







THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO QUIT

For free advice and support on stopping smoking, search 'Smokefree'.



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welcome...

The cold weather has arrived, the shops are full of delicious treats, and the animals of Surrey Docks Farm are getting into the festive spirit, all of which can mean only one thing - Christmas is coming.

For many it's a time for family, fun and celebration, and as always Southwark has a huge variety of treats on offer.

Make sure you check out the bumper events pages in this edition of Southwark Life, and when you're looking for that perfect gift, find out how you can support local independent businesses in our shop local feature. And do please think about how you can make your Christmas more environmentally friendly by following our tips on Page 8.

But we should also remember that Christmas can be a lonely or challenging time for some, and if you're thinking about how you can give something back this Christmas, do take a look at how you can lend a hand this winter on Page 14.

With a brand new year around the corner, it's also the perfect time to start thinking about your new year's resolutions, so whether you are planning to give up smoking, learn a new skill, or go Fizz Free in February, all the information you need is right here.

But before we step into 2020, I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas.



Peter John Leader of Southwark Council





Do you have something to say about Southwark Life? Write to: Your letters, Southwark Life, Fourth Floor North, Southwark Council, 160 Tooley Street London, SE1 2QH or

email southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk

Our front cover star is Roo the Goat from Surrey Docks Farm. Photographer Jamie Simonds. See page 29 to read about their Christmas Fair event this December. Borough Market photo on page 12 courtesy of Borough Market. Pexmas photo on page 10, photographer Paul Stafford.

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Design Whatever Design Ltd

Print brokered by Swiss Post

Printed on 100% recycled paper

Distribution London Letterbox

All information correct at time of going to press.

Keep in touch

magazine at southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk but for more regular updates on council news and

- f facebook.com/southwarkcouncil
- @lb_southwark
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Need to know...

All the news and information you need at your fingertips this winter.

For news and events follow us on social media or find out more at **southwark.gov.uk/news**



Facebook facebook.com/southwarkcouncil



@lb southwark



Instagram Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil

Registering for EU settled status

We want every EU resident who has made Southwark their home to know that they are welcome, valued, and have the information they need to stay here. All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members who wish to remain in the UK should apply to the EU settlement scheme. It's FREE to apply to the scheme, either for settled or pre-settled status depending on how long you've been living in the UK. Most applications will be completed online.

To find out more and apply please visit **www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families** You can get help with your application by calling **0300 123 7379**.

If you need help completing your EU settlement scheme application, the council's registrar service is offering free appointments to all Southwark residents who are EU citizens. If you would like support, please email european.settlement@southwark.gov.uk to book an appointment. Due to high demand we're also offering a walk in service, which is available Monday to Thursday 9am to 11am and 1pm to 3pm. This service is located at 34 Peckham Road, London, SE5 8QA.

Back the Bakerloo

TfL has launched a public consultation on plans to extend the Bakerloo line from Elephant and Castle to Lewisham via the Old Kent Road. The Bakerloo line extension will transform the lives of thousands of people who live and work in Southwark, bringing faster journeys, better connections, and thousands of new jobs and affordable homes.

It's a fantastic opportunity, but it's not a done deal. You can help make it happen by responding to the consultation at: tfl.gov.uk/bakerloo-extension

More than 20,000 Londoners have already backed the Bakerloo, why not join them? You can sign-up to pledge your support at backthebakerloo orguk and spread the wo

backthebakerloo.org.uk and spread the word on social media #backthebakerloo. You can also keep up to date with everything that's happening on Old Kent Road by visiting oldkentroad.org.uk





Great Estates pilots announced



In 2018, as part of its new council plan, Southwark Council agreed to launch a Great Estates Guarantee so that every one of its 250 estates is clean, safe and cared for, and to give residents the resources to improve their estate, in agreement with the council. As part of the Great Estates programme the council is pleased to announce that seven projects have been selected from an incredible 388 applications, to be taken forward as pilots. The proposals range from replanting and gardening projects, painting and re-decoration works, measures and works to reduce antisocial behaviour, better storage for buggies and bikes, refuse and recycling, cleaning and artworks such as murals. Well done to all the successful estates: Canada, Rockingham, Elmington, Brandon, Rye Hill, Kingswood and Friary.



Have your say on amendments to the Fairer **Contributions Policy**

In 2015 Southwark Council introduced a new charging policy for adult social care, called Southwark's Fairer Contributions Policy, which was implemented in April 2016. Southwark Council is now reviewing this policy and we want to hear what you think.

To respond to the consultation visit: https:// consultations.southwark.gov.uk/children2019sand-adults-services/supporting-sustainableadult-social-care/

Stay in touch, and stay warm

Southwark Council provides 17,000 homes with heat and hot water through its heat networks. It's a huge task but it's our responsibility to ensure that residents have warm homes and hot water. We know that at times our systems don't work as well as they should, which is why we have set up a Southwark-wide resident working group to look at what we need to improve. It's also why the council is spending £17million this year to maintain, repair and improve our heat networks.



If you live in a council property, get live updates on your network:

By Text: We can send text message updates about outages affecting your block. You can sign up for these by calling 0800 952 4444 or 020 7525 2600.

Online: Our website is updated every two hours with details of current outages, you can see these at: www.southwark.gov.uk/housing/repairs/communalbreakdowns

By Phone: Every two hours, we also update the message you hear when you call our Contact Centre with details of current outages.

Bins and recycling seasonal date changes

	If your normal collection day is:	It will be changed to:
2019	Tuesday 24 December	No change
	Wednesday 25 December	Friday 27 December
	Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December
	Friday 27 December	Sunday 29 December
	Monday 30 December	No change
	Tuesday 31 December	No change
2020	Wednesday 1 January	Thursday 2 January
	Thursday 2 January	Friday 3 January
	Friday 3 January	Saturday 4 January
	Monday 6 January	No change



Stay well this winter

In winter, pressures on A&E departments increase substantially, particularly admissions for winter respiratory illnesses, putting an additional, but in some cases avoidable, burden on the NHS. You can help by making sure you are registered with a GP, and talking to your pharmacist about more minor conditions. Older neighbours and relatives are more vulnerable in the colder months and may need a bit of extra help this winter, so please make sure you keep in touch and check in on them when you can.

There are things you can do to stay well and NHS services to help when you need it. Visit **nhs.uk/winteradvice** for advice this winter. **#HelpUsHelpYou**



Children's mental health commission launched in Southwark

Southwark Council has launched the Southwark Child and Adolescent Mental Health Commission to guide, support and evaluate the actions being taken in the borough to revolutionise and transform mental health support for children, young people and their families.

This builds on the 2018 commitment to become the first local authority to ensure that all children with a diagnosed mental health condition in the borough will have access to the mental health services they need.



The commission brings together experts from various fields all with significant professional experience of child and adolescent mental health.

The commission will meet quarterly from October 2019 to October 2021 to openly share learning about what works in practice in the field of child and adolescent mental health. The commission will also evaluate and share the work that the council is doing to achieve its aim.

To read more about the commission visit: www.southwark.gov.uk/news/2019/oct/southwark-council-launches-children-s-mental-health-commission





homes given green light across Southwark

Our new council homes programme has been picking up pace with planning approval for 49 new council homes granted across four sites in Southwark.





his past autumn, we received planning permission to build 49 new council homes across the borough, as part of our goal to build 11.000 new council homes by 2043. It's a big goal, but crucial if we're going to tackle the borough's housing crisis and provide quality homes our residents can be proud of, now and in the future.

Our ambitions to build new council homes mean not only building on large and small sites, but building in all parts of the borough. These new council homes will be built in Dulwich, Walworth and Camberwell:

- Seven new council homes in Dulwich were given approval in October – four on Bassano Street and three on Henslowe Road. These new homes will replace two garage areas with light, spacious family homes, each with a front and back garden.
- Thirteen new council homes will be built at Sedgmoor Place in Camberwell. These homes will comprise four one-bed, six two-

bed, and three three-bed homes. All of them will be allocated as secure council tenancies at council rent and 50 percent will be offered to local tenants in housing need. There will be cycle storage for the new homes, and as part of the development we'll be improving the landscaping on the estate.

- Twenty-six new council homes in Walworth were given the goahead. The five storey block will be built on the site of a car park on the Salisbury Estate, near Balfour Road. The 26 new council homes will be a mix of one, two, and three-bed homes, and at least 50% of them will be let to local tenants, giving tenants on surrounding estates the first chance to move into the new homes.
- In Dulwich, three new familysized council homes are set to be built on the site of two pre-fabricated bungalows on Underhill Road. The bungalows are decades past their intended life span and will be replaced with spacious, four-bed homes that will help house families currently living in overcrowded conditions.

have yourself a mone suge

There is a climate emergency, but you can help by going green this Christmas.

ere are some tips about recycling over the Christmas period and we've set out some advice about how to enjoy a more environmentallyfriendly Christmas in 2019.

- Avoid glitter and foil on cards and paper, because these can't be recycled
- Cut back on over-packaged gifts, especially those with plastic film and polystyrene.
 These are unrecyclable and wasteful
- Be sure to re-gift, sell or donate any unwanted clothes and tech after Christmas, as we can't recycle these if you put them in your household waste
- Check to see what can be recycled and make sure you remove things like plastic film, polystyrene and food waste

Go meat-free this Christmas or make the most of leftovers by creating a turkey curry on Boxing Day or bubble and squeak to use up vegetables

Make sure your recycling is reasonably clean and dry and squash and flatten items to make space in your bin or bag.

Twinkle twinkle little Christmas Tree!

Christmas tree rental

Renting a tree is becoming much more common place as more and more specialist and regular garden centres start offering this sustainable solution.

You can have a tree delivered to your home, where you can decorate and care for it over the Christmas period. Then, when the festivities are over and you've seen in 2020, you can have your tree collected, replanted and allowed to carry on living.

This solution means minimal road trips occur, as centres often deliver to multiple addresses in a loop, as opposed to each household driving to collect a tree and then back home again.

This company delivers to all SE addresses: londonchristmastreerental.com

sainable little Ghristonas! Snuggle up by the (less-polluting) fire

We all want to stay cosy in winter and an open fire has its appeal, but if you are thinking of burning wood or coal this winter please read on to make sure you burn responsibly and stay on the right side of the law.

To help reduce pollution and the environmental and health problems caused by the London smog in the 1950s, the whole of Southwark was designated a Smoke Control Area many years ago. This means you can't burn solid fuels such as wood and coal unless you have a specially approved appliance (e.g. a stove or a burner on the government's approved list).

This means that it is illegal in Southwark to:

- Burn anything other than smokeless fuel in an open fireplace
- Use an appliance that has not been government approved for use in Smoke Control Areas
- Burn the wrong fuel in an approved appliance
- Cause visible smoke from your chimney or flue

In the winter, solid fuels and wood in particular contribute up to 10% of particulates in the London air. This is twice the amount of pollution from all other forms of domestic heating in the borough put together and is very significant given that

the vast majority of homes are heated by gas. Solid fuels cause very poor air quality inside the home, due to backdrafts, and cause pollution that is dangerous to health when you are close to the premises that are the source. This is because smoke and ash contain lots of fine particles that have been proven to cause and exacerbate respiratory conditions, asthma and cardiovascular disease.

If you need to burn solid fuel to heat your home, carefully choosing what you burn and how you burn it to make a big difference to the level of pollution it creates. Open fireplaces are the most polluting when it comes to burning solid fuels, but using a well-designed, properly installed stove or appliance can make a big difference, particularly indoors and around your property. Although remember, any stove or fireplace should be properly maintained and your chimney should be regularly swept.



For more information go to **smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/fuels.php** and **smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/appliances.php**

Grow your own tree

If you buy a tree with roots in a pot, you can bring it into your home over the Christmas holidays and then pop it outside for the rest of the year, taking care to move it into a bigger pot every year to accommodate its growth.

Keeping a tree healthy inside can be tricky, but it will help to bring it in at the last minute, limiting its time in the home to a maximum of 12 days. However, do keep an eye on your tree, put it in a cool spot, away from any radiators, water it and if it starts looking peaky, pop it back outside.

The Royal Horticultural Society has some top tips about keeping your own Christmas tree: www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=374

Fake trees

If you have an artificial tree already you can keep using it and make it last as long as possible. But, when it comes to replacing it, you can investigate more sustainable options.

Fake trees can be more sustainable if you can find a preloved one here: Freecycle, eBay or Gumtree.



Shop Local this Christmas

Southwark is full of exciting independent shops, all hoping for your custom this Christmas. Below we have highlighted a small selection of varied and interesting places to shop, but do get out and about and explore what's on offer in your local area.

Pexmas

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 December (Unit 8, Copeland Estate, SE15 3SN)

The much loved Pexmas returns with over 100 independent stalls, street food, family activities, music, and their famous mulled wine. Get down to Peckham's favourite Christmas event to tick everything off your list and get yourselves into the spirit for an SE15 festive season.

https://pexmas.com





Vinegar Yard

72-82 St Thomas St, London SE1 3QU

From jewellery to vintage clothes and Christmas cards, Vinegar Yard brings together a variety of businesses making it a one stop shop for unique and handmade gifts. Open throughout the festive period, they also have a Christmas Market open weekends from Saturday 30 November. Keep yourself fuelled with hot mulled drinks and the best street food!

https://www.vinegaryard.london/



businesses in the run up to Christmas and the New Year by making free parking available, with Pay and Display charges waived for every Saturday in December through the festive period. This includes the 7, 14, 21 and 28 of December as well as Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.



The Nunhead Gardener

1A Oakdale Road SE15 3BW

For those looking to 'deck the halls' this Christmas, pop down to the Nunhead Gardener for all your green needs. The gardeners have been based in the area for around four years now and you can find a range of Christmas decorations, lights and of course trees on offer there. They have a wreath making workshop on Tuesday 3 December, and you can also expect to see them at some of the local school Christmas fairs!

https://thenunheadgardener.com/

Peckham Palms

Unit 1-14 Bournemouth Close Peckham Rye, **London SE15 4PB**

Want a new look for a Christmas do? Peckham Palms has a range of Afro hair and beauty start-ups with great festive deals on box braids, Ghana braids and more. Also check out their Christmas market on Friday 29 November from 6pm until 10.30pm and Saturday 30 November from 12pm until market, gift stalls, and will be providing hair and nail treatments.

https://peckhampalms.com/





Borough Market

8 Southwark St, London SE1 1TL

From Wednesday 4 December, Borough Market will be opening every day, to give you every opportunity to get all you need for a seasonal and delicious Christmas dinner. The traders will be working up until 4pm on Christmas Eve so that even last-minute shoppers are looked after.

With the Market's historic arches decked out in beautiful decorations, the sound of bells and Christmas carols in the background, the scent of mulled wine in the air and a plethora of exceptional produce to choose from, the spirit of Christmas will be strong here, enhanced by the numerous events and demonstrations taking place throughout the month. If you love a crumbly stilton or gooey brie, don't miss the Evening of Cheese from 6pm to 8pm on Wednesday 11 December.

To find out more, go to http://boroughmarket.org.uk/

Southwark Markets

Southwark has several bustling local markets selling a range of items from fresh fruit, vegetables and fish to jewellery, flowers and even bicycle repairs. Here's where you can find them:

EAST STREET MARKET is one of London's oldest markets as it was established in 1880. Traders sell a variety of items, depending on days, from fresh food and confectionary to clothing and materials. Easily accessible from a number of bus routes or Elephant and Castle station. SE17 1EL.

NORTH CROSS ROAD MARKET in East
Dulwich has a unique collection of products
on sale, from fresh ground coffee and cakes
to vintage clothing – even organic sausages.
ES magazine voted it one of the top 50 places
to visit in South London. Just ten minutes

walk from East Dulwich station. SE22 9ET.

PECKHAM has several markets and trading pitches just off the busy Rye Lane. Stalls can be found in Choumert Road, Parkstone Road, Atwell Road, Montcrieff Place and Elm Grove.

THE BLUE in the heart of Bermondsey is one of London's historic market places with over 100 years of history. Shoppers can find fresh fish and seafood, flowers, grab a bite for lunch at one of the street foods stalls and even get their bike repaired. Found in the Market Place, SE16 3UQ.

DEAL PORTER SQUARE, just outside Canada Water station, is a great stop off point if you are heading out on the trains or underground. Stalls sell hot food, coffee, pastries and crepes plus fresh fruit and vegetables. SE16 7AR.

Fat Local with our High Street Challenge

A healthy food map has been launched by UAL: London College of Communication to showcase the best local restaurants as part of the Where Walworth Eats campaign. The interactive map aims to highlight the healthier food options in various different food outlets that can be found on Walworth Road, as part of a wider campaign to promote food businesses. Why not check out the recommendations and spread the word of the Where Walworth Eats food map to support local food businesses in the borough!



Free parking on Saturdays



Saturday December

Saturday December

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Saturday

Saturday

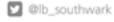
On all Saturdays in December Southwark Council is suspending car parking charges in parking bays in Peckham, London Bridge and Borough (and it's already free everywhere else). There's no better time to shop local this Christmas.

We also have two town centre car parks in the borough which are free every weekend throughout the year.

Find out more at www.southwark.gov.uk/parking

Excludes bays designated for specific users (including disabled), yellow lines, loading bays, zig zag lines and off-street housing car parks.









WHERE YOU CAN VOLUNTEER IN SOUTHWARK

In the season of goodwill our thoughts often turn to how we can help our local communities.

hristmas is traditionally a time for sharing and giving – and there are lots of opportunities for people to volunteer to help people in their own communities who might be struggling at this time of year, or any time of the year in fact. We've highlighted a few of the many local charities that are looking for people to volunteer their time.

GOOD SAMARITANS

Did you know that according to a recent study on the Bystander Effect, 90% of people would step in if they saw someone needing help? This winter, report rough sleepers via StreetLink, (see below) and make sure you call in on elderly or vulnerable relatives and neighbours to see if they need anything.

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Southwark has seen a huge increase in food bank usage over the past few years, and nationally The Trussell Trust found that April to September 2019 was their busiest half-year period since the charity opened, with a 23% increase in demand on the previous year. Food banks in Southwark would really appreciate your support this Christmas.

Central Southwark Community Hub is a charity that runs a food bank, community café, gives support with benefits, and provides holiday clubs to those in need. The food bank needs volunteers to help at any of its four hubs in Southwark, two of them being in Walworth (one by Amelia St and one in St Paul's Lorrimore Square). Volunteers will be giving out food parcels, having a chat with the people that come in and signposting them for further support where needed.

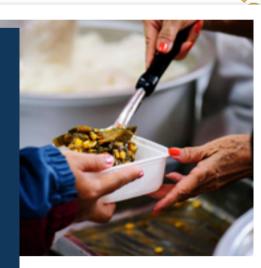
To volunteer for this vital service, please email felicia.boshorin@cschub.co.uk If you'd like to donate or volunteer for Pecan food bank in Peckham, run by the Trussell Trust, visit: southwark.foodbank.org.uk, email foodbank.support@pecan.org.uk or call 020 7732 0007.

HELP A ROUGH SLEEPER

Most homelessness is hidden from view – it's not just rough sleeping, but can mean people who are living in overcrowded homes, or sofa surfing with no permanent address. It's also very hard to tell if someone is sleeping rough just because they are visible on the streets. Many genuine rough sleepers are well hidden from view, sleeping in tiny, inconspicuous dark places in the borough, where they feel safer. Rough sleepers are very vulnerable, to the cold, to illness, to loneliness and isolation, and even to aggression or violence from people.

The place to report rough sleepers is **www.streetlink.org.uk** – which connects to the borough's outreach team, working for St Mungo's.

You can volunteer to help homeless people in many ways and various roles are advertised at www.mungos.org/get-involved. The council also refers to the various outreach services, night shelters, soup kitchens and day centres like the Manna Society, where they need kitchen volunteers every day: www.mannasociety.org.uk

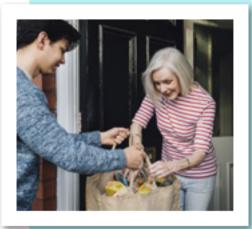




HAVE FUN AND HELP SOMEONE WITH THEIR SHOPPING

Food2You is a grocery delivery service for over 50s in Southwark, Lewisham or Lambeth who struggle to do their own grocery shopping.

Food2You is volunteer-led and relies on support in all aspects of its service. You can help with administration, shopping, driving and delivering, all of which is vitally important in ensuring Food2You can continue to grow and help more vulnerable people.



Michelle has been a delivery volunteer since the service launched, while studying for a degree in social work. "I have met and worked with great people, and have enjoyed the opportunity to meet with the clients we support first-hand", says Michelle. She is now considering working with older adults in the future, as a result of her experience with Food2You.

Maria has been a Shopping Volunteer for over a year with Food2You. Working from home full time whilst caring for a young child, she's found the flexibility of the role to be a

perfect fit. She enjoys "benefitting a community I feel happy to support – older people who may not have family nearby."

Food2You's opportunities are varied and flexible, so there truly is something for everyone. Find out more by emailing **Food2You@ageuklands.org.uk** or call **020 7701 7477**.

HELP SOMEONE GET THE BEST FROM LIFE

Link Age Southwark support local older people to live independently and there are many ways you could get involved.

Link Age Southwark need volunteer drivers to help older people get to activity groups and appointments so they can maintain active social lives. If you aren't a driver, simply visiting an older person in their home for a friendly chat over a cup of tea or playing a board game together can make all the difference to their quality of life and help them to feel less isolated from their community. If you have some basic IT skills you could help to keep contact with family and friends. Support groups from computer skills to exercise classes also need volunteers - from running groups to serving refreshments.

There is something for everyone. It's a great way to meet local people and making a difference can be very fulfilling.

For more details visit www.linkagesouthwark.org or call 020 8299 2623.

GET A WARM GLOW THIS WINTER WITH TIME & TALENTS' BEFRIENDING SCHEME

At Time & Talents, volunteer befrienders are matched with older people in Rotherhithe and Bermondsey who have become a bit isolated, and are often housebound, so that for an hour or two each week they have a visitor to brighten up their day. It might be that you enjoy a light chat over a cup of tea whilst watching a bit of television, or you find you hold a shared interest – people have been paired up to do anything from sharing the crossword puzzle to having grand discussions about engineering. There are even a couple of 'dog befrienders' who go along with their owners to get spoilt by a new friend. It's a two-way relationship as well: some of the younger volunteers, who perhaps don't have older family members around, have shared how important it is to have an older person to turn to for a bit of wisdom and life-experience. To volunteer or if you know an older person who you would like to refer, call 020 7231 7845, or see www.timeandtalents.org.uk/become-a-befriender



A Liter Lines and a curatan

Do you want to save money, stay healthy and look after your teeth? If the answer is ves then look no further than Fizz Free February!

outhwark Council's campaign encourages people, especially children, to give up fizzy drinks for February. For some people drinking fizzy drinks is a habit and, like other habits, if you can break it for a month you have a better chance of making a longterm change for the better.

In Southwark, 26% of primary and 22% of secondary school pupils have non-diet fizzy drinks on most days. While sugar consumption is falling, children are still consuming too much sugar. Fizz Free February aims to inspire children to make good changes to their diets and cut down on fizzy drinks.

Make one of your new year's resolutions a pledge to join Fizz Free February and persuade others to join in too.

Pledge now at www.southwark.gov.uk/nofizz





The Fizz Free story so far

Fizz Free February, the brainchild of Southwark Council, started in 2018. However in 2019 the campaign really took off with support from high-profile politicians and celebrities such as Jamie Oliver. Schools right across the country joined in and thousands of children went fizz free - ticking their fizzfree days off on their calendar as they went. The campaign featured in the national media, and children from a local primary school, Cobourg Primary, enjoyed being filmed for BBC breakfast as the campaign gained momentum. Fizz Free February even made its way across the Atlantic to the New York borough of Staten Island.



Jamie Oliver Celebrity chef and campaigner

after February, too"

it! I'd like to see this continue



Do you think you know about fizzy drinks and sugar? See if you can answer these questions...

- **1.** According to their websites a can of Coca-Cola has 35g of sugar and a can of Pepsi has 36g of sugar. Approximately how many teaspoons of sugar is that?
- 2. How much of a child's recommended daily sugar intake is 36g of sugar?
- 3. How many operations are there in the UK, every day, to remove children's teeth due to tooth decay?
- 4. By the age of 10 how many years' worth of sugar have children consumed on average?
- 5. If you stopped drinking one bottle of soft drink, per day, for a year, how much money would you save?

To find out the answers visit www.southwark.gov.uk/fizzquiz







WATER GOOD IDEA

Water is the best alternative to fizzy drinks. It is a healthy and cheap choice for quenching your thirst at any time. It has no calories and contains no sugars that can damage teeth.

However, if you're swapping fizzy drinks for water try to avoid buying water in plastic bottles. In the UK over 7.7 billion plastic bottles are purchased each year. This leads to substantial single-use plastic waste that causes huge environmental damage.

Southwark Council is installing more water fountains in parks, leisure centres and libraries to encourage the use of re-useable water bottles. Download the Refill app from the App Store or Google Play, to find your nearest water fountain and the location over 2,500 Refill stations across London.

So make sure you're both fizz-free and plastic-free this February and beyond!







SOUTHWARK APPRENTICESHIPS KICK-START YOUR CAREER

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BECOMING AN APPRENTICE. CALL SOUTHWARK WORKS ON 020 7740 8200 OR VISIT SOUTHWARK.GOV.UK/APPRENTICESHIPS

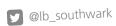














facebook.com/southwarkcouncil



@ @southwarkcouncil





Is your child starting primary school in September 2020?

Apply for a school place online before the deadline. It's quick, easy to do and available 24 hours a day.

Dear parents and carers

Starting primary school is a huge milestone for you and your child, and I am proud that here in Southwark we have a range of high quality schools for you to choose from.

Please remember to apply before the closing date, and to pick six schools on your application to increase the chances of your child being offered a school of their preference.

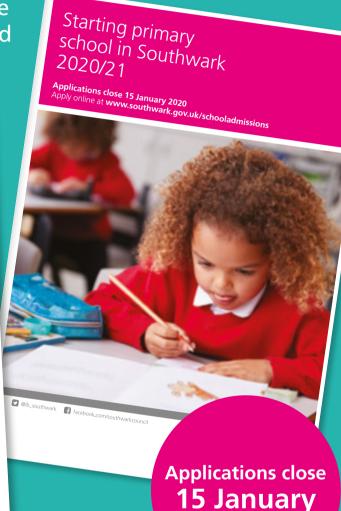
When applying online, our website has lots of useful information about the different types of schools in Southwark, as well as tips to help you decide which school is right for your child.

I wish you and your child the very best.



Councillor Jasmine Ali Cabinet member for children, schools and adult care, Southwark Council





For more information and to apply for your child's school place visit www.southwark.gov.uk/schooladmissions or call 020 7525 5337



@lb southwark



f facebook.com/southwarkcouncil



2020



The New Year is just round the corner! Whether you want to get fitter, quit smoking, learn a new skill or even find out about fostering we've a wealth of ideas for your New Year's resolution.

GET FIT WITH FREE SWIM AND GYM

Do you want get more active? Did you know Southwark residents can use swimming pools and gym facilities, free of charge, in council-run leisure centres at certain times.

Free access is available at the following times:

- All day Fridays (check with your local leisure centre for any exceptions)
- Saturday and Sunday (from 2pm to closing)
- Adults aged over 60 can take part in any Silver session throughout the week
- Disabled residents can use every leisure centre free seven days a week (eligibility is described on the website below)

You can register online for at www.southwark.gov.uk/swimandgym or get an application form in your local leisure centre.







LEARN TO SWIM (FREE OF CHARGE!)

Have you ever wanted to learn to swim or make use of Southwark Council's free swim and gym offer? If you're a Southwark resident, a non-swimmer and aged 16 or over, you can now book free swimming lessons, courtesy of Southwark Council. The lessons are once a week for 12 weeks and the next block of lessons start in mid-January.

How to book your free lessons

- 1. Visit www.southwark.gov.uk/swimlessons to check when lessons are available.
- 2. Fill in a request form, after clicking to register, stating your preference of when you'd like to have lessons.
- 3. Everyone Active who run the council's leisure centres will contact you by phone or email to offer you a lesson slot. If a suitable slot isn't available, you'll be put on a waiting list.
- 4. You need to confirm whether you'd like to accept the place if one is offered.
- 5. Bring proof of your address to the leisure centre on the day of your first lesson.



TRY AN ADULT **EDUCATION COURSE**

Want to learn a new skill in 2020? Whether you're interested in arts and crafts, fitness, or improving your English, maths or computing skills, Southwark Council's adult education programme has hundreds of courses for you and your family. Enrolment is now open for the spring and summer terms including evening and weekend courses.

Visit www.southwark.gov.uk/ **newlearning** to see what courses are available and enrol.

OUIT SMOKING

If you want to quit smoking you're more likely to succeed if you get the right support.

In Southwark, stop smoking advisers can give you support and encouragement to help you stop smoking for good. Visit www.southwark.gov.uk/quit to find list of local pharmacies and clinics where advisers are based.

You can also visit www.nhs.uk/ **smokefree** to get advice and a free Personal Quit Plan and call a national helpline for telephone support on 0300 123 1044.



FIND OUT ABOUT

FOSTERING



Foster carers look after somebody else's child in their own home when the child is unable to live with their birth family. It can be for a short time or a number of years. Foster carers provide a loving, caring environment that every child needs.

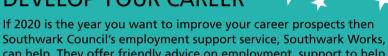
Many types of people can foster. You can be single, married, in a relationship, LGBT, hetrosexual, and with or without your own children. Foster carers for Southwark Council need to be energetic, non-smokers and have a

You can find out more about fostering with Southwark Council and check when the next information session is at www.southwark.gov. uk/fosterachild





DEVELOP YOUR CAREER



can help. They offer friendly advice on employment, support to help you progress to better pay and hours, help with applying for jobs and also access to training courses.

Visit www.southwarkworks.com to find out more about the support on offer and to see local job vacancies and training courses. You can also email info@southwarkworks.co.uk or call 07791 846285 or 0800 0520540.











LEARN TO RIDE A BIKE

Free cycle training is available if you want to get more confident on the bike or if you've never learnt - you just need to live, work or study in the borough.

You could join a growing number of people who cycle to work or school through the borough's growing network of quieter cycle routes or who cycle for leisure in Southwark's parks.

Individual cycling training, family and group training and training for school children are all available.

Visit www.southwark.gov.uk/cycletraining to register for a course.





Southwark raises the curtain on free theatre tickets for all primary school kids

Southwark Council is proud to present free theatre trips for all primary school children across the borough.

outhwark has a long history as a borough brimming with creativity, cutting edge theatre and performance. Alongside Shakespeare's Globe sit small experimental theatres in the heart of our communities such as Blue Elephant and Theatre Peckham as well as brand new contemporary performance spaces such as The Bridge. Southwark is also home to the Unicorn, the UK's leading professional theatre for young audiences, and the borough is fast becoming known as the destination for off-West-End theatre.

The council has partnered with Eastside to deliver a programme, which will give every primary child in the borough a free visit to the theatre every year. With 19 theatres in Southwark and 30 more located within easy access of our schools, there is a wealth of opportunities to draw on. The programme will match local theatres with more than 20,000 primary school aged children in state funded primary schools, home schooling, looked after children and children at school in hospital.

The creation of a digital platform will bring all the opportunities together into one easy to access place, connecting schools to free and discounted theatre tickets on their doorstep.

The programme's main objective is to open up the world of theatre to children who may not normally experience its magic, and work with schools in areas of higher deprivation. Resources will be focused on these non-active theatre going schools to ensure that they benefit and are financially supported where needed.

Theatre, particularly theatre for children, fires the imagination. It gives children the skills and the creativity necessary to face the world, to understand it and perhaps to change it too, discovering their own voice and growing in confidence.

It is now widely understood that early cultural interventions, such as the Southwark primary schools into theatres programme, can have a significant impact on children's engagement in culture and aspirations in later life. This programme will give all our children in the borough the opportunity to discover a love of theatre and an introduction to the incredible cultural richness available to all on our doorsteps.

Find out more by visiting the website at www.raisethecurtain.org.uk



The spirit of Christmas Past

The festive season is a time of special treats, and special traditions – a time to review what the year's brought, and think about what next year might bring. And that's as true for our ancestors as it is for us! In the spirit of Christmas giving we've pulled together a glimpse of holiday seasons past, as the borough archive's collections show.

or some families, the holiday season wouldn't be complete without a trip to the theatre to see a panto. Next year will introduce all Southwark young people to theatre magic; every primary school student will have an opportunity to experience a performance at one of Southwark's 19 theatres. Given that Shakespeare staged his plays in Southwark, this seems fitting! But the borough was a magnet for stage-lovers in the nineteenth century as well: the area around the Elephant and Castle was home to the South London Palace and the Surrey Music Hall, while Westminster Bridge Road specialised in circus acts. Southwark Archives has a collection of playbills from a number of local venues. One thing that may seem strange to modern eyes is how varied holiday performances could be. The Surrey Theatre's 1842 holiday performance was a production of Oliver Twist; in the 1870s, playbills from the South London Palace highlight a ballet, and a mixed bill of comedy and swimming acts.

This isn't necessarily surprising. Modern panto, with its limited repertoire of fairytale stories and hefty use of slapstick, only developed gradually from the mid-1800s onward, as playbills from the Surrey Theatre in the archive collection show. In January 1865, they put on King Chess, which blended nursery rhyme characters with Mr. Punch and his dog Toby. By 1880, the Christmas Eve evening performance was the panto Hop O' My Thumb - a French fairy tale that blends elements from Hansel and Gretel with Jack and the Beanstalk. The wordplay in character descriptions would be familiar to any Southwark theatre-goer today, and so are some of the other pantos the Surrey put on: Jack and the Beanstalk, The Forty Thieves, and Dick Whittington. But other aspects are not so familiar, like the harlequinade at the end - this was a separate story, that of Harlequin and the clown, which featured all the zany slapstick that modern panto weaves into its main story.





Memoirs written by local people show other important parts of the holiday spirit, as vital now as they were decades ago. Many tell stories of opening presents and stockings with parents and siblings, or decorating the house with paper chains and greenery. Maggie Filkins treasured the copies of Treasure Island and Robinson Crusoe she got one Christmas so much that she never read them, to make sure she didn't spoil them. Brian Milton's memoir Camberwell Boy describes how, like children everywhere, he and his brothers would find and shake their wrapped-up gifts to try and guess what they were.

One thing that stands out is how often neighbours shared the holiday spirit by pitching in to help make sure every home had presents and treats. Jean Dare's memoir My Bermondsev, which discusses life in the area between the late 1930s and 1950s, tells two tales of neighbourly holiday help: in 1937, the first year her family faced Christmas without her father, and years later, when she was a young wife and mother. Another memoir, The Kids from Over the Water, discusses life just before the First World War, as Walworth teenager Keturah Daveney (neé

Filmer) experienced it. One of Keturah's most vivid holiday memories was the Robert **Browning Christmas** Pudding and Turkey Club. The Browning Settlement, an education and support centre for the Walworth community, ran the Club; it let families pay for their Christmas

feasts bit by bit over a three month run-up to the holidays at prices they could afford. Keturah noted that the turkeys were handed out on 22 December, for children to collect and carry home - and that she collected a neighbour's turkey as well!



The New Year's resolution is as much a tradition as panto, presents, or princely meals. Perhaps that means getting out, getting more active, or learning a new skill. In Peckham in the interwar period, the Pioneer Health Centre helped locals keep their resolutions - as images in the archive's collection show. Despite its name suggesting a GPs surgery, the Pioneer Health Centre was an innovative indeed, pioneering - social and wellbeing centre, more like a modern leisure centre than a surgery. It was the brainchild of two academic physicians, George Scott Williamson and Innes Pearce, who were interested in the roots of well-being - in fact, the Health Centre was the site of an extended decadeslong experiment in the social determinants of wellbeing.

One fact that stood out was that having the ability to learn, teach, and practice skills helped improve well-being, as did having a community of support. The Pioneer Health Centre did both: the building contained a pool, a gymnasium, a library, and a variety of workshops to learn and practice skills. Moreover, the centre was a user-run members club - while staff would provide space, tools, and administrative support for classes and workshops, all programming had to be planned and organised by members. In many cases, classes were members sharing their own expertise with others - whether that was making toys in a woodworking class, leading an exercise group, or organising a dance class and party. Other members tutored children or held classes on more academic subjects in the library.





If you would like to learn more about Southwark's history, go to www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/localhistory-library-and-archive/visiting-the-local-history-library-and-archive

lBack theaBakerloo

The Bakerloo line extension via Old Kent Road will transform the lives of thousands of people who live and work in Southwark.

It's a fantastic opportunity but it's not a done deal. You can help make it happen by responding to TfL's public consultation on the Bakerloo at: tfl.gov.uk/bakerloo-extension

Join more than 20,000 people who've already backed the Bakerloo, by signing up to show your support.

BacktheBakerloo.org.uk #BacktheBakerloo



Better transport links











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© @southwarkcouncil





OUTHWARK

Events calendar winter 2019

www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents



Dulwich Christmas Cracker

East Dulwich will be the place to be on Saturday 7 December when the fabulous East Dulwich Christmas Cracker returns supported by Southwark Council and presented by the Dulwich Festival.

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER

11am to 5pm North Cross Road Market and surrounding streets dulwichfestival.co.uk FREE





Now in its eighth year, the 2019 East Dulwich Christmas Cracker will be full of fabulous festive spirit. This year's street festival programme will include an exciting array of entertainment from choirs, bands and performance groups, exclusive offers from the fantastic local traders, a wonderfully seasonal extended North Cross Road market with tempting gifts and delicious festive food and the return of the delightful Children's Christmas Treasure Hunt in aid of LinkAge Southwark. The Art Trail will also see many local artists exhibiting throughout spaces in Lordship Lane and beyond. The East Dulwich Christmas Cracker will take place from 11am to 5pm on Saturday 7 December. Make a date in your diary to come along and join in the festive fun! The East Dulwich Christmas Cracker is part of the Southwark Presents programme, funded by Southwark Council with contributions from local traders and produced by Dulwich Festival.

Elephant and Castle Community Hub Christmas Party

An afternoon party with FREE activities for all the family including dance performances, arts and crafts, music and delicious festive treats. All ages are welcome.



WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER

3pm to 6pm

Elephant and Castle Community Hub, Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre, Unit 227 – 230 (Located on the Upper Floor opposite Jenny's Burgers)

www.elephantandcastle.org.uk/communityhub Twitter: @whatsonatelephant #FollowTheElephant

Blackfriars Stories Waves of Wonder

Building upon the inventive flair demonstrated by the people who contributed towards the Innovators Imaginarium in 2018, we want to bring the WOW moments to neighbourhoods around the Blackfriars Road area with another processional event, called Waves of Wonder.

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

Late afternoon parade eea.org.uk/whats-on/events/ blackfriars-stories-waves-of-wonder



We will be creating a spectacular mass participatory event, with a particular focus on spotlighting and celebrating historical moments that connect to the theme of wonder and wellbeing. If wellbeing were a wave, we want the wave to reach the people who live, work, study or play in Blackfriars and allow them to cascade the wave in amongst their community by participating in a series of WOW moments, which they themselves will create. The Waves of Wonder will be spearheaded by our giant Disco Turtle.

Dulwich Village Christmas Stocking

A free Super Heroes for Christmas Adventure Party Show with Nutty Children's Parties, Mystery Stocking Trail, free entry to Dulwich Picture Gallery with a flyer, discounts in many independent shops, mulled wine, roast chestnuts and hot chocolate, fun craft activities, local school bands, choirs and Popchoir Dulwich, sponsored by The Dulwich Estate, Southwark Council and Dulwich Village Traders.

Sunday 1 December 11am to 5pm

FREE

Independent shops in Dulwich Village, St Barnabas Parish Hall, Dulwich Picture Gallery

Further information is available on Instagram and Facebook @ thisisdulwichvillage



Farm Christmas Fair

Get in the festive spirit down on the farm where there'll be carol singing, donkey rides, children's activities, craft stalls, mulled wine, Santa's grotto plus more! Their popular wreath-making workshop will be running and you can buy beautiful real Christmas trees throughout the day.

Saturday 7 December 11am to 4pm

FREE entry (charges for activities) Surrey Docks Farm, Rotherhithe Street, London SE16 5ET www.surreydocksfarm.org.uk/ events/



The Christmas Quest

When the letter-sorting machine breaks, an Elf, a Reindeer and a Teddy set out to fix it - Christmas depends on it. The Christmas Quest is a new show for families by Blue Elephant Theatre. Full of slapstick and joyfulness, it celebrates differences and shares a strong message of inclusivity.

Saturday 7 to Tuesday 17 December (no performances Wednesday 11 December) Monday to Thursday 10.45am and 1.30pm, Friday 1.30pm and 4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday, 2pm and 4.30pm

£3 (Southwark residents), £5 Blue Elephant Theatre, 59a Bethwin Road, SE5 0XT www.blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/ christmas-quest

Popcity UK vol. 5

International dance competition Popcity returns to London Bridge. Popcity UK is a space for emerging and established Hip Hop dancers of



all ages. It is open to anyone who is interested in watching or taking part in Street Dance. Featuring international judges, guest performers and live DJs. Presented by Fiya House, commissioned by Team London Bridge, funded by Arts Council England, and supported by Ugly Duck.

Saturday 11 January, 2020 12noon (registration for contestants opens 11am)

Admission: £10 Ugly Duck, 47/49 Tanner Street www.fiya-house.com

Keeping the spirit of Christmas alive

Join in the festive fun as we light up the Christmas tree and sing carols around the square to kick start the season of goodwill in Peckham.

Wednesday 4 December 5.30pm

FREE

Peckham Square

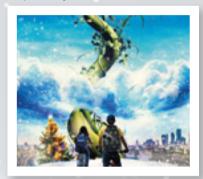
Jack and the Beanstalk

Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum, mysterious things are happening around Peckham. On the estate where Jack lives there have been a series of break-ins. Even aspiring young detective Lucy is finding it hard to follow the clues. All is lost for Jack and his Mum until a mystical rapper Spot the Poet sets the adventure in motion with a bag of magical beans.

4 to 22 December

Child £12 / Adult £15 / Concession £12 / Family £40. For Southwark residents: Child £9 / Adult £12 / Concession £9 Theatre Peckham, 221 Havil Street, SE5 7SD

http://bit.ly/TPJackB



Winter book challenge

The Winter Book Challenge is back for 2020 with a healthy eating theme and a children's and young people's booklist. Children 4 and under can read to their parents and after each book get a fruit or vegetable sticker. Children age 5 to 11 read 10 books and receive a fruit or vegetable sticker after each book. There will also be a short story writing competition for 18s and under. The theme is the experience of young person or people with food. This can be witty or sad, thoughtful or provocative. A personal experience or anonymous. There are prize draws for the younger age groups for those and a prize for the winning short story. Full details are online.

Thursday 2 January to Sunday 1 March 2020

FREE

Taking place at all Southwark Libraries.

You must be a member of the library to take part. Join online https://www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries/membership

The Wolf, the Duck and the Mouse

Join the Unicorn
Theatre this
Christmas for the
stage adaptation
of this brilliantly
subversive book
which finds joy and



friendship in the darkest and most unusual places. Suitable for ages 3 to 7.

Now to Sunday 5 January, 2020

Time and prices vary see website Unicorn Theatre, SE1 2HZ www.unicorntheatre.com

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Step through the wardrobe this winter into the magical kingdom of Narnia for the most mystical of adventures in a faraway land.

Limited run from 9 November Performance times vary depending on the day. See website for more details.

Prices vary, see website for details. Family and group rates available.

Bridge Theatre

bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/the-lion-thewitch-and-the-wardrobe/



Oscar Wilde's The Canterville Ghost

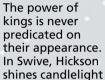


This wonderfully witty and delightfully spooky retelling of Oscar Wilde's 1887 comic novel will be brought to life this Christmas with spine-tingling magic, spectacular illusions and ghoulish effects. A festive show for everyone aged 7 or over.

Now to Sunday 5 January

Unicorn Theatre, SE1 2HZ www.unicorntheatre.com

Swive (Elizabeth)





on the savage pressure that women are under to sell themselves on their least interesting quality. If beauty is the key to survival, how do you hold on to what time will take away?

Friday 6 December, 2019 to Saturday 15 February See website

Sam Wanamaker Playhouse

www.shakespearesglobe.com/whats-on/swive-elizabeth/

Die Farben & The Last Pictures from Earth

Die Farben & The Last Pictures from Earth offers a window into the surreal and otherworldly spaces created by self-taught painter David Kowalski at his studio in Gronau, Germany. Inspired by Zen culture, minimalism, science fiction and ambient electronic music, Kowalski works intuitively in thin layers of oil paint and wax to create delicate and intimate object-paintings that propose hazy narratives to be pondered, and never told.

6 December, 2019 to
18 January 2020
Opening event on 5 December
6pm to 8pm. Regular opening
hours Wednesday to Friday,
1am to 6pm and Saturday
11am to 5pm

FREE

bo.lee gallery, 222 Rye Lane, Peckham, London, SE15 4NL www.bo-lee.co.uk

Christmas at the (Snow) Globe

Sandi Toksvig invites you to don your best (and warmest!) festive garb and raise a cup of mulled wine with the Globe family this December. This event is in the outdoor, open-air Globe Theatre, so make sure you wrap up warm!

19 December to 23 December

Globe Theatre

www.shakespearesglobe.com/ whats-on/christmas-at-the-snowglobe-2019/



Bloomberg new contemporaries

Bloomberg New Contemporaries returns to the SLG with works by 45 emerging artists presented across the Main Gallery and Fire Station, Artists Rana Begum, Sonia Boyce and Ben Rivers selected participants from over 1,500 applications to the annual opensubmission exhibition. The show marks the 70th anniversary of New Contemporaries, which has played a vital part in the story of contemporary British art since 1949, reflecting and responding to developments in artistic practice, and supporting artists.

6 December 2019 to 23 February, 2020

FREE

Main Building & Fire Station www.southlondongallery.org/exhibitions/bnc19/

For more events taking place around the borough visit the Southwark Presents website at www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents

BUSINESS NEWS

Helping local businesses to start and grow

Southwark Council is committed to supporting businesses in the borough to start, grow and thrive. Local businesses are a vital part of our commitment to make Southwark a full employment borough.

That's why we are investing in local businesses and supporting them to provide opportunities for residents to find employment, progress in work and achieve their potential.

GOOD WORK STANDARD

Southwark Council is proud to be one of the first local authorities signed up to the Mayor of London's Good Work Standard. The Standard sets the benchmark for high quality employment standards. It helps employers improve their organisations and contribute to a fairer and more inclusive London economy.

We want to encourage Southwark businesses to sign up to the Good Work Standard, in order to recognise and celebrate all of the great employers that we have in the borough. As an accredited Good Work Standard business you could benefit from increased productivity, higher levels of employee engagement and motivation, and cost savings. If you are interested in signing up to the Good Work Standard, you can find out more at www.southwark.gov.uk/goodworkstandard



ARE YOU A LOCAL BUSINESS?

Sign up to our business newsletter by emailing **localeconomy@southwark.gov.uk** to hear about advice, training, funding opportunities and more business-related news from the council. You can also find out more about support services and information the council provides for business on our website at **www.southwark.gov.uk/business**

PAID INTERNSHIPS

Southwark is helping young people from low income backgrounds into paid internships to help boost their confidence and work readiness. The council is leading by example by offering 100 internships paid at London Living Wage. We're excited to be partnering with three great charities that can support businesses to find engaged and well prepared candidates to fill their paid internship roles, ranging from summer internships to university students and graduates.

Hiring an intern provides businesses with a range of benefits and our programme is designed to open the doors of the business community to the unique and diverse talent pool that Southwark has to offer. If your business is interested in hiring an intern, or finding out more about the programme and support on offer, please get in touch with us by email: localeconomy@southwark.gov.uk



SOUTHWARK WORKS HAS MOVED!

Southwark Works, the council's support service that helps local people find work, has officially opened its brand new offices on Walworth Road. Funded by the council, Southwark Works offers high quality employment support to Southwark residents and provides a recruitment service to employers looking to appoint local candidates.

Over the last five years Southwark Works has supported over 8,000 Southwark residents into work and created over 2,700 apprenticeships. If you are a local business local looking for support to expand, recruit new staff or take on an apprentice, Southwark Works can help!

You can visit Southwark Works at their new office at 376 Walworth Road, SE17 2NG, contact them by email at info@southwarkworks.org.uk or telephone on 020 7740 8200, or visit the website www.southwarkworks.com





REIDY FORA

Search One You and take the free How Are You health quiz today.

