

HINDSITES

Take a long summer journey with us and visit some of the many inspiring places in Camden. An exciting and informative programme of walks and visits where celebrities past and present reveal the places and the people that made a difference to their lives. Not just a walk down memory lane but summer strolls to stimulate and savour.

Sunday 1st August – Jim Henson – 11am

One of history's best known puppeteers and creator of the Muppets Jim Henson. He was the leading source behind their long run in the television series *Sesame Street* and *The Muppet Show* and films such as *The Muppet Movie* (1979) and creator of advanced puppets for projects like *Fraggle Rock*, *The Dark Crystal*, and *Labyrinth*. He was an Oscar-nominated film director and an Emmy Award-winning television producer as well as the performer behind such well loved characters as Kermit the Frog. Jim Henson was a resident of Hampstead for many years, his Creature Shop was originally in Downshire Hill in Hampstead before moving to Camden Town. Come and join our walk with Louise Gold the only British Muppet puppeteer and find out more about his life and inspirations. Meet some puppets on the way. A walk for all ages.

Sunday 8th August – Jewish Camden – 2pm

Join us on a classic Routemaster bus for a unique tour of Jewish Camden with top comedian Mark Maier. Blue Badge Guide **Rachel Kolsky** will bring to life the history of the Jewish community in north-west London as we pass the streets and buildings, synagogues and shops. Learn about the history of local Jewish refugees in the interwar years, about artists and politicians, bagels, Blooms and Bloomsbury! Our guest celebrity will talk about living in NW London and offer a personal insight into their favourite places. Tour ends at the Jewish Museum. Produced in association with The Jewish Museum.

Saturday 14th August – The Pergola – 11am

Join Edwardian entrepreneur Lord Leverhulme on a tour of his former home in Hampstead and in particular his fabulously landscaped gardens featuring The Pergola. The Pergola was the dream of a rich idealist and the creation of a celebrated landscape artist. Built using soil excavated from the tunnels of the Northern Line this magnificent Edwardian extravaganza was the setting for garden parties and summer strolls. The Pergola was recently restored by the Corporation of London to its former glory. Learn about The Pergola's history from Peter Tausig and

life in Edwardian Camden from Lord Leverhulme, founder of the Unilever empire and creator of soap brands Lux and Lifebuoy. Liberal in his politics, earnest in his philanthropic endeavors, and committed to social amelioration and moral improvement at home he had a view on most aspects of Edwardian life!

Sunday 15th August – Music Camden – 10am

With venues such as The Roundhouse, The Electric Ballroom, Kokos, Dingwalls, The Dublin Castle to name but a few Camden has a rich musical history. Come and walk through a brief history with TV producer, director and journalist **Jasmine Dotiwala** as she walks you through Camden in her shoes.

Jasmine hosted iconic youth culture show The Word in the 90s before going on to become a senior producer and head of MTV Base production where she worked with new British talent, many of whom are now household names as well as some of music's biggest stars such as Mariah Carey, Jay Z, Snoop Dogg and Busta Rhymes to name but a few.

More recently she has produced a special on Mariah Carey for Channel 4. Jasmine also writes a weekly column Jasmine's Juice for The Voice Newspaper and has written in the past for many publications including Touch Magazine and Ocean Style Magazine.

Sunday 22nd August – Claudia Jones – 2pm

Did you know that the first ever UK Carnival took place in St Pancras Town Hall, Euston (now the Camden Centre) in 1959, organised by the woman known as the Mother of Carnival, Claudia Jones. Founder of Britain's 1st Black newspaper the West Indian Gazette. A charismatic speaker and brilliant organiser Claudia played a dazzling role in the anti-racist struggles of 1950s England. Come and join actress **Jacqui Charles** and film and television star **Rudolph Walker** (Love Thy Neighbour, Black Silk, Thin Blue Line) and find out more about the origins of UK Carnival and the life of this extraordinary woman. Joining us on the day will be a live steel band and carnival dancers.

Sunday 29th August – Charles Dickens – 11am

Starting in Bayham Street, Dicken's 1st home in London, take a walk through Dicken's Camden with one of the popular characters he created, learn about his connection with The Foundry and The Great Ormand Street Hospital. Find out about the inspiration for some of his characters and their Camden places. The walk ends at The Dickens Museum. Tour produced in association with The Charles Dickens Museum.

Sunday 5th September – Kenneth Williams – 11am

Follow **David Benson** as he unlocks the life of one of Britain's best loved entertainers, his impersonation is so uncannily like Kenneth Williams, you'll feel you were on a walk with the man himself. Take a tour of his life around Kings Cross and Bloomsbury, from his school and childhood haunts, to his father's hairdressers in Marchmont Street, the Boot Pub where he drank and sang his evenings away and many more secret locations and hotspots. David Benson is best known for his award winning show *Think no Evil of Us: My Life with Kenneth Williams* which first delighted audiences in 1996 and has toured the length and breadth of the British Isles from Shetland to Cornwall, stopping for numerous West End dates and runs. **"I thought it WAS Kenneth!"** Dame Maggie Smith

For more information please contact Sarah Moore, Culture and Sport, Culture and Environment, London Borough of Camden. Telephone: 020 7974 6836. Mobile: 07973 801 482. walks@camden.gov.uk