking

Danbury Community Association
Sports and Social Centre.

Blakes Wood

Danbury Common.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

Danbury - Thorn Wood - Butt's Green - Danbury Country Park - Danbury

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks and up past the Armada Beacon towards the Radio Mast and at the top turn left down the hill. At the bottom turn right into the lane, pass the pub, and walk to the cross-roads and cross over into Sporehams Lane. Follow Sporehams Lane until you cross a bridge over the ford then look for Orchard End on the left (200m past the ford).

Turn into Orchard End, pass between the houses, turn right then left and cross the field to Thorn Wood. Turn left and look for a stile on the right just past the wood. Cross the stile and walk to the far left corner of the field then walk ahead keeping the hedge on your left until you reach a concrete road. Turn right and follow the road to the end. Turn right along the very busy Hanningfield Road and follow it until you reach Butts Green Road on the right.

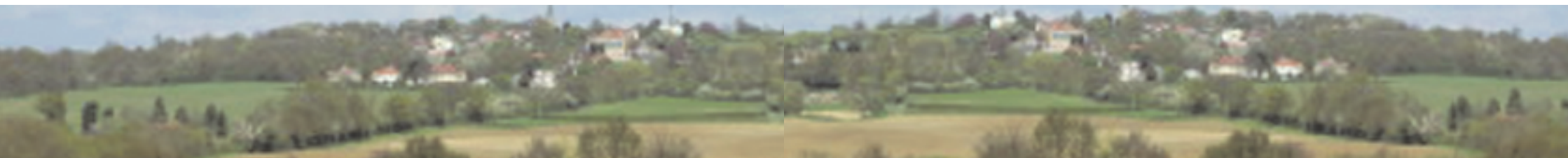
Walk down Butts Green Road and look for a bungalow on the right called The Turnpike. Turn into the footpath just after the bungalow and follow the track across the field until you reach a small bridge on the left. Cross the bridge through the hedge into the next field and follow the path, keeping the hedge to your left, until you reach a gap. Pass through the gap, cross a plank bridge into the trees, and follow the path to the top of the rise. Bear right, keeping the hedge on your left, and look for a stile on the left.

Cross the stile and bridge and follow the waymarkers across the field, turn right and walk along the edge of the field until you reach a stile. Cross the stile and follow the track to the end. Cross over another stile and the drive into an orchard and follow the hedge to the left and shortly you will see a gap with a bridge in it. Cross the bridge and stile then head towards the far right-hand corner of the field into a small wood, bear left until you reach the road.

Turn left into Sporehams Lane and walk along the lane until you reach a fingerpost on the right. Cross into the field and walk straight across it, past the pylon, to a bridge. Cross over the bridge and follow the path across the field to the far hedge until you reach a gap into Woodhill Road. Turn right into the road and walk along it until you reach a kissing gate on the left into Danbury Park beside Yewtree Cottage.

Take the path into the park then take the right-hand fork heading up to the lakes, follow the track past the toilets, past the lakes and follow the path around the car park. Follow the main track (parallel to the road) through the woods, and after about 150 metres, just south of another car park, follow the track to the right until you reach Woodhill Road. Turn left along the road and look for an unmarked footpath on the right just before the bend in the road to the left.

Follow the path into Fitzwalter Lane and walk along the lane almost to the end. Just before the road look for a footpath post on the left and walk across the common until you reach Sporehams Lane. Turn left into the lane, walk to the cross-roads and cross the main road, pass the Cricketers Arms P.H. and at the footpath post on the left follow the path up the hill towards Danbury Church. At the top turn right, pass the Armada Beacon and return back to the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk

four



Pheasanthouse Wood



Distance and time taken

5.8 miles (9.3 km) Approx. 3 hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.
The Generals Arm P.H. at Little Baddow



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608
Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park



Parking

Danbury Community Association
Sports and Social Centre.
Blakes Wood
Danbury Common.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

**Danbury - Lingwood Common - Pheasanthouse Wood -
Blake's Wood - Lingwood Common - Danbury**

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks and up past the Armada Beacon towards the Radio Mast. At the end of the path turn right, passing the Church to come out onto the A414. Cross over the road and turn left, walk for approximately ¼ mile before turning right into Colemans Lane.

Walk to the bottom of the lane and continue straight ahead uphill into Lingwood Common Woods. At the top of the hill turn left and carry on straight ahead for a while then turn right onto a path just before a seat. Continue along this path to the end, coming out by the King Edward Scout Park. Cross the stile. Turn right and follow the path with the ditch on your right to the main road.

Cross over the road and walk down Fir Tree Lane past all the houses and into the wood continuing on until a cross roads is reached at a Nature Reserve sign. Go straight across and continue along the path with Pheasanthouse Wood on your left. At another Nature Reserve sign, follow the main track round to the left and soon after take the left fork, looking for an old boundary bank on the left. Follow the path beside this bank through the trees and down the slope until you reach the corner of Pheasanthouse Wood, then cross a bridge and a stile into the field.

Follow the field edge to your right until you reach a gate at the top of the field by the farm and pond. Cross over a stile, bear left and walk up through the farmyard, cross over another stile and walk up the field towards woodland, with the wire fence on your left. Cross a stile at top of field, turn right, follow the track to the main road and take the footpath on the opposite side of the road.

Follow this path around the fences of private gardens, to eventually arrive at a gravel track. Turn left and walk to end of track where you can stop and enjoy the view over the Chelmer valley. Turn left along the bridleway past a large house on the left and then turn left at a waymarker post, passing tennis courts and continue to the main road.

Cross straight over into Mill Lane and at the end turn right, then left into Parsonage Lane. Walk to the end of Parsonage Lane and take the left hand path into Blake's Wood and continue along the path following the carved N.T. signs on the posts. Cross over a bridge (note the memorial plaque to Rod Dew, a former Maldon District Footpath Officer), and continue up the hill to come out at Blake's Wood car park.

Turn right into Riffhams Chase and then left into Lingwood Common just after the White House. Continue on along this path, passing a seat on the left, until you reach another seat, turn right and follow the 'Wildside walk' signs downhill until you reach a concrete driveway between two houses. Follow this drive until you reach the A414 road, then turn right and cross over at the church. Take the path to the left of the church turning left after the Radio Mast, pass the Armada Beacon and return to the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk Four

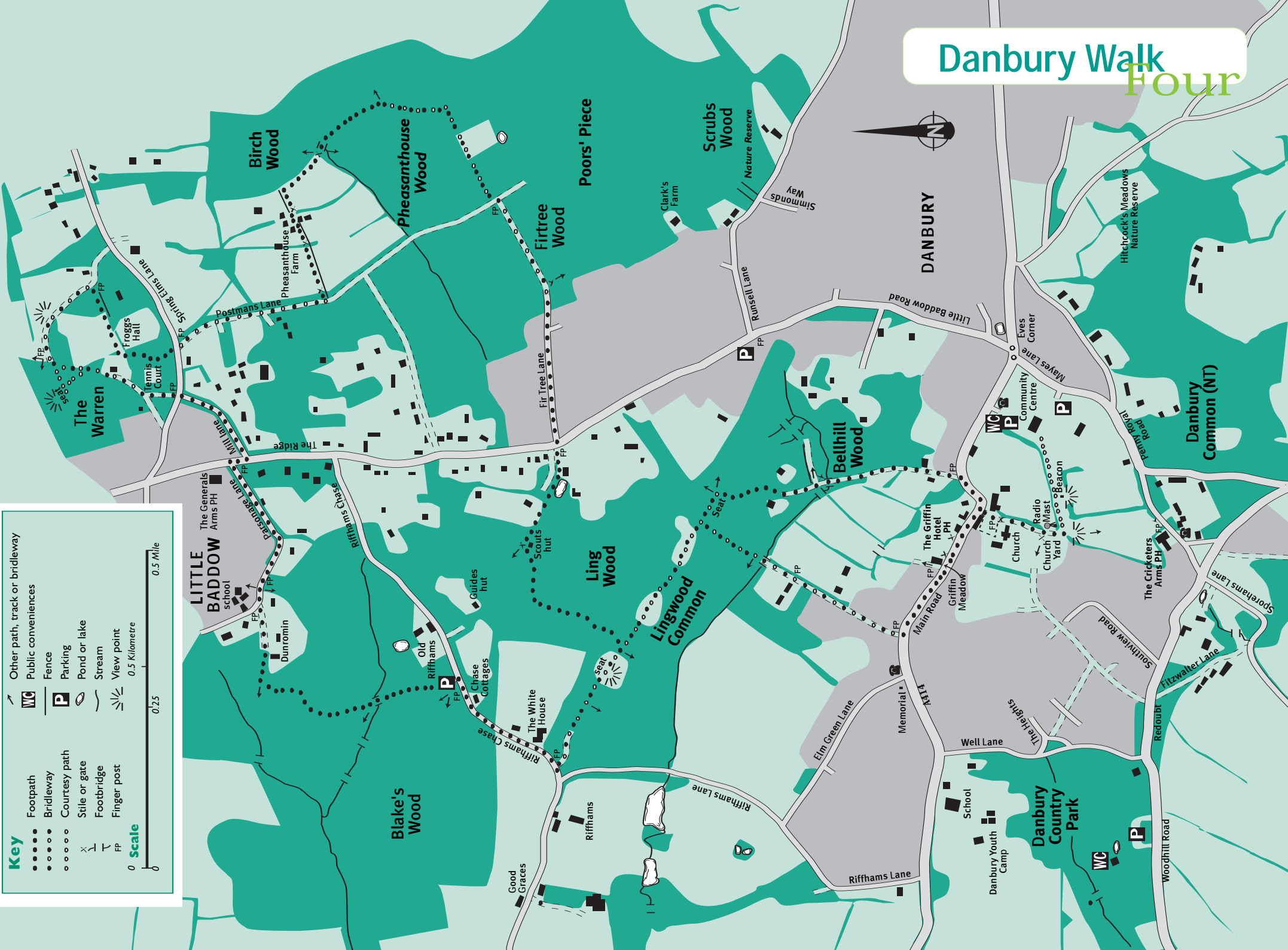
Key

•••••	Footpath	➔	Other path, track or bridleway
—	Bridleway	MC	Public conveniences
—○—○—	Courtesy path	P	Fence
—x—x—	Stile or gate	○	Pond or lake
— — —	Footbridge	—	Stream
— — —	Finger post	☀	View point

Scale

0 0.25 0.5 Mile

0 0.25 0.5 Kilometre



Danbury Walk

five



Sandon Brook



Distance and time taken

4.9 miles (7.9 km) Approx. 3 hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608

Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park

Danbury Country park.



Parking

Danbury Community Association

Sports and Social Centre.

Danbury Country park.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

Danbury - Danbury Country Park - Sandon Brook - Danbury Country Park - Danbury

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks, up past the Armada Beacon towards the Radio Mast and at end of the path turn left down the hill. At the bottom turn right, pass the pub and walk to the cross-roads, cross over into Sporehams Lane and then take the footpath on the right-hand side going diagonally across the common over a bridge to Fitzwalter Lane.

Turn right into Fitzwalter Lane, walk past the houses and after the last house (Wildcroft), take the narrow left-hand path to come out onto Woodhill Road. Walk along Woodhill Road and about 20m past the Danbury Park car park entrance go through a kissing gate on the right and take the footpath into the Park. Carry on straight ahead following the yellow arrow signs until you go over a stream and leave the wood.

Cross an open area and go through a kissing gate into the Outdoor Pursuits Centre

field, then turn immediately left by the fingerpost and follow the yellow arrows across the park. Go straight on at a crossroads of paths and head into the trees. On reaching the drive to Danbury Palace, cross over the stiles and the road. Walk ahead to an open area then across it until you reach a stile just inside wood. Cross over the stile into the wood and follow the yellow arrows to come out onto the A414 opposite St Clere's Hall.

Cross the A414 (beware of traffic) and take the footpath just to the left of entrance of St Clere's Hall. Follow the footpath across the lawn to the road. Turn right down the road (beware of traffic). Carry on until you reach a footpath sign on your left and turn into an old grass track and follow it past Old Hare Wood until a large gap is reached on the left. Go through this gap and walk straight across the field towards Sandon Brook. Turn left by a bridge just before reaching Sandon Brook and head towards the end of Old Hare Wood. Go along the end of the wood and then carry on across the field, heading towards the bushes just left of the waterworks on the A414.

Turn left then cross over the A414, walk down Hulls Lane and then turn left onto a track just after the cottages. Follow this track through a wood to the opposite side of the field then turn left and follow the hedge until a gap is reached. Go through the gap and then bear left following the path along the side of the trees and cross over a stile at the end of the wood and into a field. Walk up the middle of an avenue of trees (the Palace is ahead in the distance). Cross over the next two stiles, then bear left crossing the Palace drive, towards the next stile.

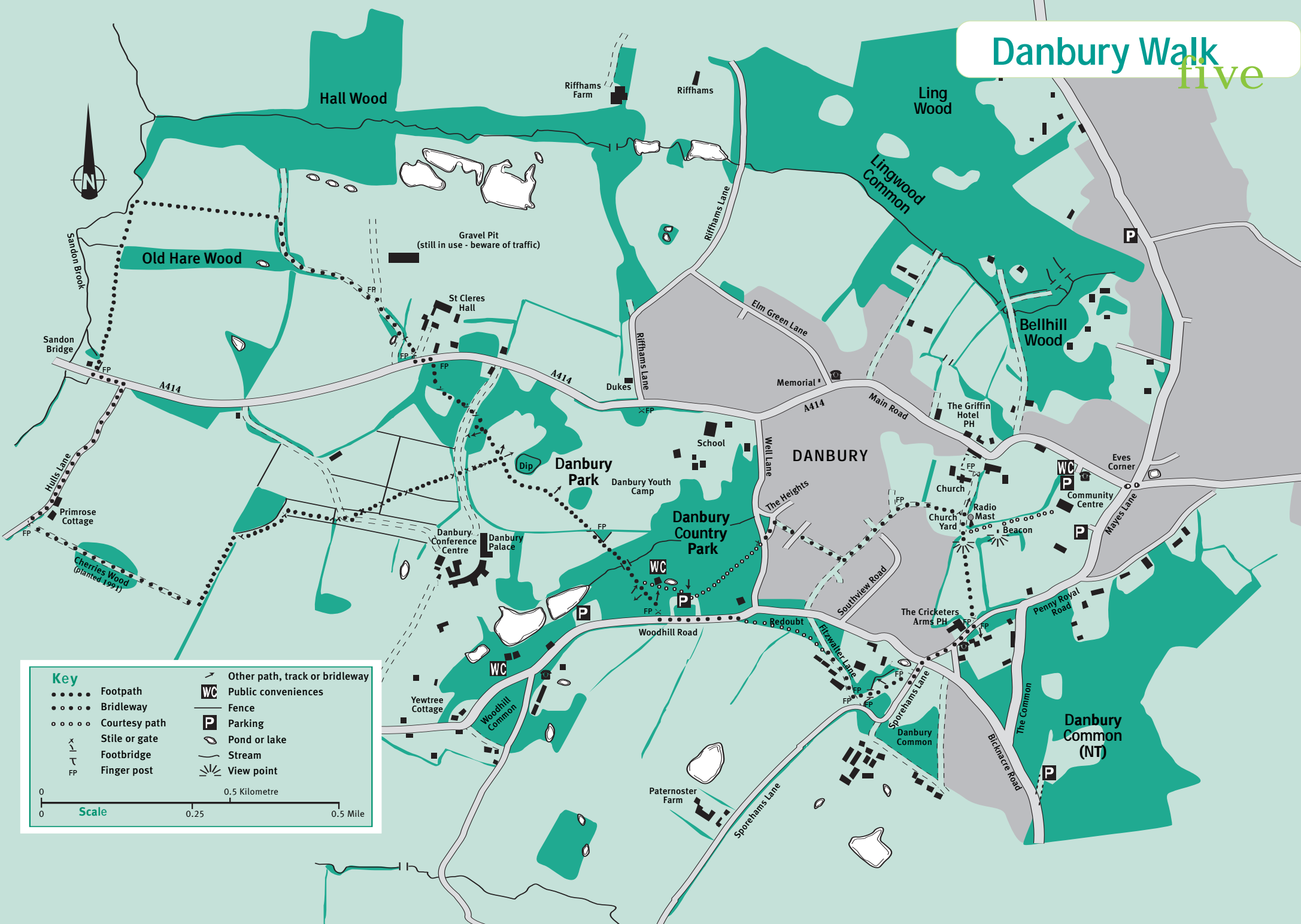
Continue along one footpath to arrive at another drive to Danbury Palace.

Cross the drive into the park and when you reach a marker post at a crossroads of paths turn right. Carry on, following the yellow arrows, and pass through a kissing gate and cross to the wood. Follow the path through the trees, turn left and pass the Public Conveniences and pond on your left, and then from the car park follow a well worn path through the woods to reach Well Lane.

Cross over the road and walk into The Heights. Turn right and go up the steps between the houses and along an alley, cross a road and then walk up the alley opposite. At end of the alley turn left and continue ahead, passing the top of Southview Road. Where the path forks, take the right-hand path and continue ahead to the church yard. At the end turn right, then left at the end and walk past the Armada Beacon to arrive back at the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk five



Key

.....	Footpath	➤	Other path, track or bridleway
.....	Bridleway	WC	Public conveniences
o o o o o	Courtesy path	—	Fence
x	Stile or gate	P	Parking
—	Footbridge	○	Pond or lake
FP	Finger post	—	Stream
		☀	View point

0 0.25 0.5 Kilometre
0 0.25 0.5 Mile
Scale

Danbury Walk

Six



Waterhall Meadow



Distance and time taken

6.2 miles (10.0 km) Approx. 3½ hours.



Refreshments

Shops and pubs in Danbury Village.



Public Transport

Traveline 0870 608 2608

Traffic Information 0845 600 0110



Toilets

Community Centre Car Park



Parking

Danbury Community Association
Sports and Social Centre.
Danbury Country park.



Ordnance Survey Maps

Explorer 183

Danbury - Lingwood Common - Blake's Wood -
Waterhall Meadow - Lingwood Common - Danbury

Directions

From the Danbury Community Centre, walk to the rear of the car parks, up past the Armada Beacon towards the Radio Mast. At the end of the path turn right and walk past the church until you reach the A414.

Turn left along the main road and look for a path to the left of a house called Griffin Meadow, on the other side of the road. Cross over and walk down this path into the trees, cross over a bridge and turn left when a track is reached.

Pass between two bungalows at the end of the track into the woods and follow the path up into Lingwood Common. When you reach a marker post and seat

then turn left. Follow the path for a while then turn right just before another seat. Continue along this path to the end, coming out by the King Edward Scout Park. Cross the stile, turn left and walk to the end of the track.

Turn left onto Riffhams Chase road and walk a short distance before turning right into Blake's Wood car park. Take the right hand path and following the 'Wildside walk' signs cross over a bridge, turn left, follow the path past two more bridges and, still following the 'Wildside walk' signs, turn left over another bridge. Follow this path up to Belle Vue Farm. Take the narrow path between the farm drive and a gate. Carry on along this track to the road then turn left into Chapel Lane. Walk down Chapel Lane and Hurrells Lane for approximately 1/2 a mile. Go over a bridge over a ford and turn left just after the ford into Waterhall Meadow Nature Reserve.

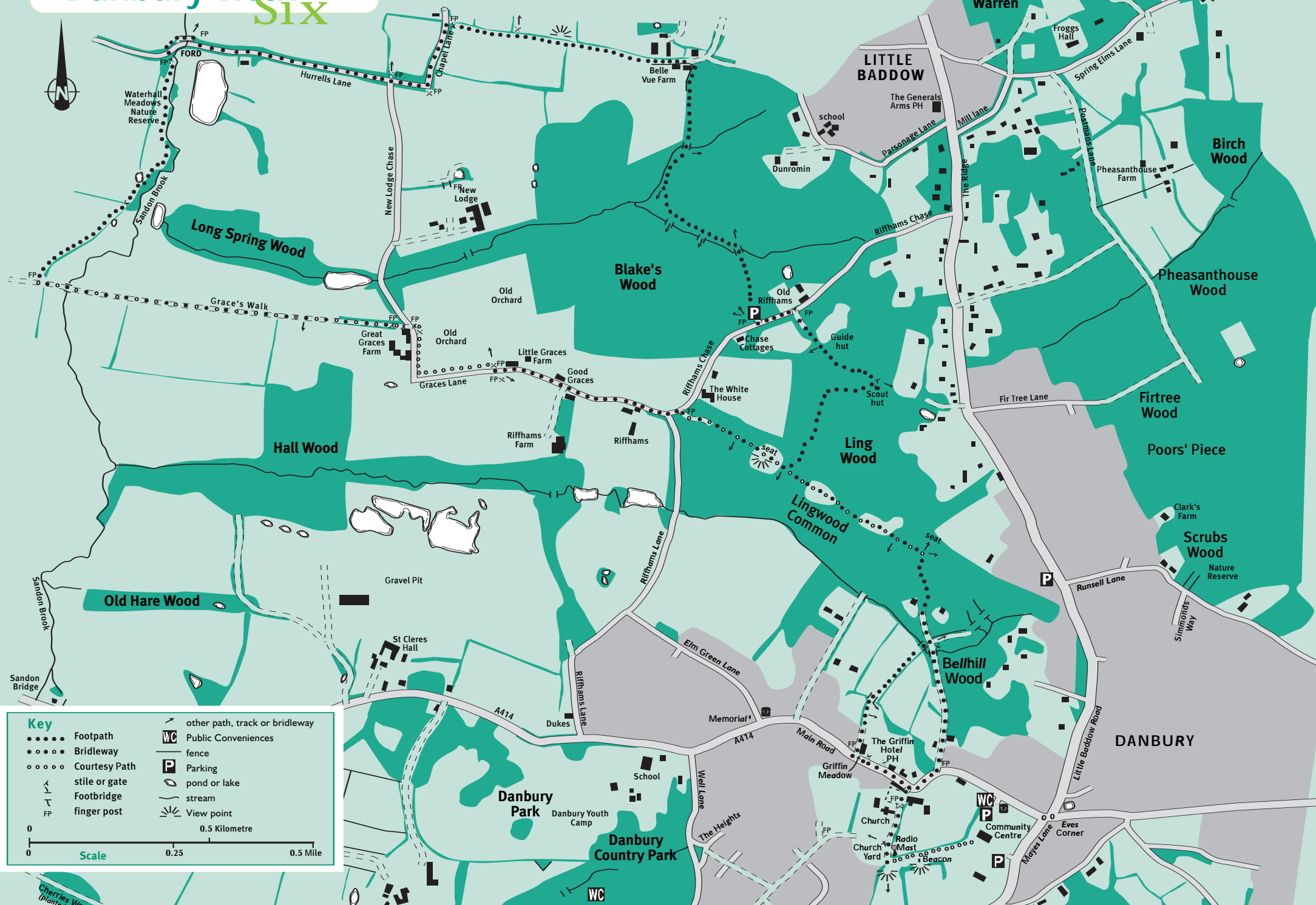
Follow the path straight ahead through the meadow passing through a kissing gate at the end. Continue following the path through a wooded area with the stream away to your left. Cross a stile and take the path on the right of a hedge between two fields. On reaching Graces Walk turn left and walk to the end of the drive, passing Great Graces, to reach the road.

Cross over the road and a stile, turn immediately right and pass over another stile. Follow the path through the old orchard. At the end of the path as it bears left turn right and go out onto Graces Lane. Turn left and continue along Graces Lane to the end and turn left into Riffhams Chase. After approximately 25 metres turn right at the bridleway sign into Lingwood Common.

Continue on along this path, passing a seat on the left, until you reach another seat, then turn right and follow the 'Wildside walk' signs until you reach a concrete driveway between two bungalows. Follow this drive until you reach the A414 road, then turn right and cross over at the church. Take the path to the left of the church turning left after the Radio Mast, past the Armada Beacon and return to the Community Centre.



Danbury Walk Six



Key

.....	Footpath	—	other path, track or bridleway
.....	Bridleway	WC	Public Conveniences
.....	Courtesy Path	P	Parking
.....	stile or gate	○	pond or lake
.....	Footbridge	—	stream
.....	finger post	☀	View point

0 0.25 0.5 Mile

0 0.25 0.5 Kilometre

Scale

The Aims of the Danbury Society

- To involve the residents of Danbury in interests and pursuits to enrich village life.
- To ensure that changes in the village are undertaken with sensitivity to the character of Danbury.
- To protect the natural beauty of the local landscape and to promote its maintenance and care.
- To work for the preservation and protection of buildings and features of interest in Danbury.

The information contained in this publication was, as far as known correct at the date of issue. The Publishers cannot, however, accept any responsibility for errors or omissions or changes in details given. Please remember that the countryside is constantly changing, eg, hedgerows and fencelines change and public rights of way can be diverted.

Walkers are advised to follow the waymarks.

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By email:
prow.web@essexcc.gov.uk

By textphone: for people with hearing difficulties
0845 7430 430

Useful Links

www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside
www.essexcc.gov.uk/PRoW

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alternative formats: large print, braille, audio tape or disk.
We can also translate this information into other languages.



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For a Greener Essex