This CIRCULAR WALK is about 5 miles long although there are short cuts that can be used. The route passes through a variety of landscape, woods, arable land, riverside and old heathland. It is marked with yellow way-mark signs and can be walked in either direction in all weathers but it is advisable to wear stout shoes.

POINTS OF INTEREST are described anti-clockwise starting at the COMMUNITY HALL on the Common. The Hall was built in 1986 largely as a result of local initiative and provides much needed modern facilities in the Parish. WALK FARM WOOD was replanted after the 1987 gales. Going eastwards from the Newbourne Road the River Deben valley comes into view with Martlesham Hall and St Mary’s Church nesting in the trees to the north. ST MARY’S CHURCH is well worth a visit, look out for the 15th century wall painting and the fine church windows. There is a splendid panoramic view of the RIVER DEBEN. It lies within the Suffolk Coast & Heaths “Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty” (AONB). KYSON POINT is on the opposite bank of Martlesham Creek with Woodbridge beyond. MARTLESHAM CREEK is a haven for river birds especially in the winter, feeding on the exposed mud flats between tides. SLUICE WOOD is very pretty at bluebell time. “CAPPER BROOK” on the side of School Lane was, in fact, the OLD SCHOOL closed in the 1960s, cleverly converted and now a private residence. THE RED LION on the face of the Public House is said to be the figurehead from an 18th century ship. The Inn itself is Tudor with an old plaster ceiling. South-west from BEALINGS ROAD is the “Run Meadow”, look out for wild flowers and birds. BEACON HILL SCHOOL replaced the old school in 1966. The BLACK TILES PUBLIC HOUSE built in 1936 and used as a Tea House, achieved fame in the 1940’s war when it was much used by the airmen who flew from Martlesham Heath aerodrome. Finally “THE COMMON” is one of the last remaining areas of Suffolk Sandlings, heathlands that stretched along the coast as far as Lowestoft. The Common is being managed to maintain the Sandlings habitat and shares the same route as part of the SANDLINGS WALK long distance path.

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Suffolk Coast & Heaths Unit
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Suffolk County Council

BLACK TILES

A 5 mile (approx.) walk around
Martlesham, Suffolk

This leaflet has been produced by
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