

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

The **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 other people on one of the regular **Community Cycle Rides**.

CycletoSolihull Day



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. For details of this year's event go to:

www.cycletosolihullday.org.uk

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

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 typically attract between 10 and 30 riders. To get involved, just turn up and ride!

Sunday Cycle Rides take place most Sunday afternoons at 2 pm throughout the summer* starting from one of a number of different starting points. "S" (short) routes are about 10 miles long, "M" (medium) routes about 15 miles long and "L" (long) routes about 20 miles long. On the second Sunday of the month* there 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.

Saturday Stretcher Rides take place twice-monthly* on Saturdays, starting at 9.30 am from one of 6 different starting points. They are 20 to 35 miles long and do not follow a fixed route, so are suitable for more experienced cyclists.

Evening Explorer Rides are on a midweek evening from mid-May to early August starting at 7 pm from one of 12 different starting points. They follow the shorter "S" routes so are about 10 miles long.

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

For details of the current programme go to:

www.cyclesolihull.org.uk

or pick up a copy of the **Cyclesolihull 'Ride Together'** leaflet on one of the rides.

* There is a reduced programme rides from November to February with Sunday rides starting at 1.30 pm.



M8

medium route from
Balsall Common

CycleSolihull

Explore your borough by bike



**17 miles via Balsall Street,
Beausale & Wroxall**

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

Route M8

Balsall Common to Beausale & Wroxall

Distance: 17 miles (100-130 mins).

Start: Balsall Common Library, Kenilworth Road. Balsall Common CV7 7EL, SP238772.

Route Summary: A pleasant ride mainly on quiet country lanes. There is a short section on the busier A4177 but this road is relatively quiet on Sundays.

Refreshments: Although there are the usual range of shops and pubs in **Balsall Common** there are none along the route. However teas are normally served on summer Sunday afternoons in **Wren Hall** at **Wroxall**.

Parking: There is free off-street parking behind the library. Vehicle access is from Station Road.

The Route

A From outside the library go L and then L at the roundabout into **Station Road**. Turn first L down **Green Lane**. At the end of the lane joint the path L through the park. Continue SO along the path, past the playground until you reach the road.

B At the road turn L. At the end of **Lavender Hall Lane** turn R onto the main road and after 100 yards L into **Wooton Green Lane**. Follow this narrow lane until the end and turn L.

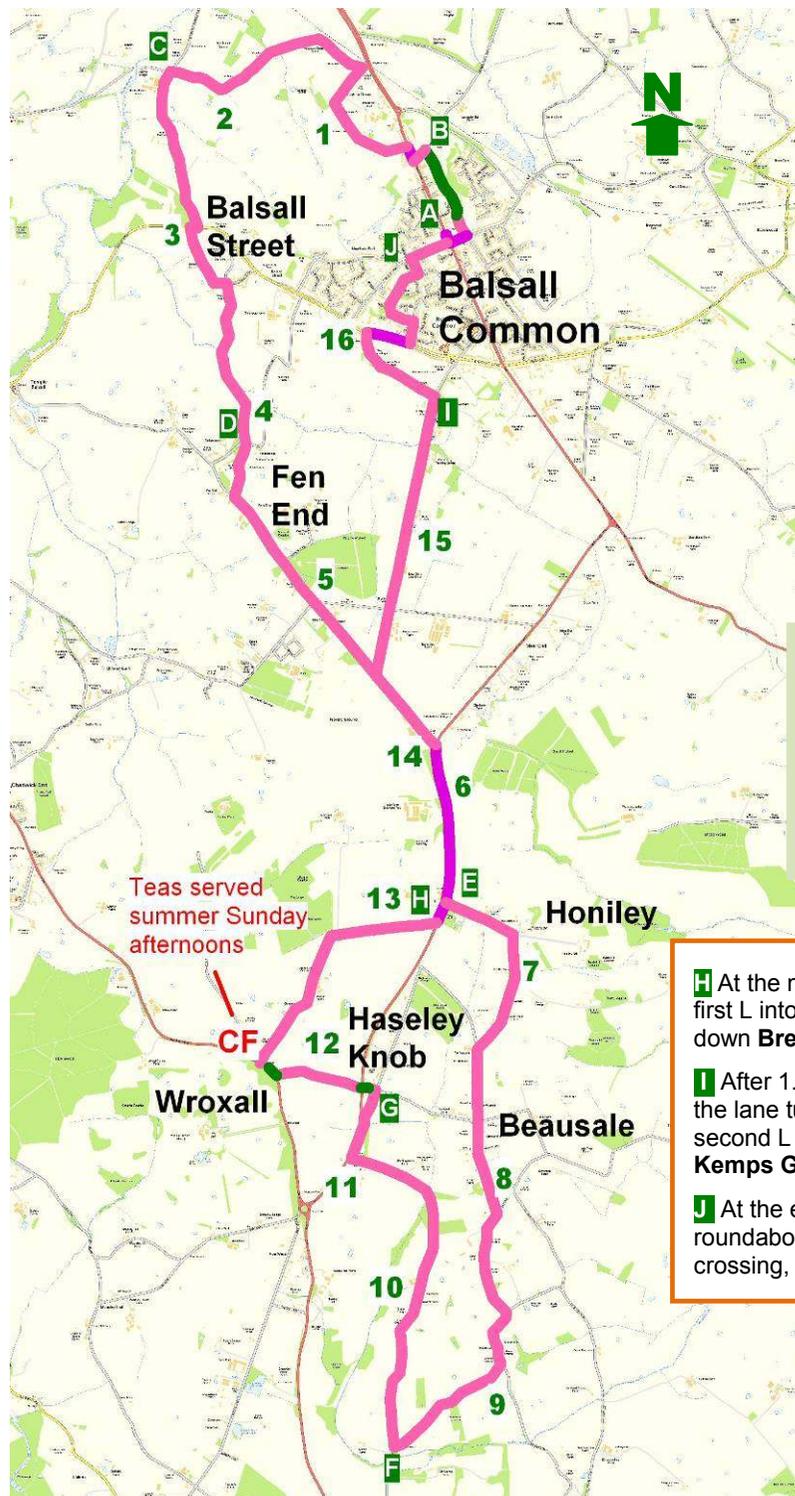
C At the crossroads turn L towards **Balsall Common**. At the end of the lane turn R and immediately L into **Magpie Lane**. At the end turn R.

D At the crossroads go SO and at the end of the lane turn L. Follow the road until the A4177 and turn R towards **Honiley**.

E After 0.75 miles turn L. Follow the lane until the end and turn L. After the end of turn R towards **Hatton** then after 0.7 miles next R.. Follow this lane for 1.5 miles.

F At the end of the lane turn R by **Millstream Pigs**. At the end turn R to **Haseley Knob**.

G At the next crossroads go L to **Wroxall** past a 'no through road' sign and at the end go through the gap in the fence to reach the main road (A4177). Cross with care into the lane opposite. Go SO for 0.3 miles to reach another main road (A4141). **This is a busy road and you are advised to walk R along the footpath for 150 yards and turn R into Manor Lane, passing Wren Hall on the L (teas served summer Sunday afternoons).** Go SO until the end of the lane.



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Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH** Public House
- CF** Café or tearoom
- Notable church
- Access to canal or river.

Abbreviations used in the route description:
L left, R right, SO straight on.

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.

H At the main road (A4177) turn L and after 1 mile turn first L into **Honiley Road** towards **Fen End**. Turn next R down **Brees Lane** towards **Balsall Common**.

I After 1.25 miles turn L into **Frog Lane**. At the end of the lane turn R and first L into **Kemps Green Rd**. Turn second L into **Stoneton Crecent** and third L back into **Kemps Green Rd**.

J At the end of the road turn R. Just before the roundabout bear L to cross the road at the Pelican crossing, returning to the library.