

WELCOME TO UNLOCK WALK 41

KENSINGTON, CHELSEA, HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

A WALK FILLED WITH SIGNS OF HOPE

Today's walk is full of contrasts. The grand and opulent houses you will pass sit across from a number of Council estates still providing homes for Council and Housing Association tenants. And these beautiful buildings were once run down multi-occupancy properties housing people who had been encouraged to come here from the Caribbean in the 1950's and 1960's. The terrible conditions they ended up living

in brought about major changes to housing law to halt the rough practices of "slum landlords", such as Peter Rachman, who operated in this very area.

Both the Council Housing that followed and the beautiful buildings we see today can be seen as signs of hope – that the worst of times will end, and goodness will be restored.

Passing the corner of Golborne Road you will notice a blue plaque dedicated to Kelso

Cochran who was murdered near here in 1959. The tragedy of his death resulted in over 1200 people attending his funeral procession, and pushed the government to set up an investigation into race relations which resulted in many improvements in that area. It also resulted in community activities that developed into the Notting Hill Carnival. Another good outcome was that the events led to Oswald Mosely failing to win a seat at the elections held shortly after the

murder (it was believed that his followers were responsible for the murder). Again, the community in this area responded to a local tragedy in ways that helped transform things for the better.

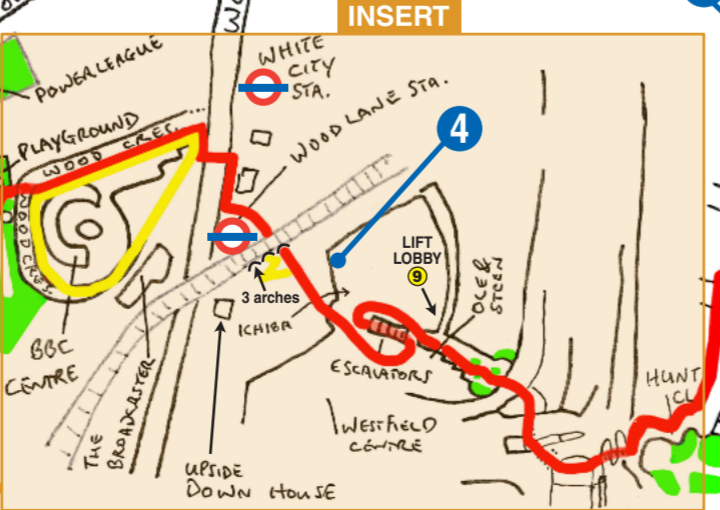
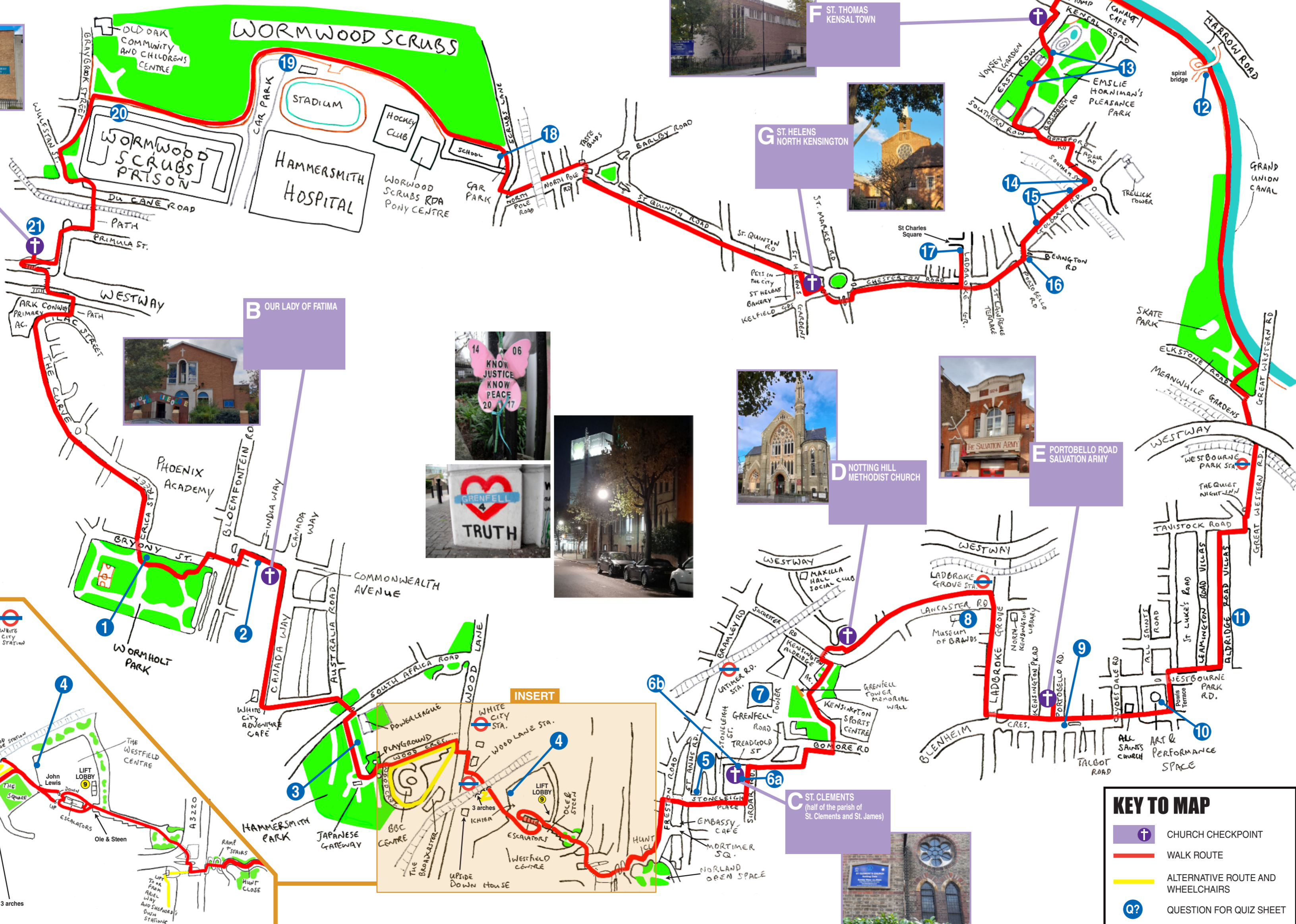
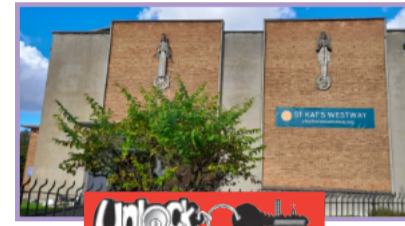
At many points in the walk you will find yourself encountering more of this community spirit. One example of this spirit was the short-lived Free Independent Republic of Frestonia, where the one remaining building is marked by a tiled mosaic on Freston Street. Another is Meanwhile Gardens, once a derelict site, was turned into a garden by locals as they fought to stop an unpopular proposed development. The gardens they created "in the meantime" have remained there for almost fifty years – the struggle still goes on.

Several of the churches you will visit have connections with the Carnival, and the Emslie Horniman's Pleasance Gardens, which were gifted to the local community when it was a place of

hardship and poverty, is now the start point for the Carnival and a major location for the family and children's events. Each place transformed by how local residents respond to hardships and, of course, now they are still supported by the churches and Christian communities which remain at the centre of so much of this work.

So, when you pause to pray close to the site of the terrible tragedy at Grenfell Tower, remember those that were lost and those still suffering and all who work inside this community to find both justice and a real peace for all involved. Love and a strong sense of hope resonate as you walk through these streets and we would love you will leave taking that hope with you and along with a commitment to remember the people here in your prayers.

Ian Smith
(Unlock London Walk Team)



KEY TO MAP	
	CHURCH CHECKPOINT
	WALK ROUTE
	ALTERNATIVE ROUTE AND WHEELCHAIRS
	QUESTION FOR QUIZ SHEET

GETTING THERE

As usual walkers are encouraged to start anywhere and go either way, to avoid a bulge at checkpoints. The area is served by three underground lines, the Overground and numerous bus services. Stations below are actually on the walk route, or else close. See special advice about Westfield for any arriving at Shepherd's Bush.

CENTRAL LINE

(On) White City
(Close) East Acton, Shepherd's Bush.

HAMMERSMITH & CITY AND CIRCLE LINES

Between London and Hammersmith:
(On) Ladbroke Grove, Westbourne Park, Wood Lane**
(Close) Latimer Road.

OVERGROUND

Between Clapham Junction and Willesden Junction:
(Close) Shepherd's Bush**
**= Lifts

BUS SERVICES

The walk route is crossed by all the following services:
7, 18, 23, 28, 31, 49, 52, 70, 72, 95, 148, 207, 220, 228, 237, 260, 283, 295, 316, 328, 452, C1

WESTFIELD CENTRE

The shopping centre is enormous and it is difficult not to get lost. The walk route crosses Westfield at a narrow part near the northern end (and John Lewis), using the lifts in Lift Lobby 9 or nearby escalators to move between Levels 2 and 0.

If you arrive at Shepherd's Bush you could take a bus to White City Bus Station and another point on the route. Should you choose to walk, follow the outside of Westfield round to the left until you reach the Southern Terrace Restaurant, on your left on the bend. Enter the doors opposite marked Westfield (you don't want The Village) into the Mall and then walk straight ahead northwards for nearly a quarter of a mile until you reach John Lewis. You are on Level 0.

FARES

London buses are cashless. You will need a bus pass, a contactless card or mobile phone, or else an Oyster or Travel Card. A single bus journey is charged at £1.75 (change of buses allowed if within 1 hour of start of journey) and multiple bus journeys are capped at £5.25. For a mixture of bus and train journeys paid with an Oyster or contactless payment card or mobile phone, daily capping works out cheaper than buying a Day Travel Card. The capping or cost of an off-peak travel card will depend on which zones you need to cover; the walk route lies entirely within Zone 2. Up to four children under eleven travel free with a fare paying adult.

PARKING

Residential roads in the western part of the walk area (between Quiz Q20 and Q1) have free on-road parking on Saturdays. There is also a car park at Checkpoint A. In the eastern part of the walk area (between Quiz Q5 and Q18) there is free parking on residential roads after 1.30pm on Saturdays. Before then most parking is reserved for permit holders but there are a few bays here and there where you can buy parking by phone for up to four hours if you can find a space.

WALKERS WITH WHEELS

The entire walk route is step free and push chair friendly with no steep hills and reasonable ramps as alternatives to steps. Lifts in Lobby 9 at Westfield are used for the change in height there between Levels 0 and 2. Only two stations have step-free access to platforms, namely Wood Lane which also has step-free access to trains, and Shepherd's Bush Overground which requires station staff assistance for yellow ramp access to/from the trains. Every London bus route is wheelchair accessible with automatic ramps and designated wheelchair spaces.

Further information is available on the Transport for London website at: tfl.gov.uk

LENGTH OF ROUTE

Approx 75 miles. Map not to scale

Date of next year's walk is
12 APRIL 2025

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Whilst every care has been taken in the design and compilation of this map & notes, Unlock cannot accept any liability arising from any inaccuracy within any part of this document or for any injury sustained whilst doing the walk.