

Couper Collection, The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival highlights brochure 2000.

Highlights
from the London
String of Pearls
Millennium
Festival include:

LAMBETH PALACE
Opening to the general public for the first time ever. Visitors will learn about the history of the Palace and the role of the Archbishop in a guided tour and exhibition

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
The Voters of the Future exhibition for all the family, explaining the roles of the MP, the House of Lords, The Speaker, Lord Chancellor and Monarch, set in Westminster Hall, allowing rare public access to the only surviving part of the ancient Palace of Westminster

ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE
The Legal System Past, Present and Future: how our legal system has evolved over the last 1000 years, including a dramatic re-enactment of the famous trial which established the rights of jurors, staged inside The Lord Chief Justice's Court, and how a courtroom of the future might be

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW
Only for 2000, Kew takes as its theme wild or natural British flora through a series of changing exhibitions – for example, in summer the borders of the Broadwalk will be ploughed and a beautiful cornfield will hold sway in Kew's traditional landscape

BATTERSEA PARK
An opportunity to sample different sports through a monthly series of free workshops and training sessions with top UK coaches and the chance to practise with the UK's top international athletes

ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA
A son et lumière will dramatise the history and pageantry of the Chelsea Pensioners and the history of this magnificent Wren building

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS
A series of art, drama and musical events on homelessness, its causes and consequences, culminating in a pilgrimage to Canterbury

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON
Medicine and Humanity: a series of six ground-breaking lectures by world class thinkers on topics ranging from Health and Justice to Personal Freedom vs Public Health and the opportunity to participate in the discussion

LONDON GUILDHALL UNIVERSITY
Exhibitions of Arts, Crafts and Design, celebrating achievements in the fields of three-dimensional art and design, silversmithing, interior design, and multimedia production

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
The Royal Military Tattoo 2000 staged on the historic Horse Guards Parade combines military pageantry, *son et lumière* and a glimpse of the Armed Services in the next millennium

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL AND SOUTHWARK MYSTERIES
A specially commissioned new cycle of Mystery Plays - an epic community drama for performance in and around Southwark Cathedral

FISHMONGERS' COMPANY
Open to the public for the first time, special guided tours of the Hall will trace the development, history and the important names associated with the Fishmongers' Company, a livery company with an unbroken existence of over 700 years

COUPER COLLECTION
New art museum on board converted Thames barges near Albert Bridge will present *The Fleeting Opera* in partnership with the Royal Opera House – a series of transitory performances from boats and barges for riverside audiences

CUSTOM HOUSE
Special Open Days allowing access to the Long Room, Robing Room and Quay, and an exhibition to provide insight into the workings of one of the oldest Government Departments

LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM
Guided tours of parts of the underground system, including disused stations, that are not normally accessible to the public

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS
Engineering the String of Pearls – a special exhibition will tell the remarkable story of how The Thames has been tamed, cleaned, traversed and augmented by civil engineers through the ages

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
The opening of a new permanent display gallery featuring key icons of 1000 years of recorded history and unique objects never before on public display

HORSE GUARDS
Special free access inside the Horse Guards building will include a guided tour of the office used by the Duke of Wellington to plan his Napoleonic campaign, and the desk across which Hitler and Neville Chamberlain negotiated in September 1938

GUY'S AND ST THOMAS' HOSPITALS
Heart Tours – special tours of the hospitals combining history, art and current medical developments

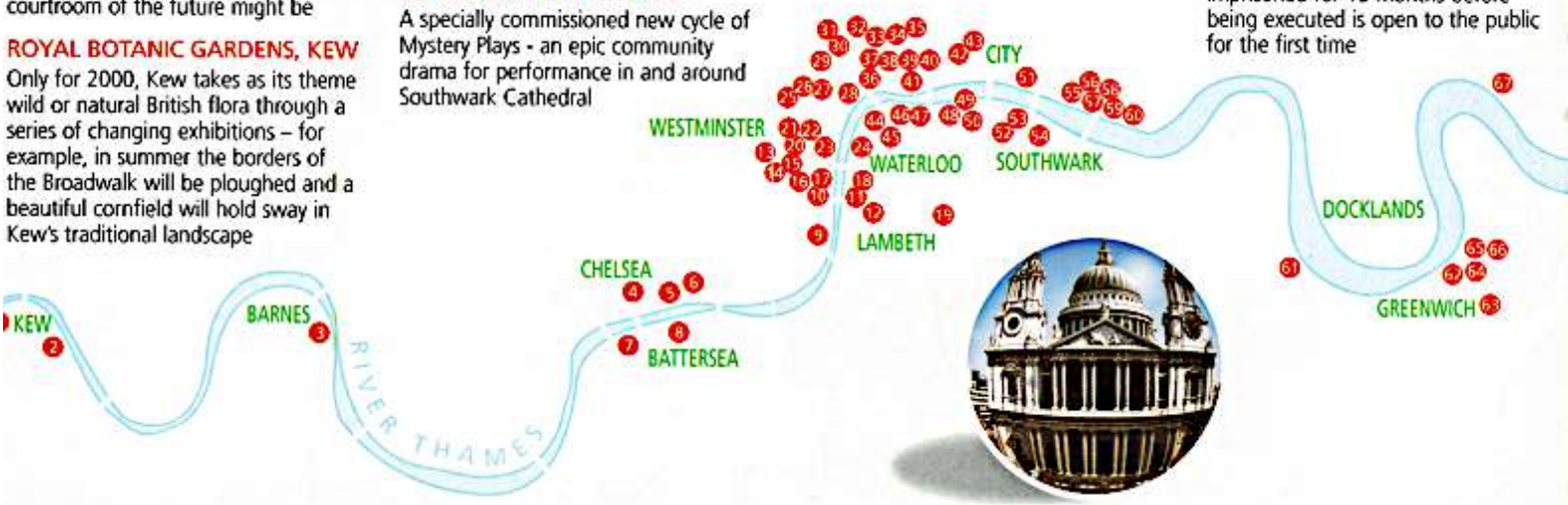
GOLDSMITHS' COMPANY
Treasures of the 20th Century will feature the Goldsmiths' Company's unique collection of silver, jewellery, and art medals on display together for the first time

METHODIST CENTRAL HALL
Guided tours of this superb Viennese baroque building with privileged public access up to the Dome for the best panoramic views of London

BOC COVENT GARDEN FESTIVAL
Special performances which explore the festival themes of faith, justice and defence of the realm, in some unusual venues, including Gilbert and Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* on a boat on the Thames, and *Trial by Jury* in the Royal Courts of Justice

FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
Twelve special open days reveal the work of the modern FCO and offer privileged access to its fine interiors

TOWER OF LONDON
The cell where Thomas More was imprisoned for 15 months before being executed is open to the public for the first time



COUPER COLLECTION

New art museum on board converted Thames barges near Albert Bridge will present *The Fleeting Opera* in partnership with the Royal Opera House – a series of transitory performances from boats and barges for riverside audiences



The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival

A 72-page programme of all the year's events, containing full details of admission arrangements, times and prices, may be obtained from any of the participating Pearl sites listed overleaf, price £1.50, or by returning the completed form below together with a cheque payable to String of Pearls or postage stamps to the value of £1.50 to

London String of Pearls Millennium Festival
1 Hobhouse Court, Suffolk Street, London SW1Y 4HH
NB: Programmes are available from December 1999

The String of Pearls Millennium Festival is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. All proceeds go to publicising the event.

You may also visit our website for updated information at www.stringofpearls.org.uk



More than sixty of the nation's greatest institutions are granting unprecedented levels of access and extending a special welcome to visitors as part of the London String of Pearls Millennium Festival – a year long extravaganza of privileged access, exhibitions, special tours, performances, concerts, son et lumière, parades and new works, which ranks alongside the Dome as the country's major millennium celebration.

Situated along the River Thames in London – never more than a ten minute stroll from its banks – these world-famous landmarks create a 'string of pearls' at the heart of the capital from Greenwich to Kew, threaded together by the Thames Path and new boat services.

The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival brings to life the greatest social, political and cultural achievements of the last millennium in an enthralling, entertaining and informative way, with opportunities for fascinating days out at some 300 events – many of which are free.

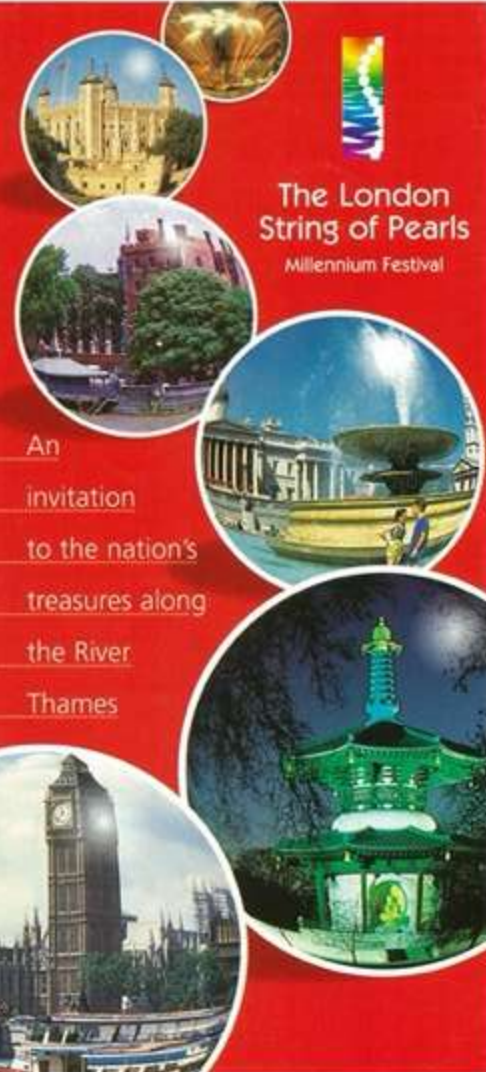
Please note that the festival plans contained in this brochure are provisional and are subject to alteration. The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival cannot be held responsible for any changes or cancellations that may occur.

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The London String of Pearls Millennium Festival



An invitation to the nation's treasures along the River Thames

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE



ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
COVENT GARDEN

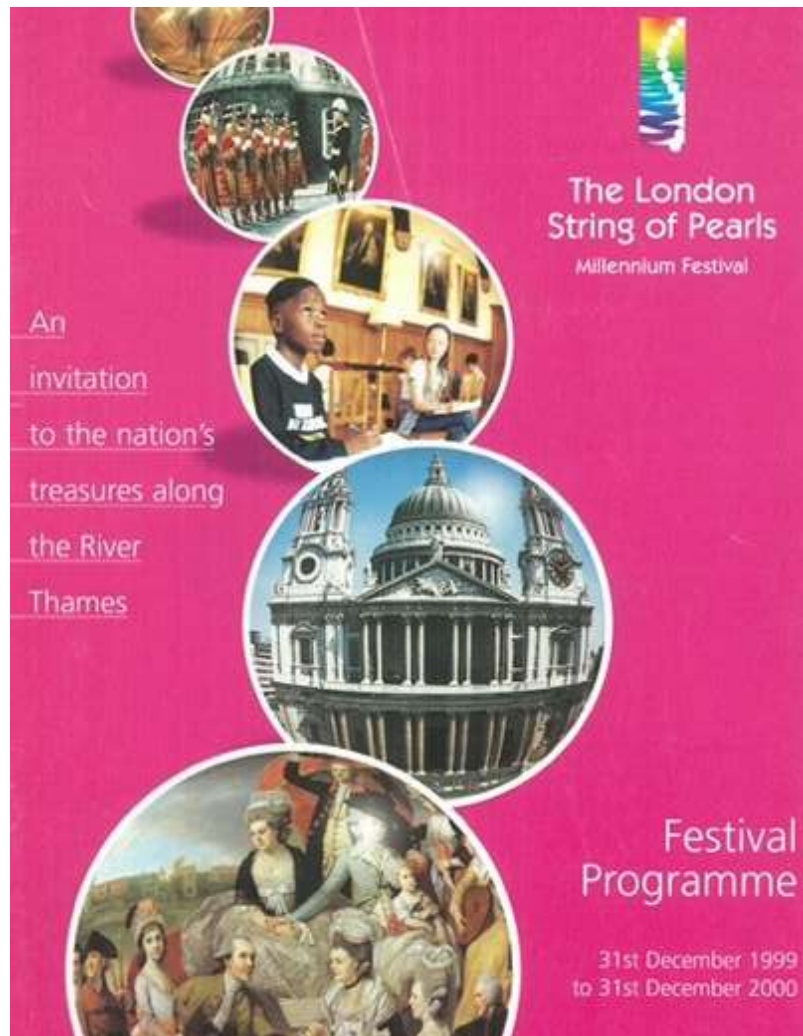
Artists appearing with the kind permission
of The Royal Opera House

The Couper Collection

River Thames by Albert Bridge



Couper Collection London String of Pearls Millennium Festival programme 2000.



How to get there: Victoria. Sloane Square.

11, 14, 19, 22, 49, 211.

The Couper Collection



The Couper Collection, Riverside Walk, Hester Road, Battersea, London, SW11 4AN. Enquiries: 020 8871 7572

Map reference:



The Couper Collection is a new permanent floating art museum located on board several converted Thames barges just to the west of Albert Bridge on the south shore, featuring twenty years' artwork by Max Couper, the Thames-based contemporary artist and mariner.

4th May-28th October, Thursday to Saturday, 2.00-6.00pm, £3.00 adults, £1.50 concessions including guided tour. No prior appointment necessary: The Couper Collection open for the first time for public viewing.

Wednesday 26th July, 9.30pm, viewable from the riverside of Battersea Park. Free: The Fleeting Opera in association with The Royal Opera and The Royal Ballet (see page 32) The first of a series of transitory waterborne contemporary opera performances on barges on the Thames by singers, musicians and dancers.

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8 Somerset House

- Opening of a new museum for magnificent Gilbert Collection of decorative arts, gold and silver – a gift to the Nation
- Series of open-air events in the splendid Great Court
- Refurbished Thames River Terrace with open-air café, restaurant and restored public access to river promenade
- Programme of education projects and guided tours exploring this extraordinary building and its intriguing history for the first time

9 King's College, London

- *Medicine and Humanity*: lectures by world class thinkers, followed by 'Any Questions'? sessions: Health and Justice; Staying Human; Personal Freedom or Public Health; Culture, Conformity and Mental Health; Living Well, Dying Well; Health in the City
- A varied and multi-cultural *Fringe Festival* by students from all the King's College Faculties (Science, Arts and Humanities)

10 Royal Hospital Chelsea

- *Son et Lumière* in Hospital's Figure Court will recall the history of the Chelsea In-Pensioners and the history of this magnificent Wren building through sound, light, drama, pageantry, music and suspense, with Dame Judi Dench, as narrator and the story spoken by other distinguished actors
- Millennium Statue - a new commission of an heroic bronze statue of a Chelsea In-Pensioner by sculptor Philip Jackson
- Creation of Millennium Garden in the Ranelagh Gardens, in conjunction with the Royal Horticultural Society Flower Show 2000

11 Fishmongers' Hall

- Special Guided Tours of the Hall's interior, including the Grand Staircase, which will trace the development, history and the important names associated with the Fishmongers' Company

12 Battersea Park

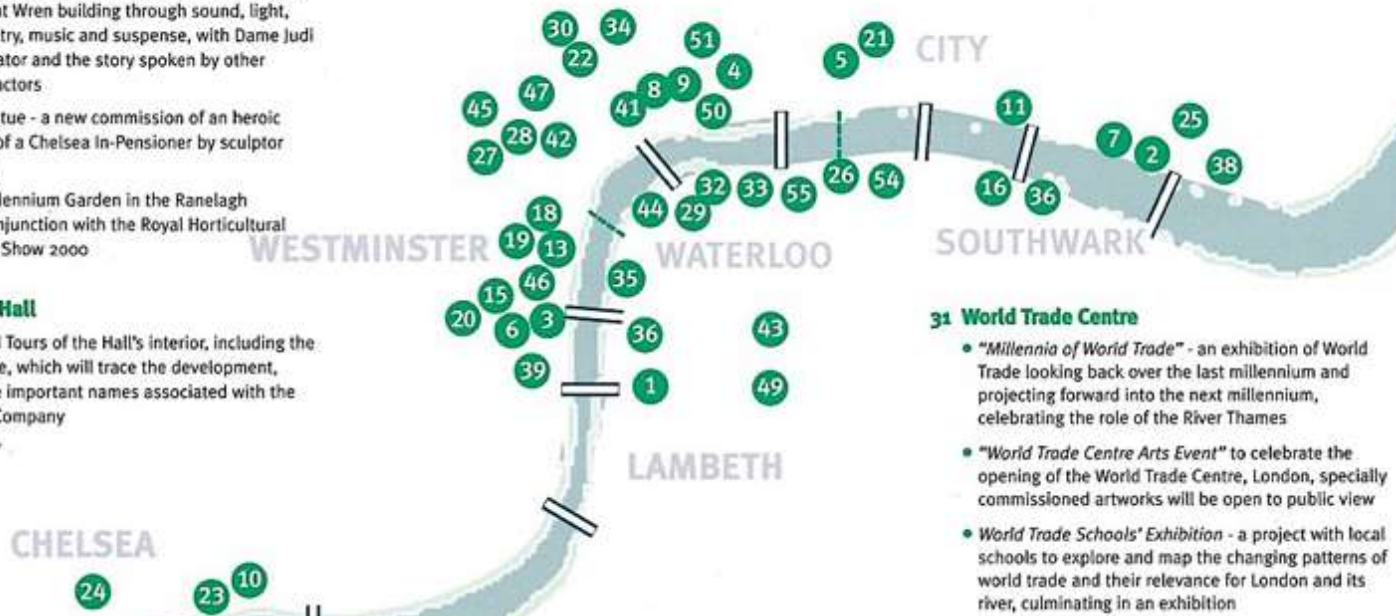
- Introduction to New Sports and Recreations - take advantage of a series of monthly programmes and sample many different activities – workshops and training sessions with top UK coaches
- Ever-changing exhibition relating to that month's sports in the Victorian Pump House, on the shores of the lake
- Experience the wide variety of sports facilities, including the new athletics track opening May 2000
- Competitions and Tournaments to set pulses racing in both spectators and participants! - including Inter-European capitals athletics tournament, and annual ATP tennis tournament
- Opportunity for visitors who experience some form of disability to be introduced to a varied selection of disability sports - Disability Bowls, Badminton for the Deaf, Wheelchair Basketball and Rugby

13 Banqueting House, Whitehall

- A series of performances and lectures on Court Music in the 17th century within Banqueting House, the only surviving part of Whitehall Palace, built by Inigo Jones in 1622, with ceiling painted by Rubens

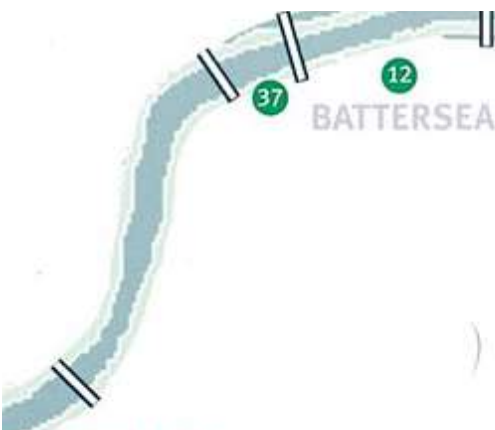
14 Public Record Office

- New permanent display gallery – combining both Time Tunnel and Treasure House, featuring key "icons" of 1000 years of recorded history and unique objects never before on public display
- *Document of the Week*, chosen by celebrities, mounted on the PRO Website, with series of lunchtimes lectures on the document
- Monthly event focusing on a day or series of events that changed history from each century, with displays, lectures and serving dish/menu of the period
- Major Conference – What is the use of History?
- Six Open Days, each with a particular historic period theme, special hands-on events and interpretation of what the PRO does and why
- Joint exhibition with the Royal Armouries and Historic Royal Palace of Domesday Book, on the Office and the history of record-keeping, to be held at the Tower of London
- Joint conference and events relating to immigrants and ethnic minorities and their contribution to British culture



31 World Trade Centre

- *"Millennia of World Trade"* - an exhibition of World Trade looking back over the last millennium and projecting forward into the next millennium, celebrating the role of the River Thames
- *"World Trade Centre Arts Event"* to celebrate the opening of the World Trade Centre, London, specially commissioned artworks will be open to public view
- *World Trade Schools' Exhibition* - a project with local schools to explore and map the changing patterns of world trade and their relevance for London and its river, culminating in an exhibition



BATTERSEA

26 Millennium Bridge

- Celebration to light new Bridge between St Paul's Cathedral and new Tate Gallery of Modern Art, Bankside, with processions on land and river, music, lanterns, boats, fireworks

27 National Gallery

- New Exhibition "Seeing Salvation - The Image of Christ" - exploring aspects of the representation of Jesus Christ over two millennia, with a range of events, lectures and tours, and a special trail through the permanent collection reflecting the themes of the exhibition
- An exciting and ambitious exhibition of work by major contemporary artists inspired by paintings in the Gallery's collection

28 National Portrait Gallery

- The Thames has long been an inspiration and setting for art and music. This relationship will be explored in a project entitled "The Art of Water Music", in conjunction with The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, bringing alive John Zoffany's 'Sharpe Family Portrait' (The Sharpe Family used to sail up and down the Thames giving concerts in the 18th century)

15 The Institution of Civil Engineers

- "Engineering the String of Pearls" - a special exhibition with models, illuminated maps, interactive CD-ROM and special displays in the Institution's prestigious neo-classical headquarters. The exhibition will tell the remarkable story of how the Thames has been tamed, cleaned, traversed and augmented through the ages by civil engineers, and the outstanding examples of bridges, tunnels, docks, canal systems, transport systems along it.
- At least two heritage trails (one within walking distance, one extended), a competition that encourages further exploration of the construction achievements on and around the Thames

16 Southwark Cathedral and Southwark Mysteries

- Special services to celebrate the millennium
- The opening of a new Visitor Centre, Library, Refectory and extended Education Centre
- A series of ground-breaking lectures on medical ethics in popular style in conjunction with the teaching hospitals of King's College, Guy's and St Thomas'
- A specially commissioned new cycle of Southwark Mystery Plays for performance at Southwark Cathedral in year 2000 - an epic community drama devised through professionally led workshops in schools and community centres

29 Waterloo Community Group

- "Visioning the Community" reflecting on the community of Waterloo
- Opportunities for the Homeless: a programme to enable homeless people in the Waterloo area to participate in Millennium celebrations
- Concerts and exhibitions at St John's Church, the Waterloo Action Centre, Morley College and other local venues
- "Waterloo Then and Now": a series of exhibitions. Local People looking at their history and the cultural diversity of today
- Compilation of a video diary
- Creation of a Millennium Green as a lasting contribution to the community

30 BOC Covent Garden Festival of Opera and Music Theatre

Offering special productions which explore the festival themes of religious faith, justice and defence of the realm, in some unusual venues and institutions:

- A major community and education project inspired by Haydn's *The Creation*, bringing together a wide and diverse cross-section of people from all age groups and racial backgrounds, culminating in a performance of Haydn's *The Creation*
- 43 performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* in Magistrates' Court in Bow Street
- Two performances of Handel's oratorio *Israel in Egypt* in the extraordinary setting of the Grand Temple of Freemasons' Hall
- Gilbert & Sullivan's *HMS Pinafore* performed on a boat travelling down the Thames
- Performance of the Opera *Alfred* by Thomas Arne, born in Covent Garden

17 National Maritime Museum

- "The Story of Time Exhibition", definitive millennium exhibition in the Palladian Palace of The Queen's House, bringing together some 300 artefacts from across the world
- *Millennium Night Event*: one of the biggest organised events and concerts in the country involving international stars and held in Greenwich Park

18 Ministry Of Defence

- Armed Forces Special Event *The Royal Military Tattoo 2000* staged on the world famous and historical Horse Guards Parade combining military pageantry, Son et Lumière and a glimpse into the next Millennium; an unrivalled experience bringing together sailors, soldiers and airmen, military activity and music, and stars of international standing

19 Horse Guards, Whitehall

- New guided tours and special access inside Horse Guards will include the office used by the Duke of Wellington containing his desk and restored to its original state, the office containing the desk across which Hitler and Neville Chamberlain negotiated in September 1938, military memorabilia, an information video highlighting those areas not seen by the public, and panoramic views across Horse Guards to the Guards Memorial and St James's Park

32 Thames Festival

- A large-scale celebration in September 2000, on and around the River Thames between Waterloo Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, involving a vast procession of illuminated sculptures, lanterns and other lit objects along Victoria Embankment, a magical flotilla with live music and fireworks

33 London Weekend Television

- Studio Open Days to see inside one of ITV's main production studios and find out how television programmes are put together
- Visits to the London News Network studio overlooking the Thames and St Paul's Cathedral
- Tickets for television shows; a chance to join the studio audience for some of ITV's best-loved shows

34 Royal Opera House

- Small scale performances of opera and chamber music and dance, based on the designated Festival themes, at String of Pearls venues, for example, Anna Bolena at the Tower of London
- One-Day and Weekend Workshops open to everybody, making use of the Royal Opera House new facilities, opening in time for year 2000, giving the opportunity for more intensive and 'hands-on' experience of ballet and opera

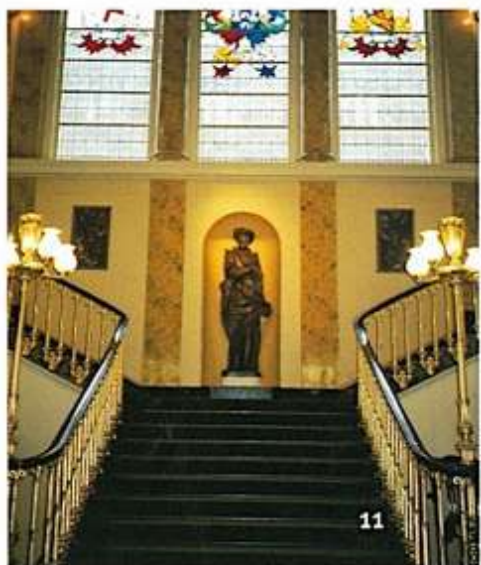


20 Westminster Central Hall

- Guided tours of this superb Viennese baroque building designed by Rickard and opened in 1912 to serve the headquarters of the then Wesleyan Methodist Church, with Great Hall and magnificent organ
- Full programme of special millennium celebrations, musical events, exhibitions and services
- Privileged public access up to dome giving the best panoramic views in London

21 Goldsmiths' Hall

- "Treasures of the 20th Century", an exhibition supported by series of special seminars, will feature the Goldsmiths' Company's unique collection of silver, jewellery, and art medals which will go on display together for the first time in the magnificent setting of Goldsmiths' Hall



31

DOCKLANDS

11



GREENWICH

35 British Airways London Eye

- On the South Bank of the Thames, by Jubilee Gardens, The British Airways London Eye will emerge for the year 2000 – the world's largest observation wheel, offering totally new perspectives of the river and the entire city, including a bird's-eye view of the famous landmarks participating in the String of Pearls Millennium Festival

36 Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals

- Heart Tours (Where Art meets Health) – tours of the Hospital including history, art and current/future medical developments
- Commissioning new works of art
- Concerts at both Guy's and St Thomas'
- Creation of Millennium Garden at St Thomas'

37 The Couper Collection

New museum on-board converted Thames barges on River Thames, near Albert Bridge, will present:

- The Couper Collection, 20 years artwork by Max Couper, artist and mariner, open for the first time for public viewing
- *The Pearls Discussions* Evening series of staged discussions on topics relating to the String of Pearls
- *String of Pearls River Tours* in the company of an artist, poet or guest speaker
- *The Fleeting Opera* – a series of transitory performances from boats and barges for riverside audiences
- *New Millennium Thames Sculpture* – the commissioning of a new mobile sculpture above the barges of the Collection

38 St Katharine Docks

- *International Festival* with events and exhibitions explaining the influence of international trade and import of art forms, customs and ideas
- Exhibition "*Sins of the Past, New Resolutions for the Future*", highlighting why many commodities traded world-wide in Victorian times, such as ivory, feather and shells, stored at St Katharine Docks during their heyday, are no longer acceptable
- *Blitz Weekend* to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the direct hit by the Luftwaffe on St Katharine Docks, with performances, decoration, history trails, an exhibition and local memories

39 St John's, Smith Square

- Open days with a special exhibition, talks and tours and open rehearsals
- String Quartet Residency and Millennium Song Series with performances, lectures, workshops, master classes and community projects

40 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

- Exhibition giving visitors the opportunity to learn about the new Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place, West Sussex, which will store all the UK flora, and 10% of International flora, for hundreds of years to protect from extinction

41 Courtauld Gallery, Courtauld Institute of Art

- New exhibition of two versions of an important and unique painting *Portrait of John Luttrell*, accompanied by contemporary prints, documents and jewellery. The original work, painted in 1550 by Hans Eworth, will be shown for the first time with a version of the picture made 40 years later and now owned by the National Trust, Dunster Castle



42 Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields and London Connection

- Series of positive events on homelessness, its causes, consequences, and what it is like to be homeless, including art exhibitions, drama, and music, open days, lectures given by leading theologians, and community arts projects, culminating in a pilgrimage to Canterbury

43 St George's Roman Catholic Cathedral

Services and Celebrations including:

- Celebration of Mass to greet the New Year
- Celebration 2000 – A service to celebrate the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Christ and to look forward to the new millennium
- Regular Guided tours of the Cathedral

"Pearl" sites whose details are anticipated shortly:

- 44 British Film Institute
- 45 Capital Radio
- 46 English Heritage
- 47 English National Opera
- 48 Greenwich and Docklands International Festival
- 49 Imperial War Museum
- 50 Institution of Electrical Engineers
- 51 London School of Economics and Political Science
- 52 Royal Naval College
- 53 Royal Zoological Society
- 54 Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
- 55 Tate Gallery of Modern Art, Bankside
- 56 Wetland Centre, The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Barn Elms
- 57 Shipwright's Palace, Deptford

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1st Edition November 1998
Revised Edition March 1999

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Pearl Highlights

A: The four senior Law Lords, led by the Lord Chief Justice, staged an unprecedented photocall to welcome the first public tour to the Royal Courts of Justice, which also played host to a dramatic recital and to performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Trial by Jury'. **B:** Arts Minister, Alan Howarth, opens the new Visitor Centre for Maritime Greenwich. **C:** The Prime Minister previews the String of Pearls exhibition at the Houses of Parliament where he said 'The Festival is a wonderful initiative and I'm delighted that it is going so well. This exhibition fits in with the Government's desire to encourage wider understanding of modern democracy and better citizenship'. **D:** The Archbishop of Canterbury welcomes HRH Prince Charles to the first public opening of Lambeth Palace. All 80,000 tickets were sold with two months remaining, which the Archbishop called 'a tremendous success and a significant achievement'. **E:** The Dean of Westminster Abbey launches the String of Pearls' sponsored children's book, *The Story of London*, with pupils from local schools. **F:** *Fleeting Opera*, the first live performance by singers, dancers and musicians on two Thames barges of a new work on the Thames for almost 300 years. **G:** Children and adults alike enjoyed thematic weekends at the National Army Museum, with costumes and free gifts on offer. **H:** Crowds enjoy the sniffer dog demonstration at Custom House, where an Open Weekend drew 2,500 visitors to explore the history and activities of HM Customs and Excise and its building. **I:** Boxer Frank Bruno and actor Tony Robinson joined Minister Keith Vaz for Europe Day, the first of the twelve Open Days at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Over 40,000 people were treated to displays on the workings of various FCO departments. **J:** Dame Judi Dench was involved in three Pearl events. She narrated both the spectacular *Son et Lumière* performance on the history of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea and a performance of *Fleeting Opera* (see F above). Dame Judi also played a part in the Royal Military Tattoo. **K:** Crowds flocked to the opening of the Wetland Centre at Barnes, a new 'natural' Pearl and wildlife haven. **L:** Joanna Lumley opens an exhibition at the Institution of Civil Engineers, exploring that profession's contribution to the development of present day London. Tours, lectures and displays by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society also proved extremely popular with visitors, as did 'An introduction to LWT' hosted by newsreader Alastair Stewart at their TV studios. LWT also arranged special tours for schools and community groups. **M:** The Lord Chancellor previews the *Couper Collection*, a new permanent floating museum on barges on the Thames. **N:** Over 70,000 people came to see the Royal Military Tattoo, a two-hour non-stop evening performance of pageantry and action on Horse Guards, using state of the art staging, *Son et Lumière*, video and performers – human, equine and technological – from all three Services.



Partic

DEMOCRACY: