

Organiser Contact: 07946294900 powerowl@yahoo.co.uk

200km 24-720 Start time 0800. Building open 0730.

The event HQ is Allenbury Sport and Social Club Harris's Lane, Ware SG12 0DJ with parking on site or nearby streets. Walk down right hand side of building for entrance.

Thanks for entering these Hertfordshire Wheelers events in aid of Blue Cross Animal Shelters.

Tea, Coffee and snacks available before the off.

As part of the event we are offering you, or anyone you want to tell, the opportunity to declutter and recluster your cycling wardrobes. If you have any FREE kit you no longer want or need, please bring it to the Audax HQ at Allenbury's. The HQ will be open from 0730 to 1000 or they can bring in the afternoon from 1400. Of course, you may wish to take away some of the items and you can do this after 1400.

Electronic navigation files, routesheets (useful info and back up) and e-brevet details available at

[Wheelers' Audax routes 2024 | Hertfordshire Wheelers \(herts-wheelers.org.uk\)](https://www.herts-wheelers.org.uk)

#### Route Advice and Controls

The routes provided are for guidance only, you can choose should you wish, whatever route you want between the controls. Two controls Mill end and Grafham will be personned. If for some reason no one is to found ring organisers number for advice.

I have reported a few bad road spots early on but the highways authorities have deemed them safe, but still please take care at approx 6.8km (large section of road missing), 10.7km outside Keepers Cottage (gravel and rocks).

22.4km Unusual road set up where you leave the A507 going straight onto a minor road and the A507 traffic pulling out towards you has to give way to you at T junction. I try and stay out towards the centre as much as possible so they get a better view and deters following cars from trying to get ahead and cut in front.

23.4km Look for someone in bus shelter outside Millend plants Rushden. The café does not normally open until 1000, might be open 0900 but do not assume this. Toilets with cold tap at Ashwell sportsfield 33.2km in. You will see it on your left. They are behind the pavilion next to playground in Lucas Lane. So you need to be self-sufficient until St Neots.

61km St Neots. Free control so you just need to get a receipt showing St Neots and time from café, shop and if you are not buying anything Bank ATM. You will pass lots of each of these on the route through the town.

76.5km easy to spot, information control shortly after you turn at T junction.

89.8km When exiting Buckden, just before the road joins at a roundabout the very busy A1 look for the brown signed cycle path underpass on your right to cross underneath. This brings you onto the right handside of the road to grafham water. Rejoin onto the correct side.

92.6km Visitors centre car park at Grafham Water. Take first entrance into car park. Go to opposite end of car park from Rutland Cycles building. Someone will be there to manually check you in. They may be in a Blue car or inside visitors centre café. The route away uses the signed cycle path behind the visitors centre, with the water on your right. After about 1km look for an escape route back to the road on your left through a barrier, gate.

After Grafham you will pass villages with shops for example Risely, Carlton and at 125km Harold Odel Country park with a café plus public toilets and tap.

130.5km Info control and nearby shop.

144.3km Info control at Broad Green Cranfield. It's near a T junction that is just 5meter before mRab. Look out to your right at T junction for green electronics cabinet next to red shaped box on post.

Marston Moretaine has a big shop en route and you pass entrance to country park but café, toilets and taps come with a moderate ride to them.

You then have a range of supermarket, shops at Flitwick, Barton Le Cley and small shop hidden by new houses at 181.9km just before the r turn up Hornhill Whitwell.

186.1km Info Control outside the Budgens. The Budgens has made itself a quasi-café with tables and chairs and a drinks machine. Plus obviously normal shop contents.

Codicote brings more shops and if you arrive before 1630 there is Spokes café after you have left the village at approx. 191.7km.

Shortly before you reach Ware you pass through Hertford with quasi-Public toilets and tap near castle entrance plus shops.

The route through Hertford to Ware involves following the blue cycle route past hertford east station. This is different from the more direct cycle path along the canal, which you can also use but gets increasingly bumpy and busy with pedestrians. Like many urban cycle routes its not without its issues as it involves pedestrians and many turns in streets filled with parked cars. So take care. A potentially quicker route using the A414 and main road to Ware is doable but I will leave that to you to research should you choose.

Tea, Coffee and sandwiches, rolls, cake at finish.