

East Anglian Trophy 2015

A Seat with a View



This year the theme is different places around the region where you can stop, sit down and take in the scenery. These range from historic buildings to panoramic views of the countryside and coast line, and the bits in between. I came up with this idea for the trophy when I was on a day ride with my wife, where our routine is to take sandwiches and flask with us and find a nice seat somewhere for elevenses and the same thing again for lunch.

On the following pages there are twenty sets of photos and text that provide clues for where you'll find the different places. Find the sign or location in the left hand picture and the view in the right hand picture isn't far away. Take a photograph at each place with your bike in it, or if this isn't possible then include your crash helmet, to prove you have visited.

In a big change from previous years you only need to visit a maximum of fifteen of the twenty locations to give yourself the best chance of winning the competition. There aren't bonus points for visiting more, but don't let that stop you, and the winner will be whoever has visited the most places up to fifteen. In the event of a tie then the entry that is judged to contain the best photo will be the winner. So everyone has the opportunity to submit their best photos entries can include up to two photos for each place, and don't forget at least one needs to include your bike or crash helmet.

Entries need to be submitted to Neil Hopkins, 5 Hereward Close, Wivenhoe, Colchester, CO7 9SB and to arrive by midnight 31st October 2015. If you prefer you can email your entry in pdf format to neil.hopkins30@outlook.com, but please remember you will need to provide a hard copy for people to browse through at the Christmas lunch.



1



This one is on a twisty bit of road and easily missed so take your time, but it's worth it for the panoramic view across the Stour Valley.



2



There's no seat at this one as such but you can make do with the low wall. The memorial stands outside the old Steeple Morden fighter base which was manned by USA personnel during World War II where P-47 Thunderbolts and P-51 Mustangs operated.



3



Lavenham has over 320 buildings of historic significance and Lavenham Guildhall, also known as the Guildhall of Corpus Christi, is one of the best examples of them all. There is a brass plaque on the wall with some more information about the hall.

	4	
As you sit on the seat to the left is the Reedham Swing Bridge which carries the Wherry railway line, between Norwich and Lowestoft. The bridge dates from 1902-3 and in a typical year it is opened 1,300 times.		

	5	
Hopefully when you get here the Heras fencing will be gone and there is a much better view of the Thames barges.		

	6	
The green is perhaps one of the best places to see in Southwold, with a couple of cannons, a sea view in front, the pier to the left, and the iconic lighthouse just behind the houses.		

 A large white sign with a green checkmark over the 'v' in 'Stevenage'. Below it says 'Twinned with' and shows flags for Autun (France) and Kadoma (Spain). To the right is a smaller sign for 'Fairlands Valley Park' with a sailboat icon.	7	 A view of a park area with a green lawn, a body of water, and a tall water tower in the background under a cloudy sky.
It's a bit a walk from the car park to the cafe, but it's worth it for this oasis in the busy town. The town has a notable motorcycling heritage as this is where the legendary Vincent Black Shadow was produced.		

 A collection of white wooden signs listing nearby villages: 'GT SAMPFORD SAFFRON WALDEN', 'WETHERSFIELD BRAINTREE', 'GT BARDFIELD DUNMOW', and 'STEEPLE BUMPSTEAD HAVERHILL CORNISH HALL END'.	8	 A view of a village pond with a wooden bench in the foreground. In the background are redbrick cottages and a white windmill.
Described as picture postcard pretty, this is an idyllic Essex village complete with village pond, redbrick cottages and a white 18th century windmill. The village was once an important changing place for horse drawn coaches on the main route from London to Norwich.		

 A wooden waypost with four directional signs: 'SALLE 1½', 'HEYDON ¼', 'NORWICH 13 CORPUSTY 4', and 'WOOD DALLING 2'.	9	 A view of a village hall with a red brick building and a small wooden gazebo in the foreground.
Despite being down a dead end this little village is full of life boasting a tea room and pub which sadly many villages lack these days.		



10



It would be best to avoid visiting here on market day as it's a bit difficult to get a decent photo that doesn't include the market detritus.



11



This sculpture was stumbled across purely by chance, and although its not a BMW it had to be included. Who would have thought a little town in East Anglia had a connection with Harley Davidson.



12



Sometimes described as Chelsea-on-Sea because of its variety of independent shops this village is well worth a visit to have a look round.



13



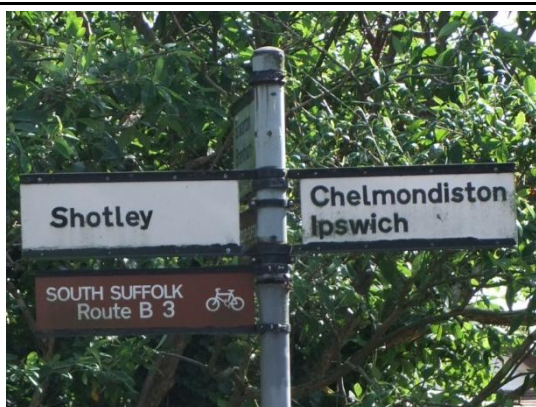
This clock tower was presented to the town in 1878 by Mr. James Scott who was a grocer and draper of the town. Built by William Cunliff of London, it unusually had illumination of the dials by gas lighting.



14



This medieval bridge was built to carry pack horses over the river Kennett on their journey between Bury St. Edmunds and Cambridge.



15



Be careful and make sure you get the right seat as there are several along the waterfront.



16



There aren't any seats at this impressive fortified Tudor mansion, but with so much to look at and plenty of information boards this place couldn't be excluded just because it lacks a seat. There are sign posts from the road through the village, but you'll only see these if you're riding west.



17



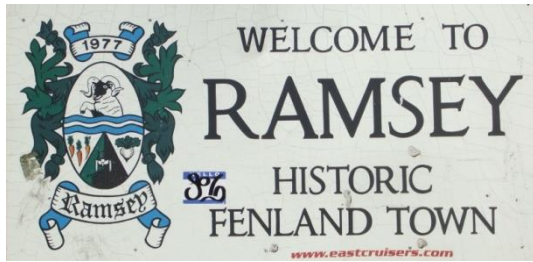
This impressive church, tucked away behind buildings overlooking the village green, is well worth visiting.



18



Unfortunately this wind pump was lacking its sails when the picture was taken, so you may not see it at one of its best moments. Still there is a tea room here to compensate.



19



This former gatehouse is all that remains of the once great Benedictine abbey.



20



Perhaps this isn't the most picturesque of places, but is an important part of the fens as this sluice on the Great River Ouse controls water levels to prevent flooding, and without it the distinctive fens would be quite different. There are several information boards around the sluice if you want to find out more.