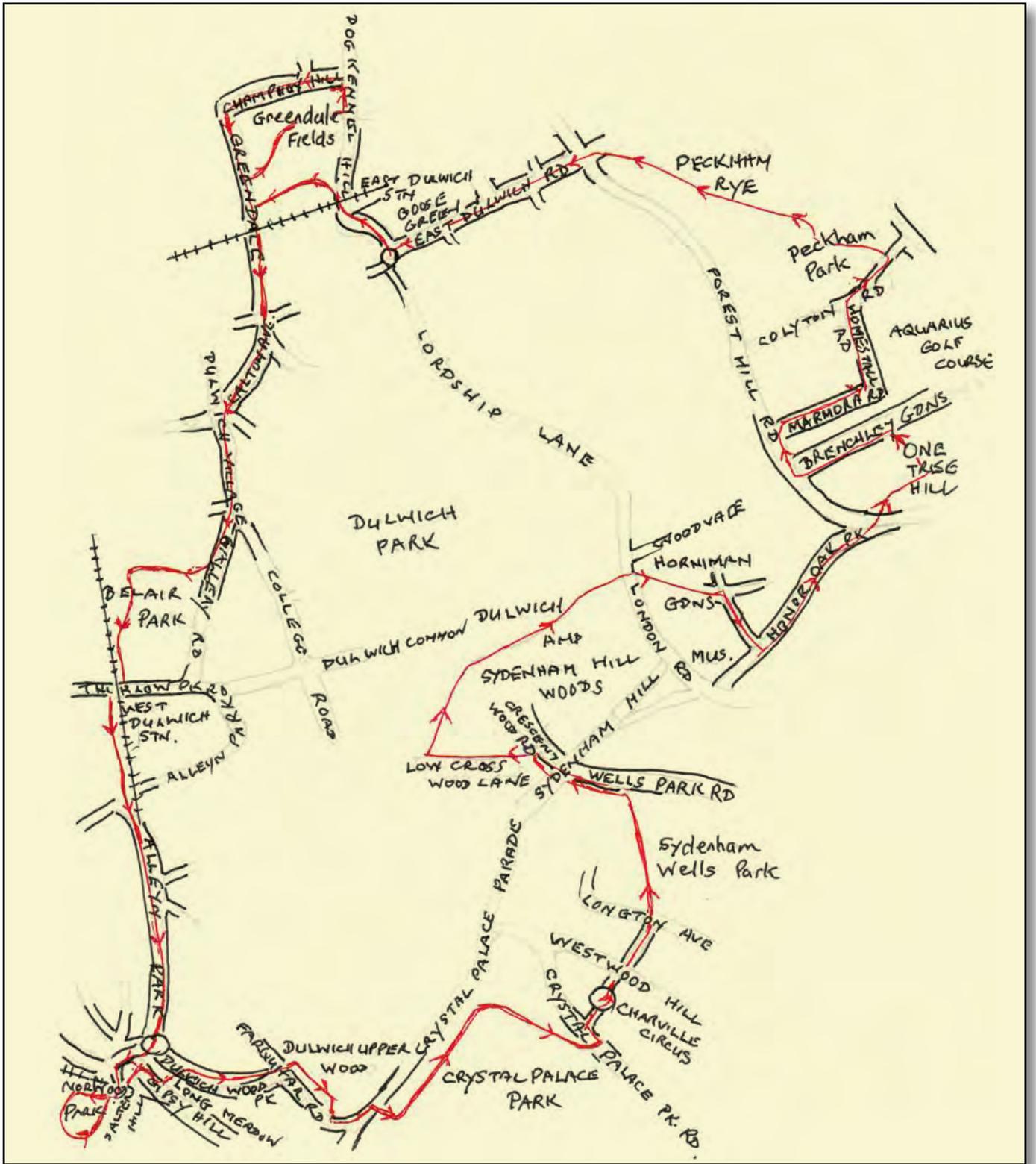


The Dulwich Marathon And Half-Marathon

26.2 Miles (42km) and 13.1 miles (21km)

2000 feet (608m) and 1000 feet (304) of ascent

The Dulwich half and full marathon is a personal challenge. It can be walked or run. The route is circular, so although the suggested start is Goose Green, it may be joined at any point. It connects many open spaces around Dulwich, as well as providing spectacular views. For the competitive, the distance for the half marathon is 13.1 miles (21km) with 1000' of ascent (304.5m) to be completed within 4½ hours. Twice around is a full marathon – 26.2 miles and 2000' of ascent, to be completed within 9½ hours.



DULWICH MARATHON ROUTE

1. From Goose Green roundabout at Lordship Lane SE22, walk northwards along Grove Vale, passing under the railway bridge and after a further 50 metres turn left into St Francis Park. Follow the path past the children's playground into St Francis Road. Turn left and at the small roundabout turn right along the road beside Dulwich Hamlet FC stadium to the start of a path ahead.

2. Continue on this path and when it meets a crossing path (Greendale) turn right. and in 150 metres turn right into Greendale Fields. Keeping left, follow the metalled path slightly uphill to the exit through an arch. Keeping right, continue ahead on a path through trees to a grassy clearing. Walk diagonally left to a track leading to Dog Kennel Hill.

3. Turn left up Dog Kennel Hill and at the top of the hill turn left into Champion Hill. Continue to the end of this road to a footpath/cycle path in the far corner. Follow this downhill, passing Greendale Fields and across a railway bridge.

4. Cross East Dulwich Grove to Townley Road opposite and in a few yards bear right up Calton Avenue, passing St Barnabas Church on your left. Descend to Dulwich Village, where turn left along the Village. At the roundabout take the second exit to Gallery Road, passing the original Allyn's College buildings, Chapel and Dulwich Picture Gallery buildings on your left. In 200 metres turn right into the grounds of Belair. Keeping to the right-hand path, cross the bridge and keep to the path around the right hand side to walk around the edge of the field. Follow this path to the exit opposite West Dulwich Station.

5. Cross the road, and turning right pass under the railway bridge and follow the path on the left alongside the station. Follow this path to a railway bridge. Continue ahead up Allyn Park to the roundabout at Paxton Green. Cross Croxted Road and passing the Paxton pub, continue along Gipsy Road. When this bears sharply right, cross to Salters Hill and just under the railway bridge go through a gate on your right into Norwood Park. Follow the metalled path uphill to a crossing path where turn right. Follow this path around the edge of the park past a skateboard area, and continue downhill. At a fork bear right and follow the path towards an exit. Do **not** exit but keeping left, follow the park boundary up the hill around to the playground and café. Turn left on a metalled path and on reaching the skateboard park, again, turn right and continue down towards the entrance you came in at.

6. Cross Salters Hill and retrace your steps along Gipsy

Road to Gipsy Hill. Turn right up Gipsy Hill and in 200 metres enter Long Meadow on your left through a gate. Walk directly across Long Meadow to a gate into Dulwich Wood Avenue. Turn right in Dulwich Wood Avenue and continue to the junction with Farquhar Road. Cross Farquhar Road to a gate into Dulwich Upper Wood opposite and keeping right past the hut, follow the path through the wood to the exit further up Farquhar Road. Continue up Farquhar Road to the Crystal Palace Parade.

7. At the Crystal Palace parade turn left and, in a few steps, cross the road to enter Crystal Palace Park opposite. Climb the steps and then down to a wide terrace, turn left and follow this past the remains of the old Crystal Palace. When the terrace ends, follow a path downhill to the lower terrace and keeping left, follow the terrace to a junction of paths. Take the middle broad metalled drive as it curls down the left side of the park, passing the concert bowl and lake on your right. At the notice board, turn left to exit the park into Crystal Palace Park Road

8. Turn left and in 70 metres cross to Charleville Circus. Keep right around the Circus, crossing Westwood Park to Ormanton Road opposite. Follow this road into Sydenham Wells Park and keeping to the left of the lake cross the park to reach Wells Park Road. Turn left and continue to Sydenham Hill. Cross to Crescent Wood Road opposite and immediately turn left through a gate down Low Cross Wood Lane. After a couple of hundred metres turn right through a gate into Dulwich Woods.

9. Continue on the path until a large clearing with a bench is reached. Here turn right and forking left, follow the path past the Dewy Pond with the golf course fence on your left. After the pond turn right to cross the old railway track bed, turning left at the top of the slope. Follow this path to a gate. Turn right up steps at the top of which turn left along a fenced path. Continue downhill through a and a housing estate to reach London Road. Cross into Horniman Gardens opposite and bearing slightly right, walk uphill to pass the formal gardens and bandstand to the park exit in Horniman Drive.

10. In about 100 metres turn right down Westwood Park to Honor Oak Park. Turn left and follow the road to the junction with Forest Hill Road. Turn right and follow Honor Oak Park past the Sacred Heart Convent to a path bearing left up steps onto One Tree Hill. At the summit, continue ahead, passing the Oak of Honor to descend a metalled path down steps. At the information board turn left and continue along the Hoggan Path to a gate on your right. Cross to the

gate into Brenchley Gardens opposite. Turn left on the path and when it reaches Forest Hill Road turn right. Turn right into Marmora Road and follow it to the end where turn left into Homestall Road. When this unmade road ends at a path, continue on this path to Colyton Road.

I I. Turn right and in 200 metres enter Peckham Rye Park on your left. Turn left and immediately right to a path around the lake. Keep left around the lake and after passing a marble fountain continue to the park exit onto Peckham Rye. Follow the path past the car park. Continue ahead to cross the Rye walking diagonally left to reach the far-left corner of the Rye. Turn left to follow East Dulwich Road to reach the start point at Goose Green roundabout.

POINTS OF INTEREST



A. Greendale Fields and the land now occupied by Sainsbury's and Dulwich Hamlet FC was extensively used by the Gaumont film company in the period 1904-10 for the shooting of scenes using an outdoor studio to obtain maximum light. Most of the films were 'chase' movies and 80,000 feet of film was shot weekly. A number of the paper copy films survive.



B. The railway bridge at Greendale portrays the arms of Alleyn's College of God's Gift, the date of the line (1866) and those of the London Brighton & South-Coast Railway Company.



C. The Old Burial Ground, Dulwich Village contains the remains of several thousand people, including those of thirty-five victims of the Great Plague of London as well as Old Bridget, Queen of the Norwood Gipsies who was buried there in 1768.



D. Dulwich Picture Gallery, designed by Sir John Soane, was completed in 1814 and houses an outstanding collection of Old Master pictures. It was severely damaged in WW2 but the pictures had been sent to Wales for safe keeping. Visible from Gallery Road is the mausoleum which houses the remains of its three benefactors. Mr and Mrs Noel Desenfans and Sir Peter Bourgeois



E. Belair dates from 1785 and has been a public park since 1963.



F. Norwood Park during the 17th-19th centuries was the home of the Norwood gipsies who were traditionally governed by their queen. In the seventeenth century the queen was Margaret Finch and she was consulted by Samuel Pepys' wife who had her fortune told. They were painted by David Cox when he lived in Dulwich.



G. Dulwich Upper Wood is an urban park, created in 1981 on the site of a number of derelict houses which backed on to the Crystal Palace High Level railway station.



H. The Crystal Palace was opened in 1854, three years after The Great Exhibition in Hyde Park closed. The glass

structure was purchased by a consortium and much enlarged. It was built on the site of Penge Place. The height of the central transept was 200 feet and standing on the summit of a 365 feet hill, it dominated the South London skyline. It was noted for its music concerts, exhibitions and firework displays. In November 1936 it was destroyed by a fire. Today it is a public park operated by the London Borough of Bromley. It contains the original life-size prehistoric animals from 1854 and the National Recreation Centre, built in the grounds in 1963.



I. Sydenham Wells Park opened in 1901 and slopes downhill to the source of the famous Sydenham Wells, a medicinal spring popular from the late 17th century.



J. Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Woods are a remnant of the Great North Wood which stretched from Deptford to the vicinity of Croydon. Mainly of oak with some hornbeam, they were extensively used as a source of timber for shipbuilding. The woods are maintained by the London Wildlife Trust on behalf of the Dulwich Estate and Southwark Council.



K. Horniman Gardens and Museum opened in 1901 and were given to the people of London as a free museum by the philanthropist and tea importer Frederick Horniman.



L. Woodville Hall is a grade 2 listed building, now part of the Sacred Heart Convent and school.



M. One Tree Hill rises 300 feet above sea level and affords wide views over London and Kent. It was used as a telegraph station in 1841, being part of a commercial line linking London with shipping passing through the Channel at Dover. The next station was at Knockholt Beeches. It

was also the reputed site where Queen Elizabeth I took rest beneath an oak tree when visiting Sir Richard Buckley of Lewisham in 1602. The site of the original tree is marked with a replacement oak tree, surrounded by a railing. Nearby is the circular base of a WWI gun used to defend London against German Zeppelin attacks. Close by is a beacon, representing the warning beacons sited on high ground to be lit in the event of invasions by the Spanish and later the French.



N. The Aquarius Golf Course is laid out around a vast underground reservoir and was originally intended for the enjoyment of water company employees. The 70 feet high tower built in 1870 in Venetian style originally housed the steam driven engines which pumped the water. Fifty million gallons of water are pumped daily to North Kent.

O. Peckham Rye Park was laid out in 1894 on land which was once the fields of Homestall Farm. More land was added in 1906 which led to the creation of a Japanese Garden and the Sexby Garden.



P. Peckham Rye Common was purchased by Camberwell Vestry in 1868 together with land which would later form the park.

With thanks to Sarah Luder for checking the route and for her useful suggestions.