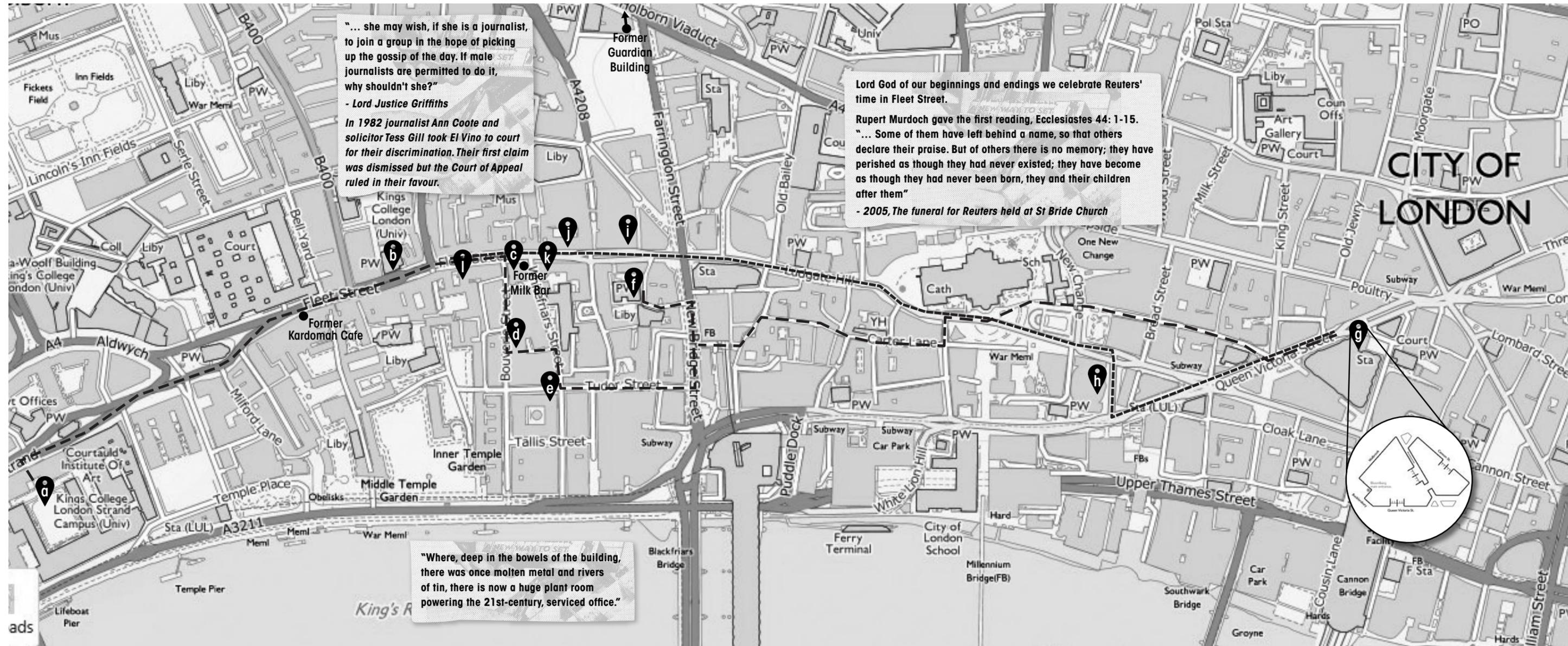


A NEW WAY TO SET

Thursday 14th November 2019, 19.00



KEY

--- Outgoing route Return route

STOPPING OFF AT

- | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 📍 Somerset House | 📍 Former Mail Building | 📍 Former Express Building |
| 📍 DC Thomson & Co Ltd | 📍 St Bride Foundation | 📍 Former Telegraph Building |
| 📍 Former Scotsman Building | 📍 Bloomberg Building | 📍 Former Reuters Building |
| 📍 Former Sun and News of the World Building | 📍 Financial Times HQ | 📍 El Vino |

INTINERARY

- | | |
|---|--|
| 19:00 Tour Departs | 20:30 Arrive at Bloomberg Building (3 Queen Victoria St) |
| 19:00 Walk to St Bride Foundation
Stopping en route at;
DC Thomson & Co Ltd (185 Fleet St)
Former Scotsman Building (63 Fleet St)
Former Sun and News of the World Building (30 Bouverie St)
Former Mail Building (26 Tudor St) | 21:20 Walk to El Vino
Stopping en route at;
Financial Times HQ (1 Friday St)
Former Express Building (120 Fleet St),
Former Telegraph Building (135-141 Fleet St),
Former Reuters Building (85 Fleet St) |
| 19:25 Arrive at St Bride Foundation (14 Bride Lane) | 21:45 Arrive at El Vino (47 Fleet Street) |
| 20:10 Walk to Bloomberg Building | |

a Somerset House, Stamp Stairs

Until 1855, every newspaper in the country had to be stamped at Somerset House to show it had paid the correct tax. This put considerable duress on the turnaround speed of newspaper production and consumption. Following the repeal of stamp duty in 1855, paper prices dropped and their trade grew exponentially, enabling the industry to dominate the commercial activity of Fleet Street.

"In these damp, black and comfortless recesses the clerks of the nation grope about like moles... and stamp, sign, examine, indite, doze and swear as unconscious of the revolving sun as many miserable demons of romance condemned to toil for ages in the centre."

b DC Thomson & Co Ltd

DC Thomson, 185 Fleet St, is the site of the "last two journalists of Fleet Street", after the Dundee-based Sunday Post left the offices in 2016. DC Thomson, a media group, however, still maintain advertising offices at the building.

d Former Sun and News of The World Building

Former The Sun and News of The World building, 30 Bouverie Street: In solidarity with the miners during the mid-1980s, printers at The Sun refused to print a headline comparing Arthur Scargill to Adolf Hitler.

"The picture came through. I refused to touch it. Arthur [Scargill] was waving to someone - there was no [Nazi] salute. A huge shock wave went through the offices when we stopped the page. We just would not set that headline." - Father of The Sun Chapel



e Former Mail Building



f St. Bride Foundation

The St. Bride's Foundation was originally set up to provide a communal space for the printers of nearby Fleet Street. Our evening tour of the Foundation will be led by Bob Richardson, Library Manager, and Mick Clayton, ex-compositor, who will talk us through the kinds of night work hot metal printing demanded of its labour force.

Just opposite is St. Bride's Church, aka the "journalist's church". When Reuters left their designed building for Canary Wharf in 2005, St. Bride's Church held 'funeral' for the news agency. They hold vigils regularly for journalists in violent locations around the world.

g Bloomberg Building

The Bloomberg Building is designed to facilitate "chance meetings" and "impromptu conversations" between colleagues. Here, the architecture performs a similar function to the pubs, bars, and cafes along Fleet St acting as sites of informal exchange integral to the production of news.



h Financial Times HQ

Financial Times HQ, Bracken House: The FT left the premises in 1989, only to return to it earlier this year. The image here is of its famous zodiac clock with Winston Churchill's face at its centre.



i Former Express Building

Former Express Building, 120 Fleet St: Built 1932. Originally designed in stone, concerns about the foundational stability owing to printing presses operating in the building's basement led to its construction in steel and glass. For decades, Private Eye referred to the iconic structure as 'The Black Lubyanka' (The HQ of the Russian Secret Service). When The Express left in 1989, the building was vacant before being refurbished and leased to Goldman Sachs from 2000-2015.



i Former Telegraph Building

Former Telegraph Building, 135-141 Fleet St. (Goldman Sachs from 1989-2015): The co-working giant, WeWork, are to lease the building next year, with offices open 24/7, just like their current site on Chancery Lane.



k Former Reuters Building

Former Reuters building, 85 Fleet St. Built 1934, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens for Reuters and the Press Association who occupied the building until 2005. The keystone over the central archway shows a knight slaying "lies and untruth" over a monogram of the letters R and PA, each surrounded by the electric radio waves to signify Reuters' and the Press Association's global reach.

i El Vino

Right up until the 1980s, El Vino bar was 'the gossip shop' of Fleet Street. Women, however, were refused service. In 1982, journalist Anna Coote and solicitor Tess Gill took the pub to court for this discrimination. Their first claim was dismissed, but the Court of Appeal found in their favour, ruling that being denied the chance to "pick up the gossip of the day" could harm a journalist's career. Curiously, the appeal could only proceed after the presiding judges declared an interest in the case; they were both customers of El Vino's.

Printers at The Guardian hold a funeral for the last ever edition made via hot metal printing.

The coffin reads, "The Guardian, 1961-1987, Dissed off in haste, WAS HOT, NOW GONE COLD."



The News Again: A vendor with copies of the Evening News after the Fleet Street strike in 1955.



Couriers on Carmelite Street.



With thanks to:

St Brides Foundation
14 Bride Ln, London EC4Y 8EQ

Bloomberg News

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