

# BYU London Centre Faculty Handbook



Revised 2019  
International Study Programs

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## SECTION I

### London Centre Basics



### London Centre Program Description

#### **Mission Statement**

Brigham Young University's London Centre offers students a broad, interdisciplinary, liberal arts introduction to British history, society, culture, literature, and current affairs in an unparalleled setting. It also offers students a rare opportunity to study significant Latter-day Saint historical events and sites within the United Kingdom so they can understand the great contributions of the early missionary efforts. The centre helps fulfill the David M. Kennedy Center's broader mandate to provide interdisciplinary academic programs that "teach about things abroad, . . . the perplexities of nations, . . . and a knowledge of countries and kingdoms" (D&C 88:79).

#### **Program Description**

The BYU London Centre is located a block north of Kensington Gardens in the Bayswater neighborhood of the borough of Westminster. The centre's facilities include four faculty apartments, dormitory space for forty-one students, a classroom, a library, and dining and commons areas. Currently, two of the faculty flats are reserved for program directors. Two additional faculty flats are used by the Resident Academic Director and, on occasion, visiting scholars.

London Centre students usually take six or seven credit hours during spring and summer terms and twelve hours during fall and winter semesters. The curriculum of the centre is built around a core of General Education/University Core courses, customized by the faculty directors. London

Centre faculty directors are selected by the Study Abroad General Education (SAGE) Committee. In addition, the SAGE Committee makes recommendations on and approves program general education courses.

While faculty from across campus may apply to participate in the London program, preference is given to those who are familiar with London and who have the training and experience requisite to teaching GE courses relevant to London. Faculty with teaching and research experience related to the United Kingdom will have the highest priority. Faculty directors are usually scheduled at least two years in advance. Individual faculty members who feel qualified to direct London Centre programs should first consult with their chairs and deans, contact the International Study Programs office to express interest, and complete the SAGE proposal. One of the two directors should have previously directed a London Centre study abroad program.

Several variables impact the scheduling of faculty members at the centre. Family size is a significant scheduling consideration, as only one of the faculty flats can accommodate children. Should an additional family flat be required, 31 London Centre, a new property owned by BYU/ISP, has flats available at the rate of approximately \$5,000 per term or \$10,000 per semester. The cost of these flats can be added into the program budget if necessary. It is important for faculty applicants to realize that, while the International Study Programs office will try to accommodate their family needs, ISP is limited by the physical facilities.



Life at the Centre

The BYU London Centre not only provides classroom space, a library, and study space, but it is also the dormitory for the students, the home for faculty and staff, and the place where most meals are eaten. Study Abroad at the centre represents an immersive life as well as a study program. In this section, we will introduce some of things to expect while living in the centre.

### **Food**

All faculty flats have working kitchens, with stoves, refrigerators and freezers, pots, pans, plates, silverware, etc. Please note, however, that the small faculty flat, (one-bedroom flat) does not have an oven. Since lunches are not provided, and no meals are provided on Saturdays, most faculty use the kitchens in their own flats on a regular basis to prepare meals not provided by the program. There are several grocery stores nearby.

## **Cleaning**

The care and maintenance of the faculty flats is the responsibility of each family. The flats should be left clean and ready for the next occupants. The centre provides cleaning supplies required for maintenance of the flats at no cost to each family. The items provided by the centre include dish detergent, laundry soap, trash and recycling bags, shower cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, toilet paper, etc. These supplies may be found in the laundry room, which is on the landing just outside the entrance to the small faculty flat on the second floor.

## **Technology and Phones**

Each faculty flat has a laser printer as well as an HD TV, including a DVR. Please be aware that the faculty flats currently do not have desktop computers, so directors will need to bring a laptop; faculty spouses may also want to bring a laptop or tablet.

A cell phone is provided for each faculty director. These are smart phones, and they are paid for by the centre. They have international calling, which is to be used only on program business or in the case of an emergency. In addition, directors will find many apps that may prove helpful in planning and organizing their programs: there are, for example, apps for the National Trust and for English Heritage, and there are also often apps for important cities or places, such as Bath, Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, and the Tate Britain museum. Be sure to give students your number and set up a social media group chat to communicate while in London and other program locations.

## **Recycling**

Please rinse out all bottles/jars, remove the lids and add both to your mixed recycling. The following items *can be recycled* in the blue bags: food tins and drinks cans, mixed glass bottles and jars, cartons, mixed paper and card, plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, aerosol cans (ensure they're empty and do not squash), aluminum foil (washed and scrunched into a ball). The following items *cannot be recycled*: food, carrier bags or black bags, film or cling film, crisp packets or sweet wrappers, polystyrene packing or beads, bubble wrap (please reuse), textiles (please give to charity), hazardous chemical containers, broken glass, sheet glass, Pyrex, window/mirror glass.

## **Laundry**

There are washers and dryers exclusively for faculty use in the faculty area of the Centre. Some flats have their own laundry facilities, and others share a washer and dryer. Students have a separate laundry room downstairs by the kitchen. Laundry detergent is provided for all.

## **Families with Children**

Families with children regularly thrive at the London Centre, though small children can present certain challenges. All programs involve extensive travel, both within London on mass transit and via coach and train throughout the UK and sometimes to Paris. Small children can tire easily, especially with the amount of walking involved. Families have found it helpful to buy a stroller (usually called a pram or a push chair in the UK). These prove to be very helpful at museums, great houses, castles, and other places where a good deal of walking is involved. Within London, however, very few tube stations have ramps, so most trips will involve carrying the push chair up and down stairs. Buses typically are handicapped accessible, and they can provide an easier option, although you should note that buses are very slow during periods of heavy traffic. In

general, we have found by experience that it is best to wait until children are at least three or four years old before taking them to the London Centre.

Families with young children should also plan ahead on rules for children in common spaces at the centre, e.g., children should never be in student rooms, children need to play quietly in common areas, etc. Many of the students will be grateful for the chance to interact with young children while they are away from home, but others will be less interested in interaction. Sharing common spaces is an issue for everyone at the centre, with or without children, but families with young children should be aware of the issue in advance.

For large families (with five or more children), even the large faculty flat will seem crowded. Faculty and spouses should get in touch with the facility manager to determine the best way to arrange beds in the flats in question. In deciding whether to accept an appointment to the centre, families will also want to consider how the timing of the appointment fits in with the educational or other needs of their children.

### **Children and Education**

Appointments to the London Centre are for a term (7 weeks) or a semester (14 weeks). School-age children will be in London during a large portion of the regular school year. There are no standard arrangements for schooling children, and each faculty family is responsible for determining how best to meet the educational needs of their children. Due to the travel demands of the programs, most families choose to home-school their children. There are now many good online options for home schooling. Again, remember that families are responsible for bringing their own computers.

On rare occasion, faculty families have been questioned closely on why their children are not in school. If desired, you may want to procure a letter from your children's school or school district before leaving that explains the school's approval of the students participating with their parents on the London programs. This may prove particularly useful when entering the UK during the school year (e.g., when returning from a trip to Paris).

### **Kitchen Duty**

While the London Centre cook and student kitchen crews are primarily responsible for preparing the food, setting the table, and cleaning up, faculty and spouses also have a crucial role to play. We have found it most effective to emphasize the reality of kitchen crews early in the process (i.e., in the application interviews as well as in the preparation course). We then assign kitchen crews and crew chiefs when the students arrive at the centre. In addition, the faculty spouses are usually assigned with overseeing the crews (see section on "Responsibilities of Faculty Spouses," under Policies below). Some faculty enjoy making dinner for the group on fast Sundays, which the cook also appreciates. For faculty who like to cook, and who have experience cooking for a large group, this is a nice opportunity. It is not a requirement, however, for faculty and spouses who feel unprepared for such a task.

### **Student Committees**

Many directors find that it is helpful to organize the students into committees, and to give them assignments to organize aspects of the centre's life. Such committees may include:

- Fireside committee—responsible for organizing regular (once or twice a month) firesides on Sunday evenings.

- Devotional committee—responsible for organizing a short daily devotional (spiritual thought or hymn and assign the prayer) prior to dinner.
- Birthday committee—responsible for recognizing and celebrating (modestly) those whose birthdays occur during the program.
- Activities committee—responsible for organizing extra-curricular programs, which may include FHE activities, sports, etc.
- Culture committee—responsible for researching sites before visits and then making short presentations on the coach to help students appreciate the sites being visited (works well as a complement to faculty presentations on the same sites)

### **Reporting Lines for Program Directors**

While directors have extensive autonomy within their programs, any significant departures from standard academic procedures at the centre (course offerings, travel plans, etc.) must be approved in advance by ISP. Likewise, directors direct any questions or concerns that they may have on the following items to ISP:

- Budgetary and logistical matters
- Significant concerns about management of the centre
- Any emergencies at the centre

The Resident Academic Director will function as a resource and colleague to faculty rather than a supervisor. In cases of significant faculty mismanagement or misconduct, however, the Resident Academic Director will send a report to ISP.

Upon completion of their assignment in London, directors will be asked to meet with ISP to report on their program and the general operations of the centre.

### **Residential Facilities Employees** (currently Alvaro and Thais Magalhaes)

ISP employs many local workers to maintain and run the London Centre. These include the following positions.

#### **Facility Manager**

The facility manager lives in Flat 1 in 29 Palace Court and is responsible for the following items:

- Ensure that the London Centre is well maintained and that any necessary repairs are quickly and efficiently made.
- Oversee the budget for the centre operations, including maintenance, utilities, taxes, and program meals.
- Manage the other facility employees including the cleaners and chef.
- Ensure that the centre has necessary food supplies and academic materials.
- Ensure that evening meals and continental breakfasts are provided every Sunday through Friday when students are in residence at the centre.
- Train faculty and students on the rules of the centre.
- Provide support to the resident faculty in the case of emergencies.
- Work with the resident faculty and the ISP office to ensure that each program at the centre is a success.

### **London Centre Chef**

The chef will

- Provide a cooked meal all nights except Saturdays. The meals will be well balanced and use a variety of menus.
- Oversee the kitchen staff (mostly students) in preparing and serving the meals.
- Work with the facility manager to ensure that the food stocks are kept full.

### **Cleaners**

Under the direction of the facility manager, the centre cleaners will ensure that the centre maintains a clean and orderly appearance.

### **Other Workers**

Where needed and with approval by the ISP director, the facility manager can hire casual workers to help with cleaning, accounting, repairs, and meal preparation.

## SECTION II

### London Centre Policies



### Selecting and Training of London Centre Directors

#### Process for Selecting Program Directors

1. Faculty expresses interest to chair and dean.
2. Faculty consult with ISP regarding London Centre program and the unique logistical concerns of the London Centre.
3. Faculty submit proposal to SAGE Committee.
4. Notice of acceptance from SAGE Committee or recommendations for revision. Once a faculty director has been approved by SAGE for a specific term and/or semester, the committee chair will notify ISP, which will then reach out to the new faculty directors approximately a year to nine months in advance of the program.

#### Process for Training Directors

Approximately nine months to a year before the program's start date. Once SAGE has approved a program's curriculum and travel, the ISP coordinator (currently Aaron Rose) will meet with the faculty directors to begin planning program logistics. Much of this meeting will be spent reviewing a preliminary program calendar, drafting a budget, and creating a promotional flyer and web site. ISP will also review those sections of the Faculty Handbook that are particularly relevant to his interactions with faculty, reiterating the mandates of ISP (logistical advice and support).

## **Program Budgeting**

Program budgets will be developed by the ISP coordinator with the faculty directors. Faculty directors must use the official ISP budget form. Once the faculty director departs for the program, s/he is expected to operate within the budget. While ISP staff may assist with making reservations for the program, faculty directors are expected to become involved in this process and inform themselves regarding any expenses.

All approved budgeted expenses will be covered by the revenues raised from student payments. Unapproved expenses (not pre-approved by the ISP coordinator) will become the personal responsibility of the faculty director. Unused funds must be returned to the university and must be reconciled during the final program expense review.

Expenses not specifically approved will not be reimbursed to the faculty directors. Personal expenses paid for with university funds may be treated as taxable fringe benefits and added to gross wages. Faculty directors are responsible for taxes applicable to such fringe benefits.

Any equipment purchased with program funds is the property of ISP and will be returned for use on subsequent programs. Purchasing items for the centre is the role of the facilities director, not ISP faculty directors.

A review of all expenses will be made within ten working days of each director's return. Expenses must be logged on the appropriate sheet in U.S. dollars along with documented exchange rates and supporting receipts. The reporting format will be explained to each director during the budgeting process with the ISP accountant prior to departure.

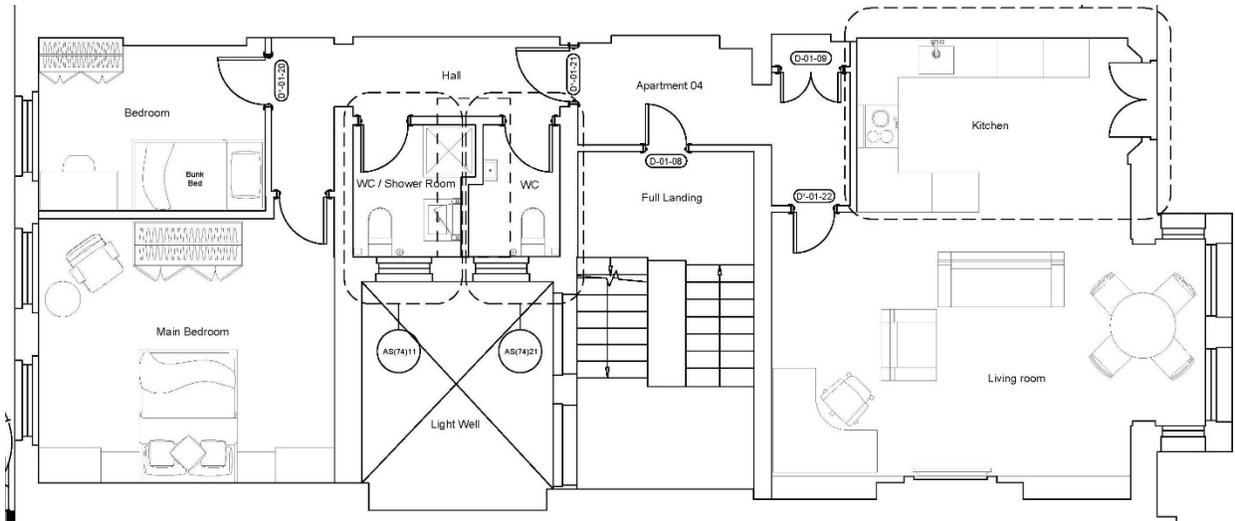
## **Faculty Flats at the BYU London Centre**

Faculty flat assignments will be made at the time the faculty are selected and will be determined by ISP in conjunction with the London Centre Faculty Oversight Committee.

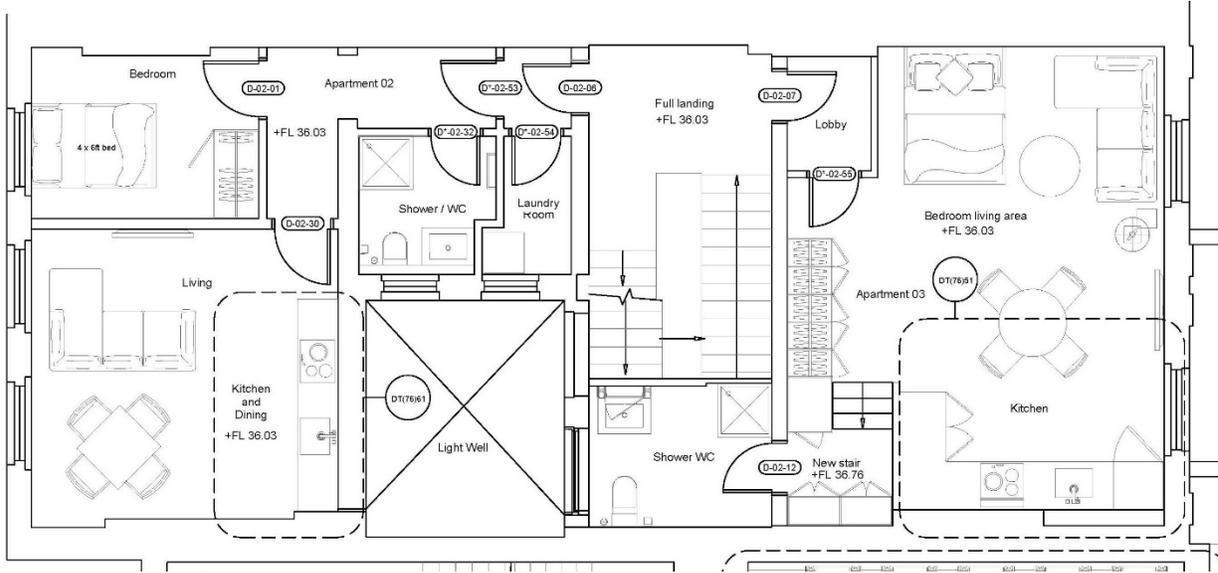
The four faculty flats at the London Centre are as follows:

- Flat 2 (2nd floor): A full-sized flat with two bedrooms, one bathroom, and a large kitchen-family room area (currently occupied by the RAD).
- Flat 3 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor): Long occupied by Mrs. Shepherd, this small studio flat has a full kitchen and a full bathroom (currently occupied by the RAD).
- Flat 4 (3rd floor): A small one-bedroom flat with a kitchen, family room, and bathroom. This flat is ideal for a faculty director and spouse without children.
- Flat 5 (4th floor): A full-sized flat with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a large kitchen-family room area. This flat is ideal for a faculty director with a larger family.
- 31 London Centre: In the event both faculty have large families, one family may need to stay at 31 London Centre, a BYU/ISP property located next door to the BYU London Centre. Rates for these flats for a faculty family are approximately \$5,000 per term or \$10,000 per semester, which can be added into your program budget if needed. These are below-market rates for the neighborhood.

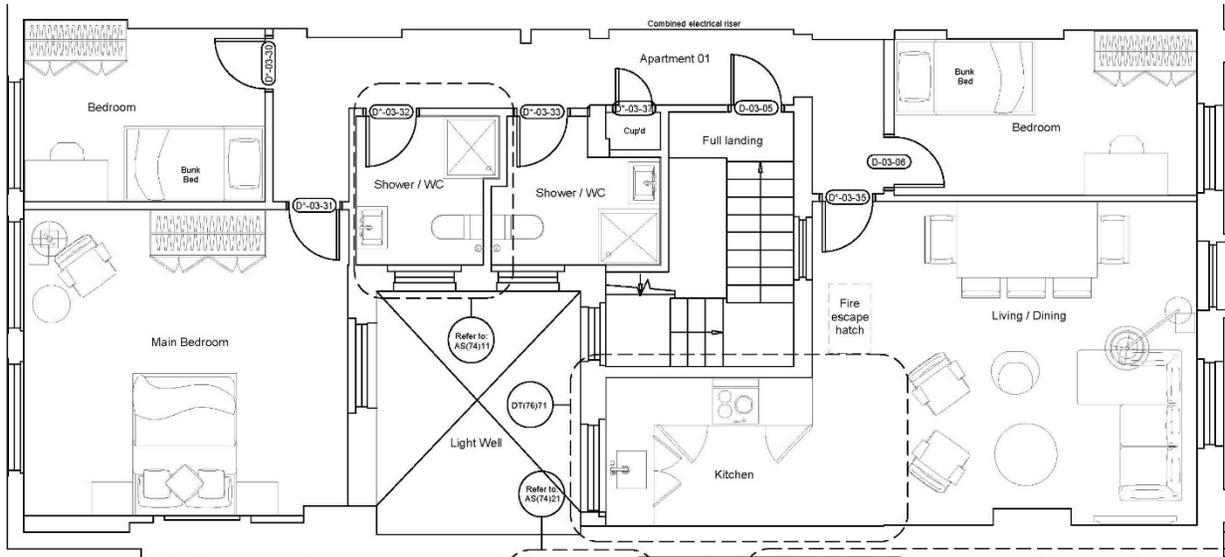
## FLAT 2



## FLATS 3 AND 4



## FLAT 5



## **Visitors at the Centre**

### **Day Visitors to the Centre**

Faculty are welcome to have visitors at the centre during the day under the following conditions:

- These visitors may only visit public rooms of the centre and the faculty apartments. Visitors should never be allowed into the student bedrooms.
- All visitors should respect the academic function of the building and not disrupt classes, academic discussions, etc.
- Day visitors should not use centre facilities, including the laundry, kitchen, etc.
- Day visitors should not participate in any of the London Centre meals (though they can eat meals prepared by the faculty in their flats).
- Day visitors may not ride on the coaches for excursions.
- Day visitors are not covered by BYU insurance and may not participate on the program.

### **Overnight Visitors to the Centre (for faculty directors)**

Because of issues of security, liability, and the academic nature of centre programs, overnight visitors must be closely regulated. These visitors are welcome under the following conditions:

- Overnight visitors should be cleared by the ISP coordinator.
- Each faculty director (and his or her family) will be limited to forty visitor nights per semester or twenty visitor nights per term. A visitor night is defined as an overnight stay by a visitor of any age. For example, a family of four visiting the centre for one night would use four visitor nights, and their faculty hosts would have this family stay at the centre for no more than five nights during a term (twenty visitor nights) or ten days during a semester (forty visitor nights). Visitor nights may not be shared between faculty. This policy does not apply to the RAD.
- Overnight visitors should live by the BYU Honor Code and ISP behavior policies.
- Overnight visitors may not participate in London Centre meals, nor should they use any food from the centre servery/kitchen.
- Overnight visitors may not use office or classroom equipment.
- Overnight visitors may not ride with the group on chartered buses. Visitors are not covered by BYU insurance and may not participate on the program.
- Overnight visitors may not stay in the centre at times when the program participants are on overnight excursions.

## Day Trips and Longer Excursions

### Day Trips

Day trips near London and overnight travel outside London are a valuable part of the London Centre experience. A typical program will set aside a regular day each week for day trips in and around London. In all cases, group travel should have a strong connection to the program curriculum. That is, travel should reflect curricular needs, not the sightseeing desires of students or faculty. Faculty should regularly emphasize the curricular value of such trips, even if some of the time on the trip is devoted to individually directed sightseeing. Faculty may consult with previous London Centre faculty and ISP for examples of common day trips.

When the group is away from the centre, no student is to remain alone at the centre. Without exception, no faculty guests should remain at the centre when the group is away.

### Overnight Trips

Because the London Centre program is designed to emphasize British history and culture, overnight trips should generally involve travel within the UK, especially England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. To maximize the use of the centre and to avoid over-taxing students, programs are *limited to sixteen nights outside the centre during fall and winter and eight nights during spring and summer*. In most cases, programs will stay well short of these limits.

Travel outside the UK (e.g., Paris) should have a clear academic purpose. Any given program may spend no more than five nights outside of the UK. Faculty planning non-UK travel should be careful that the time and cost of such trips does not crowd out academic experiences within Britain. Non-UK travel must be pre-approved by the SAGE Ccommittee and ISP.



## **Arranging Transportation, Admissions, and Logistics**

### **Itineraries**

Faculty directors are responsible for designing their itineraries and calendar around their curriculum. In most cases, ISP will lead out in arranging coach trips, museum admissions, theatre tickets, rail tickets, and overnight lodging, as ISP employees can often secure below-market rates through international travel associations.

There are some limitations on ISP personnel as to what they can and cannot produce as far as making reservations, acquiring discounts, and the amount of time they can dedicate to your program. The best way to facilitate your reservations request is to turn in a detailed program calendar to your ISP coordinator and team well in advance of your departure. Your ISP coordinator will schedule a bookings meeting to discuss what reservations you would like to have for your program. There will be many opportunities to update your calendar and budget with ISP prior to departure.



### **Non-Program Student Travel**

Unchaperoned travel (without a member of the faculty or staff) may occur only at the director's discretion and approval. However, "free travel" should not be a guaranteed part of the program.

On overnight free travel, students should always be accompanied by at least one other student, and mixed-gender travel groups must have at least three students.

A complete itinerary with points of contact must be given to the director before departure. This should additionally be processed through ITMS (International Travel Management System) online. At the director's discretion, some travel requests may be denied. Students must return to the centre before curfew (midnight) on Saturday so they can fully participate in Church activities on Sunday.

### *Modes of Transportation*

Students should only use standard airlines, rail services, and public transportation for independent travel. Renting cars or motorbikes and hitchhiking are not allowed.

### *Housing*

Students should choose accommodations that meet BYU housing standards.

### *Open Travel*

Free time for unchaperoned travel should not exceed six days. If students want to travel more extensively, they should plan this before or after the program.

It is recommended that faculty directors place limits on the distance students may travel during free travel time. Previous directors have recommended travel only within the British Isles and Western Europe.

### *Restricted Travel*

Students may not travel to restricted locations where it is deemed unsafe for student travel. This list of locations can be found on the BYU Travel Smart web site: <http://travelsmart.byu.edu>.

### *Students Remaining in London*

During free-travel week, one faculty director must remain at the centre as a resource for students who decide to stay in London during that time. Students who remain in London should be notified that regular meal service at the centre will be suspended during that time.

### *Meals*

The London Centre cook should be notified of free-travel week so regular meals can be suspended during that time.

## **Church Assignments and Working with Local Church Leaders**

Student evaluations of their time in London tell us that one of the most important parts of their experience is church attendance. It gives them the chance to serve, to see the Church as it works here, and to get to know “ordinary” British people. It also provides them with a better sense of the multicultural world of London.

The London-area stakes work with the RAD to make church assignments for students. In the event of a conflict, faculty may discuss those assignments with the RAD and request changes, but they should be careful to recognize the authority of local church leaders. BYU faculty and students and the London-area stakes should remember that students and faculty do not transfer their Church records to London, and that these are temporary assignments, not full callings.

Faculty with children are usually assigned to one of the two Hyde Park wards, but other faculty may be asked to attend one of the outlying wards. Because the Hyde Park wards are made up largely of ex-pats and because so many tourists visit them, students are assigned to those wards only if it is unavoidable. Students should know in advance that traveling to and from outlying wards might cost them something. In cases where this is a significant hardship, students should

discuss the matter with their program director. Your ISP London Centre budget has some funding to help defray some of the cost of students' transportation in such cases.

Students assigned to a ward can expect to receive an assignment from the bishop of that ward. They cannot receive callings because their membership records will not be transferred, but the stakes have the Church's permission to give assignments. Those assignments should be Sunday-only assignments, such as teaching in Primary or Sunday School. In addition, during fall and winter semesters, faculty members may be assigned to minister to local members.

Faculty should set the example and tone for students by taking church attendance seriously. Faculty and students should refrain from ward-hopping and consider the serious relationship between BYU and the local church.

Research trips that take faculty away from London and Church on Sunday are discouraged.

### **Responsibilities of Faculty Spouses**

As mentioned above (see the section "Life in the Centre"), London Centre programs demand a good deal more of faculty families than just the professor teaching classes. For the programs to function smoothly, faculty spouses also need to support the programs in a few specific areas.

#### **Kitchen Crews**

Faculty spouses are responsible for supervising kitchen crews, which handle the set-up and clean-up of meals at the centre. This helps greatly with the costs of feeding and housing the students, faculty, and family members. The spouse's role is to support and train each new crew (especially the crew captain), check up on progress, and help mediate if problems arise. Students also typically respond positively when faculty and spouses occasionally help with the cleaning. A few recommendations for the smooth functioning of the crews:

- Be sure to question students about their willingness to serve on these crews in the application interviews. They will be most likely to answer in a way that you expect, but it puts the idea in their mind that serving on a crew is a standard part of the program.
- Discuss the crews and their responsibilities during the preparation course.
- Organize the crews in advance of the program so that when students show up, they are given the names of the members of their crew as well as their assigned dates.
- For fall and winter programs, divide the dates so that each crew has two different weeks.
- As part of the organization, contact each crew leader in advance to make sure that each is willing to serve as a crew leader.
- You may also want to place a chart, with photos if possible, in the servery and in the kitchen. These charts not only remind the students of their responsibilities, but they also help the facility manager and other workers learn the names of the students. An example of a kitchen crew chart may look like the following:



### KITCHEN CREW 1 MANCHESTER UNITED

SEPTEMBER 5TH TO 14TH  
(FOUR BREAKFASTS & SIX DINNERS)

&

OCTOBER 30TH TO NOVEMBER 11TH  
(FIVE BREAKFASTS & SIX DINNERS)



Crew Captain



Lauren Alfred  
Rosalind Room 2



Matthew Benfell  
Flat 5 - a.k.a. Tower II



Dani Carmak  
Viola Room 4



Hanna Hall  
Rosalind Room 2



Rosie Jarman  
Portia Room 1



Lisa Raymond  
Rosalind Room 2



Amber Safflen  
Viola Room 4



Taylor Webb  
Viola Room 4

### Sunday Cooking

Some previous directors and their spouses have volunteered to prepare dinner for the group on fast Sundays, which allows the cook a Sunday off. While this can be a nice opportunity for faculty who like to cook, this is purely voluntary.

### Additional Responsibilities

Spouses may take on additional responsibilities within individual programs depending on skills and organization. For example, spouses have at times overseen the program budgets or have helped in planning excursions. In addition, many students will naturally look to faculty spouses as parental figures and will seek them out for help.



### **Faculty Spouses Teaching as Adjuncts at the BYU London Centre**

In most case the two faculty directors and the resident academic director should cover the core and elective courses students offered at the London Centre. On occasion, however, an accompanying faculty spouse might have the expertise and experience to offer an additional course that would enhance the program's curriculum.

Faculty spouses who wish to offer such a course as part of a London Centre program must receive approval from both the relevant department (e.g., the English Department if they wish to teach an English course), the college, and the SAGE Committee.

If this course is approved by SAGE, the teaching stipend must come from the academic department and/or college that approved the course. If the sponsoring department is unable or unwilling to provide a stipend for the course, the course may not be taught, even if it has received the requisite approvals.

### **Medical Care in London**

#### **Geo Blue**

For medical needs, students should contact Geo Blue using the policy number and phone number on their insurance card printed off from Geo Blue prior to departure.

#### **BYU International Security Director**

Faculty should notify and consult with Landes Holbrook at BYU regarding any medical issues or emergencies: landes\_holbrook@byu.edu, (801) 422-4302.

#### **ISP Coordinator**

Faculty should copy Aaron Rose when e-mailing Landes to keep him in the program loop: aaron\_rose@byu.edu, (801) 422-8241, (801) 368-7554.

### **Miscellaneous Policies**

#### **Weekly Meetings with the Facilities Manager**

Alvaro, the residential facilities manager, asks directors to set aside 4:00–5:00 p.m. on Mondays to meet with him and the RAD. This is a chance to coordinate calendars, review building up-keep, and manage administrative tasks.

#### **Student Dorms and Inspections**

The students are divided between the following dorms:

##### 27 Palace Court (from top down)

Room #5 “Tower” – 6 beds

Room #2 – 14 beds

Room #4 – 12 beds

Room #3 “Harry Potter” – 1 bed (shares a bath with another dorm or the basement)

##### 29 Palace Court (faculty wing)

Room #1 – 8 beds

Natalia, one of the facilities employees, inspects student rooms on Tuesdays. Faculty will want to arrange for inspections later in the week, perhaps on Thursday or Friday. Food of any kind is not allowed outside of the kitchen, servery, or dining room and may attract insects or rodents into the dormitories or other parts of the centre.

### **Schedule of London Centre Programs**

- Term-long London Centre programs should be forty-nine days long, including student arrival and departure days. As noted above, the program is allowed a maximum of eight nights outside the centre, no more than five of which can be outside the UK.
- Semester-long London Centre programs should be ninety-eight days long, including student arrival and departure days. The program is allowed a maximum of sixteen nights outside the centre, no more than five of which can be outside the UK.

### **Centre Meals**

A continental breakfast and dinner are provided at the centre on all days except Saturday (the one exception being fast Sunday, when no breakfast is provided). Centre meals are not provided for faculty during the dates before or after a program. As a general rule, centre meals are only for program participants.

### **Food Services**

Faculty directors and resident directors coordinate meal times. Special dietary needs may not be guaranteed. Any student applicants expressing a serious food allergy or special dietary need should be notified at the earliest possible opportunity that there are not self-catering options nor special diets available at the centre. The faculty directors assign all students to assist in food preparation for the evening meal. Students set and clean tables before and after breakfast and dinner, including washing dishes. Students should always keep the small kitchen, servery, and dining rooms clean. They may eat in the servery, which is unlocked at all times except between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., when it is closed for cleaning. One of the faculty members or their spouses will be asked to supervise the kitchen crew. Training on this duty will be provided by the facility managers at the beginning of each program.

### **Meals on Excursions**

For overnight program excursions away from the centre, the meal stipend is £8 each for students, faculty and spouse (a total of £16 for a couple). Dependent children do not receive this meal stipend. When day trips are likely to run into the evening, faculty directors should inform the facilities manager. Instead of preparing an evening meal, the centre may provide £8 for each student, faculty member, and spouse. This meal money comes from the London Centre, not from the ISP program budget. To accommodate early departures, the facilities manager can supply sack lunches for excursions in place of the usual continental breakfasts. Faculty directors should coordinate such plans with the facilities manager in advance.



### **College-Aged Dependents**

Faculty directors who have college-aged dependents (children over the age of eighteen) who participate in the program will be charged £10 per day for food and housing (instead of the full housing amount) if the dependent lives in the faculty family flat. The student dependent will be charged the full program cost if he or she chooses to live with the other student participants in the dorms. Payments for these costs will be due prior to departure and paid along with BYU tuition. College-age dependents who are not enrolled as full-time BYU students are subject to the same policy as other overnight visitors.

### **Cleaning of Building**

Faculty families and students are responsible to maintain clean, attractive facilities. Students should always keep their rooms and bathrooms neat and orderly. Faculty directors and/or spouses together with the resident directors will be responsible to conduct periodic inspections. Cleaning staff employed by the centre are responsible for cleaning the “common” areas of the building only.

### **Arrival and Departure**

- Students are not permitted to arrive at the centre prior to the regularly scheduled group arrival day, and should find their own accommodations if they arrive in London prior to the move in date.
- Students are not permitted to remain in the centre following the conclusion of the program. The group departure date is the last day students may reside in the centre. The combination lock on the front door is changed after each program. Faculty should not invite students to reside with them after the check-out date. Check out is by 11:00 a.m.
- Please be aware the centre does not have space to store student luggage prior to or after the program. If students travel before or after the program dates, they must make their own arrangements for their luggage.
- No students or guests may remain at the centre when the groups are on overnight excursions.
- Faculty arrival dates should be scheduled well in advance with the ISP coordinator.

- Faculty departure dates are also scheduled with the ISP coordinator. Faculty and families may arrive no more than two days prior to the start of the program and should vacate the centre flats no more than two days after the students' departure. This allows faculty time to finish grading final examinations and papers and help their families clean their flats and leave them in an orderly condition.
- The time between the end of one program and the beginning of another program is set aside for deep cleaning and major maintenance of the centre. The resident directors will coordinate the approvals and work schedules for all maintenance projects.
- Faculty should not plan to leave luggage at the centre outside the dates of their residence.

### **House Principles and Rules We Live By (distributed by Alvaro at the centre)**

Because the London Centre has many people living in a small space, because it is a historical Victorian building (and costly to repair), and is in the heart of a residential area, respect for others is essential. These rules are to encourage respect for those living in the Centre, as well as our neighbors around Palace Court.

- **Keep your living space clean:** The London Centre has cleaners but students and faculty are responsible for personal living space.
- **Keep the noise down, especially after 10pm:** We live close together and have close neighbors on each side. Being quiet after 10pm includes when outside the Centre on the street or on the deck.
- **Front Door and Security:** Do not let any stranger into the building and for safety, do not share the door code with anyone.
- **Visitors to the Centre:** If family and friends want to visit you at the Centre, you may entertain them in the public areas only.
- **Abide by BYU's Dress and Grooming Standards:** Also, shoes must be worn in eating area and the kitchen where it is required by law.
- **Respect the building:** This building is old. So please help us maintain it in the following ways:
  - Avoid exercising, dancing, jumping etc.
  - Report any water leak
  - Turn off lights when not in use
  - Close windows when you leave a room
  - Be careful in using the Internet bandwidth: be careful in downloading or uploading large files.
  - Use Garbage and Dust Bins Correctly
  - Do not move, damage, or deface the furniture
  - Keep your bed linen in your dorm rooms
  - Food should only be eaten in the Servery and the dining area
- **You must leave the Centre on the last day of the program (and take all your stuff with you):** We love you, but you may not stay at the Centre before the start date of your program or after then last day of your program – and this includes your luggage as well.

### SECTION III

#### Teaching at the London Centre



#### London Centre Prep Courses

##### Overview

All students who live within a reasonable distance of Provo must register for and attend the London Centre prep course (IAS 201R) before their departure. The class is 1.0 credit hour evening course, taught by the faculty program director(s), and offered during the second block of the semester before leaving. It is typically taught once a week and should begin after 4:00 p.m. so as to accommodate students' class and work schedules. In cases where a student has an unavoidable conflict, consult with the ISP coordinator. Generally, students should not register for the course if they will not be physically present. All students participating in the London Centre are responsible for understanding the course content, whether they attend the prep course or not.

Students should enroll in their prep course after acceptance through the ISP database. Since several sections of IAS 201R are taught each semester, faculty should advise students which section they should enroll in. Students who are not in Provo the semester before departure to the London Centre should contact their director to make arrangements for obtaining information given in the prep course.

## Sessions

While it is at the director's discretion as to how to organize the course, there are modules required by International Study Programs, including safety and security, and recommended modules including intercultural communication, rules of the London Centre, and how the Honor Code applies at the centre. Other recommended logistical topics include paperwork, passports, and practical travel advice, as outlined in the BYU Study Abroad Handbook. Suggested academic topics include basic overviews of British history, politics, humanities, and contemporary culture. Learning objectives and sample syllabi may be found in the ISP Faculty Handbook.

## Instructional Resources and Technology at the Centre

The classroom at the London Centre seats roughly fifty people. There are stackable chairs that may be arranged as the instructor wishes. In forty-student classes, however, quarters are quite tight. The room is equipped with the following:

- A large whiteboard
- A large television (roughly 50 inches) for viewing film clips and presentations
- A pull-down screen and portable projector

The faculty office adjacent to the classroom has two desks, a copier, a scanner, a printer, and basic office supplies.



## **BYU London Centre DVD Collection**

*A Foundation of Faith*  
*A Man for All Seasons*  
*A Matter of Life and Death*  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
*A Passage to India*  
*A Path to Happiness*  
*A Tale of Two Cities*  
*All Quiet on the Western Front*  
*An Ideal Husband*  
*Andrew Marr's History of Modern Britain*  
*Angela's Ashes*  
*Art: 21*  
*Atonement*  
*Becket*  
*Big Fish*  
*Bright Star*  
*Bronte Country*  
*Cadfael – The Sanctuary Sparrow*  
*Chariots of Fire*  
*Chatsworth House*  
*Daniel in the Lion's Den*  
*David and Goliath*  
*Elizabeth*  
*Elizabeth: The Golden Age*  
*Empire*  
*Enchanted*  
*Exit through the Gift Shop*  
*Hamlet*  
*Hamlet*  
*Henry V*  
*Henry VIII*  
*Hook*  
*Hope and Glory*  
*Horrible Histories: Tudors / Renaissance / Royals*  
*Horrible Histories: Vikings / Plague / Trading Timbutku*  
*Hot Shots*  
*How Green Was My Valley*  
*Jane Eyre*  
*Joseph and the King of Egypt*  
*King Lear*  
*Las Maschera di Zorro*  
*Lawrence of Arabia*  
*Marvel: Complete Comic Book Collection*  
*Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*  
*Middlemarch*  
*Mouse Hunt*  
*Night at the Museum*  
*Noah and the Great Flood*  
*North and South (2 copies)*  
*Northanger Abbey*  
*Open Season*  
*Out of the Ashes*  
*Peter Pan*  
*Richard II*  
*Richard III*  
*Robert Burns: The Man and his Legend*  
*Romeo + Juliet*  
*Saints at War*  
*Sense and Sensibility*  
*Shakespeare in Love*  
*She's the Man*  
*Sherlock Holmes: Terror by Night*  
*Sherlock Holmes: The Master Blackmailer*  
*Sherlock Holmes: 3 Gables / The Dying Detective*  
*Sir Walter Scott*  
*Surf's Up*  
*Tess*  
*The Battle of the Somme*  
*The Beggar's Opera*  
*The Best of Spike Milligan*  
*The Bridge on the River Kwai*  
*The Bronte Sisters*  
*The First Easter*  
*The Gathering Storm*  
*The Hours*  
*The Importance of Being Earnest*  
*The King's Speech*  
*The Longest Day*  
*The Mill on the Floss*  
*The Old Curiosity Shop*  
*The Queen*  
*The Seventh Seal*  
*The Taming of the Shrew*  
*The Tempest*  
*The Thin Man*  
*The Trip*  
*The Water Horse*  
*Tom Jones*  
*Twelfth Night (2 copies)*  
*Up in the Air*

### **The London Centre Library**

The library has a sizeable collection of reference books, with particularly strong holdings in British history, literature, art, and religion. The library's collection may be accessed through the Harold B. Library's web site.

The library has complete classroom sets of the *Norton Anthology of English Literature* (8th ed., major authors edition), the *Norton Shakespeare* (essential plays edition), Christopher Hibbert's *the Story of England*, and *Walking through London* (BYU's London Walks text). Three rules govern student use of the library:

1. Students may use the books in the cabinets (not part of the library holdings) at the discretion of their professors, and they are expected to return them before they leave;
2. Students may take library holdings from the library but ought not to keep them out of the library more than one night.
3. Since the facility manager's bedroom is directly below the library, the library closes at 11 p.m.



**SECTION IV**  
**History of the BYU London Centre**



*The History of BYU's London Centre*  
Jason Jones

*With Jordana Cashman, Lynn Elliott, Nick Mason, and Matt Mason*

**Introduction**

Nestled on a quiet street just north of Kensington Palace and Gardens and just east of Notting Hill and the famous Portabello Market, the Brigham Young University London Centre sits inconspicuously in two of several stately Victorian mansions on Palace Court in the Bayswater neighborhood of London. Less than a block away, Palace Court intersects Bayswater Road, which runs along the north side of Hyde Park, passes the Speaker's Corner where Gordon B. Hinckley

preached the gospel from a soap box as a missionary,<sup>1</sup> and becomes Oxford Street—Europe’s busiest shopping street.<sup>2</sup>

Since 1977, the London Centre has anchored the most popular study abroad program at BYU. If its walls could talk, the centre would certainly have thousands of stories to tell of young students experiencing a foreign country for the first time and discovering the wonders of London’s rich history. If those were the only stories to tell, a history would still be worth writing.

When the homes were built, London was the seat of the most powerful and expansive empire the world had ever seen. With colonies in North America, Africa, Asia, Australia, and the South Pacific, its wealth, power, and expanse surpassed those of Alexandria and Rome.

No one could have foreseen the dramatic changes that would ensue over the next century. Women and minorities would be given full rights as equal citizens. Science and technology would transform the world to an interconnected global community. Rival European empires would fight two world wars, and then join hands, open the borders, and form the European Union. The British Empire would be reduced to the United Kingdom—confined to Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and England.

The London Centre would seem an unusual portal from which to view British history. Yet its unique location and prominent former residents make it a unique, if discreet and unlikely, witness and host to the dramatic changes of the 20th Century.

### **The Women’s Movement**

The first resident of 27 Palace Court was Jessie Purdie, a wealthy women’s rights activist. She hosted parties, meetings, and guests and became a prominent advocate of suffrage for women. In 1896, American author and feminist Charlotte Perkins Gilman visited London to attend the International Socialist and Labor Congress. Gilman became one of the most prominent advocates of women’s rights and gained international fame from her provocative writings and extensive travels. Her most famous work is the *Yellow Wallpaper* (1892), a short story that examines the attitudes toward women in the 19th Century and evaluates the emotional effects subjugation had on women. During her visit, she gave a “parlor lecture” at the Purdie Residence and described her as “a fine, liberal-minded Scotch lady.”<sup>3</sup>

In spring 1899, Gilman returned to England to attend and speak at the International Congress of Women. Her diary entry for May 17 reads, “Go to look up Mrs. Purdy, 27 Palace Court—who offers to entertain me during Congress. It is where I gave a drawing room talk before—rich old lady.”<sup>4</sup> In her autobiography, the *Living of Charlotte Perkins Gilman*, she expanded on this visit:

I never had any impressive clothes, and in England it makes far more difference than it does here. I trotted about in my very ordinary raiment, with my everlasting little black bag, just as I

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<sup>1</sup> Carlson 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Oxford Street gets its own dedicated local police team 2006.

<sup>3</sup> Gilman, 1935, 267.

<sup>4</sup> Gilman, 1994, 803.

would at home and so attired rang Miss Purdie's bell. The door was opened by a severe Scotch maid.

"Is Miss Purdie at home?" "She is." "Can I see her?" "What do you wish to see her for?" "I wish to call upon her," and I offered my card. The card mollified her somewhat, but not much, for it had no crest, no name of house or address, not even "Mrs.," nothing but Charlotte Perkins Stetson.

She let me in, grudgingly, and started up the stairs. I was uncertain of what was expected. "Shall I come up?" I asked, "or wait here?" This admission of ignorance she considered most damaging, and sternly replied, "If you are *really a caller* you may come up!" I came up, was received with open arms by Miss Purdie, and spent a week there very happily.<sup>5</sup>

Gilman was familiar The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Utah and was almost certainly the first person to visit both the Provo campus and what would become the London Centre. On November 27, 1899, she gave a lecture entitled *Our Brains and What Ails Them* at what was then known as the Brigham Young Academy. She ventured to the mouth of the Provo Canyon and commented on the "splendid mountains."<sup>6</sup> The next day, she gave another lecture entitled *Women and Work*. She lamented that it was not as good as her lecture the night before, nor was it as well received—not surprising considering her audience. Over the next few days she celebrated Thanksgiving in Utah and gave lectures in Salt Lake City and Ogden.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to hosting Gilman, Mrs. Purdie was involved in other facets of the women's movement. In 1899, she hosted a meeting to support women's suffrage. Member of Parliament Colonel Edward Jodrell chaired the meeting, with several prominent activists in attendance. The group unanimously agreed "that no measure dealing with the representation of the people would be satisfactory that does not extend the franchise to women."<sup>8</sup> After participating in the effort, Mrs. Purdie finally registered to vote for the first time in 1906 and census records indicate she was registered until 1908.

### **An Explorer and a Thief?**

The original plan for 29 Palace Court defined the property as a "piece or parcel of ground [with] a frontage on the east side . . . of Palace Court and is of the dimensions on the east and west sides of 25 feet and on the north and south sides of 80 feet 6 inches together with the messuage or dwelling house and being thereon."<sup>9</sup>

On August 5, 1889, Thomas William Gorst and his wife, Ada Marion Gorst, purchased 29 Palace Court for the sum of £3000, the equivalent of approximately £296,348 in 2008. In 1904, Gorst appointed Walter Gorst Clay and William Hamilton Gordon to be executors and trustees of his will

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<sup>5</sup> Gilman 1935, 267.

<sup>6</sup> Gilman 1994, 803.

<sup>7</sup> Gilman 1994, 803.

<sup>8</sup> *The Nursing Record and Hospital World*, 1899.

<sup>9</sup> Land Registry Official Copy: 29 Palace Court 1920, 3.

and bequeathed his property to them upon trust to pay the income to his wife, and after her death, to his children. Clay died shortly thereafter, and Henry Entwistle Bury took his place as trustee.

Upon Gorst's death on March 26, 1908, Clay and Bury took ownership of the property, although Mrs. Gorst probably maintained residence until her death in 1910. Census records show Emanuel Lazarus listed 29 Palace Court as his residency in 1907, but there is no other record of him living at the property before or after that year.

During the summer of 1909, Francis Shackleton, brother of prominent Antarctic explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, took temporary residence at 29 Palace Court. He had early business success that propelled him to elite status in London but was soon involved in a number of questionable business dealings. He oscillated between poverty and wealth during the earliest years of the 20th Century. In 1907, he was second in command to Sir Arthur Vicars, Ulster King in Arms at the Dublin Castle, when the valuable Irish Crown Jewels disappeared. Vicars was pressured to resign, but accused Shackleton. By 1909, Shackleton was assumed to be the thief.<sup>10</sup>

Vicars offered various pieces of evidence in his accusation of Shackleton, including his new lavish lifestyle on Palace Court. After spending much of 1909 in London, Vicars wrote, "No one knows how Shackleton gets his money. His own family don't know. He bought since the robbery an £850 Motor Car . . . [and] lives in a huge house, beautifully furnished, at 29 Palace Court."<sup>11</sup>

Shackleton was exonerated of the theft but later found guilty of fraud for cheating a widow out of her savings.<sup>12</sup> He spent time in jail, then changed his name to Mellor and faded into obscurity. Sir Ernest disowned his brother and their relationship permanently dissolved.<sup>13</sup>

After fourteen years, the mystery of the crown jewels was never officially solved. Vicars was found culpable for not exercising due vigilance in protecting the jewels, which were never recovered. With no credible leads, the scent dried and the mystery was never solved. Vicars went to his grave convinced of Shackleton's guilt, going so far as to put it in his will. "My whole life & work," he wrote, was ruined by this cruel misfortune."<sup>14</sup>

It is widely assumed that the diamonds, emeralds, and rubies were broken apart and sold not as a single piece of jewelry, but as individual stones. However, John Cafferky and Kevin Hannafin, authors of *Scandal and Betrayal: Shackleton and the Irish Crown Jewels* come to a different conclusion. They claim, and there is some evidence to confirm, that Vicars, Shackleton, the Duke of Argyll, and the son of the King's viceroy were involved in a secret homosexual circle.<sup>15</sup> Their hypothesis is that a "hard-line faction of Unionists conspired to steal the Irish Crown Jewels with the intention . . . to ruin the reputations of [those working in the castle] with a homosexual scandal.

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<sup>10</sup> Huntford 1985, 315.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Sharrock 2008.

<sup>13</sup> Huntford 1985, 683.

<sup>14</sup> Huntford 1985, 267.

<sup>15</sup> Cafferky 2002, 803.

According to their theory, the Irish state quickly recovered the jewels, but declared the mystery unsolved to avoid controversy. Shackleton was framed as part of this large conspiracy.<sup>16</sup>

### **World War I**

By 1910, the 29 Palace Court was valued at £3750, but after sorting out inheritances and the equity of the home, Beatrice Mary Rostron purchased the home for £2500 pounds. Gerald Thomas Gorst, son of Thomas William and Ada Marion Gorst, became the mortgagee of the property.<sup>17</sup> Born in 1895 at his parents' residence, Gerald Gorst and his older brother Eric were two of four residents of the London Centre homes that served in World War I.

Eric Gorst served as 2nd Lieutenant with the Royal Fusiliers, an infantry regiment in the army. On October 26, 1914, he lost his life when his battalion attempted to capture trenches near Neuve Chapelle.<sup>18</sup>

Just three months before, on August 15, 1914, Gerald Gorst was appointed to commission in the 3rd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment. Just five months after his brother's death, Gerald's battalion fought at Neuve Chapelle in a bloody three-day battle beginning on March 10, 1915. Over those three days, more than 20,000 soldiers on both sides lost their lives. More ammunition was fired in that single battle than in the entire four year Boer War.<sup>19</sup> Indeed, technology was changing the way wars were fought. Gerald was fortunate to escape with his life.

On the night of September 20, 1915, Gorst survived another close call. He recalled:

I nearly tore it last night [20th/21st September]; I wandered out into No man's land after sending my runner to tell everyone I was doing so; unfortunately the ass never told the Lewis gunners, so they naturally thought I was a Hun, and did some pretty shooting on me at 30 yards. Of course, I was out of sight in about one fifth of a second, but they put one through the sleeve of my tunic, which was quite as close as I care about.<sup>20</sup>

In 1916, Gorst fell ill with disordered action of the heart (D.A.H.), which was probably post-traumatic stress disorder<sup>21</sup> and subsequently returned to London. He lived a long and peaceful life and died in 1968 at the age of 75.<sup>22</sup>

### **Between the Wars**

In between the World Wars, the area was still wealthy but began to be "gradually taken over for flats or hotels."<sup>23</sup> The London Centre homes were no exception. From 1920 to 1932, census records

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<sup>16</sup> Cafferky 2002, 216.

<sup>17</sup> Land Registry Official Copy: 29 Palace Court 1920, 1–3.

<sup>18</sup> Jackson 2008.

<sup>19</sup> Fenton 2006.

<sup>20</sup> Jackson 2008.

<sup>21</sup> Jones, et al. 2002.

<sup>22</sup> Jackson 2008.

<sup>23</sup> Elrington, et al. 1989.

indicate that at least thirteen people lived at 27 Palace Court, coming and going throughout the decade but overlapping with other residents.<sup>24</sup>

In 1920, Beatrice Rostron sold the home to James Buller Kitson for £4500. He was also a veteran of World War I and served as Commander in the Royal Navy and received the Distinguished Service Order. He and his wife, Frances Margaret Kitson, maintained residence until 1928, when Sir Frederick William Bain (1889–1950) and his wife, Isabel moved in along with others who sublet rooms in the home.<sup>25</sup>

Bain was the fourth resident of one of the London Centre homes that had fought in “the war to end all wars.” On Christmas day 1915, Bain lost his arm in a World War I bombing accident. He was subsequently employed in the Ministry of Munitions and became “deputy director in the section of the trench warfare supply department, which was responsible for the supply of materials for chemical warfare.”<sup>26</sup>

He married Isabel Margaret Adeline, daughter of the vice-chancellor of the University of Liverpool, on October 4, 1921. At the war’s conclusion, he successfully rose to the top of several companies. Between 1941 and 1944, Bain served as chairman of the Chemical Control Board and chairman of the chemical planning committee of the Ministry of Production. He was knighted in 1945 for his services in these capacities. His wife died the same year, five years later he died after suffering a fall.<sup>27</sup> The British National Portrait Gallery has his portrait in their archives.

## **World War II**

After Great Britain defeated Germany in the Battle of Britain, Winston Churchill ordered an attack on Berlin. The attack infuriated Hitler, who retaliated by ordering a ruthless terror campaign aimed at demoralizing the British people. He ordered his pilots to bomb cities across the British Isles, with the greatest focus on London itself.

The central square mile of London, known specifically as the City of London, was almost completely reduced to rubble, with St. Paul’s Cathedral miraculously surviving while buildings burned on all sides. The East End, which was notorious for poverty, crime, and pollution, was leveled as well—giving the area an opportunity for new life.

Between September 7, 1940 and May, 1941, Londoners held their breath each night as they waited for the sirens to wail. The government ordered a blackout each night to conceal targets as much as possible. At one point, the Germans dropped bombs over London for 57 consecutive nights.

Number 10 Downing Street, the official residence of the Prime Minister, was severely damaged and almost destroyed. Winston Churchill and his cabinet took refuge in the basement of a nearby

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<sup>24</sup> Election records indicate that by 1929, the property was no longer used as a single residence. Alfred Baldwin and Renee Germaine Ruper occupied the residence until at least 1932 but were joined by several other occupants including Alice and Stuly Chart, Mary McCarthy, Dorothy Morahan, and Ellen Seilley.

<sup>25</sup> In addition to Frederick and Isabel Bain, Mary Bridget Nugent, Hilda Sadler, Annie Wright, Norah Holroyd, and Lillion Gray listed 29 Palace Court as their place of between 1929 and 1932.

<sup>26</sup> Pratt 2004.

<sup>27</sup> Pratt 2004.

building.<sup>28</sup> Notoriously curious, Churchill would sit atop the building and watch the German planes fly in over London. One famous photograph shows him inspecting a bomb that fell near his war-time refuge but did not explode.<sup>29</sup>

The Blitz highlighted class disparity in Great Britain. The wealthy could take refuge in the country or in “expensive basement clubs in the city.”<sup>30</sup> The working classes were not so lucky, as they were often forced to stay in the city with little protection.

The government was in over its head and could do little to help. Those with no protection were left to fend for themselves. Each night, 60,000 people would descend to the deepest Underground stations and many received bunk beds and blankets. Others took refuge in underground crypts and vaults. The conditions were often deplorable:

[One shelter] was in the massive vaults beneath the Fruit and Wool exchange in Brushfield St, and it was taken over early in the war as a shelter for 5,000 people. However, on the first night it was opened, twice that number of people crammed in to a space that quickly became the black hole of London. By 7.30 p.m. every bit of floor space was taken up. The floor was awash with urine. People slept on piles of rubbish, and the passages were loaded with filth. The lights were dim or non-existent. There was no room to move.<sup>31</sup>

Although most of the bombs fell on central and east London, many bombs fell over other areas as well. Palace Court was hit on at least two but probably three occasions, with the buildings directly across the street seriously damaged.<sup>32</sup> Three buildings on the same side of the street were also seriously damaged, two to the north and one to the south of the London Centre homes.

Throughout the Blitz and World War II, Churchill gave a series of parliamentary speeches and radio broadcasts that strengthened British national resolve. He earned a reputation as a strong leader who would never surrender in the face of evil. On June 4, 1940, after the evacuation of British troops from Dunkirk, Churchill gave one of the most famous speeches ever delivered in the British House of Commons:

We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender, and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this Island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle, until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Number 10 n.d.

<sup>29</sup> This photo, as well as much other information, is displayed at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms.

<sup>30</sup> Richards 2001.

<sup>31</sup> Richards 2001.

<sup>32</sup> Sanders 2005.

<sup>33</sup> Churchill 1940.

Just two years earlier, Churchill gained notoriety by vehemently denouncing Neville Chamberlain's acceptance of the Munich Agreement—the famous pact that annexed part of Czechoslovakia to Germany in return for a promise that Hitler would not seek any more territory. Chamberlain famously promised, “Peace in our time.” Churchill was not fooled, nor were many living in Czechoslovakia. Many fled to other countries when the Nazis took control, including Great Britain.

Number 27 Palace Court housed the *Czechoslovak-British Friendship Club*, which provided a gathering place for those refugees and their families. Its purpose was to “provide Czechoslovaks with [a] focal point for cultural activities in London.”<sup>34</sup> Each week, the club hosted meetings for German speaking women exiled in Britain.<sup>35</sup>

### **Gentrification and Demise of Bayswater**

As a result of two world wars, the British economy was left in shambles. From 1945 to 1980, London's population fell precipitously. Bayswater was neglected and became a popular area for lower-class immigrants. The Empire ceased to exist. Australia, India, Canada, and the African colonies were all independent or close to independence. London's infrastructure was in shambles. Even their great leader, Winston Churchill, was ousted from office in the 1945 election. Britons saw the Labour Party's welfare proposals as a better way to rebuild a prosperous society.

From December 5 to 9, 1952, Numbers 27 and 29 Palace Court sat in a filthy, dense fog now known as the Great Smog. After a century of industrialization and pollution, a strange weather pattern trapped London's pollution in an inversion. The smog, which smelled of sulfur, engulfed the whole city. The pollution caused asphyxiation, killing 4,000 people within days and speeding the deaths of 8,000 more in the ensuing months and years. Although thousands of people suffered, the Great Smog of 1952 was a catalyst for environmental clean-up. Policy-makers began to take the issue seriously, passing the Clean Air Act of 1953. Other countries took notice and a new movement was underway.<sup>36</sup>

### **King Edward's Hospital Fund**

One of the most important Labour proposals was socialized universal health care administered by the National Health Service (NHS), which was created in 1948. The King Edward's Hospital Fund, founded in 1897 as a charitable organization to help poor Londoners obtain health care, took on a much greater role after the advent of the NHS:

The foundation began to focus its expertise and resources on developing good practice in the NHS, for example through training courses, and on grants designed to support new initiatives to improve the health of Londoners.<sup>37</sup>

As the King Edward's Hospital Fund expanded, it sought new properties to operate from. Sometime after 1957, the King Edward's Hospital Fund purchased both 27 and 29 Palace Court to establish a medical training facility, although some residents were permitted to maintain residence due to a grandfather clause.

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<sup>34</sup> Gaskell, “Czech and Slovak Things,” 2000–04.

<sup>35</sup> Brinson 1998.

<sup>36</sup> Trivedi 2002.

<sup>37</sup> “The King's Fund: History,” 2008.

## The Purchase

On November 4, 1974, the BYU Board of Trustees approved an experimental study abroad program in London.<sup>38</sup> The program's success justified its continuance, and Stanley Peterson and Richard Henstrom were given the responsibility to find a permanent facility. The Strutt and Parker of London real estate firm assisted BYU in finding a suitable property. Henstrom noticed "a piece of property was put on the market by the King Edward Hospital Fund of London."<sup>39</sup> On December 1, 1976, the Board of Trustees approved the recommendation to purchase the property, and on December 14, 1976, the Committee on Expenditures approved the purchase for \$368,000. The committee approved of an additional \$88,600 for "legal fees, purchase taxes, renovations, and furnishings" on March 29, 1977.<sup>40</sup>

Number 27 Palace Court was purchased on April 26, 1977, for £130,000, and 29 Palace Court was purchased on June 29, 1977, for £100,000. Two owners in 29 Palace Court still occupied their flats, one of which was bought out for approximately \$20,000. The other, Agnes Shepherd, declined a buy out and still occupies the property as of 2008.<sup>41</sup>

To obtain a license to operate, BYU was required to "form an 'association' with a board of directors. The association was called the "Brigham Young University Trust" with the "registered office of the company . . . situate in England."<sup>42</sup> The properties underwent major renovations which included "painting, carpeting, plumbing, carpentry work, and electrical and structural improvements."<sup>43</sup> Renovations also added doorways to connect the two buildings. In 1985, the David M. Kennedy Center took over supervision of study abroad programs, and in May and September of 1989 the London Centre was renovated once again.

Since 1977, thousands of students have spent a semester abroad in the London Centre and dozens of professors have brought their families to experience the wonders of one of the world's great cities. By the 1980s, London's population bottomed out and began to grow again. Bayswater, one of London's most cosmopolitan areas, has been rejuvenated after years of neglect.

For more than a century, the homes at 27 and 29 Palace Court have witnessed London's dramatic changes. Now, the London Centre sits steps away from authentic ethnic food, world-class shopping, historic religious buildings, and famous landmarks. The West End, the Houses of Parliament, Piccadilly Circus, Buckingham Palace, St. Paul's Cathedral, and the Tower of London are minutes away on a short tube ride. Indeed, as the host of BYU's most popular study abroad program, the London Centre has made the world our campus.

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<sup>38</sup> Henstrom 1997, 311.

<sup>39</sup> Henstrom 1997, 312.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

<sup>41</sup> Henstrom 1997, 313.

<sup>42</sup> Memorandum of Association of Brigham Young University Trust, 1979.

<sup>43</sup> Henstrom 1997, 315.

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