



Warwickshire & Coventry  
Historic Churches Trust



## The Shipston Local Ride

The Ride around this group of churches in rural countryside 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.

The recommended route is just over 11 miles long and avoids main roads where possible. You will find it helpful to have with you a copy of the relevant 1:25,000 OS map (Explorer 151). Take particular care when cycling on the A.3400. The Ride can be started at any point as it is a circular route. It is anticipated 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.

Shipston on Stour parish church, St Edmund, has a mediaeval tower fronting a simple mid 19thC Nave and Sanctuary by Edmund Street.

The Catholic church lies uphill in the Darlingscote Road.

The Methodist church is in New Street.

Barcheston, of Norman origins with a later south aisle and recumbent monuments but is perhaps best known for the extraordinary angle of its tower. The village boasted a distinguished tapestry workshop in the 16thC.

Whatcote has the unusual distinction of having been bombed in WW II but manages to preserve some 12thC windows and a doorway.

Idlicote, a delightful little church with a busy box-pewed interior and bell turret.

Honington is the most distinguished piece of architecture, being - apart from its mediaeval tower - all of one date (1680-85) and reminiscent of Wren's city churches. Unusual monuments to the Townshends, including an informally lifelike conversation piece at the west end.

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.

● Main roads & crossings (heavier traffic)



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