

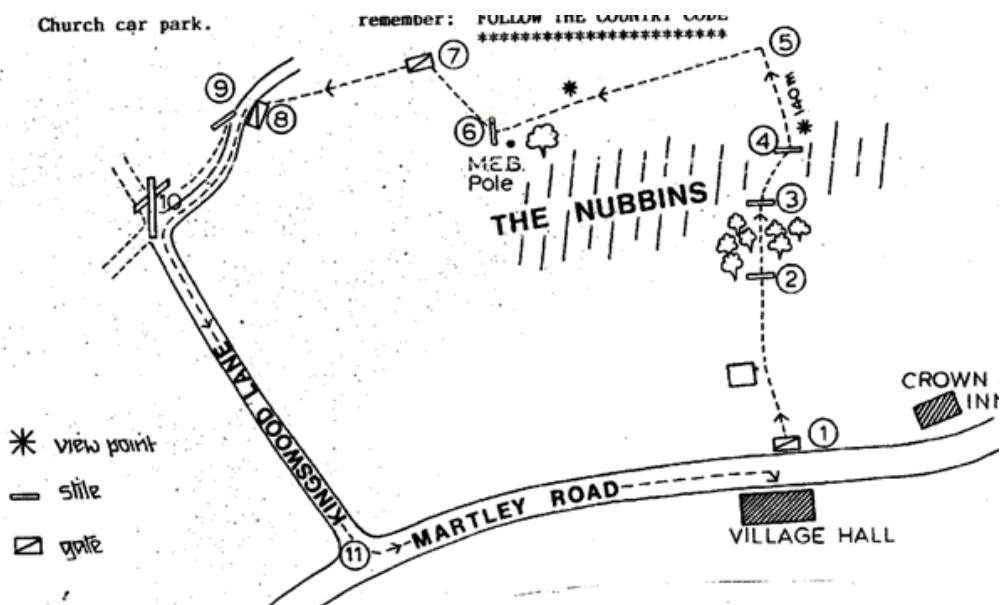
**Start** : Feel free to park at Martley Memorial Hall for your walk. Enter the housing estate opposite the village hall (1), next to the Ryecroft Way road signs, and follow the signed tarmac pathway towards and then between the houses. Between the houses and part way along, follow the line of the old hedge, keeping it first to your right and then to your left, thence to a gap (2) into a woodland strip all the time heading for higher ground. Climb up through the trees to steps, a gate (3), more steps, then right a few yards on a track and left obliquely up a steep bank (slippery when wet).

[If you have an interest in geology, at the bottom of the slope (3) you could turn left and walk along the track for 200 metres or so and head up to the sandstone exposure and information board before returning back on the same route to re-join the walk. Kindly note this is permissive route only and NOT a right of way. We are very grateful to the local landowner for this].

At the summit of the steep bank, a gate into the field will be visible (4). Go straight ahead from the gate across the open field for approximately 170 metres (5), turn left and head on rising ground up the middle of the field. When you get to the highest point you will see a distant tree, an electricity pole and gate (6) on your route but take a moment to enjoy the wonderful views all around you. To the South are the Malverns and the Berrow, to the SE, the Cotswold escarpment in the distance. To the NW, up the Teme Valley, is Titterstone Clee Hill topped by its radomes, Woodbury Hill and Clent to the NNE:--some 470 million years of the Earth's history around you. Above, almost invariably, is the beautiful song of the skylark as this is one of the best places in the locality for this increasingly uncommon bird.

Through the gate (6), turn right along the hedge line, noting the ancient warden (keeping) pear tree in the hedgerow, to the field gate (7). Through the gate, (or over the stile), turn left, being careful to secure the gate as there may be sheep in the vicinity. Follow the rough track above the remnants of an old orchard, (some of the apples are excellent eaters), along to a pedestrian gate to Kingswood Lane at signpost (8). Cross the lane and go up the bank opposite into the field (9) then left down the hedge line to a junction with a track and the lane again (10). This short section of path is part of the Worcestershire Way long distance route and the section of Kingswood Lane next to it is well known as a local mothing and bat hot spot (according to the Lancashire micro lepidopterist Steve Palmer). Again, for the geologists, Martley Rock geology site is 100 metres on your right up the track - a unique place, five geological periods on display and information boards, well worth a visit.

Follow the lower section of Kingswood Lane, past the few remaining remnants (on the right) of an old and substantial damson orchard, to its junction with Martley road - B4197 (11). Cross the road with care and go left to return to the village hall where you began. We hope you enjoyed your walk!



# Martley Walks

## No. 1: Fruit, Geology and Moths

**Grade:** Easy with one short ascent. 1.2m (1.9km)

*Remember the Countryside Code:*

### Respect other people

- ✓ Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- ✓ Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

### Protect the natural environment

- ✓ Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- ✓ Keep dogs under effective control

### Enjoy the outdoors

- ✓ Plan ahead and be prepared
- ✓ Follow advice and local signs

The Path-or-Nones meet each third Sunday of the month for 2-3 hours from 9am, and has done since around 1985. The group tackles everything and anything on Martley's 41 miles of Rights of Way— clearance, installing gates, stiles, bridges, signposts and signage. We act on behalf of Worcestershire County Council and liaise between users and landowners. Volunteers are always welcome; we find it fun and worthwhile. Please contact Jon Pearsall 01886 888793 or John Nicklin 01886 888318 [www.thepathornones.co.uk](http://www.thepathornones.co.uk)

Martley Parish and all service outlets, supports the Walkers are Welcome initiative [www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk](http://www.walkersarewelcome.org.uk)

Come to see Martley's unique geology! [www.geo-village.eu](http://www.geo-village.eu)

These walks were first written by Keith and Audrey Trumper in the early 90s

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