



Summer 2011

This is my first newsletter and I plan to make this a regular feature to let you know what I am getting up to and plans for the future!

### **UPCOMING LONDON WALKS**

One of my plans is to lead walks of areas in London, themed walks, galleries, museums and treasured sites such as St Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London and Westminster Abbey. I propose to arrange a different walk/tour each month. I have lots of ideas for walks and tours during the course of the year including Royal Westminster, Fashion in Mayfair, Late at Tate, Highlights of the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Olympic Walk. There will be a charge of £8 per person which is the standard rate. Normally a tour/walk will take about 90 minutes.

#### **'On the Edge' Walk: July 11th**

My first walk is called 'On the Edge' as we start on the edge of the City of London and we walk through Spitalfields, passing some of the small alleyways that have been there for just about 200 years! We make our way through the streets where the Huguenot weavers lived and worked and on to London's curry capital: Brick Lane. We will hear how Spitalfields got its name, learn about the importance of silk in the area, hear about how the rag trade started in the area and has become one of the most exciting hubs for vintage and retro fashion. Join me on this fun and vibrant walk on Monday, 11 July at 6.30 pm, meeting point outside McDonald's, in Liverpool Street Station.

#### **Family Walks: July 31<sup>st</sup> & August 9th**

As we are just coming into the holiday season, I will do two family walks: the first one will be on Sunday 31st July at 2pm and this will be an Olympic walk starting at Bromley by Bow Station and walking to the Olympic Park. The second family walk will have a Royal theme and will take place on Tuesday 9th August at 10.45 am, meeting point Trafalgar Square. The cost for these walks will be £8 for adults and £6 per child.

Kindly let me know if you can join me on any of these walks and I will e-mail final details. I hope you can join me!

### **THE BEST OF LONDON: ON NOW**

I am planning to do a newsletter every couple of months and I will include a few words on some of the best events/exhibitions/things to do in London and for a heads up on what is coming up. As a starter, how about checking out the room in Tate Modern displaying Picasso's Three Dancers? A painting with a great story and one that Picasso himself much loved and indeed he did not sell it for 40 years. It is one of Tate Modern's most expensive paintings, costing £100million. Next to it and on loan to the Tate is the gorgeous Nude, Green Leaves and Bust also by Picasso, which sold by private auction at Christies in New York. Make the most of this room! Then walk across the Millennium Bridge and see the beautiful St Paul's Cathedral and for the newest and up close and personal viewing of St Paul's, walk across the road to the newest shopping complex, 1 New Change, take the lift to the sixth floor and be wowed by the wonderful views of the Cathedral and Westminster.

Here is to a great summer in London!

Anne-Marie

*Did you know...* that the first Punch and Judy show was held on the portico of St Paul's Church in Covent Garden in 1662? Performances have been toned down somewhat since then as originally they were full of extreme violence perpetrated by the badly behaved Mr Punch! The great diarist, Samuel Pepys wrote in his diary on 9 May 1662, "Thence to see an Italian puppet play".