Section 1
Willen Lake to Newport Pagnell (3.6 miles)

The Peace Pagoda (inaugurated 1980) can be seen on the left across the lake. The first of its kind in the western world and voted top Milton Keynes heritage building by young people in 2006.

Manor Farm, now Willen Hospice, can be seen at the head of the lake.

The River Ouzel or Lovat was re-routed in the early 1970s when Willen Lake was built and was fordable by the lane running in front of the cottages on the right below. This was the road from Milton Keynes to Willen.

Willen Church, St Mary Magdalene. Designed by the scientist and architect Robert Hooke and completed in 1680. Hooke is credited with discovering cells in plants, inventing the universal joint and coining ‘Hooke’s Law’. Architecturally he is best known for his work with Sir Christopher Wren.

Willen Schoolhouse was built in 1847 by the Busby Trust. A single schoolmistress was employed to educate up to 24 of the village children. Most of the farm workers’ children attended until 11 years old.

Section 2
Newport Pagnell (2.9 miles)

The Bathing Place was opened in 1887 as part of the celebrations of Queen Victoria’s Golden Jubilee. The parish church also received a new ring of bells to enable the National Anthem to be rung.

Aston Martin Works: The three-storey building on Tickford Street is the 1910 workshop of Salmon & Sons coachbuilders. The site was bought by Aston Martin in 1954, reaching full production in 1959 with the DB4.

Tickford Bridge (1810) spanning the Lovat and built by Walkers of Rotherham, is the world’s oldest iron bridge still in daily use by traffic and will celebrate its bicentenary in 2010. The bridge sections travelled by sea from Yorkshire and up the Grand Junction Canal to Great Linford via the Thames at London.

Revis’s Almshouses opposite the church, were built by John Revis, a Charing Cross draper, in 1763, for single men and women over 55 years of age. The homes were modernised in the 1970s.

Tongwell Lane, one of the original country lanes that existed before the New Town. The 1891 census shows the large and well-travelled Gypsy family of Cornelius Loveridge camped in a field along Tongwell Lane.

Tongwell Lake, one of the balancing lakes, is surrounded by trees and shrubs. There is an island in the centre of the lake which is a haven for birds including ducks, moorhens, herons, swans, and canadian geese. The Lake is also used for water skiing by the Milton Keynes water ski club.
**Section 3**
Newport Pagnell to Olney (5 miles)

Sherington

*St Laud’s* is the only church so-named in the country (after St. Lo, Bishop of Coutances 529-68), parts of it date back to 1250. During the Civil War, Cromwell’s troops camped in Gun Lane and stabled horses in the church. The village pump on The Knoll was chosen as the place for the universities of Oxford and Cambridge to “bury the hatchet” ending their animosities in the face of increased competition from redbrick universities.

**Emberton Village** is a small but picturesque village and warrants a slight detour to see its Clock Tower and All Saints Church. Most of the historic buildings are built from the local limestone.

**Emberton Country Park** has 200 acres of parkland, ideal for walking, cycling, sailing, windsurfing, fishing and picnics. It provides camping and caravanning sites from April to October. There are tea rooms, toilet and shower facilities.

**The Parish Church** of St Peter and St Paul dominates the southern entrance to Olney. The spire is nearly 200 feet high. It was constructed in the 14th century in the Decorated style.

**Cowper and Newton Museum** There are historical associations with the poet William Cowper who lived in Olney between 1767-86 and the ex-slave trader John Newton who became Olney’s curate in 1764. Together they wrote the ‘Olney Hymns’ (“Amazing Grace”) and are commemorated in the Museum.

**Great Linford** A church called St Andrew’s has stood on the hill since the 13th century. Sir William Pritchard, Lord Mayor of London, built the core of the present Manor House in 1678. Today the manor is privately owned.

**artworks:mk** formerly 17th century Almshouses are now a leading arts and education charity providing specialist equipped art and craft workshops, artists’ studios and exhibition space.

**The Brick Kilns** at The Dell, Great Linford, were built in the late 19th century by George Osborn Price of Newport Pagnell, a coal and lime merchant and an agricultural Chandler.

**Campbell Park** is named after Lord Campbell of Eskan, first Chairman of Milton Keynes Development Corporation. Designed to be a sculpture park it is the largest City Centre Park in the UK. ‘Head’ is by artist Allen Jones.

**Cedars School** in Bury Street, originally three separate buildings when first opened in 1896, these being the Infants, Boys and Girls.

**The Signal Post** is all that is left of Newport Pagnell railway station. The branch line closed to passengers in 1964. **Railway Walk** is the old Wolverton to Newport Pagnell railway line which followed the route of the short-lived canal arm from Great Linford to Newport Pagnell. The former platform at Great Linford can still be seen.

For 2008, Milton Keynes has revamped its three Heritage Cycle Trails A – C to be bigger and better than before. In addition, a brand new Trail D – North West Milton Keynes has been designed by a group of young volunteers supported by the Make a Difference Team. Trails start either at Willen or Furzton Lakes and take you around some of the magnificent scenery and hidden heritage that Milton Keynes has to offer. Additional Heritage Cycle Trails are planned for 2009, meanwhile, cycle, walk, jog or run and discover Milton Keynes for yourself.

Trail leaflets are available from Discover Milton Keynes, Silbury Boulevard, near door 7 of the centre:mk shopping centre, and local museums or libraries, or can be downloaded:

- [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/cyclenmmk](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/cyclenmmk)
- [www.destinationmiltonkeynes.co.uk](http://www.destinationmiltonkeynes.co.uk)

**Heritage Cycle Trails**

**Trail B Milton Keynes North East**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start:</th>
<th>Willen Lake South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance:</td>
<td>Full Route (inc Olney) 22 miles, Short Route 12 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>Full Route 5 - 6 hours, Short Route 3½ - 4½ hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note:</td>
<td>Full route involves minor 30mph roads and trails near waterways and may not be suitable for children and/or inexperienced cyclists.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Produced by Heritage Unit Milton Keynes, Milton Keynes Council
Email: heritage@milton-keynes.gov.uk Web: [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/heritage](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/heritage)

Designed by Lionart: info@lionart.net
October 2008 Edition
8. Before the bridge cross road with care and take riverside path up to and over wooden bridge to Newport Pagnell churchyard and Almshouses to church entrance and join Northampton Road. Optional Spur Route to Olney. See separate map on right hand side.

9. From church, head west along High Street passing post office on right and Swan Revived on left. At mini roundabout by The Cannon pub turn left into St John Street and cross at zebra crossing.

10. Head down Silver Street passing car parks on left and turn right into Bury Street. Pass Cedar's School (1894) on left and continue round the corner and left past the Coachmakers Arms. Continue along street to the corner immediately after turning corner take the right into Cross Street and continue to pedestrian crossings.

11. Cross both roads and head along Broad Street turning right into Sheppard's Close and left through staggered gates onto Railway Walk.

12. Follow the Railway Walk passing the Signal Post and ahead to pass under M1 (built 1959) noticing remains of Great Linford station platform on right. After reaching Approx 1 mile, when reaching metal bridge (76A) across Grand Union Canal turn left immediately after crossing and follow path closest to canal through park past Great Linford Church and 17th century almshouses.

13. Continue following NC6 across signpost past medieval fishponds and Great Linford Manor; noticing the pavilions of Linford Manor to the right and artwork:mk Arts and Craft centre. Emerge onto High Street.

14. The Nags Head and primary school are on your right as you continue up High Street and along left hand side of village greens. Bear left into Harpers Lane (signed NC6) and follow redway which becomes narrower (Willen Lane), once the old road from Linford to Willen.

15. Follow Route 6 to the canal, but before crossing bridge take some time to detour down the side of the canal following the signs to George Place’s Brick Klin. Then return to cross bridge.

16. Turn right to follow canal past Penneys Marina. Follow NC6 across bridge 80A and down other side of canal until you reach Campbell Park.

17. Follow NC6 away from canal and up the hill to public art piece ‘Head’. Turn left to follow NC61 over canal bridge and between Guilvers Land and Eco Park to return to Willen Lake.

1. From events area head north past Wakeboard MK and along redway into Willen and north lake. Pass the Medicine Wheel on your right and the buddhist temple. Peace Pagoda and Labyrinth on left. Take path on right to continue around north lake to Willen Hospice (formerly Willen Planter).

2. At the junction where path forks at interpretation board near Willen Hospice take left fork towards Willen Church and into Willen village. Care – quiet road but watch out for traffic. Continue along Milton Road past the church and the Hook on left and ignore all turnings and Millington Gate Road to turn right down Linford Lane.

3. Carry along Linford Lane which becomes a redway, past sports ground and school to reach Willen local centre. Pass between pub and shops down to subway turning right into subway marked Tongwell turn right to follow H4 Chrystead Way.

4. Pass Daimler Chrysler on left and turn left immediately after crossing Delaware Drive and follow for some distance until you pass under the H3 Monks Way into Blakelands. Turn next right and keeping Tongwell Lake – one of the balancing lakes – on left. Continue, ignoring possible turnings along Tongwell Lane – care as occasional traffic – to cross over M1 motorway bridge and on towards Newport Pagnell.

5. Ignore all exits on left and reaching nearly the end of lane take small bridge over Tongwell brook to follow redway to Willen road. Dismount and cross with care.

6. Take path on right to keep Willen Road on your right and houses on left. At end of path cross Willen Road to take alleyway and follow Tongwell Brook to Bathing Place and the footbridge over river.

7. Dismount and cross bridge and turn left – ignore path ahead – and follow path alongside river through gate to emerge into Trent Drive. Turn right then left into Seven Drive and at King’s Arms roundabout you will reach Tiddick Street. To your right lies Aston Martin. Turn left up to Tiddick Iron bridge.

8. Continue this redway through Emberton into Emberton Country Park and lakes on your left. As you reach the last lake the redway bears right and joins Bridge Street to cross the river and emerge into High Street. Continue ahead into Western Road until you reach Market Place.

9. Continue on this redway through Emberton into Emberton Country Park and lakes on your left. As you reach the last lake the redway bears right and joins Bridge Street to cross the river and emerge into High Street. Continue ahead into Western Road until you reach Market Place.

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