

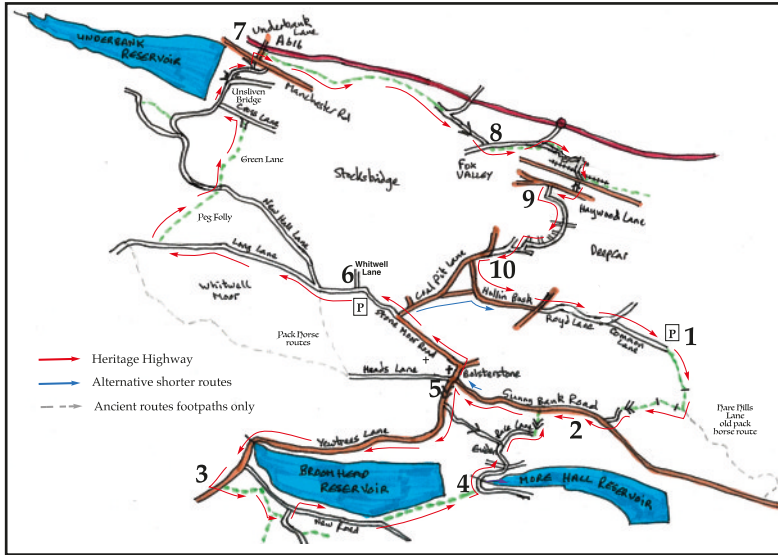
# Heritage Ride 2 - Stocksbridge to Ewden Ride

**Mileage and time:** 12.5 miles (20km) horse riders c4 hrs, cyclists 2 to 2.5 hrs.

**Description:** This ride is very varied with some good off road riding, and a choice of several shorter routes. It can be ridden in either direction and takes in some urban riding through housing estates, including Fox Valley. There are some very steep hills. Suitable for mountain bikes.

**Parking:** The car park, Common Lane, off Royd Lane on the way to S36 2UD Parking by arrangement for horse transport. Hard standing in a field opposite Whitwell Lane next to Allen Croft Farm S36 1GJ. contact: Whitwell Farm - 07927 735877.

**Refreshments:** Plenty of choice at Fox Valley.



Bolsterstone, at the T junction, turn left down Yew Trees Lane. For a shorter ride turn right instead, continuing from Fig 5. Stay on down Yew Trees Lane passing Broomhead Reservoir on your left and crossing the bridge at the end of the Reservoir. Yew Trees Lane was known as Cooper Carr New Road which replaced Old Cooper Carr, a pack horse

## Ride Directions:

For those parking at Whitwell field begin the ride by turning left out of the drive and continue from Fig 6.

1. From Common Lane parking area, turn left and follow the byway to the old farm turn right here past the barns and up through the gate. At the top turn right staying on the byway through two more gates. The footpath to the left becomes Hare Hills Lane. It was once known as the 'Saddle Back' pack horse road. Follow the green lane through another gate with magnificent views over Moorhall Reservoir the byway become stoney and steep and eventually tarmaced. At the T junction turn right into Sunny Bank Road.

2. Ride up Sunny Bank Road to the village of

route part of which can still be seen as a deep hollow way opposite Yew Trees Farm marked as a footpath. It descended steeply to a ford, now under Broomhead Reservoir. The name derives from the lead mining near Ewden Beck now also submerged. Cross the bridge and ride on up the hill on Allas Lane until you come to a restricted byway on your left. These tracks are what remains of a network of old lanes and pack horse routes to Broomhead Mill now under the reservoir.

3. Follow the restricted bway turning right across an old culvert and alongside an interesting old watercourse and bearing left at the next junction until you come out onto Mill Lane. Turn left and then right at the T junction onto New Road. Ride along the side of Broomhead Reservoir and as the

road bends right up the hill take the restricted byway that goes straight on.

4. At the end turn left onto New Mill Bank over Ewden Bridge at the end of More Hall Reservoir and ride straight on up the hill. Take a right turn into Race Lane which becomes another restricted byway steep uphill onto Sunny Bank Road at the top. Turn left and ride once more to Bolsterstone.

5. At the T junction turn right through the historic village of Bolsterstone. *This village is believed to have originated as an Anglo Saxon settlement. It lies on a pack horse salt route between Cheshire and Yorkshire. St Mary's church stands on the site of a much older places of worship with an ancient chapel of ease being demolished in 1791.* Pass the church and Castle Inn on your left taking the left turn onto Stone Moor Road to Midhopstones. **To shorten the ride take the next right onto Coal Pit Lane and then first right into Hollin Busk Lane and right again at the T junction. Continue from Fig 10.**

6. After about a half mile Stone Moor Road becomes Lee Moor Road (**which is where the riders from Whitwell will begin and end their ride**). Carry on this road and then take the first left onto Long Lane. Ride up the hill with Whitwell Moor on your left and at the large stone way marker turn right onto a restricted byway. *This is called Peg Folly and is one of the pack horse routes that would have gone across Whitwell Moor.* Ride down hill to the road at the end. *Here there is an important old guide stoop. In the right light you can still see faint words carved into three sides of the stone reading Uden, Peniston and Bolsterstone. You are following an old pack horse way that came from Bradford to Penistone and beyond. This used to be a cross roads crossing an important pack horse route from Bolsterstone.* Turn right and immediately left, passing Sherfield Equestrian Centre, onto a bridleway called Green Lane. At the T junction turn left onto Cross Lane and at the end turn right riding down the hill and take the next left over the bridge below Underbank Reservoir onto Underbank Lane.

*Unsliven Bridge was built in about 1730 as a narrow pack horse bridge and was widened in 1805. There are records of a wooden bridge here as early as 1290.*

7. Take the next left and at the bend go right straight up the verge to cross the main road onto Underbank Lane. Cross with care. Ride a short way up the hill and turn right onto a new bridleway over a horse hop. This ends in another horse hop, ride straight on down Hunshef Road with Stocksbridge steelworks on your right.

8. At the T junction ride straight across and join the red brick dust path (bridleway) that runs alongside the pavement away from the road, on Fox Valley Way. This takes you up the hill and crosses Samuel Fox Ave. Keep on the red brick dust bridleway down the hill towards the houses. The track ends at the first house, here rejoin Samuel Fox Avenue and keep following it round as it winds through the estate. (There is a provision for cyclists with a cycle track along the river which rejoins the road). Take the next right through the open flood barrier concrete blocks, across the railway line and over the horse hop. Ride straight up the hill and across the Manchester Road into Ash Lane directly opposite. Ride steep uphill and turn right at the T junction into Haywood Lane. Take the next left, Haywood Road leading to Haywood Ave.

9. Stay on Haywood Ave riding steadily up hill and at the cross roads ride straight across into Fox Glen Road. At the T junction turn left and then right into Broomfield Lane. At the next T junction turn left and continue up the hill until a left turn into Hollin Busk Road.

10. Keep on this road until the cross roads and go straight across into Royd Lane. Take the next right into Common Lane with the golf course on your right. Ride along here back to the car park.

**For those parked in the Whitwell field ride past the car park and continue from Fig 1.**