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BacktheBakerloo.org.uk



Better transport links







Reduced pollution and congestion











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I know I'm biased, but I don't think there is anywhere better than Southwark to get into the Christmas spirit. This year, as usual, the borough is heaving with festive fun, including winter markets and independent shops, cosy pubs and Christmas concerts to enjoy. The winter can bring challenges too, and this edition of Southwark Life includes useful information about how to stay warm and healthy, reduce waste, and stay safe on nights out. On the safety theme we learn more about how the borough's CCTV centre helps crack down on crime, and our second feature in a series about keeping our young people safe looks at how different projects are giving young people a voice and a chance to give something back. There is also advice from our local food banks on how we can help local people enjoy Christmas with a few thoughtful donations, and also how to get help if you are struggling. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.



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email southwark.life@southwark.gov.uk

Front cover photo: Huddle at the Unicorn Theatre, Photo credit: Shuttershock, Please see our bumper events guide on page 30 for details about the show

Printed on 100% recycled paper **Distribution** London Letterbox All information correct at time of going to press.

## Need to know...

We've got enough news to fill a Christmas stocking this season. So finish your wrapping, settle down with a mince pie and hot toddy, and catch up with the latest from around the borough.

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



@lb\_southwark



Follow us on

Instagram Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil

#### Revamped repairs service launches

Monday 1 October marked a milestone for Southwark Council as we brought our tenants' housing repairs service for the south of the borough in-house. The new in-house service was the result of longterm collaboration and hard work across the councils' departments and, whilst we know there may be a few teething problems as the new service beds in, we're confident the results for residents will be positive. By bringing our tenants' housing repairs service fully in-house, we're aiming to raise our service standards and ensure a consistent approach to repairs. As well as improving services, the move should deliver savings in the longer term, improving value for money for our tenants.

#### **Book Winners**

Congratulations to the winners of our Tom from the autumn edition of Southwark Life. The two winners each received a signed copy of Tom's new book after correctly identifying Tom's favourite lunch place was Savage Salads.



Winner William Yi with his book

Daley Book competition



#### What a Marble-lous art piece!

Visitors to Mint Street in Borough may have noticed something different about a stretch of the road. The London Design Festival has created a Landmark Project for October 2018. Co-curated by London Design Festival and Lisbon-based experimentadesign, and designed by Michael Anastassiades Studio in partnership with Portuguese quarry marble companies Mármores Galrão and Dimpomar, this secluded street in Southwark has been paved in a carpet of recycled marble.

Due to minor flaws, discolouring or imperfections, much of marble quarried is then rejected by contractors, architects and designers. Having identified this as a waste of otherwise perfect raw material and it being sent to landfill, London Design Festival were offered unwanted marble and asked to consider how it could be used creatively.



#### Nominate your Civic Heroes

The Southwark Civic Awards celebrate our roots as 'London's most historic borough' by conferring the liberties of the three metropolitan boroughs from which The London Borough of Southwark was formed in 1965 – Bermondsey, Camberwell and Southwark. We also want to recognise exceptional contributions to civic, community or family life by individuals, businesses, projects or organisations in the geographical areas they once covered.

Those nominated for one of these awards may have given a lifetime or many years of service, or made an exceptional contribution to civic and community life in the previous year (2018). Apart from the rarely awarded Honorary Freedom of Southwark, the Southwark Civic Awards are the most prestigious the council can bestow, with only a handful of citizens awarded an honour each year.

The scheme is open for nominations and will close on Thursday 31 January 2019.

If you'd like to nominate someone please use the Southwark Civic Awards 2019 nomination form www.southwark.gov.uk/civicawards

#### Old Kent Road website launched

Southwark Council has launched a new website dedicated to the future of the Old Kent Road. From the latest planning applications to dates for consultation events, the website at www.oldkentroad.org.uk will aim to keep local residents and businesses informed about all the latest news and changes going on around them. The site also includes information about the ongoing Back the Bakerloo campaign to highlight the importance of the extension of the Bakerloo Line down Old Kent Road to the regeneration.

#### **Movement Plan**

We are developing a Movement Plan that will set the direction for transport planning in Southwark over the next 20 years - this work will influence the roads you use, the routes you take and the places you spend time in and we want to hear your ideas on movement and travel in Southwark. Visit consultations.southwark.gov.uk/environmentleisure/movement-plan for more information.

#### Safer **Internet Day**

We can all help to make the internet safer for children and young people, and there's a wealth of fantastic information on how to do so available from the organisers of international Safer Internet Day, which falls on 5 February 2019 - please do make use of their ideas, advice and help every day of the year! We want to embrace the internet and best make use of its strengths - but it's in all our interests to stop its misuse. The internet is wonderful, let's keep it that way. Find out more about how to keep your kids safe online at www.southwark.gov.uk/ childcare-and-parenting/childprotection/internet-safety



#### Service Point update

The Walworth Road Service Point will be permanently closing on 31 December 2018, as well our Revenues and Benefits services at both the Dulwich Community Shop and the Blue Anchor Library. We'd like to warmly welcome you instead to our newly refurbished Peckham Service Point, which will open on 2 January 2019, which has been remodelled to improve your experience and includes selfservice kiosks, a newly-designed reception system and friendly floor walkers who will be happy to offer you their assistance.

#### New case won in crackdown on illegal skin whiteners

A council investigation into the online sale of illegal skin lighteners culminated in the sentencing of Munir Ahmad (50) from Evington Road, Leicester, at Camberwell Green Magistrates Court, for repeatedly selling dangerous cosmetic products on eBay.

Two of the products Southwark's trading standards team bought, 'Arena Gold Fairness Cream for Men' and 'Golden Pearl Beauty Cream', were found to contain the highly toxic metal, mercury. Ahmad had been repeatedly selling these dangerously toxic, illegal cosmetics, for personal gain.

The council's test purchases revealed that Ahmad was continuing to sell this harmful product, under another name. They also failed with regard to safety labelling, which, especially given recent events, is taken extremely seriously.

The bench rated the risk to health and safety as high and passed down a significant 40 week custodial sentence, suspended for 24 months. In addition to this, Ahmad will have to complete 100 hours unpaid work and pay full costs of £7185.



The new Grove Vale library is still on track to be opened later this year, with works scheduled to be completed in December. The new library promises to deliver increased opening hours, free Wi-Fi and computer access. IT taster sessions. a coding club, children's activities, a community



meeting room and new books - all in addition to regular library services. Thank you to those who took part in this summer's consultation - your feedback and views have been taken on board, and we're excited to kick off the new service soon.



#### Fire alarms available for the hard of hearing

The London Fire Brigade now provides specialist alarms for deaf people or people with hearing impairments.

The service can provide standalone alarm systems and replacement alarm heads for Bellman systems as part of a Home Fire Safety Visit. The alarms are designed to provide additional protection by sounding loud blasts at a low frequency signal to wake up people with mild to moderate hearing loss.

If you would like more information or to book a Home Fire Safety Visit you can call on Freephone 0800 028 4428. e-mail smokealarms@london-fire. gov.uk, Text/SMS on 07860 021 319 or book online at london-fire.gov.uk

#### Celebrating our Housing Heroes

Our congratulations go out to the winners of the Housing Heroes Awards 2018. Winners were announced at a special event at Inspire on Wednesday 14 November.

Winners include Deborah Oyewunmi who won Neighbour of the Year, and Jeffrey Barnet, who won the Lifetime Achievement Award. Jeffrey has been involved in the TRA movement for over 25 years, and has been chair of Brandon TRA over 10 years as well as taking on several other community roles.

Deborah makes it her duty to check on her neighbours regularly - especially if she hasn't seen them in days or aren't feeling well. She also holds a BBQ party in the summer for her family and neighbours are always invited.

Winners were awarded a trophy and £100 for their chosen charity. The full list of winners is available on the council's website.



# JOIN US IN OUR ...

WinterFest: Children and young people up to the age of 17 read books and receive prizes throughout the winter.

Come along to the launch event of the Winter Book Challenge and meet the inspiring author, Linda Chapman, writer of the My Secret Unicorn series, some of the Rainbow Magic books and lots more.

CHALLENGE

Linda Chapman will be signing her books and have books for sale.

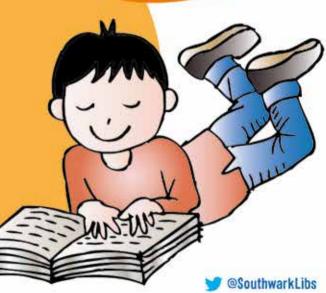
Tuesday 11 December 2018 4Pm +0 5Pm

For ages six to 12 years

Camberwell Library, 48 Camberwell Green, SE5 7AL

www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries













## Keeping our young people (part 2)

In the last edition of Southwark Life we brought you various perspectives on knife crime. This time we dig deeper into what is being done to prevent young people getting into trouble, or help turn their lives around.

nere is no one way to tackle knife crime as the motivations for carrying a knife can be complex and varied. The terrible impact of carrying a knife often makes the headlines, but the work that goes on to divert people away from carrying knives generally goes unnoticed. Prevention takes time, dedication and understanding. Taking time to understand and accept the reality of life for young people as they see it, even if as adults we may not comprehend it, is perhaps a key first step in tackling knife crime.

#### Giving young people a voice

In October, Southwark Young Advisors (young people who are trained to support other young people locally) invited secondary

schools in the borough to come together and share their views on the issues facing young people in Southwark. On the day, nearly 100 young people from nine schools in Southwark met to talk to council and police leaders, including Cllr Evelyn Akoto, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, and Borough Commander Simon Messinger.

The event opened with an interactive question and answer session which saw young people respond to various questions and an opportunity to share their experiences of what life is like for them in Southwark.

Round table discussions followed the question and answer session which gave young people the opportunity to talk to council leaders and senior police officers about issues like personal safety,

"The students had a great time. I think I had perhaps underestimated the impact an event like this would have on them because they could not stop talking about it on the way home. They said how great it was to be asked questions about their experiences, and feel like this could potentially change things. It was, for most of them, their first taste of community action. I've now realised how often they get told how to stay safe from teachers, parents and the police, but rarely are they asked what would make them feel safe, and to air their opinions about issues that concern them. We would be very keen to take part in other events like this in the future."

Ms Drysdale, teacher at Bacon's College

the impact social media has on their lives, gender roles and expectations and where to turn if they need help.

The event also saw the launch of the Southwark Youth Independent Advisory Group (SYIAG). The SYIAG will be made up of young people from different backgrounds, particularly those who have direct experience of crime or have been affected by youth violence. The SYIAG is an opportunity for young people to have their voices heard and shape the policies and organisations that affect them.

#### Preventing young people getting involved in crime

Our young people are full of passion and potential, but sadly we have all seen and heard about young lives lost because of knife crime. Fear is often a key factor that leads a young person to start carrying a knife. Hannah works within Southwark's Youth Offending Service (YOS) and has been working on a project that sees YOS officers go into schools and speak to young people about their concerns, personal safety and social media as well as listening to the issues they face in their daily lives. She said:

"Over the last couple of years we have been implementing a different intervention around knife crime which is more focused on how young people feel, their day to day lives, how it feels to be them and safety planning in a different way. What that means is getting young people to think about different strategies they can use to keep safe. We operate in a trauma informed way with the hypothesis that a lot of young people are reacting to and operating from an experience of trauma, whether that's from family issues, domestic violence or issues on the street. So it's having a look



If you are/know a young person who wants to get involved in the Southwark Youth Independent Advisory Group (SYIAG), or would like to find out more, please call 020 7525 0824.

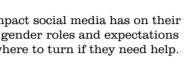
We are looking for young people aged 14+ for the main group and a wider pool aged 11+ that the SYIAG can consult with to ensure a wider youth voice is heard. This will be an unlimited number and anyone can sign up.

at that anxiety [and how this] can and what can you do in different

situations. Sometimes it's as simple

as taking a different bus route to college. Simple changes can make you ten times safer because you're not going through an area that is particularly risky for you and that can reduce risk a lot for a young person.

"We try to use small groups to do those sessions where they can really have a chance to tell their story and to explore the specific



feed into behaviour that may not be rational. We explore questions like 'are you safer if you carry a weapon?', 'what are some of the challenges and complexities to that?', 'does it make you more at risk?', which I would argue it does. We also explore who their network is, who can they lean on for support







issues for them. If possible we try to do it in friendship groups so that those discussions can carry on outside the sessions. It can be quite powerful for teenage boys to hear their friends talk about their feelings and have an open and honest discussion about the challenges for young people. We also help young people stay safe on social media, by checking their settings and thinking about how you present yourself online. Young people are quite quick to react on social media without thinking about the consequences of that reaction. We don't have a problem with engagement in these sessions, I think they don't have the opportunity to speak to adults about these things very often but they want to. There seems to be a narrative in society that young boys don't want to talk and they don't talk about feelings but given a safe enough space I think they do. Sometimes we adults talk at rather than listen to young people and

"Most people say they carry knives for protection and we explore that with them, using scenarios as

that doesn't work.

"We explore questions like 'are you safer if you carry a weapon?', 'what are some of the challenges and complexities to that?', 'does it make you more at risk?', which I would argue it does."

discussion starters and dispelling the myth that you're safer with a knife. One of the challenges is picking out where their fear comes from, for example - is it perceived fear? With everything that's happened in the borough you can understand why a young person may feel like their life is genuinely at risk. The other thing is we are increasingly seeing young people who have very 'small' lives, they don't leave the local area, they have a small group of friends and they don't really venture outside of that. So if everyone in your friendship group knows someone who has been stabbed or assaulted it can

feel like it's happening to every teenager in Southwark.

"One of the things that we ask them is to think about who they go to talk to about the issues they face. It's not that they don't have anyone, but they struggle to have these conversations with adults. As teenagers they probably generally don't believe that adults understand their lives and I think that's a normal thing. I think it doesn't occur to them to go to adults but when we talk about who could be part of your support network, after some exploration they do think 'oh yeah I could talk to that person'."

#### Giving something back

When young people do get into trouble, they are often given a mandatory number of hours of work doing something that benefits the community. The aim of these projects is to improve the local area for the good of the wider community and for young people to redress some of the harm they have caused through their actions. This activity is staffed by volunteers who are trained to get young people to open up about their lives. Leila is a Reparation and Volunteers Officer within the Southwark Youth Offending Service (YOS) and she coordinates this activity and volunteer training. Leila says:

"Our two core reparation projects are carpentry at Surrey Docks farm and a painting project, currently in a local church – the venue changes as we complete projects. These projects are led by a sessional worker, but the rest of the staff is made up of volunteers. The volunteers are people within the community; residents, parents,

shopkeepers, teachers, anyone really, who train to work with us and give their time for free. Their primary role is to support the young people through their reparation hours and talk to them restoratively. What that means is talking about why they're here, the impact of their offence; whether that is to their community, their family, peers or to themselves; and what they need to get back on track. The relationship builds up over time and conversations tend to organically occur.

they are volunteers, for some of them the idea of doing something for nothing is unheard of. When they build that relationship with the volunteer, young people often think, and have remarked 'oh wow you've given up your Saturday for me, for free' that has a huge impact on a young person, especially one who is here unwillingly. A lot of these young people don't have adults that are there for them

"Young people can't believe that



in that capacity and a lot of the time they don't have any positive adults in their lives at all. It helps build the trust between young people and adults to show that not everyone views them in that way, as a criminal. It makes them feel like they're being accepted back into society. It can be very powerful."

The team are always looking for painting projects in the community, so if you know of somewhere that could do with a spruce up, or if you would like to become a volunteer please call **020 7525 1396**.

southwark.gov.uk southwark.gov.uk





With Christmas around the corner, foodbanks in the borough play a vital role in providing support for people in crisis.

may be the season to be jolly, but there are many who struggle to afford enough food during the festive season. In Southwark it is estimated that over 20,000 residents are moderately or severely affected by food insecurity, and some don't know where their next meal is coming from.

With the growth of food insecurity in the borough, there is mounting pressure on foodbanks charitable organisations that provide food and other goods for people who experience hunger. Charities such as Trussell Trust noticed a 13% increase across the UK in 2016/17 and a 31% increase reported in Southwark, with over 2,400

people referred to the Southwark Foodbank in the past year. This means that foodbanks need support and donations more than ever before.

Benefit delays, benefits changes, and low income are the primary reasons why people are referred to foodbanks. Single parents, large families and single people are amongst the groups particularly affected by these factors and are of greater risk of food insecurity.

To be able to access a foodbank a person in crisis needs to get a referral from a community professional, such as social workers, doctors, Citizens Advice and housing support officers.





If you need help, or you know someone in need, there are a range of support services available:

- Foodbanks If you are not sure how to get referred to a food bank, speak to them directly for advice. You can call Pecan on 020 7732 0007 or email them at foodbank.support@pecan.org.uk
- Southwark Emergency Support Scheme a discretionary scheme that helps people facing a crisis, emergency or disaster, who are at risk of having to move out of their home and community and go into care, or moving back into the community after spending time at a care home or hospital.
- The Hardship Fund a Southwark discretionary scheme that helps people in debt with households bills, such as gas, electricity, water, rent and Council Tax arrears.
- Healthy Start a national scheme for families that offers help if you're on benefits or pregnant and under 18. If you are pregnant or have children under the age of 4, you can qualify for weekly free vouchers to spend on milk, fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables and infant formula milk.

More information about support can be found on the council's website at www.southwark.gov.uk/benefits-and-support



#### How can I help?

As we approach the festive season, there are many ways to help people in crisis by supporting foodbanks in the borough.

#### **Volunteer**

One great way of helping out is to volunteer at a local foodbank or charity. Especially leading up to and after the holidays, they have an increased demand for their services and you can lend your time to help with this vital work. It is an essential function for these organisations and there are many roles open to volunteers - including working in the foodbank centre, sorting donated food, helping with supermarket collections and picking up donated food items from local shops. It is a great way to make a difference this winter.

Please contact your local foodbank to find out more on how you can help.

#### **Donate**

The festive period can be a really tough time if you are struggling, but a little thought and generosity goes a long way to transforming someone's Christmas. Foodbanks try to offer goods that will help make the festive period a special

"The Christmas hamper really helped my family. It came as a real surprise to my three boys who I had told before that they wouldn't be getting anything over Christmas. Thank you so much to Pecan and the support I received."

Food bank recipient

occasion for everyone. For example, Central Southwark Community Hub is looking for foods that meet a range of cultural needs during this time, including turkeys, pork, chicken, mince pies, chocolates and other snacks.

More basic food items are always needed throughout the year. Foodbanks need a range of everyday items, such as coffee, tea, sugar, long life milk and juice, breakfast cereals, pasta, tinned products (fruit, vegetables, beans, fish and meat), biscuits, snacks, breads, groups, rice, pasta sauces, treats and snacks. Toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and sanitary items are also welcomed. Foodbanks also need toys and nappies, baby wipes and baby food. Please contact your local foodbank to find out how to best donate these items. Financial contributions and business partnerships also help foodbanks sustain their offer throughout the year.

#### Find your local foodbank

Central Southwark Community Hub runs from four different locations through the week. Go to www.cschub.co.uk to find out more.

Southwark Foodbank run by Pecan also opens a number of different foodbanks across the borough. For more information visit www.pecan.org.uk/ southwark-foodbank or call 020 7732 0007.

### Course guide 2018-19

Southwark Council adult learning service

Thomas Calton Centre now reopened!

Your choice for local adult learning, family learning and skills

- www.southwark.gov.uk/adultlearning
- adult.learning@southwark.gov.uk
- **7** 020 7358 2100









### for the festive season

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, but it can bring its own problems – and as the weather gets colder it can have a serious impact on some of our residents. We want everyone to have a safe, happy and enjoyable Christmas so we've pulled together some top tips, advice and information about the services available to help you out this year.

#### Waste Not, Want Not .....

In Southwark we collectively produced an extra 250 tons of waste during the festive period last year – the equivalent of 2,500 of Santa's reindeer – which has a big impact on the environment.

Together, everyone in Southwark has been helping to make our recycling rates the highest in central London. But Christmas is a time of excess, so it's important we all keep up the good work over the festive period, and cut down on buying and creating rubbish this year.

Here are some ideas to help you reduce waste this Christmas:

- Use recycled paper: avoid wrapping paper with foil or glitter (we can't recycle these as they tend to have plastic in them).
- · Reuse and upcycle: get creative and turn left over jars into candle holders and yoghurt pots into seed germinating tubs.
- · Home recycling: go through your rubbish, check our recycling guidance webpages and make sure you include household plastic packaging, such as clean plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays and cardboard, glass and tins.
- Make a shopping list: you're less likely to end up with things you don't need and more likely to save a bit of money.
- · Gift old furniture to charity: you can try the British Heart Foundation, they collect for free
- Make edible gifts: everyone knows someone who's impossible to buy for, why not make thoughtful gifts that show you care, like homemade biscuits, sweets or cakes.

You can recycle your real Christmas tree using your food and garden waste collections. Simply remove any decorations and the plant pot or stand and place it next to your brown bin on collection day. If you do not have a food and waste collection, all Christmas Trees – both real and fake – can be taken to the Reuse and Recycling Centre off Old Kent Road. Please ensure you have removed any decorations and the plant pot or stand.



#### Healthy and happy

For some the cold weather brings a greater risk of harm from illness or injury. This includes older people (in particular those over 75 years old and those who are socially isolated), people with pre-existing chronic medical conditions, such as heart disease or stroke, and people who are housebound or have low mobility. It is important that these groups take extra care during the cold season.

- Flu vaccines: Flu is a highly infectious virus that occurs every year, usually in winter. If you're eligible, get your free flu vaccination from your GP practice, pharmacy or midwife. The vaccine is also available for paid and unpaid carers and frontline health and social care workers. Find out more about the flu vaccine at www.southwarkccq.nhs.uk and remember, even if you had one last year, you need a new one this year. If you think you already have flu, stay at home; drink plenty of water and rest until you feel better. If you have an underlying medical condition, or feel really unwell, call NHS 111.
- Antibiotics: Antibiotics are essential for treating serious bacterial infections, but they are frequently being used for illnesses such as coughs, earache and sore throats which can often get better by themselves. To keep antibiotics working, always take your doctor, nurse or healthcare professional's advice they will always recommend the best course of action if you're unwell.
- NHS 111 online: If you're worried about an urgent medical concern, you can now get help and advice from NHS 111 using your smartphone, tablet or computer. Just visit 111.nhs.uk and follow the on-screen instructions. Alternatively, you can still call NHS 111 to speak to a trained adviser, 24 hours a day and seven days a week.







#### Add a little salt

Snow is great - if you enjoy sledging or making snowmen. But if you are trying to get from A to B it can be a problem. There are lots of things the council and its partners are doing that will keep the borough moving in bad weather. From making sure traffic hotspots not covered by TfL get salted, ensuring our main roads are kept clear of ice as far as possible and checking and filling the network of 210 salt bins, to making sure our rubbish collection services continue in bad weather. In time of severe freezing, our cleansing teams will be out ensuring as many pavements, housing estates, housing stairwells and bin areas are as clear of ice as possible, but of course remembering that in really cold conditions, such as minus 7/8 degrees, salt will have little effect on stopping ice forming. Our highways team have at least 1,200 tonnes of salt available for the roads and further stocks to help the Parks and Cemeteries teams if needed.

We have contacted every school offering to help with their salt stocks by topping up before any cold weather kicks in.

We'll get out and do our bit if its snowy, but we can't get to all the smaller roads in the borough, so we're asking residents to lend a hand if snow or ice is forecast.

Further information and government guidance can be found at the council website at www.southwark.gov.uk/community-safety/ winter-weather

And don't forget, if you've got elderly or vulnerable neighbours do see if they want you to salt their paths as well.



## Keep out the cold

After a long, hot summer forecasters are predicting a cold snap this winter. With energy prices jumping by more than a fifth in just five months, some households have to choose between spending money on heating or food. Help is available. If you're getting certain benefits, you may also quality for a Cold Weather Payment from the Government. You'll get a payment if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, zero degrees Celsius or below for seven consecutive days. You can find more information here: www.gov.uk/cold-weatherpayment you can also call for advice from the South East London Referral Network. Call them on 08081 691 779 or use the online referral form at www.cact.org.uk/SELFy

#### Shop local

Don't forget to support your local businesses this Christmas. Southwark has a wide range of independent shops, cafes, restaurants and bars where you can pick up gift ideas or enjoy a night out.

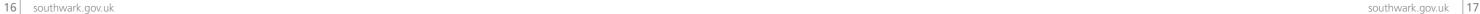
Southwark Council is supporting local businesses in the run up

to Christmas and the New Year by making free parking available, with Pay and Display charges waived for every Saturday in December. Permit controls will still apply for Peckham, London Bridge and Bankside.









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#### Start the New Year with a bang

If you are planning to start the New Year with your own fireworks display at home please make sure your fireworks are safe and carry the CE mark, and are from a licensed seller. Follow the instructions carefully and retire to a safe distance once they are lit. You can get more firework safety advice from the London Fire Brigade website at www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/fireworks

Alternatively, you can try for tickets for the Mayor of London's New Year's Eve Fireworks celebration. The first wave of tickets has sold out but a second and final wave will be released at 12pm on Friday 30 November. Go to the website at www.london.gov.uk for more information on how to get tickets.

#### **Revised Christmas Collections**

There will be some changes to your regular waste collections over the Christmas period. The table below shows the changed dates. All collections return to normal the week commencing Monday 7 January.

If your normal collection day is:	It will be changed to:
Monday 24 December	Monday 24 December
Tuesday 25 December	Thursday 27 December
Wednesday 26 December	Friday 28 December
Thursday 27 December	Saturday 29 December
Friday 28 December	Sunday 30 December
Monday 31 December	Monday 31 December
Tuesday 1 January	Wednesday 2 January
Wednesday 2 January	Thursday 3 January
Thursday 3 January	Friday 4 January
Friday 4 January	Saturday 5 January



## WEATHERING THESTORM

We might be well prepared for winter weather in Southwark, but grit and shovels wouldn't have helped much in memorable winters gone by....

rom 1300 to around 1850, a period known as the "Little Ice Age" inflicted much longer, colder and snowier winters on London than we experience today.

As well as the weather, the Thames was different. Before the construction of the Albert, Chelsea, and Victoria Embankments in the mid 19th century, the Thames was significantly wider and shallower than it is today, with a much slower flow rate. The mediaeval London Bridge had 19 piers, each supported by large starlings (defensive bulwarks protecting the piers from the force of water or collisions) that impeded the natural flow of the tidal river. This meant the river upstream of the bridge was more likely to freeze in a hard winter, causing ice flows to jam between the starlings, dam the river, and cause more freezing.

At least 22 times between 1400 and 1815 the Thames froze over completely in central London. From the early 17th century, a frozen river was the signal for a "frost fair" - an outdoor fairground and marketplace, where Londoners could ice-skate or sled, take sleigh rides, watch horse races, and browse food stalls, rather like a Christmas market today. During the winter of 1683-4, when the Thames was frozen a foot deep for two months, vendors could spitroast a whole ox on the frozen river. During the last frost fair in 1814,

an elephant crossed the frozen river downstream of Blackfriars Bridge, and printer George Davis set up a stall where he typeset, printed, and sold a 124 page book, Frostiana; or A History of the River Thames in a Frozen State.

Much more recently, the winter of 1986/7 was the coldest in more than 20 years, prompting the opening of emergency shelters. One such centre was in Braganza Street, in an estate hall; local residents took time off work to staff the shelter. In February 1991, emergency night shelters re-opened, as six people died and hundreds received medical treatment for fall injuries or hypothermia due to the severe cold.

However. Southwark is more likely to face windstorms and flooding in the winter, rather than snow. Low pressure systems known as extratropical cyclones moving east from the Atlantic can cause chaos. The Great Storm of October 1987 downed hundreds of trees and blew two concrete balconies off a building on the Willowbrook Estate. The Burns Night storm of January 1990 injured hundreds, caused at least two deaths, and destroyed roofs, chimneys and the skylights at Dulwich and Camberwell Pools.

Southwark's worst weather comes from storm surge - windstorms pushing water from the Atlantic. If the storm goes around the top of Scotland into the North Sea, the ocean can get pushed into the bottleneck of the tidal Thames

Estuary, raising the level

of the river and causing flooding (what the Thames Barrier was built to prevent). When storm surge combines with spring high tide or the storm brings rain with it, the resulting flooding could prove catastrophic.

Storm surge first came to Southwark's attention in 1928. At Christmas time, the Cotswolds saw unusually heavy snowfall, which melted abruptly at New Year, charging the Thames with much more water than normal. On the night of 6 January, an extratropical cyclone added rain - and high tide at 1am brought a storm surge. At Old Swan Pier, on the upstream side of London Bridge, the river rose to 27 feet, 2 inches. Fourteen people were killed on the north side of the river as basement sleeping areas flooded.

Tooley Street's warehouses filled with river water and debris nearly to the ceiling. The South London Press reported on 13 January that the mayor, Cllr W F Castle, had visited, commenting that "...the lower part of the houses had been turned into dripping caverns of despair and misery".

Rotherhithe was perhaps the worst hit area of the modern borough: 600 homes were destroyed, with another 1,000 damaged. Survivors fled for their lives from icy water chest-deep or more, often wearing

just nightclothes. In some homes, the weight of floodwaters buckled the floor, and the damage was made worse by the flood destroying barrels of creosote (a wood preservative) stored at the docks in Rotherhithe. This added a thick layer of flammable goo on top of the flood waters, coating everyone and everything it touched. Survivors found their food, clothing, and furniture wrecked - and couldn't even light a fire, for fear of setting creosote-soaked homes ablaze.

Nearly 20 years later, tide, storm, and sea collided again. The North Sea flood of early 1953 - the 20th century's worst natural disaster in the UK - came level with the Chelsea Embankment, and only spared central London because a wind change around 2:30am reduced the surge. However, Rotherhithe was still flooded the water level in Rotherhithe Street was higher than in 1928. A retaining wall on the Osprey Estate gave way during the storm, flooding Lower Road, Osprey Road, and Trident Street to a depth of up to 2 feet.

During both floods, the worst of the weather brought out the best in the borough's people. By the beginning of February 1928, the metropolitan borough of Southwark had collected 2 tons of food and £1.700 for flood relief. Market traders in East Street collected more than £5 in the weeks after the flood, and staff and patrons of the Colleen Cinema in Peckham raised £14 with a collection. However, the star fundraisers may have been three little girls dressed as nurses - their collection, at the Peckham Hippodrome, raised more than £50!





## THE GAMERA NEVER LIES

Anyone who watched the recent BBC drama The Bodyguard will know that CCTV can provide crucial evidence in an investigation, and in real life too, it plays an essential role in keeping people safe.

block just behind Borough High Street, Southwark's award winning CCTV service operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to help stop crime in its tracks and assist people in trouble. Monitoring 450 cameras across the borough, operators work in shifts to ensure that police know about crimes almost before they happen, that support teams are sent to help vulnerable residents, and that evidence is gathered to support future prosecutions.

**Environment and Community** Protection Manager, Tracey Umney, explains how it works: "CCTV plays an important part in how the council supports the police and partners to protect our communities, alongside our wardens, analysts and environmental enforcement teams. There are strict rules about CCTV - our use of the cameras has to be proportionate and legitimate - with so many cameras we can't watch everywhere all of the time. Instead we work with the police and community wardens to identify emerging issues, hotspts and specific areas to monitor.

"We review the location of the cameras regularly, and we have 11 redeployable cameras that we can move fairly quickly, according to where they are needed most. This summer the community on

the Brandon Estate asked us to increase our presence following a number of violent incidents, so we arranged that straight away.

"In an average year, we will deal with thousands of incidents, ranging from violent assaults. road traffic accidents and domestic violence, through to flytipping and dog fouling. We also spot people who may need our help, such as rough sleepers, and alert the relevant team to support them."

#### Antisocial behaviour in council blocks

"Unfortunately, we know that some blocks have become a regular hangout for antisocial behaviour and drug use, and as a result residents sometimes ask the CCTV team for help. As well as our street based redeployable cameras, we have five sets of internal cameras which can be used inside blocks, in areas like stairwells. Residents of Dunstall House appealed to the team after months of sleepless nights caused by ASB locally. CCTV was installed as part of a partnership approach to these issues and to the relief of residents, the antisocial behaviour has now reduced dramatically, with the perpetrators receiving a range of sanctions including police cautions and antisocial behaviour orders."

#### **Flytipping**

Flytipping is something that can be hard to prosecute, as

rubbish is often dumped at night when no-one is watching. Understandably it really upsets local people, especially when their neighbourhood becomes a hotspot for illegal dumping. We use our cameras in these locations to gather evidence, and where necessary, apply to carry out closer surveillance of a specific location under the powers of the Regulatory Investigation Powers Act (RIPA). Sufficient CCTV evidence has been gathered in certain cases to justify instigating proceedings and bring the companies to court.

#### When CCTV saves lives

Last year an incident was developing on a Southwark estate, one Saturday evening. The CCTV operator spotted a group of young men starting to gather outside the entrance to a party. As the group grew, it became evident that the situation was becoming tense. The CCTV operator immediately alerted the police who arrived within 30 seconds and managed to diffuse the situation. The CCTV team continued to monitor the situation and noticed weapons. including knives, being hidden and removed by some of the young people. Again they informed police, leading to two arrests, and demonstrating how serious the situation could have become if the CCTV team hadn't been watching.

#### 'A DAY IN THE LIFE OF' A CCTV OPERATOR...

When I tell people what I do for a living, they often assume it's a boring, dull and static job, sitting in a chair for long periods and staring at a screen. The reality is completely different.

Everyday is different. We can come in to work and be flooded with requests for information, or see a number of crimes unfolding before our eyes, while on other days it may be quiet and we concentrate on updating data, watching key locations, and waiting. At the start of the shift the cameras will be checked to make sure they are working, we will check our emails and make ourselves aware of any information passed on from the previous shift, including bookings for viewings, ongoing situations and surveillance operations. Sometimes the police ask us to go through old footage for evidence to support a criminal case.

During the shift we monitor and patrol different areas on the cameras, checking 'hot spots', any suspicious behaviour and anything we've been asked to keep an eye on by the police. We often observe situations that involve proactively working with our partners, responding to emergency calls, requests from wardens and directing police on the ground to suspicious behaviour and suspects, often resulting in arrests.

We are skilled in understanding body language in order to monitor crowds, intercept trouble



before it occurs, and track specific people and we demonstrate that skill on a daily basis. The team is really proud of our successes, especially when we have prevented a serious crime from taking place.

We understand that some people worry about being watched, but our team is always compliant with the law, and the standards and procedures set out by the Surveillance Camera Commissioner. We are here to keep people safe, not to pry.

For more information about how the CCTV team operates, where cameras are located, and how to access footage of yourself please visit www.southwark.gov.uk/community-safety/ closed-circuit-television-cctv

#### CCTV, not snooping

The Surveillance Camera Code of Practice. published by the Home Office in 2013. sets out how organisations should use overt surveillance cameras in public places, ensuring the use is legitimate, effective, proportionate and compliant with the law. The code aims to ensure that individuals and wider communities have confidence that surveillance cameras are deployed to protect and support them, rather than spy on them. In Southwark, all operators undergo comprehensive training and a series of security checks, including clearance by the Met's Counter Terrorism team. The service has the highest possible level of accreditation.

For more information about national procedures and oversight of surveillance cameras, please go to www.gov.uk/ government/organisations/surveillancecamera-commissioner

"It's extremely important that our communities are assured that any use of surveillance camera systems in a public place helps to protect and keep them safe, whilst respecting their right to privacy. By being awarded my third party certification mark for their public space CCTV Scheme, Southwark Council have clearly demonstrated that they comply with the surveillance camera code of practice in respect of that scheme."

**Surveillance Camera Commissioner** 

### There are MANY WAYS PREVENT











Do it your way at doitlondon.org





LONDON HIV PREVENTION PROGRAMME: PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY LONDON BOROUGHS



## Get 9100 your 1000

Southwark is getting ready for Christmas and New Year festivities. Here is what you can find in the borough to get you into the spirit...

#### **Peckham**

It's party season in Peckham with markets, mulled wine and shopping all on the menu. The vibrant Peckham Levels is celebrating its 1st birthday this December with its Winter Open Studios event with performances, a bespoke fashion market and workshops, see the website at www.peckhamlevels. org for details, plus there's the heated Winter Garden at Peckham Springs and other delights of the town serving Christmassy cocktails and festive fayre, there will be the annual Pexmas Festive Market on Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 December. This year the event will host more than 140 independent local doers. makers, foodies and traders in Warwick Gardens from 11am to 6pm.

#### **Peckham Springs Winter Garden**



#### **Elephant and Castle**

It's getting festive down at Elephant and Castle. Among the many pubs, bars and restaurants offering seasonal delights, Artworks and Lost Rivers at Elephant Park will be going all out to celebrate Christmas as the temporary structure will be closing in the new year. Mercato Metropolitano is also ready for Christmas with a calendar of events, classes, live music and tasting that will get everybody into the Christmas spirit. See their website at www.mercatometropolitano.co.uk for how to book events.





Mercato Metropolitano

#### Borough, Bankside and Canada Water

If you're looking for something a bit different for your Christmas party then why not challenge colleagues to take on the Bermondsey Beer mile. There is a good, unofficial guide to the Beer Mile at www. bermondsey-beer-mile.co.uk that currently lists 18 venues. If you are more of a foodie - the stalls and restaurants of Borough Market have plenty to delight, or why not try the Street Feast selection down at Hawker House in Canada Water (www.streetfeast.com/ visit-us/hawker-house). The Flea Christmas Market is part of the festive fun at Flat Iron Square this year too (15 and 16 December see website for times and details www.fleaflatironsquare.co.uk) if you fancy a bit of shopping before enjoying some food and drink in the bars and food joints at Flat Iron Square.



#### The Women's Safety Charter

We have 137 licensed premises in Southwark that are signed up to the Women's Safety Charter. These venues prominently display posters if they are signed up to the Charter and a list is available on the council's website. Women should expect the below from these venues and be safe to enjoy their night out in Southwark:

- high visibility posters in the venue which discourage harassment and encourage reporting
- every report of harassment and sexual intimidation taken seriously and appropriate action taken
- active steps taken to support persons who report harassment or sexual intimidation which might take place in their premises
- fully trained front of house staff to address women's safety and harassment
- active steps taken by staff to ensure women leave the venue safely



#### ... and here is how you can safely enjoy your night out in Southwark

#### Don't miss out! #EatPacePlan

Christmas and New Year is a fun time for going out and celebrating but it has its downside. We want all who go out in Southwark during the festive period to enjoy themselves safely. On Monday 26 November the Mayor of London, supported by the City of London Corporation, will launch their festive campaign encouraging party goers to enjoy their evenings but make sure they plan ahead and get home safely. Here are the top tips to take to your office party this year.

#### **EAT**

 Make sure you eat before you go out. Eating can help slow down the absorption of alcohol, helping you stay in control. Why not book a party somewhere that serves meals or snacks?

#### **PACE**

- Pace yourself. Having a soft drink or some water between alcoholic drinks slows the rate of your drinking. Why not try a non-alcoholic beer or cocktail?
- Stick to safer drinking levels. 14 units in a week spread over three or more days. According to Drinkaware a 125ml glass of wine is around one and a half units of alcohol. The NHS Change4Life tracker or Drinkaware's: Track and Calculate Unit's app will help you keep track of how much you are drinking and spending. If you're worried or uncertain about how much you're drinking, ask the bar staff. Do they pour doubles or singles? How big is their large glass of wine?
- Keep an eye on your drinks and don't leave them unattended.
- If a friend or colleague seems drunk don't buy them any more drinks.

 Beware of drinking in rounds. Don't feel obliged to keep up with other people. Trying to keep up with other people is dangerous and often very expensive.

#### PLAN

- Before you go out, think about where the nearest public transport is to your party and check the time of the last bus or train. Visit tfl.gov.uk/ journeyplanner
- Look after your friends and colleagues and make sure you know how you are getting home at the end of the night. Plan your journey in advance.
- Have the number for a reputable taxi company in your area saved on your phone and book in advance.
   Do not accept lifts from strangers.
- Share the fare and share a cab with a colleague or friend who lives close by.
- Remember after a big night out you may still be over the drink drive limit in the morning.

Have a Merry Christmas and think Eat, Pace, Plan!



## SOUTHWARK PRESENTS

East Dulwich
Christmas Cracker





### Alice in Winterland





#### **SATURDAY 1 DECEMBER**

11am to 5pm Lordship Lane and North Cross Market www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents FREE

East Dulwich will be the place to be on Saturday 1 December when the fabulous Christmas Cracker returns supported by Southwark Council and presented by the Dulwich Festival.

Now in its seventh year, the 2018 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 1 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.

#### **28 NOVEMBER 2018 TO 5 JANUARY, 2019**

Daily; 3pm to 10pm Southwark Park

www.aliceinwinterland.co.uk

Adults: from £15. Child: from £9. Infant (3 and under) free.

Concession: from £12. Family: from £43. Additional prices for Santa's Grotto (see website for details). Discounts available for local residents. Please use

discount code AIWSN.

This winter there is something magical happening in Southwark Park.

Welcome to the sparkling world of Winterland. Immerse yourself in the enchanting fantasy world of Alice in Winterland in this fairytale adventure through thousands of twinkling lights and a trail with over 160 giant lanterns. From a 5 metre tall Alice to the life-size Mad Hatter's Tea Party, 35 interactive and immersive scenes take you so deep into Winterland that you'll never want to come out! Play the iconic Flamingo Game, slide down the Rabbit hole

and meet the Red Queen as you venture into the most exciting lantern festival in the country! There will also be a Christmas market with festive gifts and refreshments available, Tea Cup Ride and Santa's Grotto. You'd be Mad to miss it.



For these and loads more events visit www.southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents

#### Cubafrobeat

Louie Louie and Funkiwala Records present "Lokkhi Terra meets Deli Sosimi" live, with the London fusionistas creating a unique soundclash with ex-Fela Kuti keyboardist and legendary UK Afro-beat ambassador Dele Sosimi. This concert is the first in a series in the stunning surroundings of the Sir John Soane designed Grade 1 listed St Peter's Church, Walworth.

#### Friday 7 December, 7pm

Tickets are £10 and available through Eventbrite: http://bit.ly/ LL\_stpeb

St Peter's Church, Walworth



#### Philip Pullman's Grimm Tales

A delicious selection of Philip Pullman's favourite fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm, re-told and re-worked for this Christmas. Enter a world of powerful witches, enchanted forest creatures, careless parents and fearless children as they embark on adventures full of magic, gore, friendship, and bravery. Ages 8+

#### 13 November, 2018 to 6 January, 2019, various daytime evening performances, Tuesday to Sunday

£12 to £26 Unicorn Theatre www.unicorntheatre.com/ **GrimmTales** 



#### Huddle

During the long, cold winter Mr Penguin carefully guards his egg. Now this new dad needs to look after his newly born chick on his own and he's not feeling confident. How will father and baby work it out together? A gorgeous, engaging and highly visual Christmas show for ages 2 to 5.

#### 13 November, 2018 to 6 January, 2019, various daytime and evening performances, Tuesday to Sunday

£12 to £20

Unicorn Theatre www.unicorntheatre.com/Huddle



#### **Christmas Feast**

Take a seat in our make-believe Christmas restaurant, choose your 'food' and colour it in. And while you are decorating your plate with cranberry red paint, salt and pepper glitter and bread sauce glue, the restaurant's waiting staff will entertain you with comedy, music and story-telling. For ages 3+ (for all the family)

#### 15 to 27 December, various daytime performances, Tuesday to Sunday

Unicorn Theatre www.unicorntheatre.com/ ChristmasFeast



#### Baa Humbug

Join a rambunctious group of farm animals on Christmas Eve as they celebrate the holiday season. The only problem is Humbug the Sheep won't ioin in. With the



help of a wise old Farmer, a timetravelling tractor and a little bit of Christmas magic, Humbug the Sheep comes to see how important it is to have friends. Baa Humbug will captivate and entertain children aged 4+ and their adults.

#### 8 to 15 December, weekends: 2pm and 4pm, weekdays: 10.45am and 1.30pm

£5, £3 (Concessions), £3 (Southwark Residents)

Blue Elephant Theatre, SE5 OXT www.blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/ baa-humbug

#### **Robin Hood:** The Arrow of Destiny

It's been a long, hungry winter, and the villagers of Nottingham need a hero. As Maid Marian iourneys deep into Sherwood Forest to



find the arrow-shooting adventurer, there's lots of thrills and surprises along the way. Join us this Christmas for a festive treat for all the family with a show packed full of comedy, action, adventure and songs. Forget the legends, forget the stories, this Robin Hood is real. Find out if Robin, Marian and the Merry Men can defeat the evil Sheriff and bring a merry Christmas to the people of Nottingham.

#### 4 December - 22 December, times vary. Check website for details

Child £7. Adult £12. Family £32 Theatre Peckham www.theatrepeckham.co.uk

#### Bumper cars on ice

Castle Square in Elephant and Castle is hosting its own ice-skating experience this Christmas. Visitors and locals can show off their iceskating skills on the rink as well as taking part in London's only location for bumper cars on ice. Festive food and drink will be available and visitors can unwind after a fun time on the rink while listening to music from live DJs.

**Thursday 29 November to Friday** 6 January, Monday to Friday, 1pm to 8pm, Saturday 10am to 8pm and Sunday 10am to 6pm.

£6 - see website to book Castle Square, Elephant and Castle www.elephantandcastle.org.uklicerink



#### Women's Work

An exhibition of women artists from Southwark's art and museum collections and from Morley College's long artistic history. A chance to see a selection of women's art from the late 18th century onwards, this exhibition showcases rarely seen work and highlights the often low profile of historic women artists across all kinds of subjects and techniques.

10 November to 21 December, Monday to Friday 11am to 6pm, Saturdays 12am to 4pm. Gallery tours: 6 December 1pm to 1.30pm and 10 December 1pm to 1.30pm

FREE Morley Gallery



#### Winter Wassail

A festive celebration in the Globe Theatre that will warm your cockles and leave you with a big smile on your face. Join us for poetry, readings, stories and song, with stunning instrumental music courtesy of two wonderful musical ensembles: The English Cornett & Sackbut Ensemble and The Society of Strange and Ancient Instruments.

#### Saturday 22 December, 6pm and Sunday 23 December, 3pm and 6pm

£5 standing, £10-£35 seated Shakespeare's Globe www.shakespearesglobe.com/whatson-2018/winter-wassail

#### Concert for Winter

Shakespeare's Globe's free annual showcase which encourages residents of Southwark to perform a song, poem or dance on the stage in celebration of the past, present and future of the borough. The theme for this year is 'Journeys' with a number of local Southwark nurseries, schools and community groups presenting performances that will commemorate the journeys that they, their families or others have made.

#### Thursday 6 December, 1pm

Shakespeare's Globe www.shakespearesglobe.com/whatson-2018/a-concert-for-winter



#### A Mythic Understanding: inspired by David Jones

This exhibition is one part of a College-wide project led by Geoff Coupland (aka ZEEL) that explores the life and themes of the work of artist, illustrator and poet David Jones.

Now to 14 December, Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm, Saturday 12pm to 4pm

Camberwell College of Arts www.arts.ac.uk/whats-on/a-mythicunderstanding-inspired-by-david-

#### Survey

A major new survey exhibition presenting new works by 15 earlycareer artists from across the UK. Survey is the largest review of contemporary art practice in Jerwood Visual Art's 12 years of programming, spanning a breadth of disciplines.

#### **Now to 16 December** Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm; Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm

FREE

Jerwood Visual Arts, Jerwood Space 171 Union Street SE1 OLN www.jerwoodvisualarts.org



Hazel Brill, I MADE A SHOW FOR YOU (2017). 13 minu video installation. Image courtesy of the artist

#### Flea Christmas Market

We will have our best traders selling interesting gifts for Christmas as well as festive fun at Flat Iron Square and on our new flea market extension on Union Street.

#### 15 and 16 December, Saturday 11am to 6pm and Sunday 10am to 5pm

Venue: Flat Iron Square, 68 Union Street, SE1 1TD www.fleaflatironsquare.co.uk













#### Care to join us?

0800 952 0707 @ southwark.gov.uk/fostering Support 24/7, training and allowance provided.

