

Cycling is a great way to keep fit whilst at the same time getting from A to B or exploring your local area.

The 19 **Cyclesolihull** routes in this series of leaflets will take you along most of the network of quiet lanes in and around Solihull, introducing you to some places you probably didn't even know existed!

The routes have been carefully chosen to avoid busier roads so are ideal for new cyclists and children learning to cycle on the road.

You can cycle the routes alone or with family and friends, or join one of the regular **Community Cycle Rides**.

Cycle^{to}Solihull Day

Sunday 13 September 2009



A chance to join other cyclists in Solihull town centre for a cycling afternoon. Join one of the special rides or simply head to the town centre on your bike. More details at: www.cycletosolihullday.org.uk

This is one of a series of ride leaflets devised by Solihull Cycling Steering Group which is helping Solihull Council to increase the amount of cycling in the area and consists of representatives from: Cyclists Touring Club, Pushbikes, Solihull Cycling Club, Solihull Care Trust, Solihull Residents Association and Sustrans.

Community Cycle Rides

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride the routes in this series of leaflets. The rides are organised by volunteers, and during 2008 nearly 900 people (including over 100 children) took part in over 40 rides. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sundays* throughout the summer starting at 2 pm from one of 13 different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes are about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long.

Evening Explorer Rides are on alternate Wednesdays from mid-May to mid-August starting at 7 pm from one of 8 different starting points. They follow the short "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Saturday Stretcher Rides take place on the first Saturday of every month at 10 am from one of 4 different starting points. They are 20 to 25 miles long and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Taster Rides are an occasional opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far. They are about 5 miles long starting at 2 pm from one of 3 different starting points – an ideal introduction to the rides for new cyclists and small children.

Refreshment Stops All Cyclesolihull rides have an en-route refreshment stop of about 30 minutes, either at a pub or a tearoom.

** all except those weekends when there is a Saturday Stretcher or Taster Ride.*

For full details of current rides go to:

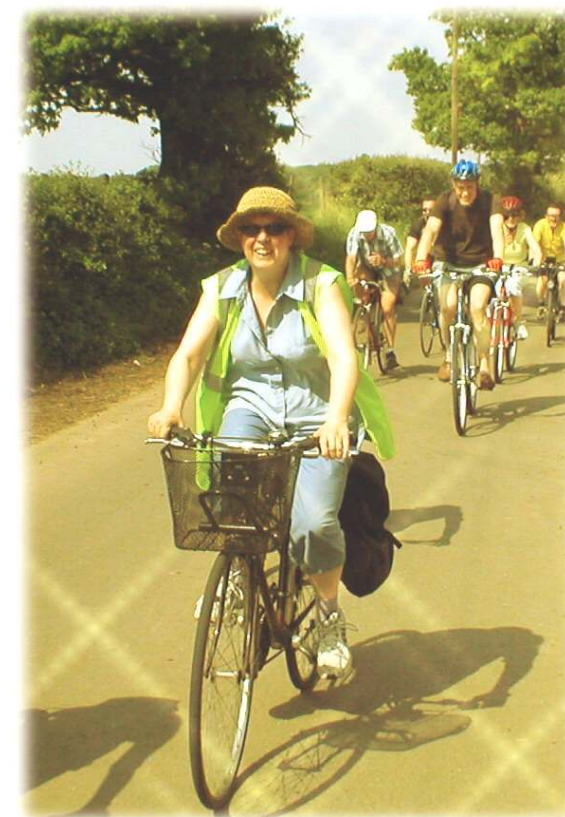
www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull 'Ride Together'** leaflet on one of the rides or at local libraries and cycle shops.

Route L2

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



Dickens Heath to Forhill & Tanworth (19 miles)

Have fun and get fit exploring your local area with this self-guided cycle ride.

Route L2

Dickens Heath to Forhill & Tanworth-in-Arden

Distance: 19 miles (90-125 mins). **Start:** Dickens Heath Library B90 1SD SP112763

Route Summary: A rural ride into Worcestershire with some steep hills and very narrow lanes.

Refreshments: There are a number of pubs along the route and a tearoom at Earlswood Craft Centre.

Parking: There is free parking behind the shops in Dickens Heath village centre.

The Route

A With the library behind you go right, down Old Dickens Heath Road. Shortly after passing the roundabout go right into Birchy Leasowes Lane.

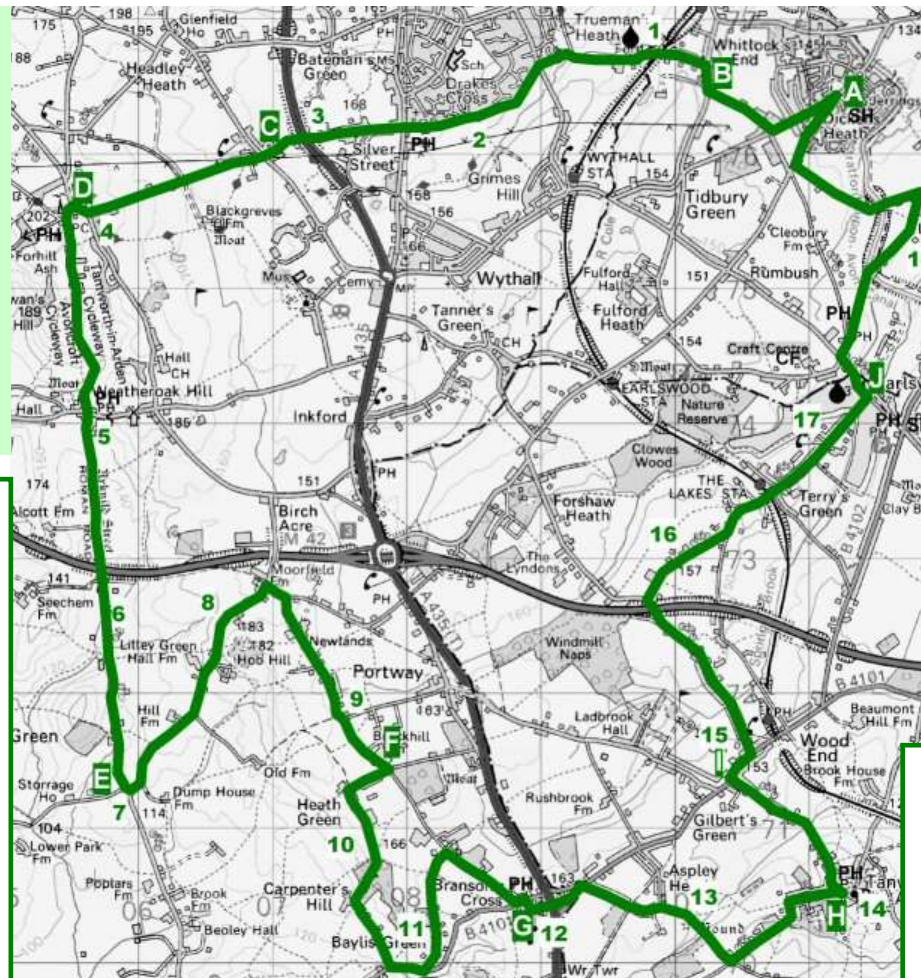
B At the end of the lane turn right onto Tilehouse Lane and then first left into Houndsfield Lane. Follow this road under the railway and through the ford (footbridge available). Go straight-on for two miles, passing two crossroads and eventually passing under the A435.

C At the next (staggered) junction with Middle Lane turn right and then left into Clewshaw Lane towards Kings Norton. After 0.9 miles the road bends to the right and take the second left towards Lea End,

D Keeping the Peacock pub on your RIGHT, go straight ahead down the narrow lane (caution - steep downhill gradients!), going straight-on (along Icknield Street) at the next junction. Follow the very narrow lane a further 1.8 miles passing under the M42 on the way.

E At the end of the lane go left towards Beoley and immediately left onto Lilly Green Road. After about a mile turn right into Billesley Lane (do not go over the motorway) and then first right into Seafield Lane

F After 1 mile turn right at the crossroads towards Bransons Cross and follow the lane until the end. Turn



Key to Map

- A** Reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start
- PH** Public House
- CF** Cafe/tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks
- Water feature with access point

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left onto the B4101 for 300 yards and then left again into the narrow Cherry Pick Lane. At the end of this lane turn right. This lane leads back on to the B4101.

G Turn left and with extra care take the second exit on the roundabout towards Tanworth, passing under the A435. Ignoring the slip road to Evesham, take the next right turn into Blind Lane. Follow the lane until the crossroads and turn left to Tanworth. Follow this road for 0.5 miles into Tanworth village.

H As you enter the village turn right to visit The Bell pub (100 yards on left) and the church or left to continue with the route.

I On reaching the B4101 turn right towards Hockley Heath and, after 200 yards, left into Poolhead Lane. Follow the lane over the M42 and **turn immediately right**. Follow this lane past the rail station to Earlswood Lakes.

J At the end of the lane turn left along the dam. Join the road below the dam and then, with care, turn right at the crossroads. Keep the Red Lion pub on your LEFT. Cross the canal and turn next left into Bragg's Farm Lane.

At the end turn right and keep going straight-on through the road closure into Dickens Heath until you reach the library again on your left.