

## Route S2 Knowle to Fen End & Temple Balsall

**Distance:** 9 miles (55-70 minutes) or 10 miles (60-75 minutes).

**Start:** Knowle Parish Church in the centre of the village B 93 0LN SP183767.

**Parking:** Village car park behind the church (entrance at other end of High Street next to the Greswolde).

**Route Summary:** A ride along some very quiet and narrow lanes, crossing the River Blythe and its tributaries at a number of fords. *Note: there are footbridges but the roads nearby are liable to be wet after rain.*

**Refreshments:** Pubs and a cafe in Knowle, plus two pubs en-route and summer Sunday teas at Temple Balsall.

**A** From outside **Knowle Parish Church**, turn L into **Kenilworth Rd** soon crossing the **Grand Union Canal**.

**B** Take the next turn L into **Elvers Green Lane** towards **Barston**. Go through the ford (or use the footbridge) and after 400 yards follow the road L at the junction towards **Barston**.

**C** At the end of **Hob Lane** turn R towards **Balsall Common**. Follow the road through **Barston** past the **Bulls Head** (15<sup>th</sup> century) and **St Swithin's Church**. Cross over the **River Blythe**.

**D** At the crossroads turn R into **Barston Lane**. Follow the lane until you reach the **B4101**.

**E** Turn R towards **Knowle** then immediately L into **Magpie Lane** passing the attractive half-timbered Magpie Farm.

**F** At the end of the lane turn R into **Longbrook Lane**. (Turn L at this point to visit **Ye Old Saracens Head pub**). Cross the ford (beware of mud and stones).

*To continue with the 9 mile route via Temple Balsall*

**L** At the crossroads turn R and then at the end of the lane turn R again.

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**M** After 1 mile you will come to the historic complex of buildings at **Temple Balsall**. Please dismount and go along the path on the left before the school. Pass **St Mary's church** and the **Old Hall** (teas are served on summer Sunday afternoons). Walk through the cemetery, (one of the first two graves is of Henry Williams who was one of the writers of "It's a Long Way to Tipperary").

**N** On reaching the lane turn L and after 0.5 miles turn right into **Cuttle Pool Lane**. Continue with the main route at point **K**.

*To continue the 10 mile route via Fen End*

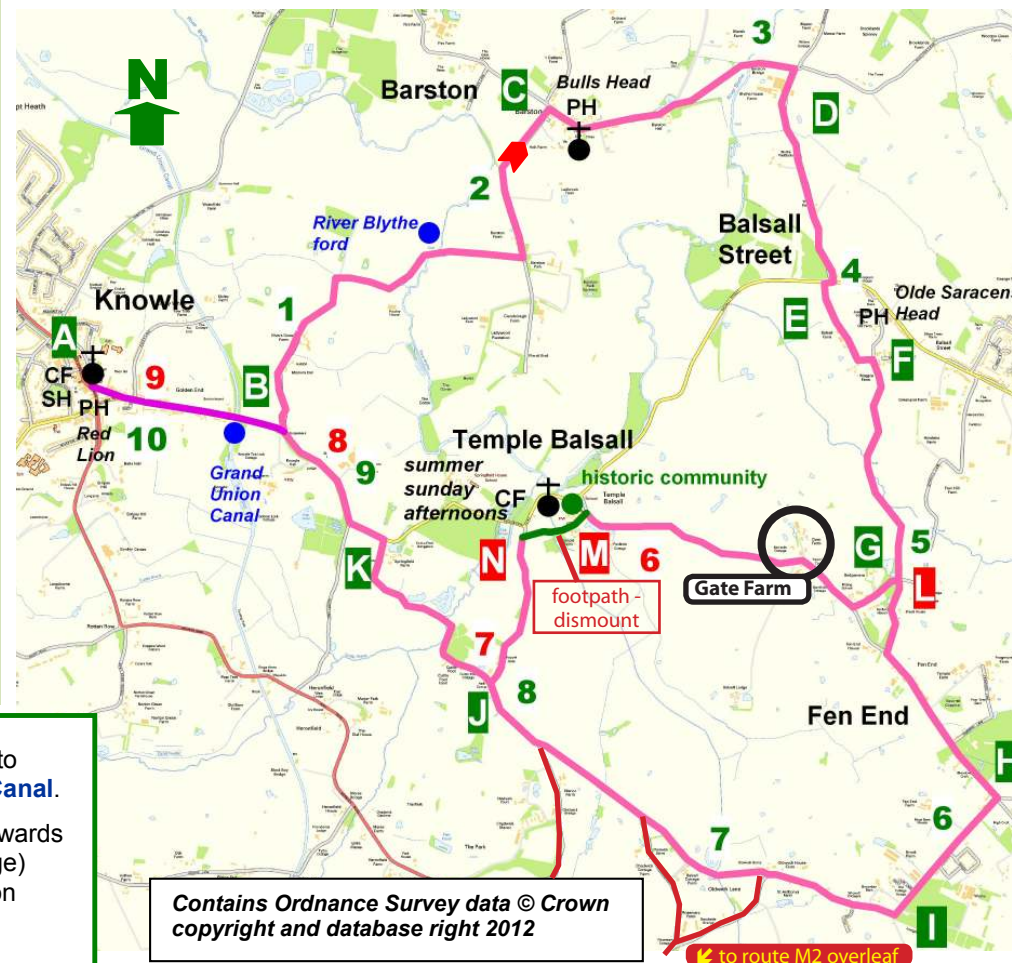
**G** At the crossroads go straight on and at the end of the lane turn L passing a number of attractive old houses.

**H** At the next crossroads turn R into **Oldwych Lane East**. Pass the entrance to the vehicle test track which uses the former Honiley airfield.

**I** Where the road bends to the L take the R turn into **Old Green Lane**. Cross the ford, continuing along the lane and ignoring the turning to the L.

**J** At the end of the lane turn R into **Chadwick Lane**. At the next junction turn L into **Cuttle Pool Lane**. The narrow road descends through a "tunnel" formed by the trees.

**K** At the end of **Cuttle Pool Lane** turn L onto the **B4101** towards **Knowle**. Follow the road back across the **Grand Union Canal**, retracing the route back to **Knowle Parish Church**.



### Key to Map

- A B** Start and route reference point
- 1, 2** Mileage from start point
- Quiet road
- Busier road
- ➔ Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
- PH/CF** Public House/café or tearoom
- SH** Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
- + Notable church
- Access to canal or river
- Place of interest

Abbreviations used in the route description:  
L left, R right, SO straight on.

To cycle this route, memorise the instructions between each reference point, relating the turns to the map. The place and road names in **bold** appear on signs along the route.

### Doing the shorter ride?

Follow the red reference points for a slightly shorter ride that visits historic **Temple Balsall**.



## Route M2 Knowle to Lowsonford & Packwood

**Distance:** 16 miles (95-120 mins). **Start:** Knowle Parish Church in the centre of the village B 93 0LN SP183767.

**Route Summary:** A route mainly on very quiet country lanes. There is a very short optional section along a canal towpath which avoids a difficult right turn on the A4141.

**Refreshments:** In addition to the facilities in Knowle, there are several pubs along the route.

**Parking:** Village car park behind the church (entrance at other end of High Street next to the Greswolde).

### The Route

**A** From outside the church, turn L down **Kenilworth Rd** soon crossing the **Grand Union Canal** at Knowle Locks.

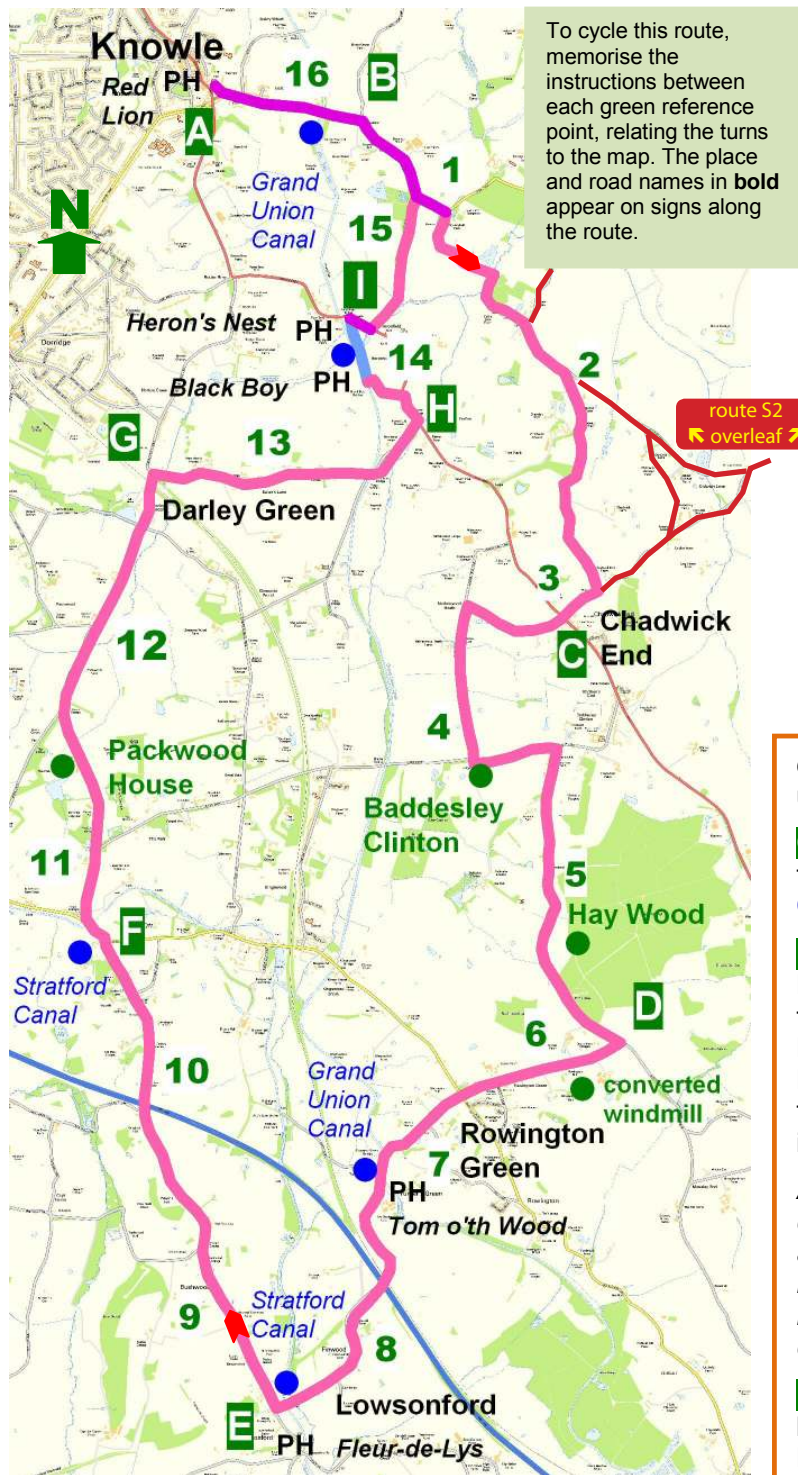
**B** Turn second R into **Cuttle Pool Lane** and follow this lane up the hill to the end. Turn R towards **Chadwick End** and bear R again at the next junction. Follow this winding narrow lane for a mile. At the end turn R, towards **Chadwick End**.

**C** At the **A4141 Warwick Road** go SO into **Netherwood Lane**. At the end turn L and at the end of this lane turn L again, opposite the entrance to **Baddesley Clinton (National Trust)**. Turn next R towards **Hay Wood**. Follow this quiet narrow lane for over a mile, passing **Hay Wood** picnic area.

**D** Turn next R towards **Rowington**. Look out for the **old windmill** (now a house) on the L. At the **B4439** go straight-on towards **Lowsonford**, passing the **Tom O' The Wood** pub. In the next mile you will pass over two canals, a railway and a motorway!

**E** At the end of the lane turn R in the village of Lowsonford towards **Lapworth** (go L for 200 yards for the village pub). Follow this road for 2 miles.

**F** At the **B4439** turn L and then first R towards **Packwood House (National Trust)**. Bearing L at the next junction, follow signs to **Packwood House** (and



To cycle this route, memorise the instructions between each green reference point, relating the turns to the map. The place and road names in **bold** appear on signs along the route.

### Key to Map

<b>A B</b>	Start and route reference point
<b>1, 2</b>	Mileage from start point
	Quiet road
	Busier road
	Cycle path
	Canal towpath
	Significant hill climb (in direction of travel)
<b>PH</b>	Public House
<b>CF</b>	Café or tearoom
<b>SH</b>	Shop selling drinks, sweets etc
	Notable church
	Place of interest
	Water feature

Abbreviations used in the route description:  
L left, R right, SO straight on.

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continue along this road for 1.5 miles until you pass under a railway.

**G** Turn immediately R into **Bakers Lane** and follow this road, eventually crossing the **Grand Union Canal** and reaching the **A4141**.

**H** Turn L along the main road for 100 yards and first L into **Black Boy** pub. Behind the pub go onto the towpath of the **Grand Union Canal** and turn R. Leave the canal at the next bridge (by the **Heron's Nest** pub – caution there are a few steps here) and turn R onto the main road for 200 yards (a footway is available if you prefer to walk this section).

*An alternative route avoiding the Black Boy pub and canal towpath is to continue along the main road and turn right into Watery Lane at **I**. The main road, which can be quite busy, also leads directly back to Knowle, passing a garden centre with a café.*

**I** Turn first L into **Watery Lane**. At the end of the lane turn L to retrace the outward route back to Knowle.