

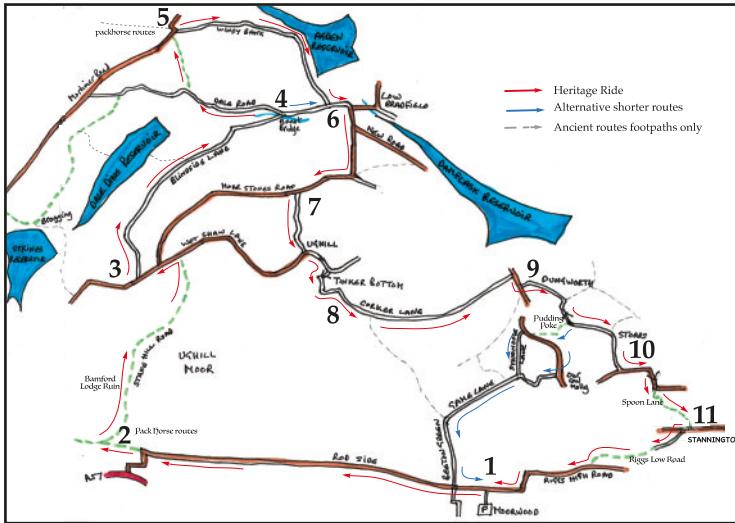
Heritage Ride 6 - Ancient Moors and Hamlets

Mileage and time: Full route 15 miles. Horse riders c 5hrs. Bikes 2-3 hours.

Description: A varied ride with stunning views and ancient villages. Equally good in either direction, with good opportunities to shorten the distance. A couple of very steep hills. Mostly on roads with three great bridleways that are fine for any off road type of bike.

Parking: Horse boxes and trailers Moorwood Equine, High Riggs Road, Stannington S6 6GR. Please phone first: 07718 425147 (Horse livery and B&B also available). Plenty of roadside parking in the vicinity for cars.

Refreshments: Our Cow Molly ice cream parlour and The Royal pub, Dungworth.



about 1810. When the track meets the road turn left past Loftshaw clay pits, now full of water and a haven for wildlife, on your left.

3. Take the second lane on the right, Blindside Lane, which goes steadily downhill with Strines Reservoir on the left followed by Dale Dike Reservoir. Stay on this road for a couple of miles crossing Annet Bridge just before a T junction.

Ride Directions:

1. From Moorwood Equine turn left and stay on this road after a couple of miles you will pass Crawshaw Head House on your right. The land rises to become moorland with vast views of the Pennine Hills ahead.
2. When the road veers to the left ride straight ahead onto the byway called Stake Hill Road. Ride through the gate and after a short distance take the track to the right up hill and through another gate. *Pack horse routes were often marked by poles so that the packmen did not get lost on the moors, which is probably the origin of the name.* Carry on across Ughill Moor on this old walled lane enjoying the views. There are lots of old sandstone quarries and some hollow ways to be seen up here. *The ruin that can be seen on the left is Bamford Lodge built for the Duke of Norfolk's first gamekeeper on these moors in*

4. At the T junction turn left into Dale Road which goes into a dip and then climbs steadily towards Dale Dike Reservoir. **To shorten the ride at the T junction turn right instead and continue for a short distance to join the route again at Fig 6 (see map and instructions).** *The collapse of the former Dale Dike Dam in 1864 was a disaster which swept all before it through this Dale, Low Bradfield and along the Loxley Valley, destroying the village of Damflask (now under Damflask Reservoir) and on into Sheffield where it was named the great Sheffield flood. The rebuilt reservoir is smaller.* Before the woods on the left come to an end turn right onto a bridleway (the sign is old so take care not to miss it). Go through the gate and up the hill to another gate at the top before joining Mortimer Road. *Mortimer Road was an important packhorse route called Halifax Gate before it was improved and became*

a turnpike road in 1771. Several pack horse routes used to cross this road going west over the moors, including Emlin Dike Road (also called New Cross Road) almost opposite this bridleway. Only part of this still exists, the rest is now covered by peat and heather.

5. Turn right with care onto Mortimer Road (it is possibly safer to stay on the right hand side of the road on the verge) and then turn almost immediately right onto Windy Bank which takes you downhill to ride alongside Agden Reservoir. Along this road there is eventually a good view of High Bradfield on the left with it's fine medieval church and Damflask Reservoir in the valley ahead. At the T junction turn left into Fair House Lane.

6. Follow Fairhouse Lane to the right past Low Bradfield and onto Mill Lee Road sign posted to Dungworth. Ride up the hill turning right at the top onto Hoarstones Road sign posted to Ughill and Strines. Continue up hill and take the first turning on the left onto Ughill Road.

7. Climb to the top of the hill. *Higher up on the right among the trees is thought to be an ancient Viking settlement.* Ride on into the old settlement of Ughill. *Probably founded in the 10th century by the Vikings. Note the old buildings, especially Ughill Hall Farm, Ughill Manor and also several water troughs.* At the T junction turn left to Dungworth onto Tinker Bottom. Keep on this road downhill and across two deep culverts and up onto Corker Lane.

8. Remain on Corker Lane (which becomes Corker Walls) to Dungworth. *Notice the small fields and stone gateposts with a hole in them, the way of fixing a gate before metal fittings. The gateposts changed in the 19th century, so this area is old and relatively unchanged.* Along here there is a grand view over Damflask Reservoir. *This reservoir was completed in 1896 with the dam walls being constructed from local stone quarried from these hills.*

9. At the T junction in Dungworth turn right and first left onto Dungworth Green to

Storrs. Ride past the primary school, downhill and then steep uphill passing a bridleway, called Pudding Poke at Storrs Carr. *To shorten the ride turn right onto the bridleway. At the end of the bridleway turn left onto the main road for a short way to Hill Top and Our Cow Molly on your left. (Alternatively turn right and first left into Sykehouse Lane to join Hill Top Lane turn right). Turn right into Hill Top Lane. Stay on this lane which will bring you back to Moorwood - refer to the map.* To continue on the main ride pass the bridleway and go straight on, bearing right at Storrs Green, keep on this road.

10. Follow the road through Storrs. The road eventually goes steep downhill. At the sharp bend to the left go straight on to the bridleway over a horse hop. *This lane is old and called Spoon Lane named after a Richard Spoone who bequeathed land for a local chapel and school.* Follow this lane over Storrs Brook and steadily up the hill to Stannington.

11. At the top turn right with care onto Stannington Road for a short distance passing Underbank Chapel on your right. Opposite the chapel take the first left onto Riggs Low Road. *The chapel was built in 1743 becoming Unitarian in 1785. The schoolroom which you pass on your right was built on land bequeathed by Richard Spoone in 1652 for the education of "poor children". This building replaced the first one in 1853 and remained a school until 1911.* The metalled road becomes a bridleway at a house called The Griffs. *The name comes from the area and is a Norse word meaning pit or hollow. Here clay has been mined more recently for use in the Sheffield steel industry and this house used be called Clay House. Dysons Refractories was built up in the early 1800's and remained as a large industrial site until it closed in 2006. The new housing estate has been built where the refactory used to be.* Some magnificent views start to open up along this track. At the top turn right onto Riggs High Road and stay on this road back to Moorwood Equine.