

CHRISTMAS TRAIL GUIDE

Please note this trail is for Preschool age children. If you have older children, please visit: www.st-marys-streatley.org.uk

IT'S TIME FOR AN ADVENTURE!

Christmas is coming so let's go on a journey like the Wise Men and follow the **STARS** to find Baby Jesus!

We think you will enjoy this trail as it has everything. As well as looking for **gold stars**, you will pass decorations on houses and gardens, see horses and stables, trek through puddles and mud, and watch trains pass. Maybe even spot a donkey if you're very lucky! And all this whilst getting exercise and fresh air in our beautiful countryside with its wonderful views.

Most of the stars are simply gold but you should find **four gold stars** that have a QR code for you to activate and hear the story of Jesus' birth while you are on the trail! You will see some **RED STARS** with QR codes which are geared towards **OLDER CHILDREN**, so if you are **doing the trail with older siblings bear this in mind!**

NB If your phone is unable to access QR codes you can access the story via our website too. We suggest you listen to the whole story after the trail anyway!

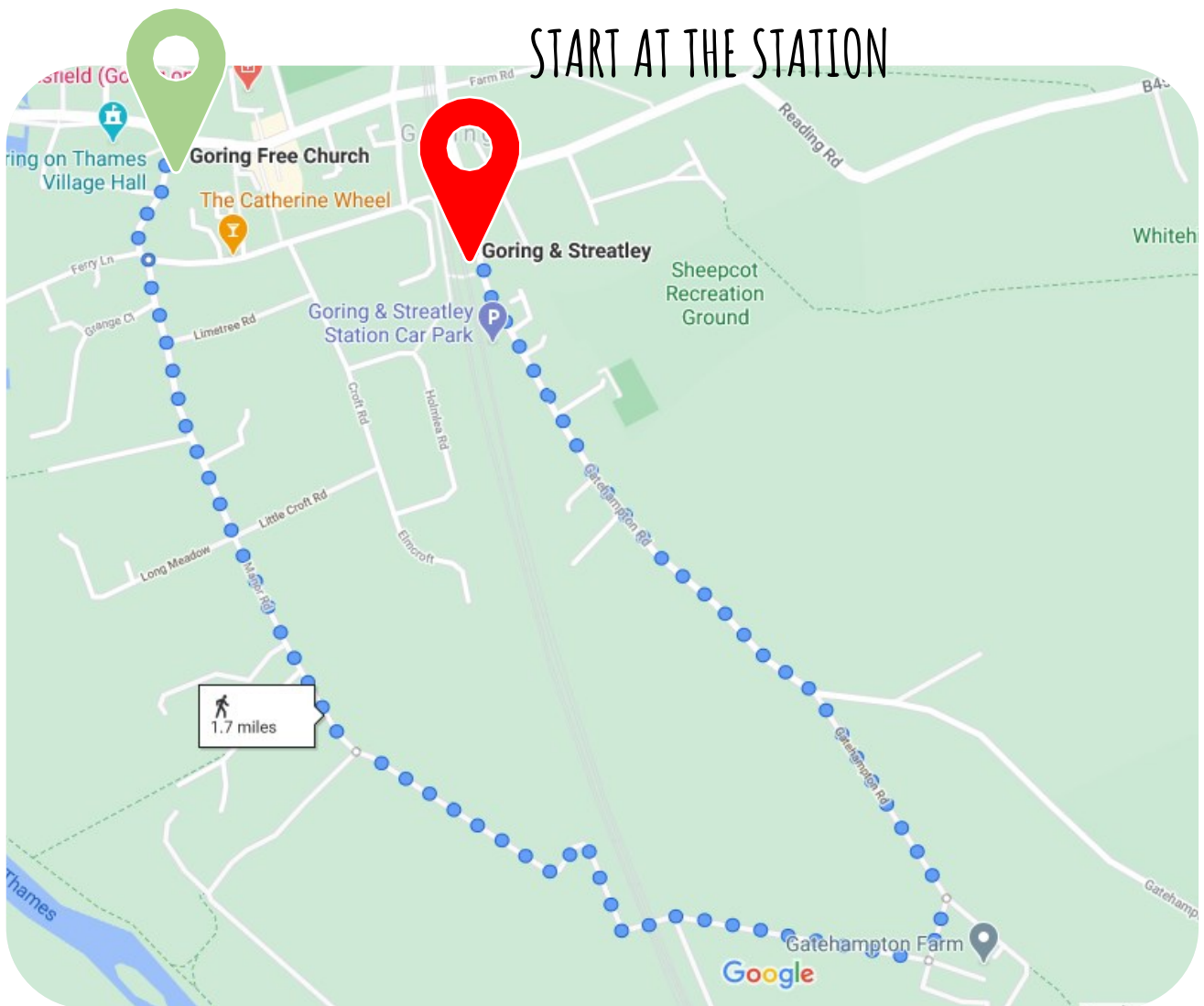
The trail is 1.7 miles (2.74km) so little ones should be happy and worn out at the end! Remember to take care as you'll be walking near or on roads during the trail.

Check the risk assessment by visiting the GFC kids page.

If you send us a photo of you on the trail, we can try to put it on our website gallery: yvettegfc@gmail.com

MAP

FINISHES AT
GORING FREE CHURCH



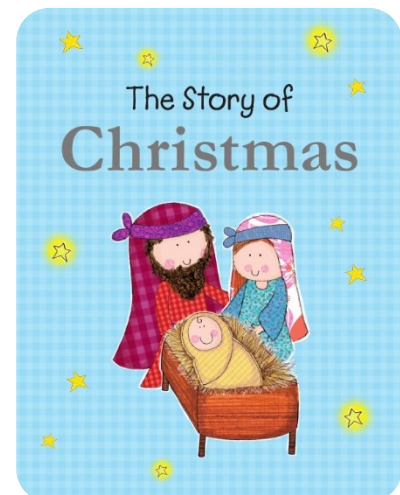
AT THE END OF THE TRAIL, BEFORE YOU GO...

Can you find a poster of baby Jesus on the outside of the church?

How many stars can you count around the poster?

*Now it's time to have a well-deserved rest and maybe another drink and snack too!
Why not snuggle up on the sofa and hear the whole story!*

If you visit our website or the GFC Kids YouTube page, you can hear author Fi Boon reading 'The Story of Christmas' and follow along with all the beautiful illustrations!



For all who have signed up, we will make sure that a small gift is delivered to your home before Christmas. Enjoy!

Thank you for taking part,

HAVE A GREAT CHRISTMAS!

TOP TIPS FOR THE TRAIL!

Transport

- No, not camels!
- Pushchair/buggy board – it's always fun to walk at first but some little legs may get weary towards the end. **Be aware that a double buggy may need to be collapsed to get through a gate nearer the end of the route.**
- Scooter/balance bike/dolls buggy – terrain suitable but the track is quite bumpy in places and you could end up carrying these!

What you need

- Most importantly – a telescope to look for those **STARS**. You can make one easily with the cardboard inner tube of a kitchen roll, decorated with drawings, stars, stickers, glitter etc.
- Warm clothes
- Boots
- Bright or high-vis clothes as there is a section of the route that has no pavement but sometimes you see an occasional vehicle!
- Drink (maybe a hot one for grown-ups) and snacks to help you along the way. No benches en route, so you could take something lightweight like a bin bag to sit on.
- Hand sanitiser/wipes.
- Route – print off or download on your phone

Detailed directions or see the map

- **START** at the front of Goring Station. Outside, not necessary to go inside or on to platform.
- Go up the slope and follow Gatehampton Road, keeping on the pavement side.
- Encourage your child to look through his/her telescope to find **THE GOLD STARS**. (the red stars are for over 5-year-olds). **N.B.** There are no stars on the non-pavement side.
- After the last house, continue along the road.
- Take first right – following footpath sign. (Also says Private Drive but that's for vehicles)
- At end follow the path round to the right, passing a house, long wall and stables.
- At 5-bar gate marked Nursery Farm, continue straight on along the rough track.
- Go straight on at next 5-bar gate.

- Under bridge – don't forget to shout and listen to your echo, echo, echo.
- Follow track round to right and then bend to left.
- Straight on, pass by the side of the last 5-bar gate. **NB. Be careful** – don't let children run ahead and through this gate as usually cars there.
- Continue along Manor Road (again **STARS** are only on the pavement side)
- At junction **TAKE CARE** crossing over, so that the John Barleycorn pub is on your right
- **NEARLY THERE NOW!**
- Keep walking but please note the trail for **OLDER CHILDREN finishes at St Thomas' Church**. Carry on walking around the corner to Goring Free Church at the corner of Manor Road to find the Nativity scene.