



# Annual Pilgrimage from London to Canterbury

The Connection at St. Martin's  
Eugene Ling, Pilgrimage Coordinator





 **The Connection**  
at St Martin-in-the-Fields

Registered Charity Number 1078201

# Join Our 29th Pilgrimage to Canterbury

## Walking to change lives

### 24th – 27th May

Booking closes on Monday 29th April

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Tel: 020 7766 5555



# History & Background

- The Annual Pilgrimage from London to Canterbury is an annual fundraising event of the Connection at St. Martin's (CSTM), a charity based in central London helping thousands of homeless people a year recover from the trauma of homelessness.
- The first Pilgrimage was in 1990 and this year we run the 29<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage.



# History & Background

- This annual Pilgrimage consists of 74 miles from St. Martin-in-the-Fields (SMITF) in Central London, to Canterbury Cathedral.
- It is a 4-Days event, which always take place in the late May bank holidays each year, from Friday to Monday.
- Part of our routes cover the North Down Way and of course lots of 'Pilgrims Way' in different towns and villages as well.



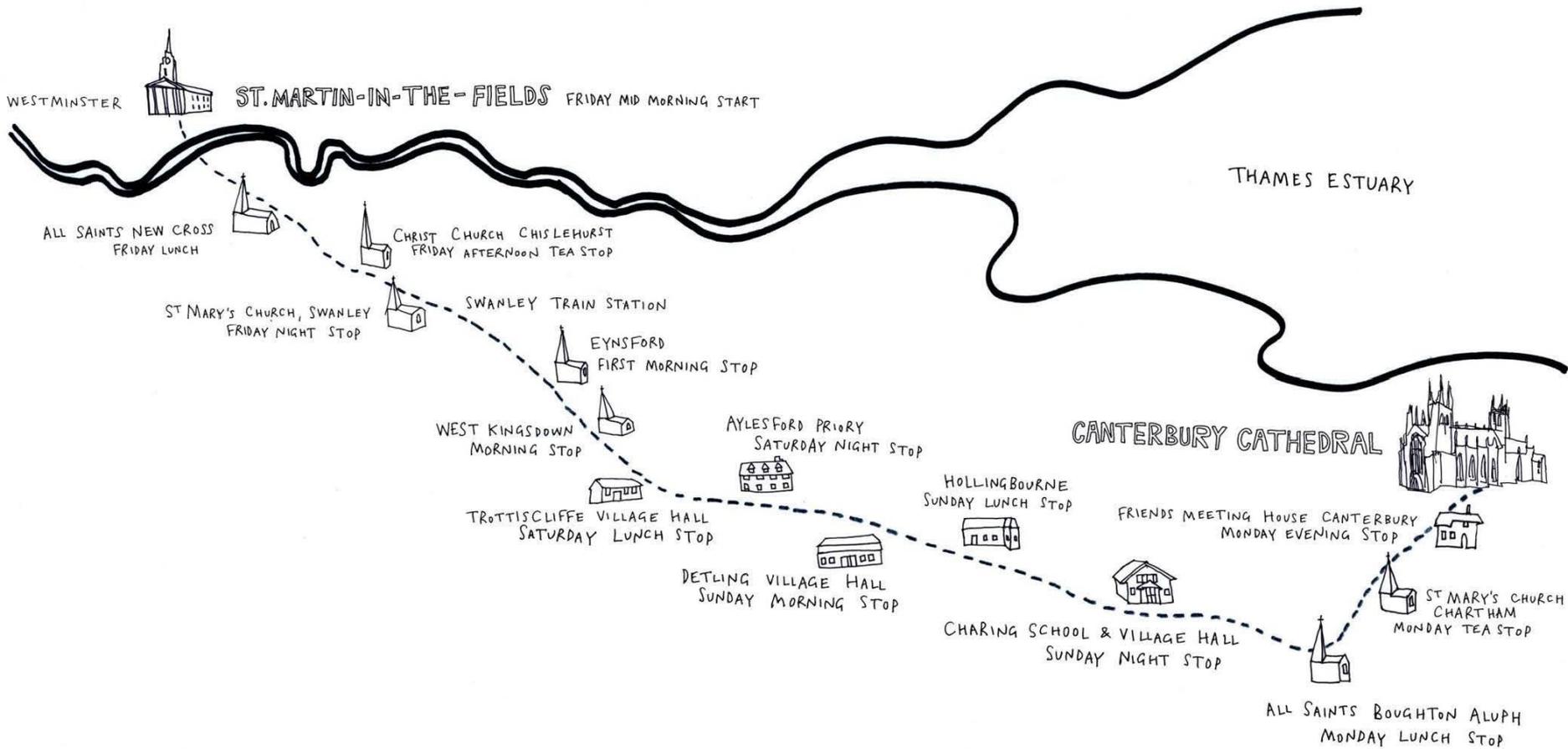
# History & Background

- Each year, there will be 100 walkers in the weekend and most of them walk the whole journey, and there are around 30 members in the support team.
- Founders of the Pilgrimage:  
Kath Shaljean (Case worker, The Social Care Unit in St. Martin's, The group before CSTM established)  
& Roger Shaljean (The director of the Social Care Unit in St. Martin's)



# History & Background

- In the recent years, this Pilgrimage raised about £45K to £52K each year to support the work of the CSTM. Those donations are mainly the sponsorship money raised from the pilgrims.
- This Pilgrimage has about 40 regular pilgrims joining each year and there is 1 pilgrim who joined all 29 Pilgrimages



 **The Connection**  
at St Martin-in-the-Fields  
helping homeless people  
seven days a week

# Annual Pilgrimage to Canterbury





# Pilgrims

- This Pilgrimage attracts different kinds of people all over the country and Europe
  - Christians
  - CSTM Supporters
  - SMITF Worshippers
  - Walk Lovers
  - Self Challengers
  - Regular Pilgrims, we call as 'usual suspects'
  - CSTM Clients
  - Guests of Sunday International Group of SMITF



# Preparations

- Marketing Materials will be designed in January each year.
- Promotions and registrations (Online and Postage) will start in February. The fundraising campaigns also start at the same time after Pilgrims' registrations.
- Contacting local supports (Churches, local communities and services providers) from January or early February.



# Badge for Every Pilgrim

T-Shirts to sell for Fundraising

**ARTWORK APPROVAL**

Artwork at 30%

Print to BOTH SIDES

Product Colour: BLACKBERRY

Visual Sample: (Not to scale)

**FRONT**

**BACK**

Product (Code)	Gildan Heavy Cotton T-Shirt (W12191)	Product Dimensions:	N/A
Designer	LN	Print Area	297mm x 210mm
Date	10.04.19	Print Colours	PMS White C

Red dotted line shows print area and will NOT be printed



# Preparations

- Support Team recruitment starts in January as well.
  - Route Master
  - Walking group leaders
  - Registration managers
  - Refreshment supports helpers
  - Footcare volunteers, Podiatrists
  - Drivers and cars
  - Reflexologists, Masseurs
- Our Route Master will have a trial on the routes with some group leaders, starting from March.



# Preparations

- Some group leaders will arrange some practice walks for the pilgrims to have a taste for walking such a distance.
- There will be 2 or 3 practice walks each year.
- The practice walks will not consist of the route in our Pilgrimage weekend in May.



# Weekend Logistics

- Every Pilgrim, including walker and helper, needs to register every day to ensure the safety.
- There will be an 'health and emergency contact form' for everyone to fill in to ensure if we got the correct information if we need.
- The Pilgrimage Coordinator will have the mobile phone numbers list of all walkers and helpers in case for emergency use.



# Weekend Logistics

- Luggage lorry will take pilgrims' luggage, and pilgrims only need a day sack when they walk.
- Pilgrims will choose a walking group according to the speeds. Each walking group will have 1 or 2 group leaders and there will be roughly 8 to 12 pilgrims in each group.



# Weekend Logistics

- Pilgrims have to walk in groups and no one is allowed to walk alone. Pilgrims will have the mobile phone number of the weekend coordinator in case of emergency.
- If Pilgrims find themselves not in the right group in terms of speeds, pilgrims can change the walking groups in the stopping points with the agreements of corresponding group leaders.



# Weekend Logistics

- Pilgrims can request to stop walking if they don't feel well in walking and lifts will be provided so that Pilgrims can travel to next stopping points.
- Maps & First Aid Kits will be provided to the walking group leaders.
- There will be 2 to 4 refreshment/meals stops each day. Food and drinks are served to pilgrims.



# St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Our starting Point







# Meals and Accommodation

- In terms of catering, there are half of them are provided generously by local communities along the route, including churches, homeless charity partners, sports club and priory etc.
- The other half of catering will be provided by the services providers with professional standard to provide food and drinks.
- Our catering teams will provide drinks (tea/coffee & Squash) and fruits in certain stops.



# Meals and Accommodation

- Our catering team and drivers will provide water refill facilities and fruits in some car stops.
- CSTM books some churches and halls for pilgrims as the overnight accommodation.
- Pilgrims are suggested in advanced to bring sleeping bags, air beds and/or air mattress. Pilgrims are welcome to camp, as there are fields for them to camp in each overnight stopping point.



# Meals and Accommodation

- Pilgrims can also arrange their own accommodation but they may need to provide their own transport, if it is far from our stopping points.
- On Saturday night, we stay in Aylesford Priory. We will pre-book a number of rooms and the Pilgrims can choose to pay extra for the rooms with beds.
- Friday Night: St. Mary's, Swanley  
Sunday Night: CofE School in Charing

All Saints  
community centre

Caution  
Very hot water

Station for providing drinks and recycling. A table holds stacks of pink and white disposable cups, a coffee machine, and a milk dispenser. Below the table, a red and white bin is labeled "Dirty Cups / Mugs" and a cardboard box contains a blue arrow sign pointing to the bin.









# Christian Services

- There will be short services in each overnight stop and welcome all pilgrims to attend. Services may be compline, holy communions or agapes (in Aylesford Priory).
- At 1830 on Monday, we will have a thanksgiving service in the chapel of the crypt in Canterbury Cathedral. The pilgrims will be welcome by the dean of the cathedral and the vergers teams. The thanksgiving service will be led by the priest of SMITF.



# Christian Services

- After the thanksgiving service, we will go to the cloister to pay tribute to Revd. Dick Sheppard by his grave. Dick was the priest in SMITF before which inspired the work of caring homeless people, and first opened the church to homeless people to have a rest inside.
- Pilgrims will say goodbye to each other after the service in the cathedral. Most of the Pilgrims will take the transport that we provide back to London.



Bakery & Coffee Shop

MS

The Connection  
of St Martin-in-the-Fields

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE  
Walking for homeless people  
St Martin-in-the-Fields to Canterbury

ABERCROMBIE  
& FITCH

BESAO  
8



Pub & Co.







# After the Pilgrimage

- CSTM will issue a certificate to each pilgrim to certify how long of each pilgrim has walked.
- Thank you cards and presents will be sent to helpers in the support team and all local communities and service providers.
- CSTM encourages pilgrims to raise sponsorships and donations to the event to support the work of CSTM to help homeless people around London.



# After the Pilgrimage

- The deadline of collecting sponsorship and donations of the Pilgrimage will be the end of August.
- There will be a reunion party in late August or early September to share friendship, food and drinks.



# Beautiful Scenes in the route



# Pilgrimage 2019





# Pilgrimage 2019





# Pilgrimage 2019





*Thank you  
very much!*

Photos credits @ Martin Haigh & Rebecca Yu