

LOCKS, LOCK-UPS, AND UNLOCK

Welcome to Unlock Walk No. 31

To my surprise, the route planned and walked by Geoff Coggins (a bad hip preventing me) is full of symbols about the nature of Unlock's work. We have a three point "mission statement", to use the jargon words, on all our notepaper. I quote: **Unlocking** real life stories of urban people, **Revealing** Good News of the Down to Earth Christ, **Releasing** life changing skills and confidence. This walk illustrates it all.

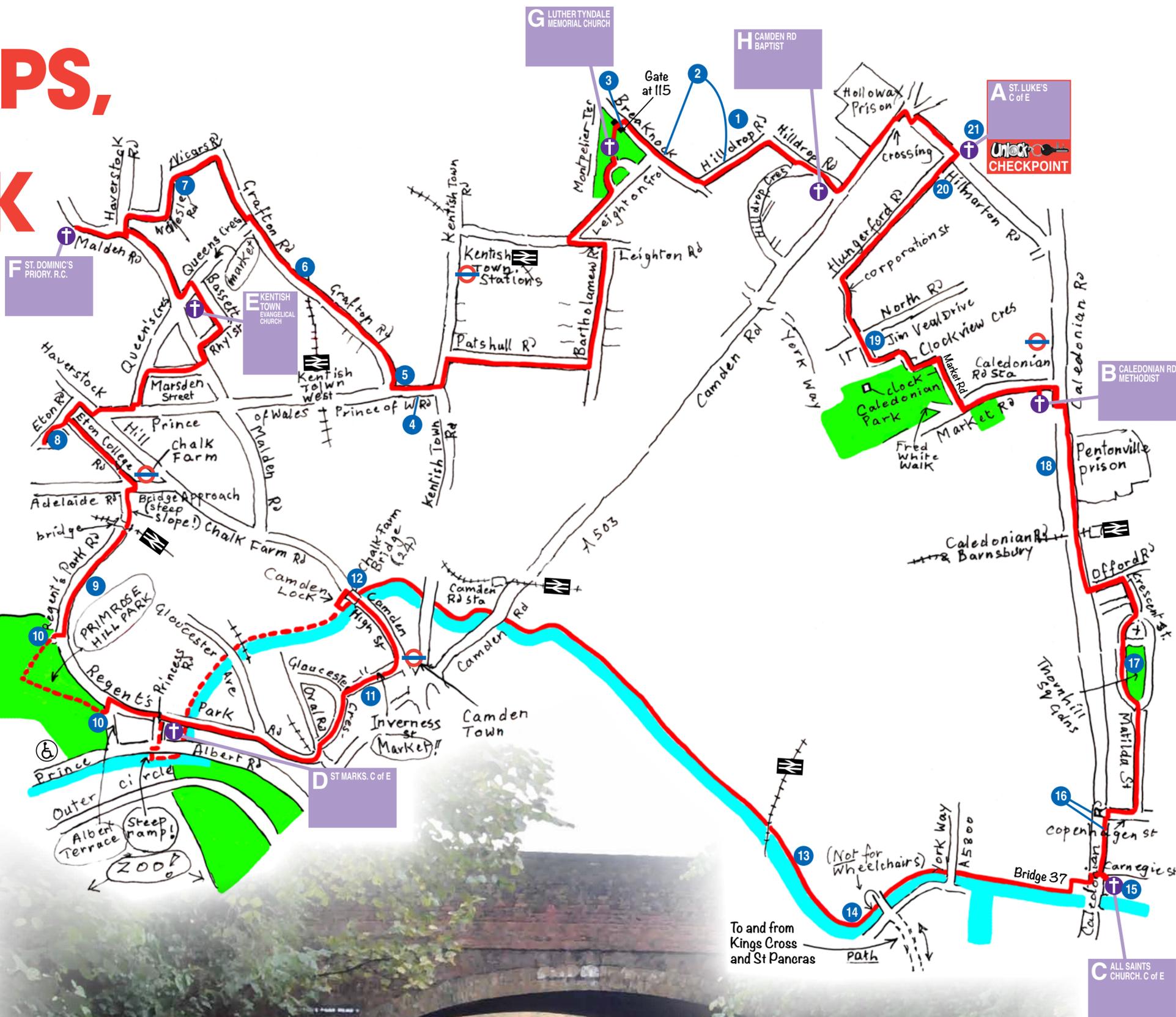
Let's start with lock-ups, a much used word for prisons which well fits our over-crowded system. We pass both Holloway and Pentonville, both famous inner London names like all our old prisons. People are locked away from normal life by walls. So many other people are locked away by not being able to get a job, or enough benefit, or a decent home, crushed by an inner sense of being worth nothing... nobody will want to hear my story! Unlock does, and listening to people who think they are worthless is the most respectful thing we can do. It breaks down walls. It must be done first.

Then there are canal locks, famous ones we pass. They enable canals to move to different levels up or down. So often the Good News of Christ has got trapped in a certain class, or language, or religious customs, or church rivalry. The Down to Earth Christ changed levels ("came down") so that everyone can hear and respond to him. Unlock is about communicating across whatever might trap this new life, in this country above all class boundaries. Christ's story, lived, interpreted, and put alongside the listened-to "worthless" life brings light and life.

Then what happens? Things unsuspected, gifts and skills, are released from the worthless now worthwhile life. It is a strange fact that this once neglected industrial bit of London, with its canal now only used by houseboats, is today wildly popular, bursting with markets, so crowded that Geoff has planned the route to avoid the crowds. The crowd-toughened walkers can plunge in, if they want, on a through market route. The new life that is released by Christ is far deeper, joyful, and more spectacular than any markets could ever be. Enjoy the walk that speaks of Unlock's mission.

Peter Hall

It is with great sadness that we have to inform Unlock walkers that Bishop Peter Hall died suddenly on December 27th 2013. We are immeasurably grateful for Bishop Peter's longstanding commitment and contribution to Unlock and we offer our deepest sympathies to his wife Jill and his family.



Date of next year's walk is
25 April 2015

HOW TO GET THERE

By Car. On Saturdays, there is free on-road parking along almost all of the northern section of the route between Malden Rd. (near Kentish Town Evangelical Church) and Hungerford Rd. (opposite St. Luke's C of E.).

By Tube. NORTHERN LINE: Camden Town, Chalk Farm (Edgware branch), Kentish Town (High Barnet branch). Connects with London Bridge, Waterloo, Euston and Kings Cross St Pancras. Also **PICCADILLY LINE:** Caledonian Rd.

By Rail. OVERGROUND: Kentish Town West, Camden Rd. (W), Caledonian Rd. & Barnsbury (W). **NATIONAL RAIL:** Kentish Town.

NOTE: (W) means pavement - platform access for wheelchair.

NB. Wheelchair Users. NONE of the above give access to both platforms and trains. Kings Cross St Pancras is very near the route, and does give such access from all its 6 tube lines by a series of lifts. Buses **46** and **214** from stop T in Pancras Rd. or **17**, **91** and **259** from stop G in York Way all serve points on the walk route. If you follow signs about a shortcut to the canal, you will then need to turn right to join the canal, using the ramp at York Way bridge.

By Bus. Some useful routes - **17:** London Bridge to Caledonian Rd via Kings Cross St. Pancras (Stop G, York Way). **24:** Victoria (Victoria Rd.) to Camden Town, and Chalk Farm Rd. **46:** Paddington to Kentish Town, Camden Rd. Station, Kings Cross St Pancras (Stop T, Pancras Rd.). **168:** Old Kent Rd. (Tesco) via Waterloo (Waterloo Rd.) and Euston to Camden Town and Chalk Farm Rd. **214:** Liverpool St. Station to Kentish Town, via Kings Cross St Pancras (Stop T, Pancras Rd.).

WHEELCHAIR USERS

See travel advice above. **Go ANTI-CLOCKWISE on the route, because of steep slopes.** There are no detours on the route, but the dotted line of the route at the west end of the canal section must be avoided because of over-crowding, see "Hazard" in the Key. Repair works can block the towpath for wheelchairs. Ask at St. Marks (C of E), and if necessary you will be advised to catch the 274 bus from Regent's Park Rd. (north side, stop K) approx. 25 mins. to Caledonian Rd./Copenhagen St. (east side, stop Q), which is near All Saints (C of E) on Carnegie St. It avoids the whole canal route.

LENGTH OF ROUTE

Approx 8 miles

DON'T FORGET

- The route can be walked in either direction.
- You can begin anywhere on the route.
- Start at any time after 9am at any church checkpoint, but with time to get back again by 5pm.
- Get your map stamped at each checkpoint.
- Do the quiz.
- Take time to learn about the churches you visit and about Unlock.

- CHURCH CHECKPOINT**
- WALK ROUTE**
- HAZARD:** Camden Market area will be very crowded on a Bank Holiday.
- DISABLED TOILET**
- RAILWAY/STATION**
- TUBE**
- QUESTION**

Acknowledgements

Geoff Coggins - route and quiz sheet
Jill Hall - map
Tim & Sarah Watkins-Idle - notes
Tim Watkins-Idle - access and photos
able - design and print

Whilst every care has been taken in the design and compilation of this map & notes, Unlock cannot accept any liability arising from any inaccuracy within any part of this document or for any injury sustained whilst doing the walk.