

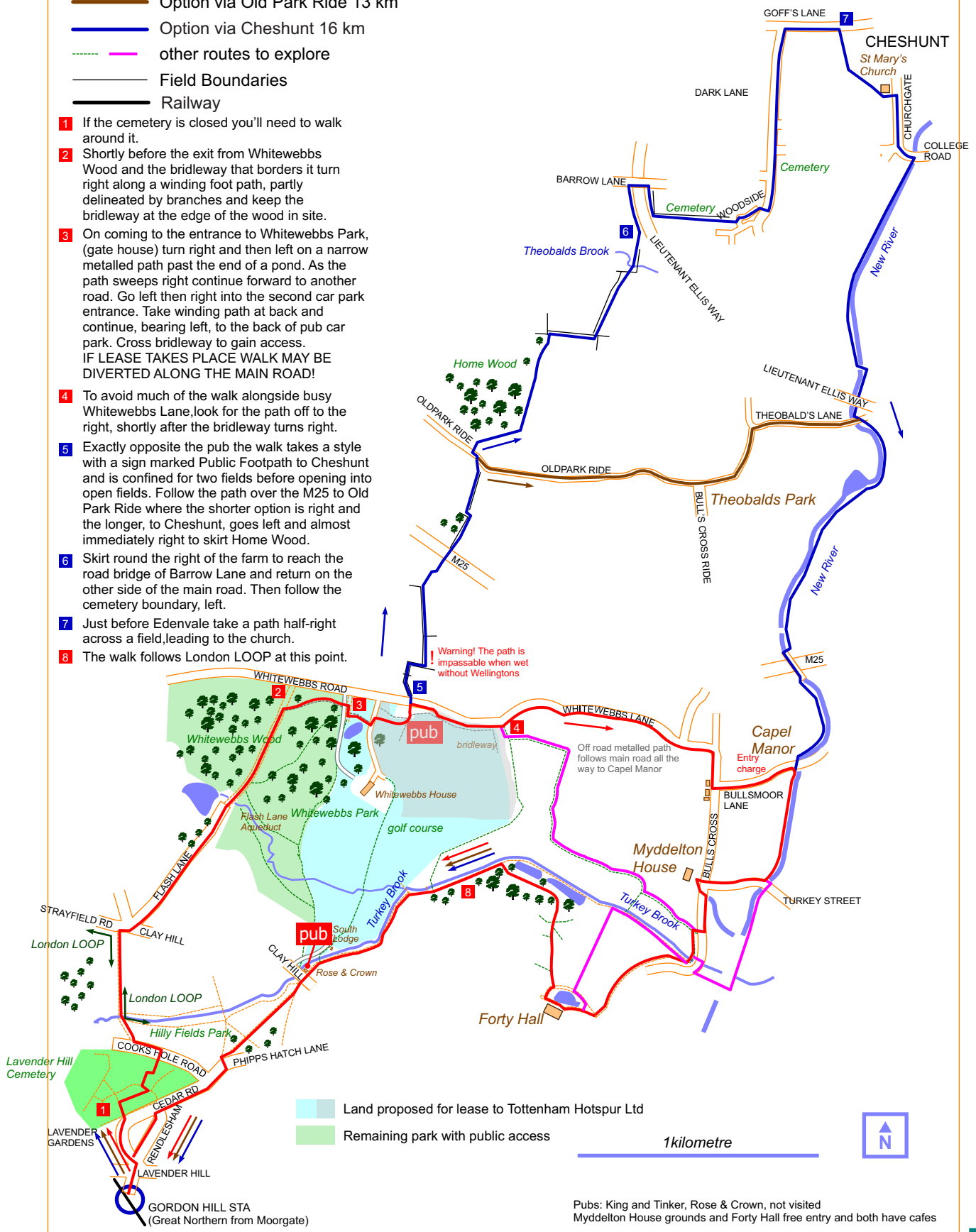
This map shows several circular walks. All of them pass Forty Hall and Myddelton House (well-known for its garden), as well as Whitewebbs Wood and part of New River. Capel Manor and Theobalds Park are close by.

Forty Hall, Whitewebbs Myddelton House, Turkey Brook

- Main route 10 km
- Option via Old Park Ride 13 km
- Option via Cheshunt 16 km
- - - other routes to explore
- Field Boundaries
- Railway

- 1** If the cemetery is closed you'll need to walk around it.
- 2** Shortly before the exit from Whitewebbs Wood and the bridleway that borders it turn right along a winding foot path, partly delineated by branches and keep the bridleway at the edge of the wood in site.
- 3** On coming to the entrance to Whitewebbs Park, (gate house) turn right and then left on a narrow metalled path past the end of a pond. As the path sweeps right continue forward to another road. Go left then right into the second car park entrance. Take winding path at back and continue, bearing left, to the back of pub car park. Cross bridleway to gain access.
- 4** To avoid much of the walk alongside busy Whitewebbs Lane, look for the path off to the right, shortly after the bridleway turns right.
- 5** Exactly opposite the pub the walk takes a stile with a sign marked Public Footpath to Cheshunt and is confined for two fields before opening into open fields. Follow the path over the M25 to Old Park Ride where the shorter option is right and the longer, to Cheshunt, goes left and almost immediately right to skirt Home Wood.
- 6** Skirt round the right of the farm to reach the road bridge of Barrow Lane and return on the other side of the main road. Then follow the cemetery boundary, left.
- 7** Just before Edenvale take a path half-right across a field, leading to the church.
- 8** The walk follows London LOOP at this point.

Warning! The path is impassable when wet without Wellingtons



walk notes

Forty Hall, Whitewebs Myddleton House

This walk involves several types of terrain and is muddy in parts.

Flash Lane Aqueduct

Flash Lane Aqueduct was built to carry the New River (1608-13, bringing water from Hertfordshire to London) over Cuffley Brook, when the course of the river was diverted. It is clearly visible and accessible from Flash Lane. Before this aqueduct was built, the New River flowed under Cuffley Brook in a 400m long lead-lined timber trough or 'flash'. The flash was part of the original watercourse and was rebuilt by Robert Mylne in 1775.

Harman bought the loop of the New River that crossed his land west of Flash Lane and dammed Cuffley Brook to create an artificial lake within the loop. The New River was diverted, and the embankment and cast iron aqueduct were constructed to carry New River over the brook.

The aqueduct has a two-span cast-iron trough, carried on brick piers and segmental arches. It has a base plate with seven integral fish-bellied cast iron upstand stiffeners about 25mm thick. During the latter half of the 19th century many of the New River's loops were straightened and the river conduit was diverted in this area, rendering the aqueduct obsolete.

Whitewebs

Whitewebs Park is situated on former parkland laid out after the 1803 enclosure of the Enfield parish common land, which had been created after Enfield Chase was dischased in 1779. In 1570 a mansion called White Webbs was owned by Dr Robert Huicke, physician to Henry VIII; the house was reputed to have been one of the meeting places of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators. The old house was replaced by the present house in 1791.

Enfield council purchased the Whitewebs estate from Sir Duncan Orr-Lewis in 1931 and divided it into a municipal golf course and a 196-acre public park, with open space and ancient woodland in which there are streams and small lakes. After the sale, Whitewebs House served for many years as an old people's home but is now a Toby carvery.

The King and Tinker public house probably dates from the reign of James I although altered in the 18th and 19th centuries. Its name derives from an old ballad about King James.

Capel Manor

The Capel Manor estate dates back to the 13th century and was once owned by Elizabeth I. The manor house is surrounded by 30 acres of

gardens, including a 17th century walled garden, Italianate holly maze, and a Japanese Garden. Within the gardens are a Victorian stables and a small Georgian manor house. Capel Manor is now a specialist college offering education and outreach programs in garden history, garden design, and countryside studies.

Myddelton House

Myddelton House was built in the reign of George III circa 1812, and completed in 1818. It was built by Henry Carrington Bowles (1763-1830) one of five generations of print and map makers, based at St Paul's Churchyard, London. It replaced an earlier Elizabethan property, Bowling Green House where Bowles had lived with his wife who died in 1812. After her death, Bowles built the new house in a then fashionable white brick from Suffolk and named it Myddelton House in honour of Sir Hugh Myddelton, an engineering 'genius' who created the New River. A section of the New River had bisected the garden from 1613 until 1968.

Gussie Bowles born in 1865 the youngest son of five children to a later Bowles, became one of the great gardeners of the 20th century. He remained at Myddelton House and developed the remarkable garden as a self taught horticulturist. For many years people came from all over the country to visit. He became an expert on many plants, particularly the Crocus and was dubbed "The Crocus King".

Forty Hall

Set in its own Estate, with walled garden, formal and informal gardens, lakes, lawns, and meadows Forty Hall is Grade 1 listed and important to architectural English history as a fine example on the cusp between the medieval to modern style. Built by former Lord Mayor of London, Sir Nicholas Rainton in 1632. He owned business premises on Lombard Street in the centre of London and amassed considerable wealth importing sumptuous materials from Italy - satin and taffeta from Florence; taffeta and sarsnets from Lucca; satins from Bologna and velvets and damasks from Genoa.

The Hall has been changed and reworked by a number of owners that lived there, including the Meyers, Wolstenholmes and Parker Bowles, however many architectural features remain from the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Turkey Brook

The brook starts near Potters Bar and flows in an easterly direction before merging with the River Lee Navigation below Enfield Lock.