

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<sup>to</sup>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](http://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: Birmingham International Airport, 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:

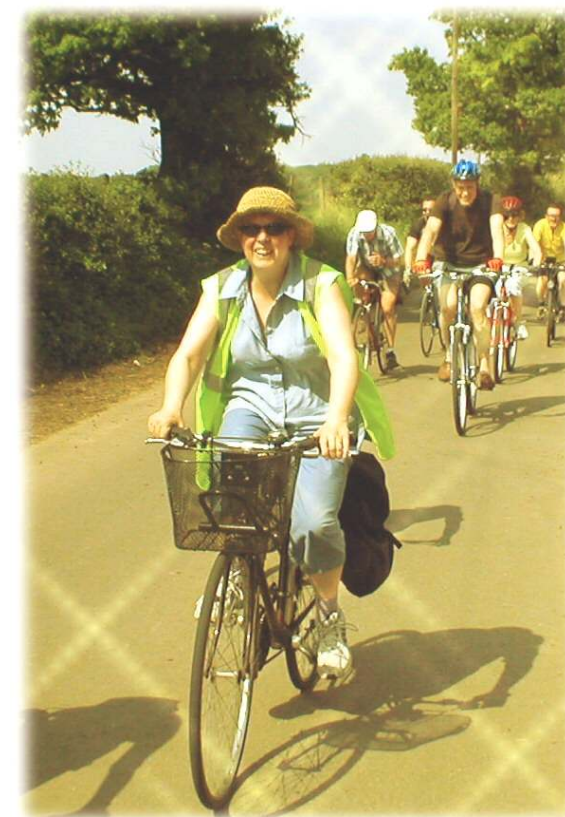
[www.cyclesolihull.org.uk](http://www.cyclesolihull.org.uk)

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

Route M2

# CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



Bentley Heath to the Tapster Valley (15 miles)

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

## Route M2 Bentley Heath to Packwood & the Tapster Valley

**Distance:** 16 miles (75-100 mins). **Start:** Bentley Heath Recreation Ground car park, SP165763

**Route Summary:** A route along mainly narrow country lanes, visiting the Tapster Valley.

**Refreshments:** There are shops near the start and two pubs en-route.

### The Route

**A** Start in the car park at the Bentley Heath Recreation Ground. Go through the gap in the hedge and turn left on to the path that goes around the edge of the park until it enters the residential road. At the end of this road turn right.

**B** At the end of the road turn right again, going across the railway level crossing. Take the second turn left on to the Conker Lane path.. Go past the barriers to the end and turn left onto the road.

**C** At the mini-roundabout turn right into Rodborough Road. Follow this road and at the small roundabout turn right. At the crossroads turn left and go down the hill until you reach the main road. Turn right into Grange Road.

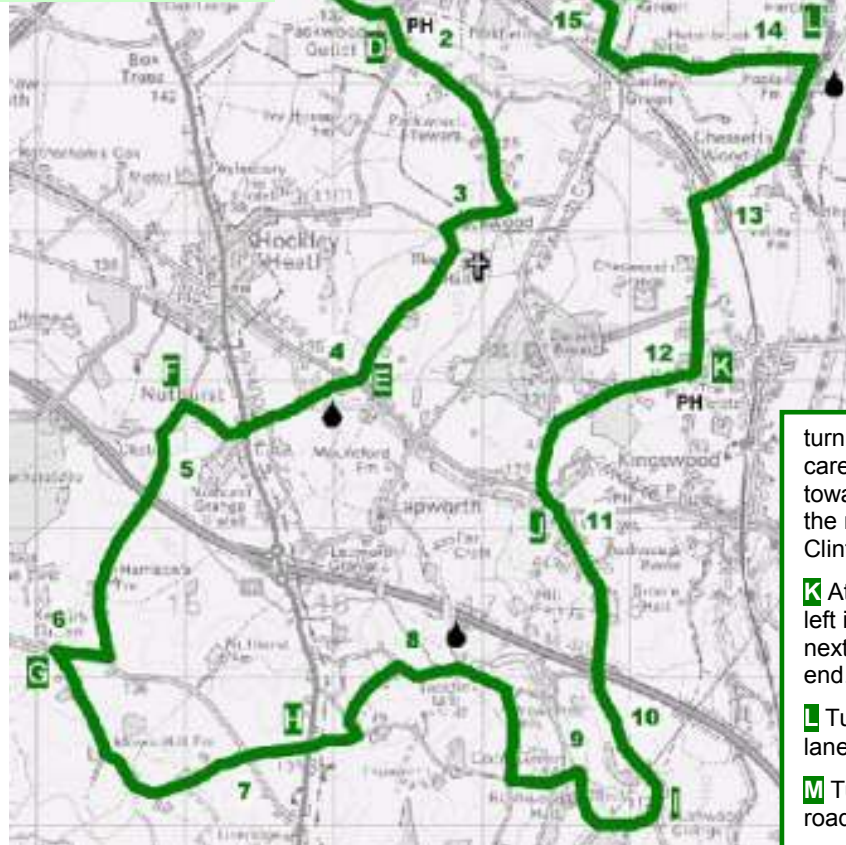
**D** Pass The Railway pub on the left and turn first left into Windmill Lane. Follow the road until the end and turn right and first left into Glasshouse Lane, passing Packwood Church on the left.

**E** At the main road turn right and immediately left into Wharf Lane. Go over the narrow canal bridge and follow the road until you reach the main Stratford Road. Taking extra care turn left and then immediately right down Nuthurst Grange Road (note you may find it easiest to dismount and use the footway to cross this fast and busy road on foot).

**F** At the end of the lane turn left and bear left at next junction. Go over the motorway and at the end of the lane turn right towards Kemps Green.

**G** Turn first left into Mows Hill Lane and follow the narrow lane for over a mile. At the next crossroads go straight on.

**H** At a further crossroads (with the A3400) go straight



across, toward Lowsonford, into Bushwood Lane. Take the first turning left into Hole House Lane and the next turning right towards the ford. Pass the ford (footbridge available) and take next turn right into Yew Tree Lane. At the end of the lane turn left into Bushwood Lane.

**I** At the end of road turn left towards Lapworth.

**J** Follow this road for 1.3 miles and at end of road

### Key to Map

- A** Reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from the start.
- PH** Public House
- Shop selling drinks, sweets etc.
- Historic church
- Waterway with access point

turn left towards Hockley Heath and, taking extra care, go over the canal bridge and turn first right towards Packwood House. At the next junction follow the road around to the right towards Baddesley Clinton.

**K** At the crossroads next to the Punch Bowl pub turn left into Chassetts Wood Lane. After 0.75 miles turn next right into Chapel Lane. Follow the road to the end.

**L** Turn left towards Darley Green. At the end of the lane turn right.

**M** Turn first left into Blue Lake Road. At the end of the road turn right. Go up the hill to the roundabout.

**N** Turn left and at the next small roundabout go straight on into Widney Road and follow the road until you reach the Recreation Ground on your left.

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