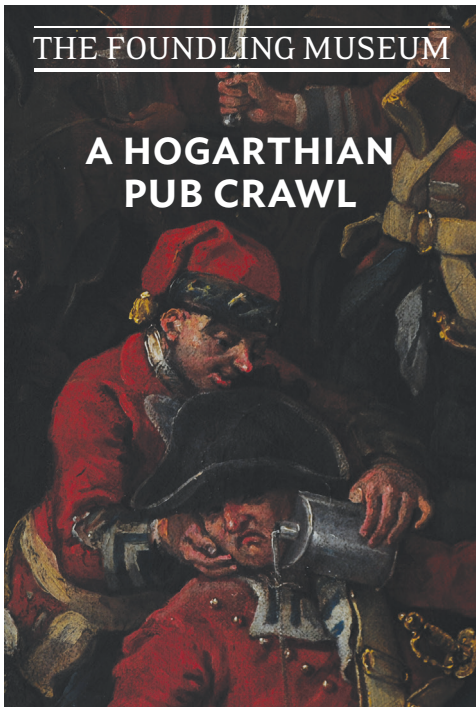


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THE FOUNDLING MUSEUM

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**A HOGARTHIAN  
PUB CRAWL**



## THE LAMB

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The Lamb was built around 1729, so was already serving the area when the Foundling Hospital was established just to the north in 1745. If you stand outside the Lamb and look towards the Museum, you can imagine looking across to where the original Hospital buildings stood. Recently-discovered plans actually place the Lamb within the Foundling Hospital estate. The buildings were designed, with care, to represent a magnificent symbol of 'new' philanthropy, and dominated the local landscape. The Hospital itself sat at the heart of what was a vast complex, situated in open fields amongst grazing cows. The atmosphere of Coram's Fields, with people using the playing fields throughout the day, retains a strong parallel with the past, when the foundlings trod the same fields during their recreation time. The current interior of The Lamb dates largely from its days as a Victorian 'gin palace', and as such is a great place to start out your Foundling Hospital pub crawl.

## THE JERUSALEM TAVERN

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This building dates from the early eighteenth century and has deliberately cultivated a full-of-character Georgian coffee house atmosphere, although it serves very interesting beer too! Coffeehouses and their inclusive, intellectual culture were one of the keys to the rise of self-education and the move towards Enlightenment that happened in London. Polite society, where sober debate triumphed over drunken antics, was born in these coffeehouses. Many had small lending libraries and all carried newspapers chosen by the owner to reflect the business and intellectual interests of his clientele. The coffeehouses were known as the 'penny universities' of London, where a man might educate himself, through literature and company, for little outlay. In the early days of the Foundling, London held almost a thousand thriving coffeehouses. This conscious move towards a more sophisticated culture influenced the new breed of philanthropists such as Thomas Coram, determined to make a change.

## THE CITTIE OF YORKE

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According to its sign, the Cittie has been serving City drinkers on the site since 1430. However, it is notable now for its magnificent interior. Go to the back bar to see overhead, the walkway where ‘the entertainment’ paraded, and see the vast beer vats, similar to those of the eighteenth century. Of particular interest in the rear bar is the triangular brazier standing in the middle of the room, dating from the later Georgian period. It produces a fierce heat but no smoke, which is vented outside through an underground system. The bar is also one of the longest in London. The eighteenth century ‘Gin Craze’ was terrifying. Alcohol, primarily ‘bad’ gin, rather than ‘good’ beer, as seen in William Hogarth’s *Gin Lane* and *Beer Street*, was seen as one of the main causes of social and moral breakdown among the poor at the time Coram was struggling to get the Foundling Hospital funded.

## YE OLDE CHESHIRE CHEESE

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Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese first opened in 1538 and was rebuilt after the Great Fire of London. When Samuel Johnson moved to a house in the court behind it, it achieved iconic status. From some of the upper 'private' rooms, the Museum of London rescued a series of pornographic creamware tiles, featuring various adventurous antics. Samuel Johnson represents London's move towards literacy, also a concern at the Foundling where unusually both boys and girls were taught to read. The Governors learned quickly that if the children it raised could read, even if they could not write, they had a far better chance of gaining employment on leaving the Hospital's care. Take a moment to see the statue of his proud little cat, Hodge, in the square at the back.

## THE LAMB AND FLAG

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James Boswell, Johnson's biographer, relished London. He arrived on Highgate Hill and surveyed London, feeling 'all life and joy' He had hopes to meet 'a pretty girl', and pursued that prospect keenly. From here he sallied forth in his pursuit of sexual adventure. Covent Garden was the centre of London prostitution and the trade's role in creating many unsupported children is central to the concerns of the Foundling Hospital. The area was seedy, noisy and busy. The market traded constantly, selling fruit, vegetables and flowers, but it also held London's household and exotic pet retailers and Arabella Morris's huge garden centre selling shrubs, seeds and 'all Sorts of Materials proper for Gardening'. Nearby, you can visit the Fielding brothers' Bow Street Magistrate's Court, the Royal Opera House and David Garrick's Southampton Street house, which he bought in 1749, paying 500 guineas for it, 'Dirt and all'. Look up for the blue plaques.

## THE ONLY RUNNING FOOTMAN

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This pub dates from 1749 but in the early nineteenth century was bought by one of the last 'running by the coach' footmen. Being a footman was a tricky job – you had to be six feet tall, good looking and athletic, but also from the serving classes. It was a complex role to fulfill and one in which the working class identity became key. Increasingly, foundlings were employed across London in all manner of domestic trades and the Governors' words of 1754, 'Be not ashamed that you were bred in this Hospital. Own it' were a double-edged sword. As society experienced the Enlightenment, identity held increasing significance for everyone, and as London entered a new century, an increasing number of the gardeners, silversmiths, peruke makers, and domestic servants raised in the Foundling Hospital wanted to learn their origins. Who were they, and from where had they come?

## A HOGARTHIAN PUB CRAWL

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William Hogarth's vivid scenes of eighteenth century London life gain their geography from churches and theatres, but most of all from pubs. In the 250th anniversary of Hogarth's death, we invite you to the Foundling Museum to discover this remarkable artist and philanthropist, before toasting his achievements in a nearby Georgian tavern.

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### TEXTS BY LUCY INGLIS

Lucy Inglis is a historian and author, with a particular interest in those on the margins of society. *Georgian London: Into the Streets* was published with Viking in 2013 and her first novel for teenagers, *City of Halves*, is published in Autumn 2014.

[www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk)

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