

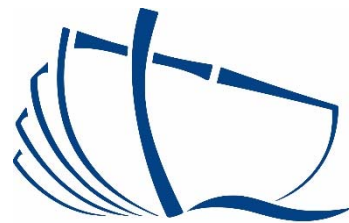
Tales From The Inner City

or, **“Controversy, Typhoid and the Motorway That Never Was”**

Historic Religious Buildings Alliance, 6th December 2017

Ian Simpson

**Heritage Officer, Diocese of Liverpool
Trustee, Churches Visitor & Tourism Association**



**Diocese of
Liverpool**



The Ancient Chapel of Toxteth



Built 1618

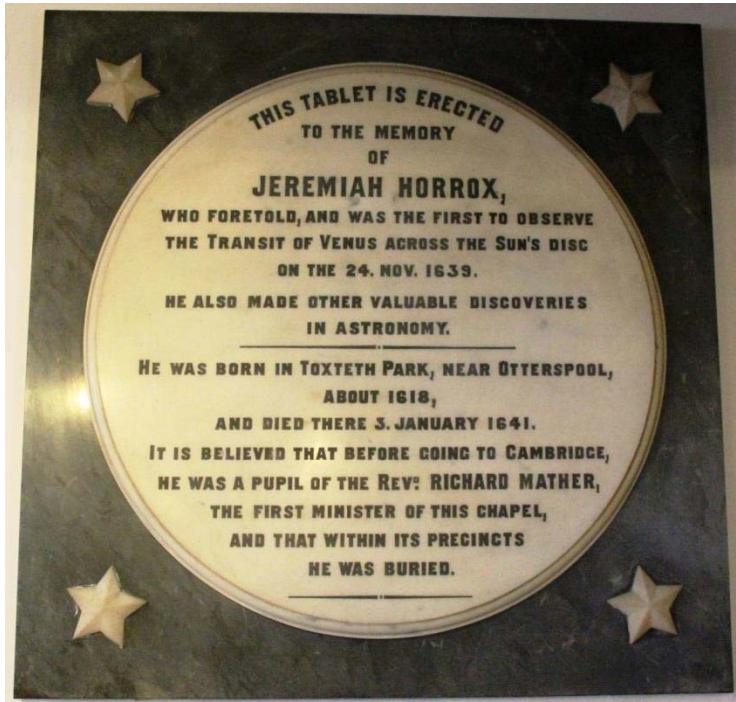
Listed Grade I

**Oldest
Nonconformist
building in Britain.**

**First known
permanent place of
worship in Toxteth.**



The Ancient Chapel of Toxteth



Jeremiah Horrocks (1618 – 1641). Went Up to Cambridge at 14. Died at 22.

One of the Fathers of Modern Astronomy – predicted and observed the Transit of Venus (1639); demonstrated the Moon's orbit is elliptical.

Horrocks Avenue in Liverpool is named after him.

The Ancient Chapel of Toxteth



Richard Mather (1596 – 1669)

Moved to Toxteth 1612, Ordained 1618.

Suspended by Archbishop Neile 1633.

Emigrated to New England 1635
(surviving hurricane *en route*).

His translation of the Psalms was the
first book published in the Colonies.



St. James-in-the-City

**Built 1774-5 by Cuthbert
Bisbrowne. Listed Grade II*.**

Extended 1900.

**Closed 1974 and vested in
the CCT.**

**Returned to use as an
Anglican place of worship in
2011.**



St. James-in-the-City



“Re-pitching the Tent” (!)

Note the cast-iron pillars holding up the balconies.

Earliest surviving use of structural cast iron in a church.

East Window by Henry Holiday.

Unusable condition of the balconies.

Roof repaired by CCT / EH.

Needs another £2m+



St. Patrick's



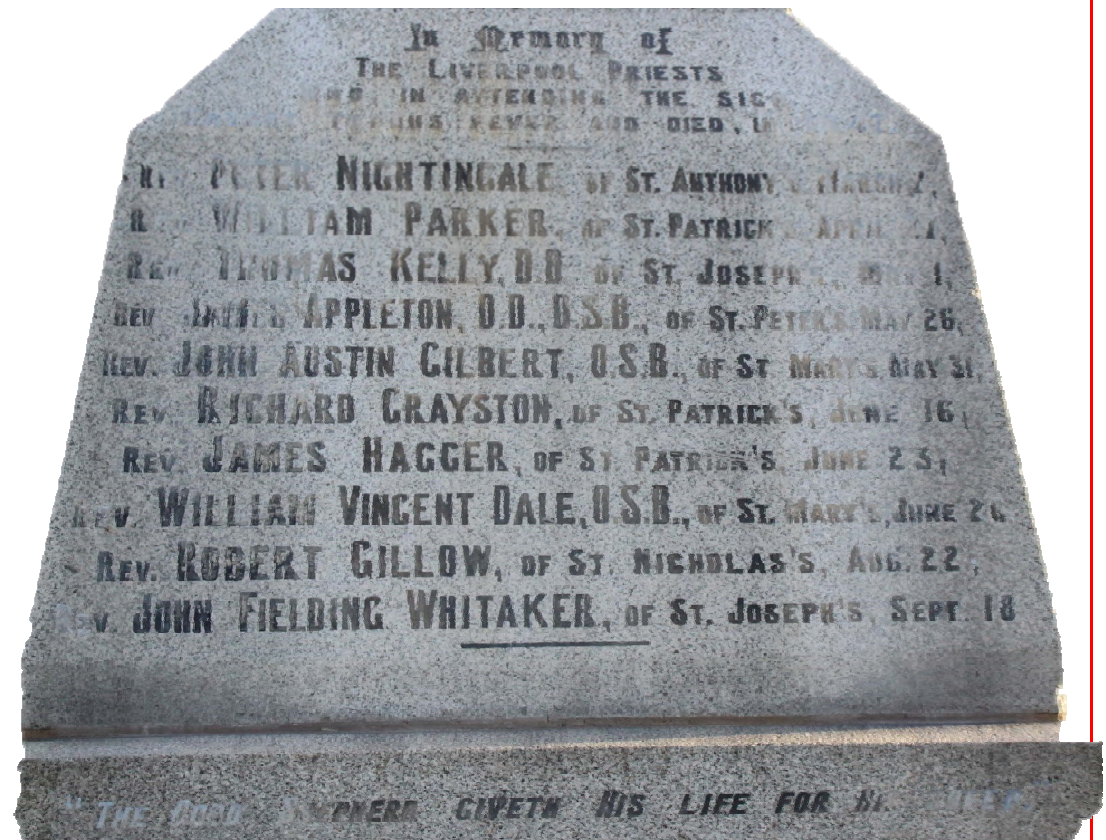
Built 1821-7 by John Slater. Listed Grade II*.

Built to comply with restrictions on how Catholic churches could be built.

Thought "absurd" by Picton but now one of the city's most significant buildings.



St. Patrick's



Memorial to the Ten Martyr Priests who died of typhoid fever contracted whilst caring for their parishioners during the epidemic of 1847.

St. Margaret of Antioch



Consecrated 1869 – Listed Grade II*.

Founded by Robert Horsfall (his third Liverpool church).

G.E. Street's only Liverpool church.

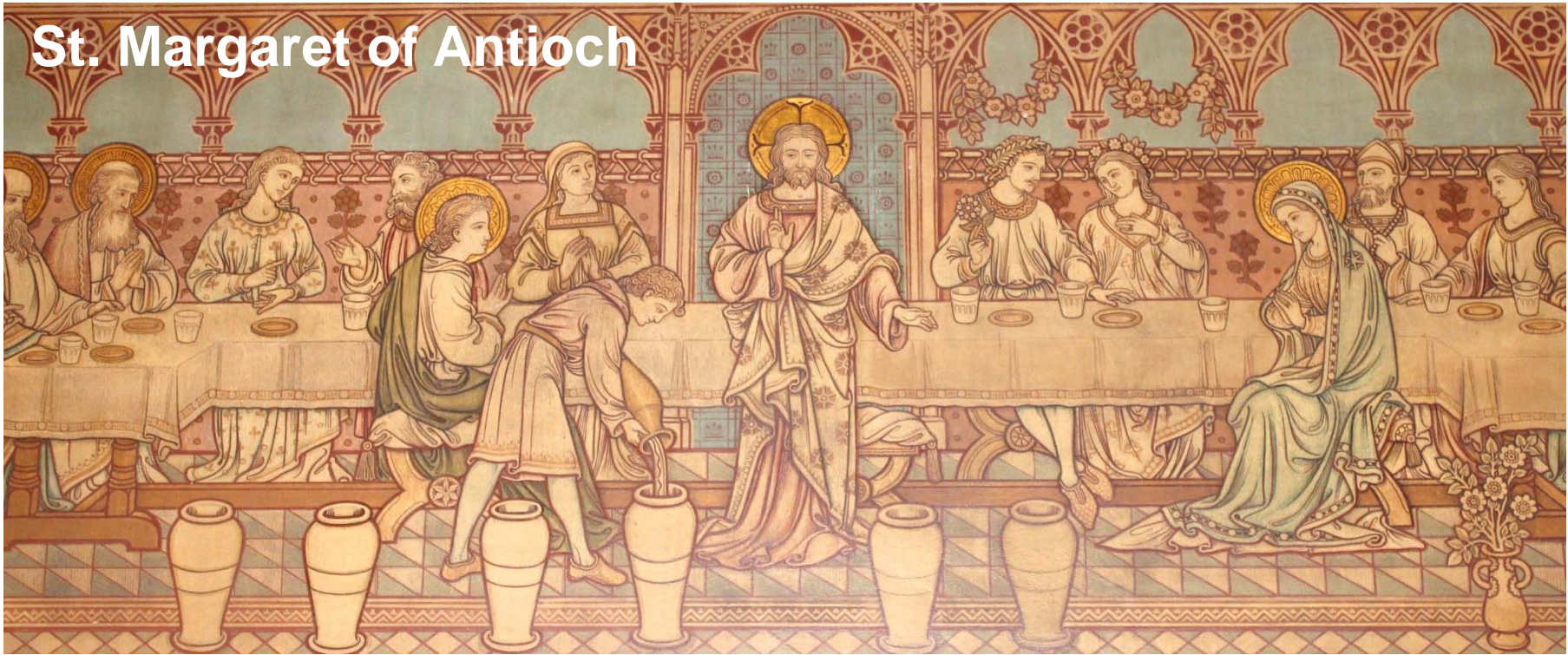
Staunchly Anglo-Catholic from Day One!



Robert Horsfall – Founder.

Depicted as St. Chad in a window at nearby St. Agnes, Toxteth Park.

St. Margaret of Antioch



St. Margaret of Antioch

Post-War glass at East End – replacing 1860s glass destroyed by blast.

HMS Lively – “L-Class” destroyer.

Built at Cammell Laird (1938-41).

Launched January 1941.

Lost with 77 souls, May 1942.



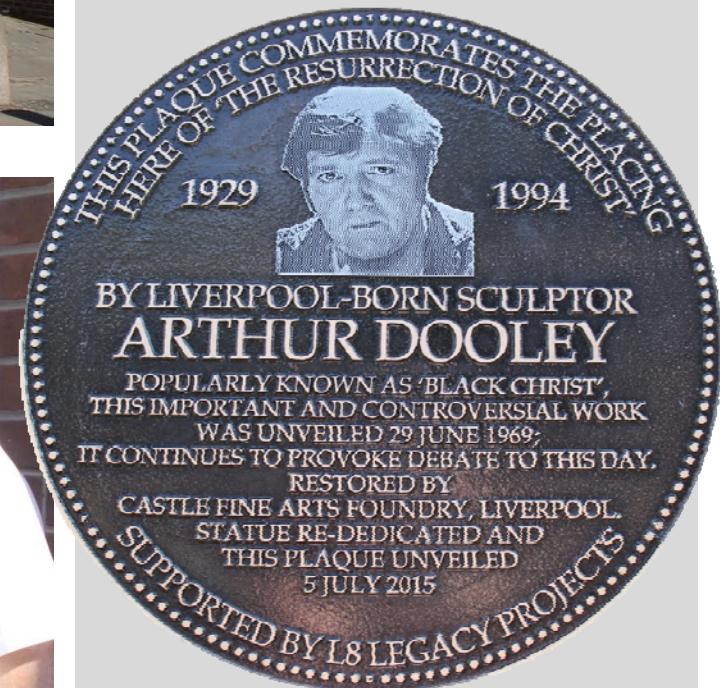
Princes Park Methodist Church



Built 1967, replacing a Victorian building on the same site.

Unlisted.

Home to Arthur Dooley's "The Resurrection of Christ" (1969).



Princes Park Methodist Church

The “Black Christ” was hugely controversial when first unveiled in 1969. Subtly multicoloured rather than plain black.

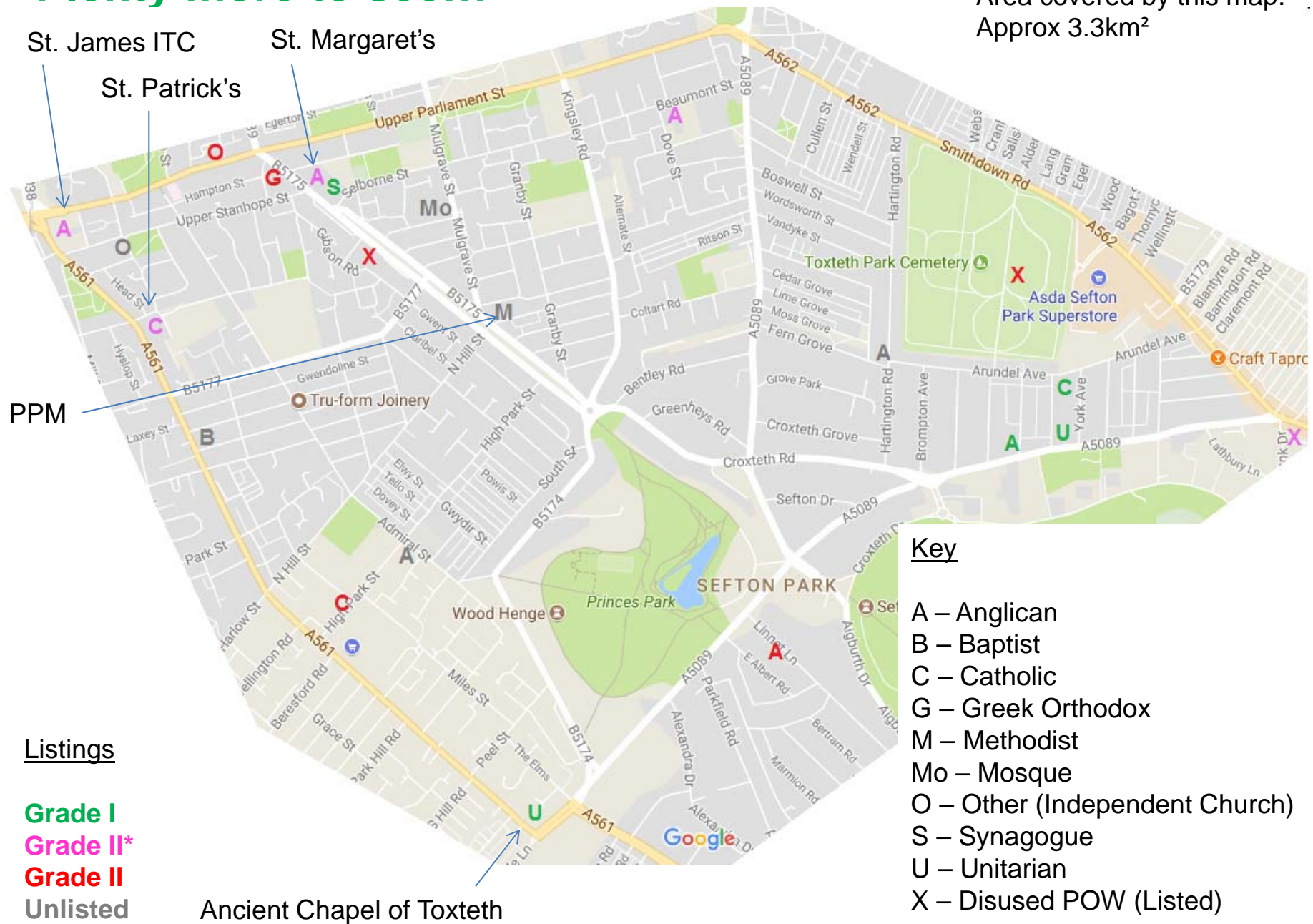
A joyful celebration of the Christ who died and rose again – for ALL races.

Witnessing to Christ’s triumph over death 24/7... in a majority Muslim area.



Plenty more to see...

Area covered by this map:
Approx 3.3km²





1618 – 1976: 358 YEARS OF CHURCH DESIGN IN ONE DISTRICT

So What? The importance of STORY

Not just “entertaining stories” – although I do hope you’ve enjoyed them!

These buildings are LIVING links to real people, real communities, real cultures that have existed in the past.

Making sense of real issues in the world today e.g. religious persecution, immigration.

Judeo-Christian tradition is founded on story-telling (e.g. God’s command to re-tell the Passover story each year, Acts of the Apostles, Lives of the Saints....)

Inspiring future generations.

Telling the stories – and making them compelling – is key to saving our Religious Heritage for the future.

Wouldn’t it be tragic if these great people were simply forgotten?

Thank You – Any Questions?

These slides, and a written version of the talk, will be available on line at
<http://www.iansimpson.eu>

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Further Reading....

BURKE, T. (1910), *Catholic History of Liverpool*.

KAYE, T. (1836), *The Stranger in Liverpool, or An historical and descriptive view of the town of Liverpool and its environs*. (3rd Edn.).

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PICTON, J.A. (1873), *Memorials of Liverpool, historical and topographical, including a history of the Dock Estate* [reprinted 2014 by the British Library].

SIMPSON, I. (2014), *St. Margaret of Antioch Church, Toxteth: A brief guide for Visitors*. St. Margaret's Church. Available online via www.iansimpson.eu/publications.html.

SIMPSON, I. (2017), *The Horsfall Churches – Conserving the Legacy of Liverpool's Great Church Building Family*. Future for Religious Heritage, online (available via www.iansimpson.eu/publications.html)

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