

WELCOME TO UNLOCK WALK 32

THE 47 BUS

This walk has been styled "A tribute" to Peter Hall, who used to write the notes, and was known to very many of you on the walks. Peter was a former Chair of Unlock, (1982-2002) and was Bishop of Woolwich (1984-97). He died in December 2013. I have been asked to write the notes, as his wife.

It was suggested that we take the walk in 2015 through part of what was his "patch" as a bishop, so that takes us to the boroughs of Southwark and Lewisham (the third would be Greenwich, but that would be too much ground to cover! and we were there in Eltham, in 2013).

Geoff Coggins did all the planning last year for walk 31, because Peter was ill. All I had to do was my usual job of drawing the map. This time Geoff and I planned together, though Geoff did the detail. We chose a fairly "long thin walk" with the 47 bus to give relief whenever needed, as usual going either way, or jumping on and off as and when!

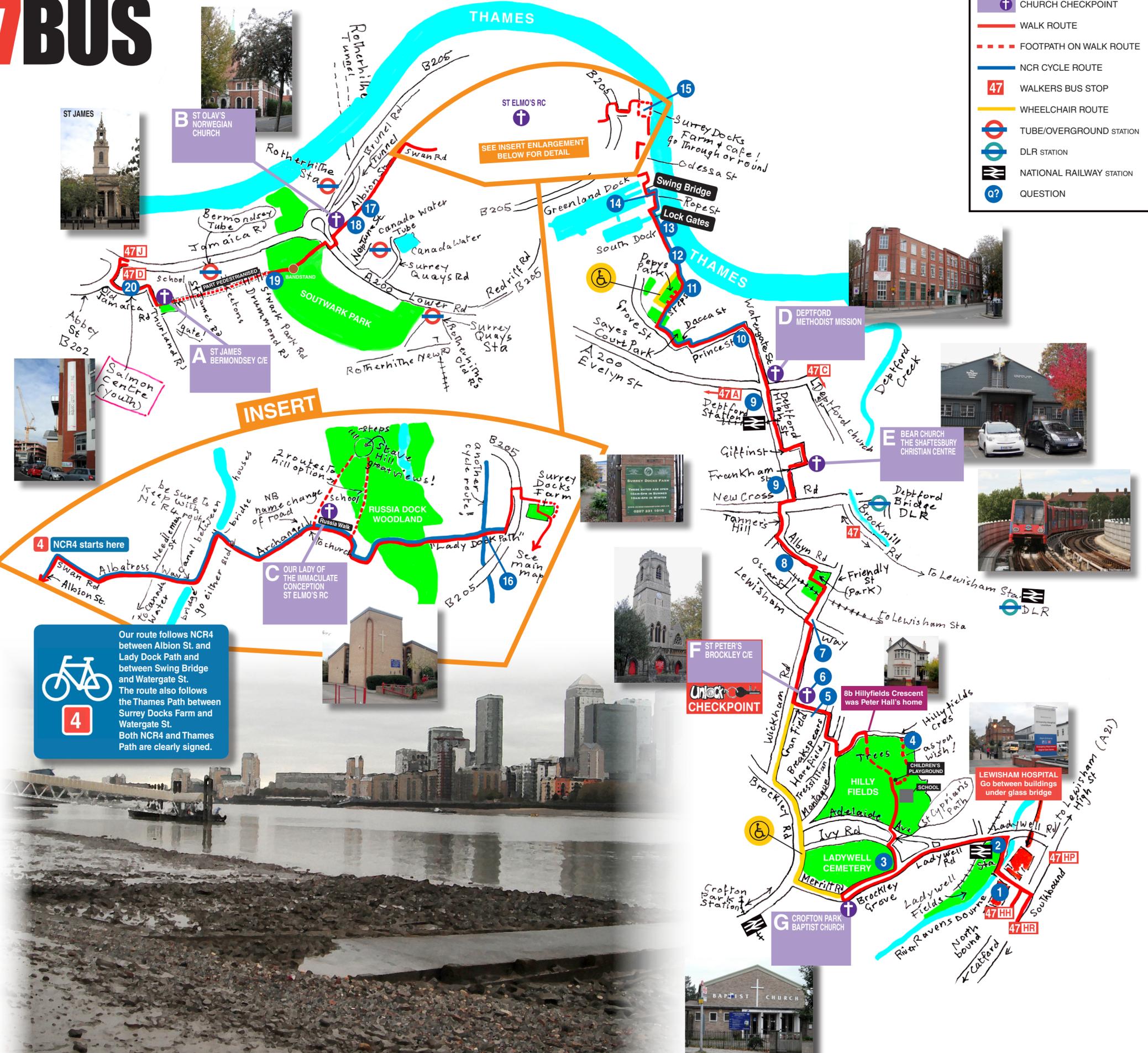
Starting (only for the purpose of description) in the S.E. edge, we find Lewisham Hospital, which hit the headlines recently, when it stood up to being closed by central government! Then on to a lively Baptist church, and then to "Hillyfields", where Peter and I used to live, and thence to what was our local church, St Peter's (though Peter was always off somewhere else!).

The walk goes down to Deptford (which Peter described in '95 as "One of the hardest, yet most excitingly cosmopolitan of places"). Here we meet "The Bear" (imaginative dealings with the young) and the Methodists, faithfully caring for the old and welcoming us again despite the fact that the Marathon will pass their doors the next day!! Then we follow the riverside to revisit the city farm, and the strange new world of Rotherhithe – and find a cycle track through new houses (a real effort to make human-sized housing, instead of tower-blocks). In the middle is a Catholic church, almost hidden. Don't miss it!! And don't miss the view from Stave Hill if you can manage steps. Thence to St Olav's Norwegian church (Olav – a Brit - went to Norway to convert them! so they invited Peter to their 2000 year celebration in Norway!!). Though not a check-point this year, the nearby Salmon Youth Centre is well worth a visit, and there will be people on hand to show you around.

What strikes me, as always, is how delighted people are to receive all of us, and have us tramping our mud on their floors! There is a real sense of common purpose across all our differences, which never seems to vary - a sense of worship of the same God, and delight in sharing, whatever our differences.

Happy walking!

Jill Hall



KEY TO MAP

- CHURCH CHECKPOINT
- WALK ROUTE
- FOOTPATH ON WALK ROUTE
- NCR CYCLE ROUTE
- WALKERS BUS STOP
- WHEELCHAIR ROUTE
- TUBE/OVERGROUND STATION
- DLR STATION
- NATIONAL RAILWAY STATION
- QUESTION

THE WALKING ROUTE AND THE "47" BUS

Although the walk is linear, as usual walkers are encouraged to start anywhere and go either way, to avoid a bulge at checkpoints. The ends of the walking route are connected by the 47 bus route, which touches or passes near many other points on the walk, notably at Canada Water, Deptford Methodist Church, Deptford Bridge DLR Station and Lewisham Station. Buses are every ten minutes and the total ride between Lewisham Hospital and Jamaica Road takes about 50 minutes. Looking out from upstairs on the bus will give you a different perspective on the area from that seen as you walk.

IMPORTANT NOTE

London Buses are now cashless
You will need either a **Bus Pass**, an **Oyster Card**, a **Contactless Payment Card** or a **Travelcard**. (Travelcards available from tube/rail stations). An adult single bus journey on Oyster or Contactless Card is charged at £1.45.

GETTING THERE

RAIL
Brockley, Crofton Park, Deptford, Ladywell and Lewisham stations.

TUBE
Bermondsey, Canada Water (Jubilee Line).

OVERGROUND
Brockley, Canada Water, Rotherhithe.

DLR
Deptford Bridge, Lewisham.

FROM CANADA WATER
(Jubilee Line, Overground and lots of bus routes including 47).

Either walk towards "Decathlon Sports" and turn left along the "canal" Albion Channel to Albatross Way, or take a **381** or **C10** bus to Lady Dock Path.

FROM LEWISHAM STATION
(DLR, national rail and lots of bus routes including 47).

Buses to Lewisham Hospital
Departure point (stop **D**) **47, 75, 136, 185, 208**

Bus to Crofton Park Baptist Church via Ladywell Station
Departure point (stop **C**) **P4**

WHEELCHAIR USERS

All the stations mentioned above except Brockley and Rotherhithe have wheelchair access.

Wheelchair users are very strongly advised to do the route from south to north, and could use the **P4** bus which will stop outside Crofton Park Baptist Church to avoid the long drag up from Ladywell station. There are two wheelchair diversions; firstly to avoid Hilly Fields which has very steep slopes, and then briefly at Pepys Park to avoid steps on the Thames Path.

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

LENGTH OF ROUTE

Approx 7 miles
Map not to scale

Date of next year's walk is
23 APRIL 2016

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- Ashley Emery - able-design.co.uk

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.