

# **THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY**

## **BIRMINGHAM & WEST MIDLANDS**

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### **A Walk around the Digbeth area led by Joe Holyoak**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017  
Cost £5 - prior booking required**

**18.30 meet outside Moor Street Station  
A maximum of 20 participants, with priority for Society members**

Joe has led two previous walks in this area and in our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year it is fitting that we should revisit this conservation area, a place of several layers and of many changes.

In the middle ages it was largely agricultural land on the edge of town, and the location of the de Berminghams' deer park. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century it became a place of industry, some of it powered by the swift-running river Rea. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was a crowded and unruly mix of industry and working class housing, home to several Peaky Blinders street gangs. Today the housing is all but gone, the industry is fragmented, website designers and artists' galleries have moved in, and the district awaits a possible convulsion from the arrival of HS2.

Starting from Moor Street Station we will visit the HS2 terminal site, including its 1838 predecessor and namesake, and consider what the impact of HS2 upon the conservation area might be. We shall walk streets and towpath, looking at the remaining houses and industry, pubs, ex-pubs, canals and railway viaducts. It is a rich and heterogeneous mixture. We shall finish at the Custard Factory on High Street Deritend, after about one and a half hours' walking. The Crown next door may then be an appropriate place for a sit down and a pint.

***WHEN BOOKING PLEASE SEND A SEPARATE CHEQUE FOR EACH EVENT***

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#### **Digbeth Walk on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places on the walk @ £5 per head

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose a cheque for \_\_\_\_\_ payable to **The Victorian Society, Birmingham Group**

Please return the booking form with payment to  
Helene Pursey, 54 Prospect Rd, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 9TD  
[helene@victorian-society-bham.org.uk](mailto:helene@victorian-society-bham.org.uk)

***Please note that we do not send out tickets, but you will be notified by Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June if you have not been allocated a place on the walk.***