

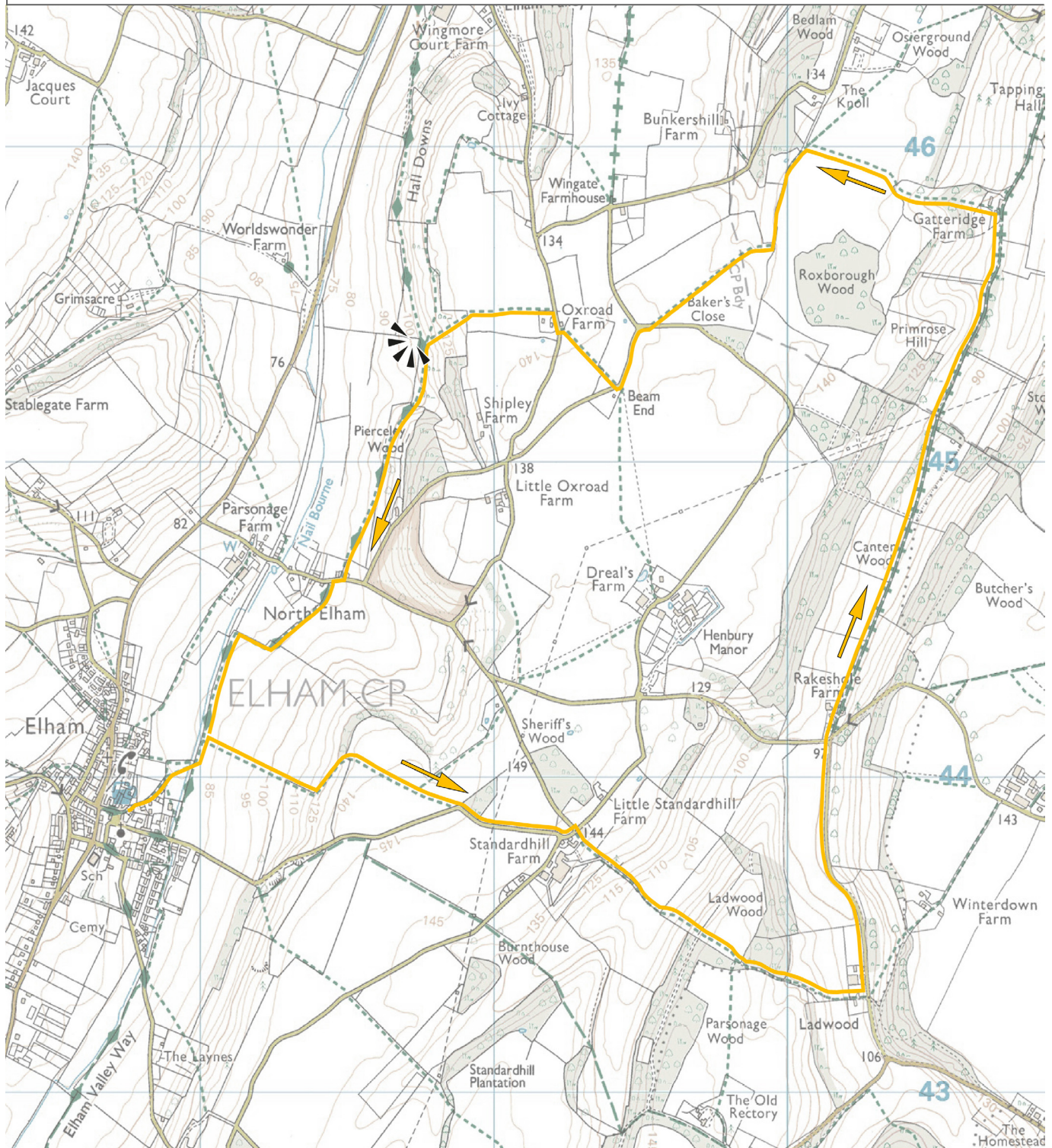
WALK ELHAM

4

VIA THE WYCH ELMS

Walk 4 traverses the wooded valleys to the east before heading north in the direction of Denton. Passing via the Wych Elms at the halfway point, the route returns along the Elham Valley Way with lovely views back to the village.

6.1m 3 hrs moderate



VIA THE WYCH ELMS 4

DIRECTIONS (ROUTE RUNS ANTI-CLOCKWISE)

FP - Footpath TR - Turn right
KG - Kissing gate TL - Turn left

1. Leave The Square to the R of the Kings Arms (Cock Lane), walk on to the path between houses, through gate and diagonally across the field to the bridge over the Nailbourne stream. TL onto the Elham Valley Way (EVW) and in 75m TR by the waymark post and head up the field.
2. After the KG follow the fence line round to another KG in the hedge. TR and follow FP across an open field. At the fence bear right (look for the waymark signs on the fence) along a grass track towards the pylons.
3. On the road TL and at the T junction (Standardhill Farm) TL and then bear right across the farmyard. Pass through large gate into field to KG next to another large gate. Continue downhill with fence on your right, pass through the next large gate in the valley and go steeply uphill.
4. Pass through small gate into the woods to a KG. Once in the field keep next to the RH fence under stunted trees. At waymark sign where the fence continues to the right, bear left downhill to the electricity pole. Cross stile and follow short paved path and over a gravel drive (Ladwood) to the road.
5. TL and continue to the T junction, pass straight over to the byway and follow for a mile via five gates to Gattridge Farm on the left. TL after the house (waymark sign) and follow the FP uphill to a sunken track and through a beautiful grove of Wych Elm trees. Reaching open ground head for the large solitary Elm and pass beneath it to the hidden stile in the hedge.
6. Follow the FP across the field, then TL and follow the fence. In 300m TR into the hedge (waymarked but easy to miss) on through KG and diagonally across the field to a KG. TR onto the road.
7. At the grass triangle bear left, and as the road bends right just before the house take the FP on the right through KG. Go straight over field towards the electricity poles to find the KG in the left hand fence. TR along the fence. As the fence goes sharp right go straight over the field heading towards the left of the post and rail fencing. Cross stile onto the road.
8. TR and follow the road past two houses (Ox Barn on the left) and TL over stile to follow waymark sign with the fence on your left. Where the fence turns sharp left continue over the field towards a stile (there is a tall dead tree not far from the left of the stile).
9. After the stile as you come out into the open you will see Elham church spire to the left. Head towards it and follow the way-markers down the hill to rejoin the EVW. The hamlet of North Elham is in front of you, TR through a KG just after a water trough, towards the red brick house.
10. Pass through a small gate and at the road TR and very soon left at the waymark sign through a KG. Follow the EVW with the fence always on your right, through another KG, and as you pass along the long line of poplars alongside the stream take the first small gate on the right. Retrace your steps back to The Square via Cock Lane.