



HERITAGE of LONDON TRUST NEWSLETTER: Summer 2011

News from the Office

HOLT held a reception in the Stranger's Dining Room at the House of Commons on Monday, 21st March. It was hosted by HOLT trustee Ed Vaizey, MP, Minister for Culture. The purpose of the event was to bring together Council Leaders, Heritage Champions, London MPs, sponsors and conservation/heritage experts to discuss ways of working together in the present financial climate.



Ed Vaizey Minister for Culture (left) speaks with Wesley Kerr of the HLF

London's heritage assets are a huge draw for tourism and will soon be showcased during the Olympics in 2012. London's historic buildings often house vital community services including crèches, homeless shelters, and English language classes among many other activities, making historic buildings some of the most essential and frequently used buildings in London's local communities. It is therefore more important than ever that everyone works together, pooling resources and knowledge to ensure heritage restoration schemes move forward across London.

HOLT Chairman Ronnie Barden and Ed Vaizey both gave speeches praising the efforts of HOLT to promote London's heritage and work in partnership with London's councils and heritage bodies.

Almost 100 people attended the event, enjoying tea, cakes and sandwiches, overlooking the Thames from the grand

neo-gothic windows of the Stranger's Dining Room.



Left to Right: HOLT Chairman Ronnie Barden speaks with Adrian Atwood of DBR Ltd and Cllr Keith Prince, Leader of Redbridge Council

A highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of a symbolic peppercorn to Jenny Bianco, Deputy Lieutenant for Southwark, from HOLT Ops Chairman Julian Spicer, in lieu of the peppercorn rent that HOLT Ops will be paying for the Concrete House, 549 Lordship Lane. This unusual Grade II listed house, one of London's earliest concrete buildings, was compulsory purchased by Southwark Council under Empty Homes Legislation after the owner failed to make essential repairs. HOLT's sister trust, HOLT Ops will soon be restoring the house to create 5 new flats.



Julian Spicer, Chairman of HOLT Ops presents a symbolic peppercorn to Jenny Bianco, DL for Southwark

HOLT is grateful to Ed Vaizey for hosting the event and thankful that so many of London's key heritage figures attended. From the lively conversations that kept the room buzzing all afternoon we are sure

some new friendships and regeneration partnerships have been forged!

Tara Draper-Stumm, June 2011

A Phone Box at London Zoo

On Thursday, 26th May, Diana, Tara and HOLT Chairman Ronnie Barden attended the opening of the new Penguin Beach habitat at ZSL London Zoo. No, dear readers, we have not become an animal conservation charity! While the penguins were adorable, and were enjoying their new 5-star accommodation, HOLT was there to see the Zoo's K3 telephone Kiosk, which has been fully restored and incorporated into the Penguin exhibit.



Ronnie Barden (centre, left) hands over the cheque to Sir Patrick Bateson, President of ZSL London

In January 2011 HOLT offered a grant of £2,000 towards the restoration of this historic telephone box, the first to be listed in the UK. It has now been returned to its original cream and red colours, and a display panel gives visitors information on the history of this iconic example of British design. HOLT Trustee Cllr Robert Davis, DL, was also present, officially opening the new Penguin Beach on behalf of the Zoo. HOLT chairman Ronnie Barden handed over a cheque to ZSL's President Sir Patrick Bateson. I don't think the penguins were that impressed, but HOLT is thrilled to see this telephone box restored to its former glory.

Society of Friends & Events

The Friends enjoyed an interesting guided visit to Benjamin Franklin House on 4th April, one of HOLT's current projects, and were given a fascinating demonstration of

the *Glass Armonica*, an unusual musical instrument invented by Franklin.



Sally James explains how to play the Glass Armonica

As this visit proved so popular, we hope to arrange further guided visits to small museums or historic buildings in the late summer/early autumn, including trips to Wesley's House and the Garden Museum.

London Ride & Stride: July 23rd 2011

The Heritage of London Trust has been working with churches across London, helping to safeguard their historic fabric, for the last thirty years. Since churches perform so many community functions, with many offering crèches, homeless shelters, and education programmes, HOLT's grants scheme has benefitted a large number of churches across the London boroughs.

Last year HOLT was invited by the National Churches Trust (NCT) to host a "Ride and Stride" in London. Ride and Stride is a national event where people can raise sponsorship money by visiting as many churches as they can on a single day, typically by cycling or walking. Although this is a popular annual event in the rest of the country, it had never been held in London. HOLT was happy to take part, as London has no special day when we can all celebrate the wonderful diversity of the capital's churches and the enormous contribution that they make to our daily lives. Here is a chance for everyone to support them, to learn about their cultural history and to understand the valuable work they do to support Londoners, no matter what their faith.

This year the London Ride and Stride will take place on Saturday, 23rd July. We will be focussing on four main areas within the Dioceses of London and Southwark – Westminster, Harrow, South-East London and Tower Hamlets & Hackney. A wealth of history and artworks wait to be discovered – like St Lawrence Little Stanmore, rebuilt under the patronage of James Brydges, Duke of Chandos with interior wood carving attributed to Grinling Gibbons, or St Anne Limehouse, one of Hawksmoor’s masterpieces. There will also be a number of London’s Victorian cemeteries open, including Nunhead Cemetery, offering elegant avenues of trees and exquisite examples of stone sculpture to explore.



St Anne, Limehouse – one of Hawksmoor’s great masterpieces, will be open for Ride & Stride

There are three ways your can participate: by encouraging your church’s congregation to gather sponsors and participate in the Ride and Stride, by opening your local church on 23rd July, or by advertising the event in your community. You can also ask your vicar to pre-register your church for next year’s event (date to be confirmed).

Since London is so spread out, you can walk, take the tube or bus, or get on a Boris bike in order to “Ride & Stride” between churches. Any money raised in sponsorship will be split 50:50 between the churches and the Heritage of London Trust

– HOLT will disperse the proceeds in grants to London’s churches.

Ride & Stride also needs VOLUNTEERS to man churches and help with organising next year’s event. If you or your local church would like to participate, please get in touch with the Trust. Further information on the event is available on our website www.heritageoflondon.com and sponsor forms can be downloaded from www.rideandstrideuk/2010/07/london

This is a wonderful chance for a family day out where you can also raise money for your local church. So, get your skates on and discover the rich history of London’s historic churches.

Diana Beattie, FSA

Syed Kamall, MEP Supports HOLT!

You might notice something different at the bottom of the newsletter – I am pleased to announce that Syed Kamall, MEP for London (ECR Group), is sponsoring the production of the newsletter for the year ahead by placing his advertisement (see below). He is keen to support the charitable work we do, which helps to regenerate London’s poorer areas. Mr Kamall also hopes to hold a reception and exhibition showcasing HOLT projects in Brussels sometime in 2012.

Projects Offered Grants

At the Board meeting on Tuesday, 24th May 2011, 6 new projects were approved with grants totalling £19,000. Details of these projects follow below.

New River Head Company, Amwell Street, Islington. Locally Listed.

The New River Head Company was set up in the first years of the 17th century to supply London with water from springs in



Syed Kamall MEP supporting Heritage of London Trust

www.syedkamall.com



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Hertfordshire. Most of the remaining buildings at the site in Amwell Street date from the late 18th and 19th centuries. The



buildings have been vacant for many years and HOLT Ops is currently looking at possible ways the buildings can be re-used. To facilitate this work, the trustees

have agreed a grant of £5,000 towards an options appraisal. This grant has been sponsored by Derwent plc.

St Luke's Church, Charlton. Greenwich Grade II*

St Luke's adjoins the Charlton House estate. Viscount Gough, one of our Friends and supporters, takes a keen interest in Charlton as his family once owned the estate. The



church dates back to the 12th century, but was rebuilt in red-brick in 1630. The interior has a fascinating collection of memorials, including that of Spencer Perceval, the only Prime Minister to be assassinated. The stonework on the tower parapet has become dangerous, and needs urgent repairs and repointing, which will cost £150,000. The Trustees have offered a grant of £5,000 towards this work.

St Mary & Holy Trinity Bow. Tower Hamlets. Grade II*

St Mary's is one of only two medieval churches to survive in Tower Hamlets, and in 2011 will celebrate its 700th anniversary. Although the church seems marooned on an island in the middle of the busy A11, it has a lovely churchyard full of trees. The church itself has a number of finely carved



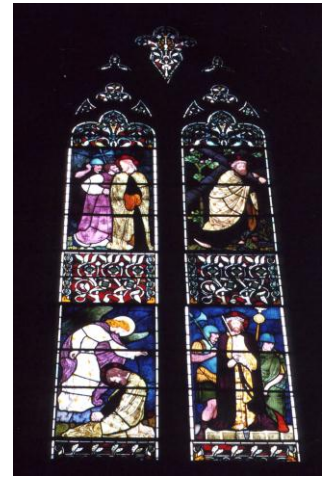
stone monuments and an interesting

Tudor tie beam roof over the chancel.

Ahead of their anniversary celebrations in November, the church would like to begin cleaning some of its 5 major memorials, which range in date from the mid-16th century to the early 18th century. These will cost about £11,000 each when repairs and specialist conservation are added to the cleaning. HOLT has offered a grant of £5,000 so that the church can conduct a preliminary cleaning of at least 1 memorial.

St Mary Magdelane, Paddington. Westminster. Grade I

This church has been on the Buildings at Risk register for some years, but they have been able to undertake some major works including replacing the roof, thanks to assistance from the EH/HLF joint repair scheme. HOLT gave a grant of £4,000 for the West Window in 2006. The church is now tackling repairs to the chancel windows, which were designed by Henry Halliday. The copper ties have worn considerably and some panels have begun bowing out of the masonry. The work will cost £36,000 and HOLT have offered a grant of £2,000.



St Gabriel's Church, Warwick Square. Westminster. Grade II*

HOLT helped St Gabriel's with a grant of £5,000 for essential stone repairs to the tower above the west door in 2008. We also held a concert here in September 2010. The church is in the middle of a £620,000 programme of repairs to the exterior, and are about to begin phase 2 works on the crumbling Kentish ragstone on the south and east faces of the tower. English Heritage are supporting this. To help with fundraising HOLT have offered a further grant of £2,000 towards the stone repairs.

