



This is one of
twenty tales
in our
Midwinter
Miscellany



DECEMBER 1886

Lewisham Hare and Hounds – Cross-Country Race



Lewisham Hare and Hounds was a cross-country running club named because a trail of paper or flour would often be laid.

In 1886, they decided to continue with their plans for a run on Boxing Day in Chislehurst, despite heavy falls of snow.

The Kentish Mercury reported that a group travelled from New Cross and ***“trudged two miles through the snow to their headquarters for the day, The Sydney Arms. A small group quickly turned out and indulged in half an hour’s spin.”***

The race was won by a member of South London Harriers, with Lewisham Hare and Hounds second and third, and Blackheath Harriers leading the rest of the field.

“After tea, the evening was devoted to a smoking concert.” (a live performance attended by men only, popular in Victorian Times.)

Chislehurst Commons has responsibility for managing the 180 acres of local common land under an Act of Parliament.

The Act made no provision for funding.

If you would like to support the work of maintaining our wonderful commons, please visit our website

www.chislehurstcommons.uk

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PLEASE STAY SAFE – KEEP 2 METRES APART