



The George Eliot Country Local Ride

Join us on a tour round some of the historic churches of the George Eliot country, 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 around 15 miles long, including the diversions to Attleborough and Bedworth churches, and avoids main roads where possible. Fuller details of the route and of its connections with George Eliot can be found in a booklet, published by the Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, entitled *George Eliot - Scenes, Trails* available from the tourism office (tel. 024 7637 6376). You will find it helpful to have with you a copy of the relevant 1:25,000 OS maps 221,232. Refreshments can be found at pubs and cafes along the route. The Ride can be started at any point as it is a circular route and short cuts can be made to reduce the overall length if preferred. 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.

St Nicholas church, Nuneaton, has an impressively spacious interior of mixed mediaeval date. Mid Victorian chancel and interesting monuments.

Attleborough church, mid-19th century and built as a piece. Slender and economic Gothic.

Chilvers Coton church is remarkable in having been largely rebuilt and decorated by German prisoners just after the war.

All Saints church, Bedworth is 19th century apart from the tower; the remodelling by Bodley & Garner in red sandstone. Excellent glass.

Astley church was adapted in the 17th century from the mediaeval remains of a collegiate church. Important decorated choir stalls and wall-paintings.

Stockingford church, 1820s late Georgian brick, simple but elegant.

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.

Contact: Claire Ragg, Ride coordinator – Claire@everythingbutthetea.com



Main roads & crossings (heavier traffic)

