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| **FROM THE ANGEL TO THE ZOO A LONDON A-Z** | |
| **FROM KING’S CROSS STATION** | |
|  | *Joseph Grimaldi Park* 1778-1837, English clown and pantomimist.  From family of dancers/entertainers. Debut aged 4 at Sadler's Wells Theatre. |
| **ANGEL** | **ANGEL, ISLINGTON**  Grade II listed building. Famous Monopoly property.  The “Angel” was actually the building on the corner.Current building was completed in 1903, then the **Angel Hotel**, later acquired by [J. Lyons and Co.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Lyons_and_Co.) as a restaurant. Due to be demolished in 1959 for road improvements – but this didn’t happen. Renovated and re-opened in 1982 as the **Angel Corner House**. Currently used as offices and a bank.  [Wetherspoon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J_D_Wetherspoon)s opened The Angel in 1998 in the premises next door. |
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| **BALLET** | **SADLERS WELLS BALLET**  Named after Richard Sadler, who opened a *Musick House* here in 1683, and the springs which previously served St John's Priory in [Clerkenwell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clerkenwell). Sadler claimed the iron rich drinking water would be effective against "[dropsy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dropsy), [jaundice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaundice), [scurvy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scurvy), [green sickness](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_sickness) and other distempers to which females are liable – ulcers, fits of the mother, virgin's fever and hypochondriacal distemper."It later became a theatre and in the 1930s a repertory ballet company and school was established - the Sadler's Wells Ballet School. |
|  | *New River Head: This was the reservoir at the mouth of the New River, the channel cut in 1604–13 to supply London with fresh water from springs in Hertfordshire. Local road names: Myddelton (Hugh, driving force behind construction), River, Amwell (water taken from Amwell springs).* |
|  | *Mount Pleasant Mail Centre: Previously one of the largest* [*sorting offices*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorting_office) *in the world. The* [*British Postal Museum & Archive*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Postal_Museum_%26_Archive) *is here.* |
|  | *Eastman Dental Hospital: Major centre for dental research and largest provider of postgraduate teaching/training in dentistry in Europe. Built 1928/1931. Money given by George Eastman (Eastman Kodak Company) “for the benefit of poor children of Central London”.* |
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| **CORAM** | **THOMAS CORAM (FOUNDLING MUSEUM)**  Captain Thomas Coram was a philanthropist who created the London Foundling Hospital to look after abandoned children. The charity still continues as [Coram](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Coram_Foundation_for_Children). |
|  | *Brunswick Square: One of the trees here is a beautiful old London plane tree - thought to be the second oldest in London. Declared one of the Great Trees of Britain in 2009. (Oldest tree is the Totteridge Yew.) Plane trees are one of the most common trees in London – able to adapt to urban conditions, cleans up pollution and provides temperature and water controls.* |
|  | *Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children*  [*Coram's Fields*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coram%27s_Fields)*: play area, no entry to adults unaccompanied by a child!*  *Lambs Conduit Street*  *Gray’s Inn* |
|  | *Staple Inn, High Holborn: Can be traced back to 1292 when it was a market (Le Stapled Halle - it specialised in wool and Staple was a wool duty). After 1415 the building was used by lawyers and it became one of the Inns of Chancery. Luckily it escaped major damage in the Great Fire of London, and today it is the only surviving Inn of Chancery.* |
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| **DRAGON** | **HOLBORN BOUNDARY DRAGON**  The dragon boundary marks are [cast iron](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cast_iron) statues of [dragons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dragon) on metal or stone plinths that mark the boundaries of the [City of London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_of_London). |
|  | *Lincoln’s Inn Fields* **BREAK / FREE TOILETS** *Sir John Soane’s Museum: Home of 19th century architect, untouched since he died in 1837. An amazing collection, full of surprises. He collected antiquities, furniture, sculptures, architectural models, drawings, and paintings. And it is free, you simply go up and ring the doorbell! Of special interest to us as he is the man who designed Tyringham Hall and Gatehouse.*  *Old Curiosity Shop* |
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| **ECONOMICS** | **LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**  The name LSE means only one thing to people of a certain age – revolution and revolt. Global student protests of the late 60s. Occupation of buildings, demonstrations against the Vietnam war. |
|  | *Bush House: Grade II listed building. Opened 1935. Previously the HQ of the BBC World Service. Now part of King's College, London*  *Strand Station, Piccadilly Rly: Closed 1994*  *Somerset House: Georgian building, built on the site of a Tudor palace belonging to the Duke of Somerset. Previously home of the General Register Office.*  *Embankment Gardens* |
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| **FAWCETT** | **HENRY FAWCETT** Memorial erected to the memory of Henry Fawcett *by* ***his* *grateful******countrywomen*.** Intriguing words, so had to look him up. Henry Fawcett (1833 –1884), an academic, MP & Postmaster General, and economist. A great campaigner for women's [suffrage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suffrage); that’s how he met his wife [Millicent (nee Garrett](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Millicent_Fawcett)).  A statue commemorating Millicent Fawcett (1847-1929), a tireless campaigner for women's suffrage, unveiled in 2018, first statue of a woman to be erected in Parliament Square. We will see this later. |
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| **GATE** | **YORK WATER GATE** The York Watergate marks the site of the original course of the Thames before the construction of the Embankment (mid-19thC). It was part of York House mansion on the Strand, and gave easy access onto the Thames, located at the bottom of the mansion’s garden.  (The Strand means ‘shore of the river’).  **EMBANKMENT TOILETS 50p** |
|  | *The Iraq and Afghanistan Memorial*  *New Scotland Yard*  *Downing Street*  *Banqueting House* |
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| **HORSE** | **HORSE GUARDS PARADE**  [Trooping the Colour](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trooping_the_Colour), (the [monarch's official birthday](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s_Official_Birthday)), and [Beating Retreat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beating_Retreat) takes place here. Formerly the [Palace of Whitehall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitehall_Palace)'s [tiltyard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiltyard), where jousting tournaments were held in the time of [Henry VIII](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_VIII_of_England). Previous HQ of British Army. [The Duke of Wellington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Duke_of_Wellington) was based here when he was [Commander-in-Chief](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commander-in-Chief). |
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| **ISLAND** | **DUCK ISLAND** Originally built in 1665 on the site of a duck decoy, this is a sanctuary/breeding ground for St James's Park bird collection of [wildfowl](https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park/things-to-see-and-do/wildlife/waterfowl) and other [birds](https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park/things-to-see-and-do/wildlife/birds). Approximately 17 species of bird regularly breed in the park, including mute swans and a [resident colony of pelicans](https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park/things-to-see-and-do/wildlife/pelicans).  All sorts of birds have been kept here since the 1600s when James I began converting the swampy land into a formal garden. Hence the name Birdcage Walk. Pretty little Duck Island Cottage is now the offices of the London Historic Parks and Gardens Trust. |
|  | *Cabinet War Rooms*  *Millicent Fawcett – rear, later side view*  *Supreme Court, Houses Of Parliament Westminster Abbey* |
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| **JEWEL** | ***JEWEL TOWER***  Built around 1365 for Edward III’s treasures, known as the ‘King’s Privy Wardrobe’. One of the few buildings from the medieval Palace of Westminster to survive the fire of 1834. |
|  | *Brexit Media City: erected over a path where we would have been walking!* |
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| **KING** | **MARTIN LUTHER KING** Ten Statues of Modern Martyrs  Unveiled July 1998, above west entrance to Westminster Abbey.  He is 5th from the left: it is not immediately obvious! |
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| **LONDON** | **LONDON 2012** Gold post box to celebrate London as the host city of the 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. |
|  | *Cockpit Steps St James’s Park*  *Queen Victoria Memorial & Buckingham Palace*  *Green Park via Canada Gate* |
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| **MAPLE** | **BRONZE MAPLE LEAVES** embedded in granite, Canada Memorial.  Unveiled by the Queen in 1994, remembering one million Canadians who served in the two World Wars. The narrow walkway and compass rose face the direction of Halifax, Nova Scotia, from where many Canadian service personnel sailed for Europe. |
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| **NEW** | **NEW ZEALAND WAR MEMORIAL**  Memorial to the war dead of [New Zealand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand) from the two World Wars, unveiled in 2006. Officially named "Southern Stand". |
|  | **TOILETS, HYDE PARK CORNER 50p** |
|  | *Hyde Park*  **LUNCH BREAK IN HYDE PARK** *The Serpentine* |
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| **OLD** | **OLD POLICE HOUSE**  Lovely Queen Anne style building dating back to 1902 and a blue Police lamp post. Note the crown. (The London parks have their own police force which is part of the Metropolitan Police.) |
|  | *Kensington Gardens  The Long Water*  *Henry Moore sculpture “The Arch”* |
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| **PETER** | **PETER PAN STATUE**  Bronze sculpture of [J.M. Barrie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._M._Barrie)'s [Peter Pan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Pan). Some of his stories were inspired by Kensington gardens. This statue is located at the place where Peter Pan lands in [*The Little White Bird*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Little_White_Bird) . Six other statues by the same artist have been erected around the world.  JM Barrie gave rights to royalties from Peter Pan to Great Ormond St Hospital |
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| ***PETER PAN HAD DISAPPEARED UNDER HOARDING ON A RECENT WALK OUT SO THERE MAY BE A SUBSTITUTION****:* | |
| **PRINCE** | **PRINCE ALBERT**  Albert was a very keen gardener, and theItalian Gardens were a gift from him to his beloved Victoria. How romantic is that! |
| **TOILETS 20p** | |
| **QUEEN** | **QUEEN ANNE’S ALCOVE**  Overlooks the Italian Gardens and fountains. It was built to the design of Christopher Wren in 1705 and originally stood near Kensington Palace. Moved here in 1867. Sadly it has been fenced off for repair since my first walk out – not very regally. |
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| **RIDING** | **RIDING STABLES, BATHURST MEWS**  Riding have been synonymous with Hyde Park since the reign of Henry VIII, when it was used as a hunting ground for the Tudor Court. |
|  | *Paddington Station***MINI BREAK *&* TOILETS FREE** |
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| **SUITCASE** | **PADDINGTON BEAR’S SUITCASE** Wanted on Voyage – of course it was, that’s where he kept his jar of marmalade. Paddington Station is a very important place for [Paddington Bear](http://www.paddington.com/gb/home). It is where he was found by Mr & Mrs Brown when he arrived in London from Darkest Peru. |
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| **TERMINUS** | **TERMINUS** Paddington has been the London terminus of services provided by the [Great Western Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Western_Railway) and its successors since 1838. Most of the station dates from 1854 and was designed by [Isambard Kingdom Brunel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isambard_Kingdom_Brunel).  Paddington was first served by London Underground trains in 1863, and was the original western terminus of the [Metropolitan Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_Railway), the world's first underground railway. |
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| **UNION** | **GRAND UNION CANAL**  We know this canal very well, it starts nearby and goes to Birmingham, 137 miles and 166 locks. |
|  | *Little Venice and the Regent’s Canal.* |
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| **VICTORIA** | **VICTORIA CROSS** Blue Plaque  [Wing Commander](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wing_commander_(rank)) Guy Gibson VC 1918-1944, the pilot leader of the Dambusters “Bouncing Bomb” raid on the Ruhr Valley in May 1943. He was killed on active service in 1944 when his Mosquito crashed landed in the Netherlands. |
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| **WHISKERS** | **CAT’S WHISKERS** Decorated gate. |
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| **X-PLOSION** | **X-PLOSION – “BLOW UP BRIDGE**”  Macclesfield Bridge – October 1874 the barge *Tilbury* carrying 5 tons of gunpowder and petroleum exploded as it went under the bridge, 3 crew were killed and several houses destroyed. |
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| ***YAY, YIPPEE & YONDER!*** | ***YAY, YIPPEE AND YONDER!***We’ve climbed Primrose Hill - spectacular views over London*.*  ***Y: A prize for anyone who can do better !*****BREAK & TOILETS FREE** |
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| **ZOO** | **ZSL LONDON ZOO** (Zoological Society London) Opened 1828. |
|  | *The Regent’s Park  Ready Money Drinking Fountain: Lovely four-sided granite and marble gothic drinking fountain. Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, a wealthy industrialist from Bombay whose nickname was Ready Money, donated it to The Regent's Park in 1869 as a thank-you for the protection that he and fellow Parsees\* received from British rule in India.  (\*followers in India of the Persian prophet Zoroaster, the name means Persians, descended from Persian Zoroastrians who emigrated to India to avoid religious persecution by Muslims* in 7th/8thC). *The Broad Walk* |