



THE STREETS OF LONDON

THREE WEDNESDAYS

You may not be taken by the hand as in the Ralph McTell song, but you will be led through the streets of London to 'show you something to make you change your mind'. Like constant friends we often take for granted, behind the hallowed portals of these streets are unexamined riches. Bond Street was built by Sir Thomas Bond as long ago as 1680. More recently, one building was equipped, for no obvious reason, with a carillon of 23 bells. Knightsbridge goes back to Edward I, and is named after a crossing of the river Welbourne, one of London's hidden rivers. Later, Humphreys Hall in Knightsbridge inspired the Mikado. Wigmore Street was named after Lord Harley's Wigmore Castle in Herefordshire, hence too nearby Harley Street. Here at one time lived the writer Ugo Foscolo; and here, at his humble lodgings, he used to entertain at breakfast Samuel Rogers, Tom Campbell, Roscoe the historian, Cyrus Redding, and other celebrities. This is to mention nothing of some of the finest shopfronts in Europe. On this new Culture in Question series, we meet at the relevant Underground station, walk up one side of the street, have lunch at the end, and then walk back, looking at every building for the story it has to tell, historical, social and commercial.

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY BOND STREET

Please meet outside Bond Street Underground Station.

WEDNESDAY 25 MAY WIGMORE STREET

Please meet outside Marble Arch Underground Station.

WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Please meet outside Knightsbridge Underground Station.

£70 per day members, £80 per day non-members, or £175 members, £205 non-members, for all three days.