



Course details

Course title

Art and About: Walking Radical London – The Strand & Fleet Street

Course code

Q00019142

Course date

Start: 20/06/25

End: 20/06/25

Number of classes

1 sessions

Timetable

Fri 20th Jun, 10:30 to 13:30

Tutor

Laurie Johnston

Fee range

Free to £12.60

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

Meeting Place:Charing Cross Railway Stat
Charing Cross Station
Strand

London
WC2N 5HS

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

This gentle walk down the Strand to Fleet Street from Charing Cross Station will concentrate on the sites the area's radical past. From the meeting places of the London Corresponding Society, to the Chartists & their Six Point Charter, Sylvia Pankhurst's Communist Party of Great Britain's headquarters, radical booksellers and publishers – all will be pointed out. We will take regular pauses to look at some of the evidence for what was once a hotbed of radical and revolutionary politicking. We will discuss the contribution and achievement of these movements and individuals and ask what their legacy is. Meet at the Eleanor Cross, Charing Cross Station, London.

Course description

There have been many attempts to construct a continuous narrative of English Radicalism. 18th and 19th century movements and thinkers often drew upon the notion of a love of liberty that ran through English history, Alfred the Great, Magna Carta, the Peasants Revolt etc. There is some truth in all of this but also much chaff to separate. But you can make an argument for this area of London being a hotbed of radicalism over the centuries. If there is anything to connect the peasants of 1381 to the communists of the 1920s, The London Corresponding Society and the WSPU it may well be the Strand and Fleet Street. Few of the buildings remain but the road layouts are largely the same and some of the same landmarks punctuate the walk. In the eighteenth century we would have been walking past coffeehouses and taverns, booksellers and printers. The purpose of this walk is to stand in the same places as radicals from 14th to the 20th century and to argue about whether there is such a thing as English Radicalism and what trace there is of it now. In the record and in our lives.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

Source URL: <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/history/20-june-art-and-about-walking-radical-london-strand-fleet-street>