

Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

Visits to Bevis Marks Synagogue and Lloyd's of London Wednesday 8th March 2006

This visit has been organised by George Vulkan

Meet at 11.45 outside Ponti's cafeteria on the upper level of Liverpool Street Station near the Bishopsgate exit. Our visit to **Bevis Marks Synagogue** starts at 12.00 and we will walk there via Bishopsgate and Camomile Street. It is one of the best preserved places of worship of its period still in use and is the oldest synagogue in Britain, dating from 1701. When Disraeli was born his father was still a member. The interior has changed little in the past 300 years and on special occasions can still be lit entirely by candles in a magnificent candelabra. The Court contains one of the finest collections of Cromwellian and Queen Anne furniture in the country.
Cost: £3.00

After the visit, for those also visiting the Lloyd's Building, we can walk to Leadenhall Market and for lunch cross Gracechurch Street to an impressive banking hall which has been converted to a pub 'Crosse Keyes' by Wetherspoon's.

Lloyd's of London, formally the Corporation of Lloyd's, is an important international insurance marketing association providing world-wide high-risk specialized marine, automobile, aviation and miscellaneous services in accordance with strict financial rules and regulations.

Lloyd's history traces from 1688 when Edward Lloyd kept a coffeehouse in Tower Street from which insurance business was transacted informally. The business expanded and was subsequently moved to a number of other establishments and finally in 1986, to the current building located on the corner of Leadenhall Street and Lime Street. The building is unique with a soaring interior atrium and its heating, plumbing and other duct systems exposed on the structure's exterior.

The REMS visit will start at 3.00 with an introductory talk with illustrations on the history, structure and present day activities of Lloyd's and on the architectural aspects of the building.

There will then be a tour of the underwriting room where the business is transacted and is the home of the Loss Book and Lutine Bell. Other parts of the building, if accessible on the day of the visit, will be included in the tour.

Visitors are respectfully requested to conform to Lloyd's standard of dress; jackets and ties for men and appropriate dress for a city institution for women. It is also important to respect the privacy of those working in the market, to stay close to the lecturer at all times and refrain from taking photographs using flash.
Cost: £10.00

Members may join either or both the visits, with a maximum of 16 participants for the Lloyd's visit. Those only visiting the latter meet at the Main Reception at 2.50.