

# 2013 UNLOCK WALK No.30

## The Royal Borough of Greenwich

### Railways and railway Children

Until 1988 there was no station called "Eltham". Well Hall station was very close to the current station and Eltham Park was less than half a mile further on. When the new station was built, the other two closed. Eighty three years earlier, in a now-demolished house in the Pleasaunce, Edith Nesbit wrote The Railway Children.

### Eltham Palace

The future Henry VIII grew up in Eltham Palace, now managed by English Heritage, but at the time of writing not open on Saturdays. For generations, members of the royal family hunted deer in the surrounding forests. In the 1930's the lease on the mostly decayed property was taken by the millionaire Courtauld family, and they built an art deco mansion incorporating the medieval great Hall. From the second world war until the end of the cold war it was used by the Army, and then opened to the public in 1999.

### History

Eltham was mentioned in the Domesday Book, but predominantly rural until 1915. A local schoolmaster published a fascinating history of the area in 1909 (<http://gregory.elthamhistory.org.uk>) but within a few years the area was transformed. The first world war meant that the nearby Woolwich Arsenal expanded dramatically to supply the unprecedented demand for munitions and huge numbers of houses were built at high speed in Eltham to accommodate the thousands of new workers. Shortly after the war, more large estates were built, and Eltham had become well and truly part of London.

### Rochester Way

We see two segments of the ancient route from London to Rochester on this walk, and today it is a moderately busy road. However, from the 1960's to the late 1980's it was a horribly congested bottleneck, unable to cope with the traffic to and from the Blackwall Tunnel, and as a schoolboy in the 1970's Tim, (one of the Unlock walk planning team) can remember posters in windows saying "Build the relief road NOW". It was eventually opened in 1988, and sited in a cutting next to the railway line in order to minimise what was still a significant level of disruption.



## Making Your Donation Count Even More

Donating on-line saves Unlock valuable staff time and money and is quick and easy to do via

### Virgin Giving

A new way to collect sponsorship or make donations to Unlock using Virgin Giving

If you want a quicker simpler way to solicit and collect your Unlock sponsorship you can now register with Virgin Giving, who will collect all your sponsor money, claim the gift aid, and send it all to Unlock on your behalf. This allows you to promote your fundraising for Unlock via your facebook page or by e-mail, and to collect sponsorship from people at a distance who you do not regularly meet up with. It saves you managing a pile of small change or writing a cheque. It also saves Unlock time and money, making your support more valuable to us, because more of it can be channelled straight into our front line work with the Bible amongst the urban poor.

For further details on how to request sponsorship or make a donation go to [unlock-urban.org.uk/support\\_walk.php](http://unlock-urban.org.uk/support_walk.php)

### Give as You Live - For On-line Shoppers

Would you like to support Unlock every time you shop online at no cost to you and no cost to us? With Give as You Live, thousands of major brands including Amazon, Play.com, John Lewis and Expedia have signed up to donate a percentage of every purchase you make online to Unlock. The average shopper will raise £2.10 per month through what they already buy online. Give as You Live is easy to set-up and use. Simply visit Give as You Live at <http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/unlock> for full details, try it today and help raise valuable funds for Unlock.

Please work with us to ensure that the 2013 walk generates more income to fund Unlock's vital work. You can do this by:

- **Seriously and prayerfully** consider how you can support Unlock's ongoing work.
- **Sponsorship** – get as many sponsors as you can, by explaining to them what you are raising money for; and ensure that they gift aid their sponsorship wherever possible.
- **Promoting Unlock's work in your church or area** - put up a display in your church, or write something for your church magazine\*.
- **Bring along some friends** - encourage new people to join you for an Unlock London Walk experience in 2013.
- **Through your Church** – persuade your church to give funds to support Unlock as part of its regular missionary giving.
- **Donations** – you can make a personal donation to Unlock's work, either on a one off basis, or better yet, at regular intervals.

Available on the Unlock website [unlock-urban.org.uk](http://unlock-urban.org.uk), or from the National Office: **Unlock, Handsworth Parish Centre, Handsworth, Sheffield, S13 9BZ.** Telephone: **01142 939 060**

- More copies of this map brochure & sponsor forms.
- \*Resources to help you promote Unlock's work.
- Information about Unlock Local projects – real stories of real people.
- Unlock resources free to use.

### don't forget >>>

- A-Z map of London (if you have one)
- Many of the churches on the route will provide refreshments
- A snack or picnic lunch (some food is usually available on the route too)
- We walk whatever the weather
- Look for things to pray about as you walk



Further details & more copies of this map are available from [unlock-urban.org.uk](http://unlock-urban.org.uk), or from the Unlock National Office: Unlock, Handsworth Parish Centre, Handsworth, Sheffield, S13 9BZ. Telephone: **01142 939 060**

### Progress Estate

This estate, on the North East of the walk, begun in 1915, was a very innovative design based partly on garden city principles, and also on ideas from a Norwegian village, which the architect had seen, in which every house is a little bit different from the rest. As a result, the government made the estate a conservation area in 1975. The architect also wanted to make it look 'as if it had grown and not merely been dropped there' and so the roads follow the curving contours of the land. In order to do so, some of them were so narrow they were in breach of bylaws, but there was a war on, and they got away with it.

### Barns and Greyhounds

Eltham Palace excepted, the two most historic buildings we pass on the walk are pubs. The Tudor Barn in the Pleasaunce was built around 1525 (don't believe the plaque saying 1568) for the daughter of Sir Thomas More, but the manor house was demolished in the 1700's. The barn was restored in the 1930's and used as a museum and art gallery until the 1980's. On the other hand, the Greyhound Inn next to the Christian Church of God on Eltham High St. has always been a pub, and dates from around 1720. Both are now grade II listed buildings

### Eltham People

Many entertainers have come from Eltham over the years: Bob Hope has a blue plaque in a side street near the Pleasaunce, and the local theatre is named after him. However, neither Frankie Howerd, Boy George, Kate Bush, Louise Redknapp nor Jude Law have one so far. On the other hand, the Labour politician Herbert Morrison, chair of London County Council in the 1930's and a cabinet minister in the 1940's, has a plaque in Archery Road, which we pass near Eltham Park Baptist Church. Denis Healey, however, does not have a plaque, perhaps because he moved to Yorkshire at the age of five.

### Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust

Following the murder of their son, Doreen and Neville Lawrence set up the trust, which started its work by supporting young people training to be architects, as this had been Stephen's ambition. In 2008, the trust also opened a multi-purpose community centre in nearby Deptford which runs a wide variety of courses and musical programmes. Stephen's mother was awarded an OBE in 2003 for services to community relations



# THE UNLOCK LONDON WALK NO.30

**SATURDAY 20th APRIL 2013 9AM to 5PM**  
The Royal Borough of Greenwich



## ESTATES POOR AND POSH IN ELTHAM

The aims of the Unlock London Walk are:

- To raise money for Unlock's work in deprived urban areas across the UK
- To raise awareness of the issues of exclusion that Unlock exists to address
- To showcase the ministry of churches in urban areas - Come and see what God is doing in the city.
- To encourage churches in more affluent parts of the country to support the work of their fellow Christians in the inner city.
- To give 100s of people an opportunity for an unusual and enlightening day out in London

Unlock works by running local projects in UK cities, where a trained Unlock Development Worker, accompanied by a local support group, is employed to encourage and enable local people and their leaders to grow in faith and confidence by:

Unlocking real life stories of urban people  
Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ  
Releasing life changing skills & confidence

2012 walk sponsorship and donations have again reached over £25,000 despite the weather. In a difficult economic climate this is a fantastic testament to the commitment of our faithful band of walk supporters, and we really appreciate it. However, one really good year must not make us complacent and Unlock continues to need your support. Unlock relies heavily on income from the Unlock London walk to fund our work. Because we are directly engaged in Christian Mission it is very difficult to secure other types of funding. So please keep up the momentum and do all you can to maximise the returns from the 2013 walk. Unlock local projects are making a real difference, bringing the gospel to people that the churches haven't been able to reach; and there's more we can deliver if we have the resources!



Registered Charity: 313454