Southwark Life
Autumn 2017

5,000 LIVES CHANGED
How JOBS are transforming LIVES

Black History Month
A guide to events in Southwark

Remember, remember
Free fireworks on 5 November

Your magazine from Southwark Council
As the autumn evenings draw in, we can all feel from time to time that we’d rather burrow under the duvet than get up for work. But the reality is, for most of us of working age, our job is a huge part of who we are. We take pride in what we do, and in providing for ourselves and our families.

Almost four years ago, the council committed to helping 5,000 Southwark residents find meaningful work. We all know parts of the borough are changing, and it has always been hugely important to me that local people benefit from that change, both in terms of being part of the borough’s future, and in taking advantage of the opportunities created by regeneration.

I am therefore delighted to share the news with you that we are on course to hit our target, and through a huge amount of work on the part of local people, businesses, council officers, and our dedicated job service, Southwark Works, we have helped change 5,000 lives for the better.

To every one of those 5,000, I want to say congratulations. Not everyone has the easiest route to employment, and some of you have overcome incredible challenges to get to where you are today. This edition of Southwark Life tells some of those real life stories, celebrates a few of the businesses who have gone the extra mile as employers, and gives you and your children ideas about where you could look for help or inspiration for your next step. I hope you find it an engaging and helpful read, and you never know, maybe you could be one of the next 5,000!
Need to know...

The nights are drawing in but there is still lot happening around the borough. From ancient remains to new public art, take a look at what’s going on in Southwark.

For news and events follow us on Facebook and Twitter or find out more at southwark.gov.uk/enews

Follow us on Facebook facebook.com/southwarkcouncil
Follow us on Twitter @lb_southwark
Follow us on Instagram Instagram.com/southwarkcouncil

Trace the Nunhead Art Trail

Now in its fifth year, the Nunhead Art Trail sees local artists and craftspeople exhibit and sell their work across Nunhead workspaces and venues. Why not come along for the trail, browse from venue to venue and savour a journey that passes through shops, homes, cafes and even the Nunhead Cemetery? This is your chance to meet some of the area’s most creative minds and connect with the art they produce. More information and a map of the trail, running through 23 and 24 September, can be found nunheadarttrail.co.uk

Roman sarcophagus found at ancient Southwark burial site

An extraordinarily rare Roman sarcophagus, the like of which has only been discovered twice before in London’s recent history, has been found buried in an ancient grave at Harper Road. Since moved to the Museum of London, its another discovery that highlights Southwark’s importance in ancient Roman ritual history, and an assortment of religious and funerary monuments and a Roman cemetery found can be found across the borough. To see more photos of the excavation visit our Flickr page at http://bit.ly/2xxSUw0

Free Bonfire Night fireworks at Southwark

Southwark’s free annual Bonfire Night fireworks display is one of the city’s most popular, attracting around 30,000 people every year. Taking place on Sunday 5 November, this year’s event promises to be one of the best yet – and with food, drink and entertainment on offer as well, it’s not to be missed. For details visit southwark.gov.uk/fireworks

Support following the London Bridge terror incident

There are support services available for those who have been affected by June’s tragic attacks at London Bridge and Borough Market. The emotional impact of such an event can often be felt for weeks, months and even years after the incident itself. For more information on the support available, please visit southwark.gov.uk/LBsupport

Peckham Portraits rehoused in Peckhamplex

Aimed at celebrating the talent of Black British actors, the inspirational “Peckham Portraits” became a focal point for Peckham’s local community and were displayed on hoardings near Peckham Library. Franklyn Rogers’s iconic photographs were taken down to be professionally restored and now nine of them have been attached to the front of Peckhamplex, and we hope to rehome the remaining portraits locally in the new year.

Can you make Southwark Cleaner Greener or Safer?

Have you got any ideas that could help make your borough a better place to live? Southwark Council’s grants could help you realise those ambitions. Those of you who are passionate about transforming unloved spaces can apply to the Cleaner Greener Safer fund, while community groups who want to promote inclusion, improve skills, combat isolation and help young people can bid for the Neighbourhoods Fund. Those who’d like to improve Southwark’s roads can apply for the Devolved Highways Fund. You have until Monday 23 October to apply for council funding to bring about the changes that are important to you. For more information on how to apply for a Cleaner Greener Safer or Devolved Highways Fund grant, please contact cgs@southwark.gov.uk. If you’d like to apply for a Neighbourhoods Fund grant, please visit southwark.gov.uk/neighbourhoodsfund

Leader’s Public Question Time is coming

Leader’s Public Question Time is our annual event when the Leader of the Council and guest cabinet members take questions from the public. Don’t miss your chance to take part in this exciting conversation about Southwark’s future. Taking place on Wednesday 8 November from 6.30pm to 7.45pm at InSpire, The Crypt At St Peter’s, Liverpool Grove, London, SE17 3HH. More details are available from the council’s website including how to book your place or to submit a question. Or you can Tweet your questions with #AskSouthwark
Bold new street art turns heads in Peckham

The west wall of St John with St Andrew Parish Church has been adorned with internationally-acclaimed street artist RUN's latest masterpiece, Mary – Origin and Destination. Towering over its surroundings, the work by the London-based artist, whose real name is Giacomo Bufarini, took weeks to complete and was organised by Southwark Council and Street Art London.

Ledbury estate update

There has been a lot of publicity surrounding structural problems on the Ledbury estate in Peckham, where the council has had to turn the gas off to the four tower blocks. It appears that work that should have been carried out to strengthen the blocks when they were owned by the GLC in the 1960s/70s may never have happened. We are now working with residents to replace their gas appliances with electrical ones and develop longer-term plans for the blocks. Go to southwark.gov.uk/ledburytowers for more information.

Help make Southwark the London Borough of Culture

Imagine Southwark without the vibrancy, multicultural richness, sights, sounds, tastes, and unending cultural opportunities and experiences. Impossible! We know that Southwark wouldn’t be Southwark without its cultural richness. We also know that culture permeates throughout all our neighbourhoods and communities. Everywhere from Tate Modern to the Mayflower, the Menier Chocolate Factory to Burgess Park, Printworks to Sands Film, Peckham Levels to Bovril Castle, Southwark is bursting with culture. We want Southwark to be the leading place for culture: old, new, emerging and established, and we want everyone to be able to access and enjoy it.

That’s why we’re applying to be the Mayor of London’s London Borough of Culture. If successful we will win over £1m for a spectacular cultural programme, or £600k as a major award. And we need you, our residents, to help drive our bid, ensuring it truly reflects all that you love about our borough.

Very soon we will begin talking to local people and asking for your ideas, so please get your creative thinking caps on to help Southwark develop an amazing bid.

More information about how you can get involved will soon be available at southwark.gov.uk
Unemployment damages people’s lives in so many different ways. Apart from the obvious financial impact, and worries about whether you can pay your rent or mortgage, support your family, and manage other bills, the sense of rejection from repeated unsuccessful job applications can lead to poor mental health. For society, unemployment brings wider issues – homelessness, deprivation, crime and alienation all increase in areas where long-term worklessness persists.

In Southwark, the council set out to support our residents by re-prioritising our efforts to support local economic growth and help people into work. We want to create opportunities for everyone to reach their potential, explore their ambitions and dreams and be able to make their own contributions to society. By setting an ambitious target of creating 5,000 jobs over four years, we were determined to take advantage of all the opportunities on our doorstep, from many sectors and a rich mix of employers, including the many smaller and independent businesses dotted across the borough.

5,000 jobs mean 5,000 lives changed forever. Here are some of their stories:

LOUIE MEATES

Four months into college, Louie Meates, then 16 years old, realised it wasn’t for him and left. Louie’s mum popped into the Southwark Construction Skills Centre when walking past one day and arranged a meeting with Louie and John White, the centre manager. Louie now works at the centre during the week as part of a one-and-a-half-year apprenticeship, working towards a Level 2 Diploma in Construction Operations and Civil Engineering Services in Highway Maintenance. He said: “I enjoy working in this industry and would like to work towards becoming an NVQ assessor in Highway Maintenance.”

UKARIA LEWIS-MCDERMOTT

Ukaria Lewis-McDermott lives on the Old Kent Road. Through the council’s SERDS programme, Ukaria worked with St Giles to secure a job as a legal advisor with Advising London. She has now been in the role for 1 year and 7 months, and is fully qualified, doing outreach work in other boroughs. She says: “Since I got this job I am in a better position financially and can do things I couldn’t do before. I am much more confident – I now do a lot of networking – and I believe I am a better worker and employee. Also, I am more happy in myself.”

SARAH BADCOTT

Sarah Badcott is also a Legal Trainee Legal Adviser for Advising London. She was helped into work by the council’s partner Inspire. Before she found this job Sarah was working on a zero hour contract for another legal firm. She says: “What I like the most about my job is the fact that I am giving free advice to the residents of Southwark. I feel as if I’m actively helping the community by advising them on the issues that affect them most. It is great being able to empower people and build up their confidence. What has changed for me since getting this job is my situation as a whole. I feel like I have been invested in as a resident of Southwark, from interview techniques and CV letter writing at Inspire, to an intensive training programme at my work place. I found it difficult to get work in a sector that I enjoyed, but finding work in my local area has made me happy about working in a professional environment, which was not the case before. I feel more confident now than before I applied for my current role.”

“Since I got this job I am in a better position financially and can do things I couldn’t do before...”
TRULY CHANGING LIVES
Finding a job can be challenging at the best of times, but for some Southwark residents, the path to employment is strewn with obstacles. Through its various employment programmes, the council and its partners have supported people over the last four years, through its various employment programmes, the council and its partners have supported people who thought they might never have the chance to a ‘normal life’ to support themselves and their families, and find roles that they love. Some of their stories are too raw or sensitive to share, but here we get a taste of the incredible journeys that our residents have taken. Names have been changed for obvious reasons.

Jenny lost her job because of the controlling behaviour of her partner. When she found the strength to leave her abusive relationship and take her young child with her, one of the council’s partners worked with Jenny to get her career back on track. They arranged some training, helped her with her CV and contacted local organisations in her preferred area of work. Jenny is now very happy, is working very hard in a job she loves, and has found a new partner.

Abdul applied for the council’s SEEDS scheme after a spell in prison. He said: ‘I didn’t have the best start in life. My parents were into drink and drugs, and I was taken into care in my teens. I was very angry and I got kicked out of school, so I didn’t get the grades I’d been predicted. Then one night I was out drinking and I injured someone.’ Abdul came out of prison determined to change. He gave up alcohol, and searched for work but found his criminal record was a real barrier. However, SEEDS worked with him to prepare for an interview. He got the job and the last time we spoke to him he was about to start a degree and plan his wedding.

John was referred for career support by the NHS. He was not in education, training or employment and had struggled with poor mental health, but felt a job would help him in his recovery. John was helped to update his CV and look for part-time work, including an application to a local café. The interviewers were so impressed with him that he was offered a part-time role with the flexibility to fit in with his health requirements. John is now more outgoing and confident. He has settled in well and not only has it made a valuable contribution to his recovery but he is also learning new skills.

SOUTHWARK WORKS
This council-run service coordinates a network of employment experts who work together to provide an individual, tailored service to Southwark residents who are finding it difficult to get work due to their personal circumstances. These can include being long-term unemployed, having a learning disability, being aged over 50, homelessness or a number of other challenges.

SOUTHWARK CONSTRUCTION SKILLS CENTRE
Southwark has been at the forefront in ensuring local residents benefit from the large scale regeneration on their doorsteps. Through the use of Southwark’s planning powers and policies, Southwark has ensured local residents are able to be supported into sustainable employment on developments across the borough.

Based at Elephant Park, the Southwark Construction Skills Centre (SCSC), developed in partnership with Lendlease, opened in July 2016 with a 16 month job that pays £9.75 per hour. SEEDS will help you write your CV and look for part-time work, including an application to a local café. The interviewers were so impressed with him that he was offered a part-time role with the flexibility to fit in with his health requirements. John is now more outgoing and confident. He has settled in well and not only has it made a valuable contribution to his recovery but he is also learning new skills.

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A rewarding Care-er

Have you ever thought about a career in caring? Southwark Life spoke to two women who turned their experience of caring for loved ones into a professional – and increasingly vital – job.

The best carers are often people who have personal experience of caring for loved ones as they grow older. Often, these people have a wealth of experience but don’t realise that this could become a career. There is no right or wrong background and training is provided so you won’t feel out of your depth.

Vulnerable people, especially older people, can feel isolated. Carers provide vital support to older people, helping to keep them engaged with the community around them.

Change can be a tough thing for older people to deal with; the places that they spent long periods of their lives are changing rapidly. That’s why local people who turn to caring as a career are so important. They provide the vital links that older people need to stay connected to the wider community.

A career in care can also pay better in Southwark than people think. Southwark has an Ethical Care Charter, introduced in 2014, that ensures people who provide home care in the borough are paid at least the London Living wage, are paid for their travel time and can choose not to have a zero hour contract. Caring is a valued profession and we see it as such.

Facts and figures

- Around 1,800 people in Southwark currently receive a home care service
- Of these, 64% are older people – and we are above the London and national averages for older people living alone and with lower levels of income
- The other 36% are people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health problems. A significant proportion of these people are in “middle age”.
- Over 65% of those aged 65 or over are women.
- Around 37% of those aged 65 or over receiving care are from BME groups

Southwark Ethical Care Charter (SECC)

Highlights of the Southwark Ethical Care Charter for carers are set out below.

- Domiciliary care workers will be paid for their travel time.
- Zero hour contracts will not be used in place of permanent contracts for care workers.
- Local authorities will monitor service providers, including monitoring the working conditions of staff in care.
- Eligible homecare workers will be paid statutory sick pay.
- Homecare workers will be trained (at no cost to individual care workers).
- Homecare workers will be given time to meet co-workers to share best practice.
- Eligible homecare workers will be paid at least the London Living Wage.

YVONNE

Dulwich resident Yvonne has been caring for people in Southwark for the last six years. On an average day she will visit seven or eight people in their homes, slightly more on the weekends.

“I love caring for people, I have a caring attitude. It can be difficult as no one is the same bubbly person every time you visit them and you have to have it in you. You can’t be in it for the money.”

Yvonne came to England from Jamaica, where she had been caring for her father who sadly passed not long after she arrived here. “I wanted to continue caring,” she added, “I just felt it was what I wanted to do.”

CARRON

Rotherhithe resident Carron has been a professional carer in Southwark for six years, but spent around ten years caring for her nan and grandad before he passed away and her nan had to go into a care home.

“I love working with the elderly” she enthused. “Some don’t have families and see no one and I love making their day, bringing a smile to their face.

“It’s not about the money but the care charter has made a difference, especially now the company pays for travel as I spend half of my time travelling. People benefit more in their own environment so if we can help a person so they don’t have to go into care it is more rewarding.”

If you would like to find out more about caring opportunities, contact your local Job Centre at 24-26 Peckham High St, London SE15 5DS (call 0345 604 3719) or Coburg House, 63-67 Newington Causeway, SE1 6LS (call 020 7805 3100).
HAVE AN IDEA TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS BUT NEED HELP?

If you are aged 16-25 and live in Southwark, contact us to find out more and get started
businesslaunchpad.org.uk/southwark

Free SEEDS2 support includes:
• Your own Business Counsellor to support your business for 2 years
• Start up funding of up to £4,000 (eligibility criteria applies)
• Useful workshops and training
• Access to affordable workspace
• Opportunities to test trade your ideas

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
OCTOBER 2017
Exploring the heritage and history of Southwark’s African, Caribbean and diaspora communities.

Turn over for a taster of this year’s events and visit southwark.gov.uk/bhm2017 to download the full brochure and event listings.
Once again, Southwark is proud to be celebrating the heritage and contributions of black people through our jam-packed programme of storytelling, poetry, music, film, exhibitions and performance.

Interview with

GENEALOGIST

SHARON TOMLIN

Sharon Tomlin is a Genealogist and family historian. Here we talk to Sharon about the work she does and the impact that genealogy has on black African and Caribbean communities across the world.

The work that Sharon does connects with hundreds of individuals from many nationalities across the world who are in search of their Caribbean roots. Sharon’s work enables people to gain a better understanding of their personal history and this provides purpose and clarity to the lives of hundreds of people from the African and Caribbean communities. She also manages Routes Change, which is a professional research service that explores family history and genealogical research.

Q: What does Black History Month mean to you?
A: Black History Month is one of the few occasions that the African and Caribbean diaspora get the opportunity to publicly recognise what is known or hidden, and uncover our truths. It is an honour to work with the public to share information that contributes to the building of our identity.

Q: Why did you decide to work in the field of Caribbean genealogy and family history and when did you start?
A: I was fortunate to have been part raised in Jamaica. At that time I was exposed to talented, confident members of the Caribbean community. When I returned as a teenager to the UK I felt overwhelmingly suppressed. Even at that young age, I felt strongly that Black History ought to have a meaningful place in our society as history shows that we have contributed to the world’s civilisation.

Q: What future work do you have planned?
A: I plan to develop the work I am doing for Routes Change and focus on our website development. I will also continue to support the community through workshops and public speaking engagements.

Q: Are there any books that you can recommend in relation to genealogy?
A: I would recommend the following:

- Tracing Your Ancestors in Barbados, by Geraldine Lane
- Jamaican Ancestry – how to find out more, by Madeline Mitchell
- Researching Your Jamaican Family, by Jennifer O’Sullivan and Pansy Robinson

Check out our full Black History Month programme at southwark.gov.uk/bhm2017

SUNDAYS 1 – 29 OCTOBER

Vexed. Vocal. Voiced!!
A range of film festivals and musical events about protest, activism and progression rolled into one! Screenings of the most powerful and inspirational interviews and speeches by prominent figures and popular icons from the African diaspora.

Time: 12pm - 4pm
Venue: The Blackfriars Settlement, 1 Rushworth Street SE1 0BR
W: www.FILLiOne
E: MakeOurMoneyMatter@gmail.com
T: 07939 056 667

THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER

Barbara Ellis Presents: An African Journey
This interactive session allows the audience to reflect on what they already know about ‘The Americas and Africa’ before and after Columbus, as well as the events that took place from 1492 to 1838 when the enslaved Africans liberated themselves from slavery.

Time: 7pm - 8.30pm
Venue: Peckham Library, 5th Floor, Peckham Hill Street SE15 5JR
Book your free place by email: southwark.libraries@southwark.gov.uk

EVENT LISTINGS

If you want to find out more about researching family history then come to one of the Afro-Caribbean family history workshops held in our borough libraries during Black History Month this October (9, 17 and 26 October).

For more information about these specific events, contact the Local History Library and Archive:
T: 020 7525 0232
E: LocalHistoryLibrary@southwark.gov.uk

For the full event listings go to www.southwark.gov.uk/bhm2017
SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER
Black-British Heroes
Black History Walks will be presenting about several amazing African British Civil Rights heroes, ranging from 1596 to 2006. After the presentation there will be several guest speakers and contributors delivering more inspiring talks.

Time: 12pm - 5pm
Venue: Bermondsey Village Hall, Kirby Grove SE1 3TD
E: enquiries@leathermarketjmb.org.uk

SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER
Piano Music of Black Composers
Pianist Emmanuel Vass presents a recital of music by black composers from classical music to jazz piano and Emmanuel’s own transcriptions of contemporary music. Come along for this free musical event. Suitable for all ages.

Free entry. No need to book tickets
Time: 3.45pm - 5pm
Venue: All Saints Church, West Dulwich, Lovelace Road SE21 8JY
W: www.dulwichmusicfestival.co.uk/black-history-month-piano-recital
E: londonpianoevents@gmail.com

SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER
The black heroine that history forgot…
Cleo Sylvestre, together with Dame Elizabeth Anionwu will present this event dedicated to Mary Seacole – the remarkable Jamaican business woman and healer who set up the British Hotel behind the lines during the Crimean War.

Time: 4pm
Venue: Draper Hall, Hampton Street SE1 6TL
W: www.dulwichmusicfestival.co.uk/black-history-month-piano-recital
E: events@dulwichmusicfestival.co.uk

FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER
Celebrate Our Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
Age UK Lewisham and Southwark and Stones End Day Centre have teamed up to bring this event exploring cultural heritage, herbal remedies, music and dance – many of which have been handed down from generation to generation. Bookings can be made on 020 7358 4052.

Time: 11.30am - 3pm
Venue: Stones End Day Centre, 11 Scowell Road SE1 1QG
E: ageUK@ageuklands.org.uk
T: 020 7358 4052

TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER
The Reading Corner with Casey Elisha Books
Casey Elisha Books Reading Corner aims to inspire and celebrate diversity within children’s literature. For undergrads and all the family.

Time: 2pm - 3pm
Venue: Blue Anchor Library, Market Place, Southwark Park Road SE16 2UQ

TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER
Young Othello: The Tragedy of the White Swan by Onyeka Nubia
Theatrical reading of a drama set within an ancient African kingdom untouched by slavery or colonialism. Greed, jealousy and the thirst for power bring about the destruction of a nation and provide a deeper understanding of one of Shakespeare’s most maligned characters – Othello.

Free event.
Time: 7.30pm
Venue: Canada Water Culture Space, 21 Surrey Quays Road SE16 7AR
W: www.narrative-eye.org.uk
E: info@narrative-eye.org.uk

Visit southwark.gov.uk/bhm2017 for more great events.
Southwark today is home to a variety of trades and industries, from finance to fashion, education to edibles. The variety was just as great in the past – and while many trades and industries have disappeared with the march of time, others are still around in forms recognisable or unfamiliar to our ancestors.

### The docks

The docks were one of the borough’s most iconic old industries – the wharves and warehouses of Bermondsey and the Surrey Commercial Docks in Rotherhithe, were dominant employers for decades. Working life in the docks involved a huge number of different jobs. The vast majority of workers were casual labourers who lifted and hauled goods out of ships and into warehouses for retail repackaging. Another group – stevedores, watermen, and lightermen – had strenuous but skilled jobs: stevedores had responsibility for loading outgoing ships, watermen loaded and lightermen piloted the Thames barges that moved cargo between docks and wharves. Others had shore-based, permanent posts: supervision of the site, processing the mountain of paperwork associated with national and international trade, or keeping the docks’ specialist machinery running. Finally carmen – commercial freight hauliers – moved cargo out of the docks by road.

What is maybe most striking about these jobs is how little use they made of machinery, right up until the Second World War and after. Most lightermen rowed their craft – loaded with up to fifty tons of cargo – up and down the Thames, and the majority of road haulage was literally horse-powered. Before containerisation, items had to be removed from or added to the ship’s hold one by one, and often by hand. The dealporters’ statue by Canada Water library memorialises the specialists who balanced, carried, and stacked lengths of timber on their heads and shoulders.

“The vast majority of workers were casual labourers who lifted and hauled goods out of ships and into warehouses for retail repackaging”
**Horse power**

Horses featured in more old industries than the docks. Although horse-drawn cabs went into decline from the introduction of motor cabs in 1908, they were still common on London’s streets until the 1930s, and didn’t entirely die out until 1947, when the last horse-cab licence ended. You could also feed carrots to the engines of council vehicles until well into the 20th century – the metropolitan borough of Bermondsey phased out using horses to pull bin lorries in the mid-1930s, but Bermondsey and Southwark metropolitan boroughs kept horses on their payrolls for another twenty years or so. Some of them may well have been purchased at the Horse Repository at 16-18 New Kent Road (where the shopping centre is now) – it was the country’s largest weekly auction for horses until it closed in 1954, and provided work for locals including Sir Henry Cooper’s grandfather and members of Sir Michael Caine’s family.

**London’s Larder**

The docks, wharves, and warehouses of Bermondsey housed up to 75% of London’s food, earning the area the nickname “London’s Larder” – so it’s no surprise that food manufacturing is another of Southwark’s specialties. In 1813 Bryan Donkin, and his brother-in-law John Hall set up the very first tinned food factory in the world in Southwark Road (on the site of the Harris Academy, Bermondsey), filling orders for the army and navy; in 1818, JH Gamble joined and the firm (now Donkin, Hall, and Gamble) became famous for supplying expeditions to find the Northwest Passage in the 1820s. After Donkin left in the 1830s, the firm became part of Crosse and Blackwell – their Bermondsey factory, on Crimscott Street, made Branston Pickle until 1938, and Crosse and Blackwell in 1919, but retained its independent brand until 1960.

**Biscuit Town**

Southwark also made sweet stuff. Robert and Mary White began making lemonade in 1845. By 1894, R White & Sons was manufacturing soft drinks from factories in Albany Road (now part of Burgess Park), Hartley Street, Neate Street, New Church Street, Glengall Road. The company is still going strong as part of Britvic, but production moved to Beckton in the early 1970s.

Bermondsey used to be dripping with jam – or at least jam factories. E&F Pinks in Staple Street, one of the largest jam producers in the world in the 19th century, had the dubious distinction of being one of the first sites workers in the 1911 Women’s Strike walked out of – the strikers raised a banner outside the plant that read “We are not White slaves – but Pink”. Another 1911 flashpoint was Lipton’s Rowell Road jam factory, now the site of the Lucey estate, which was founded in 1890. Hartley’s jam factory, the longest-lasting of the Bermondsey jam brands, was a Lancashire company; the factory on Tower Bridge Road was built in 1901, as a means of capturing a bigger market share in southern England. It made jam until 1962, and then acted as a distribution centre for another decade or so.

But perhaps the most iconic Southwark sweeties was Peek Freans and Co. James Peek and his nephew George Frean founded the company – a complement to Peek’s family tea business – in 1857, with a factory in a disused sugar refinery in Mill Street. By 1865 James Carr, a son of the founder of Carr’s, had joined the firm. In return for a stake in the business, Carr gave Peek Freans ten acres of market garden land in Bermondsey for a new factory. This factory gave Bermondsey the name “Biscuit Town” – locals could tell what biscuits were baking by the smell in the air – and the world a number of its favourite tea break staples. Garibaldi biscuits were the first innovation, in 1861, followed by the Marie biscuit in 1875, the Chocolate Table (the first chocolate-covered digestive biscuit) in 1899, Bourbon biscuits in 1910, and Twirlies in the 1930s. They even pioneered the Family Circle biscuit assortment, today made by McVitie’s.

Generations of Bermondsey and Rotherhithe locals worked there – a substantial percentage were women, and job adverts of the time boast of Peek Freans family-friendly hours that gave many workers a half-day off on Fridays. It provided a wide range of benefits to employees and their families: on-site medical care, sports teams, music and drama groups, and a pension and paid holiday. A company-wide tribunal allowed all employees the chance to express concerns and propose solutions to problems.

**Kirkcaldy’s Testing Works**

Another major industry in Southwark was engineering of various kinds – not terribly surprising, maybe, given the prominence of food processing in the borough. However, the north of the borough was also not without major infrastructure projects like bridges required Acts of Parliament to authorise and finance.

For this reason, David Kirkcaldy, the father of materials science, chose to set up shop in the Great Southwark. In 1874, the firm – and the giant universal testing machine Kirkcaldy built – moved to 99 Southwark Street, where the machine remains to this day. Kirkcaldy’s Testing Works, run by David’s widow and then grandson after his death, in 1897, pioneered materials testing via microscope as well as more rigorous forms of stress testing: pulling, shearing, and twisting materials until they broke, carefully measuring the forces involved. Kirkcaldy’s tested components for Battersea Bridge, Hammersmith Bridge, and Skylon, among other structures – the building could accommodate entire girders being fed into the testing machine, which required stopped traffic on Southwark Street! The works also assisted with accident investigations, including the 1879 Tay Bridge disaster.

You can still see the machine in its original home, visit testingmuseum.org for more information of opening dates and times.
Opening the door to opportunity

Southwark is a place that breeds talent and is a fantastic borough to start out in any career from cooking to construction.

Everyone has to start somewhere and there are many businesses in Southwark which go the extra mile to be good employers and give something back to their local area. Whether they are paying the London Living Wage, offering quality apprenticeships for people of all ages, or signing up for our SEEDs programme, these local employers are truly changing lives in Southwark.

Southwark News is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary – having been a local newspaper and independent voice of the people in Southwark since 1987. It is proud to be the only independent, paid-for newspaper in London. It was set up by journalist Dave Clark, originally as the Bermondsey News, before he changed it to the Southwark & Bermondsey and finally the Southwark News in the early ’90s.

It is owned and run by two Managing Directors, Chris Mullany and Kevin Quinn. Former reporters then editors for Southwark News, they and David Ellis bought the title in 2002, after the founder Dave Clark died suddenly from cancer four years earlier.

The media is an industry which is notoriously difficult to break into without having connections to people who already work in the news, or without extensive work experience – an increasingly competitive market in itself – or a raft of graduate and post-graduate qualifications. However, with enough tenacity and a log-up from an organisation like Southwark News, it is possible to get a foot in the door. Chris Mullany said: “I’d still argue that cutting your teeth in local papers is the best route to becoming a well-rounded journalist – even with the changes to the industry that the internet has wrought. It’s a tough market, but we’ve tried to retain our staff, who are the lifeblood of our business. So we’re proud to have gained accreditation this year as a London Living Wage employer – it is not fair for young people to have to take on unpaid positions or wages too low to live on in London. We feel that everyone deserves a chance and experience is everything in the media. We have an employee who started as an apprentice from Bosco in Bermondsey and who has now been with us nine years and is a key person in our finance department and business as a whole.”

“Former journalists here are now at Sky, The Times, the BBC, The Express and London Tonight, to name a few. And by taking on apprentices ourselves, as well as running successful apprenticeship schemes like our 100 in 100 with Southwark Council, we strive to increase the opportunities for local young people.”

The Southwark Employment, Enterprise and Development Scheme (SEEDs) began in November 2014. It helped small businesses give young Southwark residents job opportunities or apprenticeships, paid at the London Living Wage. The businesses received a subsidy to help. It supported 48 young Southwark residents into work with 37 employers. The SEEDs2 project began in March 2017.

Lendlease

Construction is a great career for anyone, with a huge range of opportunities. Lendlease, the council’s development partner for its major regeneration project at Elephant and Castle, is keen to seek local employees and help people into construction so they can literally shape the future of the borough.

They want to ensure that they pay the London Living Wage across the Elephant Park construction site, where over 3,000 new homes are currently being constructed, and throughout the whole supply chain. A scheme which supports unemployed people into work has meant that, to date, 817 Southwark residents – 353 of whom were previously unemployed in Southwark – have been employed across all their sites in roles from surveyors to architects.

Rob Heasman, Lendlease’s Project Director for Elephant Park, said: “Providing opportunities to local people in Southwark is a direct benefit of the transformation our Elephant Park development is bringing to Elephant and Castle.”

“We’re really proud to be helping Southwark residents find work in such an inspiring and thriving industry, either by getting them into work directly on Elephant Park, or by providing them with the skills they need to secure employment across the wealth of construction projects underway in the borough.”

Beyond Food

One of the biggest barriers to work can often be a person’s personal circumstances, from family breakdown to childcare issues and often their housing situation. Without a home address, it’s very difficult to get work and sadly without work it’s very hard to afford to stay in your home. Beyond Food is a project which aims to break this cycle by inspiring those who have experienced, or are at risk of, homelessness to gain meaningful employment.

Through its own Social Enterprise restaurant Brigade, Beyond Food consistently hires around 15 apprentices a year, at the London Living Wage, in chef and professional hospitality roles. The organisation runs Fresh Life, a pre-employment training programme to give people the skills to go on to an apprenticeship or straight into employment. Beyond Food then hires people as paid apprentices and creates full time employment contracts with its partners: Corbin and King, The Mondrian, Hilton Bankside and Baxter Storey amongst many others.

Simon Boyle, Chef Founder and the vision behind Beyond Food, says: “We understand the way to help inspire, support and motivate very vulnerable people. They can grab hold of the thread of life. With our help they lift themselves up foothold by foothold until they have a strong firm ledge. From there their meaningful employment takes them to a safer, more stable and meaningful employment.

Our restaurant, Brigade, uses its profit to support more and more people. By eating there you can help contribute to our work.”

Contacts

Beyond food: beyondfood.org.uk

Southwark News: Southwarknews.co.uk

Lend Lease: lendlease.com/uk

Autumn 2017
CREATIVITY ON EVERY LEVEL

Peckham’s multi-storey car park is being transformed into a skill-sharing, job providing, creative business hub.

A round 75% of residents hail from Peckham itself, with 85% of the membership coming from the Southwark area.

The Creators in Residence programme has ten discounted studios for local people while the Community Investment Scheme will see members investing their time and skills to inspire, educate and support other local people.

The man whose job it will be to co-ordinate this is Kwabena Amponsa, who will also be reminding the businesses of their commitment to provide at least one hour a week to the local community.

“This will be a mixture of in-house activity and outreach work,” he explained, “and I’ll be making sure it operates as a place that celebrates what makes Peckham so special.

“We’ve also got the Rach One Teach One mentality where new businesses are offered temporary space at an affordable rent for a year, during which time they are supported to grow and develop their businesses. They then share their knowledge and experience with the next set of new businesses that come into the available space.

“I think it is amazing. The knowledge sharing and empowering of the local community, allowing them to have a stake in the growth of what is happening, it’s great to be part of it.”

For more information visit peckhamlevels.org

DRUMS & FLATS

Best friends Khamisi and Daniel are bringing their delicious Drums & Flats food to Peckham Levels. Having grown up in Southwark, the young entrepreneurs have been a regular sight at festivals, pop-ups and events since they began their company two years ago.

“We specialise in chicken wings and come up with all the recipes for the sauces ourselves,” said Khamisi. “It was a bit random, we like cooking in general but neither of us ever worked in the food industry before. South London is great and people are realising the potential of what is happening here. We liked the chance of being part of something in our own back yards.”

But it’s not just themselves they are keen to promote.

“When we were growing up there wasn’t anyone talking to us about the stuff we are doing now. We want to help younger people. We grew up here and we can relate to a lot of the situations that young people are going through.”

NANDINE

Nandine (Kurdish for ‘kitchen’) is a family run business with mum, Pary, in charge in the kitchen, brothers Raman and Rang helping out and managing the business and dad, Pola, as the handyman. Pary started her business in Elephant and Castle offering sandwiches and coffee, before slowly introducing her own Kurdish meals. They opened a restaurant in Camberwell last November and are now coming home to Peckham.

“We grew up in Peckham,” explains Rang. “I used to go to the cinema a lot but mum would never let me in the car park. Now it is perfect. We are a family of artists, my dad was an actor in Kurdistan, my brother is an architect and I sculpt and paint, plus we have deep roots in Peckham so it was all just perfect.”

Rang says they are very excited by the skill sharing idea and are thinking about what to offer.

“We want to do apprenticeships or a social enterprise or something. She is also very keen to use her skills in someway to promote women’s rights.”

BROTHER FILM CO.

Video production company Brother Film Co. has been working out of Peckham for the last two years. Now the family business, owned by brothers Marcus, Luke and Hugo is re-locating to be part of the Peckham Levels programme.

“There are a mixture of reasons,” explained Marcus, “but the sense of being part of a buzzy, creative community drew us in.

“Peckham feels very exciting at the moment, lots of young start ups are popping up all over the place and it is going through a real growth spurt.”

As well as hiring their first employee recently, the brothers also found the skill-sharing commitment appealing.

“We are looking at potentially offering mentoring for young people in local schools and colleges and taking young people on for work placements. It’s a very competitive industry and I know from when we started out it’s hard to get on the ladder. It’s something we are very aware of and we want to help people out who are interested in film production.”

For more information visit peckhamlevels.org
Kick-start your career with an apprenticeship

Have you ever thought about doing an apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are a great way to gain practical work experience while learning new skills and gaining a qualification. From the board room to the construction site from banking to urban gardening, apprenticeships offer opportunities to work in interesting places and take on new challenges.

Apprentices come from all different backgrounds and education levels and as you can see from our case studies, there’s no such thing as a typical apprentice!

Southwark Council is working with our partners and contractors, as well as through our own apprenticeship scheme, to create 2,000 apprenticeships by 2018. The council is committed to working with employers to make apprenticeships the best they can be, which is why we have introduced the Southwark Apprenticeship Standard, to ensure our apprenticeships offer secure employment, with a minimum contract of 12 months, London Living Wage, quality training and mentoring and support.

Could you take on an apprentice?

Free business support is available for any Southwark employer looking to create apprenticeships. Our team is on hand to answer questions and guide you through the process.

Find out more at southwark.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/apprenticeships/employ-an-apprentice

Apprenticeship myth-busting

"Apprenticeships are only for young people leaving school" Apprenticeships are for everyone, regardless of your age or education level. Apprentices work in lots of different industries and roles. For many people an apprenticeship is an opportunity to change career path, get experience and learn new skills.

"I won’t have a real job" Apprenticeships combine paid employment with training, allowing you to gain valuable work experience with a qualification. Apprenticeships last a minimum of 12 months and most are full-time just like a regular job.

"Apprenticeships are for people who don’t get into uni" Not true! Many students choose an apprenticeship instead of university as they’d rather spend their time learning while being paid.

Could an apprenticeship be the next step in your career?

To find out more call Step Ahead on 020 7400 6260 or visit southwark.gov.uk/apprenticeships
**Southwark Fireworks Night 2017**

Southwark Council is delighted to announce that the 14th annual free fireworks extravaganza, will take place at Southwark Park. Tickets are free for Southwark residents.

**Sunday 5 November**

Gates will open at 5pm, with food, drink and entertainment available until 8pm. Last entry to the park will be at 6.30pm. We strongly advise that ticket holders arrive as early as possible to avoid disappointment.

Free for Southwark residents but tickets must be booked in advance. See website for details.

**Southwark Park – SE1 6**

**Ticket information:** southwark.gov.uk/fireworks

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**Beowulf**

Beowulf, all-conquering monster-slayer, rock star, hero, looks back over a life and sees what? Bravery? Violence? Victory? Is there only one way to be a leader? Or is another world possible...? A modern new version of this seminal text for ages 8 to 12 set to an immersive metal and electronic soundtrack.

1 October to 5 Nov 2017, please see website for times

Under 18s £10 – £12 Over 18s £10 – £18

Unicorn Theatre
unicorntheatre.com/Beowulf

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**Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power**

The Tate Modern's latest exhibition explores what it was like to be a black artist in the USA during the Civil Rights movement and the birth of black power.

Now – October 22 2017, daily, 10am to 6pm and to 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays

Free

Tate Modern, Level 3, Boiler House
tate.org.uk

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**Tales for Winter**

Delve into Shakespeare’s tales through a series of lively storytelling sessions by our Globe Education storytellers, bringing your family closer to the characters and settings of some of Shakespeare’s classic stories.

Tuesday 24 October – Saturday 28 October 2017

Various venues across Shakespeare’s Globe site

Please keep an eye out on our website for further details.

www.shakespearesglobe.com/education/events-family-events/half-term

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**A Day By The Sea**

Two’s Company return to Southwark Playhouse with N. C. Hunter’s A Day By the Sea, a classic yet timely piece about family picnics, work-obsessed politicians, and seeing the past through rose-tinted spectacles.

An impressive cast brings new life to this forgotten gem of a play.

4 – 28 October, matinees 3pm, Evening 7.30pm

£12 previews, £16 standard £16 concession

Southwark Playhouse
southwarkplayhouse.co.uk

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**Jerwood Drawing Prize 2017**

The Jerwood Drawing Prize is the largest open exhibition for drawing in the UK, reputed for its commitment to championing excellence, and to promoting and celebrating the breadth of current drawing practice.

13 September – 22 October, Monday – Friday 10am – 5pm; Saturday & Su age 10am – 3pm. The Gallery is open until 8pm on the last Friday of every month during exhibitions.

Free

Mail Galleries
jerwoodvisualarts.org/exhibitions

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**Virtual Blackfriars**

Virtual Blackfriars is a lighthearted and fun take on the technologies that will shape our future for the kids (and big kids) that create the virtual worlds with cardboard boxes. Take a wacky trip into the past with figures from history and a parade of puppets recreating the Surrey Circus.

19 to 21 October (various – see website for details)

£5

Various – see website for details

virtuallyblackfriars.co.uk

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**Young Marx**

1850, and Europe’s most feared terrorist is hiding in Dean Street, Soho – broke, restless and horny. The first production at the brand new Bridge Theatre, Nicholas Hytner directs Rory Kinnear as Marx and Oliver Chris as Engels, and reunites the creative team behind Richard Bean’s smash hit One Man, Two Guvnors.

18 October to 31 December

7.45pm Tuesday – Saturday; 2.30pm Wednesday and Saturday

Various dates Oct – Nov

Tickets £15 – £65; premiums also available; on sale now

Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields, London SE1 2SG

bridge theatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx

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**Illuminate**

2020 marks the 400th anniversary of the charting of the Mayflower from Rotherhithe to America and Illuminate, a new annual thanksgiving event marks the beginning of the three-year celebrations. Free family friendly lantern making workshops will be held in Oct-Nov and culminate in a lantern procession on 23rd November.

Various dates Oct – Nov

Free

Various venues in SE16

londonbubble.org.uk

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**Courtney Pine at the Bridge: Black Notes from the Deep, featuring special guests Omar and Nikki Yeoh**

Courtney Pine and Omar will perform new original material, as part of the EFG London Jazz Festival, and Nikki Yeoh will also open the concert with a special solo set.

Monday 30 October, 7.30pm

Tickets £15 – £39.50, on sale now

Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields, London SE1 2SG

bridge theatre.co.uk/whatson/

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**Bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx**

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Bridge Theatre, 3 Potters Fields, London SE1 2SG

bridge theatre.co.uk/whats-on/

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**Bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx**

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**Bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx**

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**Bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx**

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**Bridgetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/young-marx**
SOUTHWARK FIREWORKS NIGHT
Sunday 5 November 2017
Southwark Park, SE16
Gates open at 5pm, last entry at 6.30pm

FREE tickets for all Southwark residents
Visit southwark.gov.uk/fireworks for more information.
No ticket, no entry.
Get there early to avoid long queues.

To report firework misuse or anti social behaviour call the 24 hour hotline 020 7525 5777.

@lb_southwark  facebook.com/southwarkevents  @southwarkcouncil