

TWO QUIRKY LONDON VISITS IN MARCH

Contact Louise Bennett on louisebennett@btinternet.com or phone Richard Rumsey on 020 8204 1223 if you would like to come on either of these visits or for more information.

1. Tour of Salter's Hall

We have organised a private tour of the Salter's Hall on the afternoon of Thursday 14th March.

First licensed in 1394, the Salters' Company has its origins in the salt trade of medieval London, mainly to control the quality of salt used to preserve food and make it edible. The company is ranked number nine in precedence out of 110 livery companies in the City of London. The Hall was badly bombed in World War Two. The current building was erected on the site in 1976, designed by Sir Basil Spence and David Hicks. Our tour will include seeing the unique, unusual Main Hall as well as a brand new pavilion entrance and Salters' exhibition and archive. We will also learn about the history of the City of London and the history of salt through the unique lens of a livery company. Today the Salters' Company is responsible for several charitable foundations, important philanthropic work in science education and fostering of fellowship among its members and we will hear about that too.

We will meet at Preston Road Underground Station at 1.10pm and travel down on the Metropolitan Line to Moorgate Station, from where it is a 5 minute walk to the Hall. Our tour will start at 2.00pm and last about an hour. Afterwards refreshments will be served.

The tour can accommodate 24 people and the cost is £5.00 per head. Louise will collect the payment nearer the time.

2. Tour of London Transport Museum Depot's Poster and Art Collection

We have arranged a private guided tour of the art and poster store of London Transport Museum's Depot in Acton on the afternoon of Tuesday 19th March.

Our tour guide will be David Burnell. He gave a fascinating talk on the Museum's poster and art collection at our monthly meeting in October 2018 and is a volunteer guide at the Depot, which is London Transport Museum's store. He will give us a behind the scenes close-up look at the Museum's poster collection and some of the art works. We will be able to immerse ourselves in the rich design heritage of London's transport while exploring a selection of posters from our world-class collection, and rarely seen original artworks. We will hear the story behind London Underground poster commissioning, from its roots in 1908 to later collaborations with a diverse group of renowned artists.

The tour starts at 1.30pm and will last about an hour and a half. Please note that the tour involves a lot of standing and there is no heating in the Depot. There are toilets on the premises.

The tour can accommodate 20 people and the price is just £4.00 each. Louise will collect the admission charge prior to our visit. Payment arrangements will be advised.

The depot is opposite Acton Town Underground station. We will travel there from Preston road Station via the Metropolitan line to Rayners Lane and change to the Piccadilly Line to reach Acton Town Station. We will be travelling in two groups. One will go with Louise Bennett, meeting on Preston Road at 11.40pm and taking either the 204 bus to Sudbury Town then Piccadilly line to Acton Town or 79 bus to Alperton and also Piccadilly Line to Acton Town Station. That group will have lunch in the Red Lion and Pineapple Wetherspoons' Pub opposite the depot before the tour. The second group will travel with Richard Rumsey, meeting at the bus stop on Preston Road at 12.30pm, travelling the same route but arriving just in time for the tour. Louise will provide further details and ask about people's individual travel plans nearer the time.