



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

St James Vicarage, Thurland Road SE16 4AA
Contact: Vicar: Canon Gary Jenkins
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St. James, Bermondsey (Anglican)



The Surrey Docks and the numerous food factories (Peck Freans biscuits, Sarsons vinegar, Hartley jam, Pearce Duffs custard, Courage beer) were the main source of employment in Bermondsey historically, but the docks and the factories have long since been replaced by residential developments.

The parish remains a predominantly working-class community with high levels of social deprivation. There is a growing number of young professionals living in the area on a short term rental basis who work in the City or in Canary Wharf, and about a third of the population are from ethnic minorities. This new social and racial diversity is fully reflected in the churches.

There are very high levels of social housing but a growing number of developments of private housing, some of it very expensive, especially by the river. The opening of the Jubilee station in Bermondsey 15 years ago has been

a powerful catalyst in this. By the end of the year, 3,500 new flats will have been built in the parish over a five year period.

St James Church, said by John Betjeman to be probably the finest of the Waterloo churches, was built in 1829 by the architect, James Savage. It originally seated 2,000 people spread over three floors, including four 'paupers galleries' just under the church roof.

For seven years in the 1960s the building was closed and church life was at a low ebb. Then a group of young people from the nearby Cambridge University Mission (now the Salmon Youth Centre) came with their warden, Mike Whinney (who became the vicar) to re-found the church and begin the long process of restoring the building.

In the 70s, 80s and 90s, St James was in the forefront of the development of Ordained Local Ministry, which allowed local men (and, latterly, women too) to train for ministry in the churches of which they were part. Simon Hughes MP, has been a member of the congregation at St James during the whole time (more than 30 years) that he has served as the local MP.

Now part of a united benefice with St Anne's, Bermondsey, St James is a thriving multi-cultural congregation representing the diversity of modern Bermondsey. It works closely with the Salmon Youth Centre, with St James Church of England Primary School, and the other evangelical churches of the area that make up C4T, Christians for Transformation in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe.

Firmly located in the evangelical tradition of the Church of England, St James places a high value on the Bible, mission, and evangelism.

Items for praise and prayer

- Thank God for the life and witness of St James Church and its sister church of St Anne.
- Pray for St James CE Primary School and the Salmon Youth Centre.
- Pray for the message of God's love to be widely shared in the community.
- Pray for new Christians to be built up into the next generation of local leaders in the Church.



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

St Olav's Church, 1 St Olav's Square, Albion Street, London SE16 7JB
Rector and Senior Chaplain, Rev Torbjørn Holt.
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St. Olav's Norwegian Church



St. Olav's serves the Norwegian community in London and the rest of the United Kingdom and Ireland. Most of the work is focused on Norwegians in the greater London area. It serves as the parish church for members of the Church of Norway, which is the National church of Norway. It is Lutheran. We are in full communion with the Church of England.

The present listed building was opened in 1927, and is the third Norwegian church in London. The first was in Wapping, opened in 1693, the second in Rotherhithe, near Greenland Dock. This was sold in 1927 when we took over the present building, and was demolished two years ago.

The Norwegian Church has served the Norwegian maritime community

through all its history up to recently. All our three churches have been located in East London, because of the proximity to the old docks. Today very few seafarers come to the church, as there are few Norwegians on ships serving the port of London. The church now serves as parish church, cultural centre and meeting point for the approximately 10,000 strong Norwegian population of London. Many youth groups visit us, and many tourists drop in. We do home visits, hospital visits, and visit Norwegians in offices, schools and other workplaces in London and beyond. We do active networking in the various Norwegian organisations, and work closely with the Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Norwegian-British Chamber of Commerce, The Norwegian School in London and various other Norwegian institutions in London. We work very

closely with the Church of England, and our clergy are licensed priests in the Diocese of Southwark.

The church was the focal point for Norwegians during the second world war, when Norway was occupied by Nazi-Germany. Our king and government were in exile in London, and the church served as the parish church for the royal family and government during the war years.

The main service is the weekly Eucharist Sundays at 11am followed by coffee and the famous Norwegian Waffles. The services are conducted in Norwegian. We serve lunch most Sundays. Our opening days are Wednesday to Friday 1pm to 6pm, Saturdays from 1pm to 4pm and Sundays from 10am to 4pm.



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

1 Creek Road, Deptford SE8 3BT

Minister: Revd Graham Miles

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Lay Worker: Melissa Quinn: melissa@deptchurch.co.uk

Deptford Methodist Church & Mission

Prayer points:

Please give thanks for our building (and pray that we are able to maintain it), and pray for the work of the DPC with elderly people from our area.



Deptford Central Hall was built on slum clearance land in 1903. It was deliberately designed so that it didn't look too church-like to attract people into the building who might be put off by a traditional church. When it opened it had a membership of 221, which grew to 1646 by 1908! The mission always had a deep concern for the poverty in the neighbourhood which arose from the intermittent employment opportunities at the local docks. The mission sought to meet the needs of families through soup kitchens, breakfasts for children, distributions of used clothing and even a fund to enable children to go to the seaside.

The Mission had a particular concern for disabled and elderly people who were not then provided for through social welfare and the benefits system now in place. This work was reflected in what was then called "The Cripples Guild" (rather un-pc!) and the "Cosy Corner" drop in. This work is continued

through The DPC, a day centre for elderly and disabled people which is run throughout the week on the ground floor of the premises. We have around 45 elderly members and 35 regular volunteers who make this centre a success and help to relieve the isolation that so many elderly people face in our communities today.

The church was bombed in 1940 and the entire west side of the building was destroyed, including the original worship space (which seated over 2,000 people!) and the tower. Planning the rebuilding took a long time, but the Mission as it is now opened in 1956, under the ministry of Revd William Motson, father of football commentator John Motson, who was a young boy here (there is a photo of him in the entrance foyer). Since the rebuild congregations have been smaller, and at present we have a membership of 49, with around 130 people on our pastoral lists. Our congregation reflects

the local area, being a mix of people from West Africa (predominately from Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone) and the Caribbean. We also have a Chinese and Vietnamese congregation which meets in the afternoons and grew out of a fellowship meeting started by a former church member. Our smaller congregation no longer has as much need for the extensive premises, so the upper rooms are let to various charities from our local community. At present we host two different counselling services, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation service, a youth arts and drama theatre and a group which specialises in teaching core subjects through drama. Whilst the church congregation itself is no longer able to provide the breadth of services for the community that it once did, we provide low cost rental spaces for those who do, thereby making good use of our best resource – our amazing building, and supporting our community in a different way.



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

The Shaftesbury Christian Centre, Frankham Street, London SE8 4RN

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Assistant Leader: Iain Jones

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The Bear



The Bear Church is located in the centre of Deptford, just off the High Street, where there is a buzzing market 3 days a week, as well as many other weekly features such as the flea market, arts events and exhibitions in the many galleries, art studios and the Albany Arts centre. The congregation comes from both the immediate locality and the wider area – Brockley, Lewisham and Bromley.

The Bear began when the Brown Bear pub on Deptford High Street was bought by Ichthus Christian Fellowship and a youth church was planted in the building in the early 1990's. The congregation grew, many families joined, and eventually it merged with the Shaftesbury Christian Centre in 2010 where it is now presently meeting. The building is owned by Livability, formerly the Shaftesbury Society, and was first a 19th Century Ragged School,

then a mission church, with various buildings being torn down and built to facilitate the work of the church. The present building is a great venue for the church and its community outreach, though it is bursting at the seams especially on a Sunday so there are plans to redevelop the site. We hope you enjoy the different art work displayed that is produced as part of our worship services, including the decorated crosses and the printed statement beginning 'We are for a church that...' which was another activity from the congregation.

The Bear Church serves people of all ages and backgrounds, and we particularly represent the creative community and youth and young people. We run a parent and toddler group called Bear Cubs which has an excellent reputation in the area, as well as parenting courses, English class and a breast-feeding group.

On Sunday evenings we cook soup and open our doors to anyone needing a meal, and offer an informal circle service where prayer needs and communion is shared. We have overseas connections with people working in Turkey, Egypt and Central Asia, as well as being involved in Cherish Uganda project, a village caring for children with HIV.

We praise God for the way He faithfully provides for us, and brings people to us!

We would love people to join our evening service team by helping to cook food, serve it and wash-up: please contact us if you would like to get involved.

Please pray for us that we would be able to serve Jesus faithfully in all we do, by putting him in the centre and loving people as He loves.



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

Wickham Road, Brockley, London SE4 1LT
Contact: Rev. Corinne Tournay
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St. Peter's Brockley (Anglican)

We are a charismatic evangelical church, in the middle of a 19th century entirely residential conservation area. A park, a few shops, a couple of pubs, a children's nursery and a few hostels make up the main public services around. Please pray for us as a focal point in the local community.

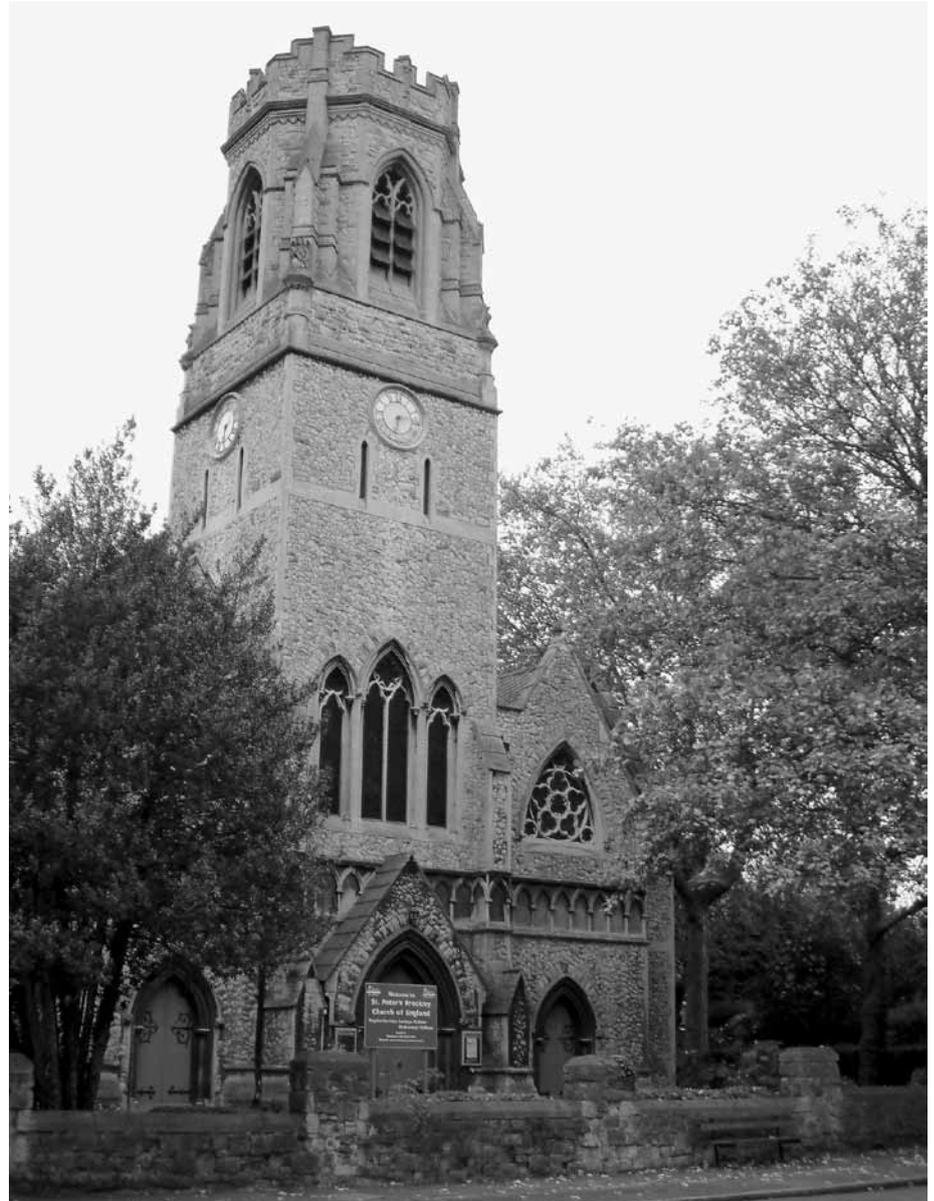
There are other churches in the parish: a URC church and an Indian Orthodox church. Churches here all get on well with each other, right across the spectrum. Please pray for the Brockley Fraternal of churches.

The congregation is not large, but very multicultural and with every generation represented. St Peter's functions a bit like a very welcoming extended family where people care for each other and make visitors and newcomers feel very much at home. Please pray for our many children that they may grow into people who will promote the Kingdom of God as they grow up.

The building was refurbished in 2006, jumping from the 19th to the 21st century in one go! The place is very colourful, with mosaics which caused it to be grade 2 listed, abundant good Victorian stained glass windows, colourful chairs, and much more colour added twice a week during our Little Fishes Babies and Toddlers Group. Please pray that all the activities in our building will always be honouring to God.

We allow other small congregations to use our building for their services and Bible studies. Please pray for all those who serve God in these small congregations and for all who pastor them in addition to their secular job.

Many artists live in the neighbourhood and the church is beginning to build up links with them. There is also a need to build up links with the local elderly and to find ways



to minister to those who live alone (57%) in this parish. Please pray that, as a congregation, we may find ways to link up with them all in a life-giving, Jesus-filled, way for them.

As a church, we have a special link with a hostel for young women. Please pray that they may receive much healing from the Lord through the support they receive from the staff who work with them.

Please pray also for the leadership of St Peter's: its vicar, its pastoral auxiliaries, its churchwardens, treasurer and parish church council. Please pray that those involved in all aspects of ministry will bring Jesus to others. And please pray that all will follow the guidance of Jesus in matters of governance and mission.



SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2015 UNLOCK LONDON WALK 32

13 Ewhurst Road, London SE4 1AG
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Crofton Park Baptist Church



The entrance to this church has changed with each new build. Started in 1900 to be a Sunday School as the vision of Brockley Baptist Church (in the same Conservation Area as St Peter's Brockley checkpoint F), the foundation stone for the first small hall was laid in 1907, but by 1913 a larger hall was finished and in use, opening onto Huxbear Street. This period saw the church at its largest numerically, reaching 250 members.

Between the two World Wars a larger building was required but it took until 1960 to see our latest building opened, with a baptistry at the entrance for passers by to witness public believers' baptism. In the 1980s we bought the commercial building opposite and named it Huxbear House, for outreach in our Sunday School and other Christian charities.

We are currently between ministers but our work, worship and outreach continues:

A 'Drop In' session each Tuesday and Thursday draws c.100 children.

'Welcome Inn' on alternate Wednesdays provides a lunchtime meal, a talk and fellowship for those available in the day.

Wednesday evening is Youth Club for teens.

There are small weekly and monthly prayer meetings and four housegroups.

Sunday services happen at 10.30am & 6.30pm.

In between our services the building is rented by Grace Church Brockley, with whom we have a good relationship.

The Sunday School feeds back from their sessions in the morning service.

The church supports well a variety of missions locally (Street Pastors, XLP, Vesselworks, LEWCAS, BU Home Mission) and abroad (Compassion, SIM in China, Chance for Childhood, Tear Fund). More details are on display.

Building Bridges, Building Community, Building Disciples

PRAISE that

- people take part in running the church
- there is generosity to those in need
- we have good relations with our neighbours
- new members and visitors are still coming each month
- we have a strong focus on mission both home and away
- our congregation comes from many walks of life, ethnicities and backgrounds, both a strength and a challenge.

PRAYER for

- a new minister of God's choosing to soon be appointed
- protection from spiritual attack to create division and problems
- new people to commit to some of the roles of those who need a rest
- openness to deeper spiritual growth to prepare us for the new minister
- for expectation of what God wants to do in these days