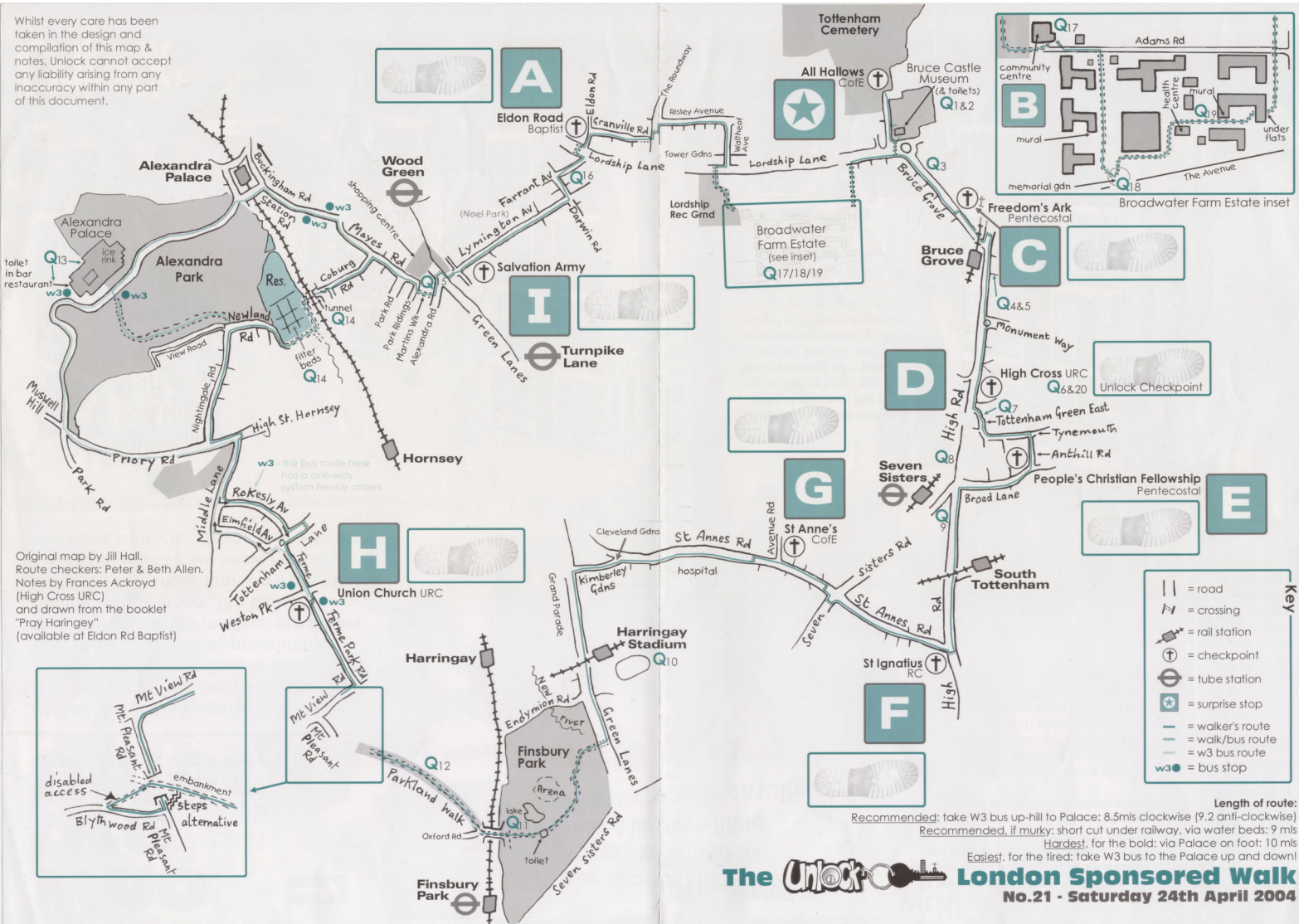
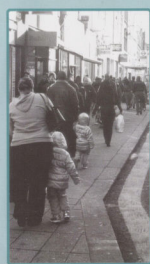


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The London Sponsored Walk No. 21 - Saturday 24th April 2004



The MP David Lammy claims that **Tottenham** contains over 150 different identifiable cultures - the most diversity in Europe! On your way round, see how many cultures you think you can spot. You are not so likely to identify asylum seekers and refugees, who make up 9% of the population, but the local churches know them and work with many in desperate circumstances.

Broadwater Farm Estate: within living memory it was a real farm! It became notorious in October 1985, when a serious riot took place. Much has been learnt from those tragic events, and an ecumenical group of clergy and church workers is active in the estate. It is now seen as a good place to live, many community activities take place, and people visit the estate from far and wide to look for good models of development.

A memorial garden reminds all who visit it of the sufferings of many people during those two terrible days in October 1985, which included the tragic deaths of Cynthia Jarrett during a police search of her house, and of P.C. Keith Blakelock in the resultant anti-police riot.

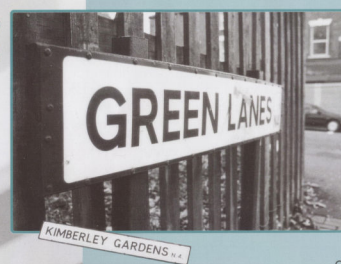
Alexandra Palace: rivaling the Crystal Palace in south London, it was opened in 1873 as a "pleasure palace". With its huge view across London, and a horizon as far away as the North Downs, it has been claimed as "the People's Palace". Twice gutted by fire, and still not fully restored, it nonetheless claims a unique place in the creation of television, and is used for many events - including a gathering of 2000 people when the Haringey churches celebrated the Millennium.

Bruce Castle Museum: there is plenty to look at in the local history and archives of Haringey. Originally the manor house of Tottenham, it was divided between three branches of the Scottish royal family in 1254, and Robert Bruce forfeited his third when he claimed the Scottish throne in 1306. It is likely the site has always remained the same, close to the medieval parish church of All Hallows, but the present building is mainly late Elizabethan with additions. It was a country haven for people escaping plague-ridden London.

[Rowland Hill was the inventor of the postage stamp - the origin of our postal system which charges sender rather than receiver. He was head of a famous school in **Bruce Castle** (1827-35) which in an age of great cruelty to schoolchildren, abandoned corporal punishment, emphasised motivation, and had a wide curriculum.]

High Cross: this is not a cross, but a monument on the island in the middle of the 'Tottenham High Road/Monument Way' junction on our route. It is said to be a crossroads where Queen Eleanor used to pause on her journeys (likely to be Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine, the first of three in our history).

The Palace & the Peacemakers



Prayer Haringey: The churches in the borough have entered into a remarkably strong bonding with each other, a fellowship of prayer and of action, working for peace in Haringey. The churches work with and pray for the Borough, particularly on the issues which blight the lives of young people. **They ask us to pray with them as we walk round, especially pray for justice, safety and peace in the area.**

Early examples of 'social' housing projects: **Bruce Grove** almshouses were built for 'decayed sailmakers and their widows'. **Noel Park** estate was built by the 'Artisans, Labourers and General Dwellings Co.' in the late 1800's. **Tower Gardens** was built by the LCC before the 1914-18 war, one of the earliest council-house estates.

A present day housing project easily missed: on top of **Wood Green** Shopping City is a village whose inhabitants are literally above it all! Distinct from a tower block - with just flats on each floor - this is built as a little suburb in the sky, complete with gardens, varied designs of houses etc. (Visible from Mayes Rd. on our route).

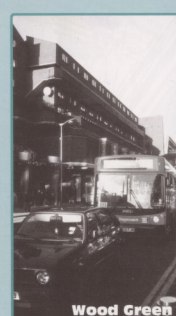
Tottenham Quakers: amongst many who benefitted the area was Priscilla Wakefield, who started a frugality bank for poor people, which ultimately led to the national Post Office Savings Bank.

Brook St. Chapel (off the Tottenham High Rd.). This was founded in 1839 by a former Quaker, Luke Howard, who also invented the names of cloud formations still in use today (cumulus; cirrus etc.). Later, in 1862, a 17 year old man named Barnardo was baptised there!

High Cross Church: A missionary with London Missionary Society (Congregational) was born several doors north of the church (see blue plaque). He was John Williams, 'Apostle of Polynesia', and gives his name to a hall at the church, where you can see pictures of his evangelistic travels in the early 1800's among South Pacific islands. He went with his wife when he was 20 and she 19, and they took nearly a year to get there.

Early evidence of a black community in Tottenham. Entries found in registers of Baptism & Burial of All Hallows church. These people would probably have been the 'property' of sea-captains at the height of the slave trade.

*John Cyrus, Captain Mademo's black (1710)
Julius Caesar, a black (1735)
Sarah Claret, wife of Robert, a Negro (1760)*



Wood Green