



Warwickshire & Coventry
Historic Churches Trust



The Dassett/Southam Local Ride

This just under 30 mile ride around the Dassett/Southam group of churches is part of the annual sponsored ride organised by the Coventry and Warwickshire Historic Churches Trust.

The money you collect from your sponsors is divided equally between the church nominated by yourself and the County Trust, who are then able to make grants to needy churches. Where we can recover Gift Aid, we will retain the full amount of this, enabling us to increase our grant giving further.

This ride will take in churches at **Burton Dassett, Avon Dassett** (Churches Conservation Trust), **Farnborough, Fenny Compton, Wormleighton, Priors Hardwick, Priors Marston, Southam, Ladbroke, Bishop's Itchington** and **Northend**. You will find it helpful to have with you a copy of the relevant 1:25,000 OS map (Explorer 206). It is suggested that Burton Dassett would be a good starting point but you can begin anywhere you choose as it is a circular route. It is hoped that most churches will be open. Some may be closed, depending on the timing of your ride, but they still count as a visited church. For a shorter ride, the figure of eight route round just the Dassett group of churches is a more manageable 11 miles.

If you have time to dismount and explore the historic churches mentioned above you may be interested in finding the following:

At Burton Dassett you'll find ancient carvings, including a Green Man who greets you as you enter the building. Medieval wall paintings, recently uncovered and a slope up to the Chancel almost as steep as the hill it is built into.


At Wormleighton a magnificent carved oak rood screen, a rare survivor dating from the 1400s. Try to find the carved head of a man wearing spectacles and other putting out their tongues!

At Fenny Compton the oak door in the north porch shows traces of bullet holes made during the Civil Wars in the 17th Century.

At Ladbroke some notable stained glass, including that from the Kempe Studio. Try to find the spider web in the window featuring St. Nicholas.

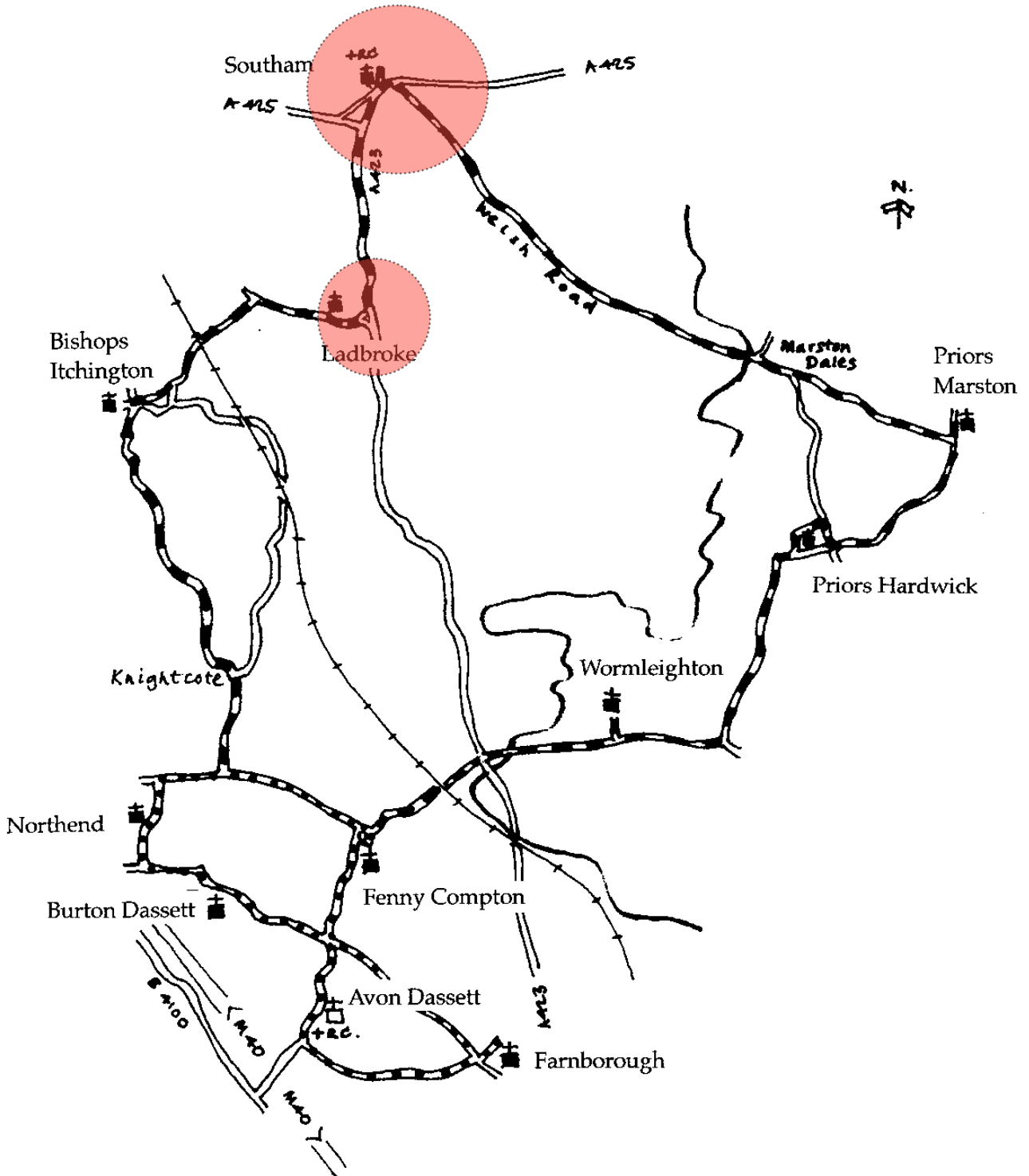
Safety is vitally important on the Ride. This year we have included a Risk Assessment on the website, and we would ask you to read carefully this document and the text of the blue Sponsorship form before you set out and to follow the advice given. This is of particular importance if you are travelling in a group or have younger children in your party. Whilst the suggested route follows minor roads where possible, we have marked main road crossings on the attached map and extra care should be taken there.

The majority of the churches on this route are usually open for the Ride & Stride event. However, a list of open churches will be available on our website www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk where you will also find the necessary Sponsorship Forms and other information about the Ride.

 Main roads & crossings (heavier traffic)

Dassett Ride 

Southam Loop 



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