



Self-guided Tour of the Churchyard

Welcome to St Andrew's Church

Originally known as "The Chapel on the Common" St Andrews was built in 1831. A grade 2 listed building, the chancel was designed by renowned architect and colourist G F Bodley. A place of welcome, worship and community activity, St Andrew's is also popular for filming including crime drama 'Unforgotten' and detective drama 'Ludwig'.

There will be a rose marking each grave mentioned here.

Please take great care as the graves and churchyard are very uneven.

The tour has been put together for Ham Open Gardens, Sunday 17th May. More than 20 gardens around Ham Common will be open from 12-5 pm. This year St Andrews Church will be open with guided architectural tours as well as self-guided tours of the graveyard which has significant national and local points of interest. In St Andrew's Church Hall, Burgers and Sausages with salads, Beer and Pimm's, soft drinks and iced lollies will be served from 12 midday. A joint Meadlands and Russell School choir will be singing in the church at 1pm. Home-made cakes and teas will be provided at St Thomas Aquinas Church and outside by the Pond a Jazz band will entertain visitors. All proceeds to local charities.

Toilets are available in the St Andrew's Church Hall.



Begin between the church and the carpark.

Number 1

Rev. Joseph Brown was vicar of Christchurch, Blackfriars in London. He founded the National Orphan Home for Girls on Ham Common, to care for children orphaned by the

cholera epidemic of 1849. The girls were trained in domestic service, and left for employment at the age of 15. The building still stands and is now called South Lodge.

Number 2

Vice-Admiral Hyde Parker (1784 – 1854) was a Royal Navy Officer, active in the Napoleonic Wars. He became Admiral Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard in 1842. As First Naval Lord, he ensured that all new warships were propelled by steam and increased the size of the fleet. His wife Caroline and their son are also buried here. Hyde Parker, the son died in the same year as his father on active service in the Crimean War. Inside the church you can see a plaque in their memory.





Number 3

William Samuel Hudson Palmer (1896 – 1917) fell in WW1. He was about to complete his final solo flight in training when his plane crashed on landing and caught fire. On his gravestone his parents have engraved ‘Fly on, dear boy, from this dark world of strife on to the land of promise, into eternal life’.

Walk behind the church to the Garden of Remembrance. Diagonally left is an upright Celtic Cross.



Number 4

Samuel Joseph Gray (1849 – 1906) was a Beefeater at the Tower of London. He served in the Army for 29 years, including 18 years in India and Afghanistan. On his discharge, he became a park keeper in Richmond Park, and in 1899 became a Yeoman of the Guard, and took part in the coronation



procession of Edward VII in 1902, for which he was awarded the Coronation Medal. At his funeral, his coffin was carried to church on a gun carriage, and 6 sergeants of the Rifle Brigade were his pall bearers.

Walk down the churchyard path towards the flagpole. Look for this grave on your left, halfway down behind a grave with railings.



Number 5

Sir Richard Owen (1804 – 1892) was a prominent biologist and palaeontologist who invented the word ‘dinosaur’ meaning terrible reptile. He was the first director of the Natural History Museum, and has several fossils named after him. He helped create the life size dinosaur sculptures in Crystal Palace Park, which can still be seen today.

Continue down the path beside the church building in the direction of the War Memorial until you are level with the corner of the church building. A way to your left is Grave 6 – a wide, flat grave with a cross lying on it.

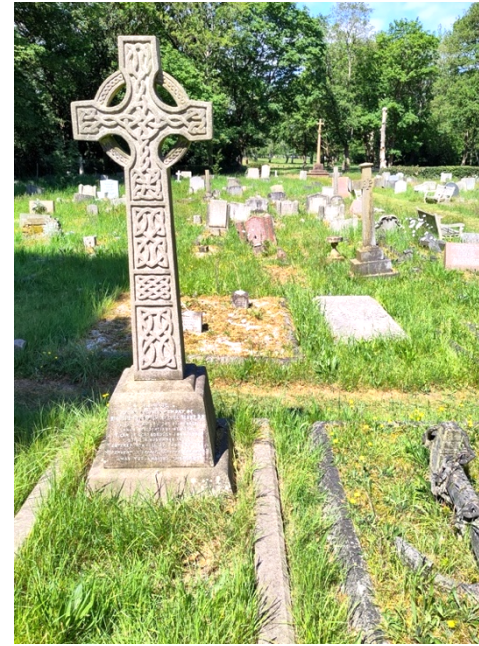


Number 6

The Hon. Violet Hyacinth Bowes-Lyon (1882 – 1893) died of diphtheria at her grand-parents' home on Ham Common age 11. She was sister to Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and therefore Great Aunt to our present King, Charles III.



Close to the flagpole, in front of the Church and little patio area, are Graves 7, 8 and 9.



Number 7

Rev. Richard Frederick Lefevre Blunt (1833 – 1910) was the first Anglican Bishop of Hull. His son, Rev. Arthur Stanley Vaughan Blunt, also buried in this churchyard, was vicar of St. Andrew's Church. They were the father and grandfather of Anthony Blunt, who was a British Art Historian and Soviet spy.



Number 8

Lieutenant Stewart Carmac Weigall RN (1864 – 1910), notice the anchor on his grave. He worked on surveying duties in Australia, China and the Solomon Islands for the Royal Navy. Weigall Reefs north of Cookstown on the North Queensland coast are named after him.





Number 9

Hesba Stretton (aka Sarah Smith) was a successful children’s author, selling 2 million copies of ‘Jessica’s First Prayer’ in her lifetime – more than Alice in Wonderland. She co-founded The London Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to

Children in 1884, which became the NSPCC 5 years later.



Walk down the central path towards the War Memorial, just past the second bench on your right, go right towards the fence. Look for the broken stone cross which now lies on the grave

Number 10

George Dockrell OBE (1886 – 1924), born in Dublin, was an Olympic swimmer who competed for Great Britain in the Men’s 100 Metres Freestyle event in the 1908 Olympic Games held in London. He joined the Rifle Brigade in the First

World War and was wounded by shrapnel while fighting in France. He later died of his wounds at the Officers’ Hospital in Richmond.

St Andrew’s churchyard is also pleased to have a great many wildflowers that attract insects and increase biodiversity, including the rare flower Meadow Saxifrage.

With thanks to Joanna Horner, Denis Roser, Lu Slaytor and Revd Alice for helping put together this leaflet.



Please join us again for:

Sunday 31st May – Poetry Mass: CS Lewis, 6pm
Sunday 28th June – Hymns and Pimm’s, 6pm
Saturday 21st November – Christmas Fair

Follow us on Instagram:

www.instagram.com/standrewschurchham



St Andrew's receives no government funding but relies on the generous donations of local people.

It costs £3,000 a week to fund our community work and maintain this beautiful, historic building. During this difficult financial time the church needs the help of our friends and supporters more than ever.

To support the future of your local parish church with a gift you can use this QR code or go to www.standrewsham.church

Thank you so much for your kind generosity.