

Sunday 8th April: OUTLINE of MEDIUM ROUTE 64km (39miles)

This route leads you through Ringwood and up the Avon Valley to Fordingbridge and the village of Breamore, returning via the pretty Western Escarpment of the New Forest.

- On a clear day the descent of Braggers Lane offers fine views as you drop into the Avon Valley.
- Continuing northwards to Crow you pass the New Forest Raptor and Reptile Centre on your left before diving west into the Forest market town of Ringwood, home to the Ringwood Brewery. A short walk the wrong way along a one-way lane leads to the town centre. Plenty of nice teashops and cafés here.
- After dodging round the outskirts of Ringwood, you cycle north along Highwood Lane catching glimpses to your left of lakes, which were formerly gravel workings. Some are used for water sports, others as wildlife reserves.
- 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.
- Continue thro' the ford at Moyles Court. There will probably be water here. There is a footbridge if required. Moyles Court School was the seat of the Lisles, one of whom, Col. Lisle, was one of the judges on the trial of Charles I. In a short distance on the corner as you turn left is the Ibsley airfield information memorial.
- After crossing the A338 (where the Old Beams on your right offers refreshment opportunities) you come to a picturesque stone bridge over the Avon at Ibsley, where you can usually see a tranquil scene with swans on the river or in the fields.
- Before Fordingbridge you pass the Augustus John pub, the favourite watering hole of the controversial painter who lived here. There is a statue of him near the George Inn on the banks of the Avon, by the medieval seven-arched bridge. The town offers café stops and shops as well as more pubs.
- Continuing north through fields you arrive at Breamore (pronounced Bremmer), where the magnificent Elizabethan manor house, completed in 1583, is an interesting visit worth a short detour. It also has a café open to the public on the left of your route and a countryside museum. Breamore church, just beyond the café is a Saxon building dating from the 10th century. There may be geese on Breamore Common.
- Crossing the River Avon again on two bridges, with a mill between, you approach Woodgreen with its community shop and the Horse and Groom pub off to the left. Your route, however, leads south up the escarpment to wonderful views from Castle Hill over the Avon Valley including Breamore house.
- Arriving at the village of Godshill with its Fighting Cocks pub, you may notice several cob-and-thatch cottages before turning off to ramble up and down the edge of the Western Escarpment through Blissford, (avoiding the 1 in 4 Blissford Hill). At a very sharp right turn uphill look out for the Abbots Well (a small hole in the ground!) on your left.
- At Frogham you pass the Forester Arms pub before turning left to go by the Stables Tea Room café beside a garden centre.
- Dropping down across yet another ford, you approach an area called Ogdens, a hamlet named after Ogden Rooke, a local landowner who possessed Ogdens Purlieu in the latter half of the 17th century. Purlieu is a Norman-French word meaning "the outskirts of a forest" – a place free from forest laws.
- As you approach a large grass triangle at South Gorley you pass on your left the Cuckoo Hill miniature steam railway at the Avon Valley Nurseries, which is open at Easter.
- Passing back down the Gorley Road towards Ringwood, you cross the A31 towards Hightown and Crow; and climb onto the open heath to Burley Street where you approach Burley village by skirting round to the north before returning to Avon Tyrrell.

km	Instruction	total
0.0	R at T from centre	0.0
1.7	R at X (sp Ringwood)	1.7
4.3	R (sp Ringwood) [sign hidden behind Crow fingerpost]	6.0
1.2	SO (L/R) at stg X (no sp) into Crow Lane	7.2
0.5	1st L (no sp) into Crow Arch Lane	7.7
0.9	R at T (no sp)	8.6
0.1	L at mini-O (no sp)	8.6
0.6	SO at X (no sp) into Coxstone Lane	9.2
0.1	R at T (no sp)	9.4
0.4	R (no sp) into Kings Arms Lane	9.8
0.2	at No Entry sign walk short distance to R at T (no sp) into High Street	9.9
0.1	L at T (no sp) at end of block paving	10.0
0.1	Cross Rd at pedestrian / cycle TLs and continue	10.2
0.1	R at T (no sp) and over flyover	10.3
0.8	L at mini O (no sp) into Broadshard Lane	11.0
0.5	R at T (no sp)	11.5
1.0	L at T (no sp) into Gorley Rd	12.5
0.7	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	13.1
1.1	CG	14.2
0.5	Cross ford at Moyles Court (sp Mockbeggar)	14.7
1.0	2 nd L into Mockbeggar Lane (sp Ibsley) and over CG	15.7
1.2	R at T onto A338 (sp Salisbury)	16.9
0.4	1 st L (sp Harbridge) over Ibsley bridge	17.3
0.8	1 st R on LH bend (sp Cranborne)	18.1
2.3	R at T (sp Fordingbridge)	20.3
1.8	SO at X over B3078 (no sp) into Ashford Rd	22.1
1.0	R at O (sp Fordingbridge) [cafes in Fordingbridge High Street in 1.2km]	23.2
1.3	L at mini-O (sp Salisbury) onto B3078	24.5
0.5	L into Alexandra Rd (sp Whitsbury)	25.0
0.2	R at T (sp Whitsbury)	25.2
1.1	R on LH bend after 30mph sign into Fryen Court Road (no sp)	26.3
0.5	L [actually SO] on sharp RH bend (no sp)	26.8
2.7	Follow road around RH bend and soon [L into gravel drive with sign for museum car park to reach café]	29.5
0.1	L onto road from Café and 1 st R (sp Breamore)	29.6
0.5	L at T (actually SO) facing Breamore Common (no sp)	30.1
0.4	R at T onto A338 (sp Ringwood)	30.5
0.3	1 st L (sp Woodgreen)	30.8
1.0	CG	31.8
0.2	1st R (sp Godshill via ford)	32.0
0.7	1st R (sp Castle Hill) at 40mph zone signs	32.6
2.3	R at T (sp Godshill)	34.9
0.3	Ford	35.2
0.7	R at T (sp Fordingbridge) onto B3078 and over CG	35.9
1.2	L (sp Blissford) into Blissford Road	37.1
0.7	CG and Ford	37.8
1.9	L after Foresters Arms (no sp Hyde)	39.6

0.6	L beside school (sp Ogdens) [to café in garden centre on Left]	40.2
0.3	Continue L from café and follow road L	40.5
1.1	Sharp R (sp South Gorley)	41.6
2.3	L at T (no sp)	43.9
2.1	Cross ford at Moyles Court and keep R (sp Rockford)	46.0
0.6	CG	46.5
1.1	Follow road R through ford (probably dry)	47.6
1.2	L at mini-O (no sp) beside White Hart Inn	48.8
0.5	R at mini-O (sp Hightown)	49.3
0.2	1st L (no sp) into Eastfield Lane	49.5
0.7	R beside Elm Tree PH (sp Burley) into Crow Lane	50.2
1.0	SO (L/R) at stg X (sp Bransgore)	51.2
1.1	L actually SO on Right Hand bend (no sp) grass triangle	52.3
2.2	CG	54.5
0.4	R at T (no sp)	54.9
1.7	R at T (no sp) 30mph sign	56.6
0.4	2nd L (no sp) into Forest Rd	56.9
0.4	Ford	57.3
1.4	R at T (no sp)	58.7
1.2	R at T (sp Ringwood) and immed L (no sp) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	59.9
3.5	R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	63.4
0.5	R into UK Youth FINISH	63.9

Miles	Instruction	total
0.0	R at T from centre	0.0
1.1	R at X (sp Ringwood)	1.1
2.7	R (sp Ringwood) [sign hidden behind Crow fingerpost]	3.7
0.8	SO (L/R) at stg X (no sp) into Crow Lane	4.5
0.3	1st L (no sp) into Crow Arch Lane	4.8
0.5	R at T (no sp)	5.3
0.0	L at mini-O (no sp)	5.3
0.4	SO at X (no sp) into Coxstone Lane	5.7
0.1	R at T (no sp)	5.8
0.2	R (no sp) into Kings Arms Lane	6.1
0.1	at No Entry sign walk short distance to R at T (no sp) into High Street	6.2
0.1	L at T (no sp) at end of block paving	6.2
0.1	Cross Rd at pedestrian / cycle TLs and continue	6.3
0.1	R at T (no sp) and over flyover	6.4
0.5	L at mini O (no sp) into Broadshard Lane	6.8
0.3	R at T (no sp)	7.2
0.6	L at T (no sp) into Gorley Rd	7.7
0.4	Follow road L after ford (probably dry)	8.1
0.7	CG	8.8
0.3	Cross ford at Moyles Court (sp Mockbeggar)	9.1
0.6	2nd L into Mockbeggar Lane (sp Ibsley) and over CG	9.8
0.7	R at T onto A338 (sp Salisbury)	10.5
0.2	1st L (sp Harbridge) over Ibsley bridge	10.7
0.5	1st R on LH bend (sp Cranborne)	11.2
1.4	R at T (sp Fordingbridge)	12.6
1.1	SO at X over B3078 (no sp) into Ashford Rd	13.8
0.6	R at O (sp Fordingbridge) [cafes in Fordingbridge High Street in 1.2km]	14.4
0.8	L at mini-O (sp Salisbury) onto B3078	15.2
0.3	L into Alexandra Rd (sp Whitsbury)	15.5
0.1	R at T (sp Whitsbury)	15.6
0.7	R on LH bend after 30mph sign into Fryen Court Road (no sp)	16.3
0.3	L [actually SO] on sharp RH bend (no sp)	16.6
1.7	Follow road around RH bend and soon [L into gravel drive with sign for museum car park to reach café]	18.3
0.1	L onto road from Café and 1st R (sp Breamore)	18.4
0.3	L at T (actually SO) facing Breamore Common (no sp)	18.7
0.2	R at T onto A338 (sp Ringwood)	18.9
0.2	1st L (sp Woodgreen)	19.1
0.6	CG	19.7
0.1	1st R (sp Godshill via ford)	19.9
0.4	1st R (sp Castle Hill) at 40mph zone signs	20.3
1.4	R at T (sp Godshill)	21.7
0.2	Ford	21.9
0.4	R at T (sp Fordingbridge) onto B3078 and over CG	22.3
0.7	L (sp Blissford) into Blissford Road	23.0
0.4	CG and Ford	23.5
1.1	L after Foresters Arms (no sp Hyde)	24.6

0.4	L beside school (sp Ogdens) [to café in garden centre on Left]	25.0
0.2	Continue L from café and follow road L	25.2
0.7	Sharp R (sp South Gorley)	25.8
1.4	L at T (no sp)	27.2
1.3	Cross ford at Moyles Court and keep R (sp Rockford)	28.6
0.4	CG	28.9
0.7	Follow road R through ford (probably dry)	29.6
0.7	L at mini-O (no sp) beside White Hart Inn	30.3
0.3	R at mini-O (sp Hightown)	30.6
0.1	1st L (no sp) into Eastfield Lane	30.7
0.4	R beside Elm Tree PH (sp Burley) into Crow Lane	31.2
0.6	SO (L/R) at stg X (sp Bransgore)	31.8
0.7	L actually SO on Right Hand bend (no sp) grass triangle	32.5
1.4	CG	33.9
0.2	R at T (no sp)	34.1
1.1	R at T (no sp) 30mph sign	35.1
0.2	2nd L (no sp) into Forest Rd	35.4
0.2	Ford	35.6
0.9	R at T (no sp)	36.5
0.7	R at T (sp Ringwood) and immed L (no sp) at Burley Cross into Pound Lane	37.2
2.2	R (sp Avon Tyrrel) into Braggers Lane and over CG	39.4
0.3	R into UK Youth FINISH	39.7