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UK

# British Cycle Quest

A unique quest by bike visiting 402 checkpoints dotted throughout Britain

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# THE BCQ QUESTIONS BOOK

**402 questions, six in each of 67 counties / regions / islands in Great Britain make up the British Cycle Quest. Each question, together with its location, may be found in this book.**

This book contains all the information you would have found on the 67 'first generation' County Cards.

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This book may also be viewed or downloaded directly from Cycling UK's website. Go to [cyclinguk.org/british-cycle-quest](https://cyclinguk.org/british-cycle-quest)

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This edition of the BCQ Question Book is in A5 paper format to enable use on Smart Phones, via the web or via download. To print on A4 if required, select print two pages to a sheet.

New editions and updates of this book, showing changes to questions, are produced on a regular basis. Before going in search of answers, please check the latest edition and any update on the BCQ website.

Editions of the question book are identified by the date in the footer, eg Mar 2021. This edition includes all updates since the Nov 2020 edition documented in a list of changes since the last edition, available on the BCQ Web Page as a separate document.

## How to take part in BCQ

Find full details on the BCQ page of the Cycling UK website, but briefly, to prove you've visited a checkpoint, all you need to do is answer a question about it. All the questions are in this booklet. The questions are also on the Google Map on the BCQ Web page. To progress in the competition, you need to use the web submission form on the BCQ Web page. Those using answer cards may still submit them by sending them to the address on the answer cards. If you require assistance or have questions on BCQ please email our validator at [bcq@cyclinguk.org](mailto:bcq@cyclinguk.org)

<http://www.cyclinguk.org/british-cycle-quest>

## Important Information

With 402 questions to be answered in the competition, it's inevitable that from time to time answers will be obscured or the subject of the question might disappear entirely. With the generous assistance of volunteers we're usually able to find a new question quite quickly. If you have already visited the site for which there is now a new question, you don't have to worry about the change, your answer to the question 'of the time' will be accepted.

Should you visit a BCQ site only to find the answer to the question has disappeared / been damaged / rendered illegible, we will happily accept alternative proof of your visit. The best way to do this is by submitting an appropriate photograph, preferably containing you, your bike and a sign depicting the name of the location (or local village).

**We would be extremely grateful if you would forward any information about missing, damaged or obscured questions to British Cycle Quest, Cycling UK, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 9JX, or email [bcq@cyclinguk.org](mailto:bcq@cyclinguk.org)**

Grid references for all question locations may be found, with each question along with the Ordnance Survey Landranger (50k) map sheet(s). Please note that the grid references and hence related Latitude and longitude data are in many cases an approximate location within about 100m of the actual checkpoint. A XLSX file of locations with latitude and longitude (format used by Google Map) is available upon request.

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## 01 CORNWALL

The most south-westerly county in England, and the starting point for many End to End cycle rides, Cornwall is perhaps best known for its dramatic and rugged coastline. Numerous small fishing villages nestle into coves and inlets, while others enjoy wider, sheltered bays. Reminders of Bronze and Iron Age history abound in stone circles, barrows, cairns, etc., and legends of King Arthur live on at Tintagel. The area's Celtic past is still evident in the names of many isolated farms and small hamlets, the prefix 'Tre' meaning 'homestead'. Abandoned tin and copper mines and a coastline littered with shipwrecks convey the difficulties of ordinary life here in years gone by. Fortified castles testify to the struggles and extent of the Civil War. Today, protection takes the form of sanctuaries and zoos for rare birds, seals and monkeys. Cycling here can certainly be hilly but the views are rewarding.

### BCQ011 Boscastle

*OS 190, SX 0972 9135, Oct 2010*

To whom did this bridge belong in 1887? (Following the 2004 floods, a stone tablet is now built into the perimeter wall of the Harbour Lights café.)

### BCQ012 St. Mawes

*OS 204, SW 8473 3301, Nov 2020*

On the wall of the white building, which is a café, on the west side of the harbour, is a panel of three instruments. What does the middle one measure in hours?

### BCQ013 Zennor

*OS 203, SW 4541 3839, Apr 2019*

There is a plaque on the wall of a private house next door to Zennor Chapel, a café and B&B, what is Frederick Christian Hart commemorated for?

### BCQ014 Mullion

*OS 203, SW 6783 1904, Jun 2021*

In the boundary wall of the white house on Nansmellyon Road (B3296 towards Mullion Cove), is a blue arch with a glass front and a clock at the top of the arch. Within the cabinet there is a mercury barometer and thermometer. What Royal National Life Boat Institution number is given at the top of the barometer?

### BCQ015 East Looe

*OS 201, SX 2564 5314, Oct 2010*

By whom was the sundial on the Looe Town Beach sea front presented?

### BCQ016 Callington

*OS 201, SX 3598 6957, Jun 2021*

Who designed and painted the large wall painting on the end wall of the house in Well St?

## 02 DEVON

The contrast between land and sea depicts Devon. The wild, heather covered expanse of Dartmoor, home to a unique breed of ponies and many grazing animals, is the largest and highest tract of open land in Southern England. Elsewhere, more gentle terrain provides fertile growing conditions that feed the cows that produce cream for the famed Devon cream teas. Rivers and streams have carved deep 'combes' into the land, dry ones now evident in sunken lanes. The county's two coastlines are both dramatic, with sandy beaches and stark cliffs rising from the sea. Plymouth's sea-faring history is told through exhibits of the many ships that sailed from her docks to settle the 'New World' or to fight off the invading Spanish. Derelict mines and numerous ruins from prehistoric times are scattered about the countryside, and the principal city of Exeter, with its famed cathedral, offers considerable architectural and historical interest.

### **BCQ021 Hartland**

*OS 190, SS 2350 2473, Jun 2021*

About two miles west of Hartland Village, on the road to Hartland Quay (Stoke), is St Nectans Parish Church. At the entrance to the church is a stone memorial seat. Who was killed in action in 1942?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is a slope down to the checkpoint with steps at the bottom. A handrail is provided along the slope and for the steps.

### **BCQ022 Lynmouth**

*OS 180, SS 7226 4967, Oct 2010*

The stone tower at the entrance to the harbour was destroyed by the flood of 1952. When was it rebuilt?

### **BCQ023 Malborough**

*OS 202, SX 7070 3980, Jun 2021*

How many saint/apostle-like figures appear along the top of the sundial on the south facing wall of All Saints Church?

### **BCQ024 Lydford**

*OS 191, SX 5091 8474, Jun 2021*

Just inside churchyard of St. Petroc's church, by the iron archway, are three plaques on the roadside wall. What type of trees were planted to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War 2?

**Access/Other Notes:** The church is famous for the Watch Makers Tomb and epitaph. The tomb with a simplified inscription is outside the church entrance, and the original gravestone with epitaph is displayed inside the church.

### **BCQ025 Ottery St. Mary**

*OS 192, SY 0986 9556, Oct 2010*

In the entrance to St. Mary's Church what is the date of the Will of Thomas Axe?

### **BCQ026 Manaton**

*OS 191, SX 7497 8131, Oct 2010*

What occasion from 1897 is commemorated in the inscription on the metal seats on the village green?

## 03 SOMERSET

The variety of terrain that Somerset has to offer makes it particularly suitable for all levels of cycling. To the west are Exmoor, once a Royal Forest, and the Quantock Hills, both known for their populations of red deer and past literary figures. Within their hills are remote lanes and small, attractive villages. The northern coastline, with picturesque tidal harbours at Watchet, Minehead and Porlock, can be rugged but also rewarding. From the seaside resort of Weston-Super-Mare, a toll road leads up to Worlebury Hill, site of an Iron Age camp, offering views across the Bristol Channel to Wales. More centrally, the 'levels' are drained fenland, now agricultural expanses, with the attractions of Glastonbury Abbey, Wells Cathedral and the caves at Cheddar and Wookey Hole. The bustling city of Bristol and the architectural legacy of 18th century Bath, on the northern edge of the county, offer a further contrast.

### BCQ031 Ebbor Gorge

*OS 141, ST 5203 4851, Nov 2020*

How many pillars support the shelter roof over the information point near the entrance?

**Access/Other Notes:** Access via the adjacent National Trust car park which is rough but level ground.

### BCQ032 Ham Hill Country Park

*OS 193, ST 4777 1682, Oct 2010*

At the top of the hill at the road junction is a disused drinking fountain. What event does it commemorate?

### BCQ033 Ashcott Corner

*OS 141, ST 4490 3968, Nov 2020*

At the Shapwick Heath Nature Reserve car park at Ashcott Corner, by the cycle rack is an information board. What type of bird's bones were found at the Glastonbury Iron Age Lake Village?

### BCQ034 Penselwood

*OS 183, ST 7558 3143, Nov 2020*

In the end wall of the village hall, near the church gate, is a post box. What is the Post Box number?

### BCQ035 Dunster

*OS 181, SS 9915 4381, Oct 2010*

How many horizontal (spoked) rafters are there to the Yarn Market?

### BCQ036 Exford

*OS 181, SS 8525 3835, Oct 2010*

How many arches has Exford Bridge?

## 04 DORSET

Spared the intrusion of major road building, Dorset retains a peaceful character. Even its seaside towns, with the exception of Bournemouth, have a traditional feel. The chalk Purbeck Hills, on the eastern side of the county, blend into the South Dorset Downs near scenic Lulworth Cove. Near Weymouth, Portland Bill rises out of the sea, and from there a long Shingle beach stretches westwards. Dairy farms thrive in fertile Blackmore Vale, and the wild heath land of Thomas Hardy's novels covers much of the central area. Many places mentioned in Hardy's books can be found, and his Dorchester home can be visited, as can that of T. E. Lawrence ('of Arabia' fame) near Moreton. A particularly good tithe barn exists at Abbotsbury, and the Cerne Abbas Giant is one of the best chalk figures in the country. Miles of remote lanes lead through quiet villages enhanced by thatched cottages and houses made from local golden stone.

### BCQ041 Sturminster Newton

*OS 194, ST 7864 1407, Nov 2020*

On the White Hart Alehouse in Market Cross there is a CTC "Winged Wheel" plaque. What word is inscribed on the top of the plaque?

### BCQ042 Hardy Monument

*OS 194, SY 6131 8758, Oct 2010*

Inscription on the stone seat a few yards to the south-east of the Monument to Sir Thomas Masterman Hardy. In whose memory was this stone seat given?

### BCQ043 Milton Abbas

*OS 194, ST 8063 0181, Nov 2020*

Opposite the church is a terrace of restored Almshouses, when was the plaque to commemorate their restoration unveiled?

### BCQ044 Durlston Head

*OS 195, SZ 0349 7724, Nov 2020*

According to the stone plaque behind the Globe at what rate does the common black swift fly?

**Access/Other Notes:** Good but steep track from car park to the base of the Globe, however the last bit up to the globe is via steps.

### BCQ045 Cerne Abbas

*OS 194, ST 6658 0121, Nov 2020*

Stand in front of the main door of the church, in Abbey Street. Who does the bench to its right commemorate?

### BCQ046 Beaminster

*OS 193, ST 4802 0131, Oct 2010*

By whom was the memorial to Elizabeth Julia Robinson of Parnham in the Market Cross in The Square erected?



## 05 WILTSHIRE

The rolling, wooded hills of the Marlborough Downs, the peaceful expanse of the Vale of Pewsey, the great chalk Salisbury Plain and the pretty Wylde and Nadder Valleys running westwards from Salisbury offer a tremendous variety of cycling in Wiltshire. In these valleys lie prosperous market towns, charming villages and country houses. Particularly worth visiting are the tithe barn at Tisbury, one of the longest in the country, the preserved 18th century village of Lacock with its abbey, the oft-photographed village of Castle Combe, the stately homes of Longleat and Wilton House and the magnificent cathedral in Salisbury with the tallest spire in England. Stone villages and walls are typical of the area. The Kennet and Avon Canal, with its 29 locks, crosses the county, and the 160-mile Wiltshire Cycleway encircles it. Some of the nation's most important prehistoric sites - Stonehenge, Woodhenge, and Avebury - are found here.

### **BCQ051 Ramsbury**

*OS 174, SU 2740 7153, Oct 2010*

What do the plaques on the Village Hall wall opposite Kennet House commemorate?

### **BCQ052 Malmesbury**

*OS 173, ST 9330 8723, Oct 2010*

How many pillars support the Market Cross?

### **BCQ053 Lacock**

*OS 173, ST 9153 6843, Nov 2020*

According to the plaque on lower right hand side of the war memorial in West St, who were the sculptors?

### **BCQ054 Hanging Langford**

*OS 184, SU 0322 3708, Oct 2010*

On the corner of 'The Upper' is a letterbox. What is the letter box built into and what is the roof covering made of?

### **BCQ055 Broad Chalke**

*OS 184, SU 0408 2530, Oct 2010*

What is the phrase over the Church gate?

### **BCQ056 Alton Barnes**

*OS 173, SU 1054 6215, Nov 2020*

Who provided funding to the Coronation Hall?

## 06 HAMPSHIRE

Mention Hampshire and one immediately thinks of the New Forest with its ancient oak and beech trees, unfenced heath land covered in gorse and heather and freely wandering ponies and cattle. Whilst the area is worth a visit, there are four lovely river valleys also waiting to be discovered: the Meon, in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; the Itchen, passing through Winchester, an important Roman city and Saxon and Norman capital; the Test, famed for trout fishing, with reeds and water meadows lining its banks; and the meandering Avon. Throughout the county are attractive villages, hangers, sunken lanes and hills rising above 500ft giving distant views. Alongside commercial ports, the south coast offers yachting harbours, the former shipbuilding centre of Buckler's Hard and Portsmouth's naval base. Not far inland lie small villages with Saxon churches and flint-and-brick farmhouses that seem to have changed little in the past century or two.

### BCQ061 Longstock

*OS 185, SU 3599 3720, Nov 2020*

On the west side of the road is a small shelter, with mosaic trees either side of the front opening. On the back wall is a large mosaic mural, what does the text say at the bottom of the mural?

### BCQ062 New Forest Rufus Stone

*OS 195, SU 2702 1249, Mar 2021*

Who, according to the iron monument standing beneath an oak tree, shot the arrow which killed King William the second, surnamed Rufus, and on what day?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is an underpass under the A31 at SU 2681 1199, which is accessed from Minstead on the south side of the A31, via School Lane, which becomes a gravel track after Furzey Gardens and underpass is on right about 1.3km from the Village Hall. On the north side of the A31 there is permissive cycle path from the underpass to the checkpoint.

### BCQ063 Winchester

*OS 185, SU 4852 2933, Nov 2020*

King Alfred's Statue, at the east end of The Broadway, near the River Itchen - Give the sculptor's name and date erected.

### BCQ064 Hambledon

*OS 185, SU 6764 1667, Oct 2010*

Bat & Ball Public House just north of Broadhalfpenny Down - What are the dates on the Cricket Memorial opposite the Pub?

### BCQ065 Selborne

*OS 186 SU 7411 3376, Oct 2010*

On the wall to the left of main entrance to the church is a plaque commemorating the Selborne Yew and when it fell on the church. What was the date?

### BCQ066 Alresford

*OS 185, SU 5882 3254, Jan 2020*

In Station Road, New Arlesford, adjacent to Alresford Surgery is a 'Public Convenience.' On the external wall is a plaque, to whom does this refer, and to what group did they belong?

**Access/Other Notes:** Help required with this checkpoint, please

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## 07 ISLE OF WIGHT

Adopted during the Victorian era as a holiday island, the Isle of Wight has retained this character, particularly through its many picturesque villages and harbours. Only 23 by 13 miles at its widest point, an enjoyable exploration of the Island can be done in a relatively short amount of time. The coastal road that goes all the way around the Island carries most of the traffic, but other than in the height of summer, it is suitable for cycling. Several minor roads criss-crossing the interior lead to pretty villages and items of historical interest including an ancient long barrow near Mottistone, water mills at Calbourne and Carisbrooke, the ruins of Appuldurcombe House and a 15th century church at Shorewell. At the western tip of the island is Alum Bay, famous for cliffs made up of many colours of sandstone, and the tall chalk stacks known as the Needles.

### BCQ071 Freshwater Bay

*OS 196, SZ 3420 8606, Oct 2010*

What type of roof does St. Agnes' church have?

### BCQ072 Godshill

*OS 196, SZ 5296 8170, Oct 2010*

What is the date on the Wesleyan Chapel?

### BCQ073 Culver Down

*OS 196, SZ 6332 8564, Oct 2010*

On Culver Down there is an unusual obelisk. To whom was this erected?

### BCQ074 Cowes

*OS 196, SZ 4853 9664, Nov 2020*

On the sea wall of Egypt Esplanade, opposite its junction with Egypt Hill, is plinth with lion mounted on it. What are the names of the Engineer and the Clerk?

### BCQ075 Havenstreet

*OS 196, SZ 5559 8978, Nov 2020*

At the entrance to Havenstreet station, what is the maximum penalty for omitting to shut and fasten the gate?

### BCQ076 Calbourne

*OS 196, SZ 4249 8657, Oct 2010*

By the gate of the Church is a lamp post. In whose remembrance is it? (while in Calbourne do not forget to visit Winkle Street)

## 08 WEST SUSSEX

With the South Downs covering a significant part of it, West Sussex has a deserved reputation for being a hilly county. The land has a feeling of closeness that envelops the visitor. The hills can be steep, the valleys narrow and the lanes sunk into the surrounding woods, though in the east the terrain allows for some flatter farmland. Running the width of the county is the South Downs Way. This off-road but well surfaced route follows the edge of a ridge for most of the way, and there are some significant climbs and descents to negotiate. The River Arun, with its namesake castle, park and town, offers a gap in the Downs leading north to the valley of the River Rother. The county is rich in history, with ancient tracks criss-crossing the land. Roman villas have been excavated at Bignor and Fishbourne, and a long section of Roman wall remains at Chichester.

### **BCQ081 Midhurst**

*OS 197, SU 8873 2145, Nov 2020*

Set within the NE corner of the old town hall (now a café) in Market Square, are the town Stocks and Pillory. Who was the last person to be sentenced to use them and how long for?

### **BCQ082 Chichester**

*OS 197, SU 8606 0482, Oct 2010*

Just east of the Cathedral at the junction of East, South, West and North Streets is a clock tower known as the City Cross. How many sides has the City Cross?

### **BCQ083 Arundel**

*OS 197, TQ 0197 0701, Oct 2010*

Give the date in Roman Numerals when Arundel Bridge was rebuilt?

### **BCQ084 Rogate**

*OS 197, SU 8075 2383, Oct 2010*

On main road opposite the church is the White Horse public house. What date is on the blue and white tile plaque on the front wall?

### **BCQ085 Kirdford**

*OS 197, TQ 0181 2660, Mar 2021*

At the south end of the village by the T junction is the Village cross with bench seats on all sides. On the plaque, what evidence is given for Roman- British culture?

### **BCQ086 Steyning**

*OS 198, TQ 1790 1136, Nov 2020*

Opposite St Andrews Church is a white statue. What does the statue's foot rest on and when was it discovered?

**Access/Other Notes:** for an off road alternative, see BCQ086ORA Cissibury Ring [Off Road Alternatives](#)

## 09 EAST SUSSEX

The South Downs enter East Sussex in the west, reaching one of their highest points at Ditchling Beacon then gradually making their way to the sea at Beachy Head. The South Downs Way, a long distance path, follows the ridge line for most of its course. To the north the uplands of the Weald rise to their highest point in the Ashdown Forest, a mix of wild heath and moorland, rocky outcrops and woodland and herds of deer. Between these lies a wide expanse of farming and cattle grazing land, with quiet lanes and meandering streams, extending to the Pevensy Levels. Coastal towns vary in their character, from the lively town of Brighton with its Royal Pavilion to quieter retirement communities such as Bexhill and Eastbourne. The chalk-cut figure of the Long Man near Wilmington, a Norman castle at Hastings, Battle Abbey and villages with entries in the Domesday Book all testify to the rich heritage of the area.

### BCQ091 Rye

*OS 189, TQ 9221 2061, Oct 2010*

When was the Landgate built?

### BCQ092 Battle

*OS 199, TQ 7518 1574, Nov 2020*

At the west end of Marley Lane, is the NT Lake Field. On the stone tablet how far is Stamford Bridge?

**Access/Other Notes:** The tablet can be seen from the roadside of the fence/gateway.

### BCQ093 Mayfield

*OS 188/199, TQ 5870 2701, Nov 2020*

The design of the village sign won an award, what was the award and how much was won?

### BCQ094 Ashdown Forest

*OS 188, TQ 4741 3009, Nov 2020*

At the junction of B2026 and B2188 is the King's Standing car park site: At the King's Standing Clump just beyond the car park, who are named in memory on the sign?

**Access/Other Notes:** The ground is mostly level smooth grass from the car park.

This general area was the inspiration for A.A. Milnes Hundred Acre Wood and the Winnie the Pooh stories.

### BCQ095 Beachy Head

*OS 199, TV 5884 9560, Nov 2020*

In the centre of the grassed area on the cliff top is a walled seated enclosure with a plaque. What year was signalling first conducted from this point?

**Access/Other Notes:** The access from the road is mainly smooth grass, about 200m. The west end of the Peace Path provides a smooth way up from the road, without a gate.

### BCQ096 Ditchling Beacon

*OS 198, TQ 3334 1295, Nov 2020*

On the left of the car park at its entrance is an information board. What rare orchid may be found if you look closely?

## 10 KENT

Known as the 'Garden of England' for its many hop fields and fruit orchards, Kent offers a rich variety of terrain. Much of it is uplands: the escarpments of the Greensand Ridge, the white cliffs of Dover, the rolling North Downs and the chalk rim of the Weald. In the South are the flat, sometimes below sea level, Romney Marshes where cattle and sheep graze. In contrast to the bustling towns of Rochester, with its Dickensian connections, Royal Tunbridge Wells, once an elegant spa, and Sevenoaks, there are many peaceful villages. Prestigious houses and castles including Knole, Sissinghurst, Hever and Leeds vie for attention with castles and towers built for coastal defence. The county's long contact with the Continent has shaped its cultural and commercial background, and today, two waymarked routes lead cyclists via quiet lanes from the channel ports to the historic cathedral city of Canterbury.

### **BCQ101 Otford**

*OS 177, TQ 5263 5938, Nov 2020*

On the wall of the Lutyens Church Hall in the High St, there is a mosaic depicting Otford through the ages. Who was the mosaic artist?

### **BCQ102 Biddenden**

*OS 189, TQ 8512 3837, Oct 2010*

Corner of the High Street and A262 is a tiny green with a sign showing figures known as the Biddenden Maids. Give their names?

### **BCQ103 East Farleigh**

*OS 188, TQ 7348 5354, Oct 2010*

The River Medway is spanned by a medieval stone bridge. How many arches does the bridge have?

### **BCQ104 Lamberhurst**

*OS 188, TQ 6762 3621, Nov 2020*

On the left side of the Memorial Hall are some commemorative railings which were cast in Lamberhurst. To which famous cathedral were they supplied?

### **BCQ105 Canterbury**

*OS 179, TR 1499 5784, Nov 2020*

In the Butter Market opposite the Cathedral Gateway, is a war memorial. Who unveiled the war memorial?

### **BCQ106 Hythe**

*OS 179, TR 1588 3471, Nov 2020*

There is a blue water fountain on Military Rd where it meets with Dymchurch Rd. There is a Psalm quoted near the top. What is the Psalm that is quoted?

## 11 SURREY

Despite its close proximity to London, Surrey has retained a rural atmosphere, particularly in the southern parts where farmland and parks are still extensive and where sandy soil has led to the preservation of wild heath land and heather-covered hills. In the chalk uplands of the North Downs, the Pilgrims Way traverses the county. From Leith Hill, the highest point in southern England, and Box Hill there are good views extending to the coast. In many areas there is a wealth of sunken lanes and byways hiding in deep beech or pine woodlands leading to picturesque villages and hamlets, many of which, like Shere and Wonersh, display Surrey's architectural speciality - houses with red tile-hung walls. At Cobham one of the 13 semaphore stations used by the Admiralty in the early 19th century still stands. Quiet roads lead to the far south-west of the county and the heath lands round Hindhead.

### BCQ111 Virginia Water

*OS 175/176, SU 9800 6957, Nov 2020*

In Windsor Great Park by Virginia Water, is a high totem pole. On the adjacent information board which animal is shown on the middle of the top row of drawings?

**Access/Other Notes:** The totem pole is signposted from the Virginia Water car park. Windsor Great Park is open from 07:30 or dawn and closes at 7pm or dusk.

### BCQ112 Godstone

*OS 187, TQ 3568 5148, Nov 2020*

In Church Town, east of Godstone, are the St. Mary's Alms Houses and chapel, which were designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott. On the north end of the building is a plaque, what number S. C. C. Building of Special Interest is it?

### BCQ113 Okewood

*OS 187, TQ 1278 3803, Oct 2010*

In church porch what is the date inscribed above Leviticus XIX 30?

### BCQ114 Shere

*OS 187, TQ 0732 4785, Oct 2010*

Who was the original user of the public convenience building?

### BCQ115 Box Hill

*OS 187, TQ 1797 5117, Apr 2019*

At the viewpoint wall, where did Leopold Salomonds come from?

### BCQ116 Tilford

*OS 186, SU 8718 4352, Nov 2020*

Tilford West Bridge is now used as a foot/cycleway. According to the plaque on it, who built it in the thirteenth century?

## 12 GREATER LONDON

Stretching from Hillingdon to Havering, from Enfield to Croydon, and bounded by a 'green belt', Greater London contains many open spaces, such as Osterley Park, Richmond Park and Harefield district in the west, Enfield Chase and the Lee Valley in the north, and Banstead and Biggin Hill in the south. Historic places abound in the outlying areas, such as the tithe barn at Harmondsworth, Greenwich Observatory, Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge in Epping Forest near Chingford, Charles Darwin's house near Downe and nearby Eltham Palace. Several suburbs have retained much of their village character, with open fields, patches of woodland or stretches of riverside separating them from each other. Quiet roads can often be used to link places of interest, and cycle routes are being established to avoid busier roads. Even within Inner London, routes through residential neighbourhoods, alongside canals, through parks and along the River Thames offer enjoyable cycling.

### BCQ121 Greenwich

*OS 177, TQ 3889 7733, Nov 2020*

At the Royal Observatory beneath the Shepherd Clock and above the Standard Measures is a plaque. What is the height above sea level at Newlyn?

### BCQ122 Richmond Hill

*OS 176, TQ 1828 7401, Jun 2021*

Opposite the Ashburton towards the top of the hill, you can see a seating area with binocular. Next to the binoculars is a stone plinth with metal plaque celebrating 100 years of Richmond, Ham and Petersham Open Spaces Act 1902. Which County Councils took action to save the view?

**Access/Other Notes:** Use the wide shared use path alongside the road, as there is limited access by steps from the road at the checkpoint location.

### BCQ123 Epping Forest

*OS 177, TQ 3973 9477, Apr 2019*

Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge has a single chimney stack, but how many separate chimneys are at the top?

### BCQ124 Camden Lock

*OS 176, TQ 2869 8410, Oct 2010*

On the finger posts in the middle of the canal at Hampstead Road Lock, what are the distances to Liverpool and Little Venice?

### BCQ125 Globe Theatre

*OS 176/177, TQ 3217 8054, Oct 2010*

By Thames Path near Southwark Bridge. On metal gates at riverside entrance to the Globe Theatre are a number of small iron figures represented in Shakespeare plays. What are the two other figures on the bottom row of the right hand gate?

Bird \_\_\_\_\_ Deer \_\_\_\_\_ Cat

**Access/Other Notes:** If the gates are open, the figures are "behind" the gate.

### BCQ126 Gunnersbury Park

*OS 176, TQ 1909 7925, Nov 2020*

Between the Gunnersbury Museum and Small Mansion on the Terrace side is a pedimented arch with a commemorative plaque on each wall. Who is the MP named on them?



*Note: For information on cycling in the Greater London area visit [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk).*

## 13 BERKSHIRE

The county of Berkshire is long and narrow. In the east its northern border is formed by the River Thames, its lush valley highly populated yet very rural. The river flows from one attractive town to the next, from Sonning and Shiplake to Marlow and Maidenhead, in the shadow of heavily wooded hills. The locks along the river are often of interest, and at Hambleden is an oft-photographed white-boarded mill. The terrain is rolling, with particularly extensive views from Winter Hill near Cookham. Windsor Castle and Great Park lie just within the county, along with Eton College. Further west are the River Lambourn and the Kennet and Avon Canal, and to the north of these are the Lambourn Downs, dotted with ancient burial mounds. Part of the prehistoric Ridgeway Path runs westwards from Streatley. Nearer the southern border are Inkpen Hill and Walbury Hill, the highest chalk hills in England. Combe Gibbet, a hanging place for felons and highwaymen, still stands there.

### BCQ131 Goring

*OS 174, SU 5983 8078, Nov 2020*

150 yards from the river bridge (Goring side) is the village hall, which has two golden weather vanes. One is a Cock, but what is the other?

### BCQ132 Hungerford Common

*OS 174, SU 3539 6798, Oct 2010*

There is a plaque at the eastern edge of Hungerford Common north of the road leading to Kintbury: How many copper beech trees have been planted here by the Trustees of the Town and Manor of Hungerford in December 1998 to celebrate the millennium?

### BCQ133 Fawley

*OS 174, SU 4001 8061, Oct 2010*

There is a monument 0.5 mile south east of Fawley. How old was Philip Musgrave Neeld?

### BCQ134 Walbury Hill

*OS 174, SU 3702 6207, Oct 2010*

On north side of road near north west Car Park. According to plaque on large stone which Regiment trained on these Downs for an assault on the Merville Battery?

### BCQ135 Waltham St Lawrence

*OS 175, SU 8295 7692, Jun 2021*

When was the pound, the enclosed area that forms an island in the road, presented to the village and by whom?

### BCQ136 Cookham Dean

*OS 175, SU 8659 8558, Nov 2020*

At junction of Grubwood Lane and Dean Lane/the hill Quarry Wood Rd, is a house called 'Hills Orchard', but what is the name of the house to its left?

## 14 OXFORDSHIRE

Steeped in history, Oxfordshire is also endowed with a rich architectural legacy. In Oxford itself, the university colleges are renowned for their exteriors, and tall church spires are a marked feature of the horizon. Away from the city can be found many stately homes from various periods, from Elizabethan Kelmscott Manor and the Jacobean manor house of Grey's Court to the 18th century Blenheim Palace, its garden one of Capability Brown's masterpieces. Along the River Cherwell and elsewhere lie many picture book villages built of the local mellow stone. Dorchester Abbey and the 13th century Great Coxwell Tithe Barn are also fine examples of their kind. Most of the terrain is no more than undulating, but to the northwest begin the Cotswolds, and to the southeast the Chiltern Hills start to rise. The Vale of White Horse, with the oldest hill figure in Britain, is largely flat farmland with pleasant villages.

### BCQ141 Oxford

*OS 164, SP 5151 0684, Oct 2010*

A domed building, Rhodes House in South Parks Road, has a carving of a Sailing Ship in stone above the door. What are the words on the carving?

### BCQ142 Souldern

*OS 151, SP 5229 3170, Oct 2010*

Set in the side wall of the church *with the tower*, under a small window, is a stone tablet. What date is given in Roman numerals?

### BCQ143 Kencot

*OS 163, SP 2548 0471, Apr 2019*

What is the date on the base of the village sign, on the Green?

### BCQ144 Great Coxwell

*OS 163/174, SU 2691 9403, Oct 2010*

The wall of the Tithe Barn facing the road has a large door with a gable over it. How many openings (small square putlog holes) are there in this stone gable?

### BCQ145 Cogges

*OS 164, SP 3616 0966, Oct 2010*

A plaque in the lychgate of St. Mary's Church commemorates the planting of an oak tree in the field opposite. It was planted to mark the coronation of whom?

### BCQ146 Watlington

*OS 175, SU 6897 9449, Nov 2020*

There is a shield at the old Town Hall at the east end of the High Street, at the back of the covered area under the building. What colour is the Ox (cow)?

## 15 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Stretching from the Chiltern Hills in the south to the Aylesbury Plain in the north, Buckinghamshire is a county of two faces. The chalk Chilterns, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, rise sharply near Wendover with steep lanes leading away from the main valleys, but there are miles of quiet valley roads and ridge roads offering distant views. The Icknield Way and Ridgeway Path are popular cycling routes, and the leafy Burnham Beeches, an expansive tract of woods, are another popular cycling area. 18th and 19th century flint and brick houses with thatched roofs are plentiful in villages nestled between wheat fields. The Aylesbury Plain and the rolling land extending north provide good dairy farming and grazing land. It is a quiet region with plenty of minor roads leading to ancient churches, historic pubs, stately homes such as Claydon House and Waddesdon Manor, and interesting windmills at Quainton and Brill.

### **BCQ151 Jordans**

*OS 175/176, SU 9734 9140, Oct 2010*

According to the plaque on right of front of 'Estate Office' on village green, in what year did Fred Hancock retire?

### **BCQ152 Quainton**

*OS 165, SP 7464 2016, Oct 2010*

What is the date on the decorative stone slab set over the door of Cross Farmhouse at the top of the Green?

### **BCQ153 Wing**

*OS 165, SP 8804 2257, Oct 2010*

On the church what is the year, shown in large metal figures, high on the exterior south wall?

### **BCQ154 Nether Winchendon**

*OS 165, SP 7331 1222, Oct 2010*

In whose reign was the stone built letterbox near the church built?

### **BCQ155 Prestwood**

*OS 165, SP 8623 0195, Nov 2020*

Near to Honorend Farm, 1.5 miles north west of Prestwood, there is a monument in the memory of whom?

### **BCQ156 Hambleden**

*OS 175, SU 7839 8653, Oct 2010*

Who was the manufacturer of the disused water pump on a small "island", by a chestnut tree, in the village centre?

## 16 BEDFORDSHIRE

Bedfordshire is well served by a network of quiet country roads linking many small, attractive villages. There are no real hills, but the countryside is by no means flat everywhere. Large expanses of the land are given over to market gardening and rolling grassy pastures. The River Great Ouse meanders through the heart of the county. It was also the home and preaching ground of the author of *The Pilgrim's Progress*, John Bunyan. From the appropriately named town of Sandy, home to a major RSPB nature reserve, a wooded Greensand Ridge stretches west to Woburn, the location of Whipsnade Wild Animal Park. In the southwest lies the high ground of the Dunstable Downs, formed by the easternmost edge of the chalk Chiltern Hills. The climatic conditions there make this a popular area for gliders. Near Bedford town are the 1000-ft long airship hangars of Cardington, now a ballooning centre, and the Old Warden Airfield.

### BCQ161 Woburn

*OS 165, SP 9491 3314, Oct 2010*

At the main crossroads, on the opposite corner to the Woburn Hotel, what is the letter below the crown on the gable ends of the old Town Hall (now an Antiques shop)?

### BCQ162 Whipsnade

*OS 166, TL 0093 1804, Oct 2010*

Whipsnade Tree Cathedral. Who conceived the cathedral and when did tree planting begin?

### BCQ163 Sharpenhoe

*OS 166, TL 0653 2957, Nov 2020*

At Sharpenhoe Clappers car park: what are the names of the long distance paths which cross the road and car park and are shown on the green signs?

### BCQ164 Stevington

*OS 153, SP 9920 5277, Nov 2020*

How many steps from the ground to the door of the Windmill?

**Access/Other Notes:** Currently under restoration, but recent reports say no problems with getting the answer.

### BCQ165 Bedford

*OS 153, TL 0575 4953, Oct 2010*

Plaque on the south side of the suspension bridge. Who opened the suspension bridge on the 11th July 1888?

### BCQ166 Old Warden

*OS 153, TL 1384 4400, Oct 2010*

On war memorial what is the surname of Alfred & Herbert H who died in The Great War 1914-1918?

## 17 HERTFORDSHIRE

Hertfordshire's undulating chalklands contain many pockets of unspoilt countryside. Open fields of wheat and barley give way to stands of beech woods on higher ground, particularly nice around Ashridge Park. In the west, lovely villages are tucked into the deep wooded valleys of the Chiltern Hills, such as Chipperfield, Flaunden, Ashridge and Sarratt. Near Tring large reservoirs, also nature reserves, feed the Grand Union Canal. A monument nearby commemorates the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Bridgewater, pioneer of Britain's canal system. The ancient city of St. Albans has Verulamium a Roman theatre and a cathedral with the second longest nave in the country. Further east, Hatfield House stands as an excellent example of Jacobean architecture, and much of Georgian Hatfield town remains. The village of Much Hadham is also delightful. Prehistoric Icknield Way and the earthworks of Grim's Dyke complement Roman roads such as Watling Street and Ermine Street. Ivinghoe Beacon, rising to 756 feet, offers extensive views.

### **BCQ171 St. Albans**

*OS 166, TL 1464 0714, Nov 2020*

At the Clock Tower, at the south end of Market Place, you will find the date of Queen Eleanor's funeral cortege. What is the Date?

### **BCQ172 Aldbury**

*OS 165, SP 9651 1254, Oct 2010*

By The Greyhound Inn public house and opposite Town Farm. What shape is the knocker at No. 25?

### **BCQ173 Ayot St. Lawrence**

*OS 166, TL 1948 1683, Nov 2020*

200m north east of Shaw's Corner is Ayot St. Lawrence Old Church. Who made the replacement gate, and when? (Church side of gate).

### **BCQ174 Ashwell**

*OS 153, TL 2668 3969, Oct 2010*

Name the lane alongside Ashwell Museum? (Name is on side wall of the Museum).

### **BCQ175 Westmill**

*OS 166, TL 3684 2708, Oct 2010*

The village pump bears an inscription. What is the third word?

### **BCQ176 Great Amwell**

*OS 166, TL 3725 1255, Oct 2010*

About 150 yards SE from the bridge alongside the footpath is a New River Information Board. When was the aqueduct constructed and where does it flow to in London?

## 18 ESSEX

Essex is often misrepresented as a flat county and an extension of London. Whereas it may not offer panoramic views, it has much to please the eye. South of the attractive market towns of Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow, are many pretty villages such as Finchingfield, Thaxted, the Bardfields and the Rodings, characterised by pargeted thatched cottages, village greens and duck ponds. From the River Crouch northwards, the coastal area is a mix of mud-flats, salt marshes, islands, estuaries, fishing villages and popular holiday resorts. Open heaths, farming country and some woodland typify the interior. Much of this was a hunting forest until recent times, though Epping and Hatfield Forests still stand today. Town names such as Tolleshunt D'Arcy and Layer-de-la-Haye serve as reminders of Norman occupation, others like Fingringhoe and Langenhoe were left by the Anglo-Saxons, and it was at Colchester that Boadicea, Queen of the Iceni, sacked the Romans.

### **BCQ181 Maldon**

*OS 168, TL 8573 0682, Jan 2020*

On the Hythe Quay is a large RED Buoy (Not the mine). What is inscribed on its plaque?

### **BCQ182 Greensted (nr Chipping Ongar)**

*OS 167, TL 5388 0297, Oct 2010*

To the right of the entrance to Greensted church. Which century is the Crusader's Grave?

### **BCQ183 Audley End House**

*OS 154, TL 5233 3802, Oct 2010*

Over public entrance (south of house) there is an arch. What date (in Arabic numerals) does the arch bear?

### **BCQ184 Castle Hedingham**

*OS 155, TL 7873 3560, Nov 2020*

On B1058 (Sudbury Road) at its junction with Bayley Street, is a triangular island with a village sign and an information board. What event is recorded on the information board?

### **BCQ185 Thaxted**

*OS 167, TL 6118 3093, Nov 2020*

Four properties from the Guildhall in Town Street (Square), on the south west side is No 19, The Steps. According to the blue plaque, who lived there and when?

### **BCQ186 Wivenhoe**

*OS 168, TM 0387 2145, Oct 2010*

According to the blue plaque on the building on the north waterfront, to the right (east) of the Rose & Crown public house, which Actor-Manager lived there (and dates)?

**Access/Other Notes:** The foot ferry runs infrequently.

## 19 CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Cambridgeshire is probably best known for its University and its Fens; both certainly need to be seen to be fully appreciated. However, there is a surprising amount of variety in the county. North of the city of Cambridge, the land opens up, at first to the Rivers Great Ouse and Cam then to the ditches of the Fens themselves with their causeways and wind pumps. Dominating the fens is Ely Cathedral, the town of Ely being an island before the great period of draining occurred. Nearby, Wicken Fen has been kept undrained as a nature reserve. Further north near Wisbech are orchards and bulb fields. The market towns of Huntingdon, St. Neots and St. Ives on the northwestern side are particularly worth a visit. The southern part of the county is higher with winding lanes, trees and hedges to break up the expanse of cereal crops, and many attractive villages.

### BCQ191 Cambridge

*OS 154, TL 4479 5835, Oct 2010*

What is the shape of the letter box at the gateway to Kings College?

### BCQ192 Friday Bridge

*OS 143, TF 4659 0472, Apr 2019*

How many ducks and horses are there on the village pictorial sign?

### BCQ193 Ely

*OS 143, TL 5394 8029, Oct 2010*

What stands on the green 80 yards in front of the main entrance of the Cathedral?

### BCQ194 Great Chishill

*OS 154, TL 4132 3885, Jun 2021*

What makes the windmill unique out of the seven open trestle postmills in the UK?  
(See information board)

### BCQ195 Hilton

*OS 153, TL 2925 6621, Oct 2010*

On the stone pillar in the centre of the grass maze is the word HOC on three sides. What are the letters in front of the word **HOC**?

**Access/Other Notes:** Help required with this checkpoint, please contact [bcq@cyclinguk.org](mailto:bcq@cyclinguk.org)

### BCQ196 Grafham Water

*OS 153, TL 1664 6809, Oct 2010*

What are the names of the three car parks?



## 20 SUFFOLK

Once cloaked in forests, Suffolk is now a much more open county, particularly on the eastern side where there are extensive farms. Southwards the terrain becomes somewhat hillier, rising to over 400 feet. The churches and houses in several attractive villages, such as Lavenham, Long Melford, Clare and Cavendish, show off the arts of half-timbering, pargeting (often pink), flint work and thatching to a splendid degree. The eastern coastline, typified by flat, sandy heath land, has some charming seaside towns and a wealth of bird life, with Avocet nesting on Minsmere and Havergate Island. Aldeburgh, a flourishing town in its own right, is also the home of a major summer music festival. The lower reaches of the River Stour, as it runs through water meadows lined with willows, is Constable country. Many of the venues for his paintings, such as East Bergholt, Flatford Mill and Dedham Vale, have changed little since his time.

### BCQ201 Framlingham

*OS 156, TM 2883 6353, Nov 2020*

At the junction of Saxmundham (B1119) and Bradingham (B1120) Roads is a well. When were the funds for the well promised?

### BCQ202 Bury St. Edmunds

*OS 155, TL 8554 6422, Oct 2010*

On one of the plaques in the Abbey Gateway. What rebuilt date is recorded?

### BCQ203 Dunwich

*OS 156, TM 4775 7059, Oct 2010*

At the Museum the anchor was recovered from the seabed off Dunwich. What year did the Navy survey and find it?

### BCQ204 Lavenham

*OS 155, TL 9160 4930, Oct 2010*

Give the name of the man who presented the Guildhall to the National Trust as recorded on wall of the Guildhall?

### BCQ205 Flatford

*OS 169, TM 0771 3325, Nov 2020*

What is the name on the gate of the house, that is set back from the road, on the opposite side of the lane to Flatford Mill?

### BCQ206 Woodbridge

*OS 169, TM 2706 4915, Oct 2010*

Give the date of the Victorian fountain / pump standing on Market Hill beside the Shire Hall.

## 21 NORFOLK

Norfolk is a hillier county than often envisaged, particularly on the ridge backing the north coast. Sweeping sandy beaches line this coast, with many roads leading to inland villages that had access to the sea in centuries past. Blakeney Point and Scolt Head Island are havens to bird life. Waves have long battered the cliffs south of Cromer, slowly eroding the shores. Nearer Great Yarmouth, ancient peat workings have formed shallow, reed-fringed lakes known as the Broads, an area full of nature reserves and many quiet lanes for cycling. The reeds are used locally for thatching. Nearby, in the seaside resort of Great Yarmouth, is a monument to Lord Nelson, born at Burnham Thorpe. Much of the centre of the county is extensively devoted to agriculture, yet wilder areas and woodland also exist. Norwich is worth a visit, with its cathedral, castle, Georgian square of Tombland and cobbled Elm Hill.

### BCQ211 Swaffham

*OS 144, TF 8185 0903, Oct 2010*

In the extreme north west corner of the town square is the town sign depicting the Pedlar of Swaffham. What is he holding in his right hand?

### BCQ212 Thetford

*OS 144, TL 8695 8314, Nov 2020*

In King St, what does the statue of Thomas Paine hold in his right hand?

### BCQ213 Geldeston

*OS 134, TM 3892 9188, Nov 2020*

Outside the WHERRY INN is a cast iron Sustrans fingerpost. What are the mileages to Loddon, Norwich and Beccles?

### BCQ214 Sutton

*OS 133, TG 3866 2346, Apr 2019*

Sutton Methodist Chapel has two foundation stones. What is the name of the M.P. who laid one of them?

### BCQ215 Stibbard

*OS 132, TF 9819 2832, Oct 2010*

What does the memorial depict that commemorates the Golden Jubilee?

### BCQ216 Swannington

*OS 133, TG 1343 1904, Nov 2020*

South of the church, on the west side of the road, what was placed there in memory of her husband Hastings Parker in 1888?

## 22 GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The penetration of the River Severn deep into its heart divides much of Gloucestershire into three distinct parts. To the west, the Forest of Dean rises not far from the north bank of the Severn. Covering some 27,000 acres of woodland and winding valleys, its forest tracks contain miles of off-road cycling. The flatter central Severn Vale offers gentle pottering along quiet lanes with views of the Malvern and the Cotswold Hills. Gloucester has its cathedral and docks, Cheltenham its elegant Georgian architecture, and Tewkesbury its half-timbered Tudor buildings and a fine abbey. The eastern side of the county is dominated by the wide, rolling Cotswold Hills, their picturesque villages hewn out of local honey-coloured stone. The medieval wool trade provided for large houses and gardens as well as magnificent churches. Although the Cotswold villages can be busy with tourists in summer, the area remains a popular touring area for cyclists.

### **BCQ221 Newent**

*OS 162, SO 7227 2582, Apr 2019*

Number 1 Market Place, adjacent to the stilted Market Hall on Bury Barr Lane, has a blue plaque commemorating Joe Meek. What are his dates and nick-name?

### **BCQ222 Birdlip**

*OS 163, SO 9312 1536, Oct 2010*

Barrow Wake View Point. What does the Panorama show at 1 mile distance?

### **BCQ223 Stow on the Wold**

*OS 163, SP 1907 2601, Oct 2010*

Just south of the junction of A424 with A429 on north side of Stow there is a drinking fountain on east side of the unclassified road leading to the town centre. Who presented it and when?

### **BCQ224 Sapperton Tunnel**

*OS 163, SO 9656 0060, Nov 2020*

What is name of the public house near the tunnel's southern entrance?

### **BCQ225 Winchcombe**

*OS 163, SP 0243 2824, Oct 2010*

War Memorial to the Great War 1914-18. Whose name follows King, T?

### **BCQ226 Mitcheldean**

*OS 162, SO 6636 1858, Oct 2010*

By the door of the Parish Church on a gravestone Thomas Wintle died 12th June. In which year?

## 23 HEREFORD & WORCESTER

Though separated by the Malvern Hills, Herefordshire and Worcestershire share a quiet, peaceful atmosphere with lush pastures and broad plains that are more gently picturesque than dramatically beautiful. The River Wye winds through wide, open valleys for much of its journey through Herefordshire, but cuts through deep gorges near Symond's Yat. Along the River Dore lies the scenic Golden Valley, its hills providing views to the Black Mountains and Wales. Daffodils in spring and hops and cider apples in summer are a significant feature of the rolling landscape of the west. Northeast of the Malverns, Worcestershire is generally flatter, the land devoted to orchards and market gardens, particularly in the Vale of Evesham. The River Teme valley and mid-reaches of the River Severn are also worth exploring. Black-and-white half-timbered houses proliferate in both counties, the towns and villages of Ledbury, Evesham, Weobley and Elmley Castle displaying particularly good examples.

### BCQ231 Hereford

*OS 149, SO 5107 4004, Nov 2020*

In the city centre opposite the Bull Statue, is a timber framed building. On the end of the building facing the Bull is a plaque. What did this building once form part of?

### BCQ232 Eardisland

*OS 149, SO 4194 5862, Apr 2019*

Outside the Cross Inn is an old style AA box. What is its serial number?

### BCQ233 Tenbury Wells

*OS 137/138, SO 5956 6860, Oct 2010*

When was the Teme Bridge partly rebuilt and widened?

### BCQ234 Worcester

*OS 150, SO 8465 5478, Oct 2010*

Who opened the bridge to traffic on October 28th 1932?

### BCQ235 Evesham

*OS 150, SP 0360 4369, Oct 2010*

Junction of Vine Street and Merstow Green opposite Ye Olde Red Horse pub is a milestone. When was it believed to have been erected?

### BCQ236 Malvern Hills

*OS 150, SO 7629 4040, Nov 2020*

There is an imposing stone plaque at British Camp just off the road, through the gate, on the right of the path. On the plaque who described the view from the beacon as "The goodliest vista in England"?

## 24 SHROPSHIRE

The wide Severn Valley divides Shropshire into two areas. North of the historic county town of Shrewsbury, a broad plain of rich agricultural land extends to the county's 'Lake District' at Ellesmere where rare birds inhabit the meres. Quiet roads and rivers meander past charming villages liberally sprinkled with black and white timbered houses. To the east, the Severn flows past the conical, 1334-foot high mound of the Wrekin, through the Ironbridge Gorge, a major centre of the Industrial Revolution in England, and thus on to Bridgnorth, a market town built on two levels. In the rolling hills to the south are the lovely towns of Bishops Castle and Church Stretton, and also more serious hills– the Long Mynd, Wenlock Edge and the Clee Hills. Further south is the village of Clun, it's history dating back to the Bronze Age, Corve Dale, with attractive 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century manor farms, and the lovely Georgian town of Ludlow.

### **BCQ241 Ellesmere**

*OS 126, SJ 4003 3486, Nov 2020*

On Cross St, near the public conveniences, is a memorial with three round portraits on the top. Who is the former local resident that is celebrated?

### **BCQ242 Shrewsbury**

*OS 126, SJ 4878 1247, Oct 2010*

Opposite St. Chad's church adjacent to the war memorial there is a stone balustrade providing the park boundary. Who erected it and when?

### **BCQ243 Much Wenlock**

*OS 127, SJ 6238 0005, Oct 2010*

By Wenlock Priory in the road called the Bullring you will find the Priory Hall, now the village hall. What was it previously and between which dates? The plaque is now located inside the gateway, on the wall of the building.

### **BCQ244 Bishops Castle**

*OS 137, SO 3234 8895, Apr 2019*

On the downhill wall of the old town hall there are two (cell) circular windows. How many horizontal and vertical bars secure them?

### **BCQ245 Ludlow**

*OS 137, SO 5096 7459, Oct 2010*

At the entrance to Ludlow Castle, on the LEFT hand side facing the castle, where and when was the cannon captured?

### **BCQ246 Bridgnorth**

*OS 138, SO 7173 9303, Oct 2019*

In Castle Terrace HIGHTOWN is the upper station of the Castlehill Cliff Railway. From the adjacent information board when was the railway opened and by whom?

## 25 WARWICKSHIRE & WEST MIDLANDS

Warwickshire is properly in the Midlands, a cross in the town of Meriden marking the geographic centre of England. To the north and west, the industrial conurbation of Birmingham and its suburbs have claimed much of the land, though there are a few attractive market towns linked by country lanes and numerous canals. Near Meriden is the historic city of Coventry, known for bicycle manufacturing and its great cathedral standing next to the ruins of the one bombed in World War II. Southwards the scenery opens up to a varied and beautiful landscape. Gentle green countryside predominates, though the views from Edge Hill, site of the first major Civil War battle, can be dramatic. Warwick, best known for its medieval castle, is a pleasant Georgian and Tudor town, as is nearby Leamington Spa. A bit further south lies Shakespeare country, Stratford-upon-Avon its major tourist attraction, laced by canals and rivers.

### BCQ251 Warwick

*OS 151, SP 2804 6472, Oct 2010*

Unusual pillar box by West Gate and Lord Leycester Hospital. According to the nearby plaque when and where was it cast and what is its shape?

### BCQ252 Meriden

*OS 139, SP 2391 8227, Jun 2021*

On the green in Meriden near to the Cyclist's Memorial there is an ancient cross which marks the geographical centre of England. How old is it and when was it re-erected at its current location?

### BCQ253 Stratford-Upon-Avon

*OS 151, SP 1847 5474, Oct 2010*

By the fence outside Ann Hathaway's Cottage there is a SV plate. What are the numbers?

### BCQ254 Packwood House

*OS 139, SP 1738 7225, Oct 2010*

What is the inscription at the bottom of the Sundial on the eastern face of the main Building?

### BCQ255 Chesterton Windmill

*OS 151, SP 3486 5936, Jun 2021*

A unique stone windmill was built here by Inigo Jones. How many columns does the windmill stand on and what is the diameter of the brake wheel?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is a wide grass track from the road to the windmill, Cycling up to the windmill is not prohibited.

### BCQ256 Rollright Stones

*OS 151, SP 2962 3095, Oct 2010*

On the opposite side of the road to the Rollright Stone Circle stands a single upright stone (The Kingstone). Describe its shape.

## 26 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Largely an agricultural county, its broad open landscapes broken by the odd farm building or occasional church spire, Northampton has not suffered from industrial sprawl. The River Nene, once a major part of the tanning process, flows through Fotheringhay where Mary Queen of Scots lost her head. Now used for recreational purposes, it is joined on its course by the Grand Union Canal, a mecca for narrow-boaters. 200 years of canal history is displayed at the Stoke Bruerne Waterways Museum. Rockingham Forest was royal hunting land, and some patches of woodland still remain. History manifests itself near Rushton, where the Triangular Lodge, a three-sided building where everything comes in sets of three, was reputedly a meeting place for the Gunpowder Plot conspirators, and at Naseby where the fateful Civil War battle was fought. Two crosses erected to commemorate the passing of Queen Eleanor's funeral cortege still remain at Geddington and Hardingstone.

### BCQ261 Fotheringhay

*OS 142, TL 0600 9317, Nov 2020*

Inscription in the porch of the church. Who was the first principal of Balliol College, Oxford?

### BCQ262 Geddington

*OS 141, SP 8945 8302, Oct 2010*

There is a plaque fixed to the Queen Eleanor Cross. How many of these Crosses were built between 1291 and 1294?

### BCQ263 Naseby

*OS 141, SP 6878 7796, Jun 2021*

On a small green in Church St at its junction with Gynwell is what is left of an ancient monument. What was it originally and where was it first located?

### BCQ264 Castle Ashby

*OS 152, SP 8596 5934, Oct 2010*

In the village, to the west of the castle at a crossroads is a stone column standing adjacent to a signpost to Castle Ashby House. What is the year shown on the column below the crown, the letter 'N' and the words, Castle Ashby?

### BCQ265 Stoke Bruerne

*OS 152, SP 7434 4991, Oct 2010*

Do all of the windows at the front of the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne have bars?

### BCQ266 Sulgrave

*OS 152, SP 5612 4552, Nov 2020*

Who presented the Woolhouse, in Little Street, to Sulgrave Manor and when? (On a stone set into the wall of the Woolhouse).

## 27 LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

Leicestershire and Rutland contain a rich heritage of fine buildings and attractive market towns. Mainly agricultural, the landscape is pleasantly varied. In the north, the craggy, granite hills of Charnwood Forest slope eastwards down to rolling wolds where a maze of attractive roads dip and climb. Beyond, peaceful lanes and gently rolling countryside lead to the Vale of Belvoir overlooked by its beautiful castle. Loughborough, with the largest bell foundry in Europe, has a bell tower with 47 bells. There is a five-arched packhorse bridge at Anstey and splendid views from Mountsorrel. In the south, secluded by-ways meander through a landscape of open fields and waterways. At Foxton, two tiers of five locks raise the Grand Union Canal by 75 feet. Tiny Rutland is surprisingly hilly and includes Rutland Water, a vast reservoir created in the 1970s; a 24-mile cycle track follows its shores. The impressive Harringworth Viaduct carries the railway over the River Welland.

### **BCQ271 Bottesford**

*OS 130, SK 8071 3915, Oct 2010*

North of the church, very near the tower, is an old cottage. What date is set in dark bricks on the gable end facing the tower?

### **BCQ272 Rutland Water**

*OS 141, SK 8760 0750, Apr 2019*

Adjacent to Egleton Church is the tiny former Egleton school, erected in 1867. What is the animal in the top carved stone?

### **BCQ273 Foxton**

*OS 141, SP 7012 8999, Jun 2021*

On the side wall of the Village Hall in Middle Street, is a plaque concerning a Lancaster and its crew lost at Foxton. What is inscribed between "Lancaster" and "who"?

### **BCQ274 Bosworth Battlefield**

*OS 140, SK 3968 0038, Apr 2019*

Battlefield preserved railway, at Shenton station, how many free standing lampposts are there on the platform?

### **BCQ275 Bradgate Park**

*OS 140, SK 5234 0985, Nov 2020*

A circular plaque, dated 1970, is mounted on the right-hand pillar of the main entrance gates from the Newton Linford car park. What is its two-word inscription?

**Access/Other Notes:** Cycling is permitted through the park between this entrance and the car park on Roecliffe Rd, but not at busy times, ie weekends and bank holidays.

### **BCQ276 Breedon-on-the-Hill**

*OS 129, SK 4056 2331, Oct 2010*

In the churchyard is a grave with a large white cross. Where and when did Claude George Taylor die?



## 28 LINCOLNSHIRE

Perhaps the largest agricultural county in England, Lincolnshire is a quiet, expansive area, sparsely populated with little traffic. The countryside around The Wash is ancient peatland, drained since the Roman times. These Fens provide rich soil for growing a variety of crops, including the vast bulb fields around Spalding. Enormous skies offer spacious views punctuated by windmills and church spires. To the northwest, a thin strip of high land runs north-south through the county, taking in the ancient Roman city of Lincoln, its cathedral dominating the sky for miles around. In the east the Wolds present a greater challenge – 40 miles of rolling hills, deep valleys and hanging beechwoods. Along the coast lie sand dunes and flat marshland with windmills and several nature reserves. Points of interest include Tattershall's medieval fortified manor house, West Deeping's watermill, the largest single-hand clock in the world at Coningsby and many Dutch gabled houses.

### BCQ281 Lincoln

*OS 121, SK 9786 7190, Oct 2010*

Whose statue stands in the north east corner of the Cathedral grounds close to the Eastgate?

### BCQ282 Walesby

*OS 113, TF 1380 9240, Nov 2020*

All Saints church known as the Ramblers church has a window with three panes, one pane of Ramblers, one of Christ. What is depicted on the other pane?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is a dirt track 400m up the hill to the church. The window can only be seen from the inside and the church is normally open. If the church is closed, please take a photo of bike and church sign.

### BCQ283 Crowland

*OS 142, TF 2394 1024, Oct 2010*

On a plaque fixed to the three legged Trinity Bridge whose charter first mentioned the bridge and when?

### BCQ284 Spilsby

*OS 122, TF 4014 6613, Oct 2010*

There is a statue of a famous Lincolnshire man in Market Square. Who was he, when was he born and what did he discover?

### BCQ285 Heckington

*OS 130, TF 1459 4355, Apr 2019*

Outside Heckington Windmill is a red Pillar Box. What is the maker's name along the lower front side?

### BCQ286 Stamford

*OS 141, TF 0281 0711, Nov 2020*

What is the name of the Brothers in stone on the building between the Odd Fellows Hall 1876 and the Brewery Museum in All Saints St?

## 29 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Nottinghamshire lies tucked between the Derbyshire hills and the Lincolnshire fens, its countryside comprised of pastures and mixed farming, wooded in the south and more open in the north. The southwest was historically colliery country, many of the spoil heaps having now been planted and grassed, with the remnants of Sherwood Forest extending north from there. Near Worksop are the 'Dukeries', gentle wooded hills where Dukes and Earls built their stately homes. At Clumber Park, though the house has gone, the grounds still contain acres of forest walks and rides. The impressive Norman Minster church at Southwell is worth a visit for its almost rural setting and its stone carvings of foliage, as is Newstead Abbey, former home of Lord Byron. The landscapes of D.H.Lawrence's novels and short stories can still be seen to the east of Eastwood. The city of Nottingham itself has several museums exhibiting the history and industrial heritage of the county.

### BCQ291 Harworth

*OS 111, SK 6170 9171, Nov 2020*

Enter the town cemetery by the West Gate (closes at dusk or 6pm). On the left is a black headstone, which is the grave of Tom Simpson (Racing Cyclist). Complete the text, "His body ached .....".

**Access/Other Notes** The nearby Bircotes & Harworth Sports & Social Club has a room full of Tom Simpson memorabilia.

### BCQ292 North Leverton

*OS 120, SK 7752 8199, Apr 2019*

Which two organisations donated the two white gates in front of the mill?

### BCQ293 Clumber Park

*OS 120, SK 6257 7454, Nov 2020*

The Stables. How many bells can you see in the octagonal clock tower?

**Access/Other Notes:** This is in the National Trust Clumber Park Estate.

### BCQ294 Hickling

*OS 129, SK 6909 2949, Oct 2010*

What unlikely animal is mentioned on the information board at Hickling Canal basin?

### BCQ295 Eastwood

*OS 129, SK 4659 4704, Nov 2020*

What is inscribed on the plaque above the door of D. H. Lawrence's birthplace in Victoria St?

### BCQ296 Nottingham

*OS 129, SK 5697 3958, Jul 2019*

There is a statue of Robin Hood to the south (left) of the Castle Gatehouse. Who is shown fighting Guy of Gisborne's men on one of the adjacent plaques?

## 30 DERBYSHIRE

The countryside in south Derbyshire is undulating and pastoral, its rivers meandering past fields of barley and wheat. It boasts large halls at Keddleston and Melbourne, ruins at Duffield Castle and Dale Abbey, a model village at Sudbury and a three-quarter mile long, 10-arched bridge and causeway at Swarkestone. Centrally, high ridges, rolling hills, wooded dales and green river valleys make up the landscape. Bakewell, known for its tarts and warm, brown stone buildings, and the Matlock towns and villages sit in an area rich in history and archaeology. The crowning glory lies north in the Peak District where high, rocky crags rise from rugged, exposed moorland, giving dramatic views. Well-dressing villages such as Eyam, Tideswell and Wormhill, great houses of Chatsworth and Hardwick and the reservoirs of the River Derwent all contribute to the beauty of the area. The Tissington and High Peak trails offer extensive, if easy, off-road riding.

### BCQ301 Derwent Reservoir

*OS 110, SK 1676 9386, Nov 2020*

At the end of the metalled road at the top reservoir is a small round-about with a tree. According to the plaque, who planted it and when?

**Access/Other Notes:** See [Off Road Alternatives](#) regarding track around the reservoir.

### BCQ302 Millers Dale

*OS 119, SK 1414 7332, Oct 2010*

Just to the east of the old railway viaduct, what date is on St. Anne's Church clock?

### BCQ303 High Peak Trail

*OS 119, SK 2754 5518, Oct 2010*

What is the gradient on the steep hill warning sign on the High Peak Trail opposite the Middleton Top Engine House?

### BCQ304 Hardwick Hall

*OS 120, SK 4623 6376, Nov 2020*

In front of the hall by the main gate is a mounting block. How many steps has it?

**Access/Other Notes:** The checkpoint is in the middle of the National Trust Hardwick Estate. In addition to the main visitor entrance and exit, there is an entry/exit point for cycles at SK 4712 6477 on the road between Rowthorne and Ault Hucknall. No ticket is required to view the checkpoint.

### BCQ305 Marston Montgomery

*OS 128, SK 1344 3789, Nov 2020*

On the shelter 100m to the south west of the church gate way are two plaques. What are the names of the two monarchs?

### BCQ306 Ticknall

*OS 128, SK 3560 2402, Oct 2010*

What is the height on the sign on the tramway bridge which crosses the A514 by the entrance to Calke Park?

## 31 STAFFORDSHIRE

Rugged, stone-walled moorlands, where wallabies run wild and crags tower above the roads, typify northern Staffordshire. Further south they give way to lush valleys, dense woodlands and open, undulating dairy farming country. The Rivers Churnet and Manifold flow gently through verdant valleys with pleasant villages. The market town of Cheadle in the North Staffordshire hills, with its 200-foot tall church steeple visible for miles around, and picturesque half-timbered Tudor houses, offers a gateway to the Churnet valley. Placid canals and sparkling reservoirs add to the beauty of the landscape. Even the industrial towns are set in rural countryside. A few of the traditional brick ovens of the Potteries remain, and a museum of pottery exists in the village of Lorton. Minor roads penetrate the expansive protected moorland of Cannock Chase with its birch and oak woods and indigenous heather. Further east is the Needwood Forest with its oaks and hollies.

### BCQ311 Leek

*OS 118, SJ 9854 5665, Oct 2010*

In the town centre the Public Library and Information Centre in Stockwell Street bears an inscription "Nicholson Institute". What years are above this inscription?

### BCQ312 Ilam

*OS 119, SK 1353 5084, Oct 2010*

The monument in the centre of the village is a replica "Eleanor Cross". How many sides has the central column?

### BCQ313 Slindon

*OS 127, SJ 8255 3254, Nov 2020*

On the A519, by the turn signposted Apsley  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 2.3 miles north of Eccleshall is a disused drinking fountain. Who donated it to the village?

### BCQ314 Lichfield

*OS 128, SK 1168 0969, Jun 2021*

In Dam St, is Speakers Corner. Between what hours can any member of the public speak?

**Access/Other Notes:** Speakers corner is also on Cycle Route 54 which has no barriers between Bird St and St Chads Rd. Dam St (cycling is permitted) is also accessed from the Market St/Bore St but it is a one way system heading E-W

### BCQ315 Kinver

*OS 138, SO 8453 8338, Nov 2020*

Plaques on the wall of the Medical Centre on the High Street, by the clock, indicate the number of awards for "Best Kept Village". How many are there at the time of your visit?

### BCQ316 Cannock Chase

*OS 127, SJ 9801 1653, Oct 2010*

The Katyn Memorial. To whom is the memorial dedicated, where were they executed and when?

## 32 CHESHIRE

A county mostly pastoral in nature, Cheshire's large farms and country estates impart an air of peaceful prosperity. Extending from the west, the vast undulating Cheshire Plain, well watered by rivers and canals, offers miles of mostly gentle cycling amongst dairy farms, villages with attractive churches and the heavily wooded Delamere Forest. South and east, the land becomes hillier, with wooded ridges and ruined castles offering good views of the surrounding countryside. Near Congleton and Macclesfield the terrain turns to wild, craggy moorland with gritstone farmsteads above narrow valleys. At Anderton a canal lift hoists vessels from the River Weaver to the Trent & Mersey Canal, and near Knutsford is the Jodrell Bank radio telescope. Several large houses dot the county, including the intricately half-timbered Little Moreton Hall and Bramall Hall, and the medieval city walls, cathedral and timber-framed Rows (shops along raised covered walkways) of Chester are worth a visit.

### BCQ321 Audlem

*OS 118, SJ 6598 4364, Oct 2019*

Near the Church Tower is a memorial honouring the villages dead from many conflicts. Who is the only person to lose their life in the Suez Conflict?

### BCQ322 Knutsford

*OS 118, SJ 7525 7864, Nov 2020*

Memorial Tower to Mrs Gaskell in King Street. What does the plaque near the base of the tower commemorate?

**Access/Other Notes:** King St is one way heading north.

### BCQ323 Chester

*OS 117, SJ 4071 6634, Nov 2020*

Eastgate where the old City Wall crosses Eastgate Street has an archway surmounted by a clock. According to the inscription on the east face of the arch at whose expense was it erected in AD MDCCLXIX?

**Access/Other Notes:** The answer is also available on a small plaque on the SW side of the gateway. The city centre has a one way system and pedestrianised areas.

Eastgate St is one way going east.

### BCQ324 Sandbach

*OS 118, SJ 7587 6083, Nov 2020*

In the Market Square, who cares for the Saxon Crosses?

### BCQ325 Stretton Mill

*OS 117, SJ 4545 5302, Oct 2010*

What is the date in red on one of the Waterwheels?

### BCQ326 Great Budworth

*OS 118, SJ 6644 7754, Oct 2010*

In the village centre is a public house, what is its name?

## 33 Merseyside & Environs

Merseyside, bisected by the river Mersey, with its 800 year old ferry service, shipping industry, famous waterfront and restored South Docks, is an area of great contrasts. Liverpool boasts two spectacular cathedrals amongst other sights. To the north is a fine coastline featuring sand dunes and pine woods (with red squirrels), leading across fertile flatlands to hills topped by the Lancashire Beacons. The Martin Mere Bird Sanctuary, 15<sup>th</sup> century Rufford Old Hall and Knowsley Safari Park offer interesting diversions. To the east is the spectacularly half-timbered Speke Hall, the impressive Runcorn/Widnes Bridge and Daresbury, birthplace of Lewis Carroll. Southwest lies the Wirral Peninsula with its pretty countryside and contrasting villages such as Port Sunlight, Parkgate, Thornton Hough and Burton. The sandstone ridges offer magnificent views to the east and west. Wirral Country Park is partly open to cyclists. Eureka, the famous cyclists' cafe, is at Two Mills a short distance over the Cheshire border.

### BCQ331 Liverpool

*OS 108, SJ 3383 9033, Oct 2010*

On the Waterfront the main doorway (facing the river) of The Royal Liver Building. Who laid the foundation stone, situated to the right?

### BCQ332 Grange

*OS 108, SJ 2224 8662, Oct 2010*

Tall sandstone column with large ball on top (previously a mariner's beacon) on the A540, Column Road. What date was the foundation stone laid?

### BCQ333 Parkgate

*OS 117, SJ 2788 7823, Nov 2020*

Halfway along the river front behind Mostyn Square Bus Terminus is St. Thomas' Church, The Fisherman's Church. How many windows are glazed on the south-west elevation, i.e. facing the River Dee?

### BCQ334 Port Sunlight

*OS 108, SJ 3367 8449, Oct 2010*

Very impressive war memorial at the crossing of The Causeway with King George's Drive/ Queen Mary's Drive, in the centre of this world famous village. What is the English inscription, facing outwards, on three of the four sections of the surrounding wall?

### BCQ335 Daresbury

*OS 108, SJ 5806 8280, Oct 2010*

All Saint's Parish Church with famous stained glass window dedicated to the life of Lewis Carroll, who was born in the village. What year is on the external rainwater pipe hopper heads?

### BCQ336 Southport

*OS 108, SD 3572 1989, Jun 2021*

On Marshside Road by a bus stop is the Fernley Observatory. When was it rebuilt and by who?

## 34 LANCASHIRE & GREATER MANCHESTER

Wedged between the sea and the mountains, Lancashire presents two opposite aspects. Along the coast is the low-lying rolling plain of the Fylde with quiet twisting lanes, scattered farms and villages and coastal salt marshes. Glasson Dock, possibly the oldest existing tidal dock in England, marks one end of the River Lune cycle path. Magnificent views can be had across Morecambe Bay to southern Cumbria, and the limestone headland near Silverdale, with nature reserves nearby, has been designated an AONB. Inland, stretching almost to Yorkshire, the ancient royal hunting territory of the Forest of Bowland rises to over 1700 feet. Whalley, with its railway viaduct and ruined 13<sup>th</sup> century abbey, and Clitheroe with its 12<sup>th</sup> century castle keep, are charming market towns. Southern Lancashire and Greater Manchester are centres for the cotton industry, but in wooded valleys above the busy valleys are great Halls, Tudor farmhouses, peaceful reservoirs and old stone churches.

### BCQ341 Styal

*OS 109, SJ 8399 8341, Oct 2010*

Off the B5166, near the locked gates to Styal Mill is an unmade track (Holts Lane). How many front doors are there in the row of terraced houses?

### BCQ342 Hollingsworth Lake Country Park

*OS 109, SD 9399 1528, Oct 2010*

Plaque in wall on right hand side of the entrance to the Visitor Centre. When did the Park open and what was the Lake's original name?

### BCQ343 Newchurch

*OS 103, SD 8229 3937, Nov 2020*

What is the emblem below the clock on the church tower? Is it an eye, a hand or a foot?

### BCQ344 Slaidburn

*OS 103, SD 7119 5240, Oct 2010*

War memorial. Name one of the men who gave their life in the 1939/45 War?

### BCQ345 Leighton Moss R.S.P.B. Sanctuary

*OS 97, SD 4767 7502, Nov 2020*

At the Visitor Centre/ café what year is engraved high on the right hand gable wall leading to the rear car park and toilets?

**Access/Other Notes:** If the centre is closed there is no access to the checkpoint. Please take a photo of bike and sign on road.

### BCQ346 Inglewhite

*OS 102, SD 5474 4001, Apr 2019*

Opposite the green is a single story building with a yellow AA sign; how far is it to London?

## 35 ISLE OF MAN

The Isle of Man, rising from the Irish Sea to over 2000 feet, covers only 227 square miles but is laced with some 500 miles of quiet roads. It is largely blanketed with gorse and heather, though the lanes in the relatively flat plain of the north meander through wooded countryside with many picturesque villages. The hillier south tends to be less sparsely settled but has many sandy beaches and attractive harbours at Peel and Port St. Mary. Douglas, the main town and entry port for the island, is where the famed Manx cats are bred. Loxey is home to the world's largest industrial water wheel, formerly used in the lead mines. From there a mountain railway climbs Snaefell, and a road goes 1300 feet up it. At Castletown, a town of narrow streets and quaint houses, is Castle Rushen, a good example of a medieval fortress, and Cregneish has an open-air folk museum illustrating whitewashed crofts and farming and fishing implements.

### **BCQ351 Castletown**

*OS 95, SC 2649 6740, Oct 2010*

Market Square. Tower to commemorate visit of John Wesley. What is the date?

### **BCQ352 Cronk y Voddy**

*OS 95, SC 2952 8629, Jan 2020*

From the village on the A3, take the lane signposted Peel. In the hedge at the first crossroads is a black and white sign. What is written on it in Manx and English?

### **BCQ353 Lingague**

*OS 95, SC 2163 7113, Nov 2020*

On hillside about 1 km south of Lingague, on the A36, there is a stone bench in memory of John Nicholson, artist. Which item that he designed was painted here?

### **BCQ354 Baldrine**

*OS 95, SC 4275 7940, Jan 2020*

$\frac{3}{4}$  mile due south on the A2, follow the signs to Old Lonan Church. Here in the graveyard is a free standing Celtic cross. What is the number on the small metal disc?

### **BCQ355 Maughold**

*OS 95, SC 4927 9170, Apr 2019*

In the churchyard is an open fronted building to the right side of the gateway. How many ancient Manx crosses are on display, (see panel on the right hand wall)?

### **BCQ356 Andrease**

*OS 95, SC 4153 9930, Oct 2010*

According to the War memorial by the Parish Church who was a Bombardier R.F.A.?



## 36 WEST YORKSHIRE

Long associated with the wool and cloth trades, West Yorkshire is a county with two faces. In the valleys of the Rivers Colne, Calder and Aire sit the mills, their slender chimneys piercing the sky, and the towns that serve them. Some fine Victorian architecture can be found, the railway station at Huddersfield being one of the best examples of its kind in England. Above all this are the wild moors of the Brontë sisters' novels, separating one town from another. Old clothiers' houses and weavers' cottages remain from the time when the cloth trade was a cottage industry. Greystone farms work the land, their fields separated by miles of stone walls. Two staircases of locks raise the Leeds & Liverpool Canal 100 feet near Bingley, and the best preserved section of Roman Road in Britain runs along Blackstone Edge. It is a landscape that offers exciting and challenging cycling.

### **BCQ361 Halifax**

*OS 104, SE 1062 2585, Oct 2010*

100m NW of Shibden Hall is a craft display. What craft is represented?

### **BCQ362 Haworth**

*OS 104, SE 0302 3722, Jun 2021*

On the wall of the Black Bull pub, on Main St is plaque giving information about a Bronte family member. Which Freemasons Lodge met at the Inn?

**Access/Other Notes:** Main street is a steep cobbled hill and can be crowded with tourists. The checkpoint is best approached from the top.

### **BCQ363 Bingley**

*OS 104, SE 1076 4003, Jun 2021*

Five Rise Locks. At the end of Beck Lane, by the swing bridge across the canal is a stone house with two plaques relating to the canal. One gives a lot of detail about the locks. Who was the stonemason from Wilsden?

**Access/Other Notes:** The canal tow path either side of the Five Rise Locks is wide, with some width restrictions at least a meter wide for at least 2 miles in either direction. At the top of the steep descent from the Top Lock, there is a chicane restriction with a gap for about 1 metre

### **BCQ364 Otley**

*OS 104, SE 2017 4561, Oct 2010*

There is a blue plaque on the end house, adjacent to the Manor House in Manor Square. When and where was Thomas Chippendale born?

### **BCQ365 Yorkshire Sculpture Park**

*OS 110, SE 2829 1322, Oct 2010*

Entering from West Bretton along Park Lane. Pass through stone pillars at entrance then immediately left into Beaumont Drive. At base of second tree on right is a plaque. When did Kathleen Mary Woffinden die?

**Access/Other Notes:** Use the Park Lane entrance, not the new entrance off the roundabout on the main road.

### **BCQ366 Holme Moss**

*OS 110, SE 0960 0399, Apr 2019*

At the entrance to the transmitter station, to the RIGHT of the gates is a sign concerning ICE, what colour are the lights surmounting it?

## 37 EAST RIDING of YORKSHIRE

Bounded on three sides by the River Derwent, the Humber and the North Sea, East Yorkshire has a long maritime history. Hull is the third largest port in England, and Goole, 42 miles from the coast, is the furthest inland seaport. The Georgian market town of Beverley, with its splendid Minster, is the historic capital. Running north-south through the county, and forming its northern border, are the Yorkshire Wolds, rolling hills rising to over 500 feet in places and offering good views either side. To the west lie the ancient market towns of Howden and Pocklington with their equally ancient churches; Pocklington also has the largest pond of water lilies in Europe. On the east side, the undulating Holderness plain, with its 2-mile long Hornsea Mere, leads to the long sandy coastline. Chalk cliffs provide havens for thousands of seabirds near Flamborough Head. Unspoilt villages, ruined abbeys and large country houses abound.

### **BCQ371 Beverley**

*OS 107, TA 0301 3988, Oct 2010*

The North Bar, the only one remaining of 5 guarding main entrances of the town. Who built it, when and how much did it cost?

### **BCQ372 Flamborough**

*OS 101, TA 2542 7065, Nov 2020*

What shape is the Weather Vane on top of the lighthouse?

### **BCQ373 Sledmere**

*OS 101, SE 9290 6469, Nov 2020*

"Waggoners Memorial", near the replica Eleanor Cross, who was the sculptor, foreman and mason?

### **BCQ374 Howden**

*OS 106, SE 7488 2828, Apr 2019*

In the road called Market Place is the Shire Hall. From the Blue plaque, name the four previous uses of the building.

### **BCQ375 Patrington**

*OS107, TA 3180 2226, Apr 2019*

Leaving the village on the Easington Road is a children's play area. What is on top of the LARGE square upright wooden post?

### **BCQ376 Stamford Bridge**

*OS 106, SE 7136 5557, Oct 2010*

On the main road in the village centre is a small memorial garden to the Battle of Stamford Bridge. What (in Norwegian) is in the inscription on the base of the stone pillar?

## 38 SOUTH YORKSHIRE

A mixture of industrial towns and open countryside, South Yorkshire offers a variety of cycling and places of interest to visit along the way. Sheffield lies on the edge of the Peak District National Park, its moors and reservoirs being within reach of the city to the west. Sheffield Manor was home to Mary Queen of Scots for many years, and its museum tells of her time there. The area between Barnsley and Holmfirth provides challenging and scenic cycling, the terrain levelling off as it nears Doncaster. 12<sup>th</sup> century Conisbrough Castle is the oldest surviving circular keep in England, and the Castle at Pontefract, a town with many 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings, has Civil War connections. Other buildings of note include 18<sup>th</sup> century Wentworth Woodhouse, with the longest frontage in England, the half-timbered 15<sup>th</sup> century barn at Gunthwaite Hall, and Victorian Broadsworth Hall. Roche and Monk Bretton Abbeys are also of interest.

### BCQ381 Burbage Rocks

*OS 110, SK 2618 8296, Nov 2020*

Near the top of the hill on the road between Ringinglow to Hathersage, there is a layby on the south side. Through a pedestrian gate is an information board mounted on a pile of boulders. How many rocks make up the bottom row of the side with the information board?

### BCQ382 Langsett Reservoir

*OS 110, SE 2127 0036, Nov 2020*

There is a Latin inscription on the tower on the dam. What three towns or cities are mentioned?

**Access/Other Notes:** For the more adventurous, the bridleway Cut Gate provides a direct route to BCQ301 Derwent Reservoir.

### BCQ383 Campsall

*OS 111, SE 5445 1408, Oct 2010*

The church has the finest Norman tower in Yorkshire. How many arches are there in the main doorway?

### BCQ384 Roche Abbey

*OS 111, SK 5425 8989, Nov 2020*

Enter the ruined stone Gatehouse (just before the entrance to Roche Abbey), look left, what is through the small doorway?

**Access/Other Notes:** This is an English Heritage site. You do not need a ticket to view the checkpoint.

### BCQ385 Worsbrough

*OS 110, SE 3498 0331, Oct 2010*

Go to the front of Worsbrough Mill. The top storey has three windows. How does the middle window differ from the other two?

### BCQ386 Hooton Pagnell

*OS 111, SE 4856 0810, Oct 2010*

An unspoilt village worthy of exploration. When was the Buttercross erected?

## 39 NORTH YORKSHIRE

One of the largest counties in England, North Yorkshire brings together vast areas of great contrasts. The Vale of York, a fertile agricultural plain, cuts a broad swath through the centre of the county. Fountains Abbey, Ripon Cathedral and the spa town of Harrogate all lie in this area, as does the city of York with its Minster, 12<sup>th</sup> century city walls and old narrow streets. The Pennines and the Yorkshire Dales National Park dominate the western half of the county. The dramatic landscape can be steep and rocky or sloping and green. Hardrow Force and Aysgarth waterfalls, Ribbleshead viaduct, Richmond Castle, Bolton Abbey, Malham Cove and the peaks of Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Pen-y-Ghent are just some of the highlights. To the east, the North York Moors rise sharply to a heather covered plateau with steep, secluded valleys sheltering greystone villages, then drop to a coastline of cliffs and fishing villages.

### BCQ391 Settle

*OS 98, SD 8171 6346, Oct 2010*

What is the height above sea level on the South Bound platform on Settle Station?

### BCQ392 Askrigg

*OS 98, SD 9481 9101, Oct 2010*

In the centre of the village opposite the church. What are the two signs on the wall of Sykes's House?

### BCQ393 Harrogate

*OS 104, SE 3150 5535, Oct 2010*

On the Wetherby Road, what is the name of the well at the Pump House?

### BCQ394 York

*OS 105, SE 5959 5273, Nov 2020*

On Clifton Rd (A19), what date was the Burton Stone Inn re-built?

### BCQ395 Levisham

*OS 94, SE 8330 9060, Apr 2019*

Several steep hills if you're approaching from the east. How many bells are there in the turret of Levisham church?

### BCQ396 Egton

*OS 94, NZ 8087 0659, Oct 2010*

Opposite the garage is Egton Cross. In whose memory is it?

## 40 CUMBRIA

There is more to Cumbria than its mountainous central area, but the spectacular scenery of the Lake District manifests itself throughout the county, even if only for the wonderful views of it from afar. The granite outcrop of Scafell Pike, at 3209 feet, is the highest point in England, and the highest mountain passes in the country are also to be found here, with six roads rising above 1000 feet. Beneath the craggy peaks are eight major lakes, each reachable by roads running through green valleys, though a few roads can be heavily trafficked in summer. Nestled between the Lakes and the Pennines, the Cumbrian Cycle Way follows the Vale of Eden south on quiet roads through rolling countryside, beyond the attractive market town of Appleby in Westmorland, across to Kirkby Stephen and up the dramatic valley of Mallerstang. Stone circles, ruined abbeys, ancient castles and Hadrian's Wall provide links with the past.

### **BCQ401 Cockermouth**

*OS 89, NY 1202 3069, Oct 2010*

In Main Street there is a Statue of a former MP for Cockermouth and Viceroy of India. What is the name engraved in stone on the plinth?

### **BCQ402 Ravenglass**

*OS 96, SD 0852 9648, Apr 2019*

At the Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway Museum there is a mainline railway adjacent. What is the name of the public house almost on its western platform?

### **BCQ403 Ambleside**

*OS 90, NY 3760 0462, Oct 2010*

Bridge House the "Smallest House" in England is found astride the river alongside Rydal Road. How many steps comprise the stone outside spiral staircase?

### **BCQ404 Dent**

*OS 98, SD 7050 8700, Oct 2010*

In the cobbled centre of village is a stone memorial drinking fountain. What is the name and dates of the local geologist commemorated by it?

### **BCQ405 Crosby Ravensworth**

*OS 91, NY 6214 1481, Apr 2019*

What are the inscriptions on either side of the two roses carved on the church porch?

### **BCQ406 Brampton**

*OS 86, NY 5307 6109, Oct 2010*

In the centre of the Market Place is the eight sided Moot Hall. According to the "tablet" at the foot of the steps what is the name and year of birth of the poet?

## 41 DURHAM

Only somewhat less dramatic than its neighbours, County Durham is largely characterised by medium sized fields, small market towns, unspoilt villages and uncrowded roads. The Pennines on its western border offer rugged moorland scenery leading to high plateaux, with the spectacular waterfalls of Caldron Snout and High Force plunging from the rocks. The open dales are covered with stone-walled fields and derelict miners' cottages, the small mining towns and villages perched precariously on the slopes. At Darlington, Stephenson's early steam engine marks the 'birthplace of the railway', and near Stanley, where the first single-span stone bridge was built to carry coal wagons, the vast Beamish Museum illustrates the county's industrial heritage. The eastern coastline is a mixture of long sandy beaches, low limestone cliffs and colliery villages. The pride of the county is the medieval city of Durham with its 11<sup>th</sup> century castle and 12<sup>th</sup> century cathedral.

### BCQ411 Durham

*OS 88, NZ 2741 4256, Oct 2010*

There is a statue of Neptune in the Market Place. Which river does this refer to?

### BCQ412 Stanhope

*OS 92, NY 9967 3919, Oct 2010*

A fossilised tree stump can be seen in a gap in the churchyard wall: what type of tree is it, and where is it from?

### BCQ413 Bishop Auckland

*OS 93, NZ 2130 3012, Jan 2020*

In which monarch's reign was the post box to the right of the clock gateway to Auckland Park installed?

### BCQ414 Barnard Castle

*OS 92, NZ 0503 1633, Apr 2019*

At the bottom of Newgate is the octagonal 'Butter Market'. There is a blue plaque on an inner arch near the entrance. What did farmers' wives sell around the veranda?

### BCQ415 Sedgfield

*OS 93, NZ 3444 2884, Oct 2010*

Hardwick Hall Country Park. According to the plaque at south end of the Serpentine Bridge it was restored in 1994 to match the original bridge of which year (the bridge is shown on OS50k map just below the "u" of Temple ruin)?

### BCQ416 Middleton-in-Teesdale

*OS 91/92, NY 9475 2542, Oct 2010*

The drinking fountain commemorates a testimonial presented to R.E. Bainbridge. Which company's employees presented this to him?

## 42 NORTHUMBERLAND / TYNE & WEAR

Separated from Scotland by the Cheviot Hills, Northumberland is one of the largest counties in England but also the least populated. Its turbulent history caused it to develop more recently than other areas, and thus left its countryside largely unspoilt. Much of the land is open with large farms, few natural woods and few towns or substantial villages. However, in recent years the Forestry Commission has planted hundreds of thousands of acres of trees for industry, and with this has come new reservoirs, including Kielder Water, forest tracks, camping sites and shelter for many species of wildlife. In addition to the bulk of Hadrian's Wall, substantial fortified castles, such as those at Bamburgh, Dunstanburgh and Alnwick, lie in varying states of preservation, alongside many stately homes. Berwick-on-Tweed is enclosed by the only complete 16<sup>th</sup> century fortifications in Britain. The often sandy coastline has many offshore islands with lighthouses and bird colonies.

### BCQ421 Cambo

*OS 81, NZ 0264 8568, Oct 2010*

A stone on the side of the Village Hall (which is virtually opposite the drinking fountain) commemorates a famous gardener. Who?

### BCQ422 Blanchland

*OS 87, NY 9658 5037, Oct 2010*

After which Lord is the pub named?

### BCQ423 Whittingham

*OS 81, NU 0707 1188, Oct 2010*

In the village there is a monument of a man with a dog. Who does this commemorate?

### BCQ424 Bamburgh

*OS 75, NU 1780 3491, Apr 2019*

At the tower end of the churchyard is an elaborate Victorian family tomb to the heroine Grace Darling. From the plaque, what is her MIDDLE name, and dates of birth and death?

### BCQ425 Haydon Bridge

*OS 86/87, NY 8445 6323, Oct 2010*

About 1 mile south of Haydon Bridge on the A686 main road is a memorial. This is a cross by the roadside and tells the story of some noblemen. Where were they beheaded?

### BCQ426 Near Horncliffe

*OS 67/74/75, NT 9345 5105, Oct 2010*

The Union Suspension Bridge over the River Tweed. Plaque at south-east approach. When was the bridge strengthened?

**Access/Other Notes:** The bridge is currently being rebuilt and hence there is no access. It is expected to reopen Spring 2022.

## 43 SOUTH WALES

Though historically associated with industry and mining, the counties of South Wales have green rolling hills and unspoilt coastline to offer the cyclist willing to meet the challenges of 'lumpy' terrain. Monmouthshire, east of Abergavenny, is flatter and more pastoral. The wooded Wye Valley, an AONB and forming the border between England and Wales, shelters the graceful Tintern Abbey. Further west is the picturesque valley of the River Usk, its namesake town the site of a Norman Castle and 13th century gatehouse. Numerous ruined castles are dotted about the whole area, many built to guard the border against frequent raids. The leafy Vale of Glamorgan, west of Cardiff, offers pleasant unspoilt scenery and sea views, and the Gower Peninsula, the first AONB, has superb beaches, coves and fishing villages. Inland are many mountain-biking opportunities such as at Afan Argoed Country Park, north of Port Talbot, and The Gap ride in the Brecon Beacons.

### **BCQ431 Port Eynon**

*OS 159, SS 4671 8536, Oct 2010*

In the churchyard is a distinct white memorial (the Lifeboat's Crew Memorial). What was the name of the Lifeboat?

### **BCQ432 Afon Forest Park**

*OS 170, SS 8210 9507, Oct 2010*

On the brick plinth below the wagon at the entrance to the Visitor Centre. When was the Swansea Bay and Rhondda Tunnel opened?

### **BCQ433 Merthyr Tydfil**

*OS 160, SO 0602 0947, Oct 2010*

Near the Taff Trail and opposite the entrance to Brecon Mountain Railway at Pant Station is a stone cairn to the Morlais Heritage Trail. Which High School developed the Trail and how long is it?

### **BCQ434 Llantwit Major**

*OS 170, SS 9675 6872, Nov 2020*

In Church St, who presented the Town Hall Clock?

### **BCQ435 Tintern Abbey**

*OS 162, SO 5326 0006, Oct 2010*

On entrance road to Abbey about 100 yards from the A466. According to the plaque on the boundary wall to the Abbey in which year was Brass first made by alloying copper with zinc near this place?

### **BCQ436 Llanthony**

*OS 161, SO 2884 2783, Oct 2010*

Opposite the entrance to Llanthony Priory is St. David's church. How many bells are there in the bell tower on the roof?



## 44 CARMARTHENSHIRE

Carmarthenshire presents a more serene, less dramatic face than its northern neighbours. The terrain is made up of gentle hills rather than severe mountains, making farming viable, though east-west roads can rise sharply from the river valleys. Wide beaches of firm sand, including the 5-mile length of Pendine Sands, stretch along the south coast, their headlands rising quickly from them. Near the point where the Rivers Taf and Tywi come together at a wide tidal estuary is Laugharne and the simple boathouse where the poet Dylan Thomas lived. Coracle fishing, involving small round boats covered with tarred canvas, has continued on the Tywi and Teifi since pre-Roman times. Dating from even earlier, Carn Goch, measuring half a mile across, is the largest Iron Age hill fort in Wales. Ruined castles and Arthurian legends abound; even the town of Carmarthen has magical roots, its Welsh name, Caerfyrddin, meaning Merlin's Town.

### BCQ441 Pendine

*OS 158, SN 2342 0794, Nov 2020*

On the Sands between 1924 & 1927 the Worlds Land Speed Record was broken five times. According to the plaque on the wall of Beach Hotel, sea wall side, who set the record in 1924 and what was the speed?

### BCQ442 Llandovery

*OS 146, SN 7677 3438, Apr 2019*

The porticoed (pillared) Market Hall – how many iron supporting columns support the upper floor?

### BCQ443 Dryslwyn

*OS 159, SN 5545 1989, Apr 2019*

Stand on the old railway crossing and look north towards the village. How many windows in the old right hand castle tower?

### BCQ444 Cenarth

*OS 145, SN 2701 4158, Nov 2020*

What type of 17th century Mill is on the Carmarthen (south) side of the bridge on the north side of the road?

### BCQ445 Burry Port

*OS 159, SN 4463 0027, Apr 2019*

There is a wooden buoy near the lifeboat station. What was moored there on 18/6/28?

### BCQ446 Talley Abbey

*OS 146, SN 6322 3279, Oct 2010*

Who were the occupants of Talley House, buried adjacent to the Abbey, by Chapel footpath?

## 45 PEMBROKESHIRE

Pembrokeshire is best known for its wild and weather-beaten rocky coastline. Cliffs drop sharply to the sea below, and sheltered coves, stack rocks, sandy bays and stone chapels create a spectacular scene, worth a detour on dead-end roads. The coastal islands of Skomer, Caldey and Ramsey teem with bird life and grey seals. Caldey also has an ancient priory church and a modern monastery. Standing stones, earthworks and the like are dotted around the countryside. Much of the interior is rolling hills that rise only occasionally above 100 feet, though the Mynydd Preseli in the north of the county, source of the stone for Stonehenge, is an exception, with many peaks over 1000 feet. Milford Haven provides one of the largest natural harbours in Britain, while St. David's holds the claim as being Britain's smallest cathedral city. A point above Whitesand Bay offers, on a clear day, views across to Ireland.

### **BCQ451 Haverfordwest**

*OS 157, SM 9527 1560, Oct 2010*

Near St. Mary's church in the High Street at the junction with Dark Street is a five foot high marble pillar to William Nichol. When was he burnt at the stake?

### **BCQ452 Neyland**

*OS 157, SM 9665 0488, Apr 2019*

On Brunel Quay is a statue on a plinth. According to the plaque, on what date did the Prince of Wales unveil the statue?

### **BCQ453 St. David's**

*OS 157, SM 7515 2543, Oct 2010*

How many clock faces are there on the cathedral tower?

### **BCQ454 Carew**

*OS 157, SN 0468 0371, Oct 2010*

Near the entrance to Carew Castle is a 13ft. high Celtic Cross. Who according to the inscription near the Cross was the son of Etguin?

### **BCQ455 Pentre Ifan**

*OS 145, SN 0994 3702, Nov 2020*

From the Tourist Information board what is the approximate weight of the Capstone?

**Access/Other Notes:** This is on a CADW site with free admission. Access to the site is by a path from the entrance at SN 1010 3704, which also has cycle racks.

### **BCQ456 Mynachlog Ddu**

*OS 145, SN 1353 3038, Oct 2010*

There is a Pillar of Blue Stone on the north of the road from Mynachlog Ddu to Rosebush. According to the plaque on the Pillar when was it brought down by Helicopter?

## 46 CEREDIGION

A quiet part of Wales, with much bird life, Ceredigion has much of local interest to offer. Forty miles of sandy beaches, cliffs, coves and small harbours stretch from Cardigan to just beyond Aberystwyth. Traditional fishing ports are now used for recreational boating. The River Teifi, forming the border with Carmarthenshire, has a long association with coracle fishing. Upstream of Cilgerran castle lies the attractive village of Cenarth, a designated conservation area housing the National Coracle Centre and a fishing museum. Nearby other museums illustrate Welsh industries and crafts. A narrow gauge railway follows the Rheidol Valley from Aberystwyth to Devil's Bridge, near where the River Mynach plunges 300 feet through a deep gorge. In the east, agricultural land gives way to the Cambrian Mountains, the location of three of the most remote youth hostels in Wales, the Llyn Brianne reservoir and a remote mountain road from Tregaron to Abergwesyn.

### **BCQ461 Devil's Bridge, Pontarfynach**

*OS 135/147, SN 7652 7556, Oct 2010*

2 miles south east of Devil's Bridge on the B4574 at the top of a hill is a stone arch adjacent to the road. According to the plaque on the arch which monarch's jubilee was the arch erected to commemorate and in which year?

### **BCQ462 Strata Florida Ystrad Fflur**

*OS 135/147, SN 7459 6575, Oct 2010*

Lych-Gate to graveyard by the entrance to Strata Florida Abbey. Who presented the Lych-Gate of Tintern Oak and when?

### **BCQ463 Trefenter**

*OS 135, SN 6079 6786, Nov 2020*

There is a monument on the hill to the south east above Trefenter. This monument was erected in memory of four people, what were their names?

**Access/Other Notes:** The monument is about 100m away from the road, with a grass/heather path terrain up to it.

**Help required with this checkpoint,** please contact [bca@cyclenguk.org](mailto:bca@cyclenguk.org)

### **BCQ464 Lampeter**

*OS 146, SN 5778 4811, Nov 2020*

Who presented the fountain, at the junction of A475 and A485, to this town and when?

### **BCQ465 Llyn Brianne**

*OS 146/147, SN 7923 4854, Oct 2010*

On the Dam to the Reservoir (through the gate and over the bridge) are stone plaques. What according to the plaques is the maximum water depth and the reservoir capacity?

### **BCQ466 Newquay, Cei Newydd -OS 145, SN 3892 5978, Oct 2010**

Outside the Black Lion Hotel (where incidentally, Dylan Thomas used to write (and drink)), there is a metal triangle set into the wall. Which Cycling Association put it there?

## 47 POWYS

Although Powys is the largest county in Wales by area, it is the least densely populated. Most of the towns lie along the eastern side in the broad valleys of the River Severn, Wye and Usk. Numerous ruined castles testify to less settled times. Many roads follow the contours, leading into the more rural west, but as they approach the Cambrian Mountains, the terrain becomes more mountainous. Welsh is also more often heard. Accessible from Rhayader are the large man-made reservoirs of the Elan Valley, set against a backdrop of 2000-ft peaks, serving the water needs of Birmingham. Lake Vyrnwy and Llyn Clywedog further north do the same for Liverpool. The 'land of water' theme is continued in many towns with 'Wells' as part of their name, though they no longer function as spas. In the south, the Brecon Beacons rise even higher, with rocky gorges, limestone caverns and gushing waterfalls.

### BCQ471 Montgomery

*OS 137, SO 2236 9657, Apr 2019*

To the left of the church door, under a yew tree is the grave of Thomas Weaver. What was the age of 'Mary' at her death?

### BCQ472 Llanidloes

*OS 136, SN 9542 8452, Oct 2010*

On the ground at one end of the Old Market Hall is a stone on which John Wesley is reputed to have preached during his visits. In which years did these visits take place?

### BCQ473 Dylife

*OS 136, SN 8358 9595, Oct 2010*

On the mountain road between Machynlleth and Dylife (3 km north west of Dylife and on Machynlleth side of summit) is a slate circular viewpoint. This is a memorial to which broadcaster, author and traveller?

### BCQ474 Tretower

*OS 161, SO 1862 2128, Oct 2010*

By Tretower Court and Castle is St. John the Evangelist's church. How many bells are there in the bell tower on the roof?

### BCQ475 Old Radnor

*OS 148, SO 2499 5907, Oct 2010*

What is the name in inverted commas on the grave of William Walter Morgan which lies to the left of the path to the church from the lych gate?

### BCQ476 Elan Valley

*OS 147, SN 8688 6362, Oct 2010*

On the plaque on the south west pillar of Claerwen Dam, who was the Chairman of the Water Committee at the inauguration of the reservoir on 23.10.52

## 48 GWYNEDD & YNYS MÔN (ANGLESEY)

Most of Gwynedd is dominated by Snowdon, at 3559 feet the highest peak south of Scotland, and Snowdonia National Park. It is a dramatic area of wild mountains, high passes, steep slopes, craggy peaks and huge rock slabs. In contrast to this harshness are richly wooded forests, cascading waterfalls and mirror-like lakes. Cycling here is challenging, but the rewards of achievement and awesome views from some of the passes can make it worth the effort. Nearer the coastline and southwards, the land opens up to hill farms and glens. Three narrow gauge railways operate in the area. Most of the Lleyen Peninsula is a mixture of pastures and woods set in undulating, sometimes hilly countryside, though the southern coast has many busy resorts, and the Yr Eifl massif rises nearly 2000 feet in the north. Anglesey, abundant with ancient ruins, consists mostly of farmland and stone villages, away from its rugged coastline.

### BCQ481 Porth (Port) Amlwch, Ynys Môn (Anglesey)

*OS 114, SH 4505 9348, Nov 2020*

At Porth (Port) Amlwch, on the east bank of the river. What is the date over the door at the east end of the harbour building?

### BCQ482 Pont Aberglaslyn

*OS 115, SH 5943 4625, Apr 2019*

Set into the parapet of the bridge, at ankle height, are three old milestones. How far is it to Beddgelert, Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth?

### BCQ483 Pistyll Hospice

*OS 123, SH 3286 4231, Oct 2010*

About  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile NE of the village along the main road, take a lane towards the sea at a 'Natural Breaks' redevelopment sign. What was the name of the rector whose grave is to the right of the path just inside the gateway to the church?

### BCQ484 Llanystumdwy

*OS 123, SH 4757 3857, Oct 2010*

Describe the animals which surmount the rear gates to the museum opposite the Lloyd George Memorial.

### BCQ485 Llanuwchllyn, Llyn Tegid

*OS 125, SH 8799 2999, Nov 2020*

What animal is depicted in the coat of arms above the front door of the last house on the left immediately before the station?

### BCQ486 Abergynolwyn

*OS 124, SH 6904 0781, Nov 2020*

A  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile due east of Abergynolwyn is a bridge (Pont Iago). What builders' tool is engraved on the plaque adjacent to the name of Jones?

## 49 CONWY

With a main road dominating its coastline, and tall mountains and narrow valleys inland, Conwy may not be an easy county to cycle in, but it has many interesting towns and villages, historic places and natural beauties that should appeal to a visiting cyclist. Its sandy beaches and mild climate have encouraged lively summer resorts along its northern coast, though the roads around and up to Great Ormes Head offer good views of Snowdonia and Anglesey. The historic walled town of Conwy, with its medieval Aberconwy House and museums, sits next to its massive castle and comparatively delicate iron bridge. The River Conwy rises 15 miles up its narrow valley, past the market town of Llanrwyst, to the wooded village of Betws-y-Coed. From there one road leads to Dolwyddelan Castle and another to the delightful Conwy Falls, Machno Falls and Fairy Glen. To the east, roads climb over the wooded Cambrian Mountains.

### BCQ491 Pentre Foelas

*OS 116, SH 8727 5148, Oct 2010*

At the northern end of the bridge in the village there is a monument to Lt. Col. C. A. Wynne-Finch. What are the dates on the monument?

### BCQ492 Gwytherin

*OS 116, SH 8763 6146, Oct 2010*

What is the first name on the War Memorial just outside the church gate?

### BCQ493 Llyn Crafnant

*OS 115, SH 7535 6155, Oct 2010*

The monument at the north east end of the lake records the gift of the lake and land to the people of Llanwrwst. By whom?

### BCQ494 Betws-yn-Rhos

*OS 116, SH 9066 7356, Oct 2010*

What is the first name on the War Memorial to the west of the church gate? (visible from the road)

### BCQ495 Ty Mawr - Wybrnant

*OS 115, SH 7701 5243, Nov 2020*

At a small common on a bend in the lane is a National Trust property. How many upright poles are there in the small wicket gate to access this significant property?

**Access/Other Notes:** Easiest approach is from the SE, but is accessible by cycle from the NE, ie A470 Betws-Y-Coed direction along a gated road. However, the road is in poor condition with grass in the middle of the road for much of the way. This may be an issue for tricycles.

### BCQ496 Caerhun

*OS 115, SH 7766 7041, Apr 2019*

To one side of the church lychgate is a stile of three steps over the wall. What were they installed for? (See adjacent information board.)

## 50 DENBIGHSHIRE / FLINTSHIRE / WREXHAM

With the exception of flat plains between Wrexham town and the Cheshire border, the three counties in the northeast corner of Wales are generally a sparsely populated area of mountains and moorlands with spectacular scenery. As the River Dee passes into the Llangollen Valley, so does the Llangollen Canal, the two following a parallel course through the narrow valley until the canal crosses the river on Telford's 19-arched Pontcysyllte aqueduct, near the ancient Roman Bont Bridge. Also near Llangollen, in the picturesque hamlet of Llantysilio, is the impressive Cistercian abbey, Valle Crucis. The Pistyll Rhaeadr waterfall, the highest in Wales, descends from the east flank of the Berwyns. From Rhyl on the north coast, the River Clwyd cuts a broad valley between the mountains on its path south to Ruthin, an old market town with Civil War and Arthurian associations. Three impressive castles remain at Chirk, Ruthin and Denbigh.

### BCQ501 Cyffylliog

*OS 116, SJ 0597 5776, Apr 2019*

The signpost at the road junction: how far is it to Nantglyn?

### BCQ502 Carrog

*OS 125, SJ 1147 4375, Oct 2010*

What is the name of the inn close by the northern end of the bridge over the River Dee?

### BCQ503 Rhuddlan

*OS 116, SJ 0248 7800, Oct 2010*

There are three stone cottages opposite the Castle entrance. What is the name of the middle one?

### BCQ504 Maen Achwyfaen

*OS 116, SJ 1289 7881, Nov 2020*

By the junction signposted Tre-mostyn  $\frac{1}{2}$ , in the adjacent field is a magnificently preserved Celtic Cross with ornamentation. When was it erected?

**Access/Other Notes:** Grid reference is for kissing gate at the road end of the path to the cross. The cross is about 50m from the road.

### BCQ505 Llangollen

*OS 117, SJ 2024 4451, Oct 2010*

At Valle Crucis Abbey about 120 yards north from the telephone box is Eliseg's Pillar, an ancient monument. Who was Eliseg?

### BCQ506 Llanarmom Dyffryn Ceiriog

*OS 125, SJ 1583 3298, Nov 2020*

On the B4500 north of the river bridge, where the road bears right is an old milestone (metal plaque). How far to the town, and who's name appears twice?

**Access/Other Notes:** for an off road alternative, see [Off Road Alternatives](#), BCQ506ORA Nant Rhydwylym Pass.

## 51 DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

From the hills and moors of Glentroot Forest to the Solway Firth, this region of the Scottish Lowlands offers much beauty. The valleys of Nithsdale, Annandale and Eskdale flow through grassy green hills where sheep graze in summer to the broadening agricultural coastal plain. Black, hornless Galloway cattle, red deer and wild goats can be found in the moorland. The Rhinns, a hammer-shaped peninsula in the extreme southwest, is the most southerly point in Scotland. Robert Burns was buried in Dumfries where his house is now a museum. Five bridges, including one from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, span the River Nith. In the market town of Kirkcudbright, its harbour dominated by castle ruins, a 17<sup>th</sup> century cross stands in front of the old courthouse. Ruined castles recall early battles for Scottish independence. The 18-foot high Runic Ruthwell Cross and fragments of St. Ninian's monastery at Whithorn are evidence of early Christianity in the area.

### BCQ511 Langholm

*OS 79, NY 3630 8469, Oct 2010*

What date is shown on lamp posts on road bridge crossing the river?

### BCQ512 Glentroot

*OS 77, NX 4159 8035, Nov 2020*

The Bruce Stone. On the REVERSE side of the stone is an engraved date. What is it?

**Access Note:** From the end of the tarmac road, it is 150m along a track/path to Bruce Stone. The road becomes a track that is Cycle Route 7 towards New Galloway.

### BCQ513 Creetown

*OS 83, NX 4754 5891, Jan 2020*

Adjacent to the clocktower in Creetown is a carved sphere. According to the plaque alongside, who carved it, and what are his dates?

### BCQ514 New Abbey

*OS 84, NX 9637 6624, Oct 2010*

Carvings on house wall next to front door of No. 14 Main Street. What do they represent?

### BCQ515 Keir

*OS 78, NX 8559 9350, Oct 2010*

At Courthill Smithy the first bicycle was built by the inventor Kirkpatrick McMillan. According to the plaque on the wall about which year was this?

### BCQ516 Kirkmadrine

*OS 82, NX 0801 4837, Oct 2010*

What is the family name on the large cross outside the church?



## 52 BORDERS

From the Cheviot Hills and the Southern Uplands, several rivers flow into the rich farmland of the broad Tweed Valley. Much of the region is rural in character, with sheep farms set between steep hills in the higher ground west of Hawick, rolling grass moorlands enclosing farmland in deep valleys near Roxburgh, and a rich agricultural plain south of the Lammermuir Hills. The countryside around Abbotsford, former home of Sir Walter Scott, was a source of inspiration for his historical novels. Centuries of warfare between the Scots and the English took their toll on border towns, though Hawick's 12<sup>th</sup> century Baron's Tower remains as does 13<sup>th</sup> century Hermitage Castle south of there. The abbeys at Jedburgh, Kelso, Melrose and Dryburgh also owe their ruin to constant plunder. Numerous ancient hill forts can be found near Roxburgh along with Roman camps, forts, signal stations and Dere Street. Traquair House is one of the oldest inhabited houses in Scotland.

### **BCQ521 Coldstream**

*OS 74, NT 8431 3968, Oct 2010*

A plaque over the entrance to the museum records the Headquarters of the Coldstream Guards. What is the earliest date on the plaque?

### **BCQ522 Traquair**

*OS 73, NT 3263 3512, Apr 2019*

At the public entrance to Traquair House on the B7062 are blocks of cottages. How many chimney stacks are on the RIGHT hand block?

### **BCQ523 Selkirk**

*OS 73, NT 4684 2838, Oct 2010*

Near top of climb on Main road from bridge over Ettrick Water a tablet on a wall just below West Port marks the site of .....? (with connections to a famous poet)

### **BCQ524 Broughton**

*OS 72, NT 1126 3614, Oct 2010*

War memorial in village has only one woman's name. What is it?

### **BCQ525 Hawick**

*OS 79, NT 5043 1480, Oct 2010*

The Horse monument at the north end of the High Street. What does it commemorate?

### **BCQ526 St. Abbs**

*OS 67, NT 9196 6731, Oct 2010*

Who was the Harbour Master, St. Abbs 1966 - 1986 commemorated on the small plaque on right, just before arriving at the harbour?

## 53 THE LOTHIANS

Bordered on the south by the Lammermuir, Moorfoot and Pentland Hills, the Lothian regions offer a mix of farmland, rocky coastline, prosperous villages and gently rolling uplands where sheep farming prevails. Numerous castles are scattered across the region, including Linlithgow Palace, a favourite royal residence during the Middle Ages, the precipitously perched Tantallon Castle and the ship-shaped Blackness Castle. There are many buildings of historic interest, including St. Michael's Church and the splendid mansion of Hopetoun House in Linlithgow, the Romanesque parish church at Dalmeny and the Town House in the market town of Haddington. Pit graves and burial mounds give evidence of prehistoric settlement in West Lothian. The capital city of Edinburgh, steeped in history and graced with fine buildings, has much to offer the visitor.

### BCQ531 Gifford

*OS 66, NT 5344 6811, Oct 2010*

Two plaques on the wall opposite Yester Parish Church. Whose names are on them?

### BCQ532 Dirleton

*OS 66, NT 5126 8420, Oct 2010*

At Dirleton Kirk on the stone tablet on the wall to the right of church door. Who "here lyes interred"?

**Access/Other Notes:** This checkpoint's at head height and can be obscured by roses. Reported that it's not always accessible, please advise if this the case on your visit.

### BCQ533 Penicuik

*OS 66, NT 2372 5999, Oct 2010*

St. Mungo's Church. Plaque on wall of ruin in Churchyard "To Howgate Carrier". Which animal's head is at top of plaque?

### BCQ534 Ratho

*OS 65, NT 1394 7092, Apr 2019*

Alongside the northern towpath on the east side of the canal bridge is a large zinc coloured sculpture. What does it depict?

### BCQ535 Blackness

*OS 65, NT 0552 8019, Nov 2020*

To right of entrance to Blackness Castle is a building with the ticket office and shop. According to the plaque on the wall when was this barrack block built?

**Access/Other Notes:** This is a Historic Environment Scotland site. You do not need a ticket to view the checkpoint.

### BCQ536 West Calder

*OS 65, NT 0169 6312, Nov 2020*

What is the motto above the clock on the memorial on the south side of Main Street (A71)?

## 54 SOUTH LANARKSHIRE

Named after its market town in the fertile Clyde valley, South Lanarkshire is largely given over to the cultivation of fruit and vegetables (often under glass) and fields for cattle, sheep and pigs. It is also known for the heavy draft horse breed that originated there. Craignethan Castle enjoys a picturesque setting on the River Nethan, and Bothwell Castle at Uddingston is the largest and finest 13<sup>th</sup> century stone castle in Scotland. Relics of the area's industrial past can be seen at Biggar and New Lanark. Near the latter is the 90- ft waterfall of Cora Linn, the most spectacular of the Clyde Falls. Hamilton is an attractive town set in pleasant surroundings settled since prehistoric times. Nearby High Parks contain the ruins of Cadzow Castle and rare wild cattle. South in the Lowther Hills, Leadhills, rising to 1350 feet, is one of the highest villages in Scotland and the birthplace of poet Allan Ramsay, instigator of Britain's first lending library.

### BCQ541 Forth

*OS 72, NS 9420 5377, Nov 2020*

According to the plaque on the front of the tower of St. Paul's church in Main Street in whose memory was "the clock in this tower" erected? Note the winged wheels on 70 Main Street just north of the church.

### BCQ542 Thankerton

*OS 72, NS 9779 3871, Apr 2019*

On the west side of the road near Covington is a monument to the Rev. Donald Cargill. What is the date carved boldly into the top?

### BCQ543 Lanark

*OS 71/72, NS 8803 4261, Nov 2020*

On entering New Lanark Village (World Heritage Site) there is a memorial stone in an old graveyard adjacent to the old church. Who erected it and for whom?

### BCQ544 Strathaven

*OS 71, NS 6993 4499, Apr 2019*

There is a Victorian bandstand in Strathaven Park. How many steps are there to access it?

### BCQ545 Douglas

*OS 71, NS 8347 3096, Nov 2020*

In Douglas Township and west of the A70, very near to Parklands and Douglas Water is the large statue to the Earl of Angus. What is the name of the sculptor?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is a very similar one at GR. NS 841 318, Douglas Castle

### BCQ546 Hamilton

*OS 64, NS 7235 5557, Nov 2020*

There is a plaque on the left hand side of the main gateway to the Old Parish Church, just of Cadzow St. Who designed the present building?

## 55 AYRSHIRE & ISLE OF ARRAN

From its concave coastline, Ayrshire rises some 2000 feet to its eastern boundary. The coast has lush pastures for dairy farming. Further inland lies windswept moorland, grazing land for cattle and sheep and a Roman fort at Loudoun Hill. A museum stands next to the cottage in Alloway where Robert Burns was born, and Brig o' Doon, of Burns's poem *Tam o' Shanter*, is nearby. Many other towns and villages have further associations with the poet. Noted castles and abbeys include Culzean, Killochan, Dundonald and Crossraguel. The Isle of Arran is noted for its varied scenery, most dramatic in the north where it is dominated by Goat Fell (2,868 ft). The surrounding glens abound in grouse and red deer. The southern landscape is gentler and more pastoral with ancient standing stones. The Caves of Haakon IV sheltered Robert the Bruce. South of Brodick in Lamlash Bay lies Holy Island containing St. Molais' Cave.

### BCQ551 Loch Doon

*OS 77, NX 4840 9499, Oct 2010*

Late 13th century Loch Doon Castle, was taken down and re-erected at its present location, due to the loch being raised by the Hydro Electric Scheme. How many sides does the castle have?

### BCQ552 Girvan

*OS 76, NX 1910 9852, Nov 2020*

Leave Girvan on the A77 heading north. Just past the railway bridge is a memorial to Alexander Ross who was shot in July 1831. What was his occupation?

### BCQ553 Electric Brae, nr. Ayr

*OS 70, NS 2542 1315, Oct 2010*

The Electric Brae, known locally as Croy Brae, is an optical illusion. Written on the cairn in the layby, what is the gradient or slope from the bend to the glen?

### BCQ554 Largs

*OS 63, NS 2077 5768, Oct 2010*

What does "The Pencil" commemorate and what date?

### BCQ555 Rowantree Toll

*OS 77, NX 3527 9068, Oct 2010*

The Davie Bell Memorial "The Highwayman", what is sculpted in bronze on top of the memorial?

### BCQ556 Pirnmill, Isle of Arran

*OS 69, NR 8730 4449, Oct 2010*

When was Pirnmill Primary School built?

## 56 STRATHCLYDE

Eight Regions lie within the narrow strip of Scotland that separates the Firth of Clyde from the Firth of Forth. The Roman Antonine Wall stretched for 37 miles across this strip; its preserved fort of Rough Castle and other remains can be seen near Bonnybridge. More recently, the Forth Canal provided a link between the two Firths. The Kilpatrick Hills and Campsie Fells rise North of Glasgow, then fall to Loch Lomond. Balloch Castle and Ross Priory lie along edge of the loch. The town of Dumbarton, where the Cutty Sark was built, is dominated by a volcanic rock (240 feet), a defensive stronghold for centuries. Further east the land is more gentle and agricultural, with lochs and reservoirs in the rolling hills. At Port Glasgow, south of the Clyde, the elegant 15th century Newark Castle remains virtually intact. The City of Glasgow is largely new, apart from the cathedral and Provand's Lordship.

### BCQ561 Lochwinnoch

*OS 63, NS 3735 6128, Oct 2010*

Clockoderick Stone (an example of a glacial erratic) is thought to be the burial site of which monarch of the ancient Kingdom of Strathclyde? (See information plaque.)

### BCQ562 Lochgoin

*OS 71, NS 5283 4695, Apr 2018*

South East of the B764 between Fenwick and Eaglesham, at Soame Bridge, is a metaled lane to the old Lochgoin settlement. On the Monument base there are listed several names. Who is the only person listed with both a forename and a surname?

### BCQ563 Clachan of Campsie

*OS 64, NS 6106 7963, Oct 2010*

In the churchyard is the Kincaid-Lennox two storey domed 18th century burial vault. According to the date over the opening what year was the entrance closed off?

### BCQ564 Airth

*OS 65, NS 8937 8945, Oct 2010*

About 2 kms of Airth at Dunmore is a well. According to the plaque on the memorial over the well who built "the school and village of Dunmore together with this well" and when were they completed?

### BCQ565 Balloch

*OS 56, NS 3905 8304, Apr 2019*

There is a blue clock face on the castle turret, what's the year recorded in the corners?

### BCQ566 Chryston

*OS 64, NS 6909 7096, Nov 2020*

Next to the Miners Club there is a memorial (with a half colliery wheel) to the Auchengeich Colliery Disaster of 1959. How many men died in the disaster?

**Access/Other Notes:** This is on the Glasgow to Cumbernauld cycle route.

## 57 ARGYLL & ISLE OF BUTE

The scenic richness of Argyll and Bute extends from the wild remote moors of the northern mountains to its jagged coastline and on to the islands of the Inner Hebrides. Roads are few and tend to follow the coast or run alongside a loch. Inveraray, with its castle and lovely wood, is the ancestral seat of the Campbells. Kilmory's churchyard displays Celtic crosses and tombstones, and nearby are several ancient burial mounds. Oban serves as the gateway to the islands, the largest and most northerly of which is Mull. Beyond its fishing village of Tobermory, settlements are few and small, but there are several ancient castles, including Moy and Duart. The 12<sup>th</sup> century cathedral on Iona commemorates St. Columba's establishing the Celtic church there. Jura, with mountains running down its length and a loch nearly bisecting it, is sparsely inhabited. Staffa is the site of Fingal's Cave, and Islay, noted for its fine beaches, contains several Celtic crosses.

### **BCQ571 Tobermory, Isle of Mull**

*OS 47, NM 5055 5529, Oct 2010*

The Clock Tower on the stone pier (opposite Co-Op shop). In whose memory was the tower erected and when did she die?

### **BCQ572 Gruline, Isle of Mull**

*OS 47/48, NM 5494 3984, Nov 2020*

There is a Mausoleum to the "Father of Australia." The FARTHEST End is sealed with a large white marble slab. What is the scripture verse carved on it?

**Access/Other Notes:** The Mausoleum is about 0.7km up a dirt track from the road.

### **BCQ573 Campbeltown**

*OS 68, NR 7191 2034, Oct 2010*

The Town Hall/ Council Chambers in Main Street is a cream building with octagonal clock tower. What is the Latin inscription in the panel over the main door?

### **BCQ574 Strachur**

*OS 56, NN 0791 0066, Nov 2020*

On south west approach to Strachur according to the memorial where and when was Donald MacLachan mortally wounded?

### **BCQ575 Rothesay, Isle of Bute**

*OS 63, NS 0857 6487, Oct 2010*

There is a large statue at the west end of the formal gardens on the promenade. Who is the statue of?

### **BCQ576 Helensburgh**

*OS 56, NS 2938 8232, Jul 2019*

On the seafront to the west of the pier is an obelisk commemorating Henry Bell. In which years was he born, and did he die?

## 58 STIRLING & CLACKMANNANSHIRE

Straddling the Lowlands and the Highlands, Stirling and Clackmannanshire present the two faces of Scotland. In the south and east, the river valleys offer rich agricultural land and wild peat bogs. Below the Ochil and Gargunnock Hills, Doune Castle, Inchmahome Priory, Menstrie Castle and Castle Campbell lie in varying states of preservation. The region played an important part in Scotland's struggle for independence in the great battles of Stirling Bridge and Bannockburn. The castle at Stirling was built on a precipitous 250-foot-high volcanic plug. Of the old town, many fine examples of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century buildings, parts of the town wall and the 'auld brig' over the Forth still remain. Callander, lying in the shadow of Ben Ledi in the Trossachs, rugged country extending west to Loch Katrine, marks the entry point into the Highlands to the north with their picturesque lochs, fertile valleys and many historic ruins.

### BCQ581 Stirling

*OS 57, NS 7912 9398, Oct 2010*

What is the date on the statue of King Robert Bruce standing outside the castle gates?

### BCQ582 Callander

*OS 57, NN 6270 0781, Oct 2010*

When was the bridge over the River Teith erected and by whom? Answer on a plaque.

### BCQ583 Killin

*OS 51, NN 5732 3325, Oct 2010*

Monument outside Killin Hotel, who was the first person to translate the New Testament into Scottish Gaelic?

### BCQ584 Balquhider

*OS 51/57, NN 5359 2092, Oct 2010*

Rob Roy's grave. Who were his sons and when did they die?

### BCQ585 Dollar

*OS 58, NS 9632 9797, Oct 2010*

In whose memory was the clock tower by the bridge erected?

### BCQ586 Loch Katrine

*OS 57, NN 4955 0724, Nov 2020*

Who unveiled the Centenary water fountain in the car park?

**Access/Other Notes:** Cycle access is available from Stronachlachar along the north shore of Loch Katrine, however, please check prior to visiting as a landslide blocked this path in Aug 2020.

## 59 PERTH & KINROSS

Lying on the Highland Boundary Fault, Perth has low-lying growing land and fruit farms in the southeast, the Grampians and sheep farming in the northwest. Highland Perth rises to nearly 4000 feet at Ben Lawers and includes the lochs of Rannoch, Tummel, Tay and Earn. Part of Rannoch Moor, a bleak, windswept 20 square miles of heather and peat, is a nature reserve. Glen Garry, site of Blair Castle, and Glen Shee stretch into the Forest of Atholl north of Pitlochry. In the south are the Ochil and Sidlaw Hills; in the latter are the ruins of an ancient fort, traditionally identified with the castle of Shakespeare's Macbeth. Narrow Glen Eagles, famous for its golf course and 14th century Castle, passes through the Ochils, along with the track of a Roman road and an old drover road that linked the north with the Falkirk cattle fairs. The local agricultural centre of Kinross lies along Loch Leven, site of Lochleven Castle.

### **BCQ591 Kinross**

*OS 58, NO 1194 0219, Nov 2020*

The bold inscription on the stone lintel over the window at the Salutation Hotel in the High St (B996). When did WW marry ED?

### **BCQ592 Blairgowrie**

*OS 53, NO 1799 4522, Oct 2010*

The War Memorial in the Wellmeadow. What are the three names of members of the Royal Corps of Signals on the memorial?

### **BCQ593 Dunkeld**

*OS 52/53, NO 0258 4264, Apr 2019*

In Dunkeld, off Bridge Street (A822) in High Street, is a very large and ornate fountain. In whose memory was it erected in 1866?

### **BCQ594 Garry Bridge**

*OS 43, NN 9134 6099, Apr 2019*

At the west end of the bridge is an engraved panel relating to the 'Road to the Isles'. What is the last line engraved?

### **BCQ595 Comrie**

*OS 52, NN 7732 2201, Oct 2010*

In what year was the Royal Hotel established?

### **BCQ596 Kinloch Rannoch**

*OS 42/51, NN 6617 5869, Oct 2010*

The pink granite obelisk in the village square; to whose memory was it erected?



## 60 FIFE

Stretching out towards the sea between the Firths of Tay and Forth, Fife's countryside is gently undulating. The broad valley of the River Eden, known as the Howe (hollow) of Fife and providing fertile farmland extends westwards to the Lomond Hills. Falkland has retained many of its picturesque old houses and cobbled streets, as has Culross, its red-roofed houses and medieval character preserved by the National Trust of Scotland. A 17<sup>th</sup> century weigh station in Ceres houses a folk museum. On the east coast, St. Andrews, once the ecclesiastical capital of Scotland and the site of Scotland's first university, has an impressive ruined cathedral. The remains of its castle stand on a rock overlooking the coast. North lie sandy beaches and Tentsmuir Forest; to the south are the East Neuk fishing villages. The region has numerous castles, historic houses and churches as well as the remains of several monasteries including the Abbey of Dunfermline.

### **BCQ601 Culross**

*OS 65, NS 9857 8591, Oct 2010*

Plaque on the Townhouse (with two staircases; in town square). How long did the Provost serve?

### **BCQ602 Dunfermline**

*OS 65, NT 0870 8745, Oct 2010*

The monument to Andrew Carnegie in Pittencrieff Park. To what did he devote his fortune?

### **BCQ603 Falkland**

*OS 59, NO 2527 0742, Oct 2010*

The prominent statue in the grounds of Falkland Parish Church. In what year did Onesiphorus Tyndall-Bruce die?

### **BCQ604 Ceres**

*OS 59, NO 3997 1149, Oct 2010*

The monument by the village green commemorates a famous victory. When was the stone inaugurated?

### **BCQ605 Crail**

*OS 59, NO 6134 0780, Oct 2010*

The drinking fountain in Marketgate. Who presented it to his native town?

### **BCQ606 Grange of Lindores**

*OS 59, NO 2568 1666, Oct 2010*

How many arches has the bell tower?

## 61 ANGUS

The wide swath of Strathmore, stretching across the region, divides Angus into two upland areas with beautiful scenery and challenging cycling. Between them lies fertile farming land with a wealth of quiet roads. North of the Vale, the Grampians rise dramatically, glens cutting deep into the mountains. On the coastal side, the Sidlaw Hills, largely moorland with remote sheep farms, rise above Dundee, becoming more gently undulating southeast of Forfar. At Arbroath, home of the 'smokie', the abbey has connections with Scottish independence. Sandy beaches, harbours and rocky sea cliffs lead north to Montrose, winter home of pink-footed geese. There is another bird reserve at Kinnordy and a Nature Reserve above Glen Doll. Places to visit include Kirriemuir, birthplace of Sir James Barrie, and the baronial Glamis Castle, childhood home of the Queen Mother. There are remains of Pictish hill forts near Forfar and traces of Roman camps and roads.

### **BCQ611 Glamis**

*OS 54, NO 3835 4672, Oct 2010*

At the main entrance to the castle are a pair of new gates. What are the dates on either side?

### **BCQ612 Arbroath Abbey**

*OS 54, NO 6425 4131, Apr 2019*

There are two massive wooden doors under the deeply splayed stone archway into the Abbey. How many horizontal ROWS of nails are there across them?

### **BCQ613 Edzell**

*OS 45, NO 6020 6842, Oct 2010*

On the Arch gateway what date did the Countess Dalhousie die (obit)? What date did the Earl Dalhousie die?

### **BCQ614 Bridge of Dun**

*OS 54, NO 6627 5843, Oct 2010*

On the main arch of the bridge over the River South Esk there are four pedestrian refuges. How many steps are there to each refuge?

### **BCQ615 Glen Prosen**

*OS 44, NO 3715 6058, Jan 2020*

At the track junction near Glackburn House, is a recently replaced monument to "Scott of the Antarctic". What is the last line on the adjacent blue granite stone, headed "Scott's View"?

### **BCQ616 Bridgend of Lintrathen**

*OS 53, NO 2820 5447, Oct 2010*

Stone plaque set in boundary wall to reservoir. Which year was it constructed for 1st instalment of Water Supply?

## 62 ABERDEENSHIRE

A windswept coastal plain with sand dunes and outcrops of higher ground depicts northern Aberdeenshire. Fishing towns line the coast, Crovie and Gardenstown being particularly attractively set in the cliffs. South of Petershead, Bullers of Buchan is a dramatic rock amphitheatre favoured by seabirds. Along the coastline south of Stonehaven, sandy and pebble beaches alternate with precipitous cliffs and salt-flats. Aberdeen is the centre of the Scottish fishing and the North Sea oil industries. Some medieval streets survive near the Castlegate with its old Market Cross, as do two bridges and the ancient houses of Provost Skene and Provost Ross. Inland, rivers that have turbulent beginnings in the glens of the Cairngorm Mountains flow through rolling farmland and woodland. The area has numerous castles, including Balmoral, and is rich with prehistoric stone circles, cairns, earth houses and massive stone hill forts. Roman marching camps and Celtic monasteries can also be found.

### BCQ621 Banchory

*OS 38, NO 6963 9570, Apr 2019*

There is a memorial tablet at the junction of High Street and Dee Street to a famous Scottish musician. What is his name?

### BCQ622 Braemar

*OS 43, NO 1521 9134, Oct 2010*

Plaque on the wall of house no. 3 on the road south to Glen Shee. Who lived there and what did he write?

### BCQ623 Cock Bridge

*OS 36, NJ 2343 1519, Oct 2010*

About 4 miles to the north, on the roadside on a bend in the main road, is the 'Well of Lecht'. A stone records the building of the road by soldiers in 1754. What is the name of the Colonel?

### BCQ624 Chapel of Garioch

*OS 38, NJ 7038 2472, Oct 2010*

$\frac{3}{4}$  mile north west of the cross roads is the Maiden Stone, which is covered in Pictish symbols. At the bottom of one side are two very ordinary domestic articles. What are they?

### BCQ625 Udney Green

*OS 38, NJ 8803 2642, Oct 2010*

On the impressive war memorial, the right hand side is dedicated to the Gordon Highlanders. What is the rank of their officer?

### BCQ626 Inverbervie

*OS 45, NO 8317 7278, Oct 2010*

As you leave Inverbervie heading north there is a ship's figurehead. To whom is the memorial dedicated and for what was he famous?

## 63 MORAY

Between the Moray Firth, with its sandy beaches and red-sandstone cliffs, and the Cairngorm Mountains, deer and grouse inhabiting the moors and sheep grazing on the hills, Moray's countryside is gently undulating. The River Spey flows through the region, providing good water for whisky distilling in its wide valley of Strathspey, and good pastureland for cattle and farmland for crops. A shifting shingle spit at the mouth of the River Spey separates the fishing centres of Buckie and Lossiemouth. The lowlands are criss-crossed by minor roads, and forest tracks offer off-road riding opportunities. Elgin's High Street is lined with 18<sup>th</sup> century stone houses, but its once-splendid cathedral is now a ruin. Forres Castle was a royal hunting seat frequented by Scottish kings. Sueno's Stone, at the east end of the town, is an impressive sculptured monolith. Also nearby are the Witches' Stone, the scene of early witch burnings, and a preserved Victorian distillery.

### **BCQ631 Brodie**

*OS 27, NH 9843 5766, Nov 2020*

According to the Information Board, how long ago was this Pictish Stone carved?

**Access Note/Other Notes:** This is on the National Trust for Scotland Brodie Castle Estate, there is no charge to see the checkpoint

### **BCQ632 Lossiemouth**

*OS 28, NJ 2340 7058, Nov 2020*

In Prospect Terrace, parallel to and above the A941, is a memorial to a former statesman, whose birthplace can be found nearby. What is his name?

### **BCQ633 Findochty**

*OS 28, NJ 4611 6788, Oct 2010*

By the harbour stands a white statue of a fisherman looking out to sea. What is the Psalm number that the words below the statue come from?

### **BCQ634 Newmill**

*OS 28, NJ 4352 5252, Oct 2010*

This unusual War Memorial has a clock. When was the memorial unveiled?

### **BCQ635 Tomintoul**

*OS 36, NJ 1688 1874, Nov 2020*

There are Cycle Club Crests (badges) on the Glen Avon and Richmond Hotels on Main St, on opposite sides of the green. Which club is shown on both?

### **BCQ636 Charlestown of Aberlour**

*OS 28, NJ 2622 4291, Oct 2010*

In Charlestown of Aberlour 4 kilometres north east of Carron is a suspension bridge over the River Spey. Who are the Engineers & Builders from Aberdeen according to the plaques at each end of the bridge?

## 64 HIGHLANDS

Divided by the Great Glen, its lochs linked by the Caledonian Canal, the Highlands is a mountainous region sprinkled with lochs and inlets. Roads are limited, though most are lightly trafficked, and all offer magnificent wild and rough scenery. Scattered through the wilderness are ancient castles and remote villages. Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Britain, rises to 4,406 feet at the southern end of the Great Glen, with the Grampian Mountains further east. Crofting, cattle and sheep raising and fishing continue in the northwest, while coastal areas and valleys support farming. A monument to the Highland Clearances exists at Strathnaver, and Glenfinnan Monument marks the spot where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard. On Skye, the Cuillin Hills and the pinnacles at Storr dominate the largely moorish landscape. The island of Rum is a Nature Conservancy Research Centre. Dunnet Head marks the northernmost part of the British mainland. Gaelic customs and language are still used.

### **BCQ641 Inverewe Gardens**

*OS 19, NG 8620 8186, Oct 2010*

There are wrought iron gates at the side of the entrance lodge. What are the dates on the gates?

### **BCQ642 Dornoch**

*OS 21, NH 7975 8970, Oct 2010*

What according to the notice board by the path through the Cathedral graveyard is the measurement of cloth?

### **BCQ643 Culloden Battlefield**

*OS 27, NH 7418 4498, Apr 2019*

According to the plaque on the memorial cairn, on what date did the battle take place?

### **BCQ644 Falls of Rogie**

*OS 26, NH 4424 5855, Apr 2019*

According to the information displayed at the car park near the falls, how long is the YELLOW walk (salmon trail)?

### **BCQ645 Strathspey**

*OS 35/36, NH 8908 0967, Oct 2010*

On the B970 one mile south west of Rothiemurchus visitor centre who restored the monument to James Martiniaiu and when?

### **BCQ646 Balmacara**

*OS 33, NG 7870 2710, Oct 2010*

Donald Murchison's Monument. When was the monument erected?

## 65 NA H EILEANAN SIAR (WESTERN ISLES)

Na h-Eileanan Siar is now the official name of the Western Isles. Many of the islands are uninhabited, with most of the population living on Lewis and Harris. The vegetation is largely grass and tundra-like herbage, with peat bogs in the poorly drained lowlands. The barren and rock-strewn eastern coasts contrast sharply with the white sand beaches and grassy plains found along the western coasts. Trees are few and the scenery mostly open and bleak, limiting pastureland, though crofting is still widely practiced. It is one of the few areas in Scotland where Gaelic is still the everyday language. Roads may be limited, but wildlife is abundant, with large seabird populations including gannets, fulmars and puffins on St. Kilda and the more isolated islands. Red deer is found on the northern islands, a primitive wild sheep is native to Soay Island, and the Atlantic grey seal inhabits many coastal areas. Prehistoric remains are numerous, including the Megalithic stone circle at Callanish on Lewis.

### BCQ651 South Uist

*OS 22, NF 7410 2691, Oct 2010*

What year is mentioned on the plaque on the cairn at Flora McDonald's birthplace?

### BCQ652 Benbecula

*OS 22, NF 8022 5185, Oct 2010*

Who is the Merchant Navy captain mentioned on the war memorial (1939-45)

### BCQ653 North Uist

*OS 18, NF 8115 6382, Oct 2010*

What year is inscribed on the plaque high on the front wall (above the porch) of the Church of Scotland, Clachan?

### BCQ654 South Harris

*OS 18, NG 0476 8318, Nov 2020*

St. Clements Church, Roghadal, was restored in 1873. By whom?

### BCQ655 Lewis

*OS 13, NB 2605 1954, Oct 2010*

Memorial cairn to the Park Deer Raiders, the heroes of Lochs, has how many doorways?

### BCQ656 Lewis

*OS 8, NB 4898 4116, Nov 2020*

On the B865 to the north east of Stornoway is the Memorial Cairn to the Grias and Coll Raiders. What was gifted in 1923, to whom and by whom?

## 66 SHETLAND ISLANDS

Some 100 islands (most of them uninhabited) make up the Shetlands. The scenery is wild and beautiful, having deeply indented, fjord like coasts enclosed by steep hills. Trees are sparse, due to the exposed nature of the islands, but the land is fertile. Traditional crofting and fishing and many Norse customs survive. The Shetland sheep produce fine wool that is spun and knitted by the islanders in distinctive patterns, and the fishing port of Lerwick has unusual loading piers built out over the harbour. However, the discovery of North Sea oil has introduced modern technology and ways of life. North of the island of Unst is Muckle Flugga lighthouse, the most northerly point of Britain. Fair Isle, belonging to the National Trust for Scotland, has an important ornithological observatory. Numerous seabirds including a large colony of great skuas inhabit Foula's rocky and exposed cliffs. 3000 years of settlement is exhibited at Jarlshof near Sumburgh Head.

### BCQ661 Sumburgh

*OS 4, HU 4085 0815, Oct 2010*

Alongside the path from the car park to the lighthouse is part of a skull. From which type of whale does it come?

### BCQ662 St. Ninian's Isle

*OS 4, HU 3747 2089, Oct 2010*

What according to the notice board at the Bigton end is the geological term for the stretch of sand connecting the island with the mainland?

### BCQ663 Garths Voe

*OS 2/3, HU 3982 7288, Apr 2019*

On the north side of the B9076,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile east of the airport, is an interpretation board of Sullom Voe at a viewpoint. How many barrels of oil were brought ashore by 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1993?

### BCQ664 Brettabister

*OS 3, HU 4813 5752, Oct 2010*

What surmounts the Memorial beside the B9075?

### BCQ665 Lerwick

*OS 4, HU 4771 4135, Oct 2010*

Victoria Pier. What was the name of the Whaling Ship whose return is commemorated by the Drinking Fountain?

### BCQ666 Haggersta

*OS 3, HU 3891 4852, Nov 2020*

The War Memorial lies on the A971 to the north of Whiteness. Who was the contractor? Name in the top left hand corner of the southern face of the base.

**Access/Other Notes:** The check point is about 50m from the road and is accessed by a series of steps with handrails.

**Help required with this checkpoint,** please contact [bcq@cyclingsuk.org](mailto:bcq@cyclingsuk.org)

## 67 ORKNEY ISLANDS

More than 70 mostly uninhabited islands make up the Orkneys, comparatively low, undulating country, extensively covered by grass with a general scarcity of trees. The land is used for small livestock farms, but much peat and moor remain. The largest island is Mainland, its two halves connected by a narrow strip of land. Kirkwall and Stromness are picturesque towns with narrow main streets. In addition to the 12<sup>th</sup> century red sandstone St. Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall has several fine old houses, the ruins of the Bishop's Palace and the Earl's Palace. Burray and South Ronaldsay are joined to it by causeways constructed during World War II. The extensive sheltered waters of Scapa Flow were used as a wartime base for the British fleet; some scuttled German ships can still be seen. Much evidence remains of prehistoric occupation including the underground village of Skara Brae, the Neolithic Standing Stones of Stenness, the Ring of Brodgar and Maeshowe barrow.

### **BCQ671 South Ronaldsay**

*OS 7, ND 4452 8790, Oct 2010*

Plaque at view point on Olad Summit on A961. What is the distance to New York?

### **BCQ672 Lamb Holm**

*OS 6/7, HY 4877 0059, Oct 2019*

What is the inscription on the statue of St. George and the Dragon, at the Italian Chapel?

### **BCQ673 Kirkwall**

*OS 6, HY 4490 1129, Nov 2020*

Plaque on the wall of pier next to Lifeboat house on West Pier. What happens when the wind is in the South?

### **BCQ674 Maes Howe**

*OS 6, HY 3068 1251, Oct 2010*

Near Maes Howe are the Stones of Stenness. According to the information board when were they built?

### **BCQ675 Birsay**

*OS 6, HY 2481 2773, Oct 2010*

When was the Earl's Palace founded?

### **BCQ676 Water of Hoy**

*OS 7, ND 2809 9978, Apr 2019*

Just south of the lake, alongside the road, is an interpretation board to the nearby grave of Betty Corrigan. What material is the gravestone made of (see below the newspaper)?



## Off Road Alternatives

Rather than lose some very nice checkpoints due to access for all issues, as they are replaced, they have been moved to this section, to allow those who wish to visit rather than their replacements. In addition, additional access notes are provided to highlight off road possibilities to or from a checkpoint.

### **BCQ0860RA Cissbury Ring** – Alternative checkpoint

OS 198, TQ 1406 0817, Nov 2020

At the top of Cissbury Ring, the second largest Iron Age Fort in Britain, is a triangulation pillar. What is the number on the plate in the base?

**Access/Other Notes:** There is a permissive cycle path across the Cissbury Ring site from the bridleway at TQ 1426 0813 (kissing gate), pass the trig point, to the bridleway at TQ 1381 0765 (kissing gate, but possible to take a solo bike through). There is a tarmac road up from Findon, from the busy A24, to a car parking area, about 450m from the checkpoint, via the kissing gate at TQ 1426 0813. However, there is a wonderful network of byways and bridleways that lead up from the Worthing, Steyning and Washington areas, which also connect with the South Downs Way and Monarch's Way long distance bridleway routes.

### **BCQ301 Derwent Reservoir** – Additional access notes

The road along the west side of the reservoirs is tarmac up to the checkpoint. There is an off road cycle route/bridleway that heads north from checkpoint before turning south along the east side of the reservoirs to the A57 which can be cycled, thus providing a circular route opportunity. The route can be ridden with cycles that have thinner tyres, eg 25mm, but there are gateways which may make the route unsuitable for tricycles.

For the more adventurous, the bridleway Cut Gate provides a direct route to BCQ382 Langsett Reservoir.

### **BCQ5060RA Nant Rhydwylym Pass** – Alternative checkpoint

OS 125, SJ 0910 3659, Jun 2021

At the summit of the pass is a memorial to Wayfarer. What are the dates of his lifetime?

**Access/Other Notes:** The south side of the pass is badly rutted and in places very wet. The north side track to the road at Rhos-y-maerdy, that descends Cwm-isaf to the B road at Rhydyglafes has a reasonable surface.

**Historical Significance:** Wayfarer was the pseudonym of W. M. Robinson a well known and popular cycling writer and lecturer, who was a member of the Anfield Bicycle Club. On 30<sup>th</sup> March 1919, Wayfarer along with 3 fellow club members crossed the pass in snow on their ride home from a club weekend ride. Wayfarer wrote an article about the ride under the emotive title of "Over The Top", which was published in Cycling later that year. This is seen as being a significant milestone in getting people to explore the outdoors.

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