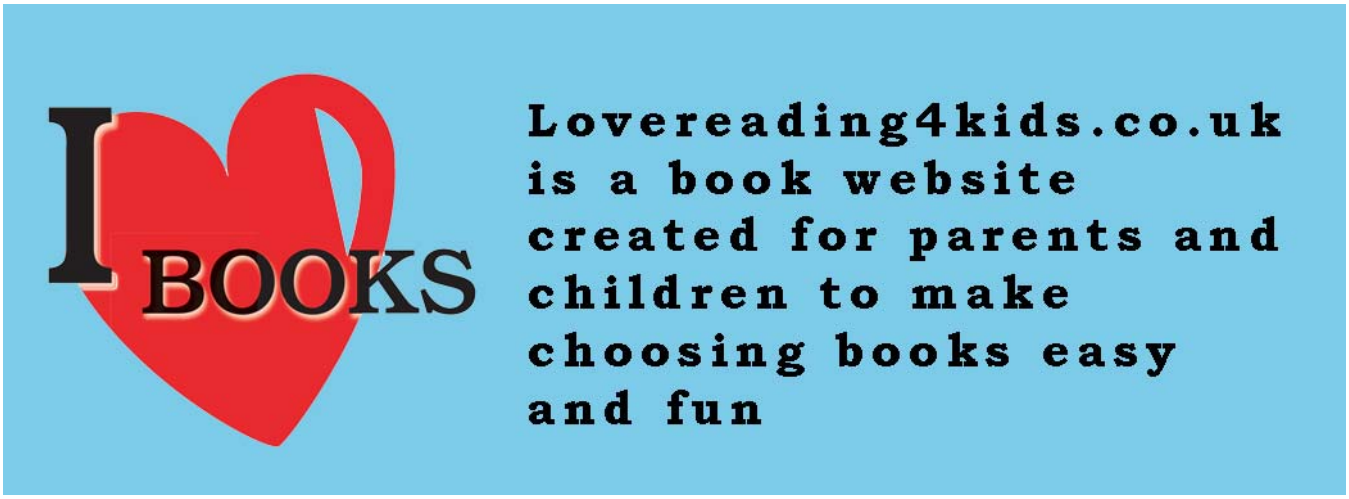


Opening extract from

City Trails – London

Written by

Moira Butterfield

Published by

Lonely Planet

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Commissioned and project managed by Dynamo Limited
London consultant: Anita Isalska
Author: Moira Butterfield
Editor: Dynamo Limited
Design: Dynamo Limited
Illustration: Dynamo Limited
Index: Marie Lorimer
Publishing Director: Piers Pickard
Publisher: Tim Cook
Commissioning Editor: Jen Feroze
Print Production: Nigel Longuet, Larissa Frost

Published in June 2016 by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983
ISBN: 978 1 76034 227 2

www.lonelyplanetkids.com

© Lonely Planet 2016

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise except brief extracts for the purpose of review, without the written permission of the publisher. Lonely Planet and the Lonely Planet logo are trademarks of Lonely Planet and are registered in the US patent and Trademark Office and in other countries.

Although the author and Lonely Planet have taken all reasonable care in preparing this book, we make no warranty about the accuracy or completeness of its content and, to the maximum extent permitted, disclaim all liability from its use.

Lonely Planet Offices

Australia
Level 2 and 3, 551 Swanston Street, Carlton 3053, Victoria, Australia
Phone: 03 8379 8000 Email: talk2us@lonelyplanet.com.au

USA
150 Linden St, Oakland, CA 94607
Phone: 510 250 6400 Email: info@lonelyplanet.com

United Kingdom
240 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NW
Phone: 020 3771 5100 Email: go@lonelyplanet.co.uk

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC™ C021741

Paper in this book is certified against the Forest Stewardship Council™ standards. FSC™ promotes environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.

lonely planet Kids

LONDON
City Trails

Moira Butterfield

SPECIAL STREETS

To qualify for a cabbie's badge, London cab drivers have to learn the names of over 60,000 roads in central London. Not surprisingly it takes them years, but you can take a shortcut and discover some of the capital city's most interesting streets right here.

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS CHURCH PATH WC2

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

THE LONGEST STREET NAME IN LONDON IS IN THE BOROUGH OF WESTMINSTER.



START

ABBEY ROAD

LITTLE COMPTON STREET

CARTING LANE

DOOR OF POWER

10 DOWNING STREET

10 DOWNING STREET

Britain's prime minister (PM) lives at Number 10 Downing Street. Here, for nearly three centuries PMs have eaten, drunk, snoozed and run the country (not necessarily all at once!). PMs are never given the keys to their home, though. Armed guards have to let them in and out.

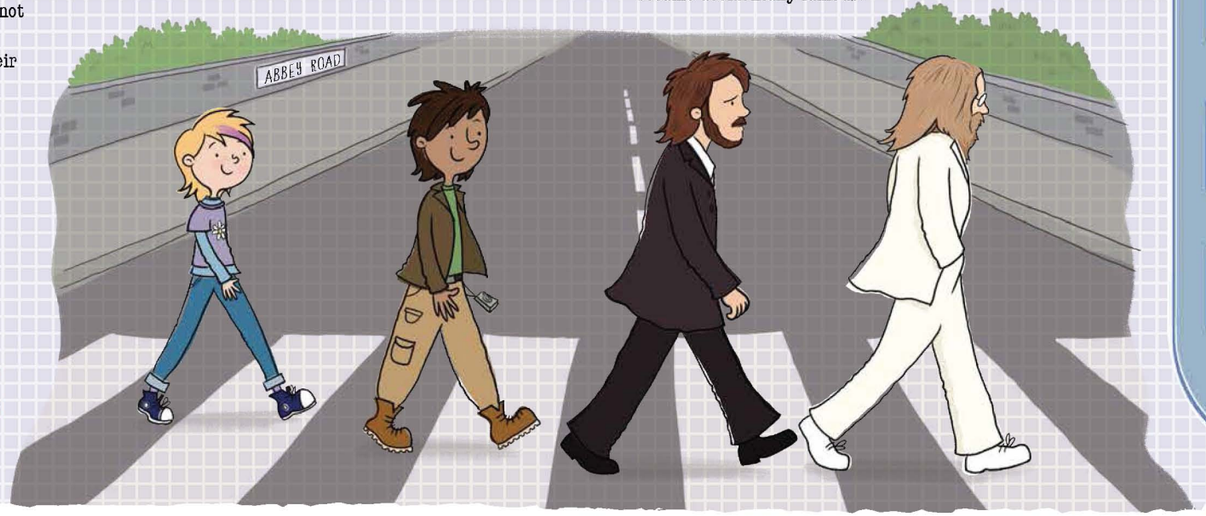


NUMBER 10 IS ONE OF THE MOST HEAVILY GUARDED BUILDINGS IN BRITAIN, AND IT'S EVEN PROTECTED FROM MICE. IT HAS ITS OWN CAT, WITH THE OFFICIAL TITLE CHIEF MOUSER.

SNAP STREET

ABBEY ROAD PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Cameras at the ready, everyone! Visitors from across the globe stride across the Abbey Road pedestrian crossing all day long, while their friends take photos – and all because of a world-famous supergroup.



The Beatles posed here for the cover of their *Abbey Road* album, released in 1969. It sold millions, and music fans have been recreating the cover shot ever since.

Check out the webcam online – the 'Abbey Road crossing cam' – and watch people holding up traffic on Abbey Road in real time. Then search for the album cover itself and spot American tourist Paul Cole. He was photographed standing in the background of the iconic cover and became accidentally famous.

A PIECE OF THE PAST

LITTLE COMPTON STREET

Since London is thousands of years old, there is a lot of past life buried under its streets. Who knows what long-gone secrets lurk deep beneath the feet of today's Londoners? A little glimpse of the past can be seen hidden beneath a street grate in the Soho area of London. Here lies Little Compton Street, an old lane where Londoners once walked. It was covered over by new buildings in 1896, but it remains in the shadows along with its street sign.



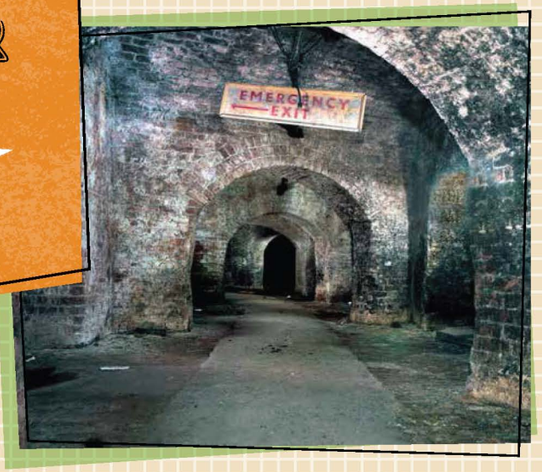
STINKY SWITCH-ON

CARTING LANE

Walk this way for whiffiness. Carting Lane was once nicknamed Farting Lane because, until the 1950s, its street lamps were partly powered by waste gas from London's sewage. Locals used to joke that guests at the nearby super-posh Savoy Hotel caused the lamps to flicker when they broke wind. These days the lamps are powered by gas from the mains, but the nickname has hung around like a bad smell.

TUNNEL UNDER LONDON

There's a whole world of tunnels, underground rivers and secret spaces under London. Let's switch on our torches, crawl down there and take a look!



DEEPLY TASTY

30M (98FT) UNDERGROUND

CLAPHAM NORTH DEEP AIR-RAID SHELTERS

A group of old World War Two air-raid shelters, hidden deep under Clapham, are being reused in interesting new ways. Documents and film archives are stored down there, and one area has even become an underground farm. LED lights plus water gathered from underground help shelves of mini vegetables, herbs and salad crops to grow all year round, ready for use in London restaurants.



LONDON LABYRINTHS

CAMDEN & CLERKENWELL CATACOMBS

Beneath the busy streets of Camden Town there is a labyrinth of abandoned catacombs (tunnels), which were once used as horse stables and underground warehouses 200 years ago. The risk of flooding (and general spookiness) mean they're off-limits to visitors. Further to the east, a set of tunnels called the Clerkenwell Catacombs has a horrible history as a prison, The House of Detention, dating back to 1617.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, CLERKENWELL'S PRISON CAVERNS ARE SAID TO BE HAUNTED. VISITORS HAVE REPORTED SHADOWY FIGURES STALKING THEM, PLUS GHOSTLY SOBBING. EEK! LET'S MOVE ON QUICKLY!

UNDERGROUND

THE LONDON UNDERGROUND TUBE SYSTEM

402 KM

The Underground System covers about 402km (250 miles) around London.

About 45 per cent of it is actually in tunnels.



58M (190FT)

Hampstead (left) is the deepest station at 58m (190ft).

1.03 BILLION

Around 1.03 billion passengers travel on the Tube every year.



TOP-SECRET SPOT

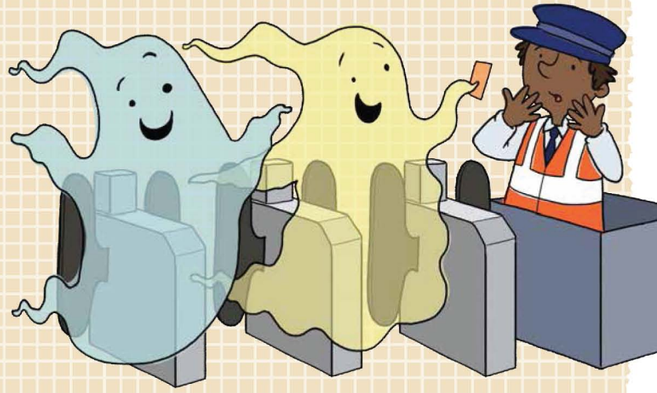
CABINET WAR ROOMS

Winston Churchill led Britain through World War II in a top-secret subterranean hideout right in the middle of London. This underground control centre would once have been buzzing with military types poring over maps and having vital meetings as German planes rained bombs down above. It was locked shut in 1945, at the end of the war, and not reopened until 1975, when the world learnt about it for the very first time. The rooms are kept as they were left, with wartime maps scattered around and lifelike models of people carrying out their jobs.

UNDERGROUND GHOSTS

ALDWYCH UNDERGROUND STATION

Over 40 Underground stations are 'ghost stations'. That doesn't mean they're special stops for spooks. It means they're left empty and unused. One of these ghost stations, Aldwych, is kept as a museum piece and is often used as a set by film and TV companies.



START

CLAPHAM NORTH

CAMDEN TOWN

KING CHARLES STREET

ALDWYCH STATION

HIGHEST IN TOWN

THE SHARD

The Shard is the highest skyscraper in Europe, and gives the highest view of London, from a viewing platform 244m (800ft) up. The architect decided he wanted the building to look as if it was rising like an iceberg from the river nearby.



309.6M (1,015.7FT) HIGH



SHARD SHIVERS

The crane drivers who helped to build the Shard worked nearly 310m (1,000ft) high and could feel the vibrations from jet planes flying above them.

309.6M (1,015.7FT) HIGH

72 FLOORS

306 FLIGHTS OF STAIRS

£500M

The soaring skyscraper cost upwards of £500m (US$759m) to build. At one point, 5,400 cubic metres of concrete were being poured every three minutes.



FEARLESS FOX

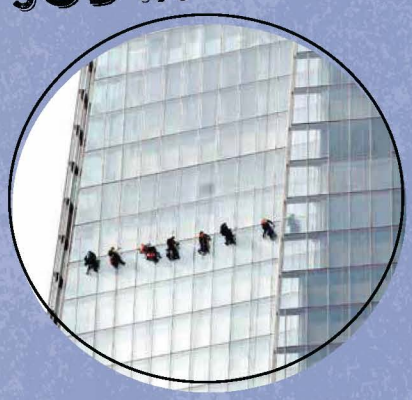
When the Shard was being built a wild fox managed to get in and climbed up to the 72nd floor, where he lived for a couple of weeks by eating food scraps left lying around by the builders. When he was discovered staff nicknamed him Romeo. He was rescued, checked by vets and then set free, back to his roaming life on the streets of London.



CRAZY CLIMBING

The Shard has attracted some unlikely adventurers, with climbers, abseilers and even parachutists using it as the ultimate urban challenge.

BRAVEST JOB IN TOWN!



THE SHARD'S WINDOW CLEANERS ABSEIL DOWN THE BUILDING, POLISHING 11,000 GLASS PANELS (AN AREA EQUIVALENT TO EIGHT FOOTBALL PITCHES). IT TAKES A WEEK TO CLEAN JUST ONE SIDE OF THE BUILDING. THEY WORK FROM PLATFORMS CALLED WINDOW-CLEANING BASKETS, BUT IN 2012 ONE WINDOW CLEANER HAD TO BE RESCUED WHEN HE GOT TRAPPED IN A BASKET THAT BEGAN TO SWING IN HIGH WINDS.





search: FUTURE SKYLINE

A CAN OF HAM?

Lots of new skyscrapers are planned for London's skyline, including some unusual shapes that are bound to get interesting nicknames when they are finished. Current plans include buildings that look like a can of ham, a giant sail and a giant rolled-up newspaper.