

## Section 16

# Harpenden to Great Gaddesden

13.4km (8.3 miles) Route profile page 50

With the exception of a long hill near the Gaddesden Place Estate, riders can enjoy a predominantly level route through farm land and on the Nickey Line.

**Route information:** This section uses the Nickey Line between Harpenden and Church End and lanes between Church End and Great Gaddesden. The only significant and long hill is near Great Gaddesden.

### Amenities and Attractions

**1 Redbourn** is an attractive village just off the route, with a large common, shops and several pubs in the High Street. The village is steeped in history with its first settlers arriving after fleeing Caesar's invasion of St Albans around 50 AD. One of the Nickey Line's main stations was at Redbourn, along with a goods yard and sidings. **Cricketers** pub, East Common in the direction of Church End. Tel. 01582 620612

**2 Gaddesden Row** is a two-mile long ridgetop road with a scattering of houses and farms along it. Stone Age flints, tools and weapons have been found here. **The Old Chequers** pub and restaurant, Tel. 01442 256315

### **3 River Gade**

The River Gade is one of the chalk streams of the Chilterns. Its clear waters come from the chalk rock underground and are home to some important wildlife. Chalk streams sometimes dry up when the water table drops.



*The River Gade*

### **4 Great Gaddesden**

There is a café in the garden centre.

There are good views of **Gaddesden Place**, an 18th century country house built by James Wyatt in the English Palladian style. It is set in an elevated position overlooking the beautiful Gade valley. It is not open to the public.



HARPENDEN

Route continued on previous page



HARPENDEN

Redbourn

Great Gaddesden

Steep gradient  
Gravel on  
narrow road

Busy crossing

Route continued on following page

Water End

DISTRICT