

OXON 40 2015 - Route Description

Car parking is limited please car share if possible.

Place names:

CAPITALS = name appears on O.S. Landranger 175, Explorer 171 or is Street Name

Italics = name can be seen from route

Abbreviations: All GRs are SU XXX XXX

ahd=ahead: **B**=Bear: **bldg**=building: **BW**=Bridleway: **ByW**=Restricted Byway, **CB**=compass bearing (magnetic): **cont**=continue: **CW**=Chiltern Way: **CWE**=Chiltern Way Extension: **encl**=enclosed: **F**=fork: **fld**=field: **filw**=follow: **FP**=Footpath: **FPS**=Footpath sign: **G/way**=Gateway: **GR**=O.S. grid ref: **immed**=immediately: **junc**=junction: **KG**=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: **SP**=signpost: **TK**=track: **thru**=through: **T**=Turn: **T-junc**=T junction: **TP**=Thames Path: **wd**=wood: **WM**=waymark(ed): **X**=cross/across: **yds**=yards

Emergency Tel. Nos. Gavin 07946331213 or Ron 07531524108

Start GR 766 815 Henley YMCA Pavilion:

Thru YMCA car park, TL then immed TR towards main RD. In 80yds TL along slip RD. At end ½R to cont on pavement of main RD, pass *Esso* garage then 600yds past mini roundabout to traffic lights. Ahd 15yds TL up FP (SP: *Holy Trinity Church*). At T-junc at top TR on FP, pass church & cont ahd to end of *Church St* at main RD. X RD **with care**, ½L onto LHS of *Deanfield Ave* for 30yds. TL on TK with cream & blue bldg on R (FPS), ahd up TK 400yds becoming encl FP. At end ahd on RD for 200yds, TR along *Tilebarn Close*. In 120yds, TL at *Paradise RD* sign & take encl FP to R (FPS: *Rotherfield Greys*) (CB280) to head up bottom of valley. **GR 753 822**

1.3 miles: Cont ahd up valley bottom X ST but ignore all cross TKs, for 1300yds to X ST by WM. Ahd RHS of trees passing L of house to X ST. Ahd to TK & cont. Over X TKs & ahd for 300yds over fld in valley botto, eventually hedge on R. Go R of WM & ahd 10yds (10yds before TK turns L), BR to X ST in hedge into fld. Ahd along LHS of fld, & keep ahd up valley for 800yds, Xing 2 STs (by gates) & ignoring paths L & R. Thru KG in corner & enter trees. After 100yds, at WM immed before RD, TR on path parallel to road. After 160yds, when path intersects with RD, ahd 50yds on RH verge then X RD **with care**, TL at bend onto minor RD. **GR 725 831**

3.4 miles: Ahd up RD 400yds (CB295) past Xing of CWE (FPS) past trees on LHS to FPS on L. TL thru KG, ahd up RHS fld & thru gate into wd. Up RHS of wd to wooden fence, BL (fence on R) to gate. Thru gate & ahd, after 50yds BR (CB270) & cont thru trees. At end of wd ignore TK joining from L & gate on L, ahd into encl FP & thru KG. Ahd LHS fld thru KG into encl FP. At end thru gate & ahd 20yds, X tarmac track onto gravel TK past *The Strip*. Where TK turns R ahd on grass. BR thru gap in hedge. Filw grassy path to KG, thru KG & TL behind houses. Filw LHS fld thru KG & ahd (CB320) to next KG approx 4yds from RH corner of wd. Thru KG & ahd, close to RHS wood. At end thru KG, X TK & ahd thru KG. X fld to KG, ahd X 2nd fld & thru KG into wd. Ahd 50yds to WM post, TR on BW to RD. X RD ½L to FPS & thru scrub into fld. X fld (CB330) into wd, filw FP 70yds to WM post, TL filw FP ahd to RD, ignore FP on R. X RD **with care** to KG opp (FPS: *Witheridge Hill*). **GR 703 839**

5.1 miles: Thru KG, fillw LH fld edge to WM post, TL X plank bridge, thru gate fillw RHS of fld pass wooden bldg on R (Note Shark sculpture on end of bldg) and thru KG to TK. AHD on TK past wooden shelter on L. Where TK turns L and thru KG & cont down RHS of fld. Thru KG to encl FP to RD. X **with care** to RD opp (*Witheridge Hill*).

GR 698 841

5.5 miles: Ahd up RD for 60yds & TR on TK to pass R of *Bucks Barn*. Cont on TK & before 2nd WM (as TK bends R) FL 60 yds downhill past *Treetops* on R to X TK & and to R of telegraph pole for 300yds to lane. TL along lane for 100yds to reach XRDs. TR up RD (*Stoke Row*), then after 80yds next to entry to *Bushwood*, TR into wd (FPS). Fillw path in wd uphill for 500yds (CB270 after early climb). At T-junc with path on edge of wd, TR, then after 80yds, TL into recreation ground. Ahd ½R, to RH corner of car park on R of pavilion, on leaving car park immed X ST on L to take encl FP on far side of hedge. X 2nd ST and fillw encl FP to village green, cross green ½R to road junc at RD sign, then and on RD thru village (*Nuffield*), passing *Cherry Tree* pub to reach Village Hall on L immed after *Power Garage*. **GR 680 840**

CP 1. STOKE ROW VILLAGE HALL - 6.8 miles OPEN: 08.00-10.30

6.8 miles: Leave hall & TR back along main street, take 2nd left at XRDs (*Nottwood Lane*). Ahd 500yds, then immed before *Crooked Billet*, TL between pub on R & shed on L, thru car park & and X fld thru gap in trees, thru gate & 150yds to bottom of hill. At wooden fence on R TR thru gate (dog notice), X fld, thru 2nd gate & fillw path and, X ST to RD. TR on RD for 40yds then TL at FPS & fillw LHS of wd. Fillw uphill along fence into encl FP to reach RD. Ahd up RD bearing L at *Newnham Hill Farm*, then to R of bldgs, thru gate & after 60yds thru KG on R & up LHS of fld. After 350yds enter wd thru KG on L, BR to fillw path to wide TK, and to T junc where TL. Fillw TK CB20, ignoring FP then BW on R to leave wd & and to *Howberrywood Farm*. **GR 689 857**

8.4 miles: Just before farm, take marked Permissive Path to L. Thru gap in 1st hedge, across field to gap in 2nd hedge, then TR along RHS of fld, X ST & TL to fillw LH field edge round to opp corner. Enter wd & cont and on path on LHS of wd. Leave wd at gate (derelict), and to another gate where do not X ST but TR within fld (CB20) & up LHS of FLD. Thru gate to path junc, where TL on TK ignoring all cross paths, pass mast & *Studio One* to reach main RD. **GR 684 872**

9.9 miles: X RD **with care** & X ST opp. Ahd on grassy TK 700yds to X ST to RD. TL for 150yds (**blind bends ahead**), TR thru entrance pillars at *Mayfield* then BL thru metal gate into wd. After 50yds ignore L fork & and to meet wooden fence on R. At fence T sharp R thru gap in fence then TL up LHS of fld. Immed after houses to L, BL to enter wd, then BR away from houses & descend on wd edge to G/way, where BL downhill. X wide path in dip & thru gate, and to join TK on LHS of fld passing red & white post. At end of fld, swing L with TK/path (yellow WM), after 100yds up RHS of field (CB270), at end of fld TR with track thru hedge gap & immed TL along LH fld edge then and into wd (WM). At T-junc TR (WM) in wd eventually to lane. TL on lane, ignoring TK to *Ewelme Park House* to reach RW at X tks. **GR 674 892**

12.0 miles: TR on RW, swinging R after farm buildings. Cont ahd on RW TK then along RH fld edge, ignore FP on R & down thru wd to KG. Ahd RHS of fld, thru KG & ahd to TK. TR on RW TK, ahd to *St Botolph's Church on R*. **GR 682 902**

13.0 miles: Pass church then TL up lane on RW to RD, X RD thru KG opp (RW), down to dip then uphill ahd into trees. Filw WMs ahd. 200yds after commencing descent, TL at WM to filw CW. Filw CW for 1200yds to reach open area on downs, TL (CW) thru KG onto open ridge with views (access land). Along ridge, thru KG & downhill thru trees to CP2. **GR 666 914**

CP 2 SWYNCOMBE DOWNS - 14.9 miles OPEN: 09.45 -12.30

14.9 miles: Leave CP2 to RD & TR on RD for 80yds, then TL thru hedge gap on BW (CB180). Ahd 1500yds up LHS of fld then RHS next fld, over 2 XTKs now hedge on R, & ahd into wd (BW). Ahd 750yds & over ridge, then 150yds after starting descent at fld end, thru hedge gap & TL on TK (CW). Ahd 1000yds to houses, after these TL on TK at WM, then after 20yds TR on encl BW up valley bottom (CW) After 750yds, TR on RW, X fld (CB200) & uphill thru wd to KG onto main RD at NUFFIELD COMMON. **BEWARE - BUSY ROAD - BLIND BEND TO RIGHT. GR 675 878**

17.9 miles: TL on verge for 100yds to opp derelict pub sign. X main RD **WITH GREAT CARE**, TR in front of pub onto TK (phone box on L) to regain RW, pass in front of white house & filw white topped posts across golf course (RW). BR of clubhouse, ahd across grass (CB260), thru KG & field to reach RD at NUFFIELD. TR (RW) & pass R of church (water tap available). After house next to church (*The White House*), TL (RW). Filw LHS fld downhill thru gate into wd & ahd. When RW turns R at *Grim's Ditch* keep ahd into dip & up opp side of valley thru trees, ignore FP on L & ahd LHS fld edge then back into trees past metal ladder ST to encl FP. X drive, X ST, filw fence on R in 50yds TL to X fld at WM & white arrow in hedge on R. Ahd X lane at *Upper House Farm*, X fld thru KG & ahd, wire fence on R, to KG & into encl FP to reach HOMER FARM. Ahd to concrete mushrooms. Ignore TK heading R, instead over grass ahd, with barn on R, (*Footpath* sign) to reach lane. **GR 663 857**

19.7 miles: TL 700yds, BR at grass to reach RD. X RD onto wide TK opp (ByW FPS: *Stoke Row*). Pass skips & house on L. Filw TK for 1.2mils to reach RD & houses, cont ahd on RD. 100yds after 30mph sign & immed after passing *Pond House* on R, TR at FPS, ignoring gate, & ahd on encl FP. Pass MAHARAJAH's WELL on R, to emerge on main road. X RD ½L to Village Hall. **GR 680 840**

CP 3. STOKE ROW VILLAGE HALL - 21.6 miles OPEN: 11.15-14.30

21.6 miles: From Village Hall X RD, TL on main road for 150yds, pass school then TL in front of church onto *School Lane*. After 220yds, cont on TK (ignore FP to R), then after 130yds, TR on encl FP (inside of RH fence: *Checkendon*). X fld on encl FP & TL into wd, BR at path junc 50yds after passing corrugated iron shed (10yds after white arrows on tree) (CB280). Descend thru wd, thru KG into fld. Ahd on LHS of field, X ST in front of house & further ST to reach RD. TL on RD & after 30yds, TR over ST(FPS). X fld to corner of trees ahd, ahd with wd on R to X ST far corner of fld. X RD & take FP opp, joining TK past house, where TK bears R take RH of two FPs ahd (between house & telegraph pole) ahd thru trees then BR to RD at SCOTS FARM. **GR 662 840**

23.0 miles: X RD & cont ahd on TK (FPS) to R of houses. Ahd thru metal gate & past *Beach*. Thru gap by wooden gates, ahd into woods & ignoring all paths to R & L descend for 650yds to 4 way junc in dip. TL on TK & ignoring path on R flw this for 800yds thru trees into more open grassy area where TK fades. Ahd on path to WM post where BR on FP uphill for 300yds, sporadic views thru trees to L. At WM TL down steps to reach *Johns Gate*. Thru gate & BR downhill, ahd thru/past KG then BL to flw fence on L thru gate (WMS) into encl FP. Ahd & BL of pond to emerge on RD at entrance to *Bottom Farm House*. **GR 646 836**

24.3 miles: TR on lane for 300yds, then TL on ByW (FPS). Flw path uphill for 1200yds joining ByW from R becoming TK & passing *Hammonds Farm* ahd on RD. 200yds after *Hammonds Cottage* meet main RD at T-junc. TL on RD (**care needed: single file please**) for 250yds. After 30mph sign, take encl FP to L (FPS) for 200yds, then TR at WM thru 2 KGs & X fld to R of small octagonal bldg. Flw fence on L, thru KG to drive, TR passing R of church to reach RD, TL on RD, pass church & next house to reach village hall on L. **GR 664 831**

CP 4 CHECKENDON VILLAGE HALL - 26.0 miles OPEN: 12.15-15.45

26.0 miles: X RD in front of hall ½R & flw FPS opp up TK to R of cricket pitch. BL thru gate/ST opp *Timbers Yard*, at hut on L ahd into wd (yellow arrow on tree), ignoring all side paths. Thru wd on main path to emerge thru KG on TK, X TK, thru KG, X fld (CB70) thru KG to RD. TR on RD for 500yds to *Larchdown Farm*, take BW on R (L of farm sign), ahd 250yds to reach four way junc at WM, ahd over small mound onto unmarked path which swings L after 20yds. Flw downhill to reach RD at T-junc. **GR 677 828**

27.0 miles: TR on RD at T-junc (CB190) for 400yds, pass houses on L, then take FP on L immed afterwards (FPS: *Stoke Row*). Uphill past forestry sign, to KG - DO NOT GO THRU - TR on path & flw wire fence, ignoring obvious RH TK, to X ST on L by *Wyfold Court* sign, after 10yds TR at signpost then flw path thru trees to reach fld, TR & flw RHS of fld. After 300yds, X ST & TR on BW. Flw BW for 500yds to RD. **GR 684 815**

28.2 miles: TR 30yds & X RD, take BW sign opp, but immed BL on unmarked FP. After 200yds merge onto path from R then 150yds later (& 20yds before TK turns R) take centre of 3 paths at junc (CB90). Keep edge of field in sight to your L (20-30yds away). Continue on path close to LH side of wd for 600yds eventually thru holly to meet wide path leading in from L, TR for 20yds & thru gap between wooden & wire fences. Immed TL at *Access on Foot only* sign onto wider path (CB80), ahd on this for 700yds to pass pit on L. Then 60yds later, as main path swings sharply R, keep ahd (white arrow on tree). BL immed after passing wooden posts, after 15yds TR for 30yds to leave wd at KG. X fld & flw LHS hedge, ignore ST on L but ahd thru KG at far LH corner of field. Ahd RHS of house, thru KG to busy RD (**LOOK**). **GR 700 811**

29.5 miles: XRD ½R into hidden path, thru wd (CB100), after 100yds TR at 2nd X TK (CB130), ahd 400yds (ignoring TK to L after 200yds) to gate at RD end. Ahd down residential road for 800yds, passing *Hare and Hounds PH* on L, to T-junc at end of RD, TR at *Co-op supermarket* to Village hall on R. **GR 708 803**

CP 5 SONNING COMMON VILLAGE HALL - 30.2 miles OPEN: 13.00-17.00

Note: You may, if you wish, change to a 35 mile route here **and you MUST do so if you are later than the closure time or if the CP marshals tell you to do so.** If you do so, please have your card marked accordingly and you will be given a new route description back to Henley (20 mile route).

30.2 miles: TL on main RD for 100yds, then X RD & take marked FP to R (*FPS: Library*). Fllw this between houses, crossing minor RD, for 250yds to reach main B481 road. X **with care** & up *Blackmore Lane* opp for 600yds. Pass *Wester & Easter Barns*, ahd 100yds & immed before next house on L, TL onto FP, thru 2 KGs & T sharp L into fld. After 30yds, (10yds before WM in hedge) swing R to X fld (CB10) to RD (**CAUTION**). TR for 30yds, then L on FP (*FPS: Henley*). Ahd passing end of hedge on L, X fld (CB70) & down LHS of wd into trees, ahd at WM in valley bottom & up opp side of valley into encl FP, X ST & thru 2 KGs to emerge on lane at *Kingsfield House*. TR on lane (CWE), 500yds to RD. **GR 732 804**

32.3 miles: TL 100yds on RD to 1st FP on R labelled *Crowsley ½*, **NOT** BW SP *Binfield Heath*. (20 mile route goes ahd) Thru KG & over grassy hill for 1200yds, following marker posts & ignoring path on R, eventually fllw fence on R to KG. Thru KG, X RD & thru KG opp, X fld & thru KG. TR on lane to reach *Harvest House*, TL thru hedge & TR onto FP. Keep to RHS of fld for 500yds as it swings L & into dip, swing L again as path rises, go L past horse jump & after 15yds TR thru gap in trees. Ahd on TK on LHS of field for 300yds then TL to WM. Ahd over multiple path junc (CB110) on RHS of hedge & fllw TK on LHS of 2 flds for 800yds to enter trees, pass to R of farm, onto metalled TK to reach RD in 300yds. **GR 734 783**

34.3 miles: Ahd on FP opp, initially LHS of hedge then cont ahd on CB140 to WM in hedge line opp, BL 50yds then X fld on CB120 past LHS of trees to lane. TL & swing R with lane ignoring FP on L, ahd & down BW to R of house. 100yds after house TL on encl FP (WM) then up RHS of fld. After 60yds TR thru tree line, TL & fllw LHS fld to corner, TL & fllw path to RD (CB20). TL for 10yds, then TR on encl FP to R of *Little Manor*. Cont behind gardens then TR on TK & fllw 200yds to RD. TL & fllw RD **with care** for 600yds, TL down *Kings Common Close* & BR to CP6, fllwing signs to *Recreation Ground car park*. **GR 746 785**

CP 6 BINFIELD HEATH RECREATION GROUND CAR PARK - 35.9 miles OPEN: 13.30-18.45

35.9 miles: From CP TL into playing fld, TR along RH of fld to wooden fence & thru gap to RD, X RD ½R into *Fosters Lane*, ahd to TK end. Ahd on FP & fllw LHS of field for 400yds. At far LH corner of fld, TL to X ST. Ahd CB80 thru wd & up LHS of next fld, Xing corner of fld to regain fld edge & fllw edge. Thru gap in hedge (WM) & ahd to X fld on CB80 to end of 1st ploughed fld, TL along line of path into trees, as exit trees BL to X ST & CB0 to WM in hedge, TR to RD at SHIPLAKE ROW. **GR 757 785**

36.6 miles: X RD & take marked FP to R of *Rosemary Cottage & Waylands*. Up LHS of fld & TR on ByW. After 150yds, as TK swings sharply R, TL on encl FP. Ahd for 1100yds, ignoring other tracks, thru dip in wd to barrier & X fld & thru gap by gate.

TR on tarmac TK for 100yds to junc, ahd on TK opp (FPS: *Lower Shiplake*), passing L of *Little Beeches*. Ahd on TK 750yds downhill to main RD. **GR 770 801**

38.1 Miles: Cross busy Main RD **with GREAT CARE** & up *Bolney Lane* opp. X railway bridge to meet TK at T-junc, TL to flw TP & after 250yds onto encl FP (TP & others). Pass model railway & ahd to river. Flw bank of RIVER THAMES on TP, eventually Xing wooden bridge to lock. Ahd crossing back to bank of river where leave river & cont ahd up Lane. X railway bridge to reach main RD, X ½R & up *Noble Road* to YMCA & into **the finish at**

HENLEY YMCA PAVILION. GR 766 815 - closes at 20:00

CONGRATULATIONS!
YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE 2015 OXON 40 WALK.
(40.0 miles 3500 ft ascent)