**SSW6: Stratford to Liverpool Street, Wednesday 29th June 2022**

6 walkers, 6.5 miles – leader Pete Colley

Another route out of the Olympic Park and into Victoria Park, passing its Boating Lake, English Garden, the Burdett-Coutts Drinking Fountain and the Chinese Pagoda on our way through. The magnificent London Chest Hospital was hidden behind hoardings as another landmark is converted into flats - on past the Vagina Museum to Bethnal Green and the *Stairway to Heaven*memorial to the 173 people who lost their lives in a tube station fire during an air raid in 1943.

Through Bethnal Green Gardens and on to Weavers Fields, into Kray territory – Vallance Road (their home), St Matthew's Church (their funerals) and the Carpenters' Arms (their mother's pub) – and over the railway lines into Allen Gardens where the smell of spray paint revealed a large number of street artists at work. A brief wriggle around the streets of Brick Lane, taking the liberty to pass the Norton Folgate Almshouses and the dominant Hawksmoor-designed Christ Church before crossing into Spitalfields Market, past the elephants (the *Herd of Hope*) in Spital and Bishops Squares, to reach our destination among the drinking classes of Liverpool Street.

As always, a big thank you to those who joined the walk. Looking forward to seeing you (and others) on the next instalment.

Photographs by Pete Colley