Literary London 2013
Representations of London in Literature

17-19 July, 2013

Conference Programme

Hosted by:

The Institute of English Studies
University of London

Organised by

The Literary London Society
Literary London 2013: A Note on the Venue

All conference events are taking place in and around the Institute of English Studies, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU. Please register in the Grand Lobby on Thursday 18 or Friday 19 July.

The nearest tube stations are Goodge Street (Northern Line) and Russell Square (Piccadilly Line). Warren Street, Tottenham Court Road, Holborn, Euston, and Euston Square tube stations are also just a few minutes’ walk away. Euston, St. Pancras, and Kings Cross mainline stations are also within 10-15 minutes’ walk.

Informal gatherings will be in the Marquis Cornwallis, 31 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, London, WC1N 1AP.

The venue for the conference dinner is Tas, 22 Bloomsbury Street, WC1B 3QJ.

Administration:
Jon Millington, Institute of English Studies, University of London, School of Advanced Study, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU
Tel. +44 (0)20 7664 4859 | Email: ISEEvents@sas.ac.uk | Web: http://ies.sas.ac.uk
The School of Advanced Study is part of the central University of London. The School takes its responsibility to visitors with special needs very seriously and will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments to its facilities in order to accommodate the needs of such visitors. If you have a particular requirement, please feel free to discuss it confidentially with the Events Officer in advance of the event taking place.

Toilets are located off Staircase 1 on the 1st floor and basement, and in the foyer of floors two and three. Please look out for directional signs.

Wifi is available throughout the building. The password changes each day and can be obtained from the main reception desk. Our network name is “UoL Conferences”.

**Wednesday 17 July**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.00pm-4.00pm</td>
<td>Literary London Society Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Court Room</td>
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<td>4.30pm-5.30pm</td>
<td>Literary London Society Annual General Meeting</td>
<td>Court Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.00pm-7.15pm</td>
<td>Plenary address by Courttia Newland: ‘London Underground: Contemporary Working-Class Literature’</td>
<td>Beveridge Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.15pm-8.00pm</td>
<td>Wine Reception</td>
<td>Macmillan Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.00pm</td>
<td>Informal pub gathering: Marquis Cornwallis, 31 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, London, WC1N 1AP</td>
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Thursday 18 July

9.00am-12.00pm: Registration  
**Crush Hall**

9.00am-9.30am: Coffee  
**Crush Hall**

9.30am-9.50am: Welcoming Address from the conference organisers  
**Beveridge Hall**

9.50-10.50am: Plenary Address: Vic Gatrell (University of Cambridge):  
**Beveridge Hall**
‘The First “Bohemia”: Creative Disorder in Eighteenth-Century Covent Garden’

10.50am-11.15am: Coffee  
**Macmillan Hall**

11.15am-1.00pm: Parallel Sessions.

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<td>The Blitz I</td>
<td>Ladies and Gentlemen</td>
<td>Unruly Boroughs</td>
<td>Ruins and Reconstruction</td>
<td>Gender and Conflict in Postwar Fiction</td>
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1.00pm-2.00pm: Lunch  
**Macmillan Hall**

2.00pm-3.30pm: Parallel Sessions.

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<td>Disorderly Houses</td>
<td>Migrancy, Hybridity, Difference</td>
<td>London in Plague</td>
<td>Time-space and narrative</td>
<td>Community and Communication</td>
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3.30pm-4.00pm: Coffee  
**Macmillan Hall**

4.00pm-5.30pm: Parallel Sessions.
5.40pm-6.30pm: Special Event: Round Table on 'London Fictions' hosted by Philippa Thomas (BBC)  
Beveridge Hall

6.30pm-7.45pm: Wine Reception  
Macmillan Hall

8.00pm: Tas, 22 Bloomsbury Street, WC1B 3QJ

Friday 19 July

9.00am-12.00pm: Registration  
Crush Hall

9.50am-10.50am: Plenary Address: Matthew Rubery (Queen Mary, University of London): "London Horrors": Investigative Journalism in the Nineteenth Century'  
Beveridge Hall

10.50-11.15am: Coffee  
Macmillan Hall

11.15am-1pm: Parallel Sessions.

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<tr>
<td>London Settings</td>
<td>The Blitz II</td>
<td>Colonial Traces</td>
<td>Riots, Anarchy and Resistance</td>
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1.00pm-2.00pm: Lunch  
Macmillan Hall

2pm-3.30pm: Parallel Sessions.

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<td>Traumatized Subjects</td>
<td>Poetic Intersections</td>
<td>Peripheral Visions</td>
<td>Alienation, Inertia and Nihilism</td>
<td>New Journalism, New Journalists</td>
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3.30-4.00pm: Coffee

Macmillan Hall

4.00pm-5.30pm: Parallel Sessions.

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5.30pm-6.00pm: Roundtable Session and concluding remarks

Beveridge Hall

6.00pm: Conference ends.

6.00pm: For those remaining in London, there will be informal drinks in the Marquis Cornwallis, 31 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury, London, WC1N 1AP.
Literary London 2013: Programme

**Wednesday 17 July**

2.00pm–4.00pm  
Literary London Society Committee Meeting  
*Court Room*

4.30pm–5.30pm  
Literary London Society Annual Meeting  
All welcome  
*Court Room*

6.00pm – 7.15pm  
Beveridge Hall

**Courttia Newland**

‘*London Underground: Contemporary Working-Class Literature*’

*Chair: Martin Dines*

Followed by a wine reception
Thursday 18 July

9.00am – 12.00pm  
Registration  
Crush Hall

9.00am – 9.40am  
Coffee  
Crush Hall

9.40am – 10.00am  
Welcoming Address  
from the conference organisers  
Beveridge Hall

10.00am – 10.50am  
Plenary Address  
Beveridge Hall

Vic Gatrell  
(University of Cambridge)

‘The First “Bohemia”: Creative Disorder in Eighteenth-Century Covent Garden’

Chair: Brycchan Carey

10.50am – 11.15am  
Coffee  
Macmillan Hall

11.15am – 1.00pm: Parallel Sessions

The Blitz I  
Room G22

Chair: Andelys Wood

Natasha Green (Independent Scholar), ‘War “time”: reimagining time and history in London’s Blitz Literature’

Anne Harvey (Independent Scholar), ‘A writer’s war work’
Ladies and Gentlemen

**Room G26**

**Chair: Brycchan Carey**

Dennis McDaniel (Saint Vincent College), ‘London’s first Iron Lady: early modern representations of Boudica’

Alexandra Rose (Belmont University), ‘Gardens of earthly delights: sites of sexual deviance in Eliza Haywood’s London’

Patricia Rodrigues (University of London), ‘The unholy trinity of eighteenth-century London vices’

Diana Archibald (University of Massachusetts Lowell), ‘The London gentlemen’s club in Dickens’

Unruly Boroughs

**Room G35**

**Chair: Bianca Leggett**

Mary Lester (Institute of Historical Research), ““A vast migration over the Lea, from all the length of the High Street”: Arthur Morrison’s “To Bow Bridge” and the boundaries and landscape of suburban disorder’

Eliza Cubitt (UCL), ‘The stranger, the street photographer, and the sketch: representing Whitechapel, 1872-89’

Craig Melhoff (University of Regina), ‘Decay, disjunction, degeneration: London, and the “Floating World” of Martin Amis’s Lionel Asbo’

Ruins and Reconstruction

**Room G37**

**Chair: Jenny Bavidge**

Alvin Snider (University of Iowa), ‘Restoration theatre in the ruins’

Anna Viola Sborgi (University of Genoa), ‘Derek Jarman’s apocalyptic London’

Hannah Vincent (Open University), ‘The hysterical city: Julie Myerson’s ruined London’
Gender and Conflict in Postwar Fiction  

Room 104

Chair: Susie Thomas

Nick Hubble (Brunel University), ‘Whatever happened to postwar London? John Sommerfield's *North West Five* (1960) and Zadie Smith’s *NW* (2012)’
Rajeswari Mohan (Haverford College), ‘Riots and the policing of gender in fiction and film in the 1980s’
Lindsay Balfour (University of British Columbia), ‘Diaspora and disorientation in literary London: reading gender and agency in the geographical interfaces of Monica Ali’s *Brick Lane*’

1.00pm – 2.00pm  Lunch  Macmillan Hall

2.00pm – 3.30pm: Parallel Sessions

Disorderly Houses  

Room G22

Chair: Richard Dennis

Jane Jordan (Kingston University), ‘The Eliza Armstrong abduction case and the late-nineteenth-century social housing crisis’
Jivitesh Vashisht (University of Warwick), ‘The anarchist’s house and London’s anxious modernity in Joseph Conrad’s *The Secret Agent* and *The Informer*’
Andrew Glazzard (Royal Holloway), ‘Conrad’s East-End world: The Eastern Hotel in *Chance*’

Migrancy, Hybridity, Difference  

Room G26

Chair: Adele Lee

Naglaa Hassan (Fayoum University), ‘The crisis of othering and the other’s crisis in metropolitan London in selected ethnic fiction’
Martin Kindermann (University of Hamburg), ‘Celebrating disintegration: London dissolving in Salman Rushdie’s *The Satanic Verses* and Zadie Smith’s *White Teeth*’
Siraj Ahmed (Kuvempu University), ‘Rushdie’s representation of London: of locations and dislocations’
‘Thou hast been merry in the height of thy misfortunes’: London in Plague

**Room G35**

**Chair:** Cynthia Wall

Richelle Munkhoff (University of Colorado Boulder), ‘Suspecting pestilence: the tragedy of public health in Romeo and Juliet’


Robert Shepherd (Autonomous University of Madrid), ‘A plaguy wit: Thomas Nashe, Gabriel Harvey and the boundaries of literary decorum “In Time of Pestilence”’

**Time-Space and Narrative**

**Room G37**

**Chair:** Dennis Moore

Jarrad Keyes (Kingston University), ‘“A metropolis ruled by time”: W. G. Sebald’s representations of London’

Alexandre Veloso (Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais), ‘London, 15 February 2003: time and spatial dislocation in Ian McEwen’s Saturday’

Markus Reisenleitner (York University Toronto), ‘Placing fashion in the city with zero history: London’s urban imaginary William Gibson’s Blue Ant Trilogy’

**Community and Communication**

**Room 104**

**Chair:** Nick Bentley

Hilary Rector (Belmont University), ‘For pleasure, profit and propriety: social criminality and community in The Importance of Being Earnest’

Antony May (Kingston University), ‘“Wir aw slags oan holiday”: Irvine Welsh’s depictions of London in Skagboys, Trainspotting and Porno’

Bianca Leggett (Birkbeck College), ‘The “empathy deficit” and the deficiencies of empathy in Zadie Smith’s NW’

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**3.30pm – 4.00pm**

**Coffee**

**Grand Lobby**
4.00pm – 5.30pm: Parallel Sessions

**Mapping London: Englishness and Otherness in Literary, Journalistic and Filmic Narratives** *Room G22*

*Chair: Adrienne McCormick*

Adrienne McCormick (SUNY Fredonia), ‘Time, space, and (dis)connection in *There But For The, The City of Mind*, and *NW*’

Jeanette McVicker (SUNY Fredonia), ‘Traumatic narratives, domestic framed: news, crisis and nationalism’

Katrina Hamilton-Kraft (SUNY Fredonia), ‘Mapping London at Night’

**Perceptions of Disorder** *Room G26*

*Chair: Mita Choudhury*

Catharina Drott (University of Giessen), ‘The perception of disorder: walking the streets of London during the Great Plague’

Michael Stefnik (Purdue University Calumet), ‘“Under the brown fog of a winter dawn”: disgusting but valuable representations of London’

Marcus O’Donnell (University of Wollongong), ‘China Miéville: seeing London’

**Technology and Narrative** *Room G35*

*Chair: Brycchan Carey*

Richard Dennis (UCL), ‘Tragedy and crisis on the Victorian Underground’

Laura Ludke (St Anne’s College, Oxford), ‘Electric lights and dystopian London in H. G. Wells’s *The Sleeper Awakes* (1899) and George Orwell’s *Nineteen-Eighty Four* (1949)’

Jessica Wilde, (Roehampton University), ‘From Holmes to Thorne: the changing face of the London detective’
Chair: Nick Hubble

Lisa Robertson (University of Northampton), ‘Writing home: what Victorian novels can teach us about London’s housing crisis’
Amy Butt (bpr architects), ‘The view from below: new wave science fiction and the critique of the high rise’
Kevin McCarron (Roehampton University), ‘Begging, homelessness, alcoholism and drug addiction in narratives of contemporary London’

5.40pm – 6.30pm Special Event Beveridge Hall

Round Table: London Fictions

With Susie Thomas, Jerry White and Anne Witchard

Chair: Philippa Thomas (BBC)

6.30pm – 7.45pm Wine Reception Macmillan Hall
8.00pm Conference Dinner Tas, 22 Bloomsbury Street
Friday 19 July

9.00am – 12.00pm Registration Crush Hall
10.00am – 10.50am  **Plenary Address**  
**Beveridge Hall**  
Matthew Rubery  
(Queen Mary, University of London)  
‘“London Horrors”: Investigative Journalism in the Nineteenth Century’  
*Chair: Jenny Bavidge*

10.50am – 11.15am  **Coffee**  
**Macmillan Hall**

11.15am – 1.00pm: Parallel Sessions

**London Settings**  
*Room G22*

- Chair: Andrew Glazzard
- Andelys Wood (Union College, Kentucky), ‘Timon of London’
- Brian Fox (Royal Holloway), ‘Literature on trial: Wilde, Lawrence and the Old Bailey’
- Radmil Nastic (University of Kragujevac), ‘Harold Pinter’s wicked London’
- Rudolf Weiss (University of Vienna), “A quiet love-letter to London” or “Images of hell”? Simon Stephens’s *Pornography*

**The Blitz II**  
*Room G26*

- Chair: Martin Dines
- Cheryl Mares (Sweet Briar College), ‘Harold Nicolson’s diaries and letters: articulating urban space in wartime London’
- Steve Spencer (Independent Scholar), ‘Vicarious/precarious: bittersweet experiences of the Blitz’
- Fred Ahl (Cornell University), ‘Propaganda: casting, scripting and staging war as live theatre in London 1939-42’
Amy Bell (Huron University College), ‘Spaces and traces of juvenile delinquency in Blitzed London 1940-55’

Colonial Traces

Chair: Nicola Ahl

Adam Hansen (Northumbria University), ‘Marlowe’s Londons’
Sally Stone (University of Hull), ‘Little Black Death en vogue: manifestations of social and moral decline in Defoe and Hogarth’s London’
Eleanor Dobson, (University of Birmingham), ‘The Egyptianised metropolis: Bram Stoker’s “The Jewel of the Seven Stars” and London’s West End’
Juan Jose Martin Gonzalez (University of Malaga) ‘Exotic/colonial traces and fin de siècle London in Richard Marsh’s The Beetle (1897)’

Riots, Anarchy and Resistance

Chair: Susie Thomas

Steve Chapman (University of Plymouth), ‘“A shower of liquid fire”: Dickens’s use of fire and water imagery in the riot scenes of Barnaby Rudge’
Graham MacPhee (West Chester University), ‘The Futures of Metropolitan Violence in Linton Kwesi Johnson and Enoch Powell’
Susan Alice Fischer (Medgar Evers College CUNY), ‘“How to fight”: political resistance in contemporary representations of London’
Rebecca Steinberger (Misericordia University), ‘Anarchy in the UK: urban angst and the London riots of 2011’

London Apocalypse

Chair: Eliza Cubitt

David Charnick (Independent Scholar), ‘Whoops apocalypse: disaster averted in Robert Rankin’s Brentford trilogy’
Hadas Elber-Aviram (UCL), ‘Forged in “Memory Fire”: China Miéville’s apocalyptic visions of London and the crises of London history’
Martyn Colebrook (Independent Scholar), ‘“Too many rats in the cage”: urban alienation, the city and disorder in Conrad Williams’s London’
Cemre Bartu (Hacettepe University), ‘Mapping London and the self in Neil Gaiman’s Neverwhere’
1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch Macmillan Hall

2.00pm – 3.30pm: Parallel Sessions

Traumatized Subjects in Pre- and Post-millennial Contemporary Fiction of London Room G22

Chair: Martyn Colebrook

Lawrence Phillips (Regents College): ‘Descent into madness: Patrick McGrath’s The Spider (1990)’
Philip Tew (Brunel University): ‘Negotiating insanities, inanity in Will Self’s Book of Dave (2006)’
Lynn Wells (First Nations University): ‘Gender and sociopathic impulses in Zadie Smith’s NW (2012)?’

Poetic Intersections Room G26

Chair: Mary Coghill

Evgenia Kravchenkova (Pushkin State Russian Language Institute, Moscow), ‘London in Russian poetry, 1920s-1970s’
Ulrich Kinzel (University of Kiel), ‘Text Surfaces: German concrete poetry and art in London at the beginning of the 1960s’
Elena Nistor (University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest), “Stranded on a thin island”: visions of failed communication in contemporary English poetry

Peripheral Visions Room G35

Chair: Martin Dines

S. Kate Pratt (University of Alberta), ‘Returning to the scene of the crime: Alice and the apple in Arden of Faversham’
G. Kim Blank (University of Victoria), ‘Keats’s progress in suburban London’
Jason Finch (Åbo Akademi University), ‘The limits of London in Barnaby Rudge’
Alienation, Inertia and Nihilism  

**Room G37**

*Chair: Dassi Elber-Aviram*

Simon Goulding (BSMHFT), ‘Hotel terminus: anticipation and realisation in *Party Going’*
Laura Colombino (University of Genoa), ‘Architects of chaos: an analysis of Peter Ackroyd’s *Hawksmoor* and Michael Bracewell’s *Missing Margate’*
Emma Zimmerman (University of Nottingham), ‘Entropy versus apathy: the crisis of contemporary London in J. G. Ballard’s *Millennium People’*

New Journalism, New Journalists  

**Room 104**

*Chair: Allison Lin*

Chi-fang Li (National Sun Yat-sen University), ‘Dekker-Middleton connection: a cultural life in the years of crisis’
Anthony John Dunn (University of Portsmouth), ‘Between sight and sound: a McLuhanite reading of *A Journal of the Plague Year’*
Laura James (Stony Brook University), “‘Be anything, but don’t be a newspaper girl!’” Elizabeth L. Banks, journalism and women’s labour in turn-of-the-century London’

3.30pm – 4.00pm  
**Coffee**  
**Macmillan Hall**

4.00pm – 5.30pm: Parallel Sessions  

Poetics of City Space: A Balance of Force  

**Room G22**

*Chair: Mary Coghill (London Metropolitan University)*

Contributors: Sean Bonney (author of *The Commons*), Mary Coghill (London Metropolitan University), Stephen Mooney (Veer Books), Anna Robinson (University of East London), Will Rowe (Birkbeck, University of London)
**Queer London**

*Room G26*

*Chair: Lisa Robertson*

James Polchin (New York University, London), “‘There is another way of putting the story together”: biography and experience in Neil Bartlett’s *Who Was That Man? A Present for Mr Oscar Wilde*’

Katharine Stevenson (University of Texas at Austin), ‘The “other town”: Christopher Isherwood’s romantic-sinister London

**Visitors and Exiles**

*Room G35*

*Chair: Nicola Ahl*

Tzu Yu Allison Lin (University of Gaziantep), ‘Spatial Representations in Charles Dickens’s New York and London’

James Wallace (Boston College), ‘Herman Melville’s travel guide’

Corina Crisu (University of Bucharest), ‘Eastern European London: Vesna Goldsworthy’s *Chernobyl Strawberries*’

**Psychological Disorder and Urban Space**

*Room G37*

*Chair: Simon Goulding*

Omar Sabbagh (American University of Beirut), ‘G. K. Chesterton’s London: traversing a therapeutic space’

Preeti Desodiya (Jawaharlal Nehru University), ‘A Londoner in crisis: a study of Lessing’s *The Golden Notebook* and Miles Tredinnick’s *Topless*’

Kiki Benzon (University of Lethbridge), ‘Mental illness and London in novels by Will Self, Sebastian Faulks and Clare Allan’

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**5.30pm – 6.00pm**

**Beveridge Hall**

**Roundtable Session and concluding remarks**

*Chair: Martin Dines*

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**6.00pm**

Conference ends. For those remaining in London there will be informal drinks in The Marquis Cornwallis, 31 Marchmont Street, Bloomsbury WC1N
The Literary London Society: Events and Publications

The Literary London Society was founded in July 2011 ‘to foster interdisciplinary and historically wide-ranging research into London literature in its historical, social, and cultural contexts, to include all periods and genres of writing about, set in, inspired by, or alluding to central and suburban London and its environs, from the city’s roots in pre-Roman times to its imagined futures’. The Society runs an annual conference and publishes an online journal. The journal, and information about the Society, can be found at:

www.literarylondon.org

Literary London Conference 2014 provisional dates:

(Wednesday 23 – Friday 25 July, 2014)

Hosted by
The Institute of English Studies, University of London

Conference Theme: ‘Ages of London’

The Literary London Journal

The Literary London Journal is the first and only journal to provide a common forum for scholars and students engaged specifically in the study of London and literature. It is dedicated to fostering an intellectual community that will facilitate interdisciplinary exchange. While the editorial focus of the journal is on representations of London in literature, articles in cognate disciplines that contribute to readings of London are very much encouraged. These subject areas include readings of London in history, drama, film, geography, art history, architecture, urban sociology, painting and engraving, etc.

The Literary London Journal is published by the Literary London Society. It appears twice a year, in March and September, and is indexed by the MLA International Bibliography.
We welcome submissions on any aspect of the representation of London in literature but also of work in cognate disciplines that will contribute to readings of London. These subject areas might include readings of London in history, drama, film, geography, art history, architecture, urban sociology, painting and engraving, etc. Submissions should normally be around 5000–8000 words in length. All submissions are read in traditional double-blind fashion, critiqued, and either returned to the author for revision or accepted for publication.

LOCAL INFORMATION

Underground: Nearest stations: Russell Square (Piccadilly Line) or Goodge Street (Northern Line). Also within walking distance: Euston Square, Euston, Holborn, Tottenham Court Road, Warren Street, Portland Place, King’s Cross.

Overground: National rail links within walking distance: Euston, King’s Cross, and the international Eurostar terminal at St. Pancras. The other London mainline stations are a short taxi or Tube ride away.

National Rail Enquiries: www.nationalrail.co.uk ; 0845 7484950

Bus routes:
Nearest routes: Russell Square / Woburn Place: 7, 59, 68, 91, 168, 188
Gower Street (heading south) and Tottenham Court Road (heading north): 10, 14, 24, 29, 73, 134, 309

Transport for London: www.tfl.gov.uk has information, maps and prices for travelling around Greater London. NB: Oyster Cards give the best value for money: for an initial outlay of about £3 an Oyster Card may be topped up with cash and kept for your next visit to London. PAPER TICKETS ARE VERY EXPENSIVE.

Car Parking: Public car parking is not available at Senate House. NCP parking is available at Woburn Place and Bloomsbury Place.

Street Map: www.streetmap.co.uk
EMERGENCIES

Fire
If you detect fire or smoke please contact reception and report its location immediately by calling 8998 from any of the telephones located in the function rooms.

Evacuation Procedure
If the fire alarms sounds proceed quickly and calmly to the nearest fire exit. Escape routes and emergency exits are indicated by green signs. Do not stop to collect personal belongings.

Use the stairs – do not use the lifts.

For Senate House South, gather on the far side of Malet Street by the sunken garden. Do not congregate in the road or outside the car park gates, as emergency vehicles will require access to the building.

Persons with conditions that restrict their mobility should inform reception of their location on 8998. The fire marshal will then assist them to a safe location.

First Aid
If an accident occurs, contact reception immediately on 8998 giving details of the accident and any injuries.

Conference Office
If you have and problems or queries during your event please call the IES Administrator on ext 8675. If there is no answer, you can call the Conference Office hotline on 8127. (If there is no one available in the office this number is forwarded to the duty manager’s mobile phone.)

We can be contacted from any of the telephones located in the function rooms.

Smoking
Please note that smoking is not permitted in any part of Senate House or Stewart House.