

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: 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:

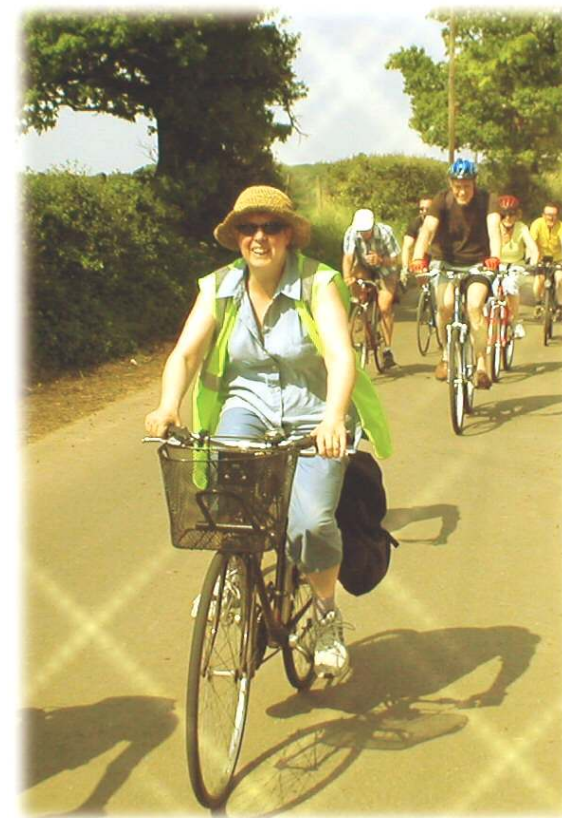
www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

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

Route S1

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



Dorridge to Packwood & Lapworth (6 or 9 miles)

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

Route S1

Dorridge to Packwood & Lapworth

Distance: 6 miles (30-40 mins) or 9 miles (45-60 mins).

Start: Dorridge Railway Station SP169749.

Parking: Station Approach and car park off Avenue Road.

Route Summary: A ride along narrow country lanes passing the historic Packwood and Lapworth churches, the Stratford Canal and Packwood House. There is a moderately steep hill into Lapworth.

Refreshments: In addition to the shops and other facilities in Dorridge, the ride passes two pubs.

The Routes

A From the station entrance turn left down the Station Approach. At the bottom turn left into Grange Road (B4101). After 0.5 miles you pass The Railway pub on the left.

B Turn immediately left into Windmill Lane. Follow this narrow lane for 0.9 miles.

To continue with the shorter route

J At the end of the lane turn left. At the end of this lane turn right and follow the road past Packwood House rejoining the main route. At the end of the lane turn left into Rising Lane. Continue at point **C**

To continue the main route





C At the end of the lane turn right into Vicarage Lane and then after 300 yards turn first left. Packwood Church is 200 yards on the left. St Giles' Church has a

nave dating from the 1270s. It is also noted for being the church where the parents of the famous Dr Samuel Johnson married in 1706.

D After 0.7 miles cross the B4439 (turning right and then immediately left) into Wharf Lane. Go over the narrow bridge across the Stratford Canal which was opened in 1802.

E After 400 yards turn left into Spring Lane (the turn is easy to miss!). Follow the road for 1 mile to Lapworth Church on the right. The Church of St Mary the Virgin has an unusual 15th century porch. The church also holds the tomb of Robert Catesby who

Key to Map

A	Reference point
1, 2	Mileage from start, red numbers indicate by the shorter route
PH	Public House
	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc.
	Historic church
	Historic building
	Waterway with access point

Doing the shorter ride?

Follow the red link route for a shorter ride that passes the 16th century Packwood House which is owned by the National Trust.

was involved in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 and died in the final siege. Continue straight ahead to cross the Stratford canal again and then cross the B4439 into Grove Lane.

F At the end of the lane turn right in to Packwood Lane. The road passes through the estate of Packwood House, dating from the 16th century and now owned by the National Trust. At the end of the lane turn left into Rising Lane.

G At the crossroads next to the Punch Bowl pub turn left into Chassetts Wood Road. Follow this road for 1.2 miles, passing Chapel Lane on the right, until you reach a further crossroads.

H Turn right in to Darley Green Road and follow the road under the railway bridge and around to the left.

I Take the next left turn into Blue Lake Road and then first left into Dorridge Road which is followed back to Dorridge railway station.

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