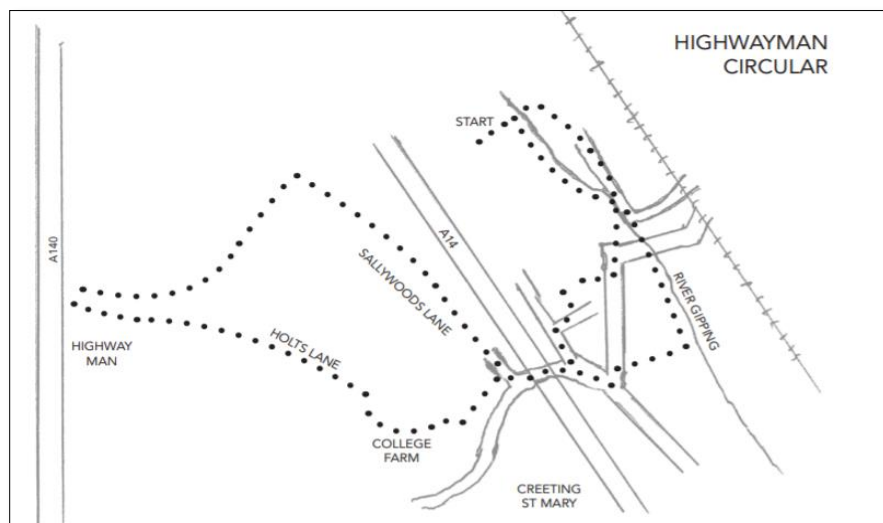


## Highwayman Circular, Needham Market - 6 Miles by Derek Magnall



Leave Needham Lake Information Centre and turn right along river path, River Gipping on your left, keeping close to the river. Ignore any paths going off to the right and the bridge and path joining from the left. Continue straight ahead River Gipping on your left. Take dirt path passing under road bridge, continue along path over footbridge passing Hawks Mill Lock. Continue straight ahead crossing over second footbridge.

On reaching a footpath post turn right to cross field. Pass through trees, over footbridge and along path with houses on both sides.

Path leads on to minor road. Cross road and turn left. At T junction cross road and turn right onto footpath. Continue along footpath bearing left into All Saints Road and climbing steadily over A14 road bridge. Turn right onto minor road, signed to Creeting Hill with two houses on your left. After 200m turn left on footpath passing through gate. Continue across field straight down over footbridge, then winding round. On reaching footpath sign turn right. Continue with hedges both sides.

Passing College Farm on your right. Continue through Farm yard with farm buildings both sides. Turn right down track, then after 30 meters turn left. Continue along track, hedges on your right. Track narrows, hedges now on both sides. When reaching wide track, continue straight ahead, hedges on your left. Track bears right.

If you wish to visit the Highwayman Public House (01449 760369) leave the track and continue straight ahead along grass footpath to main road. Turn right along footpath to the **Highwayman**.

To return to the walk leave the Highwayman and turn right. Walk to the end of the buildings and turn right along footpath, hedges on your right. At the end of the hedges meet a wide dirt track, turn left along the track and continue with the walk. At the time of writing this path was overgrown and impassable (Suffolk County Council informed), if this is the case retrace steps to return to the walk.

Turn left along wide track bearing right. Continue along track which then goes round to the left, dropping down with hedges on your left. On reaching sign post turn right into Sally Woods Lane, hedges on your left. Climbing steadily with good views at the top. Continue hedges now on both sides. On meeting minor road turn left then right. Continue down road passing two houses on your left. At T junction cross the road.

Turn left and continue over A14 road bridge. Continue down to T junction and cross road. Turn left, houses on your right. Continue along grass verge to next junction. Turn right and after 15 metres cross road. Go down footpath at the side of two metal gates on your right, hedges on your left. Path bears right, hedges on your left. On meeting minor road, turn left along footpath, passing across entrance to Alder Carr (café and shop). Bear left and continue along path with the River Gipping on your right and hedges on your left. Cross the first footbridge. Turn left and continue along minor road houses both sides. Pass through the camping land bearing right, passing the cattle tunnel and railway station on your right. Bear left along grassy track and left along path circling Needham Lake going through the nature reserve. Left again over the footbridge back to the Information Centre.