

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April: OUTLINE of MEDIUM ROUTE 80km (49miles)

This route starts northwards along the western edge of the New Forest, before heading east to cross the central Forest plateau and down through the Bolderwood and Rhinefield Ornamental Drives to Brockenhurst. From there you continue south to visit Lymington on market day, before a short excursion along the coast and back to Burley.

- From Avon Tyrell to Burley then head west through Crow towards the Avon Valley.
- Skirt the edge of Ringwood to cross the A31 and run north along the edge of the western Forest escarpment and beside the Avon Valley. Most fords in this stretch should be dry unless there was heavy rain the previous day (the streams running off the Forest to the Avon are very flashy and rise and fall quickly).
- Glimpses of water through trees to your left are all large lakes formed by gravel extraction in the Avon Valley floodplain.
- Pass the Alice Lisle pub on your left. Dame Alice sheltered John Hickes at her home here after the battle of Sedgemoor. He and his men were arrested the following morning. Lady Alice was tried by Judge Jeffries at the Bloody Assizes in Winchester and was sentenced to be burnt for treason. This was commuted to beheading by James II as being more fit for her station.
- Fairy shrimps, although rare, are locally common in the vernal pools beside the roadside along here. They thrive from the trampling of the ground by ponies drinking in the pools
- Swing right to climb Buddle Hill up the escarpment and out of the Avon Valley.
- From here the route turns east to climb the escarpment, passing the Red Shoot Inn on left and eventually leaving the trees to cross heathland on the Stony Cross Plain, which is the highest part of the Forest.
- A dip down under the A31 flyover and up again leads to the Canadian war memorial cross on the left and then Bolderwood car park. There are picnic benches and toilets at this car park (and quite often ice creams for sale too). It is a very short walk to the viewing platform overlooking a deer sanctuary - follow the signs from road beside cattlegrid.
- Enjoy the downhill run along the Bolderwood Ornamental Drive through Ancient and Ornamental woodland – mostly beech, oak and holly. As you start down, the cottage and paddock on the left is a typical New Forest commoner's smallholding with modest farm buildings, run-back enclosed pasture and direct access to the open forest.
- It is a short walk to see the Knightwood Oak (see car park sign on roadside) – 7.4m girth and one of the oldest in the Forest. A spectacular example of pollarding.
- After crossing the A35, the road continues as 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 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.
- A short run out of Brockenhurst and across the A337 to reach and cross the Lymington River and then over the causeway of the old toll bridge to cross the river again; and the Lymington branch line level crossing to arrive beside the river and dismount for a short walk along a footpath beside the river to reach Lymington Town Quay. The Quay was once a busy commercial port exporting salt to Newfoundland and timber for boat building to Norway. A brewery on the quay shipped beer to the Isle of Wight. While still home to about 12 commercial fishing boats, today it is a tourist destination with berths for visiting leisure boats. The Puffin ferry operates a foot passenger service to the Isle of Wight in summer months. There are public toilets on the Quay.

- From the Quay into the town centre High Street. Lymington is a Georgian market town. The weekly street market is held on Saturdays (morning and early afternoon). There is a local museum in New Street with interesting displays about all aspects of history and life of Lymington. There are numerous pubs, restaurants, cafes and fish and chips. As you leave Lymington opposite St Thomas' church on the right is a fine example of crinkle-crankle walling of which there are many examples in the town.
- The area of lanes south of Lymington is called Normandy, leading to the coast with views over salt marsh to the Isle of Wight and onto a short stretch of gravelled road (The Ancient Highway). There are otters on the salt marshes and in the Lymington River, but you will be very lucky to see one.
- The Ancient Highway leads into Keyhaven opposite the Gun Inn, from where the route continues through a sea defence gate beside the marsh to Hurst Spit. At the end of the spit you can see the Tudor Hurst Castle, much extended at various times since it was built. This is one of two Tudor castles defending the Solent as "bookends" to the National Park coast between Hurst Spit and Calshot Spit, (which the long route will visit on Sunday).
- Beyond the spit the route continues via Milford on Sea to run beside the open sea of Christchurch Bay with views of the Isle of Wight and the Needles.
- North through Hordle and Tiptoe to the Rising Sun pub, where the route re-enters the open forest and returns to Avon Tyrrell via Burley. The section of straight road, which goes under the A35, was built on the former Brockenhurst to Ringwood railway line hence the Station Tearooms on the left.

km	Instruction	total
0.0	L at T from UK Youth	
0.5	Over CG and L at X (sp Burley)	0.5
3.5	L at T at Burley Cross (sp Ringwood)	4.0
2.0	L (actually SO) as road turns right (sp Crow)	6.0
1.8	CG	7.9
2.0	R (sp Crow) into Crow Lane	9.9
1.0	L at T opposite Elm Tree PH into Hightown Rd (no sp)	10.9
0.7	R at T onto slip road (2 way traffic) (sp Southampton)	11.6
0.2	L (1st exit) at mini-O over A31T (sp Poulner)	11.8
0.4	R (2nd exit) at mini-O beside White Hart Inn (sp South Gorley) into Gorley Rd	12.2
1.3	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	13.5
1.1	CG	14.6
0.5	R at grass triangle before ford (sp Linwood)	15.1
9.6	Continue under A31T and then 1st R (sp Bolderwood Arboretum / Ornamental Drive) 2 CGs in next 3km descending Ornamental Drive	24.8
4.2	SO at X across A35 + 2 CGs {fast traffic on A35}	28.9
2.9	CG	31.8
<b>4.1</b>	<b>L through Watersplash (sp Village centre via ford)</b>	<b>35.9</b>
0.3	R (sp Sway) into Sway Rd and continue thro' TLs on weak bridge	36.2
1.9	L at T (sp Lymington)	38.1
0.8	CG and R at T (sp Lymington) onto A337	39.0
0.6	1st L (sp Sandy Down) into Sandy Down	39.5
1.5	R (sp Boldre) into Royden Lane [X rd but you are on priority road]	41.0
1.0	L at T (sp Boldre Church)	42.1
0.9	R (sp Vicars Hill)	42.9
0.8	R at grass triangle with tree (no sp) [broken road surface at bottom of hill]	43.7
1.5	R at T actually SO (no sp)	45.3
0.4	Continue over causeway and immediately after level crossing 1st L into Waterloo Rd (no sp)	45.7
0.2	SO at X (no sp) into Mill Lane	45.8
0.2	At end of lane keep left and walk along path beside river to reach Town Quay	46.0
0.3	Leave Quay L and then R at T (no sp)	46.3
<b>0.3</b>	<b>Follow road R to L at T (no sp) and climb hill into High St</b>	<b>46.6</b>
0.5	L opposite Church into Church Lane (no sp)	47.1
1.0	SO at X into Normandy Lane (no sp)	48.1
1.5	L at T with grass triangle (no sp) and immed R into Poles Lane (no sp)	49.7
0.3	R at T into Ridgway Lane (no sp)	50.0
0.6	L at T (no sp)	50.6
0.2	2nd L into Lower Pennington Lane (no sp)	50.8
2.3	Continue onto gravel road	53.1
1.4	Continue thro' gate onto tarmac road	54.5
0.5	L at T opposite Gun Inn (no sp)	55.0
1.0	Follow road R at Hurst Spit	56.0

**Tandem Club Rally  
Easter 2012**

**Medium Ride:  
Central Forest, Lymington and Coast**

SATURDAY 7/4/12

0.9 L at T (no sp)	56.9
0.6 L in Keyhaven (sp Memorial Hospital) into Sea Rd	57.5
<b>0.6 R at T (no sp) opposite Needles Eye Café</b>	<b>58.0</b>
0.7 L at T (no sp) onto B3056	58.7
2.3 R (sp Shorefield Park - brown sign)	61.0
1.0 SO at X Over A337 (sp Applecourt Garden)	62.0
1.2 Fork L into Stopples Lane (no sp)	63.2
1.3 R at T into Ashley Lane (no sp)	64.5
0.1 L at mini O (sp Tiptoe) into Vaggs Lane	64.6
1.6 R at T (sp Sway) into B3055	66.2
0.2 1st L (sp Wootton) into Wootton Rd	66.3
1.9 CG	68.3
0.3 R (sp Wilverley) beside Rising Sun PH	68.6
1.9 L at T (sp Burley)	70.5
0.1 CG	70.6
2.1 CG	72.7
3.3 L (sp Bransgore) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	76.0
3.5 R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	79.5
0.5 R into UK Youth FINISH	80.0

Miles	Instruction	total
0.0	L at T from UK Youth	
0.3	Over CG and L at X (sp Burley)	0.3
2.2	L at T at Burley Cross (sp Ringwood)	2.5
1.2	L (actually SO) as road turns right (sp Crow)	3.8
1.1	CG	4.9
1.2	R (sp Crow) into Crow Lane	6.1
0.6	L at T opposite Elm Tree PH into Hightown Rd (no sp)	6.8
0.5	R at T onto slip road (2 way traffic) (sp Southampton)	7.2
0.1	L (1st exit) at mini-O over A31T (sp Poulner)	7.3
0.2	R (2nd exit) at mini-O beside White Hart Inn (sp South Gorley) into Gorley Rd	7.6
0.8	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	8.4
0.7	CG	9.1
0.3	R at grass triangle before ford (sp Linwood)	9.4
6.0	Continue under A31T and then 1st R (sp Bolderwood Arboretum / Ornamental Drive) 2 CGs in next 3km descending Ornamental Drive	15.4
2.6	SO at X across A35 + 2 CGs {fast traffic on A35}	18.0
1.8	CG	19.8
<b>2.5</b>	<b>L through Watersplash (sp Village centre via ford)</b>	<b>22.3</b>
0.2	R (sp Sway) into Sway Rd and continue thro' TLs on weak bridge	22.5
1.2	L at T (sp Lymington)	23.7
0.5	CG and R at T (sp Lymington) onto A337	24.2
0.3	1st L (sp Sandy Down) into Sandy Down	24.6
0.9	R (sp Boldre) into Royden Lane [X rd but you are on priority road]	25.5
0.6	L at T (sp Boldre Church)	26.1
0.5	R (sp Vicars Hill)	26.7
0.5	R at grass triangle with tree (no sp) [broken road surface at bottom of hill]	27.2
1.0	R at T actually SO (no sp)	28.1
0.2	Continue over causeway and immediately after level crossing 1st L into Waterloo Rd (no sp)	28.4
0.1	SO at X (no sp) into Mill Lane	28.5
0.1	At end of lane keep left and walk along path beside river to reach Town Quay	28.6
0.2	Leave Quay L and then R at T (no sp)	28.8
<b>0.2</b>	<b>Follow road R to L at T (no sp) and climb hill into High St</b>	<b>28.9</b>
0.3	L opposite Church into Church Lane (no sp)	29.3
0.6	SO at X into Normandy Lane (no sp)	29.9
1.0	L at T with grass triangle (no sp) and immed R into Poles Lane (no sp)	30.9
0.2	R at T into Ridgway Lane (no sp)	31.1
0.4	L at T (no sp)	31.4
0.1	2nd L into Lower Pennington Lane (no sp)	31.6
1.4	Continue onto gravel road	33.0
0.9	Continue thro' gate onto tarmac road	33.9
0.3	L at T opposite Gun Inn (no sp)	34.2
0.6	Follow road R at Hurst Spit	34.8

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0.6	L at T (no sp)	35.4
0.3	L in Keyhaven (sp Memorial Hospital) into Sea Rd	35.7
<b>0.4</b>	<b>R at T (no sp) opposite Needles Eye Café</b>	<b>36.1</b>
0.4	L at T (no sp) onto B3056	36.5
1.4	R (sp Shorefield Park - brown sign)	37.9
0.6	SO at X Over A337 (sp Applecourt Garden)	38.5
0.8	Fork L into Stopples Lane (no sp)	39.3
0.8	R at T into Ashley Lane (no sp)	40.1
0.1	L at mini O (sp Tiptoe) into Vaggs Lane	40.1
1.0	R at T (sp Sway) into B3055	41.1
0.1	1st L (sp Wootton) into Wootton Rd	41.2
1.2	CG	42.4
0.2	R (sp Wilverley) beside Rising Sun PH	42.6
1.2	L at T (sp Burley)	43.8
0.1	CG	43.9
1.3	CG	45.2
2.0	L (sp Bransgore) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	47.2
2.2	R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	49.4
0.3	R into UK Youth FINISH	49.7