

Cyclesolihull Routes

Cycling is a great way to keep fit whilst at the same time getting from A to B or exploring your local area.

This series of routes, developed by Cyclesolihull will take you along most of the network of quiet lanes, roads and cycle paths 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 with their parents.

You can cycle the routes alone, with family and friends, or join other people on one of the regular Cyclesolihull rides.

Route Lengths and Route Numbers

There are over 50 routes in this series which are grouped by distance using a route letter:

T (Taster) routes are about 5 miles.

S (Short) routes are about 10 miles.

M (Medium) routes are about 15 miles.

L (Long) routes are about 20 miles.

XL (Extra Long) routes are about 25 miles.

The route number indicates the starting point – for example routes S2, M2 and L2 all start from Knowle. There are over twenty different starting points. A full list is available from www.cyclesolihull.org.uk.

This is one of a series of cycle route leaflets produced by Cyclesolihull which is a voluntary organisation which aims to encourage people in the Solihull area to cycle more. Cyclesolihull organises free cycle rides, promotes routes like this one and provides information about cycling.

CSM5-0519

Cyclesolihull Rides

Cyclesolihull offers regular opportunities to join with others to ride many of the routes in this series of leaflets. The rides are organised by volunteers and typically attract between 10 and 20 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm from April to September and at 1.30 pm from October to March. One of the routes will be followed with a mixture of route lengths being ridden during each month. In autumn and winter there are more shorter rides to reflect the reduced daylight hours. One Sunday each month in spring and summer the ride is a 5 mile **Taster Ride**. This is an opportunity to try a Cyclesolihull ride without going very far and is an ideal introduction to the rides, especially for new cyclists and children.

Evening Explorer Rides are on a midweek evening from early May to mid-August starting at 7 pm. These rides all follow the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

Saturday Stretcher Rides take place weekly on most Saturdays, starting at 9.30 am. They are about 30 long, are at a faster pace and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

All Cyclesolihull rides have an en-route refreshment stop of 20-30 minutes at a family-friendly pub or tearoom.

For ride dates, routes and starting points download the current Ride Programme from:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy on one of the rides.



M6

medium route from
Monkspath

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**15 miles via Cheswick Green,
Tanworth & Ilshaw Heath**

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

Route M6 Monkspath to Tanworth & Ilshaw Heath

Distance: 15 miles (90-110 mins). **Start:** Shelly Farm shops, Farmhouse Way, Monkspath B90 4EH, SP146771.

Route Summary: A varied ride into the countryside around Earlswood and Tanworth, returning via Ilshaw Heath and Blythe Valley Park.

Refreshments: There are pubs in Tanworth and Ilshaw Heath.

Parking: There is ample free off-street parking at the start point.

The Route

A From outside the **Coop** store go R onto the path on the opposite side of the car park. Follow this path turning L at the end and bearing R at the next path junction.

E Cross over the road (Frankholmes Drive), following the signposted cycle route to the end of **Hay Lane**. Turn L and continue to follow the cycle route across **Thornton Rd** to reach the busy Stratford Road.

C Cross at the signals into **Creynolds Lane**. After 1 mile turn R at the crossroads towards **Shirley**.

D At the end of the road turn R onto the **B4102** towards **Shirley** for 0.3 miles, and then L into **Lady Lane**. Turn next R into **Braggs Farm Lane**, crossing over the **Stratford Canal**.

E At the end turn L and immediately R into **Cleobury Lane**. At the end turn L onto **Dickens Heath Road** towards **Tidbury Green**. After 0.5 miles turn L at the crossroads towards **Earlswood**.

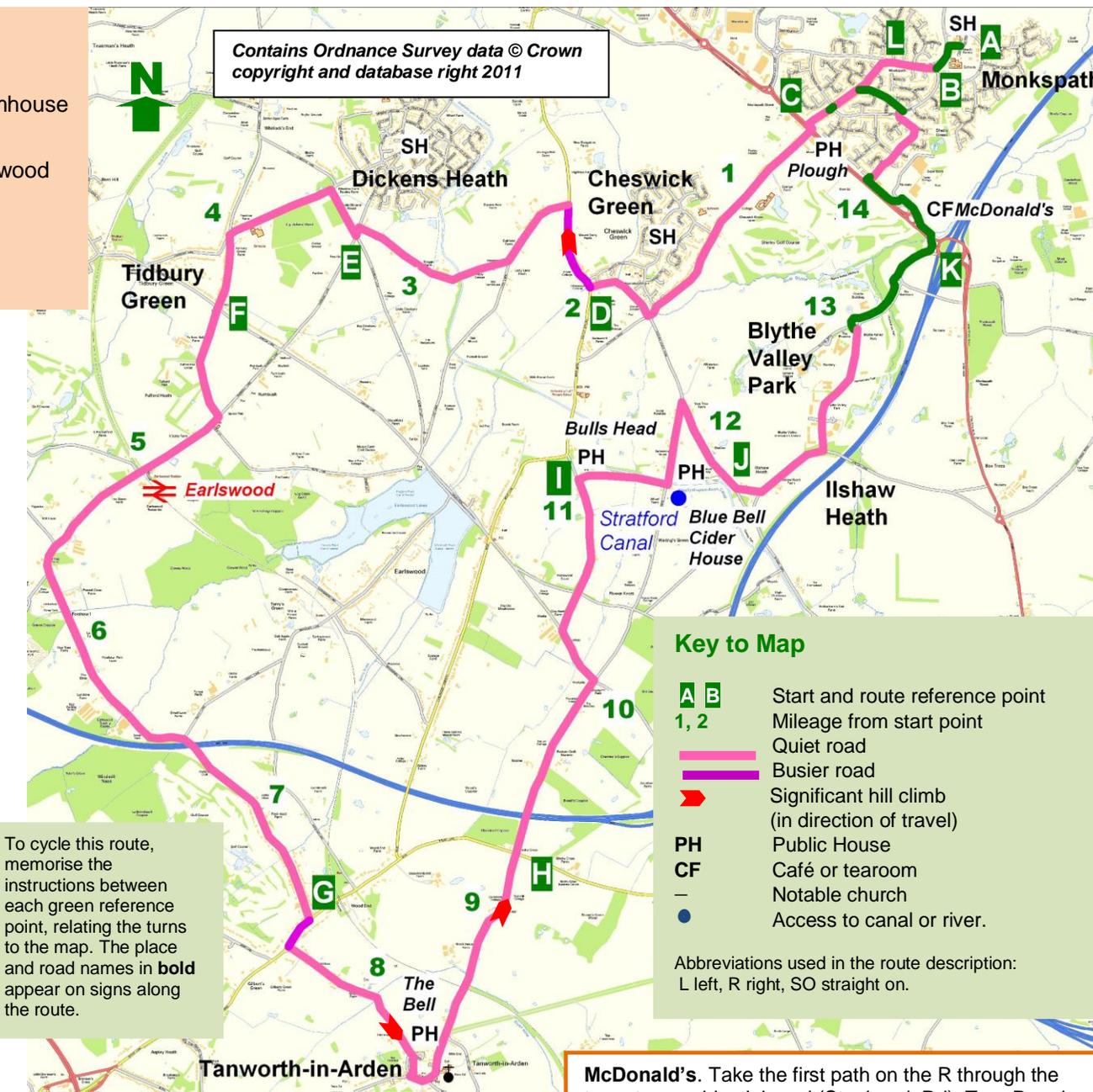
F At the next crossroads go SO into **Fulford Hall Rd** and at the end of the road turn R into **Rumbush Lane**. Follow this road for 2.75 miles, passing **Earlswood station** and crossing over the motorway.

G At the **B4101** turn R and after 200 yards, L towards **Tanworth**. Go into the village centre, passing **The Bell** pub. At the church turn L, eventually passing under the railway.

H At the top of **Tom Hill**, cross the **B4101** and go SO into **Tithe Barn Lane**, crossing the motorway. Turn next L towards **Earlswood** and then first R. Go SO at the crossroads.

I At the **Bulls Head** turn R into **Lime Kiln Lane** and at the end L, passing the **Blue Bell Cider House** and crossing the **Stratford Canal**. Turn next R towards **Ilshaw Heath**.

J Turn next L and then L again towards **Solihull**. Before the motorway bridge turn L on to the path into **Blythe Valley Park**. Join the road SO and just before the second roundabout join the



To cycle this route, memorise the instructions between each green reference point, relating the turns to the map. The place and road names in **bold** appear on signs along the route.

path L to cross over to the cycle path on the far side of the roundabout, turning R onto this path. At the next roundabout go SO continuing along the cycle path to reach Stratford Road.

K Cross this busy road at the Toucan. Follow the cycle path L along Stratford Road past the petrol station and

McDonald's. Take the first path on the R through the trees to a residential road (Stanbrook Rd). Turn R and follow this road to the end. Turn R onto **Frankholmes Drive** and go immediately L down the 'Monkspath' path. At the end turn R.

L Just before the end of the road turn R along **Hay Lane** and retrace the outbound route along the cycle route back to **Shelly Farm shops**.