

St James the Less Street Project Friends' Newsletter - Winter 2024



G. E. Street Bicentenary Celebrations 2024

As we approach the end of this bicentenary year, we are pleased with the range of successful activities celebrating Street's work. We thank the Victorian Society for hosting and promoting many of the year's events and we particularly appreciate Professor Neil Jackson for his admirable leadership which has driven much of the programme. Friends and enthusiasts welcomed new publications and attended lectures covering Street's European inspirations and his influences on later styles, as well as the story of London's Law Courts. We've visited Street's architecture in London, Surrey, Berkshire and Yorkshire; and enjoyed the Gala Dinner at St James the Less, where a number of uniquely specialised items were on offer at the silent auction.

Over 150 people have visited St James the Less by attending an event, and a further 300 or so have heard more about G.E. Street during the year, which will all help to raise awareness of the Street Project and the restoration of Street's wonderful polychromatic church. Funds are still mounting up steadily and we aim to build on the momentum of this year's successes. We are close to appointing a dedicated Fundraiser who will focus on bidding for grants and trust-funding in 2025.

Finally, if you're looking for stocking-fillers, we still have a few of the bicentenary items for sale: two designs of tote bags with the Street centenary logo and a tea-towel with a striking image of Street's lily-finial railings will make excellent Christmas gifts.



Gusset bag with black handles £15, tea-towel £10 & simple tote bag £6.
Please contact churchadmin@sjtl.org for more information.

Works

Meanwhile, the heating works are virtually complete and we will be delighted to hold services back in church, without having to wrap up in scarves and hats to stay warm and starting with the Carols by Candlelight service! Unfortunately, the work in the boiler-room has revealed the poor state of the fencing and access gate, which urgently need to be repaired. We have had a quote of £28,000 and are working on faculty permissions, while a timely grant of £2,700 from the Benefact Trust will help with this cost.

We have also been granted £8,000 from Westminster Council towards insulation for the roof.

On November 12th, a few of the Project Committee attended The Historic Buildings Parks and Gardens Event at the QEII Centre in Westminster, where we spoke to several suppliers of specialist services for historical buildings. We met with teams from the Morton Partnership and Cliveden Conservation, who have already worked with us, and made further contact with other relevant firms, including an iron-works company who have been invited to quote for the railings.

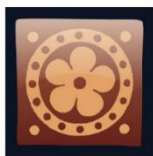
Future Events

17 Dec 2024 6.00pm: 'Street Closure' Event, The Victorian Society, 1 Priory Gardens W4 1TT

Coming in 2025: 'Women of Pimlico', talks on the Monk sisters and other significant women associated with the area; special guided tour of Westminster Abbey; visit to Two Temple Place and the Law Courts.

Community Activities

While St James the Less is an important building architecturally and historically, the Church is also at the heart of the community, offering activities that reach well beyond the regular congregation, to support families, schools, young people and the homeless community.



Preparing for Christmas ODM –

Time to bring gifts:
gloves, scarves, socks,
hats, chocolate
(wrapped),
toothbrush,
toothpaste, hand
sanitiser, razor,
shaving foam, comb,
antiperspirant,
shampoo.

Thank you

Open Door Meal: Every second Friday, an army of volunteers led by Lis, the Vicar, gather ingredients, peel and chop veg and cook an amazing meal for homeless and vulnerably-housed people in the neighbourhood. The Christmas Open Door Meal is extra special, with carol-singing and giving of gifts.



See left for items needed. (NB we no longer need Razors, toothbrushes, or chocolate)

Please drop off any donations by **Mon 16/Tues 17th December** for wrapping on Wednesday 18th and for giving at the Meal on Friday 20th.

Christmas Events – see website for more details and for Zoom links: www.sjtl.org

- 08 Dec 6.00pm:** Carols by Candlelight (in church + also on Zoom)
- 11 Dec 5-7.0pm:** Special Messy Christmas
- 15 Dec 5.00pm:** Carols on the Move – carols on foot around Pimlico
- 20 Dec 7.00pm:** Christmas Open Door Meal, with carols at 8.00pm
- 24 Dec 3.00pm:** Unstaged Nativity Service
 - 11.00pm:** Midnight Communion
- 25 Dec 9.00am:** Said Christmas Communion
 - 10.00am:** Family Christmas Celebration (also on Zoom)
- 31 Dec 11.30pm:** Watch Night Service

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Church Centre with full catering facilities - available for events, conferences, rehearsals, classes etc.

For information on Services and all other activities, see our website at: www.sjtl.org

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