

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:

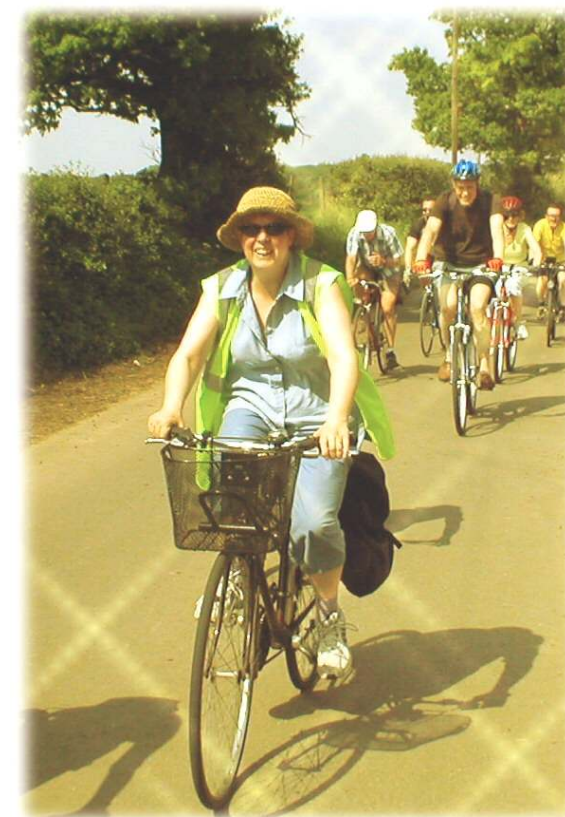
[www.cyclesolihull.org.uk](http://www.cyclesolihull.org.uk)

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

Route S8

# CycleSolihull

*Explore your borough by bike*



Balsall Common to  
Berkswell (9 or 12 miles)

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

## Route S8

### Balsall Common to Berkswell & Wootton Green

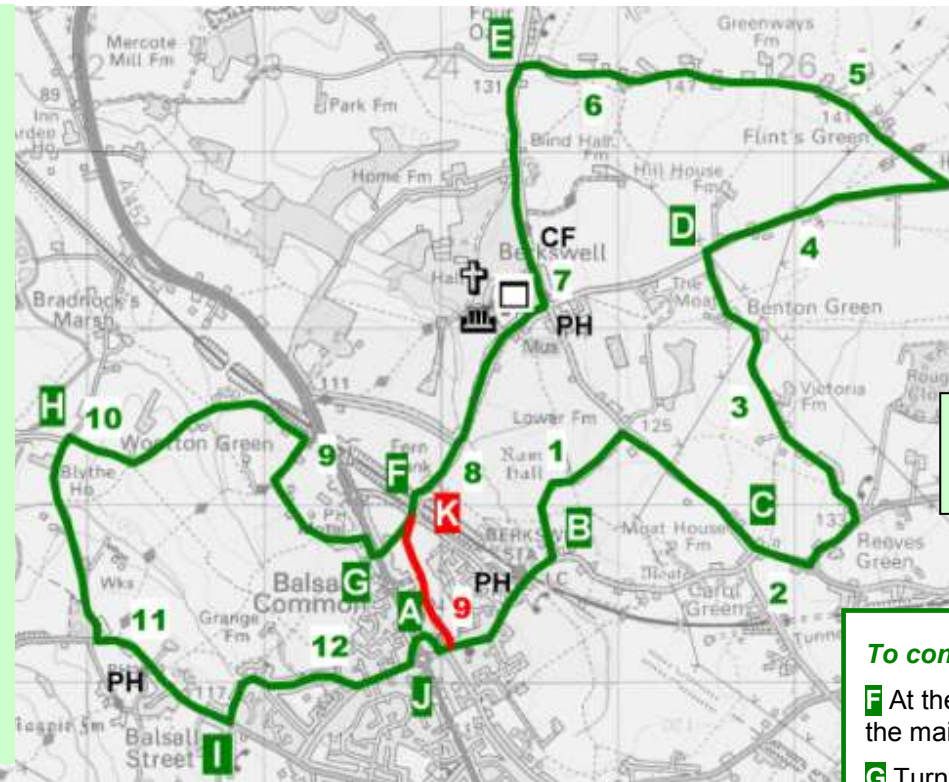
**Distance:** 9 miles (45 to 65 mins) or 12 miles (60 to 90 mins)

**Start:** The Library, Kenilworth Road Balsall Common SP238772.

**Parking:** There is a car park behind the library. The entrance is via the narrow entrance off Station Road *immediately after* the blue "P" sign.

**Route Summary:** A ride through the lanes surrounding Balsall Common, including a visit to historic Berkswell.

**Refreshments:** Teas are served in the village hall at Berkswell on summer Sundays (Spring Bank Holiday to end of September). There are also pubs in Berkswell and Balsall Street.



### Key to Map

- A** Reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start, red numbers indicate by the shorter route
- PH** Public house
- CF** Café or tea shop
- Shop selling drinks, sweets etc.
- Historic building
- Historic church

### Doing the shorter rides?

Follow the red link route for a shorter ride missing out Wootton Green.

### The Routes

**A** From facing the library go through the cut-through to the right into the car park at the rear. Leave the car park via the vehicle exit and turn left onto Station Road. Follow this road, going straight-on at the small roundabout. At the rail bridge use the "cycle subway" on the left.

**B** Turn first left into Bauk Lane and follow the lane to the end. Turn right into Spencer Lane.

**C** At the end of the lane turn left and left again at the roundabout towards Tile Hill. Turn first left into Benton Green Lane. Follow the lane for a mile.

**D** At the end of the lane turn right into Coventry Road. After 0.75 miles turn first

left in to Back Lane. Follow this lane until you reach a crossroads.

**E** Turn left into Meriden Road. Pass Berkswell Village Hall on the left. At the next crossroads turn right into Lavender Hall Lane. The Village Green and museum are on the right. Follow this road passing over a narrow bridge to reach a roundabout.

### To continue with the shorter route

**K** Go straight-on at the roundabout and then turn immediately left through the barrier on to the path that goes into the park. Follow the path past the car park and playground. Keep straight-on, passing the first path on the right. Take the second path on the right which immediately leads into a residential road (Green Lane). At the end, dismount and walk a short distance to the right to reach the entrance to the car park behind the library.

### To continue the main route

**F** At the roundabout go straight on until you reach the main road.

**G** Turn right towards Stonebridge but after 100 yards turn left down Wootton Green Lane. At the end of this narrow lane turn left. Follow the lane to the crossroads.

**H** Turn left into Barston Lane. On reaching the main road turn left towards Balsall Common.

**I** After 0.5 miles turn first left into Needlers End Lane. At the end of the lane turn left into Station Road.

**J** At the roundabout it is suggested you dismount and cross the main road using the pelican crossing on the left. This takes you back to the front of the library.

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