

Walking Tour

14th of August 2021

Vintage Soho

The 1950s (Jazz clubs, coffee bars and drinking dens)

The meeting point is in the cafe of 'The arts club theatre' Newport Street just behind Leicester Square station at **1.45pm**. Barrie, your guide has always says that if he could travel back in time it would be to London in the 1950's. A greyer and less plentiful time in some respects but an era filled with hope and a general feeling that things were looking up, just a few years after the end of the war. On our Soho 50's walk, Barrie will tell you about the first jazz clubs and coffee bars, as well as how the various immigrant populations who settled in the area, helped create a truly international mix of music, food and drink as well as creating an atmosphere where even the seedy side of life seemed to enhance the magic of the area. There will be stories of struggling artists, up and coming singers and songwriters and itinerant musicians, as well as the area's dodgy "entrepreneurs" engaging in some very dubious activities in the famous red-light district! So, prepare yourself for a meander through the Soho of today but be prepared to travel back over 60 years for a nostalgic trip through time.

Afterwards you will make your way to the Club to enjoy a buffet at 5pm in one of the private rooms. Walking tours are limited to 24 people. Tickets are priced at £26pp.

To book tickets please contact reception: reservations@civilserviceclub.org.uk or call

020 7930 4881 between 12pm-4pm Monday-Friday