

Institute of Physics – London & South East Branch – Retired Members Section

REMS Goes to Spitalfields On Tuesday 17 February 2015

This visit has been organised by Tony Colclough. Our professionally qualified guide will be Tina Hodgkinson (www.guidedwalksinlondon.co.uk or info@guidedwalksinlondon.co.uk).

Note the late start and end times.

Description: Spitalfields was originally an area just outside the boundaries of the City of London. Over the centuries it has developed a tradition of welcoming settlers including French Huguenots, Eastern European Jews and in more recent times the Bangladeshi community. This guided walking tour explores the area's vibrant history and its cultural diversity. It culminates with a curry in Brick Lane. The tour plans to cover the following sites:

- 5 Fournier St, a beautifully restored early 18th Century house, now an art gallery, where we meet and take refreshments;
- Christ Church, Spitalfields, said to be the finest of Nicholas Hawksmoor's six London churches;
 - The neighbouring streets with their historic buildings often adapted to the needs of Huguenot weavers like the former home of the refugee Huguenot, Peter Abraham Ogier and his family. This is now the Museum of Immigration;
 - The site of the former Truman Brewery at the northern end of Brick Lane. This old industrial site has been transformed into an entertainment complex with exhibition space and now hosts a thriving Sunday market;
 - Discovering how the area got its name, we visit the medieval charnel house in Bishop's Square just behind Old Spitalfields Market. Here the statue of a goat standing atop a pile of market crates symbolises victimhood;
 - Sandy Row Synagogue and the former Soup Kitchen for the Jewish poor;
 - Banglatown at the southern end of Brick Lane, the heart of the Bangladeshi community in East London with the Jamme Masjid (mosque) which, in its time, has also been a Huguenot protestant chapel, a synagogue and a Methodist chapel.
- Tired, but happy, REMS will repair to the Masala Bangladeshi/Indian restaurant at 88, Brick Lane, for curry and something to wash it down. Here members may reflect on the blessings of their multicultural heritage.



Where and when to meet: Gather at 12:30 at the Town House, 5 Fournier St at the side of Christ Church Spitalfields. Christ Church faces Commercial St.

Getting there: From Liverpool St Station walk north up Bishopsgate along the east side of the Station. Turn right along Brushfield St passing Old Spitalfields Market on your left. You should be able to see Christ Church facing you at the end. Cross Commercial St and enter Fournier St just to the left of Christ Church.

Food: Refreshments are available at the Town House where we assemble. We plan to dine at the Masala Indian Restaurant 88, Brick Lane at 18:00.

Timetable (times are approximate)

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| 12:30 | Gather at the Town House, 5 Fournier St. Refreshments etc. |
| 15:15 – 18:00 | Guided walk |
| 18:00 | Curry at Masala, 88 Brick Lane. |

Size of party: 10 – 25

Cost £15.00. Pay your own food and travel.

Contacts: Before the day contact Tony Colclough at tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk or on 020 8398 0766.
On the day call 07930 171 307.

Late arrivals: Call Tony on 07930 171 307.