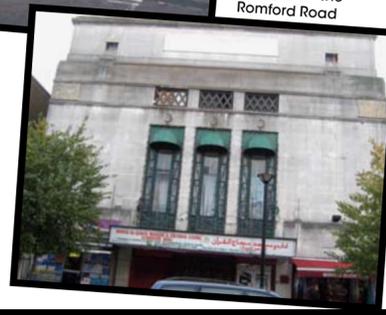
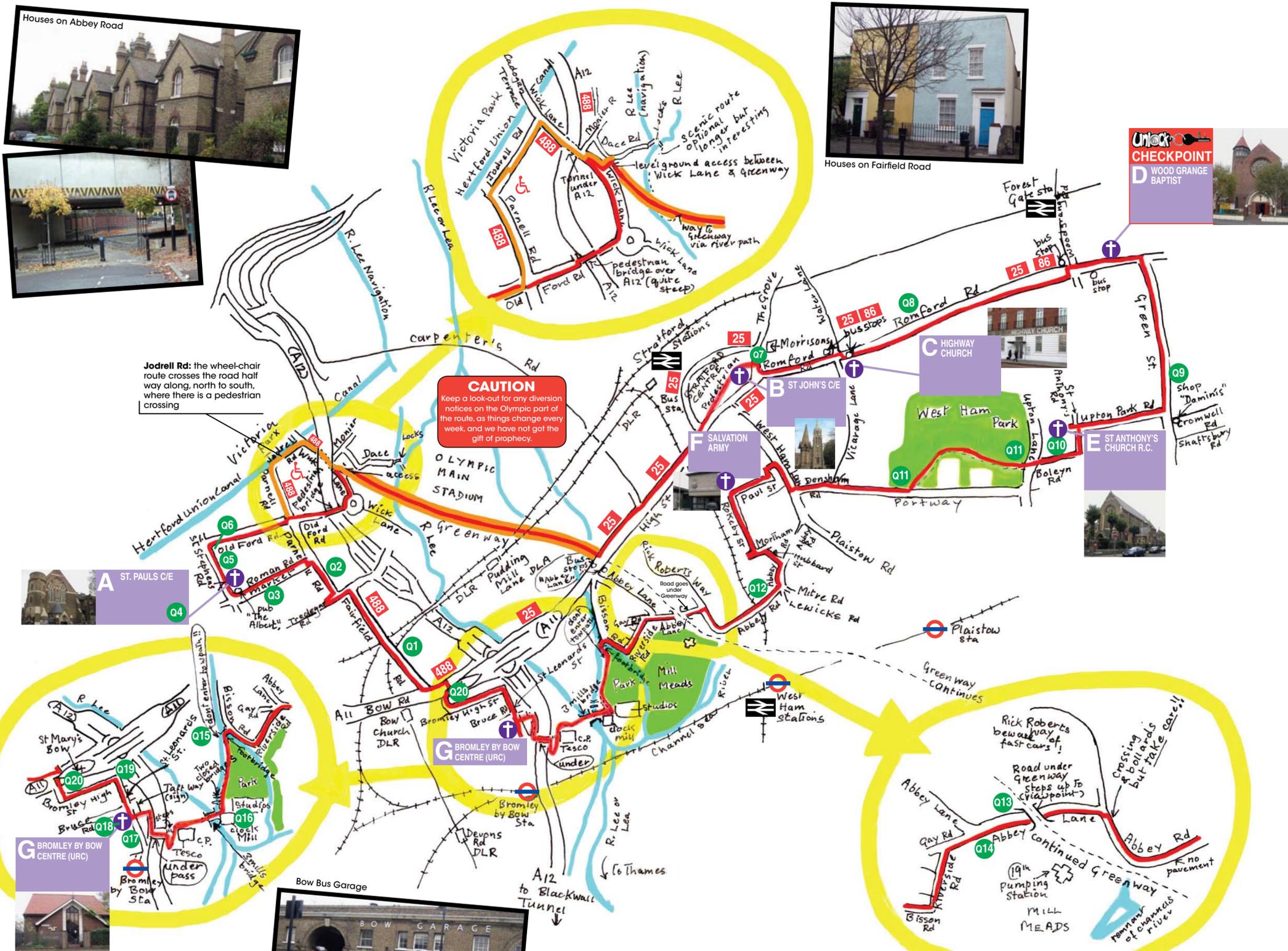


TWIN STORIES

When enthusiasm was expressed for the 27th Annual Walk to be near the site of the coming Olympic Games, I did not realise the extraordinary parallels between the story of the Bible and the Christian Church and the story of the Games. They both go back to 500 BC, (and well before), to a world dominated by the Persian Empire, centred in what is now Iran and Iraq. The people of Judah had already lost out and were in exile, and the Greek city states were desperately holding out, but ultimately to win. The Greek victories were immortalised in the Games, and the suffering of the exile became key to understanding how there could possibly be a suffering Messiah. Even the phraseology of our language has been deeply and often unconsciously affected by both, with "a marathon" or "spartan" conditions, and "the writing on the wall" or "pearls before swine."

You will be struck by the incredible physical transformation going on as the Games site is developed, not just within the fence, so to speak, but all around it. Stratford was a very neglected part of London, but is now spruced up and getting ready for the crowds who will come. The question left hanging in the air is what will it be like when the Games are over? Will it be like the Dome? As we planned the route, we were very impressed by the quality of the churches which agreed to take part and welcome us. They are just as international as the crowds who will come for the Games. But, for them, the questions about afterwards can be answered much more easily. They are dealing with hearts and minds in a way that creates permanent change, transformed people. It is a change that will last not just for 2500 years, but into eternity. To sustain that change, they invite us to join them by praying as we walk, and when we have gone home; and of course, during the Games.

Peter Hall



Date of next year's walk is
April 16th 2011

HOW TO GET THERE

BY RAIL
Walk route very accessible by rail. Docklands Light Rail, Jubilee and Central Lines all go to Stratford. Also British Rail Silverlink. Also District Line and Hammersmith and City go to Bromley-by-Bow.

BY BUS
(recommended for all wheel-chair users, as all London buses make that provision)
No. 8 route to Old Ford and Bow Church, from Victoria, via Liverpool St.

UNLOCK CHECKPOINT
Woodgrange Baptist Church, Forest Gate. (Minister - Bruce Stokes, formerly Unlock National Council member.)

LENGTH OF ROUTE

Approx 9 miles.
Reduced to 8 miles by using buses 25 or 86 on Romford Rd. between the Highway and Baptist church checkpoints. Further helpful buses: Bus 488 between Bow Rd and Roman Rd, via Fairfield Rd. Also Bus 25 along High St. between Abbey Lane stop and Stratford Centre.

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.

For wheelchair users

How to get there:
The orange line on the map is an alternative route. We recommend all wheel-chair users should take the orange alternative, unless you can already see that a slope is manageable. That testers have gone round using a pushed chair where the occupant can help to propel the wheels. Recommended clock-wise direction, though either possible. Also recommended to use the diversion between St Pauls C. of E. and the Olympic-viewing "Greenway", because of the very rough surface of Wick Lane between the steep pedestrian bridge over the A12 and the "Greenway". The only other diversion, in Abbey Rd. is minor.

THIS YEAR'S ROUTE IS APPROXIMATELY 9 MILES LONG

- CHURCH CHECKPOINT
- WALK ROUTE
- ROUTE FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS
- DISABLED ACCESS TOILET
- TUBE
- RAILWAY
- BUS NUMBER QUESTION

Unlock Glasgow also run an annual walk, usually in the summer. Contact the Unlock Office, if you'd like to try an Unlock walk in completely different location.

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.

Acknowledgements:
Peter & Jill Hall (route & map)
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John & Margaret Brown (access)
Tim Watkins-Idle (photos)
cable (design)



Registered Charity: 313454

Jim Hart

Many of you will remember Jim Hart who worked out of Liverpool when Unlock was EUTP. Jim died on 20th November 2009. Jim took control of his own death because Parkinson's was so constricting his life. Jim was the toughest Christian I've ever known; the absolute honesty and passion about what he was doing and why; the ruthless pursuit of Jesus-like justice and speaking truth to power; what he was prepared to put himself through to do it; the risks that he was prepared to take not least in his work with young people. All of this and much more was blistering, raw, often too much so for the rest of us. He leaves a great legacy in many hearts and much writing which we hope will become more available. Jim was an exceptional man; the world misses the like of more of him.

Andy Dorton