

ICCJ Manchester 2012

Sightseeing Options - Tuesday 3 July 2012

Option 1 - BBC and Salford Quays

The British Broadcasting Corporation retains a significant international profile. Many of its national services - including Religion and Ethics - have moved to purpose-built, state-of-the-art premises in Salford Quays, within a ten-minute walk of the Copthorne Hotel. The Commissioning Editor of BBC Religion and Ethics, Aaqil Ahmed, has agreed to meet on BBC premises up to a maximum of 20 people attending the ICCJ conference, from 2.00 to 3.30 p.m. on the Tuesday afternoon. After the meeting, there will be an opportunity for an informal tour of Salford Quays and Media City (which has a full-time Christian chaplain, who works closely with all the region's faith-communities) - or a gentle stroll back to the hotel.

Please note:

(a) There is only room for a maximum of 20 people - first come, first served: book early, if you want to take this opportunity

(b) You will need to take your lunch with you on the coach, which will have to leave no later than 1.30 p.m. to arrive there on time.

Option 2 - Manchester Jewish Experience

Manchester's Jewish community is 30,000-strong. It is vibrant, creative and influential - and will be in the national limelight, thanks to two national prime-time TV programmes, called *Strictly Kosher*, broadcast the week before the Conference. Meet the people at the heart of Manchester's Jewish community today - in synagogue, social care and the many local shops - on this popular coach tour, presented by the Manchester Jewish Museum, which presents the living culture of today, and tells the story of how it all came together from roots in Eastern Europe, the Holocaust and the Middle East.

Option 3 - Introduction to Manchester

A walking tour that takes in the heart of what the city of Manchester offers... Jacksons Row Synagogue (Manchester Reform Congregation), the Hidden Gem (Britain's first purpose-built post-Reformation Catholic Church) and the John Rylands Library (with a chance to see Greek papyri, numbering approximately 2,000 items, include the famous fragments of St John's Gospel and Deuteronomy, the earliest surviving pieces of the New Testament and the Greek Old Testament respectively). The tour begins at the Town Hall and ends at Manchester Cathedral, with a view of the original Chetham's School Building - world-famous music school housed within Manchester's oldest and newest buildings.

Option 4 - Industrial Revolution and Radicalism

Manchester is the home of much influential and independent thought. This tour begins at Chetham's Library, by Manchester Cathedral, where Engels did research for his writings, and where he called Karl Marx to view the conditions he saw (in the slums half a mile away) - then the tour will go to St Ann's Square (Bonnie Prince Charlie's failed last chance for a Jacobite rebellion in the 18th century), Cross Street Chapel (Unitarians - William and Elizabeth Gaskell), then Albert Square (to the Manchester Free Trade Hall - site of the Peterloo Massacre - the growth of the Anti Corn Law League - Manchester-originated campaign for free trade in the 1840s) - the Friends Meeting House (Ann Lee - the origin of the Shakers, as well as the Quakers) - to the People's History Museum (good exhibition on the Peterloo Massacre and the Suffragettes).

Throughout, the story of religious radicalism (Unitarian, Shaker, non-conformist and Catholic) is interwoven with political development and economic necessity.

Interesting that the Jewish community of the 19th century lived so close to the migrant Irish Catholic community that grew so quickly around Strangeways and Cheetham.

Depart the city centre through Castlefield – the story of industrial working conditions and warehouses.

Option 5 - Manchester and Salford Cathedrals, and Chetham's School of Music

A tour of two contrasting cathedrals - Manchester (Church of England), built on a medieval site, and Salford (Roman Catholic) - together with an opportunity to view a collection of rare Hebrew documents kept at Chetham's School of Music - Manchester's oldest building, internationally famous for the quality of its musical tuition.