



Southwark

# Life

Spring 2022

## **Better connected**

Getting better broadband  
for Southwark

## **Waste not, want not**

Tasty recipes to prevent food waste

## **High Street recovery**

Helping our local businesses  
recover from the pandemic

## **PLUS getting out and about**

A look at our beautiful parks and open spaces

Your magazine from Southwark Council

*Southwark*  
Council  
southwark.gov.uk

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a mustard-colored top, is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. She is standing in a market stall with various colorful produce in the background.

“I’m doing it because  
it could help stop  
cervical cancer”

## Don't ignore your cervical screening invite

Two women die every day from cervical cancer, but getting your screening can help stop it before it starts. So if you missed your last one, book an appointment with your GP practice now.

To find out more visit  
[nhs.uk/cervicalscreening](https://nhs.uk/cervicalscreening)

Screening  
saves  
lives

Help us  
help you

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## welcome...

With spring in the air it is wonderful to see our whole borough coming back to life, with most Covid restrictions now lifted. The council is working hard to make sure Southwark has a strong recovery, so together we can rebuild a fairer, greener and safer Southwark.

In this month's issue, you can read about many of the things we are doing. Investing in our high streets, so they can thrive again. Supporting you to look after your health. Making our borough greener, with more and better parks and nature sites. Launching a new £2 million taskforce to tackle anti-social behaviour. Building new council homes and much more besides.

We also take a look at some of the projects that have been going on across the borough over the last few years, often despite the pandemic. Our work to connect much more of Southwark to super fast broadband for example, or our work to bring investment, jobs, transport and community facilities into our borough. We are also continuing our mission to tackle the climate emergency and you can read the latest on this as well as how you can help, starting with reducing food waste.

The pandemic is of course not over, and if you have not already I urge you to get all of your vaccine doses. But I am now hopeful that the worst of it is behind us.

Finally, I want to mention our commitment to supporting the people of Ukraine. My thoughts, and I know the thoughts of people across our borough, are with the people of Ukraine. The council will be working with Southwark's community to play our part in providing a safe home for Ukrainians forced to flee the war. If you have family or friends affected, or if you would like to donate to help those affected, you can find further details on page 5.

Cllr Kieron Williams  
Leader of Southwark Council

## Contact us

Do you have something to say about Southwark Life? email [southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk)

Our front cover stars are two goslings at Peckham Rye park. See pages 24 and 25 to read more about our parks and open spaces.

## The Southwark Life team

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## Keep in touch

Southwark Life comes out three times a year and the next issue is due out in the summer. You can contact the magazine at [southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk) but for more regular updates on council news and events, follow us on social media at

 [facebook.com/southwarkcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/southwarkcouncil)

 [@lb\\_southwark](https://twitter.com/lb_southwark)

 [Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/southwarkcouncil)

# Need to know...

It's a busy time in Southwark, particularly as we emerge from the pandemic and start to look at some of the things that were put on hold as we tackled Covid. Here's a round up of some of the things that have been happening across the borough over the last few months.

For news and events follow us on social media or find out more at [southwark.gov.uk/news](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/news)

 Follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/southwarkcouncil](https://facebook.com/southwarkcouncil)

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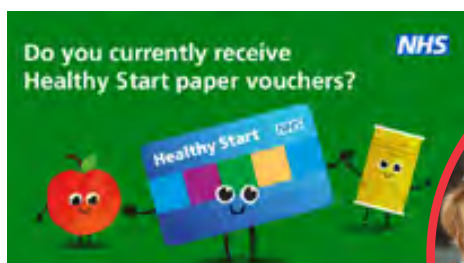
## Do you receive Healthy Start food vouchers?

Healthy Start is changing. It's becoming a digital scheme and moving from vouchers to a prepaid Healthy Start card.

If you currently receive Healthy Start food vouchers, **you need to reapply by 10 March 2022** to continue to receive Healthy Start payments, or your payments will stop.

Visit [www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply](https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply) to reapply online or to check if you are eligible for Healthy Start.

If you are unable to apply online, you can call the National Healthy Start Team on **0300 330 7010**.



## Does your private rented property have a licence?

From 1 March 2022 many private rented properties within the borough require a property licence. Landlords need to apply for a license under the new additional licensing schemes if the property is a house in multiple occupation (HMO) let to four or fewer people with shared amenities. A selective licence is required if the property is not an HMO and falls in one of the following wards: Newington, Champion Hill, Faraday, St Giles and Goose Green. If you know or suspect a property in Southwark that is licensable but does not have a licence, report it to us online at [www.southwark.gov.uk/propertylicensing](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/propertylicensing)

## Join an art project on Old Kent Road

Under the Bridge is a new public art project that's taking shape under the railway bridge on Old Kent Road. The project will transform part of the tunnel underneath the bridge into a "gallery" with a rotating exhibition of local art. If you live, study or work nearby, we want you to get involved.

[oldkentroad.org.uk/art-under-the-bridge/](https://oldkentroad.org.uk/art-under-the-bridge/)



## Foster carers urgently needed

We are looking for foster carers to make a difference to the lives of Southwark children in care. We offer excellent training, generous financial support and round-the-clock support. If you have a spare room, we'd love to hear from you. Find out more about becoming a foster carer at [www.southwark.gov.uk/fostering](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/fostering)

# Southwark Council responds to Ukraine crisis

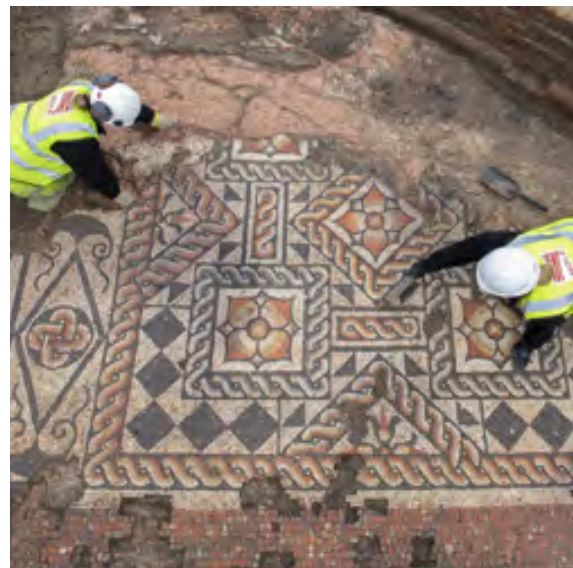
We want to express our concern and support for all Ukrainian residents in the London Borough of Southwark and anyone with friends and family affected by, or concerned about, the distressing events in Ukraine. We have pulled together some information and resources if you need help or would like to offer help related to the unfolding crisis.

For more information visit [www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/ukraine-crisis](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/ukraine-crisis)



## Stunning Roman mosaic unearthed in the shadow of the Shard

Archaeologists from the Museum of London Archaeology, working on a site in Borough, have discovered two panels of mosaic floors, one of which is the largest Roman mosaic found in London for more than 50 years.



Revealed this February – for probably the first time in some 1,700 years – it’s thought that the building which housed the mosaic floors was probably a mansion; a sort of hotel for administrators travelling around the Roman empire.

The larger mosaic, measuring 3m by 3.5m, dates to around AD 175-225 and was probably the centrepiece for a smart dining room where ancient Romans would recline on couches, placed around the mosaic while eating and drinking.

This latest find, just one of a number of significant Roman discoveries found in the north of Southwark, was uncovered at the Liberty of Southwark development where TfL and U+I are building shops, offices and homes. The council employs archaeologists to make sure that digs, like this one, are built into planning approvals and to ensure significant finds are preserved for the public.

You can see many more historic artefacts from the borough’s collection at the new Southwark Heritage Centre on Walworth Road, which tells the story of Southwark from Roman times to the present. The jewel of Southwark’s Roman collection, the Hunter God – a statue of a god, flanked by animals carrying a bow – greets visitors at the entrance to the new centre.

Find out more at [thedig.thelibertyofsouthwark.com](http://thedig.thelibertyofsouthwark.com) and visit [southwark.gov.uk/shc&wl](http://southwark.gov.uk/shc&wl) to find out more about Southwark’s new Heritage Centre.

# Local architects to redesign Bramcote Park

Assemble architects, in collaboration with Local Works Studio, have been selected to redesign Bramcote Park. With their winning proposal ‘A Park Made in Bermondsey’, Assemble and Local Works beat five other shortlisted teams for the project. The winning concept pairs a new public square with a green ‘forest garden’. Alongside other sustainability measures, their design will reuse and retain as much material on site as possible throughout the refurbishment, considering the whole life of materials to minimise transport and waste.



[oldkentroad.org.uk/bramcote\\_park\\_competition-2-2](http://oldkentroad.org.uk/bramcote_park_competition-2-2)

# Reduce your cancer risk

Come along to a Cancer Research UK's cancer awareness roadshow from 12 to 14 April in East Street Market, SE17 1EL, 10am to 4pm. Chat to a nurse about how small health changes can reduce your cancer risk. You can find out about screening and how it's important to spot cancer early by speaking to your GP. You can also pick up leaflets and find out about local and national services. Roadshow dates may change, so get the latest information at [cruk.org/roadshow](http://cruk.org/roadshow)



# Young people in Southwark will benefit from targeted support

Young people in Southwark are going to benefit from new funding available from the Department of Education (DfE) to support keeping young people in education. The SAFE (Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed) Taskforce will be led by schools, working alongside other local partners who can provide expertise and targeted support to help young people to succeed.

The funding is for a period of three years and comes alongside funding for Southwark Inclusive Learning Service (SILS) for an Alternative Provision specialist taskforce.

# A great deal for young people

The council is working hard to help young people. The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly difficult for young people and that's why the council started the Youth New Deal. Through the Youth New Deal the council is helping young people into work, supporting their mental wellbeing, funding youth activities and much more. A brand new youth parliament is also helping the council make decisions about services for young people.

- Last year the council agreed nearly £1million in grants for youth clubs and activities. In April this year, local clubs will start using the money to run fantastic activities for young people.
- The council sends out regular emails with jobs and training opportunities for young people. Recently, this included a number of apprenticeship opportunities at the council. Over 2,700 people have now joined the mailing list.

Join the mailing list at [www.southwark.gov.uk/nextstepsmailinglist](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/nextstepsmailinglist)

- The Nest, a drop-in mental health service for young people goes from strength to strength. The Nest is helping young people get mental health support in-person, online and in schools. Recently, Southwark became the first council to back the national Fund the Hubs campaign. This campaign calls on the government to fund more hubs like The Nest.

Find out more at [www.thenestsouthwark.org.uk](http://www.thenestsouthwark.org.uk)

## And coming soon...

- The council will launch a new website that will promote, in one place, all the fantastic opportunities there are for young people in Southwark.
- A new young people's grant fund will also be launched in spring. This fund will help young people take part in activities that might otherwise be too expensive or not accessible.



# BUILDING HOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY

## Mayor of London visits new council houses in Bermondsey

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, visited Southwark Council's new council houses in Welsford Street, South Bermondsey, in December 2021.

Welsford Street is one of many developments the council has built to provide much-needed new homes for local residents. The council has committed to building 2,500 new council homes by May 2022.

The homes are 10 spacious, family-sized council houses built on an underused area of the street. Every house at Welsford Street has its own private garden and there is also a pocket park outside the development which was created to preserve three large Norwegian Maple trees.

## Planning permission granted for 96 new council homes across Southwark

Southwark Council's Planning Authority has given approval for seven more new council developments across the borough.

The new developments are at Astley Estate near to Old Kent Road, Fenwick Road near to Rye Lane, Slippers Estate, Pynfolds Estate and Longfield Estate in Bermondsey, Kingston Estate in North Walworth and Woodland Road Estate in Dulwich Wood. These developments will provide 96 new council homes for Southwark residents.

The development at Astley Estate will be an eight-storey block on an underused area of the estate. The building has been carefully designed to improve the pedestrian routes through the estate. The council will also carry out other improvements, such as transforming the courtyards into social spaces which residents can enjoy.

The development at Slippers Estate will build 18 new flats in an area of the estate which is currently taken up by old pram sheds. As part of the new development, the council will also improve the outside communal areas and build new bike stores for all residents on the estate.





# BETTER BROADBAND

Keeping connected online has become more important than ever.

Over the last few years more of us have been using our devices, such as laptops and tablets, to keep in touch with loved ones. We've seen an increase in what we can do online from the comfort of our homes; from accessing council services or appointments to shopping and quizzes.

In recent years many of us were experiencing poor broadband speeds in homes and businesses across Southwark, some speeds at less than 10Mbps, which is not enough. Southwark needed major investment in fibre infrastructure, so the council set out to work with the telecoms industry to do just that.

Five years later, we are now in the top three most connected boroughs in London with 53% of properties having access to fibre broadband.

We managed to attract over £60 million in digital infrastructure, such as fibre broadband, and 4G and 5G for mobile connectivity, to ensure our residents and businesses have good quality access to connectivity for the foreseeable future.

We worked with telecoms operators to improve broadband speeds in the borough, future-proof our council homes with modern digital infrastructure, and enable them to widen their fibre broadband service to private residences. We have completed the first phase of connections to nearly 40,000 council homes. The next phase, starting in spring 2022, will see the remaining council homes connected, along with private homes and businesses.

## What is fibre broadband?

Fibre broadband is a type of high-speed broadband service, where users can experience speeds as fast as up to 1Gbps. It uses fibre optic cables, which use light to transfer data faster than standard copper cables, making broadband services more stable including faster upload speeds. This makes online gaming and streaming movies and music much easier for the whole family.



## Help us identify connectivity not-spots

There are some areas around the borough that experience slow broadband speeds or bad mobile reception. So we can make improvements, let us know where you experience these issues at [www.southwark.gov.uk/connectivityheatmap](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/connectivityheatmap)

## Affordable broadband packages

Getting online has become more important than ever before, now that essential services and entertainment are shifting to digital. You can talk to your provider to negotiate a reduction in your mobile tariff or broadband service.

If you are receiving financial support, such as universal credit, did you know that there are some affordable broadband packages available to you? Contact your broadband provider directly to find out their qualifying criteria.

## Free WiFi hubs

Free and fast WiFi connections are now available at 80 Tenant and Resident Association halls, eight libraries, sheltered housing, and community halls around the borough, so all visitors can gain access to council services and stay in touch with friends and family.

## Digital learning

You can pick up a basic digital skills guide for residents from any of Southwark's libraries. Email [digital.inclusion@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:digital.inclusion@southwark.gov.uk) for digital skills training and more information.



## Connect and Go – free broadband service to eligible residents

The pandemic highlighted the importance of having an accessible and reliable internet connection at home. We helped by working with Hyperoptic and Community Fibre to deliver free connections to the homes of school children living in our council homes, who were struggling to get online.

As schools re-opened, it was apparent that the need for connectivity went beyond supporting young people, so the Connect and Go pilot was launched to help more residents who cannot afford a broadband service to get online. Care leavers or people living in temporary accommodation can pick up a wireless router at any of Southwark's libraries. Borrowing a wireless router is as simple as borrowing a book, and can be renewed monthly.

For more details visit [www.southwark.gov.uk/betterbroadband](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/betterbroadband)



## Don't let Measles, Mumps and Rubella into your child's world

The risk of catching Measles, Mumps and Rubella increases when your child goes to nursery. When you don't get your child their MMR vaccines, they're left exposed to becoming seriously ill.

Protect your child with both MMR vaccines.  
**Contact your GP to book their first or second dose. Find out more at [nhs.uk/MMR](https://www.nhs.uk/MMR)**

**MMR  
vaccines  
protect**

**Help us  
help you**

# Learning to live with COVID-19

Whilst restrictions have lifted, the pandemic isn't over. It's still important to follow advice to protect our families and community

The five key ways you can protect yourself and others from COVID-19\*

## 1. Get vaccinated – it's the best defence against COVID-19

Vaccines protect you against going to hospital, and reduce your risk of long-term symptoms. Evidence shows two doses of the vaccine gives you the best protection against severe disease, but protection reduces over time. So it's important to get a booster vaccine if you're eligible.

You don't need proof of address, immigration status, ID or an NHS number to get vaccinated.

Find out how to get a vaccine locally by going online to [selondonccg.nhs.uk/popupclinics](https://selondonccg.nhs.uk/popupclinics)



## 3. Let fresh air in

Virus particles can build up in the air if a room is poorly ventilated. The virus can remain in the air even after a person with COVID-19 has left. Open windows and doors to bring in fresh air. Meeting outdoors is safer.

## 4. Wear a face covering in crowded or enclosed spaces

If someone has COVID-19 they can spread particles that contain the virus when they breathe, speak, cough or sneeze. Wearing a face covering reduces this spread. Evidence shows a face covering could also protect you from being infected.

When rates of infection are high, consider wearing a face covering in crowded or enclosed spaces. You may want to wear one if you're visiting or caring for someone at higher risk.

Face coverings should fit snugly around your nose and mouth, and be made of two or more layers of breathable fabric.



## 2. Avoid mixing with others if you have COVID-19 symptoms or test positive

If you have new continuous cough, high temperature or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell, you should get a PCR test. These will be free for everyone until 31 March 2022.

If you have any of these main symptoms, stay at home and avoid contact with others. You're advised not to go into work, not to invite visitors to your home and to avoid meeting people who could be at higher risk, particularly people with weakened immune systems.

Free testing, if you have symptoms or not, will end for most people on 1 April 2022. Find out the latest information at: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

## 5. Wash your hands and keep up good hygiene

You can protect yourself and others by:

- covering your nose and mouth when you cough and sneeze
- regularly washing your hands
- cleaning surfaces that are touched frequently e.g. light switches, door handles, and TV remote controls.

\*based on the UKHSA blog:

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/24/covid-19-simple-and-effective-ways-to-protect-yourself-and-others/>

# Building a b

A look at how three of the borough's biggest local investment projects have been supporting our communities

## Elephant and Castle

Since 2005, when Southwark formally adopted its vision for the redevelopment of Elephant and Castle, the area has been transformed. Most of the goals set out 17 years ago have now been achieved with plenty more to come over the next five years.

### Jobs

At least 10,000 jobs are being created in Elephant and Castle alongside many opportunities for training and apprenticeships. More than 1,500 local residents were employed in the construction of Elephant Park and over 8,000 people were trained at the Southwark Construction Skills Centre before it moved to Canada Water. The construction of the Town Centre and the redevelopment of Skipton House are set to create many thousands of jobs over the next few years too.

### Housing

The target to build at least 5,000 new homes in Elephant and Castle by 2025 has nearly been reached. This includes more than 2,000 homes for shared ownership, social rents or below market rates. A further 1,000 homes are due to be built as part of the Town Centre development.

### Transport and parks

The Elephant has become a much better place to walk and cycle since the two roundabouts and subways were removed. In addition to new cycle lanes and walking routes, three new public squares have been created and £6m is being spent on upgrading six local parks. There's also the huge new Elephant Park (already two-thirds open) and a big upgrade of the Northern Line Tube station still to come.



### Community facilities

In 2016, the council opened The Castle, a new £20m leisure centre for the neighbourhood and, in 2017, the new Crossways Church and community space was completed. Since then, a major new heritage centre and library has opened on Walworth Road; The Trunk community space on Heygate Street and a fabulous new water-play zone at Elephant Springs. Coming soon are a new pavilion for Elephant Park and the refurbishment and reopening of Walworth Town Hall. An agreement has also been signed by the health authorities, developer (Lendlease) and the council to deliver a new health hub in the town centre that will provide expanded health services for all residents.

### Shopping and eating

One thing Elephant and Castle has always been known for is shopping. While the old 60s shopping centre has now been demolished, many of the centre's businesses can still be found nearby. Some are in Castle Square, Ash Avenue or Walworth Road while others now trade from the new Elephant Arcade. And some of the centre's best restaurants - including Miko's Ecuadorian café and popular Guyanese hotspot, Kaieteur Kitchen are also flourishing nearby - alongside a host of newcomers, such as Beza Ethiopian, which are starting to make a big impression. And, of-course, when the Town Centre is complete, locals will be spoilt for choice with a huge range of new retailers and great places to eat.

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

# etter future

## Old Kent Road



The revitalising of Old Kent Road has progressed quickly, despite the pandemic.

Since 2018, planning permission has been granted for many much-needed new homes in and around Old Kent Road. There are currently 562 homes for social rent under construction and another 400 or so for shared-ownership. In total, some 5,000 new homes for social rent, will be built over the next 20 years.

Some of the biggest schemes planned for Old Kent Road are now under construction and one major scheme, the

London Square development, is nearly complete. Last year, new council housing was completed at Welsford Street and the council has been buying more land to develop more of its own new housing, retail and workspace in and around the neighbourhood.

In addition, two major council estate rebuild projects will start on site at Tustin and Ledbury later this year, delivering new energy efficient homes. Both schemes have received support through a residents' ballot, and both have closely involved residents in their design and planning.

In 2021, Southwark successfully secured nearly £10m of Future High Streets Funding, which will be used to revitalise some of Old Kent Road's high street character - including improvements to shops, heritage and nearby parks. Last summer, a new arts space and public roof garden, Peveril Garden Studios opened at Bricklayers Arms and a new park, Pat Hickson Garden was opened just off Stockholm Road.

This spring, a new youth hub will open at the newly refurbished 231 Old Kent Road. Later this year, Bramcote Park will be redesigned and upgraded and a new community space, Livesey Exchange 2, will open at 567 Old Kent Road, operated by PemPeople. Work is also due to start on major improvements to Brimington Park.

[www.OLDKENTROAD.ORG.UK](http://www.OLDKENTROAD.ORG.UK)

## Canada Water

At Canada Water, the council is delivering one of the most ambitious and exciting projects in the UK with its partner British Land. It represents a once in a lifetime opportunity to create a new town centre for London with a strong connection to the area's rich heritage.

With easy links to central London and all that Southwark has to offer, Canada Water will have something for everyone. Among the net zero new homes being built in the area many will be council homes available at social rent. The first phase of these is currently under construction and includes 79 council homes overlooking Russia Dock Woodland. The area will boast a new Overground station and a brand new public leisure centre with swimming pool, gyms and sports facilities.

The future of Canada Water is already taking shape. Work has begun to transform Canada Dock by restoring its diverse wetland habitat and creating new ways for residents to connect with each other and to nature. These include a new boardwalk, amphitheatre, dipping pond and pergola.

<https://www.canadawater.co.uk>





# Food For Thought

We take a look at how reducing food waste can help tackle climate change.

**D**id you know, if global food waste was a country, it would be the third biggest contributor of greenhouse gases after China and the USA.

The impact of throwing away your food on the environment is huge: from the consumption of limited resources used to grow food, such as land, water, energy and labour, to the greenhouse gases that are emitted from rotting food.

In 2021, Southwark residents threw over 25,000 tonnes of food waste into their rubbish bins. That's the equivalent weight of over 2,000 London buses. That's why, by taking a few simple steps to reduce your food waste, you can help the fight against climate change.

The best thing we can do with our food is enjoy it, but some waste like banana skins, teabags and plate scrapings are inevitable and can all be recycled. Recycling your food waste is also a key way you can help reduce the impact on the planet.

Visit [southwark.gov.uk/foodwaste](https://southwark.gov.uk/foodwaste) to find out more.

## Easy ways to reduce your food waste...

- Ensure your food is kept fresh for as long as possible by setting the temperature of your fridge between 1 and 4 °C.



### Things you didn't know you could freeze:

- Milk
- Cheese (grated or in blocks)
- Sauces and stocks
- Vegetables - either blanch or cook fully before freezing so they retain their texture
- Cooked rice and pasta - perfect for when you accidentally cook too much!

## Not sure what to do with your leftovers?

Try these 2 easy recipes to reduce your food waste and love your leftovers:



## Vegetable Curry



30-45mins | Serves 4 | Beginner

*Pretty much any leftover veggies can be added to this curry, and it's also great for reheating for lunch the next day.*

### Ingredients

- 1kg mixed vegetables
- 3 onions, peeled and roughly chopped
- 1 clove garlic, peeled and chopped
- 1 tin chickpeas
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- 300ml vegetable stock (1 stock cube)
- 400g rice
- 1 tbsp curry powder (add more if you like it hotter)

### Instructions

1. In a large pan, combine all the ingredients except the rice, add the vegetable stock and mix thoroughly.
2. Bring to the boil, reduce the heat and allow the mixture to simmer, stirring occasionally.
3. Cook for 30 minutes until the vegetables are tender and the stock has reduced to produce a nice, thick sauce.
4. Cook the rice as per the packet instructions.
5. Serve the curry with the rice and warm naan bread.



# Zero Waste Potato & Veggie Hash

1hr | Serves 4

*A delicious zero waste brunch, which uses up the whole potato, parsnip, broccoli, spring onion and herbs (stalks, peels and all). Alternatively, swap out for any leftover veggies you have at home. You can add any leftover vegetables into your hash patties to minimise your household food waste. The vegetable crisps will keep in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 1 week. Freeze any extra hash patties in a freezer-proof container, simply defrost and reheat to piping hot before serving.*

## Ingredients

- 750g floury potatoes (e.g. King Edward, Maris Piper etc.), washed
- 2 parsnips, washed
- 1 head broccoli, florets separated and stem finely chopped
- 30g salted butter
- 3 tbsp extra virgin olive oil, plus extra for drizzling
- ½ tsp ground cumin
- 4 spring onions, finely sliced
- Small bunch flat leaf parsley, leaves and stalks finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled and finely crushed
- 2tbsp plain flour, plus extra for dusting
- 4 medium eggs (optional)
- 1tsp dried chilli flakes
- 1 lemon, cut into wedges



## Instructions

Preheat the oven to 220°C/200°C fan/gas 7.

Peel the potatoes and parsnips then cut into chunks. Place the chunks in a pan of cold, salted water. Bring to the boil and simmer for 15-20 mins until a knife passes through the vegetables easily. Add the broccoli florets for the final five mins of cooking. Drain and leave to steam dry for two mins before returning to the pan with the butter and mashing until smooth.

Meanwhile, on a non-stick baking tray, pat the potato and parsnip peelings dry with a clean tea towel then toss in one tbsp olive oil, the cumin and a sprinkle of sea salt. Spread out into a single layer and roast in the oven for 20-25 mins, tossing occasionally, until golden and crisp, then set aside to cool.

Reduce the oven temperature to 120C/100C fan/gas 1.

Heat one tbsp of olive oil in a frying pan over a medium heat then fry the chopped broccoli stem, the spring onion and parsley stalks for 10 mins until softened. Add the garlic and fry for a further two mins. Add to the potato and parsnip mix along with the parsley leaves and stir to combine. Season with sea salt and freshly ground black pepper and when cool enough to handle, use lightly floured hands to shape into eight hash patties. Place on a plate and leave to chill in the fridge for 30 mins.

Sprinkle both sides of the hash patties with the flour, shaking off any excess.

Heat the remaining oil in a frying pan and working in batches, fry the hash patties for 5 to 6 mins on each side until golden and crisp. Transfer to a plate in the oven to keep warm between batches.

Bring a large pan of salted water to the boil, reduce to a simmer and gently crack the eggs into the water, one at a time. Leave to poach for 4 to 5mins until the white is cooked but the yolk is still runny. Carefully remove from the water with a slotted spoon, draining off any excess water.

Stack 2 hash patties on top of each other and serve topped with a poached egg and the parsnip and potato crisps. Drizzle with olive oil, sprinkle with the chilli flakes and season with freshly ground black pepper and serve with a wedge of lemon.



## It's not all food...

With spring coming, you may have more garden waste to dispose of. Recycling your garden waste couldn't be easier. Sign up now to receive weekly collections for just £40 per year. We recycle your garden waste and turn it into compost, which can be used to grow more plants. To subscribe, visit [southwark.gov.uk/gardenwaste](https://southwark.gov.uk/gardenwaste)



# Backing the High Street

## Looking at how the council is supporting local business

**T**he council is working hard to support our high streets, which have faced significant challenges during the pandemic. With a reduction in commuters and increasing numbers of people turning to online shopping, local high streets need support more than ever.

In Southwark's Economic Renewal Plan, the council outlined the actions it is taking in response to the economic challenges brought by the pandemic. This work will help Southwark's high streets to be thriving and vibrant and give people in Southwark the chance to shop local.

The council's High Street Recovery Fund was designed to support high street renewal and recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have all seen first-hand the role that the pandemic has played in making the already difficult times faced by our town centres and high streets much worse, and the council has therefore made their protection and revitalisation a priority. So far, twelve projects are being supported via the High Streets Recovery Fund, with grant awards totalling £263,124.





# Peddle my Wheels

Peddle my Wheels is a local business that has received money from the High Street Recovery Fund. They have worked with Southwark Council to launch 'OurBike', an app-based, electric cargo bike sharing scheme based on Lordship Lane, East Dulwich. The scheme allows local businesses and residents to use their smartphone to reserve, lock and unlock an electric cargo bike to hire it by the hour. This gives people a sustainable, car free and affordable option when moving cargo around. The council is subsidising the cost of use so the first two hours per day are free and thereafter the price ranges between £3 to £5 p/hr.

Anyone wishing to use the scheme will get a free on boarding session, which includes how to unlock and lock the bike, and up to two hours of cargo bike riding training to help get them confident when using the bike. The most popular uses so far are for shopping, trips to the recycling centre, taking pets to the park, the school run, moving sports equipment and trips to the allotment. If you want to try for yourself, visit [OurBike.co.uk](https://www.ourbike.co.uk)



## The Blue

As part of the work to help town centres recover from the impact of the pandemic, Southwark Council and partners, The Blue Business Improvement District, Community Opportunity and Big Local Works, secured £2m

of capital funding from the Mayor of London's LEAP Good Growth Fund. This funding was used to turn The Blue town centre and street market into an exciting new place to shop and buy delicious food from local traders.

The square has benefitted from major renovations, with a new layout for market stalls brought to life with lighting columns. A new seating area has also been installed, making use of re-purposed concrete bollards surrounded by plants and trees. Standing elevated in the middle of the market place is a magnificent new clock tower, which makes the perfect centrepiece for the revitalised square. Traders now benefit from access to improved market storage and new electrical power points, with adaptable fixed stalls designed to provide cover for other uses, such as community events and arts festivals.



# New ways to keep you safe in Southwark

Southwark Council is putting together a new task force to make sure you can enjoy our borough safely.

**S**outhwark is a fun, interesting and exciting place to live, work and play. It has thousands of places to enjoy, from parks and pubs to cafes, restaurants, sports venues, shops and live music. While you enjoy the borough, we make sure you are safe, and now there is a new service to help with that.

Crime and antisocial behaviour always happen, especially in big cities like London or central boroughs like Southwark. To tackle crime, the council works with the police and other partners to stop it happening in the first place and make places safer and more enjoyable.

The council is using £529,000 per year over the next four years, totalling £2,116,000 to create a new community warden taskforce that will patrol our town centres, working with partners to address concerns about crime, environmental crime and antisocial behaviour. The funding will also provide extra CCTV operators to support the work of the taskforce.

A new team of wardens, building on the important work our existing wardens and partners have been doing in our towns and on our estates, will be created and be patrolling by this summer. This team will be split into those working in our town centres and those supporting residents on our estates.



**What is antisocial behaviour?**  
 This is anything that makes life unpleasant or upsetting for others. It could be crimes such as unwanted or angry behaviour from someone, stealing or involve drugs or weapons. It could also be littering, graffiti or dumping rubbish, making too much noise or breaking the rules that are there to make an area better.

**Women’s Safety**  
 Attacks on women and girls by strangers does happen, but thankfully, it is extremely rare. The council works hard to make the area feel safe for women. A huge network of CCTV is constantly monitored, covering almost everywhere in the borough – it is used to help the police if a crime takes place, so that the person can be caught.

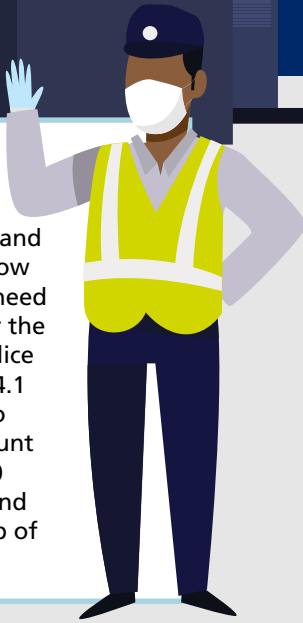
The council regularly looks at all the ways it can make the borough cleaner and safer in terms of lighting, antisocial behavior and crime ‘hotspots’ such as alleys, overhanging leaves and trees, under-lit areas, or places where fly-tipping or graffiti might happen. Our research has shown that women feel less safe around public transport and we are working with partners to improve public transport hubs and to make them more pleasant places to travel through.

Unfortunately, men can attack women regardless of setting. That is why the council focuses on the prevention of violence to women and girls, and particularly on men and their role.



**Further steps to keep you safe**  
 We are working to create and expand the number of safe spaces where people can seek immediate refuge to call for help if they need to, and continuing training and workshops with businesses so staff can identify risk and help prevent harm to women. Many businesses have already signed our Women’s Safety Charter to help keep women safe from unwanted male behaviour when they are out.

**Why is it important to have more wardens?**  
 Our wardens help people feel safe and people have told us they like to know someone is around to help if they need it. Tackling crime is mostly a job for the police. However, the number of police officers in London has fallen from 4.1 per thousand Londoners in 2010, to 3.3 per thousand in 2018. The amount spent on policing per person fell 20 percent in London between 2013 and 2017, compared to an average drop of 6 percent across the country.



# LEADING LONDON TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

Southwark is in the top two in London for plans to tackle climate change

Climate Emergency UK, an independent action group set up to ensure that councils are committed to tackling climate change, has announced that Southwark Council is in the top two councils in London for its plans to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Experts at the action group assess council plans across the UK for their commitment to tackling climate change and their strategy to deliver those promises. They found that Southwark was one of the best councils in London for allocating funding to meet its zero carbon targets and had best practice plans in place for transport, business, heating and buildings to become more environmentally friendly.

The group praised the council for making tackling climate change something that everyone in Southwark could be a part of. This included the development of a Citizen's Jury, where 25 residents, representative of the borough's population, independently put forward recommendations for how best Southwark can tackle the climate emergency fairly and effectively.

In the 'scorecard,' which details how well the council performed under the action group's assessment criteria, the council received full marks for its plans to reduce toxic emissions and was praised for its approach in helping residents, staff and elected members understand the importance of tackling climate change together.

Here are some of the ways that Southwark is becoming greener:



## A NEW GREEN BUILDINGS FUND

Housing developers must now contribute to The Green Buildings Fund, a new community fund for the borough, if they cannot meet the borough's aspirations to be carbon neutral by 2030.

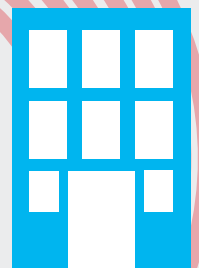
Research commissioned by the council found that buildings in Southwark are responsible for 79% of carbon emissions. The Green Buildings Fund will focus on delivering key carbon reduction projects, including the decarbonisation and retrofitting of community buildings, schools and council housing.

The move follows the council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019 and its commitment to review planning policies to help meet its carbon neutral aspirations. The council's work to date has already seen a 37 per cent reduction in carbon from 2008.

As of August 2021, developers in Southwark have contributed more than £2 million to the fund, as council criteria mean they must further prioritise the reduction of carbon emitted from new development schemes. Ongoing plans mean the council will help ensure developers build homes that meet its expectation to make Southwark the greenest and cleanest it can be by 2030.

79%

OF CARBON EMISSIONS COME FROM BUILDINGS



# INVESTMENT TO CUT CARBON EMISSIONS FROM STREET LIGHTING BY UP TO 50%

Carbon emissions from street lighting are set to be cut by up to 50% through a multimillion pound investment programme by the council.

The programme was on track to be delivered by 2030 through the council's £100m climate budget. An additional £2.18m, announced at the Council Assembly on 23 February 2022, will now see these improvements delivered ahead of schedule to be in place by 2026.

The switch to new, LED lighting for all 17,129 street lights will reduce carbon dioxide emissions, reduce light pollution, help improve street safety and improve visibility for pedestrians and traffic. It's a key part of ongoing work to tackle climate change and deliver the council's Climate Change Strategy to become carbon neutral by 2030.

All of the older and redundant lamps will be recycled by the council's waste disposal facility, to make the changes as environmentally friendly as possible and there will be no impact to residents as the work takes place.

The council's progress in tackling climate change can be found at [www.southwark.gov.uk/climate](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/climate)



## OUR NEW GREEN ACADEMY

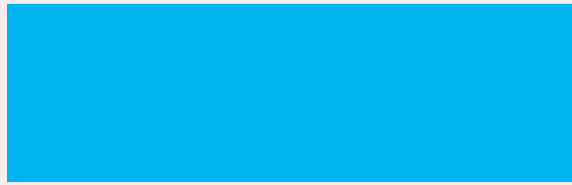
Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark Councils, in partnership with London Southbank University and the Mayor of London, have set up an innovative green skills academy to prepare residents to get into work in green sectors.

The £44m Mayor's Academies Programme will coordinate and improve the quality of training in the capital, enabling anyone who is 19 and over and unemployed or in low-income work to access training courses for free at local colleges and adult education providers. This will mean that residents of the three boroughs can retrain, learn or upskill and seize the new opportunities available on the city's growing green job market.

The new resource will bring 1,230 qualifications as well as 382 jobs/apprenticeships and 119 work placements to the three London boroughs, as they continue to lead London in its ambitions for addressing climate change.

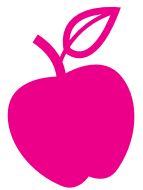
The academy will also drive growth in the green economy and improve the green skills needed for both residents and businesses. The aim is to work directly with employers in these sectors to build skilled workforces, and give residents, including underrepresented groups, opportunities to overcome barriers to entry into green roles.

**The number of green jobs in central London is due to double over the next decade. The Green Academy will offer support into direct employment, apprenticeships, traineeships, training or self-employment. Jobs will include green construction and retrofit, green transport, energy, waste/recycling, infrastructure and transport.**



# GET YOUR HEALTH BACK

Spring is a great time to dust off your trainers, get outside, get active and prioritise your health.



**H**as the pandemic left you with a few extra pounds? Some unhealthy habits you're keen to drop? Or made you miss health appointments? Then now's a great time to sort that out. We've got a range of free support to help you improve your health and wellbeing.

Try our digital health coach if you want to:

- move more
- eat a healthy diet and lose weight
- take care of your mental health and wellbeing
- quit smoking

It will ask you where you want to make changes to improve your health, and direct you to local support. The coach uses chatbot technology to help you think about positive changes to your life. You can use the free and confidential tool on a smartphone, tablet or desktop. It won't tell you what to do, and is quick to complete. Try it today: [southwark.gov.uk/healthcoach](https://southwark.gov.uk/healthcoach)

We've got 600 free Slimming World and Weight Watchers places available until the end of May 2022. You'll get 12 week's free weight loss support. This includes expert coaching, online and in person exercise classes and recipe ideas.

You may be eligible if all these points apply to you:

- 18 years or older
- Your body mass index (BMI) is 25 to 40, or 23 to 40 if you're of south Asian heritage
- You're a resident, registered with a Southwark GP, or Southwark Council employee on a permanent contract
- You've not paid for Slimming World or Weight Watchers in the last three months.

Don't miss out – find out more by calling **0333 005 0159** or go to [southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk](https://southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk)

The NHS is open. If you or your family have missed health appointments or routine vaccinations due to COVID-19 then get back in touch with your GP surgery. Routine vaccinations for babies, pre-school children, students and adults are running as normal. Find out about free vaccines offered on the NHS and what age you should have them [www.nhs.uk/vaccinations](https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations)

NHS Health Checks are for people aged 40 to 74. They are for you if you don't have a condition such as heart problems, diabetes or chronic kidney disease. Checks got disrupted during the pandemic, but are running again. They can help to spot early signs of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes or dementia. You should get an invitation every five years. You can also contact your GP surgery to book a free health check. Find out more at [www.nhs.uk/healthcheck](https://www.nhs.uk/healthcheck)



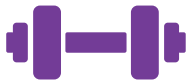
#### Sources

[www.nhs.uk/cancer](https://www.nhs.uk/cancer)  
<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/cancer-symptoms/spot-cancer-early/screening/what-is-cancer-screening>





# UK ON TRACK



One in two of us will develop some form of cancer during our lifetime. The four most common types of cancer in the UK are breast, lung, prostate and bowel. It's important to spot any changes in your body that aren't normal. Speak to your doctor if you have a lump, unexplained bleeding or changes to your bowel habits. Often your symptoms won't be cancer related, but it's important to speak to your GP if you're worried. Find out more at [www.nhs.uk/cancer](http://www.nhs.uk/cancer) or visit a cancer awareness roadshow (see page 6).

If you want to get moving more, Southwark has plenty of beautiful parks and open spaces to enjoy. If you fancy a leisurely walk or a run, find out more on page 24. If you're a resident you can use swimming pools and gyms at our leisure centres, free of charge, at certain times. You can sign up at [www.everyoneactive.com/southwark-free-swim-gym](http://www.everyoneactive.com/southwark-free-swim-gym)



We have free 12 week courses to help whole families make healthier choices around food and exercise. They are for children (4 to 17 years) and their families that live in Southwark, who are overweight or obese. Call the healthy lifestyle hub on **0333 005 0095** to find out more. Want help with smoking, being overweight, low mood, stress or anxiety, or physical activity? If you're 18 or older and registered with a Southwark GP, call **0333 005 0159**. Get more information on the family and over 18s support at: [southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk](http://southwark.everyonehealth.co.uk)



Get help and inspiration to be more active at [www.southwark.gov.uk/movemore](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/movemore)



## Are you eligible for cancer screening?

Make sure you're registered with a GP, so you get invited for screening.

- Bowel cancer screening is offered if you're aged 60 to 74
- Breast cancer screening is offered to women, some transgender men and some non-binary people aged 50 to 70
- Cervical screening is offered to women, some transgender men and some non-binary people aged 25 to 64 (see advert on page 2)



# Parks and Recreation

As the weather improves let's get out and about and enjoying Southwark's 363 parks and open spaces.

**D**espite being in the heart of the city, Southwark has hundreds of green parks and open spaces – and is investing in creating more.

Southwark has made significant investment in its parks and open spaces with the aim of helping to improve health, physical and mental wellbeing, quality of life and environmental issues such as climate and enhancement of biodiversity.

On its adoption, our new Southwark Plan will designate 22 new sites of importance for nature conservation and the equivalent of over 16 full-sized football fields of protected open space.



## Mint Street Park

Mint Street Park is situated in the space previously occupied by the Evelina Children's Hospital (1869-1976). In 2017 the council invested £70,000 in landscaping the park, including gaining more space. In 2018 around £2.5m was spent on the refurbishment of the adventure playground and upgrading the two play areas.



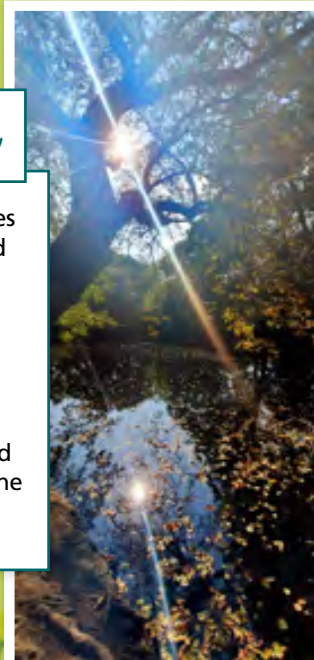
## Camberwell Green

Camberwell Green lies at a busy crossroads in the centre of Camberwell. A small area of common land, it was once a traditional village green that held annual fairs for several centuries.

The council completed a £1.1m refurbishment of the park in 2016 that included a new playground, marketplace, wildflower area and entrance.

## Peckham Rye Park

Peckham Rye Park and Common comprises a Victorian Park and historic common and provides a pleasant refuge for both the local community and wildlife. Featuring ornamental gardens, flowing streams, woodland and a lake, the park is an ideal location to relax and take a gentle stroll. Over the last few years the council has been investing around £5m in the site and changes included a new playground on the common and new changing rooms and a playroom relocated into the park.



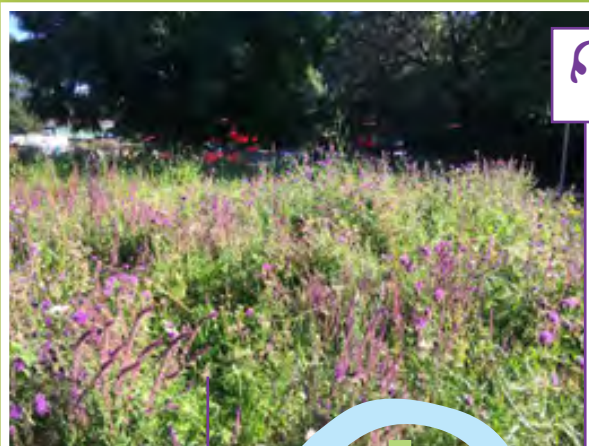


## King Stairs

This beautiful riverside park is a popular area for recreation and relaxation and has had a £3,000 investment over the last couple of years, including a council Cleaner Greener Safer funded butterfly border.

The park forms a peaceful green oasis between the busy Jamaica Road and the River Thames. The restored green hill area is a favoured spot for picnics and, along with the riverfront walk, boasts unrivalled views along the river towards Tower Bridge, St Paul's and the Shard.

The park has a fenced off children's playground with play equipment and safety surfaces. Outside the playground, grassed areas are ideal for informal sports and games.



Rotherhithe

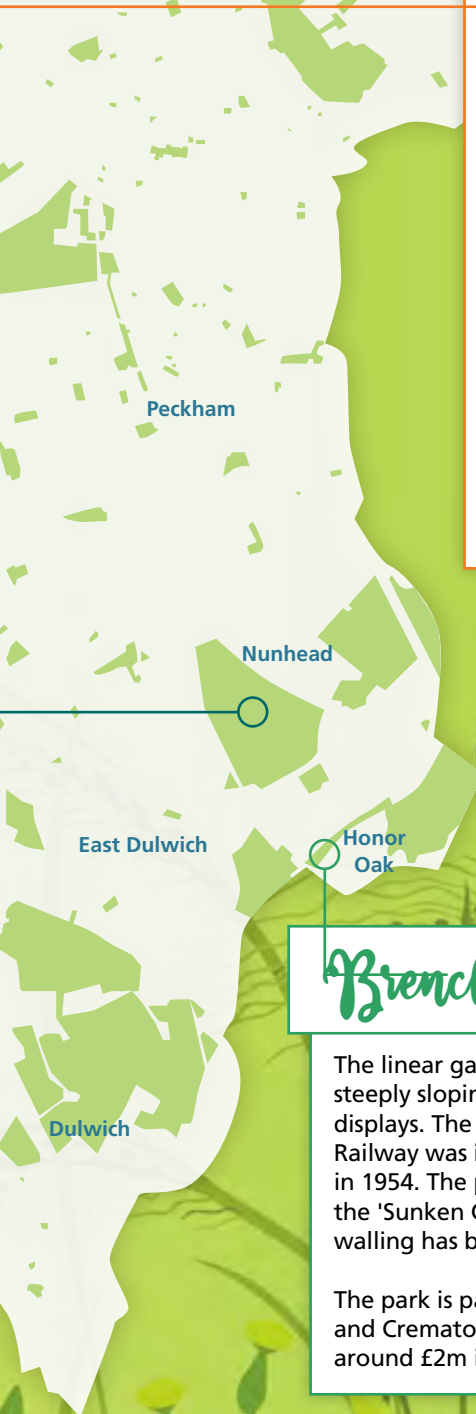
## Dickens' Field

Dickens' Fields is the small local park located off Falmouth Road, SE1, close to the Rockingham, Lawson and Trinity Newington estates. Dickens' Fields is of local importance for nature conservation with 11 bird species, including Blackcap and Green woodpecker.

Anne Keane playground offers a wide range of play opportunities for children.

Fitness and outdoor gym equipment are available throughout the park.

Dickens' Fields opened to the public on 1 September 2021 following a £1.5m investment from the council that included new landscaping and a new playground.



## Did you know?

- Our parks are free to use and open 365 days a year
- The council has invested over £40m in parks and cemeteries over the last five years
- We are planting over 10,000 trees and have already established the first new woodland in Inner London in recent years.
- According to the Good Parks for London (independent external scrutiny) Southwark has been consistently in the top five parks services in London over the last five years
- We have 30 Green Flag parks, the most in Inner London and the 2nd in London
- There are 65 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Southwark with 86% of them in positive management, which ranks us 6th in England.



## Brenchley Gardens

The linear gardens were opened in 1928, laid out on a steeply sloping site with a sunken garden and ornamental displays. The old track bed of the Crystal Palace High Level Railway was incorporated into the garden after its closure in 1954. The park has recently had restoration work done to the 'Sunken Garden' and part of the granite embankment walling has been replaced.

The park is part of the wider Camberwell New Cemetery and Crematorium, which the council has been investing around £2m in over the last five years.

# Events calendar

## Spring 2022

### Straight Line Crazy

Ralph Fiennes leads in this blazing account of the most powerful man in New York, a master manipulator whose legacy changed the city forever.

**16 March to 18 June, 7.30pm (Mon-Sat), 2.30pm (Weds & Sat)**

Admission: £15, £25, £42.50, £55, £67.50

Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields Park, London, SE1 2SG

[bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/straight-line-crazy/](http://bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/straight-line-crazy/)



### Peckham Fringe

A new performing arts festival which will include new writing, comedy, dance, cabaret, poetry and more.

**2 May to 5 June, Various times**

Admission: See Theatre Peckham's website

Theatre Peckham, 221221 Havil Street, London SE5 7SB

[theatrepeckham.co.uk](http://theatrepeckham.co.uk)



### Wyrd Sisters

The Dulwich Players Present Terry Pratchett's Wyrd Sisters. Join us in a story of drama, love and silliness, combining Macbeth and Blackadder. The wicked are extremely wicked, and good appears in surprising forms. Depressed heroes and brainless guards; actors and a demon; guided by witches and magic as we fly to that glorious moment when good triumphs over evil. Royalties and Programme Donations go to Terry Pratchett's chosen charity: the Orangutan Foundation. This performance of Wyrd Sisters, a Discworld® Play, is an AMATEUR PRODUCTION

**6 to 9 April, Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 April at 8pm, Saturday 9 April at 3pm and 8pm**

Admission: Tickets are £12 (plus booking fee) available through <https://www.dulwichplayers.org/> or [bookings@dulwichplayers.org](mailto:bookings@dulwichplayers.org) Tickets are also sold on the door, subject to availability.

The Edward Alleyn Theatre, Dulwich College, SE21 7LD

<https://www.dulwichplayers.org/>



### London Bridge Medi-Culture Festival: Spring 2022

Health, wellness and medicine is at the forefront of our everyday lives. Celebrate London Bridge's long history connected with health through our exciting line up of online, walks, talks, workshops and exhibitions. Partners include the Old Operating Theatre, Florence Nightingale Museum, King's College London and Guy's Hospital.

**23 to 29 March 2022**

**Various times**

FREE

In-person and online

<https://www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/medicuture-events>



### Love Work/Life with Team London Bridge

Team London Bridge brings you the best of London Bridge through a programme of free experiences created by local businesses and cultural partners based in the area. Realign your work/life balance and take a break in your day, whenever most convenient for you: morning, lunch time, or evening.

**On going through 2022, various times see website**

FREE

Various see website

<https://www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/loveworklife-home>



# SOUTHWARK PRESENTS

For more events throughout the year visit  
[www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents)

## ARTivism Festival

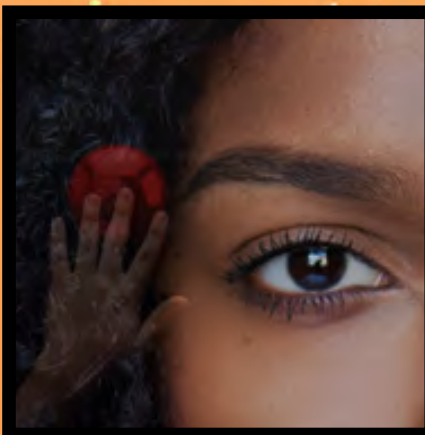
Join us for six specially commissioned live performance, documentary, and installation pieces, in a festival that doesn't shy away from asking uncomfortable questions, provoking reactions and demanding accountability. Addressing issues from the meat industry to what it means to be an ally, the power of 'no' to the importance of the individual's voice; and with opportunities including the chance to take part in a protest marching band, this festival is not to be missed!

**19 and 20 March**

*Tickets are pay what you feel.*

*Theatre Deli's London Broadgate venue*

*<https://bit.ly/ArtivismFestival>*



# Dancing in the streets

This year is the Platinum Jubilee, marking the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II taking the throne.

Some people will be planning a street party, a picnic or viewing the platinum pageant – if so, you're following in the footsteps of Southwark residents of a century and more ago.

Having the monarch live in a set place is a relatively young idea. In the Middle Ages, when many payments were made in kind rather than money, the royal court moved around the country, visiting royal estates. The royal court would have been familiar with Southwark, since London Bridge was the only Thames crossing near the royal palace at Westminster – visiting cities to the south of London, like Winchester, or royal holdings in France, would require travelling down Borough High Street to the Elephant.

Moving forward in time to Queen Victoria's reign, we would definitely recognise the pomp and circumstance surrounding her Diamond Jubilee in 1897. Tuesday 22 June 1897 (two days after the actual anniversary) was a special Bank Holiday; there was a procession featuring 50,000 troops and officials from all over the Empire – the entire route, starting and ending at Buckingham Palace, was highly decorated and packed

with people. The route crossed the Thames at London Bridge, continuing down Borough High Street and Borough Road to St George's Circus before re-crossing the Thames at Westminster Bridge. To mark the occasion, the obelisk at St George's Circus was replaced with a clock tower – later demolished in the interwar period before the obelisk was replaced there in 1998.

Edward VII and George V had similar coronation processions – in 1902, the procession stopped outside the St George the Martyr vestry hall in Borough Road to allow the mayors of the metropolitan boroughs of south London to give good wishes and pledge their loyalty to the new monarch.

Edward VII's coronation festivities also included the King's Dinner. Schools, settlements, and mission halls all over modern Southwark hosted festive meals and entertainment for poor local residents (likely to be older people) – rather charmingly, many of the invitations ask attendees to bring their own cutlery.

By the time of King George V's Silver Jubilee in 1935, celebrations were locally organised; by the

individual metropolitan boroughs or individual streets or estates. However, Bermondsey Metropolitan Borough – a poor area hard-hit by the Great Depression – didn't allocate any money to marking the jubilee, citing lack of funds. This led Mayor SR Weightman to turn down an invitation to meet the new king because, as he pointed out, his mayoral funds were earmarked for sending local disabled children on a holiday and he couldn't personally afford the £80 to £100 outlay (up to £7,500 in today's money). This principled stance wasn't universally popular. In fact, newspapers reported that he was burnt in effigy outside Bermondsey Town Hall on 6 May by a crowd protesting his supposed lack of patriotism. Bermondsey locals organised over 200 neighbourhood street parties, funded by donations from residents – providing a treat for some 5,000 children. Most of them, luckily, had a budget surplus: the Cadbury Road committee used theirs for a children's cinema outing, while organisers in Leonard Street saved theirs for a summer outing.

Two years later, celebrations for George VI's coronations were much the same: organised and paid for locally. On 12 May, neighbourhoods all over modern Southwark threw





street parties for local children, paid for by local residents clubbing together. Children attending usually got gifts, for instance a souvenir mug and box of sweets, to take home. The Dog Kennel Hill estate's party turned into a riot, as adult gate-crashers tried to make off with the children's treats. Moreover, it rained on the day: local newspaper coverage suggests that some parties were spoiled entirely.

The festivities continued through the month. The metropolitan borough of Camberwell organised a party on 20 May for more than 20,000 schoolchildren at Crystal

Palace, featuring concerts, sports, dancing, a Punch and Judy show, and a display of Maxim flying boats.

For Queen Elizabeth's coronation in 1953, Bermondsey didn't have to worry about balancing its books, since a wealthy American, Margaret Biddle, footed the bill. Although she was living in Monte Carlo, she'd spent time in Bermondsey during the Second World War, including a stint as a volunteer PR officer for the borough council. Bermondsey took the voyage of the Mayflower as the theme of its coronation festivities (quite probably to say thank you): MGM even loaned the borough a model of the ship!



The Silver Jubilee of 1977 saw a recreation of the historic Southwark Fair on the South Bank near the Globe theatre, with a parade of "living history" – locals dressed in costumes ranging from the Elizabethan to the futuristic. As well as street parties, Bermondsey and Rotherhithe hosted the Queen during her Royal Progress down the Thames on 9 June – this river trip echoes the journeys made by Elizabeth I, and featured in the Diamond Jubilee celebrations as well. While in Southwark, the Queen unveiled a commemorative engraved stone and received a book containing old prints of Southwark, created by students at the London College of Printing (now the London College of Communication).



The metropolitan borough of Camberwell kicked off its festivities by lighting a beacon on One Tree Hill. Camberwell also cleverly avoided the dilemma facing Bermondsey some 20 years earlier, by making the annual children's holiday to Bexhill an official part of its celebrations. As in earlier years, there were lots of street parties. One in Vicarage Grove was recorded by the BBC and broadcast in Australia: as local newspapers reported, one listener was so moved by the loyal speech given at Vicarage Grove that he sent the speaker a care package!



# Get ready to make your mark



Southwark Council will be holding local elections on Thursday 5 May, 2022.

**Polling stations are safe, but there are other ways to vote.**



Want to vote by post? Apply early at [electoralcommission.org.uk/postalvote](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/postalvote), call 020 7525 7373 or email [postal.votes@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:postal.votes@southwark.gov.uk)

The Electoral Commission



Every four years Southwark Council, like many other councils across the UK, holds local elections. This is your chance to vote for the people who will represent you on a wide range of council matters – from bin collections and street cleaning to new homes and adult social care.

Southwark Council elections are scheduled to take place on Thursday 5 May 2022.

Two or three councillors are elected to represent each ward, making it a total of 63 councillors across 23 wards.

If you want to vote, you must be registered. You can apply to register to vote online. It is very quick and easy to do. You just need to know your name, address and your national insurance number. Go to [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

Our polling stations are safe and in the vast majority of cases will be close to where you are registered. You should check your poll card for the location details of your polling station. However there are alternative ways of voting if you are unable to go or don't want to visit your polling station. To apply for a postal or proxy vote visit our website at <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/voting-and-elections>

## Key dates

**Deadline for registering to vote** – Thursday 14 April, 2022

**Deadline to apply for, change or cancel a postal vote** – 5pm on Tuesday 19 April, 2022

**Deadline to apply for a proxy vote** – 5pm, Tuesday 26 April, 2022

**Deadline for an emergency proxy vote** – 5pm, Thursday 5 May, 2022

**Polling day** – Thursday 5 May, 2022. Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm

# BUSINESS FRIENDLY SOUTHWARK

As we move out of winter and into the warmer months, many of our businesses are once again working hard to get back to work following the recent Omicron wave and period of Plan B national restrictions.

To help our businesses recover and thrive in the current climate, we've teamed up with the London Business Hub on its Wayfinder scheme, which helps businesses access a wide range of support and advice. As businesses across the borough look forward better trading conditions in the months to come, we share below some of the ways in which we can help them recruit talent locally.

## LIVING WITH COVID-19

On Monday 21 February the government announced its plans for living with COVID-19 ([www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19)).

COVID-19 can still be a serious health condition for people with additional health risks. Businesses are therefore urged to make every effort to help keep their workforce and community safe.

Visit [www.southwark.gov.uk/covidpreventionguidance](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/covidpreventionguidance)



## NEW FUNDING AND ADVICE SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

As London's economy reopens, the London Business Hub wants to support small businesses by providing them with the tools they need to thrive and recover – and we do too. That's why we've teamed up with them to give business owners free, unbiased business support from expert advisers through the London Business Hub Wayfinder scheme.

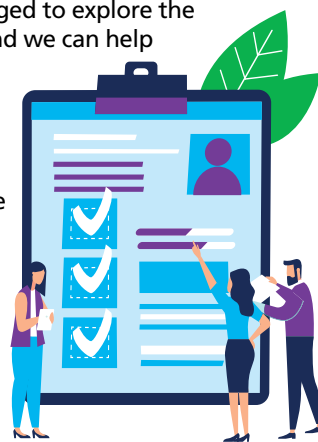
Find out more at [www.businesshub.london/resource/wayfinder](http://www.businesshub.london/resource/wayfinder)



## SUPPORTING BUSINESSES TO RECRUIT LOCALLY

Businesses in the borough are encouraged to explore the talent on offer here in the borough, and we can help them to do so in the following ways.

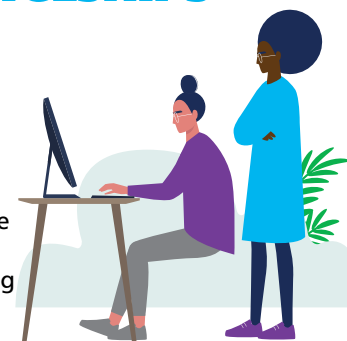
1. Our free employment support service Southwark Works aims to connect local businesses with local talent. Businesses can find out more at [www.southwarkworks.com](http://www.southwarkworks.com)
2. Businesses that have job opportunities for 16 to 24 year olds may be able to share them via our Youth Opportunities newsletter. To see how we can help, businesses should get in touch with us at [southwarkbusinessdesk@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwarkbusinessdesk@southwark.gov.uk)



## HELPING BUSINESSES TO CREATE APPRENTICESHIPS

If you're considering hiring an apprentice or looking for the right person for your apprenticeship role, we can help. In addition to helping a local person reach their potential, there are many great reasons to hire an apprentice, such as developing the specialist skills your business needs. Plus, you can get government funding to cover some of the training costs.

We offer free business and recruitment support for any Southwark employer looking to create apprenticeships. Our team is on hand to answer questions and guide you through the process. Email [localeconomy@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:localeconomy@southwark.gov.uk)



## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

For regular updates on business support, opportunities and guidance, sign up to our business e-newsletter at [www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-e-newsletter](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/business-e-newsletter). As always, we're on hand to answer any business-related questions you might have at [southwarkbusinessdesk@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:southwarkbusinessdesk@southwark.gov.uk)



HM Government



# WE'VE BEEN BOOSTED

**JOIN US  
LET'S GET PROTECTED**

Over time, two doses do not give you enough protection against Covid-19.

**GET  
BOOSTED  
NOW**

**NHS.UK/COVIDVACCINATION**