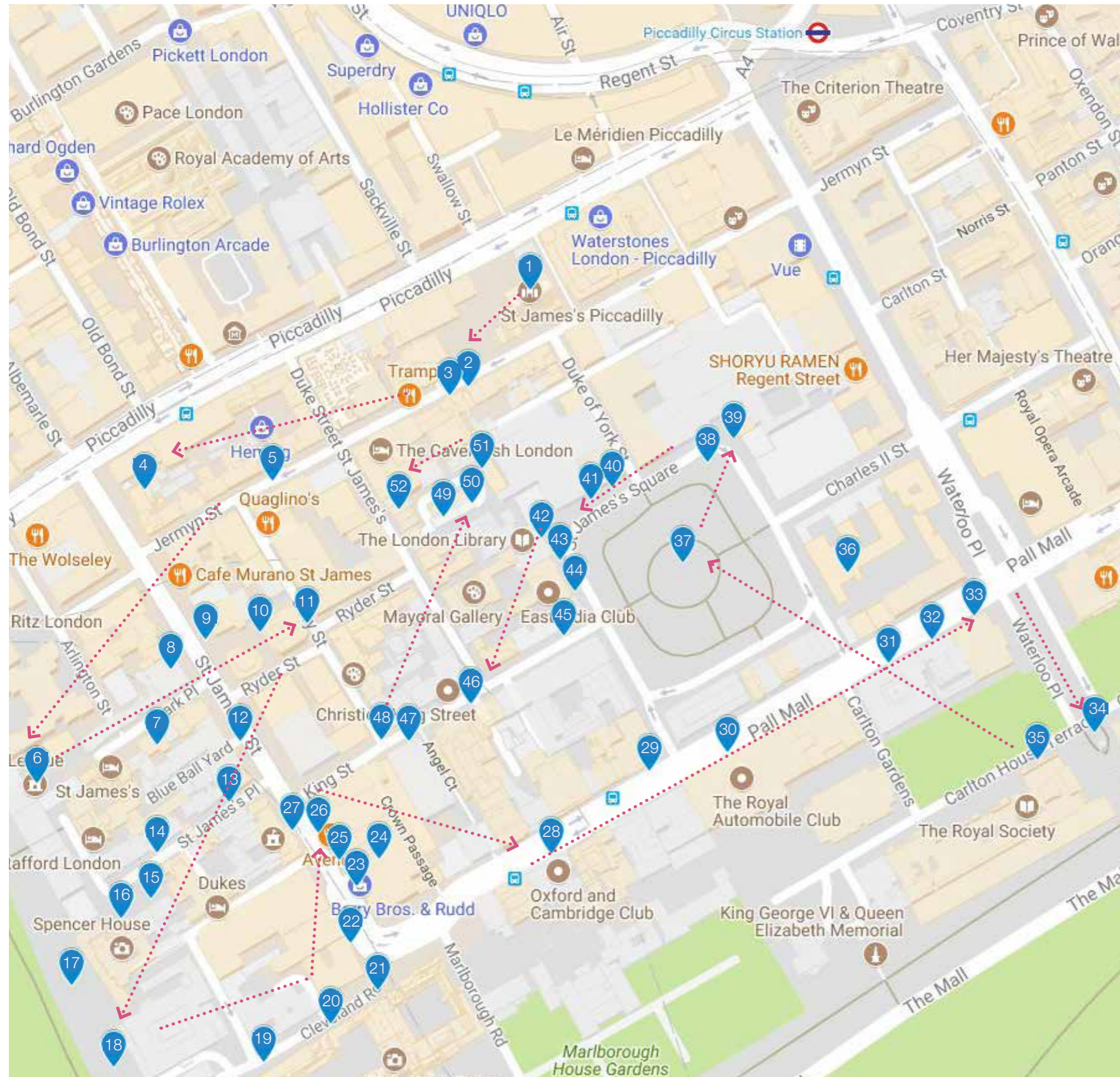




# MAP



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## Toon Tour 7th July 2017: Clubland; St. James's

### The Back Story

St. James's, never St. James, is a place of power and glory, gossip and disgrace. In 1531 King Henry VIII gave birth to it by acquiring the St. James's Hospital (a leper hospital dedicated to St. James the Less) and a little over 185 acres of land from the Provost and College of Eton. He lived with Anne Boleyn in his new palace and by 1552 nine acres had been laid out as roads. The Court of St James's is the royal court for the Sovereign of the United Kingdom. It is named after St James's Palace which is the most senior royal palace and has remained the official residence of the British Monarchy despite the nearby Buckingham Palace becoming the main London residence of all the British sovereigns since the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837.

So, that's where the power and glory starts; how did the gossip and disgrace get going?

The reputation of St. James's as a place to be seen and therefore talked about, rests mainly upon its association with the coffee or chocolate houses and clubs which for some two and a half centuries have made St. James's Street and Pall Mall the social rendezvous of masculine aristocratic society in London. This association dates back to the reign of William III, and more particularly to the fire of January 1697/8 which ravaged the Palace of Whitehall and resulted in the removal of the Court to St. James's. Only two chocolate houses— White's (1693) and Ozinda's (1694)—are known to have been in existence in St. James's Street and Pall Mall before the fire, but the succeeding years saw the establishment of the Cocoa Tree (1698), the Smyrna (1702), the Thatched House Tavern (1704 or 1705) and the St. James's Coffee House (1705), all catering for the new clientèle created in the neighbourhood by the presence of the Court of St. James.

So, for the place itself:

While St. James's has been an enduringly prominent and sometimes even dominant enclave of London for the greater part of five hundred years; it's the St. James's of the Georgian period that has mostly shaped what we see today.

In 1685, the Catholic James, Duke of York, became James II, king of England, Ireland and Scotland. James's reign was unpopular with the Protestant majority in Britain. William (Prince of Orange), supported by a group of influential British political and religious leaders, invaded England in what became known as the "Glorious Revolution", landing at the southern English port of Brixham (Devon) on 5th November 1688. James was deposed and William and Mary became joint sovereigns in his place. They reigned together until her death on 28 December 1694, after which William ruled as sole monarch.

William's reputation as a staunch Protestant enabled him to take the British crowns when many were fearful of a revival of Catholicism under James. His reign in Britain marked the beginning of the transition from the personal rule of the Stuarts to the more Parliament-centred rule of the House of Hanover with the Whigs in Parliament as the majority from 1714 – 1760.

St. James's Square was laid out for property development shortly after 1662 when Charles II granted an extension to the lease of Henry Jermyn (1st Earl of St. Albans).

The earl petitioned the king that the class of occupants they both hoped to attract to the new district would not take houses without the prospect of eventually acquiring them outright, and in 1665 the king granted the freehold of the site of St. James's Square and some closely adjacent parts of the field to the earl's trustees. The location was convenient for the royal palaces of Whitehall and St James. The houses on the east, north and west sides of the square were soon developed, each of them being constructed separately as was usual at that time.

The development idea worked and in the 1720s seven dukes and seven earls were in residence. The east, north and western sides of the square contained some of the most desirable houses in London. The windows were more widely spaced than most, the ceilings were high, and deep plots and ingenious planning allowed some of the houses to contain a very large amount of accommodation indeed. Some of the houses had fine interiors by leading architects such as Matthew Brettingham, Robert Adam and John Soane.

The southern side of the square was much more modest. They originally faced Pall Mall and had Pall Mall numbers (the modern reconstructions, which are mostly offices, have fronts to both the square and the street). The residents of these houses were not eligible to be trustees of the trust which administered the square or even to use the central garden.

The idea of buying them out, demolishing their houses and leaving the space open to the Pall Mall was raised more than once, but never implemented. Things began to change by the 1830s with the arrival of club-houses, and in 1844 The Builder commented that the square was losing caste and the fashionable were migrating to Belgravia. By 1857 the square contained a bank, an insurance society, two government offices, the London Library, two lodging-houses and three clubs.

However, some of the houses continued to be occupied by the fashionable and wealthy into the twentieth century; perhaps most notably No. 4. It was built in 1679 for occupation by Anthony, 11th Earl of Kent. After intense negotiation and some difficulty, the house was bought for £6,600 (the equivalent of £1.25M at that time) - not an inconsiderable sum for a house in 1679.

On the night of 12th December 1725, the house then owned by the eleventh Earl's son, the Duke of Kent, was severely damaged by fire. Contemporary notes record that the Prince of Wales (later George IV) hurried from Leicester House at the head of a detachment of Foot Guards, in order to restrain the London mob from looting the building and "took charge of the London Firemen".

The house was rebuilt in 1728, much in the style it is today. Various architects have been linked with the re-design of the house, including Hawksmoor and Giacomo Leoni but this has not been established beyond doubt. In 1761, Horace Walpole visited the house and commented favourably on a statue of Inigo Jones (1573-1652; first to employ the classical architecture of Rome and the Italian Renaissance in Britain).

Later still, from 1834 to 1859, the house was occupied by Earl de Grey, who was the first president of the Royal Institute of British Architects. From 1912 to 1942 the house was owned and occupied by the second Viscount Astor. Nancy Astor was the first woman to sit as a Member of Parliament in 1919. In 1942 it was requisitioned by the government and was used as the London headquarters of the Free French Forces.

In September 1947 it became the home of the Arts Council of Great Britain. Subsequently, the building was used as a Court House for several years, first as a division of the High Court, then as a Criminal Court, then as the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

Finally in 1996, the house was purchased and became the property and new home of the Naval & Military Club otherwise known as the "In and Out".

Before we start the walk, two important further pieces of background need a mention; The Whigs and Napoleon Bonaparte:

Starting as a British Political Faction and growing to become a Political Party, they were all but over after Queen Anne had dismissed all Whigs from office. The House of Stuart gave way to the House of Hanover on 1st August 1714 when Georg Ludwig, ruler of the Duchy and Electorate of Brunswick-Lüneburg (Hanover) in the Holy Roman Empire from 1698 became George I, King of Great Britain and Ireland. The Whigs were back. They had played a central role in the Glorious Revolution of 1688, and were the standing enemies of the Stuart kings and pretenders, who were Roman Catholic. Their supremacy stretched through until 1760 when George III allowed the Tories back into public life. Robert Walpole was the first Prime Minister. Tories were purged from public office and significant institutions. Parliamentary supremacy over Monarchy, support for free trade, abolition of slavery, expansion of suffrage and (oddly) emancipation of Catholics characterised them by the first half of the 19th Century. The Reform Act of 1832 was a Whig initiative and it increased democracy. The Liberal Party succeeded the Whigs with that title first being applied in an official capacity in 1868.

Napoleon Bonaparte's struggle to accomplish domination is argued as being the first World War. He sent 500,000 men into Russia; returning in defeat with around 120,000. By 1814, arrayed against him were the forces of Britain, Russia, Austria, Sweden, Spain, Portugal and most of what we know as Germany. By the beginning of 1815 Napoleon had been defeated and exiled on Elba. He escaped, raised an army and started the Hundred Days War; defeating the Prussian army a short distance from Waterloo in Belgium. The remnants of the Prussian army joined the Anglo-Dutch forces of the Duke of Wellington and the rest, as is said, is history!

Many good things in British life have started in church and ended in the pub and this walk will be no different, so, keep calm and let's carry on....



### 01: St. James's Church, Piccadilly

Christopher Wren regarded St. James's as his finest parish church. Created new on its own plot the church was 12 years in design and construction; Wren being appointed by the 1st Earl of St. Albans, Henry Jermyn, in 1672 and the church being consecrated almost 333 years ago on 13th July 1684. Grinling Gibbons carved the marble font and the limewood reredos screen. Gibbons (4 April 1648 – 3 August 1721) was a Dutch-British sculptor and wood carver known for his work in England, including Windsor Castle and Hampton Court Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral and other London churches, Petworth House and other country houses, Trinity College Oxford and Trinity College Cambridge.



### 04 Beau Brummell:

George "Beau" Brummell (7 June 1778 - 30 March 1840) was a Regency dandy and fashion leader, famous for his elegant dress, his witty remarks and his friendship with George, Prince of Wales, the future King George IV. He was born in Downing Street, where his father worked as private secretary to Lord North, and schooled at Eton. By 1796 at the age of 18, Brummell was a Captain in the Prince of Wales own regiment, the 10th Light Dragoons known as the Hussars. The year before, Brummell supported the Prince at his wedding to Princess Caroline in 1795; he was also one of the drunken companions whom she accused of ruining her honeymoon. When the regiment were ordered to Manchester in 1798, Brummell sold out, anxious not to lose his position of influence with the Prince. The following year, he came into his inheritance. Brummell's father had died in 1794 and left his estate to be shared equally between his three children; around £70 million. Brummell moved into 4 Chesterfield Street in 1799 and determined to become the best dressed gentleman in London. He was a member of Whites, Brooks and Watiers. A bow window in his club at White's became known as the Beau window because that was where Brummell liked to sit. Famous for his wit, but infamous for his rudeness; it was this rudeness which eventually cost him the Prince of Wales' regard. "Alvanley, who's your fat friend?" he asked, referring to the Prince. Brummell ran up debts through his extravagance and heavy gambling losses. On 18 May 1816, Brummell fled through the night to Dover and on to Calais, which was as far as he could go without a passport. He stayed at Dessin's Hotel and entertained in his apartments whilst learning French and writing his memoirs. On 4 May 1835, Brummell was arrested for the money he owed to Leleux, the owner of Dessin's Hotel in Calais. George Armstrong, a Caen grocer, agreed to travel to England to seek pecuniary help on Brummell's behalf. Brummell was awarded compensation for the loss of the consulship and was duly released from prison on 21 July 1835. In January 1839, he was transferred to an asylum where he died of syphilis on 30 March 1840. His death went virtually unnoticed in England.



### 02 Floris:

Floris was founded by Juan Famenias Floris and his wife Elizabeth. They sold perfume, combs and shaving products at 89 Jermyn Street where the business is run by their descendants today. Floris No.89 fragrance was a personal favourite of Ian Fleming and is mentioned in his James Bond novels.



### 03 Sir Isaac Newton:

Newton moved to London – and to Jermyn Street – in 1696, on his appointment as Master of the Mint, a position he held until his death. He lived at number 88 until 1700, before moving next door to the larger number 87, where he remained until autumn 1709. This period saw Newton hold a series of important appointments: he was Lucasian Professor at Cambridge until 1702 and President of the Royal Society in 1703-27. He discovered the laws of gravity and motion, conducted influential experiments into optics and invented calculus.



#### 05 White's:

Originally established as a hot chocolate emporium under the name Mrs. White's Chocolate House at 4 Chesterfield Street, Mayfair, in 1693 by Francesco Bianco, it quickly made the transition from teashop to exclusive club and in the early 18th century, it was notorious as a gambling house; those who frequented it were known as "the gamesters of White's." In 1778 it moved to 37-38 St James's Street. From 1783 it was the unofficial headquarters of the Tory party. The new architecture featured a bow window on the ground floor. In the later 18th century, the table directly in front of it became a seat of distinction, the throne of the most socially influential men in the club. This belonged to the arbiter elegantiarum, Beau Brummell, until he removed to the Continent in 1816, when Lord Alvanley took the place of honour. It was here that Alvanley bet a friend £3,000 as to which of two raindrops would first reach the bottom of a pane of the bow window. It is not recorded whether he won his bet. Later, the spot was reserved for the use of the 1st Duke of Wellington until his death in 1852. The club declines to admit female members. Prince Charles held his stag night at the club before his wedding to Lady Diana Spencer in 1981. His eldest son, Prince William was entered as a member of the club shortly after his birth. The building is Grade I listed, originally built in 1674 and then rebuilt in 1787-88, probably by James Wyatt, it was further altered in 1811 and the frontage was remodelled by Lockyer in 1852.



#### 06 Royal Overseas League:

In contrast to many; The Royal Over-Seas League (ROSL) is a non-profit members' organisation. It is also a major supporter of the arts, most notably with its prestigious annual music competition. Founded by Sir Evelyn Wrench in 1910 as the Over-Seas Club, it was given a Royal Charter of Incorporation in 1922 and Queen Elizabeth II granted the title "Royal" to mark its golden jubilee in 1960. Wrench saw the British Empire of the time as not merely a political and economic structure, but also "a far-flung brotherhood of individual men and women of diverse creeds and races living widely apart under differing conditions in different latitude". The league today is both an association of individual members and a supporter of Commonwealth art, music and welfare projects. There is a sister clubhouse in Edinburgh, as well as honorary representatives, branches or reciprocal clubs in more than 90 countries.



#### 07 Pratt's

Established in 1857, the club takes its name from William Nathaniel Pratt, who lived there from 1841. Pratt was steward to the Duke of Beaufort, who called at the house with his friends one evening, and enjoyed themselves so much that they returned time and again. After Pratt's death in 1860, the club was continued by his widow, Sophia, and son, Edwin. The premises were later acquired by the 11th Duke of Devonshire. It has around 600 members, but only 14 can dine at one time at the single table in the basement dining room



#### 08 Brooks's

In January 1762 a private society was established at 50 Pall Mall by Messrs. Boothby and James in response to having been blackballed from membership of White's. This society then split to form the predecessors of both Brooks's and Boodle's. The club that was to become Brooks's was founded in March 1764 by twenty-seven prominent Whig nobles and the club premises was a former tavern owned by William Almack and so the club become simply known as Almack's. In September 1777 William Brooks, a wine merchant and money lender who acted as Master, or manager, for Almack's, commissioned Henry Holland to design and construct a purpose built clubhouse at a site on neighbouring St James's Street. Paid for at Brooks's own expense, the building was completed in October 1778 and all existing members of Almack's were invited to join. Brooks's gamble paid off as all existing members swiftly moved into the new building and the club then took on Brooks's name as its own. Brooks himself however would not live long to enjoy this success, dying in poverty in 1782. The new clubhouse was built of yellow brick and Portland stone in a Palladian style similar to Holland's early country houses. In 1978 the St James's Club amalgamated with Brooks's, adding to its membership some European royalty, members of the British diplomatic corps and writers. Notable alumni include former Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger and slave trade abolitionist leader, William Wilberforce.



### 09 Boodle's

Founded in 1762 by the Earl of Shelburne, later the Marquess of Lansdowne and Prime Minister, the Club moved to its present premises in 1782 and was named after its Head Waiter, Edward Boodle. It is regarded as one of the most prestigious clubs in London and counts many British aristocrats and notable politicians among its members. The second oldest club in the world, with only White's being older, early members were opponents of William Pitt the Elder's foreign policies relating to the Seven Years' War, and political allies of Lord Shelburne. The club is generally regarded as being aligned with the Conservative Party, with many of its current and former members holding important positions within the party, although the club is not formally tied to any political party. During the Regency era, Boodle's became known as the club of the English gentry, while White's became the club of the more senior members of the nobility. Four members have been awarded the Victoria Cross and Sir Winston Churchill was one of the few people to be elected to honorary membership. It is reputed that Beau Brummell's last bet took place at the Club before he fled the country to France. Today, membership is strictly by nomination and election only. In 1782 Boodle's took over the "Savoir Vivre" club house at 28 St. James's Street, London, and has been located there ever since. The building was designed by John Crunden in 1775. The ground floor was refurbished by John Buonarotti Papworth between 1821 and 1834.



### 10 & 11 The Economist:

An English-language weekly magazine-format newspaper owned by the Economist Group and edited at their offices in London, began continuous publication under its founder, James Wilson, in September 1843. In 2015 its average weekly circulation was a little over 1.5 million, about half of which were sold in the United States. A board of trustees formally appoints the editor, who cannot be removed without its permission. Although The Economist has a global emphasis and scope, about two-thirds of the 75 staff journalists are based in London. For the year March 2016 the Economist Group declared operating profit of £61m. The Economist takes an editorial stance of classical and economic liberalism that supports free trade, globalisation, free immigration, and cultural liberalism (such as supporting legal recognition for same-sex marriage or drug liberalization). The publication has described itself as "...a product of the Caledonian liberalism of Adam Smith and David Hume". It targets highly educated readers and claims an audience containing many influential executives and policy-makers. The publication's CEO described this recent global change, which was first noticed in the 1990s and accelerated in the beginning of the 21st century, as a "new age of Mass Intelligence". The buildings were commissioned for the publication and designed by Alison and Peter Smithson; completing in 1964. The 'style' is Nybruytralism and the façades are glass and Roach. Most Portland stone comes from deep in the limestone beds that form the Isle of Portland, in Dorset. It is creamy, smooth and excellent for carving. But towards the top of the beds lies a metre-thick layer of messy rock known as roach. In places, roach contains fragments of oyster shells; in others, the stone is pitted with screw-shaped holes, formed when other shells dissolved in situ. Roach had been used as a building material since the 18th century, but was considered more appropriate for workaday structures such as breakwaters than for fine buildings. Roach is a compromise between the traditional aspirations of the Economist for Portland stone and the modern desire of the architect for concrete.



**12 Blue Ball Yard:**

A mews of 1742 is now 12 luxury suites for the Stafford Hotel. The yard, which has been in existence since at least 1680, was once called Stable Yard. The name may have been changed to commemorate the Blue (or Blew) Ball Tavern in St James's street, demolished in the late 18th century. A blue ball sign was often used to denote a tradesman and, sometimes, a fortune teller.



**13**

Polish composer, Chopin left this house to perform his last ever public concert in 1848. It was in the City at the Guildhall.



**15**

A small boy called Winston Churchill once lived here until sent to boarding school aged seven



**16 & 17 Spencer House**

Built between 1756-1766 for John, first Earl Spencer, an ancestor of Diana, Princess of Wales (1961-1997) is considered to be London's finest surviving eighteenth-century town house. James 'Athenian' Stuart, then newly returned from Greece, superseded Vardy as Lord Spencer's architect in 1758. As a result, the House became the first example in London of the application of accurate Greek detail to interior decoration, making it one of the pioneer examples of neo-classical architecture. The Spencer family continued to live at the House until 1895 when the building was let to a series of tenants. Following the death of the fifth Earl Spencer in 1910 the family returned to the House and in 1926 the building was substantially restored. A year later, however, the family moved away and the House was let to the Ladies Army and Navy Club, which remained in occupation until 1943. The contents of the House were removed to Althorp and in 1942, at the height of the Blitz, valuable original features such as chimneypieces, doors and chair rails were also removed. During the war the House was occupied by the nation's nursing services, and in 1948 a lease was signed with the auctioneers Christie's, whose bomb-damaged premises in nearby King Street were being rebuilt. Various companies occupied the house until 1985 when the lease was assigned to J. Rothschild Holdings plc and thence to RIT Capital Partners plc.



**14**

In the first year of my life, Sir Francis Chichester, sailor and aviator, became the first person to single headedly sail around the world via the clipper route with just one port of call and was at that time the fastest circumnavigator, completing the voyage in nine months and one day overall. He had been diagnosed with lung cancer in 1958



### 18 Bridgewater House

Grade I Listed, Bridgewater House is the creation of architect (arch-classicist) Charles Barry (Houses of Parliament and New Delhi fame) who, in 1840, re-designed Cleveland House in the Palazzo style. A house has stood on this site since 1626 when Berkshire House was built for Thomas Howard, second son of the Earl of Suffolk and Master of the Horse to Charles I of England when he was Prince of Wales. Howard was later created Earl of Berkshire. After being occupied by Parliamentary troops in the English Civil War, used for the Portuguese Embassy, and lived in by Edward Hyde, 1st Earl of Clarendon, the house was lived in by Charles II's mistress Barbara Villiers, who was made Duchess of Cleveland in 1670, following which the house was known as Cleveland House. She refaced the old house and added new wings. After being owned for some years by a speculator, the house was sold in 1700 to John Egerton, 3rd Earl of Bridgewater, after which it passed by inheritance until 1948. The building was damaged in the Second World War and was subsequently adapted for office use. In 1981, Bridgewater House was purchased and restored by Yiannis Latsis, a Greek shipping magnate and it is still owned by his family.



### 19 Clarence House

Clarence House is the official residence of TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall. The house is Grade I Listed and was built between 1825 to 1827 to a design by John Nash (Regents Park, Regents Street). It was commissioned by the Duke of Clarence, who in 1830 became King William IV of Great Britain and Ireland. He lived there in preference to the nearby St James's Palace, which he found too cramped. After William no reigning monarch has lived there. In 1942, during which time it suffered damage inflicted by enemy bombing, it was used by the Red Cross and the St John Ambulance Brigade as their headquarters before being given to Princess Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Their daughter, Princess Anne, was born there in 1950. In 1953, after the death of her husband King George VI, the Queen Mother and her daughter, Princess Margaret, moved there, although the latter eventually moved into an apartment in Kensington Palace. For a brief period in the 1930s, it was the location of the library of the School of Oriental and African Studies until all universities in London were evacuated in 1939 and the school temporarily relocated to Cambridge. The Prince of Wales moved there in 2003 after the house underwent massive refurbishment following the death of his grandmother, Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. The house was completely rewired, most of the major rooms were redecorated by the interior designer Robert Kime, and the building was given an external facelift.



### 20 The Chapel Royal

Part of St James's Palace, services are held in the Chapel Royal on Sundays throughout the year, except for August and September. Built in 1540, it has been used regularly since 1702 and has been much altered, most notably by Sir Robert Smirke in 1837. The large window to the right of the palace gatehouse is in the north wall of the chapel which is laid out on a north-south rather than the usual east-west axis. Its ceiling, richly decorated with royal initials and coats of arms, is said to have been painted by Holbein.



### 21 St. James's Palace

St. James's Palace was built in 1536 on the site of a former leper hospital dedicated to Saint James the Less. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries the Palace 'complex' grew to include several new buildings; York House, Lancaster House and Clarence House. Today, much still survives of the original red-brick Tudor style building including the Chapel Royal and the gatehouse which, flanked by polygonal turrets with mock battlements, is guarded by soldiers from the Queen's Household Division when the Monarch are in London. St. James's Palace has been the setting for some of the most important events in royal history; Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn, stayed there the night after her coronation; in 1558 Mary Tudor signed the treaty surrendering Calais back to the French; Elizabeth I was resident during the threat posed by the Spanish Armada and set out from St James's to deliver her famous speech to the troops before they set sail from Tilbury on the river Thames; 'I know I have the body of a weak, feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too' and all that... Charles II, James II, Mary II and Queen Anne were all born and baptised at St James's. Charles I spent his final night sweating in the halls, before being led away for his execution at Banqueting House. William IV (Duke of Clarence) was the last Sovereign to use St. James's Palace as a residence. Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in the Chapel Royal in 1840, and formal receptions continued to be held at St. James's Palace until 1939.





### 22 Mark Masons Hall

For those persuaded in the use of furry handshakes and ill-advised trouser arrangement; 86 James Street is the headquarters of The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales. It was built between 1862 and 1865 to a design by Sir James Thomas Knowles (1831-1908); the son of architect James Thomas Knowles (1806–1884) and himself trained in architecture at University College and in Italy. His preferences though led him simultaneously into a literary career. In 1860 he published *The Story of King Arthur*. In 1866 he was introduced to Alfred Lord Tennyson and later agreed to design his new house, Aldworth, on condition there was no fee (another crazy architect); this led to a close friendship, Knowles assisting Tennyson in business matters and, among other things, helping to design scenery for *The Cup* when Henry Irving produced that play in 1880 (There's a statue of the famous actor, Irving, in Charring Cross Road behind the National Portrait Gallery)



### 23 Berry Bros & Rudd

A personal favourite, Berry Brothers and Rudd has run their business from this shop since The Widow Bourne opened a fashionable coffee shop in 1698 which turned into the wine merchant of today. If you are ever asked to attend a wine event I suggest you accept as they are commonly in the old cellars.



### 24 Pickering Place

The smallest square in Britain and one time home of the Texan Republic's embassy until it joined the United States in 1845 and, due to its relative seclusion, a favoured spot for duelling, bear baiting and gambling



### 25 Lock & Co Hatters

Lock & Co. Hatters is the world's oldest hat shop, the world's 34th oldest family-owned business and is a Royal warrant holder. The shop is a Grade II\* listed building.



### 26 John Lobb Bootmakers

Founded by John Lobb (1829-95), John Lobb Bootmaker has been in business since 1866 in London and 1902 in Paris. In 1976, John Lobb's Paris shop was acquired by the Hermès Group, but the London bespoke workshop at 9 St James's Street, remains family-owned and continues to operate independently. Hermès have developed the John Lobb ready-to-wear shoes around the world. The two companies continue to maintain their bespoke shoe-making tradition with the Lobb family workshop in London and the Hermès owned workshop in Paris



### 27 The Carlton Club:

Thomas Hopper (1776-1856) designed the Regency building at 69 St. James's Street in a restrained Palladian style, using Portland Stone and the interior is dominated by an impressive stone staircase. Hopper used Greek sources for inspiration for the decoration. The Club was founded in 1832 by Tory Peers, MPs and others after the Tory Party was comprehensively defeated by the Whigs running on a reform mandate. On 10 March 1832, a meeting at the Thatched House tavern appointed a committee to take on and manage new premises in Carlton Terrace. The Tory's exercised their imagination and the name 'Carlton Club' was adopted a week later. By 1835 the club was so rich that it moved to purpose designed premises on Pall Mall. Membership was a badge of allegiance to the Conservative Party and the Club provided the core of the party's organisation for many decades, particularly before the foundation of Conservative Central Office. The present address became a clubhouse after the Pall Mall building was destroyed during the Second World War.



### 28 Christie's

The United Oxford and Cambridge Club was formed in 1972 as an amalgamation of 19th-century clubs (United University Club & Oxford and Cambridge Club; the latter being formed under Lord Palmerstone and already at 71 Pall Mall). Cress is now allowed in; the Club having granted full membership to women since 1996. Opened in 1838, the building is a brick and stucco affair with a rusticated base and Corinthian columns and was designed by the Royal Gold Medallist, architect to the Board of Works and Greek Revivalist, Sir Robert Smirke; who also designed the British Museum among other things and was a pioneer of the use of concrete in foundations.



### 29 The Army & Navy Club

'The Rag', has been in St. James's since 1837, on this site since 1851 and in this building since 1963. The Duke of Wellington named the club and its nickname originated from a remark by an early member, Captain Billy Duff, who said that the food being served was a 'rag and famish affair'. Meant as an insult, the 'Rag and Famish' was a squalid gaming house, the members were amused and adopted the term, shortening it to 'The Rag'



### 30 RAC Club

RAC Club is the oldest motoring club in the UK and the second oldest in the world; founded in 1897 by Frederick Richard Simms and Charles Harrington Moore. King Edward VII gave the club royal patronage. Edward loved motoring and in 1903 Berry Brothers and Rudd formulate something for his flask to keep out the cold on a winter's run; called King's Ginger it's a mild alcoholic beverage of 41% proof; nothing to trouble the local police! The clubhouse opened in 1911; designed by Mewes & Davis, of French Renaissance style and at a cost £250,000. Today, a lifetime membership for someone under 31 would cost around £35,000. The Club founded the Tourist Trophy, the 'TT', in 1905 and organised the first British Grand Prix in 1926.



### 31 Reform Club

The Reform Club was founded by Whigs in 1836 and their purpose designed clubhouse, designed by Sir Charles Barry, based upon the Palazzo Farnese in Rome, was opened in 1841 and intended to be a forum for radical ideas. The riches offered to the founding of the club came principally from Edward Ellice, MP for Coventry who made his fortune from the Hudson's Bay Company, once the world's largest land owner

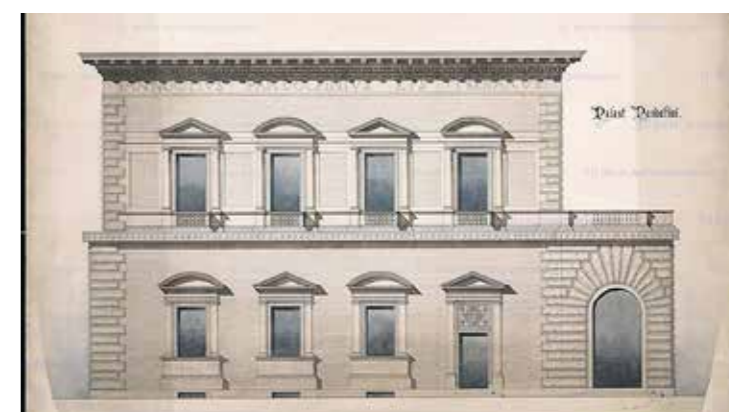


### 32 The Travellers Club

The Travellers Club next door to the Reform was also designed by Sir Charles Barry, based upon Raphael's Palazzo Pandolfini in Florence and was opened in 1832. Barry's fee at that time was £1,500 and he became a member of the club which was founded in 1819, 'for gentlemen who had travelled out of the British Isles to a distance of at least five hundred miles from London in a straight line'. Dress code and etiquette are formal, women admitted as guests only and if you're wearing trainers, you're definitely not coming in!



Reform Club; Michelangelo's Palazzo Farnese, Rome

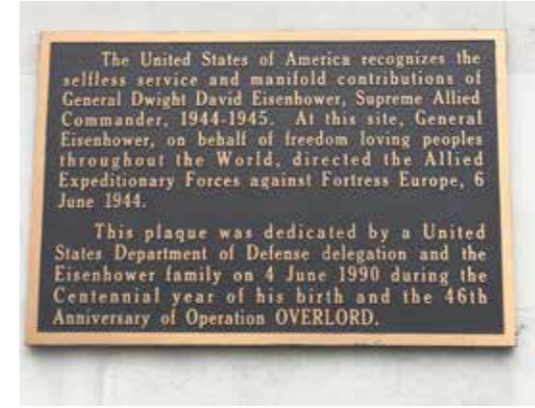


Traveller's Club - Raphael's Palazzo Pandolfini - Florence



### 33 The Athenaeum Club

The Athenaeum Club, designed by Decimus Burton in 1827, has the strongest intellectual reputation of all the clubs. It was founded by a civil servant, John Wilson Croker in 1819 as a meeting place 'for men who enjoy the life of the mind'. In 1830, Arthur Wellesley, aka, The Duke of Wellington was (Tory) Prime Minister and the stone blocks on the pavement outside the club are said to have been placed there to help him mount his horse. It is notoriously difficult to gain membership with over 52 past and present members have won a Nobel Prize; of those, Bertrand Russell, waited 40 years to become a member after his initial rejection.



### 36 Eisenhower's HQ

Norfolk House, at 31 St. James's Square, was built in 1722 and where the (German) King George III (the reigning monarch at the time of American Independence) was born. General Eisenhower directed the Allied war effort from this building in the 1940s; where else would he have done this! It is said that the British General Montgomery used to park in Eisenhower's spot in the Square simply to provoke him.



### 34 The Grand Old Duke of York

The (Grand Old) Duke of York, 'King of the United States', unpopular second son of King George II was a poor military leader and he died in debt, owing £2M and humourists of the time wrote that the column is so high as to prevent the Duke being harassed by his many creditors, even in the afterlife. The column was erected in 1834 and was paid for by deducting a day's pay from every soldier in the army.



### 37 King William III

William III (William of Orange) has a statue depicting him as a mounted Roman General in the centre of St. James's Square which has been there since 1808. Jacobite enemies of William toast, 'the little gentleman in the black velvet waistcoat'. This is a reference to the molehill that caused the King to fall from his horse and later die of the pneumonia that he contracted while recovering from his broken collar bone. The statue has a mole hill under the horse's hoof.



### 35 Pre-WWII German Embassy

9 Carlton Terrace is where Ambassador Joachim von Ribbentrop worked between 1936 and 1938 as it was it was the German Embassy until the outbreak of World War II and von Ribbentrop became Hitler's Foreign Minister.



### 38 WPC Yvonne Fletcher

PC Yvonne Fletcher was, at 25 years old in 1984, shot and killed by a gunman firing from the Libyan Embassy at 5 St. James's Square. Diplomatic immunity to Libyans at the Embassy meant no action was taken to arrest the gunman, but when, in 1999, Libya accepted 'general responsibility' for the shooting of PC Fletcher, The Met Police reopened the case. The ex-Education Minister of Libya was arrested in November 2015 on suspicion of the killing, but was released when evidence was not allowed to be made public due to reasons of national security.



### 39 The Naval and Military Club

The Naval and Military Club, No. 4 St. James's Square has had enough said about it! One-time occupant, Nancy Astor is worth noting though and you'll no doubt be able to find much to read about her as anti-Catholic, anti-Semitic and being known as 'the member for Berlin' according to a speech in Parliament by Stafford Cripps in 1939. Lady Astor once said to Winston Churchill, 'if you were my husband I'd poison your tea' and he replied, 'Madam, if you were my wife, I'd drink it'.



### 41 Three Prime Ministers

(Can be found on the wall of Chatham House)



### 40 Chatham House & 41 (see next)

Chatham House is the home of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. The 1st Earl of St. Albans, Henry Jermyn, once lived in a grand house on this site from 1675 – 82. The current properties (9, 10 and 11) are Georgian of the 1830s. The house is Listed Grade I and was once home to three Prime Ministers, William Pitt (Whig and 1st Earl Chatham, hence the name of the house), Edward Stanley (longest ever serving leader of the Tory Party and three times Prime Minister) and William Gladstone (Liberal) who was Prime Minister four times and was 84 years old when he finally stepped down.



### 42 London Library

London Library, situated here since 1845 and largely established by Thomas Carlyle, is the world's largest private lending library. The playwright Tim Stoppard is the current president and one has to be a member to enter, except that introductory tours are held on the last Saturday of each month at 11am for those aspiring to membership. Members have included Thackeray, Gladstone, Dickens, Eliot (both George and TS), Huxley, HG Wells, Henry James, Betjeman, Kipling and Isaiah Berlin. So, if you fancy a good read in esteemed company, you know where to apply.



### 43 The East India & Sports Club

The East India, Devonshire, Sports and Public Schools' Club, usually known as the East India Club, was founded in 1849. Membership of the club is strictly by nomination and election only, but it has been graced with the company of members of Sonnemann Toon Architects when they were invited to dinner there by a client. The first occupant of the house was Thomas Jermyn, 2nd Baron Jermyn in the 17th Century. In 1804, a much later owner, Viscount Anson, sold the house to Edmund Boehm, a successful merchant who, with his wife, was very active socially and hosted many dinner parties. On June 21, 1815, the Prince Regent (later George IV) was the principal guest at a dinner party. He heard the news of the victory at Waterloo at the house, where Major Henry Percy, aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington, presented the Prince Regent with four captured French eagles and Wellington's victory despatch



### 46 The Liberal Party

The Liberal Party was born from the ashes of the Whig Party who had their origins in an aristocratic faction in the reign of Charles II. The Whigs were in favour of reducing the power of the Crown and increasing the power of Parliament. Although their motives in this were originally to gain more power for themselves, the more idealistic Whigs gradually came to support an expansion of democracy for its own sake. After decades in opposition, the Whigs returned to power under Grey in 1830 and carried the First Reform Act in 1832 which was the climax of Whiggism, but it also brought about their demise. The admission of the middle classes to the franchise and to the House of Commons led eventually to the development of a systematic middle class liberalism and the end of Whiggery, although for many years reforming aristocrats held senior positions in the party. As early as 1839 Russell had adopted the name of "Liberals", but in reality his party was a loose coalition of Whigs in the House of Lords and Radicals in the Commons. The leading Radicals were John Bright and Richard Cobden, who represented the manufacturing towns which had gained representation under the Reform Act. They favoured social reform, personal liberty, reducing the powers of the Crown and the Church of England (many of them were Nonconformists), avoidance of war and foreign alliances (which were bad for business), and above all free trade. For a century, free trade remained the one cause which could unite all Liberals. The formal foundation of the Liberal Party is traditionally traced to 1859 and the formation of Palmerston's second government.



### 44 Waterloo Announcement

no need for words here as you can read the plaque on the wall!



### 45 Napoleon III

Napoleon III, on his return to France in 1840, Louis Napoleon was imprisoned for life, but six years later he managed to escape and fled to England. His former residence at 1C (formerly 3A) King Street bears London's earliest surviving blue plaque, made of blue encaustic terracotta by the famous Minton Hollins & Company



### 47 St. James's Theatre,

St. James's Theatre, now a footnote in history and but a pause to note its loss along the way of our tour.



#### 48 Christie'

Christie's auctioneers have been based in King Street since 1823, having been founded in 1766 (in good time no doubt to benefit from those needing to sell things to stem the loss of property in America). For the curious, Christie's can be visited on weekdays (020 7839 9060).



#### 50 Indica Bookshop

Indica Bookshop was originally at 23 Mason's Yard, but when it moved to 102 Southampton Row it's where Yoko Ono and John Lennon first met in November 1966. The bookshop was an element of the Indica Gallery which was London's first conceptual art gallery when it opened in Mason's Yard in November 1965.



#### 49 White Cube Gallery

White Cube Gallery by MRJ Rundell + Associates was completed in September 2006 at a cost of £6M and is one of only very few modern buildings in St. James's. Of the scheme the architect says that, 'the design was developed to respect the key qualities of discretion and reserve that form the character of St James'.



#### 51 The Scotch of St James

The Scotch of St James is the last club on our tour and is a nightclub, live music and private event space which first opened its doors on the 14th of July 1965. Renowned as the preferred playground for just about every major music personality of the swinging 60's the club famously played host to a then unknown Jimi Hendrix's first impromptu gig on arrival in England in 1966. The club was also where Paul McCartney first met Stevie Wonder, after the latter's live performance at the club on 3 February 1966 and, during its heyday in the mid-1960s, the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Kinks, the Who, Rod Stewart, the Moody Blues, the Spencer Davis Group, the Animals, Sonny and Cher were regular patrons and the Beatles and Rolling Stones were given their own tables. More than twenty years after it last opened its doors, The Scotch was restored in January of 2012 and re-launched in March of 2014 after an eight-month partnership with Le Baron in 2013; a Paris based club that Vogue described as 'painfully cool'; whatever that means!