

# Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers



## LONDON WALK

SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

### From House of Power to Power House

Our walk today follows the route of the Thames Path from St Mary's Church, Putney, downriver to the site of the Battersea Power Station development.

The church is located on the south side of Putney Bridge, which is about 10 minutes' walk from Putney Bridge station on the District Line – located on the north side of Putney Bridge. The church is also 7 minutes' walk down the High Street from the South Western Railway station, which is served on this occasion by buses due to railway engineering works.

St Mary's Church, now substantially re-built after a disastrous fire in the 1970s, was the venue for the Putney Debates in 1647. This historic event saw ordinary soldiers take on their generals to argue for greater democracy and provided a platform for 'common people' to make their voices heard. These debates, forced by the Levellers, paved the way for many of the civil liberties we value today.

The walk starts at 10.30 and sets out eastwards for a short distance along the south bank as far as the bridge which conveys District Line trains from Earl's Court to Wimbledon; it also incorporates a little-known pedestrian walkway. For almost the entire length of the rest of the walk, the route follows the north bank, as far as Chelsea Bridge.

Once on the north bank, our route continues eastward, inland for a while, to pass the Hurlingham Club, until the Thames is reached once more, with broad views across the river. The Thames Path threads its way through Chelsea Harbour and its upmarket Marina, before heading once more inland to by-pass the first of two power stations – Lots Road, now just a skeleton of its former self, when it generated electricity for the capital's Underground trains.

A cup of coffee might beckon, perhaps at a venue where the comings and goings at Battersea Heliport might be observed across the river, before reaching Cheyne Walk and a line of stylish houseboats.

Battersea Bridge and Albert Bridge both present opportunities to cross back on to the south bank [a vote as to which bridge, including Chelsea Bridge, should be crossed will be taken on the day], before finishing the walk at the new development at Battersea Power Station. A branch of Wright Brothers would be a good venue for a fish or seafood lunch; and not far away is the newly refurbished Duchess Belle pub.

The detail of the walk on the north bank can be followed on <http://content.tfl.gov.uk/thames-path-north-section-1.pdf>

There is no charge for joining the group and indeed no need to book, although if you want to contact James Dixon [who is leading this walk], on 07804 673 804, in advance for further details, he would be pleased to take your call.

Please note that walking on the Thames Path is entirely at your own risk, and we very much hope you will be able to join us. It would be sensible to double-check weekend engineering works before setting off: the website for TfL is <https://tfl.gov.uk/tube-dlr-overground/status/> That for Network Rail is [http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/service\\_disruptions/currentAndFuture.aspx](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/service_disruptions/currentAndFuture.aspx)