

## LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION

### **The Industry of the East End and the Whitechapel Bell Foundry** **SATURDAY 18 November 2006**

---

This visit has been organised by George Freeman

To the east of the City of London many small industries sprang up over the centuries to service the city and its manufacturers. Immigrants brought their skills and made the area prosperous. The silk industry of Spitalfields is a well-known one but there were many others. Our guide will be Reg Denny who has an extensive knowledge of the area, being a policeman there for about 30 years from the 60s and seeing many changes in his lifetime.

In the same area is the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, Britain's oldest manufacturing company. Recent research shows that the foundry can be traced back to 1420 but the logo is that of Robert Mot, Master Founder of 1570. Bells cast here range from a few ounces to 13½ tons (Big Ben, cast in 1858). We will hear about the foundry and see some of the techniques.



Established 1570



MEET in the Costa's coffee bar, Liverpool Street Station, opposite platform 1.

LUNCH will be in pubs/cafes in Spitalfield Market or Brick Street (for curries).

WHITECHAPEL. After lunch walk down Brick Lane/Osborn Street or Commercial Road (South) into Whitechapel High Street/Whitechapel Road and turn left (East). The foundry is 100 to 200 yards along on the other side of the road on the corner with Fieldgate Street.

## DO NOT BE LATE AT THE FOUNDRY AS THEY LOCK THE DOOR WHEN THE TOUR LEAVES THE OFFICE.

|               |                                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 10.15 – 10.45 | Assemble, refreshments and toilets |
| 10.45 – 12.15 | Tour                               |
| 12.15 – 13.15 | Lunch                              |
| 13.15 – 13.30 | Walk to Whitechapel                |
| 13.30 – 14.00 | Assemble                           |
| 14.00 – 15.00 | Tour                               |

The charge for this visit is £13 pp. Numbers are limited to 25. Lunch and refreshments are not included in the price.

CONTACT; Prior to meeting – David Pick

On the day only – George Freeman 07941 916 944

