

# March 2005

# in SE1

Issue 81

FREE



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## Hospitals to become no smoking zones

Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals will mark National No Smoking Day on Wednesday 9 March by becoming 'no smoking hospitals'.

Staff, patients and visitors will only be able to smoke in designated smoking shelters.

To find out about local services to help smokers kick the habit, Lambeth residents can call 0800 856 3 409 and Southwark residents can call 0800 169 6 002.

- [www.gstt.nhs.uk](http://www.gstt.nhs.uk)
- [www.nosmokingday.org.uk](http://www.nosmokingday.org.uk)

## "World's most famous bookshop" coming to the South Bank

Foyles bookshop is to open a branch at the Royal Festival Hall in June this year.

The new shop on the riverside level will stock around 30,000 books plus a range of sheet music.

Chairman of Foyles, Christopher Foyle, comments: "This is the perfect opportunity for us to grow organically, giving the millions of visitors to the South Bank a taste of Foyles. The Royal Festival Hall and Foyles are both internationally renowned brands and there's an attractive synergy with both Foyles in Charing Cross Road and the South Bank offering a vibrant mix of musical, arts, and literature programming."

Michael Lynch, South Bank Centre's CEO, said: "Having the world's most famous bookshop on the South Bank is fantastic for us and we're sure it will be for Foyles and the book buying public who visit the South Bank."

BooksEtc is closing its first floor shop. The arrival of Foyles is part of the £90 million refurbishment of the Royal Festival Hall starting this year.

**WIFI COMING TO THE RFH**  
**The South Bank Centre and The Cloud have launched one of the UK's largest publicly accessible wireless internet hotspots at the Royal Festival Hall – but it costs £4.50 an hour to connect.**

The centre says that it wants local residents to benefit from the service - but at £4.50 an hour it is not a very attractive proposition.

To begin with, a wifi hotzone has been deployed in the foyer spaces on Levels 2 and 3 in the RFH. As part of the transformation of the South Bank Centre due to be completed by 2007, the aim is to provide seamless wifi access across the entire 27 acre site.

- [www.rfh.org.uk/wifi](http://www.rfh.org.uk/wifi)

## Celebrity Fame Academy live from Potters Fields

The former Lambeth College building next to Tower Bridge is the setting for *Comic Relief does Fame Academy*, a celebrity version of the reality show on air daily on BBC One until Red Nose Day 11 March.

Students include Jon Culshaw, Jenny Éclair, Kim Medcalf and Al Murray. Cat Deeley and Patrick Kielty present the series in which the hopeful stars have to transform themselves into songsters to raise money as well as their voices. The judges include Lesley Garrett and headteacher Richard Park.

From Wednesday 2 March to Thursday 10 March students perform live from the Academy nightly with one expelled every night until just three are left.

• Ernst & Young are planning to release 2,000 balloons in Jubilee Gardens for Comic Relief. Ernst & Young in Lambeth Palace Road are the charity's honorary auditors.

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**Kevin Spacey in National Anthems at the Old Vic**

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**Two books on London's eccentricities**

The free monthly guide to what's happening in SE1

[www.inSE1.co.uk](http://www.inSE1.co.uk)

March 2005

in SE1

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**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

To receive the next 12 issues by post in the UK please send a cheque for £6 to the address above, made payable to 'in SE1'. Please specify starting issue.

**LISTINGS**

Details of events to be considered for inclusion next month should be sent by 22 March to the Listings Editor at the above address, or by fax or email.

**DISCLAIMER**

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of our listings and features but all details are subject to alteration by venues and organisers and no responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracies.

## EXHIBITION PREVIEW

## To The Lighthouse (And Back)



**Images by photographer Stephen Burrows go on display this month at Southwark Cathedral Refectory.**

*To The Lighthouse (And Back)* not only celebrates recovery from mental illness but also launches new user-led mental health group Mental Fight Club. The images and the writings document a symbolic

trip to Lundy Island organised by Mental Fight Club's Founder-Director Sarah Wheeler

Her book *No Man Is An Island: Back From the Lighthouse* includes her reflections during therapeutic treatment at Guy's Hospital, with the writings and images of others, both famous and obscure, past and present, who she encountered.

## LOCAL CHARITY NEWS

**Charterhouse celeb concert**

**Prunella Scales and Timothy West are joining in Charterhouse-in-Southwark's 120th anniversary fundraising celebration in Southwark Cathedral.**

Charterhouse-in-Southwark, based in Tabard Street, was set up in 1885 and offers care and support to around 600 people who use its facilities each week.

The Southwark Cathedral event will feature the Collegiate Singers directed by Andrew Millinger with Stephen Disley on the organ and the Charterhouse Young Musicians. The programme includes a

range of popular classics from Vaughan Williams, George Gershwin and Cole Porter

Commenting on her role in the concert, Prunella Scales said: "I think it's a wonderful opportunity to join talented singers in an historic location for an historic occasion. Charterhouse-in-Southwark does a marvellous job working in partnership with the people of Southwark, and I'm just pleased to help out in a small way."

•The concert is on Wednesday 2 March at 7.30pm; see listings for details

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# March what's on guide

essential 4-page pullout guide to what's happening

## Special Events

### Bankside Open Spaces Trust

King James Street T 020 7261 1009  
www.bost.org.uk

Sunday 20 March  
**GREAT VEGETABLE GIVEAWAY**

12 noon-3pm at Diversity Garden,  
Library Street  
Free plants, soil, seeds, ideas and advice to help you grow your own vegetables on your balcony or patio. For all Bankside and Borough residents.

Wednesday 23 March  
**FAMILY PLANTING**

10am-3pm at Little Dorrit Park, Redcross Way  
A wide new area of soil needs small hands and big ones to help turn it into a lovely flower border. Make your mark for the future.

### Capital & Counties

www.capital-and-counties.com

Friday 4 March & Sat 5 March  
**KING'S REACH CONSULTATION**

Fri 4.30-7.30pm & Sat 9.30am-12.30pm  
at London Nautical School, Stamford Street  
Exhibition of plans involving adding four floors to IPC tower and redeveloping adjoining ground.

### Corsica Studios

5 Elephant Road, Elephant & Castle

Thursday 10 March

**PERCEIVE!**  
7pm-10.30pm; £5 (conc £3)  
One night exhibition aiming to challenge perceptions of Southwark. Young photographers show how regeneration has different transforming effects within SE1. Accompanied by a documentary screening and live music.

### St Hugh's

Rainbow Building, 32 Crosby Row

Wednesday 16 March  
**JUMBO JUMBLE SALE**

10am; 20p (includes free refreshments)  
St Hugh's Church Sale Shop is having a big clear out! All items priced from 5p to 50p. Clothes, household linens, crockery, toys, games and general bric-a-brac.

**West Bermondsey Community Forum**

www.wbforum@tiscali.co.uk T 020 7403 9683

Thursday 24 March

**SPRING FESTIVAL**  
12 noon-7pm at REPA and Dickens Square Park; free  
Come and celebrate Spring and REPA's new, fully-accessible community space and adventure playground. Find out about new and established youth and community projects. Get involved with the West Bermondsey Community Forum. Have your say at the world-famous Talkaoke! Activities, fun and games for all ages. Community flower planting and gardening clubs. Music and entertainment.

## Children

### Design Museum

28 Shad Thames T 0870 833 9955  
www.designmuseum.org

Saturdays & Sundays

**YOU ARE HERE**  
2-5pm; £6 (child £4)  
Drawing on the inspiring and ingenious examples of graphic design in the

exhibition children are encouraged by graphic designers to develop their typographic skills by planning, designing and producing three-dimensional signs for their homes. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking essential on 020 7940 8782 or education@designmuseum.org

### Florence Nightingale Museum

St Thomas' Hospital T 020 7620 0374  
www.florence-nightingale.co.uk  
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; weekend 10am-4.30pm; £5.80 (conc £4.20)

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 March  
**UNSUNG HEROES: MEDICAL MARVELS**

1 & 2pm; £5.80 (child £4)  
Science Week show for all the family run by the team from the Science Museum. Trails and prizes.

### HMS Belfast

Morgan's Lane T 020 7940 6300  
hmsbelfast.iwm.org.uk

Saturday 12 to Monday 28 March  
**SCIENCE WEEKENDS**

11am and 2pm; £7 (conc £5; child free with adult)  
Covering all aspects of the curriculum, the onboard science weekends attempt to bring science to life, relating fact and theory to the workings and operation of a Naval warship.

### Imperial War Museum

Lambeth Road T 020 7416 5320  
www.iwm.org.uk

Saturdays 5 & 12 & Sundays 6 & 13 March  
**THE NATURE OF THE BEAST**

1pm-5pm; free  
Turn tanks into dinosaurs and aircraft into insects.

From Friday 18 March  
**THE CHILDREN'S WAR**

10am-6pm; free  
Marking the 60th anniversary of VE Day and the end of the Second World War, this major exhibition will look at the home front in Britain through the eyes of children.

Saturday 19 March to Sunday 3 April  
**EASTER EGG TRAIL**

10am-6pm; free  
Saturday 19 March to Sunday 3 April  
**SILENT WITNESS**

11am-4pm; free  
Communal art project looking at the experiences of children in wartime and the loss of childhood. All ages welcome with parental supervision.

### Menier Chocolate factory

51-53 Southwark Street T 020 7907 7060  
www.menierchocolatefactory.com

Tuesday 22 to Thursday 24 March & Thursday 31 March to Saturday 2 April  
**ENGAGE - WILD LUNCH FUNSIZE**

Call for time; free  
Six short plays for children under ten.

### Morley College

Westminster Bridge Road T 020 7450 1889  
www.morleycollege.ac.uk

Saturday 12 March

**FAMILY CONCERT**  
10.30am; £4 (child £1)  
Southbank Sinfonia. Includes Scottish dance.

### Old Operating Theatre Museum & Herb Garret

9a St Thomas' Street T 020 7188 2679  
www.thegarret.org.uk

Saturday 5 March

**BREAK YOUR LEG AND DIE!**  
2pm; £4.75 (conc £3.75, child £2.75)  
A demonstration of Victorian surgery,

when operations were performed without anaesthesia and a patient's only relief from agony was the speed of the surgeon's knife.

### Southwark Cathedral

London Bridge  
www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral

Friday 25 March  
**GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP**

12 noon; free  
Workshop for children during cathedral's Three Hour Service.

Monday 28 March  
**EASTER MONDAY FUNDAY**

11am; free  
A short service for families and children followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in the Cathedral Garden.

## Talks & Meetings

### Calder Bookshop

51 The Cut T 020 7620 2900  
www.calderpublications.com

Thursday 3 March  
**GEORGE MOORE: A LITERATURE OF HUMANITY**

6.45pm; £5 (conc £3)  
John Calder gives a brief introductory talk followed by readings by actors.

Thursday 10 March  
**THE WORLD OF WILLIAM BURROUGHS**

6.45pm; £5 (conc £3)  
John Calder, who first introduced Burroughs to the British reader, talks about an American writer, much reviled, whose fiction exposed the realm of the drug-addict, beat culture and modern bohemianism.

Thursday 17 March  
**LORD SUTHERLAND ON ARTHUR MILLER**

6.45pm; £5 (conc £3)  
One of the most active members of the House of Lords, Stewart Sutherland is a distinguished academic, author and legislator. Followed by discussion.

Thursday 24 March  
**RAYMOND QUENEAU: A MAN OF ALL LITERATURES**

6.45pm; £5 (conc £3)  
The actor Sean Barratt and others reads extracts from Queneau's work.

Thursday 31 March  
**JEFF NUTTALL: A RADICAL ARTIST**

6.45pm; £5 (conc £3)  
A discussion on his life and career follows readings of his work by actors.

### Fashion and Textile Museum

83 Bermondsey Street T 020 7407 8664  
www.ftmlondon.org

Wednesday 2 March  
**NON-DESIGNED FASHION**

6.30pm; £7 (conc £5) including entry to the current exhibition; booking required  
The roles of the 'tribal', the social, and street fashion have always been enormous in the creation of new looks. Ted Polhemus, universally acknowledged as the expert on street and contemporary tribal style gives the talk.

Wednesday 9 March  
**FASHION AND THE CULT OF CELEBRITY**

6.30pm; £7 (conc £5) including entry to the current exhibition; booking required  
Celebrities are more influential than ever in creating the look of the moment: the sales of a garment can mushroom in the wake of a celebrity shot. The lending of clothes to celebrities is a powerful PR tool How does this impact on the industry? Discussion panel includes Hilary Alexander, Fashion Director of the Telegraph and James Sherwood, writer for the Herald Tribune, Financial Times and The Independent.

### International Brigade Memorial Trust

www.international-brigades.org.uk

Saturday 12 March  
**THE CRIMES OF FRANCO**

2.30pm at Imperial War Museum; free  
Professor Paul Preston gives the Len Crome Memorial Lecture.

### Lambeth Council

www.lambeth.gov.uk

Tuesday 29 March  
**NORTH LAMBETH AREA COMMITTEE**

6.45pm at Redfeare Centre, Lilian Baylis Technology School, 329 Kennington Lane SE11

Meeting for residents of Bishop's, Prince's, Oval and Vassall wards. Venue is short walk from Vauxhall Station.

### Menier Chocolate Factory

51-53 Southwark Street T 020 7907 7060  
www.menierchocolatefactory.com

Friday 4 March  
**ENGAGE: BATTLE**

6.30pm; free  
Chaired by Michael Billington. Leading playwrights duel with each other to persuade the audience that their chosen dramatist is the greatest of all time. You decide who wins.

### Old Operating Theatre, Museum & Herb Garret

9a St Thomas' Street T 020 71882679  
www.thegarret.org.uk

Saturdays 12 and 19 March  
**SCIENCE, MAGIC AND MEDICINE**

2pm; free (booking essential)  
Two talks and a walk by Dr David Leaback as part of National Science Week. These two illustrated talks will tell of how science-based medicine grew over 200 years at hospitals like Guy's and St Thomas' towards the more effective treatment of local patients. After the second talk those present will be offered a short guided walk to illustrate the local setting of the above period and events.

### Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Group

Time & Talents Centre, St Mary Church Street, SE16  
www.kingstairs.com/rotherhithe

Wednesday 30 March  
**MUSEUM OF GARDEN HISTORY**

7.45pm; free to members  
Hugh Jenkins on the unique SE1 museum in the former church of St Mary-at-Lambeth, next to the main gate at Lambeth Palace.

### Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society

Community Room, 106 The Cut

Tuesday 8 March  
**RECENT LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL WORK**

7.30pm; £1 (refreshments from 7pm)  
Melissa Melikian on Roman Cemetery at Lant Street, Faye Simpson on her work as community archaeologist at the Museum of London and Richard Buchanan on how the Museum of Garden History was founded.

### Waterloo History Group

Waterloo Action Centre, 14 Baylis Road

Tuesday 1 March  
**A HISTORY OF THE OLD VIC THEATRE**

2pm; free  
Ned Seago, stage door manager at the Old Vic, offers an entertaining insight into the history of this famous theatre and an opportunity to contribute your own memories and reminiscences. Refreshments provided.

Monday 7 March  
**NECROPOLIS RAILWAY**

2pm; free  
Mark Hyder on the direct railway service from alongside the Westminster Bridge Road Post Office to Brookwood burial ground in Surrey.

### Waterloo Library

114-118 Lower Marsh T 020 7926 8750  
www.lambeth.gov.uk

Monday 7 March  
**HISTORY IN YOUR LUNCHTIME**

1pm-2.30pm; free  
To mark International Women's Day local poet Tamar Yoseloff reads from her new collection *Barnard's Star* (published by Enitharmon) and discusses with local history librarian Anna Robinson the significance that history, London and being a traveller abroad have on her work. Sandwiches provided.

## Live Music

## The Bridge

Weston Street T 020 8964 0290

Easter Monday 28 March  
**TSUNAMI APEAL PARTY**  
7pm; £8

Classic jazz to a cappella vocal arrangements, as well as motown bands, jazz pianists, soul singers, and big bands. The aim is to raise £10,000.

## Christ Church Southwark

27 Blackfriars Road T 020 7928 3970  
www.christchurchsouthwark.org.ukWednesday 23 March  
**HOLY WEEK MUSIC**  
1.30pm; free

Portcullis Singers.

## Museum of Garden History

Lambeth Palace Road T 020 7401 8865  
www.museumofgardenhistory.orgSaturday 12 March  
**YOUNG PIANIST LAUREATES CONCERT**  
7.30pm; £10

Five young pianists from around the world.

## Royal Festival Hall

South Bank T 020 7921 0600  
www.rfh.org.ukMonday 7 March  
**LAMBETH SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL**7pm; free (subject to availability)  
The performance by around 500 Lambeth primary school children of Initiation Songs by composer Juwon Ogunbge, specially commissioned for Africa Remix.

## St George's RC Cathedral

Lambeth Road T 020 7928 5256  
www.southwark-rc-cathedral.org.ukSaturday 19 March  
**ORGAN RECITAL**  
1.05pm; free

Cathedral organ scholar Mark Ellul.

## St John's Waterloo

Waterloo Road T 020 7633 9819  
www.stjohnswaterloo.co.ukEvery Wednesday  
**LUNCHTIME CONCERT**  
1.10pm; freeWed 2: Southbank Sinfonia soloists  
Wed 9: Southbank Sinfonia soloists  
Wed 16: Southbank Sinfonia soloistsEvery Thursday  
**SOUTHBANK SINFONIA RUSH HOUR CONCERT**  
6pm; freeThu 3: Hindemith Horn Concerto  
Thu 10: Copland and Britten  
Thu 17: Stravinsky Pulcinella SuiteSunday 20 March  
**PALM SUNDAY SPRING CONCERT**  
7.30pm; £12 (conc. £10)

Fauré's Requiem, Cantique de Jean Racine &amp; Tantum Ergo; Brahms' How Lovely are thy Dwellings and Vaughan Williams' Five Mystical Songs. Soloists: Sarah Moule Soprano and Graham Kirk Baritone. Organist Anthony McCarthy. Conductor Matthew Altham. Box Office: 020 8699 3309.

## Southwark Cathedral

London Bridge T 020 7367 6700  
www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedralEvery Monday  
**ORGAN RECITAL**  
1.10pm; freeMon 7: Stephen Disley  
Mon 14: Peter Wright  
Mon 21: no recital (Holy Week)  
Mon 28: no recital (Easter Week)Wednesday 2 March  
**CHARTERHOUSE CONCERT**  
7.30pm; £15 from 020 7357 7733 opt 4

Prunella Scales and Timothy West introduce classics from Vaughan Williams, George Gershwin and Cole Porter. The Collegiate Singers directed by Andrew Millinger with Stephen Disley on the organ and the Charterhouse Young Musicians. In aid of Charterhouse-in-Southwark. www.charterhouse-in-southwark.org.uk

Saturday 12 March  
**JOHN ARMITAGE MEMORIAL CONCERT**  
7.30pm; tickets from 020 7638 8891

The Chapel Choir of Selwyn College, Cambridge conducted by Stephen Layton.

Wednesday 16 March  
**HIGHGATE SCHOOL CONCERT**  
7.30pm; £6-£10

Mozart's Requiem and Mozart piano concert in A major K488.

Friday 18 March  
**MONTEVERDI VESPERS**  
7.30pm

Goldsmiths Choral Union conducted by Brian Wright. Contact: Honorary Secretary: 01923 778779

Saturday 19 March  
**PASSIONTIDE CONCERT**  
7.30pm; £5 (conc £3)

Eve of Holy Week concert by Southwark Cathedral's Merbecke Choir. Music includes Crucifixus Pro Nobis (Kenneth Leighton), Miserere (Allegri), and Sonata on the 94th Psalm (Reubke).

Good Friday 25 March  
**THE CROSS**  
6.30pm; £12 (conc £10)

Music and readings for Good Friday performed by the Choir of Southwark Cathedral. To reserve seats phone 020 7367 6700.

Thursday 31 March  
**EAST UNION CHOIR**  
1.30pm; free

Visiting choir from California.

## Southwark Rooms

60 Southwark Street

Tuesday 1 March  
**JAZZ DUOS**  
8-11pm; £4 (£3 for performing musicians)

In the Basement bar, singers and instrumentalists from the audience step up to accompany the house pianist in improvised duos. Founder Brigitte Beraha also sings.

## The Warehouse

13 Theed Street T 020 8670 0032  
www.thewarehouselondon.co.ukWednesday 9 March  
**ROMANTIC GENERATIONS**  
7.30pm; £12

Stephen Wray continues his piano recital series playing Chopin and Liszt.

## Church Services

## Christ Church

Blackfriars Road T 020 7928 3970  
www.christchurchsouthwark.org.ukSunday 6 March  
**MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
9.30am

Holy Communion. Children welcome.

Palm Sunday 20 March  
**PROCESSION**  
10am

Procession to St John's for Eucharist.

Thursday 24 March  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
7pm

Last Supper Holy Communion with feet washing.

Friday 25 March  
**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**  
12 noon

Preceded by walk from La Salette Church

Sunday 27 March  
**EASTER DAY EUCHARIST**  
9.30am

## Most Holy Trinity Church

Dockhead T 020 7237 1641

Wednesday 2 March  
**MEMORIAL MASS**  
7.30pm

Sixty years ago tonight the last V2 rocket hit Bermondsey destroying the church, priests' house and Sisters of Mercy convent and killing the parish priest and two assistants. Mass is celebrated in the replacement Sixties church.

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**Our Lady of La Salette Church**

Melior Street T 020 7407 1948  
www.rc.net/southwark/londonbridge-lasalette

Good Friday 25 March  
**PROCESSION OF WITNESS**  
11am

Good Friday Procession of Witness from Our Lady of La Salette via the riverside with a series of stations to hear Passion passages read. Ends at Christ Church, Blackfriars Road at 12 noon.

**St John's Waterloo**

Waterloo Road T 020 7633 9819  
www.stjohnswaterloo.co.uk

Sunday 6 March  
**MOTHERING SUNDAY**  
10.30am

Palm Sunday 20 March  
**PROCESSION & EUCHARIST**  
10am starting at Christ Church, Blackfriars Road

Friday 25 March  
**GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION**  
10am

Procession to Waterloo Station for service on concourse. Followed in church by Stations of the Cross at 1pm.

Sunday 27 March  
**EASTER DAWN SERVICE**  
5.30am

**Southwark Cathedral**

London Bridge T 020 7367 6700  
www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral

Palm Sunday 20 March  
**PROCESSION & CHORAL EUCHARIST**  
11am

Palm procession from Borough Market to Southwark Cathedral

Thursday 24 March  
**THE LORD'S SUPPER EUCHARIST**  
6.30pm  
Eucharist followed by vigil to midnight.

Friday 25 March  
**GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY OF THE THREE HOURS**  
12-3pm  
Workshop for children available.

Saturday 26 March  
**EASTER VIGIL**  
8pm  
With Baptism and Confirmation.

Sunday 27 March  
**EASTER DAY CHORAL EUCHARIST**  
11am

**St George's RC Cathedral**

Lambeth Road T 020 7928 5256  
www.southwark-rc-cathedral.org.uk

Palm Sunday 20 March  
**PROCESSION & MASS**  
11.30am  
Procession from the Amigo Hall.

Sunday 20 March  
**OSCAR ROMERO ANNIVERSARY**  
3.30pm  
Stations of the Cross led by Archbishop of Southwark to mark the 20th anniversary of Oscar Romero's assassination. Followed by Make Poverty History card signing

Thursday 24 March  
**MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER**  
7.30pm  
Followed by watch to midnight.

Friday 25 March  
**GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY**  
3pm

Saturday 26 March  
**EASTER VIGIL**  
8.30pm  
Blessing of Easter fire by Archbishop, readings and first Mass of Easter.

Sunday 27 March  
**EASTER DAY CHORAL MASS**  
11.30am

**Theatre**

**Menier Chocolate Factory**

51-53 Southwark Street T 020 7907 7060  
www.menierchocolatefactory.com

Tuesday 1 to Sunday 27 March  
**MERCURY FUR**  
Tue-Sat; 8pm; matinée Sat & Sun  
3.30pm; £10

Second production in Paines Plough's This Other England season at the Menier. Philip Ridley's play is presented as a co-production with Plymouth Theatre Royal.

Tuesday 29 March to Sunday 24 April  
**PYRENEES**  
Tue-Sat; 8pm; matinée Sat & Sun  
3.30pm; £10

By David Greig. A co-production with The Tron, Glasgow, directed by Vicky Featherstone.

**Network Theatre**

Off Waterloo Rd under station T 020 7582 8400  
www.networktheatre.org

Tuesday 15 to Saturday 19 March  
**MOJO**  
7.30pm; £7.50 (conc £.6.50)  
Issues of power, violence, trust and abuse are interwoven in this sublimely dark comedy from award winning writer Jez Butterworth and set in Fifties' Soho.

**The Old Vic**

The Cut T 0870 060 6628  
www.oldvictheatre.com

Until Saturday 23 April  
**NATIONAL ANTHEMS**  
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat 2.30pm;  
£10-40  
See review on page 7.

**Royal National Theatre**

South Bank T 020 7452 3000  
www.nationaltheatre.org.uk

Saturday 5 March to Saturday 18 June  
**THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA**  
Lyttelton Theatre; 7.30pm; £10-£35  
A new English version by David Hare of Lorca's play. Cast includes Penelope Wilton.

Until Wednesday 23 March  
**FIX UP**  
Cottesloe Theatre; 7.30pm; £10-£27  
New play by Kwame Kwei-Armah set in Tottenham and London exploring race and roots with wit.

Until Tuesday 29 March  
**A DREAM PLAY**  
Cottesloe Theatre; 7.30pm; £10-27  
A new version of Strindberg's experiment in surrealism by Caryl Churchill. Coincides with Tate Modern Strindberg exhibition.

Until Saturday 2 April  
**HIS DARK MATERIALS**  
Oliver Theatre; 7.15pm; £10-£35  
Based on the novels by Philip Pullman. There are two performances of three hours on different nights which must be booked at the same time.

**The Shunt Vaults**

Joiner Street T 020 7452 3000  
www.shunt.co.uk

Until Saturday 25 June  
**TROPICANA**  
Thu, Fri & Sat 8.30pm; £20 (conc £10)  
The audience for this 'live event' is asked to wear clothes suitable for dusty conditions and be ready to move about the vast 70,000 square foot space.

**Southwark Playhouse**

62 Southwark Bridge Road T 020 7620 3494  
www.southwarkplayhouse.co.uk

Until Saturday 5 March  
**THE SHY GAS MAN**  
7.30pm; £12 (conc & Mon £8)  
A play by Gill Adams presented by Sweetheart productions.

Tuesday 8 to Saturday 12 March  
**THE BIGGLESWADES**  
7.30pm; £12 (conc £8)  
Brian Biggleswade and his wife at home on the edge of England and barricaded against an unknown enemy. Weird panic takes over on the macabre fringes of Englishness. New play by Torben Betts. In association with Birkbeck University of London.

Tuesday 15 March to Saturday 2 April  
**WILDE TALES**  
Mon-Fri 7.30pm; Sat 3 & 7.30pm; £12 (conc £8; Mon £6)  
Key Productions presents Oscar Wilde's The Happy Prince, The Selfish Giant, The Nightingale and the Rose and more adapted by Simon Vinnicombe. Original Music by Deborah Pritchard.

**Union Theatre**

204 Union Street T 020 7261 9876  
www.uniontheatre.com

Until Saturday 2 April  
**SETTLING DOWN**  
Tue-Sat 7.30pm; Sun 5pm; £10 (conc £5)  
Entropy Ink presents a new play by Cianar McConville. A CBS Producer and cameraman arrive in a southern Sudanese town to research an interview.

**Cinema**

**BFI London IMAX Cinema**

The Bullring, South Bank T 0870 787 2525  
www.bfi.org.uk/imax

Friday 11 & Saturday 12 March  
**THE MATRIX TRILOGY**  
9.30pm; £10 for one film, £15 for two; £25 for all three  
The Matrix (15) is seen in its original

35mm theatrical version. The Matrix Reloaded (15) and The Matrix Revolutions (15) are seen in spectacular IMAX DMR; digitally re-mastered. The Matrix Reloaded starts at 12.30am and The Matrix Revolutions at 3.30am. The programme ends at approximately 5.40am. Prize draws and free tea and coffee.

Friday 18 & Saturday 19 March  
**LORD OF THE RINGS**  
8.30pm; £10 for one film, £15 for two; £25 for all three

All three Lord of the Rings films will be screened in their original theatrical 35mm versions (not IMAX or IMAX DMR) with the image will fill approximately one third of the giant screen. The Two Towers (12A) starts at midnight and Return of the King (12A) at 3.30am. The programme ends at approximately 6.50am. Prize draws and free tea and coffee.

**Cinema Furore at the Coronet**

28 New Kent Road T 020 7701 1500  
www.cinemafurore.com

**SUNDAY CINEMA DOUBLE-BILLS**  
Film 1 at 4pm; Film 2 at 7pm - live music in the interval; £2

Cinema Furore returns to the Coronet with its 42 ft screen and Dolby digital surround sound. The start of a fortnightly programme of Sunday double-bills. Licenced bar, live bands, DJs.  
Sun 6: Motorcycle Diaries & Bad Education  
Sun 20: Brief Encounters: the Best of British short films & The Aviator

**The Old Vic**

The Cut T 0870 060 6628  
www.oldvictheatre.com

Sundays  
**AMERICAN ANTHEMS**  
2.30pm; £7.50  
The Old Vic and Curzon Cinemas present a season of double-bill DVD projections during the run of National Anthems on stage.  
Sun 6: When Harry Met Sally & Sidewalks of New York  
Sun 13: Paris, Texas & Memento  
Sun 20: Raging Bull & Ali

**Exhibitions**

**Baillie Gallery**

1a Copper Row Tower Br Piazza T 0711 255613  
www.bailliegallery.com  
Wed-Sun 12 noon-6pm

Until Sunday 20 March  
**RELAUNCH EXHIBITION**  
Abstract landscapes by Mark Johnston and townscapes by Jennifer Irvine. Gallery has relocated from Rotherhithe.

**Bankside Gallery**

48 Hopton Street T 020 7928 7521  
www.banksidegallery.com  
Daily 11am-6pm; free

Thursday 3 March to Sunday 3 April  
**ROYAL WATERCOLOUR SOCIETY**  
New work for sale (£200-£5000) by RWS members. Featured artist is Salliann Putman.

**londonSE1 community website** A month in the life of the London SE1 forum

Let it snow, let it snow...

Lunchtime grub

Unreliable Builders

Daytime Tennis

Boiler replacement

Stolen Allegro :-{

The Fort

Burgled!

Cat care in the community!

Looking to rent a two bedroom place

Builder - there must be one here somewhere!

Bin emptying on Bermondsey Street

Thameslink 2000 and Borough Market

Mandela Way Delivery Office Contact Details?

70-storey skyscraper for the South Bank

Pool of London Lighting

Shoe Shop Bermondsey Street

The Marigold, Bermondsey

Lloyds cash machine on Tower Bridge Rd

Metro Central Heights

Cornwall Club, Cornwall Road

New map of London

Primary Schools - how do you rate 'em?

London Road derelict buildings

Good clubs in SE1

Excellent noodles at Elephant & Castle

Ellen MacArthur

Thompson Local Directory

Wild's Rents/Long Lane

Inexpensive space required for self defence course

Audition Space in SE1

Jubilee Gardens Consultation

Electrician

Residents parking near Bermondsey Street

Cross Bones Graveyard

Former Czar Bar

Netball

all these topics and many more have been

discussed in the past month at

www.London-SE1.co.uk/forum

**County Hall Riverside Suite**

South Bank  
Daily 10am-6pm; free

Thursday 3 March to Tuesday 3 May  
**CHINA YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW**

Multimedia exhibition which brings together photographs of modern China, documentaries on Chinese life, a retrospective look at Zhou en Lai and a display of 60s and 70s political posters.

**Design Museum**

28 Shad Thames T 0870 833 9955  
www.designmuseum.org  
Daily 10am-6pm (last admission 5.15pm); £6 (conc £4)

Until Monday 25 April  
**PASSING THE BATON**  
The conductor's baton reinterpreted by 40 of the world's leading designers.

Until Sunday 15 May  
**YOU ARE HERE**  
The history of information design.

Saturday 5 March to Sunday 19 June  
**DESIGNER OF THE YEAR**  
Help to choose the winner of the £25,000 national design prize at this exhibition of the work of the four nominees: design strategist Hilary Cottam, product designer Jasper Morrison, Penguin Books for Great Ideas and the textile designers Timourous Beasties.

Until Sunday 27 November  
**DESIGNING MODERN LIFE**  
How design has transformed modern life.

**Eye Candy Gallery**

2a Crucifix Lane T 020 7357 0772  
www.eyecandygallery.co.uk  
Mon-Sat 10.30am-7pm; free

Until Tuesday 31 March  
**WINTER 2005 EXHIBITION**  
Abstract and semi-abstract art.

**f a projects**

1-2 Bear Gardens T 020 7928 3228  
www.faprojects.com  
Tue-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat 12 noon-5pm; free

Until Saturday 5 March  
**ARJAN VAN HELMOND**  
New paintings

Friday 18 March to Saturday 23 April  
**CONSTRUCTED WORLDS**  
Works on paper by US artists.

**Fashion & Textile Museum**

83 Bermondsey Street T 020 7403 0222  
www.ftmlondon.org  
Tue-Sun 10am-4.45pm; £6 (conc £4)

Until Saturday 25 June  
**ZANDRA RHODES: A LIFELONG LOVE AFFAIR WITH TEXTILES**  
See review on page 7.

**Florence Nightingale Museum**

St Thomas' Hospital T 020 7620 0374  
www.florence-nightingale.co.uk  
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; weekend 10am-4.30pm; £5.80 (conc £4.20)

Until Saturday 30 April  
**CALAMITY UNPARALLELED**  
150th anniversary of the Crimean War.

**Hayward Gallery**

South Bank T 020 7960 5226  
www.hayward.org.uk  
Daily 10am-6pm (Wed 8pm; Fri 9pm); £7 (conc £2-£5) Monday 50% off

Until Sunday 17 April  
**AFRICA REMIX**  
See review on page 7.

**Imperial War Museum**

Lambeth Road T 020 7416 5320  
www.iwm.org.uk  
Daily 10am-6pm; free

Until Monday 2 May  
**WILLIAM ORPEN: POLITICS, SEX AND DEATH**

£5 (conc £4; children free)  
Full review at www.London-SE1.co.uk

Until May  
**D-DAY**  
60th anniversary of D-Day landings.

Until Sunday 31 July  
**GREAT ESCAPES**

£6 (conc £5; child free)  
Ingenious and audacious escape attempts by WWII Allied prisoners.

**Jerwood Space**

171 Union Street T 020 7654 0171  
www.jerwoodspace.co.uk  
Daily 10am-6pm; free

Until Sunday 13 March  
**RADICAL ART**  
Royal Academy Schools graduates organised by Professor Brendan Neiland.

**Laura Bartlett Gallery**

22 Leathermarket Street T 07771 803606  
www.laurabartlettgallery.com  
Wed-Sat 12-6pm; free

Until Saturday 12 March  
**ALISON MOFFET & ADAM HUMPHRIES**

Until Saturday 12 March  
**Llewellyn Alexander Fine Paintings**

The Cut T 020 7620 1322  
www.llewellynalexander.com  
Mon-Sat 10am-7pm; free

Until Friday 11 March  
**MAUREEN JORDAN, FRASER KING**  
Landscapes of the Dordogne and Californian poppies.

Thursday 17 March to Saturday 2 April  
**JEREMY BARLOW**  
Over 75 new oil paintings by this landscape artist.

**Menier Chocolate Factory Gallery**

51 Southwark Street  
www.menierchocolatefactory.com  
Mon-Sat 10am-6pm; free

Thursday 17 to Sunday 24 April  
**SYLVIA GUIREY: A LIFE IN ART**  
Retrospective of paintings 1968-1997..

**Morley Gallery**

Westminster Bridge Road T 020 7450 1826  
www.morleycollege.ac.uk  
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; free

Until Saturday 19 March  
**SEIBER 100 YEARS**  
An exhibition celebrating the centenary of the composer, innovative teacher and musician Seiber.

**Museum of Garden History**

Lambeth Palace Road T 020 7401 8865  
www.museumgardenhistory.org  
Daily 10.30am-5pm; voluntary fee £3 (conc £2.50)

Until Friday 1 April  
**DEAD RECKONING**  
Marking the 250th anniversary of Captain William Bligh of Bounty fame who lived in Lambeth Road and is buried next to the museum.

**National Theatre**

South Bank T 020 7452 3400  
www.nationaltheatre.org.uk  
Daily 10am-11pm; free

Until Saturday 5 March  
**SHOW ME! TELL ME!**  
The extraordinary creativity of children from around the world.

Until Saturday 2 April  
**RAW MATERIALS**  
Learn how the NT's workshops brought Philip Pullman's trilogy to the stage.

**Old Operating Theatre Museum & Herb Garret**

9a St Thomas' Street T 020 7188 2679  
www.thegarret.org.uk  
Daily 10.30am-5pm; £4.75 (conc £3.75, child £2.75)

Until Tuesday 22 March  
**IN LOVING MEMORY**  
A photographic exhibition and video installation by Valentina Lari.

**Plateau Gallery**

1 Brewery Sq, Tower Br Piazza T 020 7357 6880  
www.plateau.co.uk  
Tue-Fri 11am-6pm; Sat-Sun 12pm-6pm; free

Until Thursday 31 March  
**HUNGARIAN GLASS**  
A debut exhibition of Hungarian glass.

**Poetry Library**

Royal Festival Hall T 020 7921 0943  
www.poetrylibrary.org.uk  
Tue-Sun 11am-8pm; free

Until Monday 28 March  
**A DARKLING PLAIN**  
New artwork by Stephen Raw.

**Purdy Hicks Gallery**

65 Hopton Street T 020 7401 9229  
www.purdyhicks.com  
Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm (Wed 7pm); Sat & Sun 12 noon-5pm; free

Until Monday 7 March  
**MARIANNITA LUZZATI**  
Terra de Ninguem (No Man's Land).

Friday 11 March to Monday 4 April  
**SEANCE AND OTHER PHOTOGRAPHS**  
German photographer Katherina Mayer.

**Ritter/Zamet**

2 Bear Gardens T 020 7261 9510  
www.ritterzamet.com  
Tue-Sat 10am-6pm; free

Until Saturday 19 March  
**ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE**  
First solo exhibition in the UK by Jean-Francais Moriceau and Petra Mrxyk

**Royal Festival Hall**

South Bank  
www.sbc.org.uk  
Daily 10am-10pm; free

Monday 7 March to Monday 11 April  
**SALON AFRIQUE**  
A vibrant and colourful lounge-style venue, with a contemporary African feel. As well as revealing a range of artistic responses, it plays host to a programme of free public events and performances.

**The Saatchi Gallery**

County Hall, Belvedere Road T 020 7928 8195  
www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk  
Sun-Thu 10am-8pm; Fri & Sat 10am-10pm; £8.75 (conc £6.75)

Until May  
**THE TRIUMPH OF PAINTING PART 1**  
Full review at www.London-SE1.co.uk

**Southwark Cathedral Refectory**

London Bridge  
www.southwark.anglican.org/cathedral  
Daily 10am-5pm; free

Until Sunday 6 March  
**DAVID HEPHER**  
Recent work.

Tuesday 8 March to Sunday 15 May  
**TO THE LIGHTHOUSE (AND BACK)**  
Series of photos by professional photographer and Mental Fight Club member Stephen Burrows.  
www.into.org.uk/mentalfightclub

**Tate Modern**

Bankside T 020 7887 8008  
www.tate.org.uk  
Daily 10am-6pm (Fri & Sat 10pm); free

Until Monday 28 March  
**BRUCE NAUMAN**  
Turbine Hall sound installation.

Until Monday 2 May  
**JOSEPH BEUYS: ACTIONS, VITRINES, ENVIRONMENTS**  
German artist considered one of the most influential figures in contemporary art.

Until Sunday 15 May  
**AUGUST STRINDBERG: PAINTER, PHOTOGRAPHER, WRITER**  
A prolific writer of novels and plays and a radical painter of his time.

**the.gallery@oxo**

Oxo Tower Wharf T 020 7401 2255  
www.oxotower.co.uk  
Daily 11am-6pm; free

Friday 4 to Sunday 13 March  
**JAMES BULLEN DESIGN**  
A textile retrospective 2000-2004 featuring forty designs.

Wednesday 16 to Monday 28 March  
**BEHIND THE SMILE**  
'The tsunami of tourism' photographs.

**The Walk**

23 King Edward Walk T 020 7928 3786  
www.walkgallery.com  
Mon-Fri 10.30am-6.30pm

Thursday 3 to Thursday 24 March  
**THE LONDON GROUP: IN SEARCH OF A THEME 2**  
Wendy Taylor, Richard Kemp, Susan Haire, Peter Love.

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website: www.stpatricksnursery.com



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Sunday 6 March  
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SE16 5PB

offers private accommodation within a very sheltered housing unit for elderly people who are reasonably fit but who no longer wish or feel able to live alone. Two meals are provided daily.  
Residents are welcome for long or short term stays to suit their own situations and the needs of their families, for example, for holidays.

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Brenda Crawley 020 7231 5946

THEATRE REVIEW

National Anthems

Until Saturday 23 April at the Old Vic  
Booking: www.inSE1.co.uk/oldvic

The first half of Dennis McIntyre's grimly fascinating play seems like an extended version of 'Great Bores of Today'.

Socially awkward Ben Cook gatecrashes the designer but soulless home of newly arrived model couple Arthur (Steven Weber) and Leslie (Mary Stuart Masterson) to an upwardly mobile neighbourhood of Detroit. Not content with giving a cash value to their whole lifestyle, Ben, played by Kevin Spacey as a slow burning fuse, takes control of all their lives.

The pace quickens in the second half, when guilt and inadequacy ratchet up the tension. Ben's underdog personality begins to disintegrate and basic primal and territorial aggression takes over, goading Arthur into a fight. Leslie's past life as a cheer leader comes back to remind her of earlier freedoms. The subplot of dangerous fire surfaces and her flame coloured dress then seems to make sense. The play ends as the gatecrasher at last takes his leave, with all lives turned upside down.

MARION MARPLES

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EXHIBITION REVIEW

Africa Remix

Until Sunday 17 April  
Hayward Gallery, South Bank

The new exhibition presents a wealth of art of all types from Africa and African expatriates. The exhibition contains some pieces of striking beauty and significance, but for the most part is plagued by the standard fare of modern art.

Some of the better pieces include the works of photography on the first floor, and also a few of the more interesting and yet not too disturbing sculptures. There is a wealth of this, much of which is created from rubbish, bits of metal, or in one case a vast stack of gas cans. However, while some are cunningly crafted, others are, well...vast stacks of gas cans, and little more.

One of the most intriguing pieces is a chair, a simple squat metal thing, ugly and functional. What is striking about it though is not its construction, but its substance, as it is made from guns, bombs and grenades collected after the sixteen years of civil war that plagued the artist's home country.

Further into the exhibition, the displays get by far more bizarre, going from the standard fare of a 2 metre long canvas that looks as if was scribbled on by a 2 year old to a gigantic map of the world which seems to have been shot by a paintball gun.

The other more traditionally abstract works are also odd,

but by far the worst were the electronic pieces. Not all of these were bad, but many were simply ridiculous. By far my favourite was the random pile of electronics in one corner of the gallery.

As near as I could tell, what I at first took to be a pile of maintenance supplies was, in fact, a piece on display. Among several TVs buried in the pile, all playing eccentric videos, there was also a projector sitting on a cheap plastic chair and throwing one of these images onto a piece of what seemed to be bubble wrap taped to the wall.

Despite the outlandish, ludicrous, or simply crude nature of many of the facets of this exhibition, it is perhaps still worth a trip to the Hayward, if only to see another side of Africa, one that is never found in the news or on TV.

NATHAN FAYARD

EXHIBITION REVIEW

Zandra Rhodes

Until Saturday 25 June

A Lifetime Love Affair with Textiles is the Fashion & Textile Museum's major exhibition of founder Zandra Rhodes's dresses and prints.

The exhibition includes examples of her stunning ensembles and unique textiles. Rhodes, who never studied design, and does not follow fashion conventions, pulls ideas for her designs from rather mundane objects such as buildings and plants.

Though she released her first collection in 1969, her breakthrough design was the innovative "73/44", a very flattering dress with a deep collar and elegant sleeves. She has since built on and transformed this simple and graceful design. The exhibition succeeds in showing Rhodes's evolution as she has incorporated ideas from ethnic clothing and punk attitude.

WILL WEIR

londonSE1  
community website  
www.London-SE1.co.uk

Read the full story online

Mystery stabbing at Elephant Wetherspoons

Police are appealing for any witnesses or information concerning a stabbing in Wetherspoons at the Elephant and Castle on Friday 11 February.

London Eye protestor found not guilty

Fathers' rights campaigner David Chick - who the London Eye dressed as Spiderman last year - has been found not guilty of causing a public nuisance.

Borough Market Director leaves

Borough Market Director Simon Tattersfield stepped down last month.

Makeover planned for King's Reach Tower

King's Reach Tower in Stamford Street - soon to be vacated by IPC Media - is to be re-clad and will gain four more storeys and a cluster of smaller towers.

Unicorn poised for £500k boost from Southwark Council

Southwark Council leader Nick Stanton and Sir Alan Ayckbourn have toured the Unicorn Theatre building site in Tooley Street as the council looks to contribute £500,000 to the unique theatre for children.

Two jailed for violent robbery spree

Two men have been sentenced to 11 years and nine years imprisonment for a series of violent robberies in July 2004 in the areas around Blackfriars Road and Guy's Hospital.

Blackfriars Bridge death: bus driver jailed

A judge said that controversial road markings were a "contributory factor" in the death of cyclist Vicki McCreery as he jailed bus driver Michael Duncan for a year.

Four charged with Nelson Square rape

Four youths have been charged with the rape of two girls, aged 15 and 16, at a flat in Applegarth House in Nelson Square on 25 August 2004.

Skipper fined after Duck Tours collision

The skipper of a Duck Tours amphibious vehicle has been successfully prosecuted at Horseferry Road Magistrate Court following a collision on the Thames near Westminster Bridge.

Mayor hails renewal of Borough Tube Station

Ken Livingstone visited Borough Tube station on Monday to see for himself the results of the multi-million pound refurbishment of the Northern Line station.

Bermondsey surgery wins National Carers Award

Grange Road Practice in Bermondsey has been awarded one of just two Silver Prizes in the HSA Carer Aware Awards, run in partnership with The Princess Royal Trust for Carers.

## BOOK REVIEW

**London Peculiar**

Peter Ashley • English Heritage • £14.99  
Buy online at [www.inSE1.co.uk/books](http://www.inSE1.co.uk/books)

**Peter Ashley's catalogue of "curiosities in a capital city" benefits from a suitable random arrangement of themes and sections.**

Local peculiarities include the alcove from a previous manifestation of London Bridge which now resides on a lawn at Guy's Hospital. The grotto outside the church of the Precious Blood in O'Meara Street is described as an "unexpected antidote to the teeming life of Southwark ... the kind of thing we would expect to see at a rural French crossroads".

The ferryman's seat in Bear Gardens is a natural candidate for inclusion in a book of this type.

Roupell Street gets a spread to itself, the author clearly a fan of the street's evocation of "another London".

Ashley debunks the popular

claim that the decorative pineapples which adorn Lambeth Bridge are a reference to the nearby burial of the Tradescants, widely associated with the introduction of the fruit into this country. He claims that the decorations are in fact pine cones, "a symbol of hospitality from at least Roman times".

The white Coade stone lion by Westminster Bridge opens the section entitled "Big animals, small people". Ashley reminds us that it is the largest of the three red-painted lions that once adorned the Lion Brewery which stood a little further downstream until the Second World War.

Ashley tracks the Necropolis Railway from the remains of its London terminus in Westminster Bridge Road to the grassed-over platforms at Brookwood.

*London Peculiar* is a delight to browse and an inspiration to explore the city.

## BOOK REVIEW

**Eccentric London**

Tom Quinn • New Holland • £14.99  
Buy online at [www.inSE1.co.uk/books](http://www.inSE1.co.uk/books)

**Most of the entries in the South & South East London chapter of Tom Quinn's glossy coffee-table guide to all things eccentric in the capital are in SE1.**

Quinn explains how the Bethlehem Hospital – now home to the Imperial War Museum – became a "sort of circus or amusement park", described by one commentator as a trip "guaranteed to amuse and lift the spirits".

Unfortunately the entry for County Hall and the "bizarrely wonderful" Saatchi Gallery is a little out-of-date, most of the Brit art having been moved out in favour of this year's series devoted to painting.

The author perpetuates the widely disputed myth that Christopher Wren stayed at Cardinal's Wharf on Bankside during the construction of St Paul's. His claim that Catherine

of Aragon had stayed in the house two centuries earlier is also unlikely; although it has been suggested that she landed on Bankside when she arrived from Spain, it is more likely that she stayed at nearby Winchester Palace.

Doggett's Coat and Badge Race is another "eccentricity" featured in the book, along with the George Inn in Borough High Street and the Anchor on Bankside.

Quinn also recounts the tale of 18th-century "Southwark Miser" John Elwes, buried in the graveyard of what we now know as Southwark Cathedral.

Whilst most Londoners will probably find something they didn't know in this book, it is hard not to conclude that it is a rather superficial survey of London oddities which fails to do justice to the magnificent eccentricity of the city.

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