Walks

A good way to explore Paglesham is to walk a loop starting at Church End near the Punch Bowl. Go along the path to the sea wall, turn right and follow the sea wall with Paglesham Creek to your left all the way down to where the creek enters the River Roach. Continue on and take the path through the boatyard. Follow Waterside Road (unmade) until it bears left where a footpath goes directly to your right. This path takes you through the beautiful garden of "Well House". Follow on the small road to East Hall and turn right on to the path which tracks around the rear of the barns. Take the farm track for a short stretch and pick up the path off to your left that takes you back to Church End.

Another route would be to start at East End, go through the boatyard to the sea wall and turn right. With the River Roach on your left, follow on to the lagoon. Here, leaving the lagoon to your left, turn right and continue eastwards, passing "Stannett's", to South Hall Farm where the road leads back to East End. Remember to keep to the right - always face the flow of traffic when walking a country road with no pavement.

Walking in Paglesham

Always keep to the waymarked paths Keep dogs under close control Guard against all risk of fire Leave gates and property as you find them

Be careful where you park your car, don't block any right of ways or access to farms and land

Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone

Protect wildlife, plants and trees
Make no unnecessary noise
Beware of adders on the sea walls
Remember, a Public Right of Way
provides an access route only, and the
land either side is still private property
Be prepared, take provisions and wear
suitable clothing, a mobile phone could
be handy also in emergencies.
And finally, enjoy your walk through
our village and land



Paglesham Village Walks



A Guide to the Footpaths

Paglesham

After passing the village sign, depicting those who worked on the land and on the sea, the village splits into two halves. Veering left, Church End has just one street, boasting an ancient public house, once a sail loft, and ending at St. Peter's Church, a place of worship since the 11th century. Timber framed buildings and brick cottages complete this attractive way. Taking the right fork leads you through farmland to East End and yet another hostelry with hidden suggestions of smuggling of yesteryear, the creeks and inlets affording easy means of bringing ashore contraband - spirits, tea, lace and silks.

Following the unmade road to the waterside and along the sea walls the picturesque walking territory appeals to nature lovers and ramblers alike who can enjoy the sea lavender, samphire and many species of birds avocets, curlews, dunlin, egrets, the occasional marsh harrier and the oyster catcher; the latter a reminder of the 19th century heyday when the local oysters, a great delicacy, were enjoyed by Disraeli and other dignitories in our capital city.

The large houses of the oyster merchants can be contrasted with the two-up, two-down cottages of the farm workers and watermen. It is great to report that the oyster business once again flourishes in Paglesham.

Alongside the Hard still stands the Victorian boat building shed where the Thames barges Ethel Ada and Paglesham were built, and further along the bank of the River Roach is the last resting place of HMS Beagle (the ship on which Charles Darwin sailed around the world 1831-1836). She was moored strategically as a Coastguard vessel for 25 years to watch over the comings and goings of marine traffic.

Today, in this, the 21st century Paglesham remains unspoilt.



Roach Valley Way



The Roach Valley way also passes through Paglesham Parish. From the sea wall for the River Roach at Hampton barns it follows through on the footpaths past Stannets to South Hall where it follows the main road to East Hall. It picks up the path again to Church End, which goes through to follow the path back past the sea wall and on to the causeway at Wallasea where it finally picks up the sea wall again on on the River Crouch going westward. For further details of this long looping walk go to: http://www.essex.gov.uk/Travel-Highways/Public-Rights-Way/Pages/Publications.aspx

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