



# Cripplegate Ward Club

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Dear Cripplegate Ward Club members

25<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Here is the May Newsletter. I hope this finds you well and I also hope that the government holds its nerve and keeps to the roadmap.

Firstly, may I thank all of you who replied to the email asking about your willingness to join in physical events. We had an excellent response with 85 replies of which 72 were keen to get back to in-person events providing government guidelines are followed. Of the 13 who were not the majority were for reasons of disability or remoteness from London and only a few were because of the virus.

On that basis and assuming there is no further change in government policy we are going ahead with the first in-person event for over a year on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. I am a marketing man by profession so we will be visiting the Museum of Brands in Notting Hill. The Museum is no. 42 of 2,358 things to do in London according to Trip Advisor. The visit will include a talk followed by a tour and then we will have lunch in a nearby pub. Numbers are limited so please get your orders in soon. The flier will be out shortly.

We held the May event on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 35 members and guests went on a virtual walk of Hampstead Village and Heath guided by John Steel of Tour de Force. John is an excellent guide with whom I have worked several times. His first profession is acting and this means that he gives you a performance. He has a real appreciation of history and described for us many of the great and the good who have lived there. Many were attracted by its nearness to London but its altitude means that the air is much cleaner. Writers such as John Keats, Robert Louis Stevenson and George Orwell all suffered from lung diseases and lived there. I've had good feedback including this from Immediate Past Master Jyotika Shah: *"Thank you for arranging this and it was most interesting to learn so much about Hampstead and an enjoyable afternoon. Look forward to the next event."*

Residents of the Barbican will already know but the Barbican Centre was re-opened last week. This was their announcement: *We're so excited to see you from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May. On Monday we'll be able to open our doors to you, so you can soak up the Centre in all its glory. See our new Jean*

*Dubuffetexhibition, watch a film on the big screen, take a stroll around Lakeside, attend a concert in person... We're dreaming of it already."*

My wife and I have booked to go to a concert with socially distanced audience featuring Grieg, Rachmaninoff and Beethoven, three of our favourites.

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs has actively been out and about promoting the 'City has reopened'. Currently, plans suggest a limited attendance at a Service of Reflection and Hope at St. Paul's Cathedral on 22<sup>nd</sup> June and the Election of the Sheriffs on 24<sup>th</sup> June.

The City of London is planning to convert empty offices into housing in a bid to revive the area after the COVID-19 crisis. The City of London Corporation is aiming for at least 1,500 new homes by 2030.

Our congratulations go to Past Master Judy Tayler-Smith on her installation as a Trade's Master of the Master Court of the Incorporation of Wrights of Glasgow.

Congratulations also go to 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Steve Tamcken who became Master of Tower Ward Club on 10<sup>th</sup> March. I have suggested to Steve that our two Clubs might enjoy a joint event and he has put that to his Social Committee.

And to finish just a note on a certain type of charity event:

Two Parachute Centres Charity events raised £120,000. After fees £45,000 went to charity. First time jumpers suffered 1,263 injuries. 103 required hospitalisation with an average stay of nine days. The total cost to the NHS was £610,000. For every one pound raised the NHS spent £13.55.

Keep safe & cheerful,

David

