



Instructions for Riders and Striders 2025

Thank you for volunteering to Ride and Stride to raise money for Wiltshire's churches. Half of the money you collect goes to your chosen Church and half to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, to enable it to make grants for the upkeep of churches and chapels throughout the county.

Organising Your Sponsorship

- Fill in the first section of the Sponsorship Form.
- Please indicate whether you are a UK taxpayer, so that we can claim 25% Gift Aid from HMRC on the funds you raise.
- Encourage family, friends, church members to sponsor you.
- Ask them, if they are UK tax-payers, to mark the Gift Aid box. In order to be able to claim the 25% tax refund, we need to have their name, initials, house name or number and post code – **all written legibly**.
- If you are under 18, please make sure your parent signs the consent box on the form. If under 13, you must be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult.
- You can use JustGiving to widen your appeal for sponsorship. JustGiving is a simple, quick and secure way for people to sponsor you online. The money is paid directly into the Trust's account, with Gift Aid added, thus saving you the bother of having to collect it.
- It is easy to set up your own JustGiving page by using the link on WHCT Rider & Strider Information web-page or using this link address:
<https://www.justgiving.com/wiltshirerideandstride> or QR code.
 - In the "Story" section of your page, make sure you include the name of your church. You can then contact potential sponsors by email.
 - Please email a link to your JustGiving page to me: whct.rs@btinternet.com so that we can follow your achievements.



Planning Your Route

- Plan your own route from the list of Wiltshire churches and suggestions for cycle routes and church trails at:
<https://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/churches>
 - You can of course visit churches in other counties.

On the day

- Listen to the weather forecast and dress appropriately. Cyclists are encouraged to wear bright clothes, helmets and to ensure your bike is in good roadworthy condition.
- Be **safety** conscious all the way. Best not to cycle in large groups.
- Observe the Countryside Code.
- Churches may be visited between 10.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.
- At each church, please get your sponsorship form initialled and/or stamped, with the time of arrival, and sign the register of visitors. If there is no steward there, then initial your own form.
- Please do take photographs during the day and email them to whct.rs@btinternet.com.
All pictures will be entered into a competition for the most inspirational picture.
Note: Please ensure that photos have a good resolution; and note that photos submitted may also be used to publicise WHCT and Ride and Stride events.
- Please do enjoy your day!

Prizes

- The event is not a competition, but there are individual cash prizes for the most churches visited and the most money raised, for cyclists in three age categories (16 and under, between 17 and 65, and over 65) and similarly for the most successful walkers.
- There are two cups, both generously donated by the late Lord Brooke of Sutton Mandeville: the Brooke Cup (plus £500) awarded to the best achieving Church, and the Junior Group Cup (plus £100) for the Church with the most successful group of Under-18s.
- The prizes for the photos judged by the organisers to be the most inspirational will be: 1st prize £20, 2nd prize £15, 3rd prize £10.

After the event

- Collect the money from your sponsors and fill in the amounts on the sponsorship form. If they have marked the Gift Aid box, please ensure that their name, initials, home address and post code are all clearly legible.
- Cheques should be made payable to **WHCT Ride and Stride**.
- Pass your form and sponsorship money to your Church Organiser **by Sunday 13th October**.
- Your Church's half share of the money raised will be sent to your Church Organiser in November. If you wish to divide the money between different churches, please make this clear on your sponsorship form.

Administrative Contact

Keith Rayward: Tel: 01380 831199, email: whct.rs@btinternet.com

Disclaimer

It is a condition of participation in Ride and Stride that, save to the extent required by law, the Trustees of Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust accept no liability in respect of injury or death sustained by any participant.

Finally

A sincere thank you for your support, without which the WHCT would not be able to provide funds towards the upkeep of Wiltshire's Churches.