

<sup>1</sup> R W Fletcher – all other photos and scans R W Fletcher unless stated  
<sup>2</sup> Woodward, D, Ed, *Essex Composers*, (Chelmsford: Essex Libraries, 1985), p13  
<sup>3</sup> – quoted from Byrd's preface to his *Psalms, Songs and Anthems* of 1588  
<sup>4</sup> Note the soaring Elms on Hall Lane leading to the railway station, which dates this photo prior to the 1970s

ingestone Hall, 1975  
 Essex Records Office  
 exhibition leaflet,  
 Ingestone Hall, 1975

Mountnassing village sign and  
 windmill beyond, October 2012



meets Church Road where you take  
 the right fork towards Padham's  
 Green and Mountnassing. Cycling  
 through Padham's Green you  
 pass the turning to Marsh Lane  
 on the left and up to the junction  
 with Burnthouse Lane where you  
 continue onwards past Old Church  
 Road, Begrums Farm and the water  
 tower on your left. Keep straight  
 on, past Arnold's Farm Lane and  
 over the railway and A12 by-pass  
 bridges and in to Mountnassing  
 village where you meet the junction  
 with the B1002 which you left in  
 Ingestone. Cross the B1002 carefully  
 on to Thoby Lane which leads  
 towards Swallows Cross and Blackmore.



Messrs Claydon and Bangs with  
 our bikes outside the entrance to  
 Ingestone Hall, c1968

From Ingestone Market Place turn right on to the High Street, the  
 B1002, and cycle in the direction of Brentwood. After a short distance  
 take Station Lane, the third road on the left, and cycle down over the  
 railway crossing and on to Hall Lane on the other side. Follow the  
 lane through a few large houses and out on to open fields, turning  
 sharp right at "Windy Corner" and then  
 down, past the lay-by on the right,  
 the entrance gates of Ingestone Hall  
 where the road swings right, down over  
 the Hey Brook and into Mountnassing  
 parish. William Petre acquired the land  
 here in 1539 and built the hall which  
 became the seat of the Petre family, who  
 originated in Devon (hence "for Bryan"  
 house and now estate in Ingestone).

"Since singing is so good a thing,  
 I wish all men would learn to sing."<sup>2</sup>

## THE RIDE



## Ingestone Pedallers Social Cycling Group

# "WILLIAM BYRD FANTASIA"

## CYCLE RIDE



**MAPS:** OS: Landranger 167 - Chelmsford, Harlow & Bishop's Stortford, Explorer 175 - Southend on Sea & Basildon and 183 - Chelmsford & The Rodings; Sustrans Cycle Maps: Essex & the Thames Estuary Cycle Map  
**START & FINISH:** Ingestone Market Place, grid ref TQ649994  
**FURTHEST POINT IN THE RIDE:** Stondon Massey Church, Ongar Road, grid ref TL573016

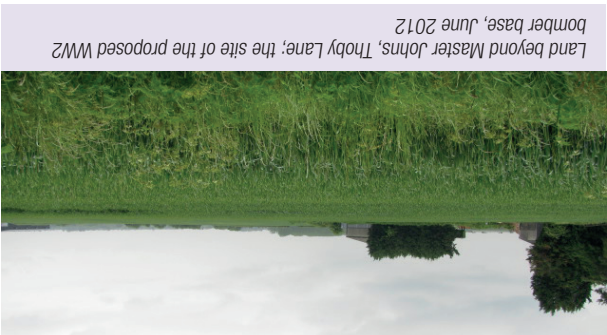


Ingestone Hall from the Lime Walk at the I&FPC Spring Fair, May 1992

<sup>4</sup> Doyle, P, *Fields of the First*, (North Weald Bassett: Forward Aircraft Research Publishing, 1997), p63  
<sup>5</sup> Essex Records Office SEAX record: SESSION ROLLS/EASTER 1600-0/SR 149/51, 52  
 - 7 February 1600

"Indictment of WILLIAM BYRD of Stondon, gentleman, for  
 enclosing with a great ditch and hedge the highway leading from  
 Stondon to Kelveon hatch in Kelveon, and the highway leading  
 from Kelveon to Stondon, which have been common highways  
 for footmen, and horseman and carriages from time out of the  
 mind of man"<sup>5</sup>

Ignoring the turning to St Anne's Road you carry on for a mile to take  
 the turning on the left, Wyatts Green Road, at Swallows Cross, and  
 go down over the little River Wild and in to Wyatts Green. After one  
 mile you arrive at a junction where you turn right on to Mill Lane,  
 then turning left into Hook End Road. After a short distance take the  
 right turn on to Hook End Lane and then immediately left in to Tipps  
 Cross Lane which leads to the crossroads on Blackmore Road with  
 Blackmore to the right and Kelveon Hatch to the left. Here you go  
 straight across and down Ongar Road into Stondon Massey village,  
 passing The Bricklayer's Arms PH on the right and up and past the  
 turning to Stondon Place on the left. The original house on this site was  
 that owned and lived in by William Byrd (1543-1623) between 1593  
 and his death in 1623. As a recusant and refusing to go to Church of  
 England services Byrd and his family were often subject to local court  
 actions to fine them for non-attendance. In addition, he was often  
 involved in local long running land issues and he gives the impression  
 of being a man of a somewhat litigious nature:



Land beyond Master Johns, Thoby Lane; the site of the proposed WW2  
 bomber base, June 2012

Follow Thoby Lane on, bearing left and down through extensive farmland  
 over to your right. Here, north over towards Blackmore Wood and Green  
 Street, was the site of a proposed WW2 USAAF bomber base in 1942, to  
 be called RAF Ingestone but which was never completed.<sup>4</sup>

"Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem"  
 (Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace)<sup>10</sup>

### READING LIST, WEBSITES AND SOME SUGGESTED RECORDINGS OF BYRD'S MUSIC:

- BOOKS AND MAPS AND LEAFLETS:**  
 Barclays Bank/design by E W Fenton ARCA, *Essex - A map of the County*, (London?: The Davenport Askew Co Ltd, 1966/67)  
 Bettley, J & Pevsner, N, *Essex (The Buildings of England)*, (New Haven & London: Yale, 2007)  
 Doyle, P, *Fields of the First*, (North Weald Bassett: Forward Aircraft Research Publishing, 1997)  
 Smith, A, *William Byrd: Some Notes*, (Blackmore: Andrew Smith -Stondon History Series, 2008)  
 Woodward, D, Ed, *Essex Composers*, (Chelmsford: Essex Libraries, 1985)
- WEB SITES:**  
<http://www.blackmorehistory.co.uk/> - Andrew Smith's website  
<http://www.ingestonehall.com/> - Ingestone Hall website  
<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk> - Essex Records Office SEAX online search website  
<http://www.stondonsingers.org.uk/> - The Stondon Singers' website
- CD RECORDINGS:**  
 William Byrd (1543-1623) - *Byrd-Consort and Keyboard Music, Songs and Anthems*, Rose Consort of Viols with Red Byrd, NAXOS 8.550604 (1994)  
 William Byrd (1543-1623) - *Byrd-Mass for Four Voices, Mass for Five Voices, Infelix Ego*, Oxford Camerata, Jeremy Summerly, Conductor, NAXOS 8.550574 (1992)
- (These are two excellent budget-priced introductions to Byrd's secular, keyboard and sacred music. If you are feeling adventurous I would also recommend Davitt Moroney's excellent complete Byrd keyboard music, a 7 CD box, of which numbers 1 and 4 were recorded at Ingestone Hall (2001), although you can buy a one CD sampler. (Hyperion: ODS44461/7 - Box set, ODA66558 - Sampler.)

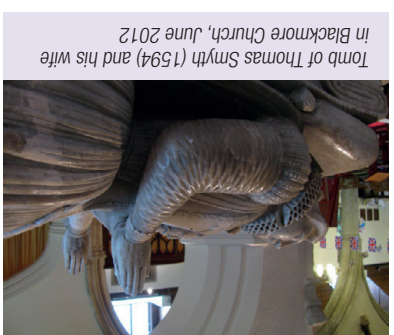
<sup>10</sup> From the Agnus Dei of the Mass

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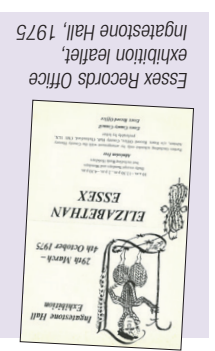


<sup>6</sup> William Byrd (1543-1623) - from the song *Triumph with pleasant melody* for 2 voices and 4 viols. (*Byrd-Consort and Keyboard Music, Songs and Anthems*), Rose Consort of Viols with Red Byrd, NAXOS 8.550604 (1994), Track 12  
<sup>7</sup> Bettley, J & Pevsner, N, *Essex (The Buildings of England)*, (New Haven & London: Yale, 2007), pp141-142



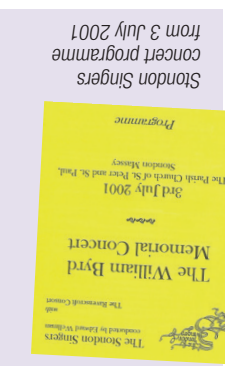
Tomb of Thomas Smyth (1594) and his wife  
 in Blackmore Church, June 2012

Blackmore Church tower in  
 June 2012 - "Blackmore  
 possesses one of the most  
 impressive, if not the most  
 impressive, of all English  
 timber towers, built (according  
 to tree-ring dating) in 1400".<sup>7</sup>



The return journey back to Ingestone starts  
 by following your track back down into the  
 village of Stondon Massey and turning left by  
 The Bricklayers Arms PH on to Nine Ashes  
 Road. As you travel out of the village you  
 pass a "Byrd Mead" on your left and then  
 enter Epping Forest district travelling through  
 Pastow Wood Common to Nine Ashes where  
 after a mile you take the right turning (Nine  
 Ashes Road) towards Blackmore which you  
 reach after just under a mile. Blackmore  
 Church is on the right down Church Street  
 and is well worth a visit.  
 continued overleaf...

"Triumph with pleasant melody show forth thy cheerful mind;  
 Let pinning cares within thy breast no place of Harboure find..."<sup>6</sup>



You continue up hill on Ongar Road for  
 about three quarters of a mile until you  
 reach the church of St Peter and St Paul,  
 Stondon Massey on the right where Byrd  
 is reputed to be buried in the graveyard.  
 This pretty little church on the brink of the  
 Roding Valley is the farthest point of the  
 ride where you may rest and if it is open  
 you may see the memorial erected inside  
 to Byrd in 1923. Each summer, The Stondon  
 Singers give a concert in the church to  
 celebrate the life and work of the composer.

"Rejoice, rejoice, unto the Lord with mirth,  
 Which us from foreign fears  
 Preserved hath in quiet state these eight and  
 Twenty years.." <sup>8</sup>

Continue out of Blackmore village, over the pond and right on to  
 Ingestone Road leading to Fryerning and Ingestone. Follow this road  
 round to the left on the sharp bend with the turning to Swallows Cross  
 and Mountnassing and continue through the woods towards Woodbarns.  
 Follow Blackmore Road left at the junction with Green Street and cycle  
 on past the turning on the left to Beggar Hill and on to Fryerning Church  
 on its hill, passing Bag Lane which leads to Mountnassing on the right on  
 your way, at the top of the dip. Going past the church you reach the green  
 and then turn right and follow Fryerning Lane down over the A12 by-pass  
 bridge into Ingestone and the junction with High Street (B1002) by the  
 "stones". Turn right and go down to the Market Place where you started.

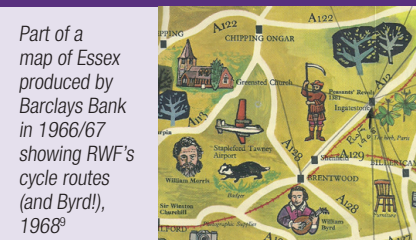


Chapel House, Market Place,  
 Ingestone in October 2011.  
 The home of the composer  
 Graham Whettam (1927-2007)  
 who lived there between 1980  
 and 1994.

The ride is approximately 16 miles and has taken you past some  
 of the places associated with William Byrd (1543-1623) one of the  
 greatest of English composers, who lived at Stondon Massey for  
 the final years of his life and who knew and composed music for  
 the Petre family of Ingestone Hall.



R W Fletcher - Sketch of the bell  
 tower at Ingestone Hall, 1990



Part of a  
 map of Essex  
 produced by  
 Barclays Bank  
 in 1966/67  
 showing RWF's  
 cycle routes  
 (and Byrd!),  
 1968<sup>9</sup>

As William Byrd might have said:  
 Since cycling is so good a thing,  
 I wish everyone would go cycling!

<sup>8</sup> William Byrd (1543-1623) - from the song *Rejoice unto the Lord* for soprano and 4 viols. (*Byrd-Consort and Keyboard Music, Songs and Anthems*, Rose Consort of Viols with Red Byrd, NAXOS 8.550604 (1994), Track 4) — thought to have been sung to Queen Elizabeth I on 19 November 1586  
<sup>9</sup> Barclays Bank/design by E W Fenton ARCA, *Essex - A map of the County*, (London?: The Davenport Askew Co Ltd, 1966/67)

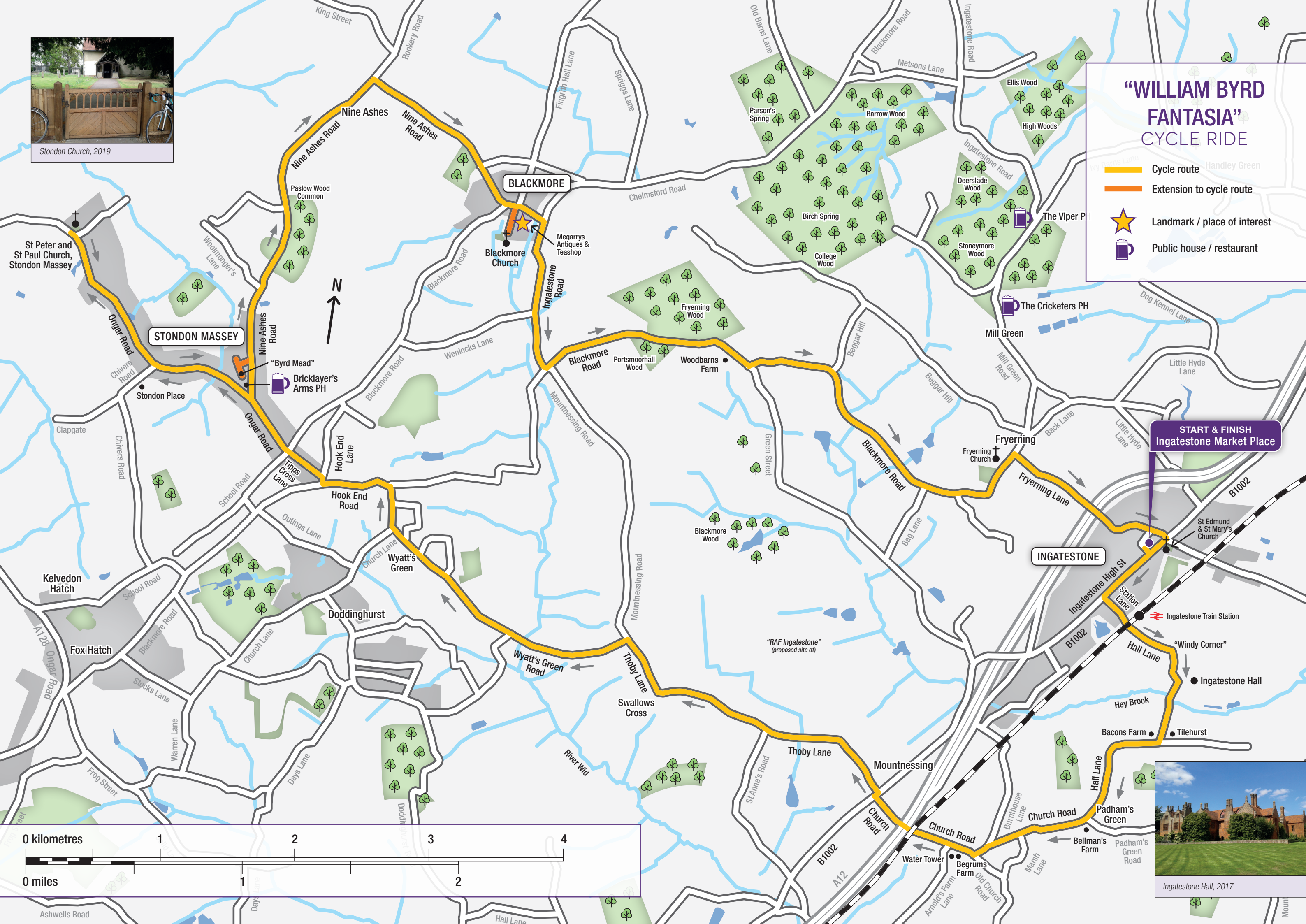




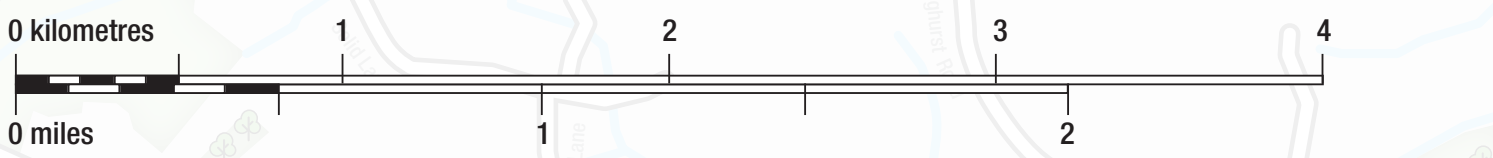
Stondon Church, 2019

# "WILLIAM BYRD FANTASIA" CYCLE RIDE

- Cycle route
- Extension to cycle route
- Landmark / place of interest
- Public house / restaurant



**START & FINISH**  
Ingatestone Market Place



Ingatestone Hall, 2017