



Warwickshire & Coventry  
Historic Churches Trust



## Round the Rugby (North-West) Local Ride

A suggested 30-mile tour of churches to the north-west of Rugby, for those taking part in the annual sponsored cycle ride organised by the Warwickshire and Coventry 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 is a national event.

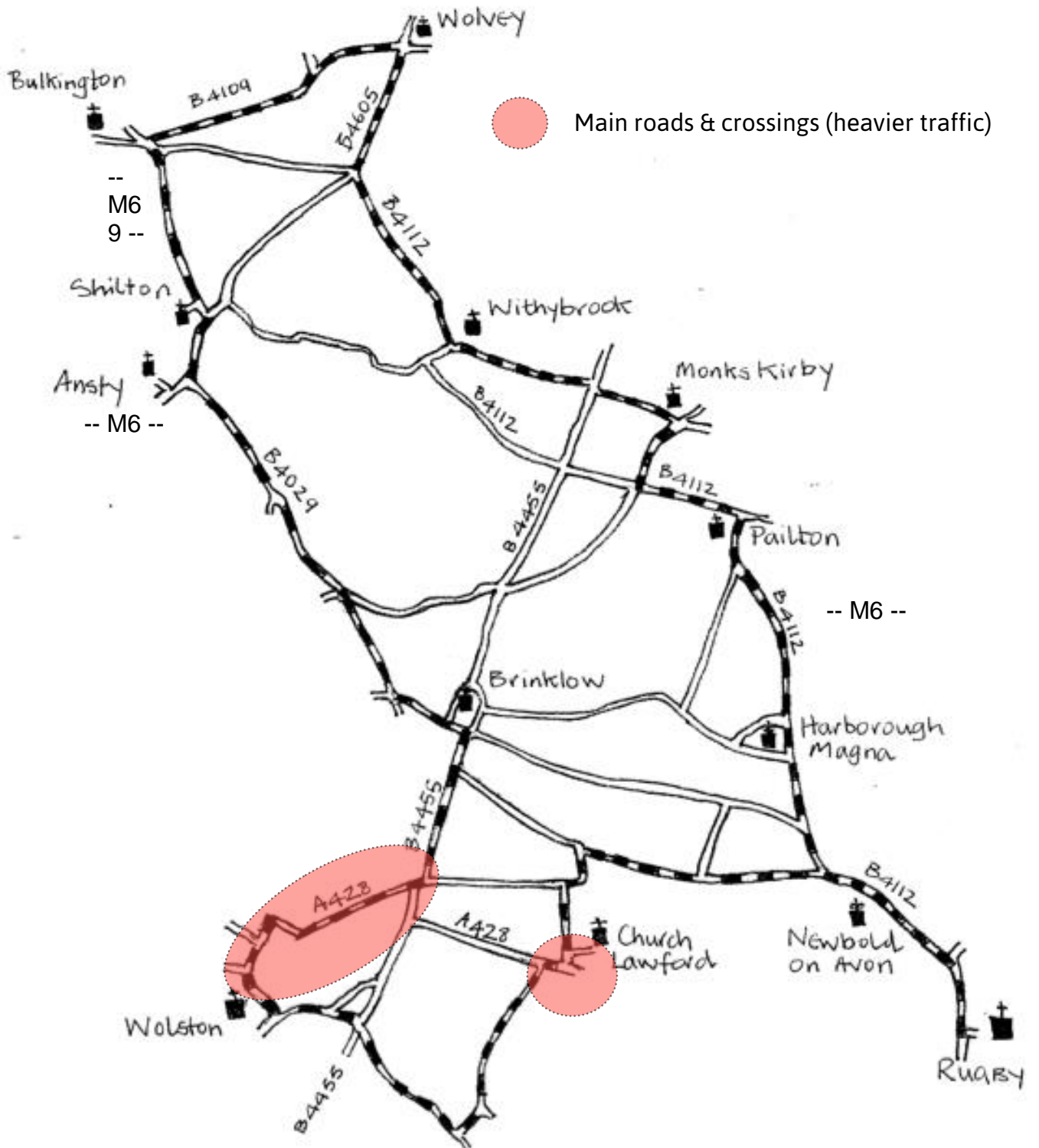
This suggested 30-mile circular ride takes in the twelve churches of **Newbold-on-Avon, Church Lawford, Wolston, Brinklow, Ansty, Shilton, Bulkington, Wolvey, Withybrook, Monks Kirby, Pailton** and **Harborough Magna** – but, if you begin and end, or take in, **Rugby** (add about five miles), you could include several more. The map supplied here includes roads which some might like to use to reduce the mileage. As well as this map, you should bring with you a copy of the relevant 1:50,000 OS map (Landranger 140).

Pubs serving refreshments will be found at all the villages along the route

The recommended route avoids 'A' roads, except for a short stretch of A428 between Wolston and Bretford. The use of 'B' roads, however, is unavoidable for much of the route.

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](http://www.warwickshirechurches.org.uk), where you will also find the necessary Sponsorship Forms and other information about the Ride.



## Rugby North West Local Ride

### **St Botolph, Newbold-on-Avon**

The south porch, now the vestry, was originally the entrance from Long Lawford. In the 19th century parishioners from Long Lawford used only this entrance and sat on the south side of the nave whilst the parishioners from Newbold used the north door and sat on the north side of the nave! The ceiling of the south porch is stone vaulted and has faint traces of the gilding with which it was covered in the 15th century. Fine monuments to the Boughton-Leighs of Little Lawford.

### **St Peter, Church Lawford**

Mostly rebuilt in 1872, St Peter's retains some of the original building including the simple mediaeval south doorway. Don't miss the Kempe window in the chancel.

### **St Margaret, Wolston**

A path from Main Street leads to this Grade I listed church with some wonderful 12th-century features. Well placed benches allow you to enjoy the view across the meadows. Inside you will discover stories about the people who have shaped this building. An illegal printing press was once active in the community!

### **St John the Baptist, Brinklow**

This church towers over the high street. There is a steep climb up to the altar and fragments of medieval glass depicting a peacock can be found in the windows. Under the carpet in front of the altar are wooden traps under which can be found tombs of the vicar who was banished by Cromwell and reinstated by Charles II.

### **St James, Ansty**

You should spot the elegant spire of this church from some distance away. Look for the Large Gothic marble monument to John Adaas, whose inscription records that he was 'a visiting justice of the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum. It was his happiness to be one of the first promoters of the humane system of the treatment of the insane'.

### **St Andrew, Shilton**

Solid sandstone church with sturdy tower, restored and added to by the well-known nineteenth century architect Giles Gilbert Scott.

### **St James, Bulkington**

This church contains some lovely carved marble

memorials by the late 18th-century gentleman-sculptor Richard Hayward, of nearby Weston-in-Arden Hall. It also has connections with novelist George Eliot – the originals for two characters in 'The Mill on the Floss' can be found buried in the churchyard.

### **St John the Baptist, Wolvey**

A larger than average church for a village, the south aisle, which dates from the late twelfth or early thirteenth century, was renovated in the fourteenth century by Alice de Astley as a memorial to her husband Giles, who was killed at the battle of Bannockburn in 1314.

### **All Saints, Withybrook**

In a secluded spot with, All Saints churchyard is a good place to rest and enjoy the scenery and admire the variety of different colours in the stonework. Inside is the tomb of Christopher Wright (1602) with an interesting inscription.

### **St Edith, Monks Kirby**

St. Edith's is a magnificent priory building, lofty and wide with a fabulous thousand year history. In the corner to the left of the altar the north chapel contains two alabaster tombs of the Fielding family dating from the 1500s. On the wall is a copy of a pew plan showing who sat where in the late 1700s. Blocked up doorways indicate where the monks used to enter the church from cloisters removed in Victorian times.

### **Pailton**

This church is a relatively modern building, the foundation stone laid in 1883. It is built from red brick with two other colours interspersed which gives it a warm glow.

### **All Saints, Harborough Magna**

Dating in part from the 14th century, this church has a lovely east window above the altar and an unusual clock on the tower.

### **St Andrew, Rugby**

St Andrew's Church stands at the heart of Rugby. The church was almost entirely rebuilt in the 19th century by Gothic revival architect William Butterfield. Only the mediaeval bell tower remains from the original building. St Andrews Church is the only church in the world to have two bell towers, each with a full peal of bells.