



**THE WHOLE TRAIL:  
ELMSTEAD WOODS  
TO CHISLEHURST STATION**

**DISTANCE :12KM**

**ALLOW: at least 2 ½ HOURS**

**START: Elmstead Woods Railway Station**

**FINISH: Chislehurst Railway Station**



**WELCOME TO THE CHISLEHURST BEAR TRAIL.**

*We hope you have lots of fun  
finding our bears!*

The Chislehurst bear trail starts wherever you want along the trail and can be as long or as short as you have the energy for. The whole trail starts at Elmstead Woods station and finishes at Chislehurst station after wending its way through Walden and Chislehurst Rec, past the library, up the High Street, around Belmont Open Space and Scadbury and then either via St Paul's Cray Common and Pond Wood in Hawkwood or via the A222 to Chislehurst Station.

There are short circuits in Chislehurst and Walden Recs, in Belmont Open Space and in Scadbury and you can also create your own trails linking the different areas.

The bears have been multiplying and you will find additional bears within the original trail!

**THE BEAR NECESSITIES**

Not all the route is fully accessible.

Some of the paths pass over grass or through woodland. Make sure to wear appropriate shoes and take care as there may be tree roots and overhanging vegetation in places.

Some of the paths can get quite muddy and slippery after rain.

Dogs are welcome on the trail but should be on a lead in Scadbury, St Paul's Cray Common and on pavements near roads.



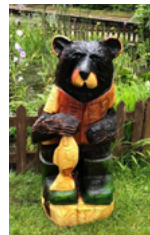
**1. Monty the Gardening Bear**

At Elmstead Woods Station, cross the bridge onto Platform 3 and walk down the platform towards the tunnel.

This bear is one of the fantastic Elmstead Woods gardening club members who painstakingly look after the amazing gardens and planters at the station.

[Elmsteadwoodsgardenclub.wordpress.com](http://Elmsteadwoodsgardenclub.wordpress.com)

**2. Billy the Fishing Bear**



Note how he has taken a fish out of the pond! Billy is distantly related to Kenneth Billborough who founded the gardens in 1909.

Continue along the platform to the secret garden, maintained by the gardening club.

**3. Emma the Bench Bear**

Note the memorial plaque which was moved from a former memorial bench on this site.

The next bears in the trail are at the Walden and the Chislehurst Recreation Grounds.

Returning over the footbridge, leave Elmstead Woods Station. At the end of the station road turn left up Elmstead Lane. Continue over the roundabout using the dedicated pedestrian pathway past the sports ground and entrance to Elmstead Wood.

Cross over Elmstead Lane towards the Elmstead Care Home Bupa. Turn right immediately after the Care Home up Elmstead Heights Close towards a footpath, known locally as The Cow Path.

Continue the full length of the footpath to Walden Recreation Grounds.

**4. The Welcome to Walden Rec Bear**



a very active Friends Group, The Friends of Chislehurst Recreation Grounds.

Continue on the path uphill. Keep an eye up in the trees to your left for hidden bears.



**5. Bear in a Tree**

**6. Bear in a Tree**

At the noticeboard, follow the path round to the right into Whytes' Woods. The path surface is not tarmacked and can be uneven.

**7. The Boating Bears**

These are the very first bears!

They were created in July 2013 from an oak tree that had been felled because of the danger it posed having been struck by lightning. They were commissioned by Friends of Chislehurst Recreation Grounds and partly sponsored by JDM Estate Agents.

Continue down the path keeping to the left path until you emerge into Chislehurst Recreation Ground.

Head either round the path or across the grass to the playground on your right. In the corner you will find a few more carvings created by Will Lee for Friends of Chislehurst Recreation Grounds.

**8. The Playground Bears**

Look very carefully as you will find not just one bear but two, as well as an owl, a throne, a secret door and a castle.

Head now towards the tennis club and follow the path out of the Rec behind the tennis courts along the Red Hill School boundary heading towards Chislehurst High Street.

At the end of the path turn left. You are now at Chislehurst Library.

**9. Darwin the Library Bear**



After stopping for a selfie with Darwin bear, why not head into the library (closed Wednesdays and Sundays) and borrow or read a bear themed book?

Coming out of the library, turn right and head down Chislehurst High Street. There are community toilets in Sainsbury's and Caffè Nero.

Cross over the traffic lights at Willow Grove passing the businesses on your right until you come to jdm Estate Agents.

**10. jdm Estate Agents Bear**

Find him inside the window with a sold board.

At the pelican crossing cross the High Street towards The Queens Head Pub. Turn left, then right down Queens Passage. In front of you is The Old Chapel, home of The Chislehurst Society.

**11. Lord of the Manor Bear**

Sydney stands at the door of The Old Chapel, the community hall of The Chislehurst Society.

He's our Lord of the Manor bear representing the Society's freehold ownership of Chislehurst Commons which includes that ancient manorial title! You can get up close most mornings when the hall or office are in use.

Continue down Queens Passage round the side of The Old Chapel building and have a peep in the small window of the building on your right – you might spot Sydney's little brother!

**12. Stony Wood Bear**

You will note that the bear in the window is holding a tree with a stone. The name "Chislehurst" is derived from the Saxon words cisel, "gravel", and hyrst, "wooded hill".

Walk to the end of Queens Passage and turn left into Queens Road, right into Park Road, use the zebra crossing outside The Gordon Arms to the Belmont Parade shops. Crossing over Woodside Avenue, turn right into Belmont Lane (the Co-Op is opposite). Continue along Belmont Lane till you reach a footpath opposite Edgebury.

**You can now either...**

Walk along the footpath that runs adjacent to Belmont Open Space, past the allotments until you come to a large opening to your left, walk through and bear left to a large oak with a paw print post close by.

...or Walk along the grass edge keeping the hedgerow to your right, past two large oaks till you reach the third.

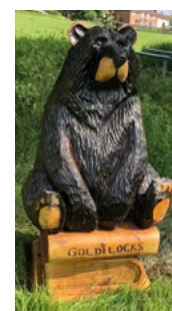
You are now in Belmont Open Space with an active Friends Group.

**13. Oak Tree Bear**

Look up into the boughs of this ancient oak and spot the bear.

Head towards the paw print post and walk across the field towards the stream on the opposite side.

**14. Books Bear**



Reading and stories is a strong theme in Belmont Open Space. Sitting on a pile of books, this bear is sometimes known as Goldilocks!

You will find lots of story characters up in the trees. Head over the bridge and up towards the playground.

**15. Football Bear**

Just inside the playground you will find the Football bear! Will you call the bear Harry or Leah? Head down now towards the woods – see the paw post marker to guide you. Cross the bridge and follow the path through the woods until you come to a glade.



**16. Carved Bear**

You'll find a felled trunk with 2 or 3 bears here in the glade.

**17. Bear Bench**

Sit awhile and enjoy the peace and quiet of this beautiful space. Follow the path along looking out for a tree on your right with the witch from Room on a Broom.

**18. Tree Bear**

You'll have to look up high to spot this bear!

Head along the path to the paw print post.

**You may wish to leave the trail at this point as there are no bears for quite some distance until you get into Scadbury Park.** If this is the case, follow the path round

to the right and you will merge out onto the open space near to the large oaks.

**Continuing the trail, take the left-hand fork at the paw print post. This will join up with the main footpath. At the T junction, turn left.**

Warning – this path is very uneven and has barriers so is unsuitable for buggies, wheelchairs etc.

Head down the path until you get to Kemnal Road. Cross over the road and head up the public footpath opposite. Take the first turning to the right. Follow this path. There are several gates on this route.

When you get to Home Farm use the footpath that skirts the field. Keep to this path bearing right.

You will pass playing fields for Chislehurst School for Girls to your right and emerge at the end of Beaverwood Road at the entrance to Chislehurst Cemetery.

Continue to the end of Beaverwood Rd and cross over Perry Street (A222) at the crossing.

Head towards the entrance to Scadbury Park, clearly signposted. Follow the road until you see a house ahead and paths to your left and right, take the right and follow until you emerge into the picnic area.

NOTE: If entering Scadbury at the Old Perry Street car park instead, take the left path at the Welcome bear towards bears 19, 20, and 21. You may wish to complete the Scadbury loop to see bear carving number 23.

Information about Scadbury Park can be found on interpretation boards throughout the park, via QR codes on posts and on the Friend's Group website.

The nearest pub and toilet facilities is *The Sydney Arms*.

**19. Picnicing Bears**

Enjoy a picnic in this tranquil location before heading further on the trail. Please use the many rubbish bins provided or take your rubbish home.

Continue along the path and very shortly you will come across a monolith tree to your right.

**20. Bear Scratching his Back**

This bear is alongside the next bear, who's pushing against the tree trunk.



**21. Bear Pushing against the Tree Trunk**

Continue along the path towards the Old Perry Street Car Park.

**22. Welcome to Scadbury Park Bear**

Found at the entrance to Scadbury Park, past the vehicle barrier at the Old Perry Street Car Park.

Continue to follow the path –

note this is steep and uneven in places, and is not wheelchair accessible. Cross the small access road and follow the main path round to the left signposted 'Moated Manor'. Walk over a walkway and down some steps, or the adjacent slope, until you reach the Bear Throne.



**23. Throne Bear**

Take a minute to rest on this Bear Throne.

You can now either complete the

Scadbury Loop, back to where you entered the park or if you wish to continue the trail, take the scenic countryside route to Chislehurst Station or follow the main road towards the station.

**Countryside Route**

Retrace your steps to the signpost towards Perry Street car park and after the paw print post take the narrow path on the left opposite the Scadbury Park Post 5. At the end of this path turn right, then left onto the tarmac road until you reach St Paul's Cray Road (A208). Cross the road and enter St Pauls Cray Common.

St. Paul's Cray Common is a Metropolitan Site of Interest for Nature Conservation. The lowland heathland is a particularly rare nationally important habitat, home to lizards, slow-worms, small mammals, birds, and many species of butterfly and invertebrates. Please help us to conserve it by staying on the footpaths and keeping dogs on a lead in this area.

Take the immediate left path. Head for the National Trust Petts Wood sign and then come off the London Loop by taking the right hand turn along the field. You are now on the Petts Wood Circular Walk.

At the end of this path, take a right then immediate left into Hawkwood. Note this path is stepped and uneven. Where the hedgerow ends, go through the gap onto the right-hand path and continue following this bridleway past Coopers School.



At the end at the Pells Wood and Hawkwood board turn left into Botany Bay Lane then take first right signposted Public Footpath along the edge of the field.

At the end of the path take the immediate left. This will come out at Pond Wood. Stop a while on the tree seat carved by Will Lee and enjoy the view of the pond and the countryside. You'll find **26. Birdwatching Bear** here too.



Continue down and round the pond and along the path following the National Trust footprint signs. This will merge with a main path – turn left and head down the hill, over the bridge over the river and straight on.

Turn right into Gosshill Road. Continue until you reach the A222. Use the bridge to cross the road and head straight across to Chislehurst Station.

#### Road Route

Exit Scadbury and head up Perry St to the crossroads of A222/A208.

Follow the A222 towards Bickley. Chislehurst Station is on your right, on Summer Hill.

#### 24. The Commuter Bear



#### 25. Ticket Collector Bear

These bears are located within the Ticket Hall – note the ticket hall may be closed at certain times.

#### NEW ARRIVALS

Our bears keep coming, these new extras are not on the original trail, but you can enjoy searching for them within the boundary of Chislehurst!



#### 27. Joyful Bear

You'll find this prayerful bear at Christchurch in Lubbock Road. He's in a ring of tree trunks under the tree canopy to the right of the entrance to the church car park.

#### 28. Louis the Camden Place Bear



Meet Louis, the Imperial golfing bear. Check out this bear just inside the entrance gates. Emperor Napoleon III of France lived in exile at Camden Place and died here in 1873. Chislehurst Golf Club opened in 1894 and the club has put this bear up in honour of its heritage.

#### 29. Wesley the Methodist Bear



Named after the famous preacher, John Wesley, this bear welcomes you to Chislehurst Methodist Church on Prince Imperial Road.



#### 30. King Bear

Beneath the trees, on the path overlooking Prickend Pond, you will find King Charles III bear, installed

in Coronation year. He is ready with his binoculars to spot all the wildlife on the Commons, cared for so diligently by the Trustees of Chislehurst Commons. Has he got slightly larger ears than the other bears in town?

#### 31. Kemnal Glade Bear

There is another bear on the Common, you'll find him quietly resting on a bench in Kemnal Glade, beyond Rush Pond or to the right of Kemnal Road as you head towards Royal Parade.

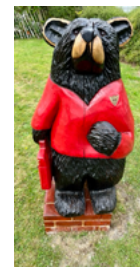
#### 32 & 33. Mother and Baby Bear

Adjacent to the path in Whytes Wood you'll find these two bears. Whytes Wood was named after Agnes Whyte who donated 7 acres of land to the people of Chislehurst in 1937.

#### 34. Baloo the Scout Bear



Chislehurst Recreation Ground plays host to Baloo, the Scout Bear in the shade garden close to the scout hut. Dressed in full scout uniform, complete with badges he is loved by cubs and scouts alike.



#### 35. Pascall the Red Hill Primary School Bear

Look out for a new furry pupil at Red Hill Primary School, just up the road from the library.

Pascall is his name, can you see the bricks he's standing on? The school was built on the site of Pascall's Brickworks.

#### DID YOU KNOW...

You can download our Chislehurst Bear Trail Map to print at home and follow along? Download the map as a Colour PDF here.

Each bear has an individual QR code which you can scan on your mobile device to follow the Bear Trail around the village. Find out how to use these QR codes here.

Share your photos of our Chislehurst Bears!

Twitter: @ChislehurstSoc  
Facebook: @ChislehurstSociety  
Instagram: @ChislehurstSociety

#### Funding

The Chislehurst Society funded the bear trail in full except for those bears in Chislehurst Recreation Ground which were funded by Friends of Chislehurst Rec, Jdm Estate Agents, and Chislehurst Rotary Club. Chislehurst Golf Club paid for its own bear. The Methodist Church and Red Hill Primary School received grants from the Chislehurst Society to part fund their bears.



#### Some information about the bears

The bears were all carved by Will Lee in his workshop near Ivinghoe in Bedfordshire. The wood comes from sustainable sources.

# BEAR TRAIL



#### TRAILS



Elmstead Woods Station to Belmont Open Space, 4 km



Belmont Open Space to Scadbury, 2 km



Scadbury to Chislehurst Station, 4 km



Chislehurst Station to Elmstead Woods Station, 2 km



We hope you have a BeaR7illiant time!



[www.chislehurst-society.org.uk](http://www.chislehurst-society.org.uk)