

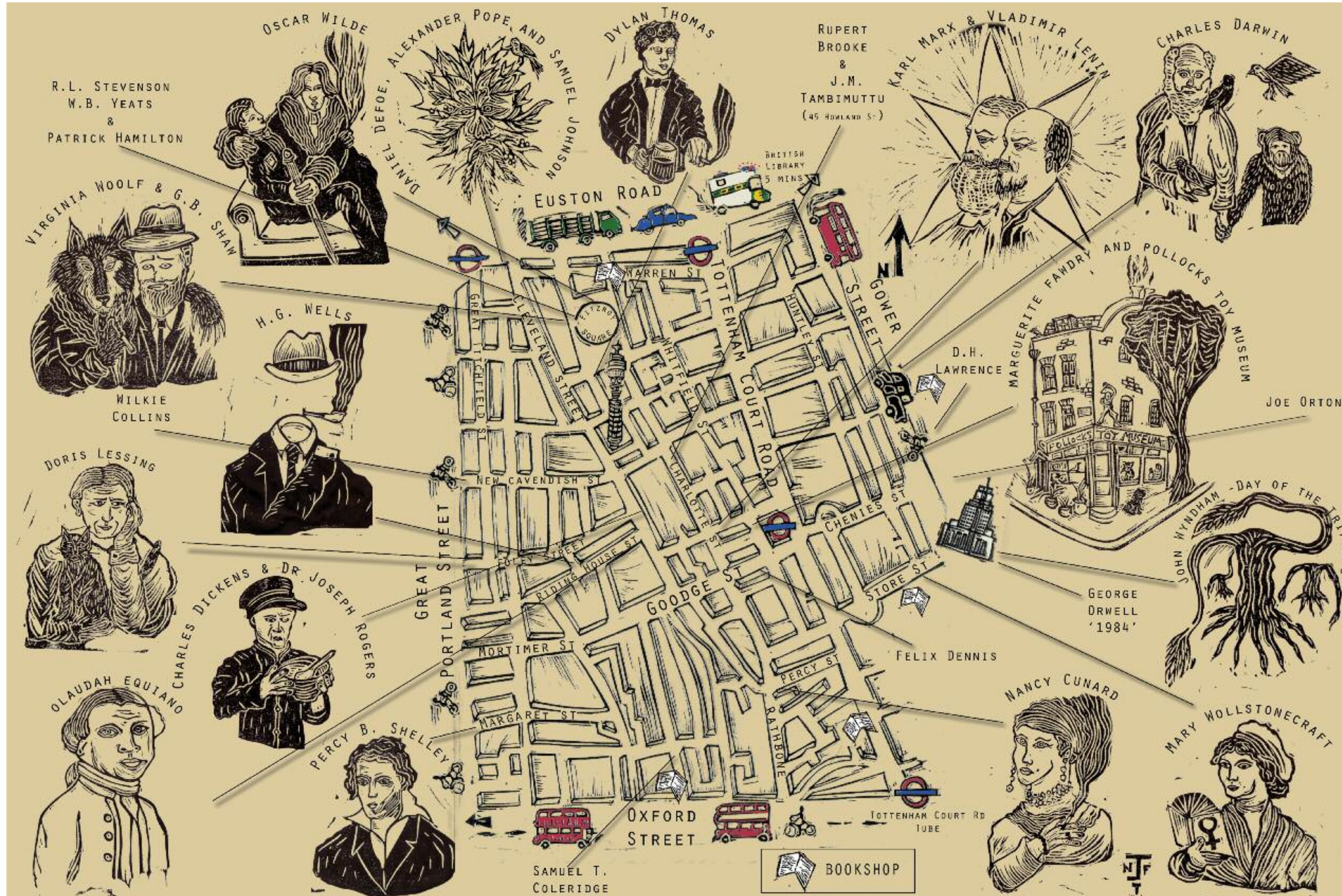
Fitzrovia Festival 2016

Map drawn and designed by Jack Fawdry Tatham

The first Fitzrovia Festival was held in June 1973 under the banner of "The People Live Here Festival" and has continued more or less every year since then. This year we have a variety of events and a literary theme.

Fitzrovia has captured the imagination of many writers. One of them is Patrick Hamilton who evoked the spirit of the neighbourhood's streets in the late 1920s and early 1930s. In *The Midnight Bell* (1929) he describes the sounds coming in through the window upstairs above a pub on the Euston Road, probably based on the Goat and Compasses which used to stand on the corner of Fitzroy Street.

"London.... A grim, yet burdened and plaintive sound — the dim roar of traffic in the Tottenham Court Road — the far thunder of trams where the Hampstead Road began — the yelling of children in Warren Street near by...."



Festival Events

Photos and books about the neighbourhood 10am to 4pm Saturday 18 June

An exhibition of old photographs and a browse and buy stall of books about the neighbourhood. We have an archive of photographs going back to the 1970s. We have books by local authors including publications by the Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association, E Beresford Chancellor's London's Old Latin Quarter published in 1930, Nick Bailey's street-by-street history of Fitzrovia published in 1981. And lots of other information about life in Fitzrovia. Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Centre, 39 Tottenham Street, London W1T 4RX.

Punk rock, racism and anti-racism: Guided walk 12 noon Saturday 18 June

This 90-minute guided walk will visit buildings and places in Fitzrovia which have a connection with Punk Rock and Rock Against Racism. Meet at Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Centre, 39 Tottenham Street, London W1T 4RX.

Fitzrovia authors and readers — Monday 20 June at the Sainsbury Wellcome Centre, 25 Howland Street, W1T 4JG

A panel of writers from a range of disciplines give their views on the way things are changing and what might be in the future. These are not industry gurus predicting the future, rather they are practitioners from Fitzrovia sharing their personal perspective of what they see as the ups and downs ahead for their craft. For example, these might be technological, cultural, economical or political changes. They invite you to come along and listen, ask questions and then share a glass with them afterwards.

Researching the Shakespeare Hut — 5pm to 7pm on Wednesday 22 June at Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Centre, 39 Tottenham Street, London W1T 4RX

An exhibition about the little known story of the YMCA Shakespeare Hut, a building opened on the site of the current London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1916 to house and entertain troops on leave during WWI. As part of the heritage project local residents are invited to share their own family stories and memories of WWI as part of an oral history project. The evening will be a prelude to a major installation — Resurrecting the Shakespeare Hut — to be held from July to September.

Pubs and Literature: guided walk — 6.30pm Thursday 23 June

Author and Fitzrovia News editor Mike Pentelow will lead a guided walk around Fitzrovia's pubs and talk about the neighbourhood's literary connections. Meet at Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Centre, 39 Tottenham Street, London W1T 4RX.

Derwent Dystopia 2: guided walk — 12 noon Saturday 25 June

Last year it was Crossrail, this year it is Crossrail 2. Join this walk which looks at how the buildings, residential community and whole neighbourhood is changing. Find out about property developers, dodgy councils, parasites, public relations companies and even a few who should know better. Discover why not enough affordable housing and public open space is being delivered, why there is a business improvement district in this the strangest of London barrios. Meet at Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Centre, 39 Tottenham Street, London W1T 4RX.

Fitzrovia Festival is a non-commercial celebration of the neighbourhood's life and history: fitzroviafestival.org.uk :: twitter.com/fitzroviafest :: facebook.com/fitzroviafestival

