

Scadbury Park to Chislehurst Station

A walk, mostly through woodland, in Scadbury Park, Chislehurst Common, Petts Wood, and Hawkwood

Please read the Bromley Pub Walks [introductory notes](#) for explanation about information provided in these walking guides



The William Willett Memorial

Approx. Distance: 3.5 miles

Approx. Time: 1.5 to 1.75 hours

Gradients:

- No significant steep gradients, but includes some steps

Type(s) of path(s):

- Mostly gravel or woodland paths, some tarmac. Some sections may be muddy after prolonged periods of wet weather

Stiles / Gates:

- This route has some kissing gates

Road Walking: (ie. roads without footway)

- None

Livestock or crops:

- No livestock or crops

OS Grid References:

- Chislehurst, Scadbury Park: TQ 453704
- Chislehurst Station: TQ 431694

Maps:

- OS 1:25 000, No. 162
- Most of the route follows the London Outer Orbital Path 'LOOP'. The original TFL maps are now out of date and the TFL website directs you to the new online map/guides published by Inner London Ramblers: https://innerlondonramblers.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=265&catid=36
- We recommend that you view or download the National Trust map of Petts Wood, which covers most of the route: <https://nt.global.ssl.fastly.net/binaries/content/assets/website/national/regions/kent/places/petts-wood-and-hawkwood/pdf/petts-wood-and-hawkwood-map.pdf>
- The Bromley Council walking guide to Scadbury Park can be downloaded from the Council website, see: <https://www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/1106/scadbury-acorn-trail>
- Parts of the route are covered by the [Bromley Council guides](#) 'Scadbury Park' and 'Petts Wood'

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Connections to other Bromley Pub Walks:

- From Scadbury Park:
 - There are no Bromley Pub Walks, however:
 - The LOOP continues from Scadbury Park to Bexley and Erith
- From Chislehurst Station:
 - None
- This route shares some of the same paths as the following routes:
 - 22, Petts Wood Station to Chislehurst
 - 23, Petts Wood Station to Scadbury Park
 - Also [Route 85](#), 'A British Summer Time Walk'

Pubs:

- Scadbury Park:
 - [Sydney Arms](#), Old Perry Street, Chislehurst. BR7 6PL
- Chislehurst Station (*and nearby*):
 - [Bickley Arms](#), Chislehurst Road, Chislehurst. BR7 5NP
 - [Imperial Arms](#), Old Hill, Chislehurst. BR7 5LZ
 - [Ramblers Rest](#), Mill Place, Chislehurst. BR7 5ND

Public Transport:

- Scadbury Park:
 - 269, Bromley North to Bexleyheath via Sidcup
 - 160, Catford Bridge to Sidcup via Eltham
- Chislehurst Station (Zone 5):
 - Southeastern, Charing Cross/Cannon St/London Bridge to Orpington and Sevenoaks via Grove Park
 - 162, Beckenham Junc. to Eltham Stn. via Bromley
 - 269, Bromley North to Bexleyheath via Sidcup
 - SL3 express, Bromley North to Thamesmead

Notes:

This route also includes an optional detour to give you the chance to visit three Chislehurst pubs which are not directly on any of the walking routes.

The route is almost entirely within Hawkwood (National Trust), Chislehurst Common and Scadbury Park Nature Reserve

The route within Petts Wood passes the memorial to William Willett, the campaigner for daylight saving time. The inscription on the memorial is "*horas non numero nisi aestivas*". A possible translation of this is "*I don't count hours unless (they are) summer (hours)*". Any scholars of Latin who are reading this are very welcome to submit improvements on this translation.

- For more information about William Willett see [Bromley Pub Walk No 85](#) 'A British Summer Time Walk'

Most of Petts Wood was saved from development in the 1930s by public subscription, and was donated to the National Trust, dedicated to the memory of William Willett. The remainder of the wood was bought by Colonel Francis Edlmann, owner of Hawkwood. This land, plus the Hawkwood Estate were subsequently donated to the National Trust in 1957. There is still a working farm on the Hawkwood Estate.

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- For more about Petts Wood and Hawkwood see: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/petts-wood-and-hawkwood>
- Scadbury Park is now managed as a nature reserve by Bromley Council. The park covers more than 300 acres, much of it is grassland and woods. At one time Scadbury was owned by Thomas Townshend, the 1st Viscount Sydney, after whom the Australian city of Sydney was named. The nearby Sydney Arms was named after John Robert Townsend, 3rd Viscount Sydney - grandson of the 1st Viscount
- This walking route passes the remains of the medieval moated manor house. For more about the history of Scadbury Park see: <https://www.scadbury-park.org.uk/about/brief-history-of-scadbury>

The Route:

There are numerous paths within Scadbury Park, the Common and Hawkwood Estate; we have opted for a route which passes the Moated Manor House in Scadbury Park, follows the LOOP as far as the Willett Memorial and then takes the most direct route through Hawkwood to Chislehurst Station. Other options are available.

(Starting at **Scadbury Park**)

- The route starts/ends at the Sydney Arms in Old Perry St, which is almost opposite to the Scadbury Park (Old Perry St) Car Park
- Leave the pub, turn right and walk about 50 yards to the car park entrance to the park
- Walk through to the far end of the car park, go through a kissing gate, and then turn left onto a track through the woods until reaching a large steel kissing gate leading onto a tarmac drive. Go straight across the drive and through a second steel kissing gate and then turn right
- Follow this path straight ahead into the park, then almost immediately take a right fork and carry on down into grassland. The path then climbs via a number of steps until reaching the junction with the LOOP. At this junction go straight ahead following the LOOP signage
- The LOOP route now follows a zig-zag course, passing the remains of the medieval moated manor house
- The path continues through woods until it eventually meets the (busy) A208, St Pauls Cray Rd. Cross this road with care where the track resumes on Chislehurst Common
- *Note: There are numerous tracks and paths within Petts Wood and Chislehurst Common, with only limited signage, which can make it difficult to follow the correct route. We therefore recommend that you use the National Trust map (see page 1)*
- To go direct to Chislehurst station, follow the track straight ahead until reaching a notice board, which marks the boundary between Chislehurst Common and Petts Wood (National Trust). Turn right after the noticeboard and follow the track
- As an alternative, to take a short detour to see the William Willet memorial sundial, continue to follow the LOOP signs until reaching the memorial
- *Go straight ahead at the memorial to go to Petts Wood Station via Route 23,*
- To continue on Route 30 to Chislehurst Station, you will need to retrace your steps for a few yards to a crossroads of tracks. Here you should turn left and continue to follow the track until reaching the noticeboard at the boundary between Chislehurst Common and Petts Wood. Continue past the noticeboard and follow the track on through woodland
- The track descends until reaching a pond where the track divides, with a path going to the left of the pond and the bridleway to the right. The path winds around the pond, until it re-joins the bridleway

Update March 2025:

The route of the LOOP within Petts Wood was revised in late 2024 and now passes the Willett sundial. The new route is shown on the Ramblers' maps (see page 1)

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- The path and bridleway then run adjacent, until reaching a gravel bridleway called Botany Bay Lane. (*Turn right here for Route 22 to Chislehurst*)
- Turn left onto the lane, then after about 100 yards take the path on the right, which runs adjacent to an open field, with views looking southwards. (*For Route 22 to Petts Wood Station keep on along Botany Bay Lane*)
- Follow this path downhill (note the spire of St George's church at Bickley in the distance) until reaching Gosshill Rd, shortly after crossing the Kyd Brook (or Quaggy River). Alternatively, you can take a short optional detour to the left through Pond Wood (see the OS or National Trust maps).
- When you reach Gosshill Rd. turn right, and continue to follow this road until you reach the A222, close to the station approach
- Cross the A222 via the footbridge, which takes you directly onto the station approach
- There are 3 pubs in the vicinity of Chislehurst Station. See below for directions

(Starting at Chislehurst Station)

- See below about the 3 pubs in the vicinity of Chislehurst Station
- To go directly to the walk, turn right when leaving the station and go down the station approach. Cross the A222 via the footbridge and take Gosshill Road, which runs adjacent and parallel to the railway
- Turn left just before a steel barrier blocks the road and take the path signed to 'Chislehurst Common'

Visiting the three pubs near Chislehurst Station

The Bickley Arms is at the far end of the station approach, the Ramblers Rest and the Imperial Arms are up the hill towards Chislehurst. If you wish you can visit all three via a circular route; a clockwise route is described here:

- Turn left upon leaving the station and go down the station approach. The [Bickley Arms](#) is on the corner of the approach and Old Hill. Continue up Old Hill until reaching the [Imperial Arms](#) on the right
- Turn right into the narrow Mill Place and walk up until after the final house on the left hand side, you will see the [Ramblers Rest](#) up a tarmac path on your left
- From the Ramblers Rest, walk up to the main road (Summer Hill), turn right and walk down the hill until reaching the station approach

The **Bromley Pub Walk guides** have been prepared and published by Bromley CAMRA to encourage members and others to enjoy walking in the rural areas of Bromley and to visit the many pubs and clubs on the routes.

If you have any comments about the Bromley Pub Walk guides please send an email to:
walking@bromley.camra.org.uk

Survey and updates
- Surveyed 2019
- Update v2.0 March 2025

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Sketch Map of Route 30

