

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April: OUTLINE of MEDIUM ROUTE 60km (37miles)

This route visits the River Avon flood plain before turning north to skirt round Burley and then follows a delightful Forest road to a zigzag over the main A35. You then enjoy the great trees of the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive before entering Brockenhurst. The return route takes you across heathland to the edge of the village of Sway and then to the village of Tiptoe. After more open forest you zigzag again over the A35 to pass through woodland to more heathland before you arrive in Burley to return to Avon Tyrrell.

- Leaving Avon Tyrrell you head for the old wartime Holmsley Airfield, one of eleven in the New Forest. Built in the summer of 1942 it opened for flying in September while still under construction. RAF Coastal Command was the first unit operating there until December 1943, after which control of the airfield passed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Air Force. In October 1944 it was taken over by Transport Command and they were the main user until the airfield closed in October 1946.
- A very short diversion off to the right (see Brown Sign) will take you to the Memorial to the New Forest Airfields of World War 2, erected in August 2002 – worth a visit.
- Riding along quiet wooded roads you then leave the trees and come to the Avon Valley floodplain and to Bockhampton, where the Lamb Pub may offer refreshment opportunities.
- Cycling up Harpway Lane you pass some securely fenced but anonymous white flat-roofed buildings on your left said to be part of a secret government document store.
- After passing through some villages including Sopley, North Ripley and Sandford you climb out of the Avon Valley into the Forest and cross open heathland to Burley Street.
- Skirting to the north of the main village of Burley the route follows an attractive road through forest, fields and timber inclosures to zigzag across the A35.
- Here you turn down the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive, lined with redwoods. These were planted in the 1850s when they were first introduced to Britain, but despite their height are still mere youngsters. The two tallest trees (giant sequoia) in the Forest are also here about 100m from the road either side of a grass ride on your right.
- Rhinefield House on the right is a former hunting lodge built in 1887. Now a hotel and much extended.
- From here the route crosses the large Whitemoor Forest Lawn to reach Brockenhurst. Through the Watersplash and into the High Street. There is a choice of pubs and cafes and there are public toilets in the car park. The Brock and Bruin café on the right is recommended.
- Returning through the Watersplash you follow the Burley Road through the edge of Hinchleslea Wood and up onto the open heathland again.
- Now you come to the edge of the village of Sway. In the village was Arnewood House (now destroyed by fire), which was the home of the 'Children of the New Forest' in Captain Marryat's book. Marryat also used the surrounding countryside as the setting for the book.
- Next you arrive in Tiptoe. The village achieved some notoriety in the 1880s when Mary Ann Girling and her religious sect of New Forest Shakers erected tents at a farm at Tiptoe in 1879, having been evicted from their previous residence at Forest Lodge at Hordle. Girling apparently believed that the Second Coming of Christ would soon happen, and that she would live forever. Girling died at the Tiptoe farm on 18 September 1886.
- Passing the Rising Sun pub at Wootton on your left you continue through woods to zigzag across the A35 again.
- Into the Holmsley Inclosure, where you drop to cross two fords whose tiny streams become the Avon Water (no relation to the River Avon). Another climb and you are back on the heathland, where the road drops to cross the route of the former Brockenhurst to Ringwood railway line, and the crossing-keeper's cottage has had a real makeover. (If you don't mind cycling on a gravel track, you could turn left here to shorten your journey home.)
- Burley is a bustling little village, with plenty of tourist shops (you cannot miss the connection with witches!), several cafes and the Queen's Head pub, a Post Office and a grocer's and butcher's shop. The cycle hire shop is helpful with spare parts.

km	Instruction	total
0.0	L at T from UK Youth	
0.6	Over CG and SO at X 6' 6" sign into Forest Road	0.6
2.4	R at T (no sp)	3.0
2.3	SO at X (sp Godwincroft) into Lyndhurst Rd	5.3
0.7	L at T (sp Burton) still Lyndhurst Rd	5.9
1.4	R on LH bend (no sp) into Hawthorn Road	7.3
0.1	1st L (no sp) into Tin Yard Lane	7.4
0.8	L at T (no sp)	8.2
0.4	R at T beside Lamb Inn (no sp) into Burley Rd and immed	8.5
0.1	L (sp Ripley) into Harpway Lane	8.6
1.0	SO at X (sp Ripley) still Harpway lane	9.5
3.6	L at T (sp Ringwood)	13.1
2.6	R and immed R at grass triangle (sp Crow)	15.7
2.2	CG	17.9
0.3	R at T (no sp)	18.2
1.7	R at T (no sp) 30mph sign	19.9
0.4	2nd L (no sp) into Forest Rd (6' 6" sign)	20.3
0.4	Ford	20.7
1.4	L at T (no sp)	22.1
5.1	Over CG and L at T onto A35 (sp Lyndhurst)	27.2
0.6	1st R over CG (sp Rhinefield)	27.7
2.8	CG	30.5
<b>4.1</b>	<b>L through Watersplash (sp Village centre via ford) for cafés</b> then Retrace through Watersplash and L at T (sp Burley) to continue	34.6
5.2	L (sp Sway)	39.9
1.9	R (sp Sway)	41.8
1.2	CG	43.0
0.7	R (sp Marley Mount) into Mead End Road	43.7
2.7	R at T (no sp) opposite Tiptoe Garage	46.4
1.2	CG	47.6
0.4	R at T (sp Lyndhurst) into Holmsley Rd	47.9
2.2	CG and R at T (sp Lyndhurst) onto A35 [fast traffic]	50.1
0.4	1st L (no sp) 40mph zone sign	50.5
0.6	2 fords	51.1
0.8	CG	51.9
1.6	SO at X (sp Burley Lawn) 6' 6" sign	53.5
0.7	Follow road L thro' dip	54.2
0.8	L at T (sp Burley)	55.0
0.6	R at T (sp Ringwood) and immed L (no sp) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	55.5
3.5	R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	59.0
0.6	R into UK Youth FINISH	59.6

Tandem Club Rally  
Easter 2012

Medium Ride:  
River Avon flood plain, Burley, Brockenhurst

FRIDAY 6/4/12

Miles	Instruction	total
0.0	L at T from UK Youth	
0.3	Over CG and SO at X 6' 6" sign into Forest Road	0.3
1.5	R at T (no sp)	1.8
1.4	SO at X (sp Godwincroft) into Lyndhurst Rd	3.3
0.4	L at T (sp Burton) still Lyndhurst Rd	3.7
0.9	R on LH bend (no sp) into Hawthorn Road	4.5
0.0	1st L (no sp) into Tin Yard Lane	4.6
0.5	L at T (no sp)	5.1
0.2	R at T beside Lamb Inn (no sp) into Burley Rd and immed	5.3
0.0	L (sp Ripley) into Harpway Lane	5.3
0.6	SO at X (sp Ripley) still Harpway lane	5.9
2.2	L at T (sp Ringwood)	8.2
1.6	R and immed R at grass triangle (sp Crow)	9.8
1.4	CG	11.1
0.2	R at T (no sp)	11.3
1.1	R at T (no sp) 30mph sign	12.4
0.2	2nd L (no sp) into Forest Rd (6' 6" sign)	12.6
0.2	Ford	12.8
0.9	L at T (no sp)	13.7
3.2	Over CG and L at T onto A35 (sp Lyndhurst)	16.9
0.3	1st R over CG (sp Rhinefield)	17.2
1.7	CG	19.0
<b>2.5</b>	<b>L through Watersplash (sp Village centre via ford) for cafés</b> then Retrace through Watersplash and L at T (sp Burley) to continue	21.5
3.2	L (sp Sway)	24.8
1.2	R (sp Sway)	25.9
0.7	CG	26.7
0.4	R (sp Marley Mount) into Mead End Road	27.1
1.7	R at T (no sp) opposite Tiptoe Garage	28.8
0.8	CG	29.6
0.2	R at T (sp Lyndhurst) into Holmsley Rd	29.8
1.4	CG and R at T (sp Lyndhurst) onto A35 [fast traffic]	31.1
0.2	1st L (no sp) 40mph zone sign	31.4
0.4	2 fords	31.8
0.5	CG	32.2
1.0	SO at X (sp Burley Lawn) 6' 6" sign	33.2
0.4	Follow road L thro' dip	33.7
0.5	L at T (sp Burley)	34.2
0.3	R at T (sp Ringwood) and immed L (no sp) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	34.5
2.2	R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	36.7
0.3	R into UK Youth FINISH	37.0