Start Number

Orion Harriers 15 mile trail 2013 route

BL = Bear Left, **BR** = Bear Right, **CP** = Car Park **EB** = Earth Bridge, **EP** = Enclosed Path, **ET** = Enclosed Track, **FB** = Footbridge, **FC** = Field Corner, **FD** = Field, **FG** = Field Gate, **FPS** = Footpath Sign, **FSD** = For Some Distance, **HG** = Hedge Gap, **JCT** = Junction, **KG** = Kissing Gate**, L** = Left, **LHFE** = Left Hand Field Edge, **MP** = Marker Post, **R** = Right, **RD** = Road, **RHFE** = Right Hand Field Edge, **SA** = Straight Ahead, **ST** = Stile, **TK** = Track, **TL** = Turn Left, **TP** = Telegraph Pole, **TR** = Turn Right, **WM** = Way Marker, **X** = Cross

The wide, good surface, forest tracks are called **Rides**. Much of the route follows these. Please take care. You will almost certainly encounter horse riders and mountain bike riders. Be extra careful at all road crossings. There is now a 40mph speed limit on all roads through the forest but not everyone can read the signs! Some crossings are close to bends so visibility is reduced.

1 **X RD** to barrier and **TL** on **Ride**. After 300m **TL** (30mph road sign) and **X RD** (Bury Road) to barrier. Downhill 800m to end of **Ride**. **BL** to 'Out of Bounds' sign and **TL** uphill on grass **TK** between 2 large bushes. **SA** uphill past 'London Loop' **MP**. With lopped trees on **R** continue **SA**, then with golf green on **L**, **SA** to **MP** (ignore fork to **R**) and reach good surface **Ride**.

2 **SA** with views over golf course on **L**. At **MP** stay on **Ride** as it **BL** downhill. Continue with golf course to **L** to reach Bury Road. **X RD** and then **SA** to end of **TK**. (Rejoin 6 and 10 routes here) Turn **½ R** uphill to **MP** and Royal Forest **CP** on **R**.

3 Diagonal across field with Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge on **R** to pink granite fountain. **TR** to **RD** (with Butler's Retreat on **R**). **X RD** (Rangers Road). **TL** to **MP** and continue on **EP** downhill parallel to road. **X TK** at **MP** and continue ahead 30m to **X EB**. Uphill towards 2 **MP**s and large oak tree. (Ignore **MP** to **L** of tree). Ahead to **MP** then **RD** (ignore taller **MP** on **L**). **X RD** (Epping New Road) to **MP** (hidden behind lamp post) on **LHS** of cottages. Ahead to **MP** where **BL** to follow wide **EP** uphill**.** At **MP** **TL** and follow **Ride** to **RD** .(Manor Road).

4 **X RD** to barrier. Continue on **Ride,** down then uphill, ignoring any side paths, (past Qvist's Oak on **L** at top of hill), downhill again, to barrier at **RD** (Nursery Road). **BL** to barrier, to right of City of London Corporation sign, and follow **Ride**. After 150m **TR** on wide **EP** and continue 450m to **FPS** (tall post with white No Horse Riding sign, no directions).
(Caution – 6 mile route TL here)
TR then immediately **TL** on **Ride**. **SA** on **Ride**, ignoring all side **TK**s to reach **RD,** after 600m at pond with **CP**.

5 **X RD** (Earl's Path) to barrier. Follow **Ride** downhill then steep uphill. Continue **SA** when ride levels to (triangular) **Ride JCT** (30m on from open grassy space, with **MP,** on **R**).

6 Follow **Ride SA,** for total 1200m, ignoring all side paths, first downhill, then uphill, then level **FSD** to barrier at **RD.** (Goldings Hill)

7 **X RD** to gap for path to **R** of **CP**. Ahead 20m then **BL** at **MP** on **Ride** downhill. Follow **Ride** uphill, then level, curving **L** to **Ride JCT**. **TL** and follow **Ride SA** 650m to barrier at **CP** and **RD**. (Coppice Row) **X RD** then through **CP** to barrier. Ignore **Ride** on **R** and continue **SA** 200m to **Ride JCT**. (Caution - 10 mile route **TL** here)

8 Continue **SA** 2km on **"**undulating**" Ride**
(Ignore **Ride** on **R** after 1200m, Your **Ride BL** and downhill here).
At top of hill, with large tree on **R**, **BL** on path, then **TR** after 20m, to reach cricket pitch at Bell Common.

9 **TL** to **X** cricket pitch to **RD**. Head towards white cottage. **X RD** (High Road) to **FPS** near fence corner (the "Garden House"). Ahead on **EP** to green electricity box. **TR** and then **SA**. **X ST** (water container and cups here on obsolete ladder stile – used cups in sack please) then **SA** with fence on **R**. **X ST** (H2S sign) on fence opposite and **TL**. follow **LHFE** to **FC** (with phone mast**)**. **TR** downhill and follow **LHFE** to **MP**. **X ST** in hedge then **TR** and follow **RHFE** 200m to **FC** at gate. **TL** and follow **RHFE** 450m**,** past 6 oak trees, then **EB** to **FPS** and **ST** at **FC**. **X ST** to **RD**.

9 **TL** uphill on **RD** 400m to reach cottage and **TK** on **R**. Continue **SA** then just after duck pond **TL** at **FPS**. **SA** on broad **TK** past Copped Hall on **R**. Continue **SA** to **X** M25 bridge and **SA** to reach gates of Copped Hall.

11 Go through **RH** gate (please close) and ahead to **RD**. (Crown Hill) **X RD** to gap at 'No Vehicles' Road Sign. Continue **SA** 500m on **TK** (formerly Lodge Road) which is being left to revert back to forest. At end of **TK X** earth barrier on **LHS** and **TL** towards **RD** (Epping Road, the **RD** you are on is to **CP** on **R** (Caution – 10 mile route rejoins from the **L** here) **TR** and continue 650m on **Ride** until, with barrier and **RD** ahead, **BR** and follow **Ride**. At **MP** after 250m **BL** and continue on **Ride** 200m. **TL** at **JCT**, with only 5 metres to **RD** (easy to miss and if you come to small **RD SA** you've gone 30 metres too far!). **X RD** to barrier opposite. (very carefully – this is Woodridden Hill, the Orion 15 used to cross this in both directions only a few years ago!)

12 Continue ahead on **Ride** (approx 1km) ignoring any side paths (After 400m good excuse to stop, if tired, to enjoy Big View on **R**) to reach barrier and **RD** (caution - close to bend). **X RD** through small **CP** to barrier. Continue 500m on **Ride** to barrier with green tea hut ahead. (the hut's green – not the tea!)
This is High Beach. There are toilets about 200 metres ahead, near the pub. . (Water tap not currently working) Otherwise:
BL,(before the tea hut) and **X RD** at **RD JCT** to barrier.

13 **SA** on **Ride** for 350m**,** ignoring wheelchair path, which crosses the **Ride** twice in short distance, to (triangular) **Ride JCT** with **MP** on **R**.
Continue **SA** and follow the 'Up and Down' **Ride** (AKA 'the switchbacks') to barrier at **RD**. (Cross Roads) **X RD** to barrier.

14 **BL** and follow **Ride** downhill then (after 800m with flat section with grassy plain to **L**) **,** **TR** then **TL** through S bend to continue on **Ride**.
SA 500m to **Ride JCT** . Ignore **Rides** to **L** and **R**
Continue **SA** 600m. After short uphill section to large tree on **L** (with Cuckoo Pits on **L** and **R**) **BL**. Continue on **Ride** 250m to **JCT** (Buttonseed Corner).
TR and follow Jubilee **Ride** 800m to barrier. **X RD** to Jubilee Retreat to check in.

Well done. Time for some tea and toast.