

THE ELEPHANT

MAGAZINE

Issue 15 / Spring 2019

THIS ISSUE

ZARA

A baby bigger than a double-decker bus: the giant outdoor spectacular arriving in May

SCHOOL OF FROCK

From Tudor ruffs to 60s shoes, the School of Historical Dress is home to a vast collection of vintage fashion

GET A SLICE OF THE ACTION

Golazio: craft beer and fresh pizza – all served up with a side of classic 90s football

THIS IS THE ELEPHANT

And this is the Elephant Magazine.

The Elephant Magazine is the publication dedicated to all things Elephant and Castle. We want to celebrate all that is fabulous about our neighbourhood and our community. We want to look back with fondness on the area's past and look forward with optimism to the future. The Elephant is changing and the Elephant Magazine will be following every step of the way.



Published by Southwark Council

Editor Richard Wells

Additional copy Nikki Spencer

Main Photography Hannah Maule-ffinch

Cover photo ZARA giant baby, Matt Vale

Designer Nathan Heins, Westco Creative

Printed by Swiss Post

Enquiries councilnews@southwark.gov.uk

We welcome your ideas, comments and contributions, so please get in touch.

Photography from left to right:

- Yasser, Bayroot; local café;
- Castle Centre sign;
- East Street sign;
- LCC paintbrushes;
- cupcakes;
- café at Jamyang;
- Chalor, Mama Thai;
- German Kraft;
- LCC exhibition;
- brunch at Louie Louie;
- Ahmed, Churchyard Row;
- Diana, La Bodeguita;
- market trader, East Street;
- Imperial War Museum;
- young dancer, Superarts;
- ukulele;
- university buildings;
- Castle Centre;
- bee box;
- elephant statue

ELEPHANT PARK AND WALWORTH: NEW SHOPS, NEW LIBRARY AND HERITAGE CENTRE AND A REVITALISED TOWN HALL

Since 2013, over 1,000 new homes have been built by Lendlease at Elephant Park.

More than a thousand local people have been employed on the project and more than 1,000 trees planted in and around the development.

When complete, in 2025, there will be

more than 2,500 new homes at Elephant Park as well as the largest new park to be built in central London for 70 years.

In the meantime, some of the first retail units are starting to complete, and local retailers and businesses are starting to move in. Overall, there will be space for more than 50 shops,

restaurants, bars and cafes.

To the south of Elephant Park, next to Walworth Town Hall, a new square – Walworth Square – has already opened to the public and Southwark Council's new library and heritage centre is set to open, just around the corner, on Walworth Road.

Sayer Street

Sayer Street is a new shopping street that will connect Elephant Park to Walworth Square.

The first part of the street is already open and, when complete, it promises to be a bustling neighbourhood destination, with casual dining, coffee shops and bars complemented by creative independent stores.

The first business to open on Sayer Street is the beauty salon, Dima Beautiful, which arrived in January. Previously based at the Artworks Elephant (Lendlease's 'business incubator' project) Dima Beautiful provides a range of services, from manicures and pedicures to hair treatments. And Dima is set to be joined on Sayer Street by plenty more businesses by the end of the year.

Many of the shops have been earmarked for local food businesses and Sayer Street looks set to add to Southwark's fantastic array of mouthwatering, independent foodie hubs, alongside Borough Market and Maltby Street Market.

The first food outlet to come on board is Mercato Metropolitan – the sustainable community food market which already has a temporary site, nearby on Newington Causeway. Its new concept is MM Factory, which will open at the Walworth Square end of Sayer Street later this year.

Naturally, customers will be able to buy groceries and their favourite ingredients here, but they will also be able to take part in a 'rediscovery' of how their food is made. The centrepiece of MM Factory will be a 'theatre of flours' – featuring a working stone mill – which will grind flour while customers enjoy freshly baked goods from an open-plan 'food laboratory'.

Plans include cookery classes and apprenticeships and customers can expect to enjoy delicious food, from around the world, from a selection of MM's signature, sustainable micro-restaurants.



To keep up to date with everything that's happening at Elephant Park visit elephantpark.co.uk. If you're interested in taking one of the new retail and business spaces email ele-ask@lendlease.com

Andrea, Mercato Metropolitan:

«

The MM ecosystem is all about community; a place for an ongoing dialogue between local people, farmers, chefs, retailers and artists. We can't think of a better place to build upon this community, with a new approach to urban retail, than Elephant Park.

»

Nadia, Dima Beautiful

«

I'm excited for the future at Elephant Park. At Artworks we had one nail bar and one treatment room but this is a massive expansion. Now we have three treatment rooms, three nail bars, three pedicure thrones, hair stations, brow stations...the list goes on.

»

The Walworth Connection

The development of Elephant Park and the new town centre for Elephant and Castle will generate new trade and new opportunities which will reach deep into Walworth.

Throughout the planning process, Southwark Council has been careful to ensure that new routes and spaces (such as Sayer Street and Walworth Square) connect Walworth, and particularly the businesses on Walworth Road, into everything that's happening to the north in Elephant and Castle.

In 2017, Walworth became one of just 20 locations across Britain to be designated as a Heritage Action Zone (a scheme that will help support local businesses). Now, this heritage status is set to be bolstered by a new Library and Southwark Heritage Centre which will be run by the council in two new units provided by Lendlease on Walworth Road.

In addition to essential library services such as reading, community meeting space, internet access and children's sessions, the new centre will also include space for heritage

and cultural displays. It will provide an opportunity to showcase some of the Cuming Collection formerly housed at the Grade II listed Walworth Town Hall.

A fire put Walworth Town Hall out of action six years ago. Since then, the council has worked hard to stabilise and protect the building and has investigated various options to restore it and bring it back into use. In February, the council selected General Projects as a partner that will invest in the restoration and help to ensure the town hall has a sustainable and purposeful future.

Alongside a distinct community, arts and culture space, the public will be encouraged to use the building by the inclusion of a cafe and a programme of events. The restored town hall will also have workspace for the creative industries, including a range of studios and an arts hub, and promises to be a dynamic new destination for Walworth.

For more information about the town hall and opportunities to get involved visit walworthtownhall.com.



Have your say on the new Library and Southwark Heritage Centre

The council wants to know what you would like to see at the new library and heritage facility. You can make initial comments at your local library or online at consultations.southwark.gov.uk until the end of May. Keep up to date with the project and future consultation at southwark.gov.uk/WL&SHC



School of Frock

The School of Historical Dress opened its doors on Lambeth Road two and a half years ago and now attracts visitors from across the globe.

“There’s nothing quite like this anywhere else” enthuses Principal Jenny Tiramani as she embarks on a guided tour of the impressive Victorian building where students come to study everything from Tudor ruffs and 18th century corsetry to the homemade dresses of the early 1900s.

“We get a whole range of students here, from museum curators to fashion designers to costume-makers for film and theatre” she says. “They all come to our school to learn hands-on.”

Jenny, who spent 40 years as a theatre and opera designer, established the School of Historical Dress in 2009, with former BBC costume designer and avid costume collector, Vanessa Hopkins and leading lace expert, Santina M Levey. She came up with the idea after working for Sir Mark Rylance in the 90s.

Best known today as an Oscar winning film star (*Dunkirk* and *Bridge of Spies*), Rylance was the original artistic director at Shakespeare’s Globe.

“Mark didn’t want his actors in fancy dress, he wanted the costumes to be authentic. So he asked me to do some research on Elizabethan clothes. I met leading dress historian Janet Arnold and I became fascinated. I decided that when I retired I would set up a school where people could come and learn more.”

The trio enlisted Rylance’s help, along with Sir Roy Strong (former V&A and National Portrait Gallery Director) and fashion designer, Dame Vivienne Westwood.

“They all agreed to be patrons of the school and have been incredibly supportive ever since” says Jenny.

Before it moved to Elephant and Castle, the school put on courses at various venues, including Sands

Films, nearby in Rotherhithe. But when the opportunity to buy their own, permanent premises came up in 2016, Jenny and the team jumped at the chance.

“I always dreamed of the school having its own home where people could come from all over the world and now it’s happened” Jenny smiles.

“This building has a really interesting history” she explains. “It opened in 1841 as the Royal South London Dispensary for the Working Poor and was designed by Sidney Smirke who also created the

«

Mark Rylance didn’t want his actors in fancy dress.

»

circular Reading Room at the British Museum and the domed chapel at the Imperial War Museum (just opposite).

After the First World War it was used to treat soldiers with shellshock and more recently it was a drop-in centre for young people, with a recording studio in the basement. Since we arrived, we’ve removed some of the partition walls and gradually restored it to more closely resemble how it might have looked when it was first built.”

There’s now a large, bright and airy classroom on the ground floor that also doubles as a photographic studio and exhibition space. The first floor houses offices and an impressive library with floor-to-ceiling shelves stacked full of books on the history of clothing.

In the basement, the team have

created a large temperature-controlled storage room which houses some of their extensive collection of clothes, from 17th and 18th century church vestments and velvet coats to Jean Muir dresses from the 60s and workmen’s waistcoats and hobnailed boots. “They’re not all grand pieces” says Jenny, “we’re interested in the ordinary clothes that people wore everyday too.”

As well as offering courses and events, the school has published numerous books on everything from waistcoats to footwear, and are also involved in numerous research projects around the world.

“We’re currently working on a big project with the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam” Jenny reveals. “A chest of 17th century clothes was recently discovered by divers, preserved in a wreck at the bottom of the sea for more than 300 years. Inside, they found both Western and Ottoman clothing and now we’re helping them to find out more.”

Jenny and her colleagues are also putting the finishing touches to the building’s restoration. This year, they plan to take part in London Open House weekend for the first time (21–22 September) giving the general public an opportunity to tour the building.

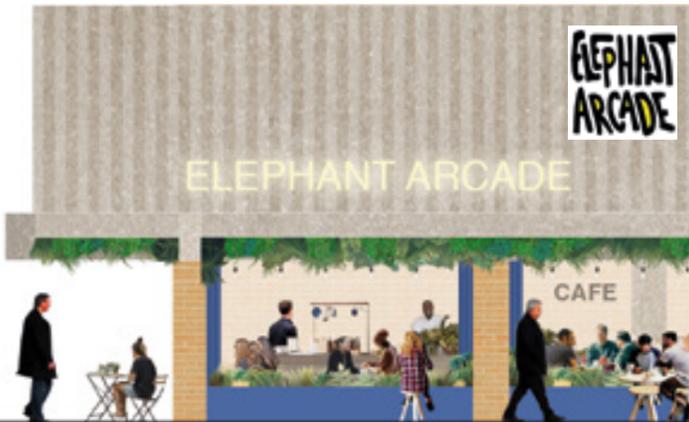
“Locally, a lot of people still don’t realise that we’re here – so it will be great for them to be able to see inside and find out more about what we do” says Jenny.

The School of Historical Dress
52 Lambeth Road, London SE1 7PP
www.theschoolofhistoricaldress.org.uk

NEW RETAIL AND TRADING OPPORTUNITIES

The council is working closely with Elephant and Castle's developers to provide new trading and retail opportunities, at affordable rents, throughout the neighbourhood.

ELEPHANT ARCADE



Elephant Arcade is a new retail mall being created at the foot of Perronet House, the 1960s housing block overlooking Elephant Square and the Faraday Memorial.

Work has already begun on converting a set of disused garages into new units suitable for a cafe, hairdressers, newsagents and all manner of small business. As well as creating a new shopping arcade, the project will bring a long-neglected space (one that had attracted rough sleepers and anti-social behaviour) back into good use.

The project is being managed by Meanwhile Space, a community interest company with a wealth of experience in transforming unloved sites into purposeful and productive spaces which can be used and enjoyed by the local community.

Project Manager Diana Grisales has spent the last six months speaking to potential tenants in order to understand how they'd like to make use of the new units. She has also worked with Masters graduates from nearby London College of Communication to create a branding strategy, logo and marketing material that will get the venture off to a good start when it opens.

Meanwhile Space has already completed many similar projects elsewhere in London, including the Switchboard Studios in Walthamstow and LG Works in Lambeth. For Elephant Arcade, the team have taken inspiration from Tiendas Del Sur, a lively 'village' of traders operating close-by at Sherston Court. If the new arcade can emulate their success then it will be on track to become a prosperous and vibrant community of small and independent businesses for many years to come.

CASTLE SQUARE

Plans are in place to build a temporary retail space on Castle Square which will provide affordable units for an eclectic mix of shops and food outlets.

With the Elephant Central development on one side, Elephant Park on the other and the passengers using the station just over the road, this site promises to be an excellent place to do business.

Many traders relocating from the shopping centre will take units on Castle Square while the shopping centre is redeveloped.

Together with a team of small business experts from Tree Shepherd, the town centre developer, Delancey, has been working with the shopping centre traders for the last 18 months to help them prepare for the redevelopment and find new premises.

Tree Shepherd will continue to provide support to the traders in the months ahead and throughout the relocation process.

ELEPHANT PARK

As well as more than 2,500 new homes and the largest new park in central London for 70 years, the Elephant Park development is creating dozens of retail opportunities. In fact, some businesses have already moved into the new units built by Lendlease. These include entirely new businesses, such as Hej Coffee, alongside familiar faces like Dima Beautiful, the beauty salon that previously traded at Artworks.

Across Elephant Park as a whole, Lendlease has committed to ensuring that at least 10% of its retail space is held back for small, independent and start-up businesses at affordable rents and this includes traders relocating from the shopping centre.

Construction at Elephant Park is continuing at pace and new spaces are becoming available month by month, including at Sayer Street – the new shopping street that links the park with Walworth Square (see pages 4 and 5 for details).



ELEPHANT CENTRAL

Elephant Central was the first phase of the new town centre for Elephant and Castle to be completed by Delancey.

It sits at the edge of Castle Square (on the corner of Elephant Road and New Kent Road) and already includes a branch of Sainsbury's plus a GymBox. It's also home to Tupi, a popular restaurant serving dishes with a Latin American twist, which branched out from its original site in Peckham last summer and Little Bears Day-Care Group Crèche.

There are currently eight affordable retail units at Elephant Central, all of which are being held back for shopping centre traders. These units present a great opportunity to do business and will be a vital part of the new town centre itself when the redevelopment is complete.

SUPPORT FOR TRADERS

In addition to the four key options earmarked for shopping centre traders, there are already a number of other inexpensive spaces available elsewhere in Elephant and Castle with more coming up on a regular basis. These include the Manor Place Depot development, which has just completed off Walworth Road as well as several shop units managed by Peabody in East Street market.

In order to keep track of all these opportunities, Delancey has compiled a database of all the retail space on offer. Interested traders can access the database either online or in the shopping centre, with support available from Tree Shepherd if required. Delancey has also provided a relocation fund of £634,000.

Tree Shepherd, is an independent social enterprise which has worked with the shopping centre businesses since 2017. As well as helping traders to prepare for the move, helping them to access legal, language and other support services, it has provided help with routine, day-to-day matters to help get the businesses into good shape, regardless of what they choose to do next.



Photo: Luz, Lucy's Hairdressing

Find out more about the Town Centre plans at www.elephantandcastletowncentre.co.uk

For more information on how Tree Shepherd can help your business, drop in to Unit 231 at the shopping centre, call 020 3948 3021 or visit www.treeshepherd.org.uk

Wherever you lay your hat



Coworking, the habit of docking into a different shared workspace each day – depending on your mood or your needs – is booming. Now, Elephant and Castle is getting a slice of the action.

The sharing economy has grown to encompass all manner of innovative schemes - from neighbours who swap unused furniture on local chat groups to shared cab rides brokered by some of the biggest names in tech. But one of today's fastest growing trends is the appetite for shared workspace.

For many professionals, all that's required for a productive day's work is a good wifi connection and a steady supply of hot coffee. And, unlike its cyber-café forerunners, today's breed of coworking space offers a whole load of extras and a little bit of glamour to boot. Whether rented by the hour,

day or month, the new coworking scene offers the kind of no-strings flexibility that appeals to freelancers and small businesses alike. But it also offers the chance to work alongside like-minded individuals; to make new connections, collaborate and find creative inspiration.



1 | Hotel Elephant

Hotel Elephant is a not-for-profit company on a mission to establish Spare Street as Elephant and Castle's number one destination for creative entrepreneurs, start-ups and graduates.

Now in its third year, the Hotel Elephant workspace was set up by two local artists, Reuben Powell and Emily Woodhouse, both of whom have a hard-won reputation (forged over a decade or more) for helping creative locals find temporary studio and exhibition space in the neighbourhood.

Built from a series of reclaimed railway arches, tucked away behind the Strata building, Hotel Elephant is a favourite amongst the local art crowd as well as graduates from the London College of Communication. With mezzanines running the full length of the premises, Hotel Elephant packs a lot into its undulating arches. It offers hot-desks, a dedicated space for public events and meetings, a gallery plus their own (licensed) Sidecar Coffee Bar. All of which makes Hotel Elephant a relaxed and easy-going kind of environment in which to work, meet and socialise.

Look out for the salvaged signage in the windows, including the giant letters which once spelled 'HOTEL' on the now defunct London Park Hotel.

Spare Street, London SE17 3AL
hotelelephant.co.uk



2 | The Ministry

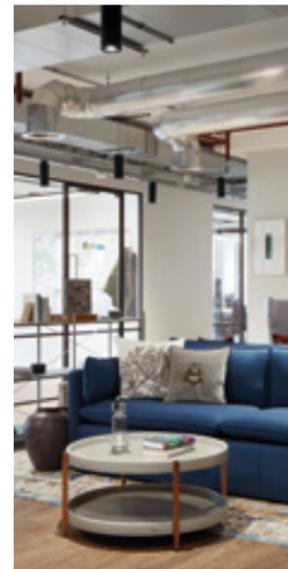
Marketed as 'an environment for artistic and original thinkers' The Ministry is a private members club and coworking space for creatives on Borough Road.

Brought to you by the team behind the Elephant's legendary superclub, Ministry of Sound, this new venture combines all the style and vitality you'd expect from an icon of club culture along with all the functionality you need for a 'good day at the office.'

Converted from an old Victorian print-works – once home to Letts of London, the diary makers – The Ministry offers a restaurant, bar, heated terrace, sound studios, gym, cinema, plus meeting and dining rooms.

Aiming to support the creative community and local talent, the cultural events programme celebrates and empowers creatives living in and around the area. The Ministry also does its bit for the neighbourhood's burgeoning cycling scene by providing bike racks, lockers and showers.

79–81 Borough Road, London SE1 1DN
theministry.com



3 | Fora

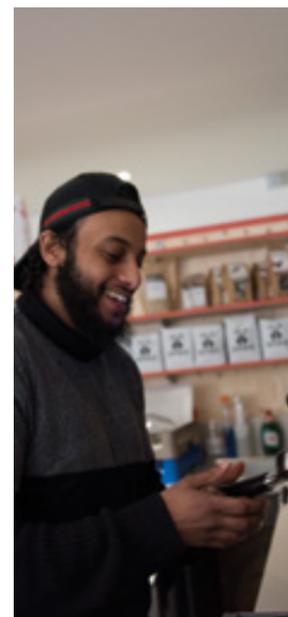
Fora is the newest arrival in Elephant and Castle.

Due to open in the Two Fifty One development on Southwark Bridge Road later this year, Fora promises to bring the formula that's proved so popular at its other locations to the heart of the Elephant.

Fora has already established itself as a brand to be reckoned with in the London coworking market. It has several branches dotted around the city, including one nearby on Borough High Street; complete with a chic Scandi restaurant, Børealis, on the ground floor.

The Fora team pride themselves on their attention to detail and the stylish yet functional design of their workspaces. When their new location opens in Elephant and Castle, workers can expect to enjoy the same high standard found in their five other London locations, including concierge service and a tailor-made environment.

251 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 6FJ
foraspace.com



4 | 55 East

55 East, based in the heart of East Street market, is a project with a strong community focus.

55 East is run by Hatch, a leading community enterprise charity that worked with the housing association, Peabody, local groups and traders to get the space up and running back in 2017.

Peabody provided the premises needed to get started – a row of three, previously unused shops – and, since then, 55 East has gone from strength to strength.

Combined, the three spaces, 55 East Kitchen, 55 East Lounge and 55 East Studio, fulfil a variety of purposes including a community space, available to rent at low cost for small events and coworking facilities for up to 30 people at a time.

The project also runs a monthly, business social club and provides access to mentoring and coaching. Hatch has already supported hundreds of entrepreneurs with their business and social enterprise ideas and now it's delivering its award-winning, 12-week Hatch Incubator Programme for emerging businesses at 55 East.

53–63 East Street, London SE17 2DJ
55east.co.uk

“
A baby bigger
than a double-
decker bus.”
”

ZARA, a spectacular, giant outdoor theatre event is coming to Elephant and Castle in May.

On Friday 10 and Saturday 11 May, Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park will be transformed for two larger-than-life evenings of entertainment.

ZARA is the epic story of a mother who takes on the world to protect her baby.

Brought to Elephant and Castle by internationally-renowned theatre company, Mind the Gap, this giant performance, set in the beautiful surroundings of an historic park, promises to engulf every one of your senses.

3D illuminations will be projected on to the grand façade of the world-famous Imperial War Museum making the building not just a backdrop to the show but a central part of the story.

ZARA will also feature a soaring musical score, created especially for the event by Sarah Llewellyn, composer in residence at the RSC; a cast of more than a hundred actors; cherry pickers, army tanks... oh! and a giant mechanical baby; a baby bigger than a double-decker bus.

For this unique production, Mind the Gap has teamed-up with outdoor arts specialists, Walk the Plank (known for their large-scale, celebratory events, including the Manchester Commonwealth Games) and Emergency Exit Arts.

The theatre company secured backing from Southwark Council early on in the piece's development and investigated various sites around the borough before choosing the Elephant's Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park.

Lisa Mallaghan from Mind the Gap, told the Elephant Magazine: “Not only was it a striking location and the perfect size for a performance of this scale but it also has a significant and relevant history, as the park land was gifted to the ‘Splendid Struggling Mothers of Southwark’ by the 1st Viscount Rothermere in memory of his mother in 1934. It's the perfect site for ZARA; a tale of motherhood.”

ZARA is the culmination of a project that started four years ago, exploring learning disability and parenthood. So far, more than 400 people have been involved and, as well as the two

performances in Elephant and Castle it will also be staged in Halifax.

Lisa says “We're keen to feature local people in the production. So we've worked with South London's Emergency Exit Arts, to recruit and train local groups and individuals from Southwark (and beyond) to form the 100-strong community cast that will perform the piece. It's very exciting to be able to embed a production of this scale within the actual community and neighbourhood in which it's being performed, rather than just turning up with a ready-made show.”

Emergency Exit Arts (EEA) has been a leading light in outdoor arts since 1980 and specialises in creating mass participatory events.

EEA Creative Producer, Ross Bolwell told the Elephant Magazine:

“We're thrilled to be working on this exciting venture in Southwark. Over the years, we've developed a whole spectrum of collaborations here; involving thousands of local people, schools and organisations.”

ZARA has enabled EEA to build on its relationships with other local arts organisations such as Blue Elephant Theatre and London Bubble and it's provided an opportunity to develop new relationships with local residents and communities.

“We've mobilised an inclusive cast of people who represent the rich tapestry of Southwark” says Ross, “it includes people of all ages, cultural backgrounds and abilities. And, for many, this will be their first experience of performing in a professional capacity.”

Suitable for the whole family, ZARA promises to be a unique night to remember. The show kicks off at 9pm with pre-show entertainment and refreshments available from around 8pm.

ZARA, Friday 10 & Saturday 11 May 2019
Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park
London SE1 6HZ
Tickets are priced at £8 from
www.mind-the-gap.org.uk/zara

Southwark Presents card-holders get 50% off: southwark.gov.uk/southwarkpresents

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE GALLERY THAT'S DRAWING THEM IN

Tucked away off New Kent Road, Drawing Room is a unique gallery and library that's dedicated to opening up the world of drawing to everyone.

"It's rare to find an artist who doesn't draw" says Mary Doyle, Co-director of Drawing Room, which opened on Rodney Place last year.

It's a statement ably illustrated by the impressive list of artists whose work has been already been exhibited at the not-for-profit gallery. The roll-call includes artists living and dead, ranging from Pablo Picasso and Lucien Freud to Paula Rego and Cornelia Parker.

Mary, who has worked in the visual arts for more than 25 years, came up with the idea for Drawing Room with two friends; curator and writer, Kate Macfarlane, and Katharine Stout, Director of Southend's Focal Point Gallery.

"One day, in late 1999, we were chatting about how important drawing is to artists and yet, with the exception of the Drawing Center in New York, there wasn't anywhere that focused on it" she explains. "We wanted to explore how drawing is used in so many ways today."

"We started by producing a book and an exhibition called *Drawing on Space* that featured 13 artists of different generations, from around the world, and it grew from there."

Drawing Room was originally based in a warehouse space in Hackney and moved to larger premises at Rich Industrial Estate in Bermondsey in 2011, but the redevelopment of the site meant they needed to find a new home.

"Southwark Council helped us to find this new location and it's perfect" enthuses Kate.

"Elephant and Castle is such a creative community. There's Southwark Playhouse, London College of Communication and South Bank University, all close-by, and it's wonderful to be a part of that."

"We are open six days a week and entry is free. People love that they can just walk in off the street and see drawings that otherwise might only be seen in a museum" she adds.

Drawing Room took over the former industrial space on Rodney Place in April last year and quickly set about

converting it into an exhibition space.

"It used to be a windscreen garage and had roller shutters in the front, so we put up walls and also created some artists studios upstairs. Luckily, as they were replacing windcreens rather than repairing cars, the floor wasn't too bad" recalls Mary.

«

It's rare to find an artist who doesn't draw.

»



Alongside the gallery space, Drawing Room also has a contemporary drawing reference library, which is regularly used by students, artists and writers and includes a "Drop-in and Draw" area where anyone can have a go.

"We get local children, who maybe don't have space to draw at home, who come in after school and at weekends" explains Mary. "We're also starting an after-school drawing club" she adds.

Every other year, the gallery puts on a Drawing Biennial where they invite well-known and up-and-coming artists to create a unique work on A4 sheets of paper. The works are exhibited and

then auctioned to raise money for their programme of free exhibitions and learning activities.

"We held our first one 17 years ago and it's just grown and grown. Our 2019 Drawing Biennial, which finished in March, featured 223 artists from all around the world and it's a great endorsement of what we're doing here" says Mary.

Encouraging today's artists is a big part of Drawing Room's remit.

Their recent exhibition, *Close: Drawn Portraits*, featured historical portraits by household names – such as Hockney and Picasso – displayed next to more recent work and included portraits by Clifton Wright from Peckham-based Intoart. Fittingly, one of Wright's pieces came to be hung next to an abstracted head by Picasso, one of his major inspirations.

The exhibition also featured drawings of Elephant and Castle's Knit for Peace group, which takes place at the nearby Peabody Estate. London multi-media artist, Jessica Voorsanger made portraits of the knitters alongside portraits of their favourite artists, including Van Gogh, Constable and Toulouse-Lautrec.

Drawing Room's next exhibition, which opens on 2 May, is called *Modern Nature* and includes historical botanic drawings, the notebooks of film director Derek Jarman (featuring his famous garden in Dungeness) and drawings by contemporary artists that explore our relationship with plants.

"A large-scale exuberant, pastel wall drawing will pull viewers into the space and the exhibition will celebrate the world of plants and remind visitors of the importance of caring for nature. I can't wait." says Kate.

Drawing Room

1–27 Rodney Place

London SE17 1PP

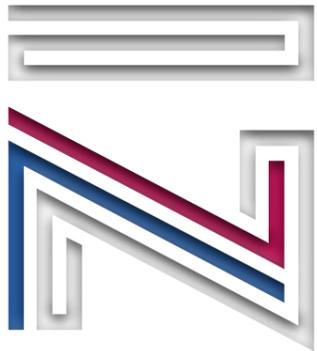
Open: Tuesday–Friday 11am–6pm,

Saturday and Sunday 12–6pm

020 7708 2554

Admission is free

www.drawingroom.org.uk



« Italian 90s football has a bit of a cult following so we get people from all over the place. »



If you love Italian football, craft beer and stoned-baked pizza then get down to Golazio for a slice of the action.

Perhaps not surprisingly, when football enthusiast, Tim McTigue was choosing between potential locations for his football-themed bar he created a score-sheet to help him decide.

“This place came highest on all counts” says Tim, gesturing around his new Camberwell Road bar. “It’s a great space, on a popular road and it’s right by Burgess Park – so perfect for popping in after a kick around.”

Tim opened Golazio just in time for the World Cup last summer and his winning formula of Italian craft beer, freshly made pizza – sold by the slice – and 90s Italian football matches playing on a big screen has already won fans from across the capital, and internationally too.

“Italian 90s football has a bit of a cult following so we get people from all over the place. Not just from London but from across the UK and Ireland and from as far afield as Melbourne and New Jersey” Tim explains.

Despite being less than a year old, Golazio has already caught the attention of various visitor guides and TV shows.

“We’re already in a Polish guide book; we’ve been on Dutch and Chinese TV and an American TV channel, Eleven Sports, did a great piece on us.”

Tim came up with the idea for the bar after a trip to Italy with a friend back in 2015. After 15 years working as an Operations Manager for Tesco he was looking to do something different.

“We were in this bar where they had a few bits of 90s football memorabilia and I just thought it would be so cool to have a bar in London themed around 90s football. When I was growing up, we didn’t have Sky Sports, so for me and my friends (as for many other people at the time) watching C4’s Football Italia was a really big thing.”

Tim has lived around south east London for a long time and he

wanted to open his bar somewhere in the area. After finding the perfect site in a former Walworth restaurant, he set about converting it with the help of family and friends.

“It was pretty dilapidated” he recalls. “Me and my brother, Joe, stripped back the walls to the brick and ripped up the floor. It was dirty and dusty and we ended up taking about ten huge skips of stuff out of here.”

A friend, who owns a building company, helped to build the bar and Tim got experts in for the plumbing and electrics. They set up a big screen, lined the walls with memorabilia, papered the ceiling with old copies of La Gazzetta (the Italian football paper) and installed a large twin-deck pizza oven.

Golazio offers eight different kinds of pizza including gluten free and vegan options. “I decided to do pizza by the slice after seeing it in New York” says Tim. “Krazi, our pizza chef, has worked with the best Neapolitan pizza makers. Getting the pizza just right was really important to us and I’m really pleased that we’ve got local customers who aren’t into football but just like to come here for the food.”

Being part of the local community is important to Tim and Golazio who recently hosted a couple of daytime children’s shows for the nearby Blue Elephant Theatre.

“They had a temporary problem with their building, so it was great to be able help out. They might have been a bit hazy on their 90s football but the kids loved it here” he smiles.

Golazio
59 Camberwell Road
London SE5 0EZ

Open Tuesday–Friday 5pm–11.30pm,
Saturday and Sunday 1pm–11.30pm
07926 054554

www.golaziolondon.com

Votes for Women: the United Suffragists

It's just over a century since the first women won the right to vote in British elections. It was a major victory on the road to universal women's suffrage and Elephant and Castle plays a small but important part in their story.

The history of the women's suffrage movement is long and complicated.

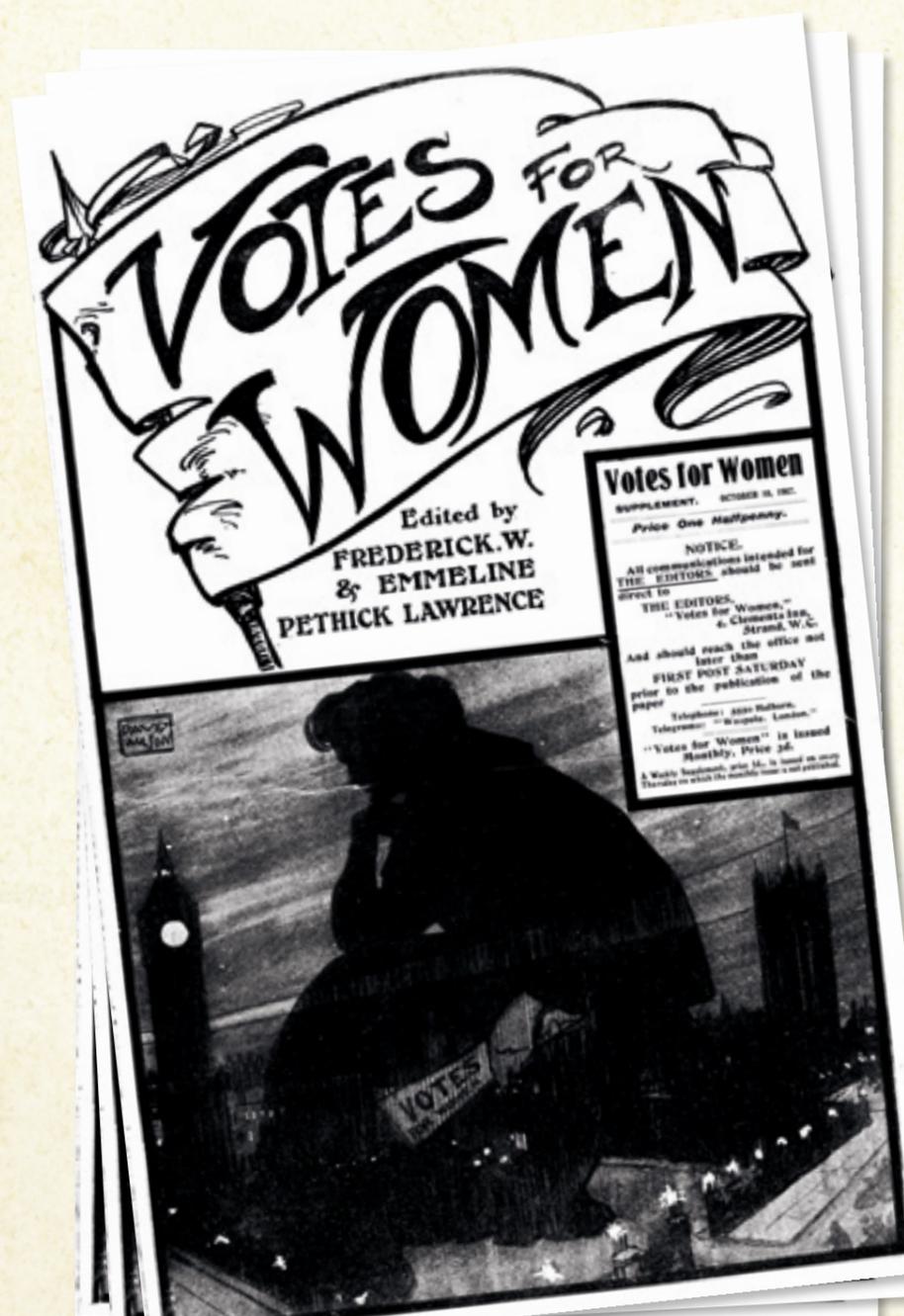
An act of Parliament explicitly banned women from voting in 1832 and, as the century wore on, an increasing number of organisations started to agitate for the right to vote. Many were small and localised but others had national reach. But even the larger groups often split on matters of policy or personality.

In 1897 a group of activists, led by Millicent Fawcett, founded the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) one of the first broad-based national suffrage organisations. The NUWSS focused on non-violent constitutional means of enacting change – educating the public, putting pressure on MPs and introducing bills to give women the vote.

A group of members, led by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters Christabel and Sylvia, broke away from the NUWSS in 1903 in protest at its lack of progress. They formed their own organisation, the Women's Social and Political Union, and advocated direct action to force the government's hand. Their methods became increasingly violent with demonstrations eventually escalating into window-smashing and arson attacks.

As a consequence, a third group of dissidents created the United Suffragists (US) in February 1914 and went on to establish the United Suffragists Women's Club at 92 Borough Road where the London South Bank University campus stands today.

According to the suffragist newspaper, *Votes for Women*, the founders realised "that there was just one kind of suffrage society that did not exist anywhere at all, and that was one that any suffragist could join...this little group of people felt that...there should be some society big enough and broad enough to



include men and women, militants and non-militants, and all the various sects and classes of suffragists in equal terms."

Many of the founding members were pioneers – Caroline Spurgeon was the University of London's first female professor, Louise Jopling the first female member of the Royal Society of British Artists, and Hertha Ayrton the first female member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers.

Others were reformers, like Gertrude and Harold Bailie-Weaver (prominent animal rights activists) or Maud Pember Reeves and Charlotte Payne-Townshend, who were members of the Fabian Society. Others were well-known artists, such as the ceramicist William De Morgan, playwright Laurence Houseman, actress Lena Ashwell and pianist Gertrude Peppercorn.

The First World War broke out just six months after the creation of the United Suffragists. The WSPU and NUWSS both chose to suspend all political activity for the duration of the conflict in favour of war work. In contrast, the United Suffragists continued its suffrage work alongside efforts to bring the war to an end and to lessen the suffering of those on both the fighting front and the home front.

This is where the Elephant connection comes in. Before London South Bank University expanded its campus in the 60s, the land between Borough Road, Lancaster Street and Southwark Bridge Road was home to a block of buildings – 86 to 102 Borough Road. And, on 21 November 1914, number 92 Borough Road officially opened as the United Suffragists Women's Club.

It was a members' club, where local women – whose husbands, brothers, sweethearts, and friends were on active service – could find a warm welcome, a cup of tea and something to eat, as well as a United Suffragists member who could lend a friendly ear or a shoulder to cry on. United Suffragists members helped to subsidise the cost of running the club by donating furniture, decorations, refreshments and their time and the club's membership fees were kept to a penny a month – well within the means of poor working women.

The club's founders had a very specific goal: "we hoped above everything that the club looked like a club, and not like a philanthropic institution, and that our guests would see us as friends and not interlopers. And they did. They put us at ease immediately, as only real gentlefolk can." One of these guests compared the club to a West End members' club, which *Votes for Women* noted was "... exactly the assurance we needed – that we did not look like a charitable venture tempered with instruction."

The club had other objectives too. One was to assist women who were suffering because of the war.

Food prices rose steadily throughout 1914–15 (partly because rationing wasn't introduced until 1918).

« ————— » a centre for suffrage propaganda in South London

This pushed family budgets to the limit. By providing subsidised food to mothers – as well as their small children attending the weekly crèche – the club helped to relieve the pressure.

Moreover, the club was dry and encouraged members to avoid alcohol. This was important as wives of active duty personnel were sometimes under police surveillance designed to assess if they deserved their separation allowance. An 'unworthy' woman (usually one who spent her free time in the pub) could find her allowance payment stopped or diverted and, for those on low incomes, this could mean the difference between life and death. The club was an appealing, alcohol-free place to socialise and offered some protection to those at risk of having their allowance cut.

The club also gave the United Suffragists a base from which to expand their suffrage work. *Votes for Women* described it as a "...centre for suffrage propaganda in South London" and reported on indoor suffrage meetings arranged by Women's Club members

in Redcross Hall and outdoor speaker meetings held in Flat Iron Square.

Winning over working-class women was particularly important to the group, which advocated expanding the existing voting system to include women but keeping the property qualifications – that excluded large numbers of working-class men from voting – intact.

The United Suffragists Women's Club proved phenomenally popular.

Just four months after opening, it was already running out of space, so the building's basement was brought into use as a dancing room. According to one report, the least used room in the clubhouse was the quiet room, kitted out for writing letters and reading. It was a 'complete failure', because club members preferred to "... congregate in the ground floor room adjoining the restaurant, set the gramophone going and under cover of its cheery optimism discuss everything under the sun..." It was later repurposed into a lecture room.

Programming at the club was entirely at the request of members. It included sewing classes, reading evenings, a weekly suffrage meeting, a drama club as well as dance, gymnastics and military drill training. The club even had a savings bank for members.

The club's later life is a bit of a mystery but it seems likely that the club folded at the end of the war, given that it had served its dual purpose of supporting local women through the conflict while also expanding the suffrage campaign.

When the Representation of the People Act was passed in 1918 it extended the vote to any woman over 30 who was married to a man with the vote. As this was the United Suffragists' favoured result, they threw a final victory party and dissolved the organisation.

For more local history visit the Southwark Local History Library and Archive at 211 Borough High Street

www.southwark.gov.uk/libraries

Find out more about the Elephant's history at:

www.elephantandcastle.org.uk/a-brief-history

MY ELEPHANT AND CASTLE

Locals tell us what they love about the Elephant



Nadira

One thing I really love about this area is the variety of food. I've lived here for over 35 years and whatever kind of food you want you can find, from West African and Latin American to Chinese. It's all there in the shopping centre and in the arches nearby. It's also great for public transport. You can get a bus to anywhere you want from Elephant and Castle.



Jacqui

I moved to Elephant and Castle six years ago because I had friends and family here.

I love it. It's so central and you can get everywhere very easily. I've got a scooter and I scoot to work and all around the area. The parks are great for my young daughter. She especially loves the new slide off Heygate Street. We like going to Hej on Rodney Place as they do good babyccinos and Tupi, the new café on Castle Square, has nice freshly made juices.



Suzie

The two places I always recommend to people are the Hoa Phuong on Hampton Street, as they do really delicious Vietnamese noodle and rice dishes, and Kaieteur Kitchen, the Guyanese stall in the shopping centre. They change the menu everyday and cook the most amazing stews and curries.



Angela

When some people look at Elephant and Castle they just see the busy roads and the shopping centre but there are lots of interesting things happening in the side streets. I volunteer at the Drawing Room on Rodney Place. It's a wonderful, free gallery that anyone can visit. I hope that more start to appear in future. I'm not keen on some of the new architecture but I like all the new paving. It's lovely to be able to walk around without worrying about tripping up and I like all the planting they've done around here too. More still needs to be done about pollution though.



Isobel

My sister lives here and I moved in with her in September as I'm studying at Camberwell College of Arts. I think the area is great. There's so much to do with nice bars and a really good music scene. Friends of mine have run DJ nights at Corsica Studios and it's great to be able to go to Ministry of Sound and walk home after. I also like the Manor pub on Walworth Road.



Sul

When I was growing up, Elephant and Castle was a bit rough around the edges but things have improved since then and now there's a good vibe. I cycle and it's been much better since they got rid of the roundabout. I like the multi-cultural atmosphere too, especially the Latin American places around the shopping centre where you can eat and salsa dance.



Mac

I liked the ten-pin bowling at the Superbowl. It was cheap and very retro. I also like Mercato Metropolitan as the food is good and it's nice to be able to sit outside, especially in the summer when they have DJs.



Alison

I've lived here for 21 years so I've seen quite a few changes. It's definitely much better now and it feels much nicer. But we need more social housing. Some people who have grown up here and want to stay, can't afford to – which isn't good. I like the fact that the subways have gone, it feels safer and it's good that new places are opening, although we could still do with more shops.



Roy

I like the fact that small businesses are popping up all the time. One day we were walking down Newington Causeway and noticed that German Kraft had started brewing beer. We went in and discovered Mercato Metropolitan. It's amazing! It looks like nothing from the outside but there's a whole other world of food and drink stalls in there.

The Elephant Magazine is produced by Southwark Council. We would love to hear your feedback and welcome suggestions for future features. Drop us a line at councilnews@southwark.gov.uk

Read more about the regeneration programme at www.elephantandcastle.org.uk