INVITATION TO BINDUNUWEVA MEMORIAL EVENT

Dear friends,

We are contacting you a person who stand for justice, who struggle for freedom, who defend human rights and/or who promote peace in Sri Lanka.

It is the seventh anniversary of the government orchestrated massacre of Tamil youths at Bindunuwewa. Especially in the light of continuing human rights violations, brutal massacres of civilians and the culture of impunity in Sri Lanka, it seems right to honour the killed with a memorial service and we would like to be pleased if you would assist organising the annual memorial service. Bindunuwewa committee has decided to hold the memorial service on 27th of October, 2007, 6:p.m. in University Chapel of St Peter and St Paul, University Of Greenwich, Old Royal Naval College, Park Row, Greenwich, London SE10 9LS.

On 24th October 2000, between 26 and 29 Tamil youths (age between 14 and 23) were hacked to death, while approximately 14 others were seriously injured. The cold-blooded massacre took place inside the Bindunuwewa rehabilitation centre (situated inside the prison) in Bindunuwewa, in Badulla district. The centre was run jointly by presidential secretariat, the Child Protection Authority, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Construction, the National Youth Services Council and the Don Bosco technical centre, where Tamil youths were held under the notorious prevention of terrorism act. Over 290 prisoners testified that Sri Lanka government apparatus including prison officials, home guards and police officers jointly led the armed gangs into the centre with the connivance of the Sri Lankan military forces.

On 21st January 2003, the Colombo high court released 23 suspects in the Bindunuwewa massacre case because of "lack of evidence". In the light of the denial of the Sri Lankan justice and continuing military solution with an intend of genocide, investigating any massacre or any human rights violation to date in the environment of impunity is not surprising.

It is the duty of all people to end the violence that destroys our country. It is everyone's duty to stand for justice, struggle for freedom, defend the human rights and promote the peace in Sri Lanka. We would appreciate if you could attend this prayer and show your solidarity for peace and justice and reconciliation.

Please make note in your diary about this memorial service. We look forward to join you in commemoration of the massacred of detainees and innocent civilians of Tamils, Muslims and Sinhala people in praying for peace, justice and reconciliation.

Bindunuwewa Memorial Service Committee. Contact – TIC – 0208 546 1560

The Chapel of St Peter and St Paul



The Chapel of St Peter and St Paul was the last major element in the Hospital's construction and was completed to Thomas Ripley's design in 1752. It had a plainer interior than the present one (like the Painted Hall before it was painted) and was typical of English Baroque in relying for its effect on space and proportion rather than embellishment. There was a flat, coffered ceiling, an apse at the east end and galleries – though less ornate than the present ones.

In 1779 this chapel was gutted in a disastrous fire, thought to have been started by smoking in an adjacent tailor's workshop. It was redesigned and rebuilt under the Surveyorship of James 'Athenian' Stuart, in the 'Greek revival' style for which he was famous, though the detailing was done by his Clerk of Works, William Newton, and it reopened in 1789.

Unlike many churches which are a mixture of styles through the ages, the Chapel is a complete and unaltered neoclassical period piece. When it was fully restored in the 1950s, various later wall tablets were relocated to the vestry and it is now almost as it was when opened on 20 September 1789.

The chapel is open to the public every day and remains an active place of prayer and worship, with a friendly and growing congregation, and all are welcome to join us for our services.

The regular Sunday service is at 11am: a Sung Eucharist, usually the Book of Common Prayer, with a fine choir. Thanks to the excellent acoustics it is also often used for concerts and choral events.

http://www.oldroyalnavalcollege.org/the-chapel/

By Docklands Light Railway

From Bank, Tower Gateway, Stratford, Beckton and Lewisham to Cutty Sark for Maritime Greenwich.

By London Underground

Take the Jubilee Line to Canary Wharf and change to the Docklands Light Railway.

By Mainline Rail Services

From Charing Cross, Waterloo East, Cannon Street and London Bridge to Greenwich. The nearest train station is Greenwich (Zone 2).

By River

Greenwich is just four miles downstream from Tower Bridge. Regular riverboat services are now available from Westminster, Embankment and Tower Piers to Greenwich.

By Bus

Buses 53, 180,177,188,286,199,202 pass near the College. Routes 53, 188, 199, 202 and 286 are operated by low floor buses and can take wheelchairs. In addition, a special Mobility Bus, the 943, operates on a Wednesday from Thamesmead to Greenwich.

By Car

From the M25 via the A2 or M11/A12 Blackwall Tunnel. Car parking Park Row and Cutty Sark Gardens.

For further information on how to get here by public transport visit www.tfl.org.uk