

OXON 20-2010

Route Description

Place names: **CAPITALS** = name appears on O.S. Landranger 175 (1:50,000)-or Street Name
Italics = name can be seen from route

*Abbreviations: ahd=ahead: B=Bear: BW=Bridleway: CB=compass bearing (magnetic)
:cont=continue: CW=Chiltern Way: CWE=Chiltern Way Extension: enc=enclosed: F=fork:
fld=field: fm=from: FP=Footpath: FPS=Footpath sign: G/way=Gateway: GR=O.S. grid
ref:immed-immediately: junc=junction: K/G=Kissing gate: L=Left: LHS/RHS=L/R hand
side: nr=near: opp=opposite: OW=Oxfordshire Way: R=Right: RD=road:
RW=Ridgeway: ST=stile: TK=track: thru=through: T=Turn: TP=Thames Path
wd=wood: WM=waymark(ed), usually arrow: X=cross/across: yds=yards*

Emergency Tel. No. 07860 758946

*Before you start: - Please check for any amendments to the route. Details will be on display.
Dogs on lead whenever in fields with animals and in nature reserve.*

Leave YMCA and TL through gap in fence then L onto encl FP. Follow 200 yds to X RD and up *Peppard Lane* opposite. Ahead ignoring all turnings for 700 yds to reach end of road at *Cilgerron House*, then ahd on BW. Keep ahead 800 yds, eventually fence and gardens to R to reach multiple path junc at end of fence, where 1/2R on widest path (not sharp R though wooden posts) and then ahead 100 yds to RD junc (*Gillots Lane*)
GR SU 747 815

1.2 miles : X *Gillots Lane* and go through K/G, immediately sharp R on unmarked FP (NOT that for *Hunts Green*). Keep parallel to hedge to R, eventually merging with another FP from L, and go thru hedge at K/g. TL 50 yds and X RD to postbox and up *Elizabeth Road* opposite. After 150 yds, keep on *Elizabeth Rd* by swinging L at junc, then at bend 40 yds later, between nos 70 & 68, TL up tarmac on encl FP (hidden FPS sign next to No 70). Follow path 300 yds thru fld to RD and X RD to go up *Highlands Lane* (FPS). After 250 yds, TR on FP (FPS: *Sonning Common*). GR SU 742 814

1.7 miles : Ahead on wide path, cross field then to lone oak tree within second field, where BR, 200 yds to fld edge, thru gap at WM, X ST and along encl FP, X 2 ST to lane, where TR. Keep L of buildings of *Upper House Farm*, passing onto grassy TK on RHS of fld and follow this 250 yds to X ST next to gate and meet *Chiltern Way Extension* (CWE.). TR on CWE, uphill on TK, passing to R of *The Old Barn*. Keep ahead on this TK for 1300 yds to reach 4 way junc, where ahead thru gate on blue WM. Ahead 1300 yds to RD. GR SU 717 829

4.3 miles : X RD and take unmarked narrow FP opposite into woods, leaving CWE, 100 yds to reach minor RD. TR on this for 120 yds, then immed before *Give Way* sign at T Junc, TL on unmarked path. Follow 150 yds to reach fence, where TL thru gate and up encl FP. BL as you pass into a wood and ahd over 3 K/gs to reach SHEPHERDS GREEN. GR SU 714 833

5.0 miles : T sharp R on lane (do not proceed to green itself) . After 100 yds, TL down encl FP on side of fence, follow this thru dip and past orchards, up opposite hill to reach lane. TL for 40 yds then TR thru K/G at FPS onto encl FP passing round gardens and then down into valley. TR in valley bottom, 250 yds to 4 way junc.
. GR SU 719 841

5.8 miles : Ahd over path junct (yellow WM) on grassy TK swinging L thru spruces on valley bottom 900 yds, then approx 100yds before you reach end of plantation, FR (yellow WM) and climb 250yds to X 2ST next to farm. Past broken ST and X TK and cont thru trees, 400yds to lane where TR. After 150yds reach main road at start of dual carriageway. X main RD (A4130) with care. TR on pavement & in 200 yds BL (FPS) between houses to reach *Bix Church*. X RD to R of church entrance & TL on FP keeping to church wall on LHS of common to reach Village Hall behind church.

CP 1. BIX & ASSENDON VILLAGE HALL GR SU 728 853 7.0 miles.
OPEN 0900-1230

7.0 miles : Out of door, ahd 20 yds to lone tree at edge of common. TL (CB30) along edge of common, pass goalposts on L, cont 50yds to hedge corner and RD. X & ahd on RD opp (*Rectory Lane*) & downhill for 900 yds. FL At RD junc in valley bottom. After 330yds, immed after 2 houses on R, TR on FP/TK, after 40 yds leaving TK to keep to LHS of hedge (WM), 130yds to X ST on R . X fld to return to TK at bend at WM and immed BL off TK again onto FP, up fld to white marker post on brow of hill . Rejoin TK yet again. Downhill with hedge on R, down to bottom corner of fld. Thru gap & immed. T sharp L, following purple arrow, (CB290) up encl path. (do not proceed to RD ahd) GR SU 735 867

8.1 miles : Follow path uphill for approx 1 mile. At TK junc nr fld edge, BR (SW 33) & cont 600 yds to reach and TR on lane at yellow fire hydrant, then after 30 yds at *Lodge Farm*, TL (OW/CW) and follow path between houses. On emerging in field, immed BR (PS12/CW) to cross field under wires. Continue into wood. Down thru wood on WM'd path, then thru K/G and X field in direction of village. Pass L of copses to K/g and down field, X 2 K/g and cont to RD at STONOR GR SU 736 886

10.3 miles: TL on road for 300 yds (CW), single file on RHS with great care at bend. Thru metal turnstile on R (CW) into deer park. Follow path uphill, after 100m keeping to deer fence and passing R of STONOR HOUSE, eventually leaving deer park thru another metal K/G, then cont along path, after 130yds merging with TK, then 350 yds uphill. Ahd at multiple TK junct, then thru gate to X RD. Ahd on TK opp (FPS, leaving CW and *N'Hood Watch* sign). After 40 yds, TL onto unmarked path thru trees (do not pass *Kiln Cottage*), passing pond. Thru trees then bearing R to cross common to emerge on TK at *Harvest Cottage*. TL 50 yds to lane at SOUTHEND COMMON GR SU 753 898

11.8 miles : KEEP TO DESCRIPTION ON THIS SECTION-DO NOT CROSS TO JOIN WALKERS ON OPPOSITE HILLSITE WHO ARE COMING OUT OF NEXT CHECKPOINT (ON 40).

TR on lane and ahead at junct immed afterwards, through 15mph sign and down lane, passing L of *Southend Farm*. Ahead downhill on TK, views across valley to Turville Windmill. . Eventually steeply downhill onto path to meet RD, where TR. Ahead to bend after 150 yds, where stay on RD turning L proceed further 150 yds, where signed FP crosses RD, where TR over ST. Ahead, pass to L of gas installation, 70 yds later keep ahead in meadow. Climb into wood to reach path T junct and TL on wider path (FPS). Follow this as it contours, descends then turns into winding path (with views from the 'Vicar of Dibley') , eventually descending to SKIRMETT. Join lane and ahead to RD, where TR. After 150 yds, TL into Village Hall at FPS.

CP 2. SKIRMETT VILLAGE HALL GR SU 775 902 13.5 miles.
OPEN 1045-1645

13.5 miles: TL on leaving hall. Up to end of lane then thru gate (*Cherry Red Records*) and immed TR along RH edge of field. Ahead along fence eventually to reach lane. TR on lane back towards village for 250 yds then TL

on CW before RD junct. Follow this path down valley over numerous fields, ST and K/g, crossing lane after 1500 yds and then onto RD at *Little Colstrove* 600 yds further. Ahead on RD for 130 yds to RH bend and TL back onto CW immed afterwards. Keep on directly down valley 600 yds to go through another gate labelled '*Cherry Red Records*'. 30 yds later, ahead at four way FP– do not follow 40s going left. GR SU 783 875

15.5 miles : Ahd in between gardens, along LHS of fence , thru 3 K/gs into field paralleling RD, village visible ahead. Thru further K/G, then follow path bearing to R of church, thru K/G to RD. TL on RD to pass to R of church, eventually emerging in centre of HAMBLEDEN village. GR SU 784 865

16.0 miles : TR in village centre next to church and pass shop and Sports and Social club on R. Immed after small bridge TL thru K/G (FPS) & ahd X fld on FP paralleling RD to R. Thru 2 K/Gs and thru next fld. Thru K/G in corner & Turn sharp R and X RD after 50 yds to CP in car park

**CP 3. MILL END CAR PARK GR SU 785 854 16.7 miles.
OPEN 1130--1600**

16.7 miles : Recross RD, TR and ahd on pavement on LHS. Where pavement ends X to opp pavement & cont down RD to T junc with A4155. TR, X RD to driveway (*Hambleden Marina*) & in 15yds TL between houses (FPS). Ahd on drive towards white gate where BR & follow encl FP across weir & lock gates to far bank of River Thames. TL thru gateway & ahd on tarmac TK with Thames on L. After 200 yds, leave TK and ahead keeping to river on Thames Path. Along riverbank to end of field and thru K/g to Car Park. TR in car park and ahead up lane, eventually to reach T junc by *Flowerpot Hotel* PH on *Aston Lane*. GR SU 784 842

17.9 miles : BL/Ahd on lane, after 100 yds ignoring TP/FP on L & 100 yds further, TR immed after *Highway Cottage* (FPS). Thru K/G & up RHS of fld. X ST & ahd RHS of next fld thru K/G to FP junc (FPS) where cont ahd. FP becomes TK and follow for 800yds to X stile on L of double metal gate to lane. TL on lane & in 220yds TR (FPS) thru gap & then X fld on clear FP to FP junc immed before wood (FPS). Ahd on FP thru wd which ascends then descends to X ST out of wd. Ahd X fld in same direction to meet far end of fence on R & FP junc at FPS. TL on FP under trees to descend 150 yds to X ST then ahd X grass in same direction to X ST in hedge on R (FPS). Ahd following gravel trk & thru K/G in corner (FPS). Ahd X RD past *Henley Royal Regatta* sign onto tarmac path, then TL 100 yds to main RD.. TR on main RD to reach Henley Bridge , crossing at traffic island to LHS of RD GR SU 763 827

19.8 miles Cross bridge on LHS to reach traffic lights and TL by *Angel Inn* PH & in 20yds TL to towpath. Follow towpath with river on L for 1300yds. Over small FB & TR (*Pool House*) on lane away from river. Ahd on lane, crossing over railway 600yds to main RD . Cross main rd with care & ahd up *Noble Road* to YMCA and end.

**HENLEY YMCA SPORTS PAVILION GR SU 765 815 21.1 miles
07.00 – 20.00**

WELL DONE!