Start/Finish:
This is a circular route and can be started at any stage of the trail.

Distance: 3.5 miles
Duration: 2 hours

Alternative route
Follow the Basingstoke Canal towpath.

WOTW = War of the Worlds
The Wells in Woking Heritage Trail

1. **Woking Railway Station to Wells’ house**
Exit the station via Platform 1 (the town side). Turn right onto Broadway, walk past the bus station, and continue straight ahead. As the road starts to curve left (on to Stanley Road), continue straight ahead on to Maybury Road. The railway line will be on your right. Continue to the end of the road, which will take you passed Wells’ former home, 141 Maybury Road.

2. **Monument Bridge**
At the end of Maybury Road, turn left onto Monument Road. Walk over the Basingstoke Canal via Monument Bridge (Ottershaw via the Basingstoke Canal) using Horsell Bridge. Cross over the road, walk a short distance through the woods to Woking’s Muslim Burial Ground Peace Garden, which was restored in 2015.

3. **Peace Garden**
Wells wrote extensively about war. The burial ground was established by the War Office to ensure Muslim soldiers defending Britain in the First and Second World Wars could be buried according to their religious rights.

4. **Sands at Bleak House**
You will arrive in the car park for Sands at Bleak House. In The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, a widely praised graphic novel by Alan Moore and Kevin O’Neill, Dr Henry Jekyll and Edward Hyde stayed overnight at Bleak House Inn when investigating the Martian invasion.

5. **Sandy Track**
Take care crossing the footpath that leads you onto the Sandpits, located on your left side.

6. **Sandpits**
The large sandpit, referred to locally as ‘The Beach’, is often depicted as the Martians’ landing site because it easy to imagine that the pond occupies the crater-like dent made by the first cylinder from Mars. Further along the track, partially hidden by trees, is an older sandpit, closer to the site where Ogilvy discovered the Martian cylinder.

7. **Woodham Lane**
Woodham Lane (A245) (by a large road sign). Take care crossing the road and continue on the woodland path that leads round the back of All Saints Church.

8. **Woodham Road**
Exiting the car park take care crossing Shores Road (A245) and pick up the footpath, which cuts across to Woodham Road. In 1895 this area would have been nurseries, farmland and orchards. Cross the road and follow the footpath to Carlton Road. Turn left along Carlton Road and continue straight until you reach Chertsey Road (A320).

9. **Pinewood Close**
Turn right onto Chertsey Road and walk along the A320 until you reach Pinewood Close. At the entrance of Pinewood Close, next to the telegraph pole, pick up the footpath that leads you onto Woodham Rise.

10. **Wheatsheaf Common**
Cross the road and continue along the footpath through Wheatsheaf Common, keeping to the right, until you reach Wheatsheaf Recreational Ground. At the far end of the recreation ground, across the road, you will see The Wheatsheaf public house.

11. **The Martian**
Follow the road ahead and an imposing Martian tripod should come into view. Walk towards “the walking engine of glittering metal”, located centrally in Crown Square, less than a mile from where Wells lived.

12. **Horsell Bridge**
With The Wheatsheaf in front of you, turn left onto Chobham Road (A3046) and cross over the Basingstoke Canal using Horsell Bridge. The Lightbox Museum and Gallery on the junction of Victoria Way has a local heritage collection, café, toilets and is free to enter, (closed Mondays).

13. **Celebrating Woking’s Wellsian heritage**
Run away from the Martian tripod in the direction of O’Neills and continue straight, which will bring you to Chertsey Road, where you will find a concentration of bars and restaurants. Woking's Wellsian heritage has inspired a number of local businesses to use references to his work in building their brands.

From here you can make your way back to **Woking Railway Station**.