

# Lambethtalk

QUARTERLY INFORMATION • DATES • CONTACTS • EVENTS • FEATURES • PEOPLE • PLACES

DECEMBER 2011

FREE TO YOUR DOOR



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# welcome

**FROM COUNCILLOR STEVE REED,  
LEADER OF LAMBETH COUNCIL**



All of us are facing a difficult and uncertain time which is affecting us in different ways. Across the council we are making tough choices about services we reduce or even stop as a result of government cuts to funding. However, having seen how our community reacted in a united and positive way after the August riots, I am confident that we can work together to deliver our cooperative council aspirations and try and find new ways to protect and deliver services wherever possible.

I set out our ambitions earlier this year about creating a safe and secure borough; a place where people can realise their ambitions, and a borough that cares for the vulnerable. In order to enable these three ambitions I want us to continue on our journey to become a cooperative council. This means residents working with us to determine how our services are organised, run or even managed. It is a really exciting challenge and if we can get it right, it will mean that the whole Lambeth community is working together like never before.

There is more about the cooperative council inside the magazine and it tells you about how you can get involved. I think that as we challenge ourselves about how we work and as we start to share responsibilities, we will see how fantastic Lambeth can be.

On behalf of everyone at Lambeth Council, I would like to wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

**Councillor Steve Reed, Leader of Lambeth Council**



To find out how you can make a big difference visit:  
[www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil)



## Major milestone as council transfers land to community

Lambeth Council has transferred ownership of 2.4 acres of land to the community to bolster youth sport.

Part of the former Lilian Baylis School site in Kennington has been transferred to a new community organisation, the Black Prince Trust (BPT), which will invest more than £2 million in improving and extending sports and community facilities on the site.

The Trust has received grant and loan funding from the Communitybuilders Fund and will be working in partnership with social enterprise GLL (Greenwich Leisure Ltd), the Community Action Zone, and many others to provide a wide range of sports, health and community programmes.

Council Leader Steve Reed, said: "This is the cooperative council in action. The community doesn't need an underused building costing the council thousands of pounds each year, but it does need youth sports and activities to engage local children and give them a place to go."

The Black Prince Trust is planning to build a new running track, high jump and long jump facilities, 5-a-side pitches, a gym and changing facilities on the site.

## We're becoming a cooperative council - help us make history

Residents are being invited to get involved in improving life for themselves and their community as part of Lambeth's cooperative council plans.

In an effort to inspire people to get involved, citizens have starred in a series of posters alongside staff.

The projects described in these posters are examples of how communities have been improved by local people working together with support from the council.

Councillor Steve Reed, Leader of Lambeth Council, said: "These projects and activities are really good examples of what we mean by making Lambeth a cooperative



borough - helping residents who want to get more involved in helping their local community by giving them the tools to do so.

"These are just some of the plans we have in place to revolutionise local government as more and more residents come forward and help their communities to work together for everyone's benefit."

There are lots of ways for you to get involved in making Lambeth a better place to live.

You can view the full range of cooperative council opportunities available at our revamped cooperative council website at [www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil)

## Local community rolls up its sleeves and cleans Streatham

Businesses stood side-by-side with council staff and police as they rolled up their sleeves and brightened up a corner of Streatham blighted by graffiti and vandalism.

The Commercial Freshview was organised by Lambeth's community safety service in partnership with the council's streetcare service and Lambeth Police. In the spirit of the council's cooperative approach to delivering services, the clean-up blitz targeted a parade of shops in Gleneagle Road, Streatham, following feedback from local businesses and the wider community. The operation provided shop fronts with a fresh lick of paint and unwanted posters and graffiti were removed.

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# Are you ready for the switchover?

Digital TV switchover is the biggest change in television since the introduction of colour. Are you ready for it?



EastEnders' stars Rudolph Walker and June Brown launch the Help scheme in Albert Square, Lambeth.

**In April 2012, the digital TV switchover will take place across London. If you are still watching analogue TV (five channels or fewer) on any of your sets, you need to convert them to digital or you will lose TV channels.**

Almost everyone will be able to watch Freeview after the switchover, even homes currently out of coverage. Virtually any TV can be converted using a Freeview box, digital satellite service or digital cable.

For eligible older (aged over 75) or disabled viewers who may find the switch difficult, the BBC-run Switchover Help Scheme can provide everything you need to switch one TV to digital.

Most eligible people will be asked to pay £40 towards the standard option of help. For eligible people on income-related benefits, it's free. This includes easy to use equipment, an approved installer to supply and install the equipment, and a 12 month aftercare service including a free helpline.

If you're aged 75 and over or eligible disabled, the Help Scheme will write to you directly and in plenty of time to ask if you want help.



## Making the switch - what do I need to do?

If you have:

**Analogue TV (five channels or fewer)** You will need to convert your TV or you will lose your channels at switchover.

**Freeview, BT Vision or Top Up TV** You will need to re-tune your digital TV, or the box attached to it, at switchover.

**Sky TV, Freesat from Sky, freesat, or Virgin Media** If you have this service on all of your television sets, then you don't need to do anything.

### More information

If you have any questions, or want to check your options for going digital, visit [www.digitaluk.co.uk](http://www.digitaluk.co.uk) or call their advice line on **08456 50 50 50**.

For further information on the Switchover Help Scheme visit [www.helpscheme.co.uk](http://www.helpscheme.co.uk) or call **0800 40 85 900** (textphone **0800 40 85 936**).

## OLYMPIC LEGEND PUTS CLAPHAM CENTRE THROUGH ITS PACES

Seb Coe (below) and pupils from Clapham joined forces to test out facilities at a new multi-million pound leisure centre. Lord Coe, the chair of the London 2012 Organising Committee, and children from Clapham Manor Primary School looked around the facilities, which includes a four-court sports hall, a six lane swimming pool and dance, yoga and martial arts studios. The leisure centre, on Clapham Manor Street, will open to the public in the new year. It is being redeveloped by Lambeth Council at no cost to the tax payer as construction costs have been met by the developer and forms part of a major new multi-award winning regeneration scheme that will also see a new library, healthcare centre, and 199 homes developed nearby. Lord Coe's visit also gave him a chance to hear first hand how the borough is preparing for the 2012 Games.

## Brixton rink promises ice time for residents

**A temporary ice rink is expected to open in Brixton in time for Christmas**

The ice rink will be available for a limited period until late 2013 while a permanent rink is being constructed in Streatham.

The rink, located north of Brixton's bustling markets on Popes Road, will play host to a variety of activities, including ice hockey matches, ice dance and public skating.

The temporary location is a great opportunity for Brixton residents to experience what's on offer at the rink and for Brixton businesses to reach out to new visitors to the town centre.

While the ice rink is in operation, a temporary car park will be available on the corner of Buckner Road and Porden Road in the town centre. For a detailed map of where you can park in Brixton, visit [www.lambeth.gov.uk/parking](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/parking)



## Stained glass treasures preserved

Construction workers on the Streatham hub regeneration project have 'retrieved' a series of beautiful stained-glass roof panels from the old Streatham swimming pool.



Twelve art nouveau glass roof panels, which depict delightful blue and green coloured deep-sea scenes and formed an eye-catching feature for swimmers and spectators, have been carefully removed from the curved ceiling above the old pool.

The windows will be utilised at the new state-of-the-art leisure centre and ice rink, which is expected to open in 2013. It will feature a 25 metre swimming pool, a 13 metre learning pool, sports hall, full-size ice rink and health and fitness suite.



# On your marks Lambeth



## Olympic Torch Relay comes to Lambeth

On 27 July 2012, the eyes of the world will be on London as the Olympic Flame arrives at the Olympic Stadium to mark the start of the 2012 Games.

Representing peace, unity and friendship, the Flame will be carried around the UK on a 70-day journey by 8,000 Torchbearers, finishing at the Stadium. On 26 July, the Olympic Flame will reach Lambeth.

Torchbearers will carry the Flame through the borough and we will be giving it a warm welcome.

Councillor Florence Nosegbe, Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and the 2012 Games (left), said: "I am proud that we will be welcoming the Olympic Flame – bringing messages of peace, unity and friendship to Lambeth.

"I'm looking forward to the Games and see Lambeth's role in the Relay as a vital way of inspiring our communities to get excited about London 2012, as well as marking the beginning of the Games."

Nominations are now open for the Paralympic Torch Relay. The Torch begins its journey in London on 24 August and finishes at the Olympic Stadium on 29 August. You have the opportunity to nominate a Paralympic Torchbearer online at [www.london2012.com//paralympic-torch-relay](http://www.london2012.com//paralympic-torch-relay)

## Lambeth Academy fuelling medal winners

Congratulations to Lambeth Academy whose imaginative food choices have seen them win the 'Get set to exercise your taste buds' competition run by LOCOG, the Games' organisers.

The winning dishes will be included in the final Olympic and Paralympic Village menu.

Lambeth Academy has also been awarded a grant to support other schools in their area to get involved in London 2012 and make the most of opportunities available through the official London 2012 education programme Get Set.



## Over to you

We would love to hear what you are planning for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Will you be visiting the Stadium or the London 2012 Festival? Are you planning to volunteer? Do you remember the London 1948 Olympic Games? Do you know an Olympian or a Paralympian? What

has your school, business, community centre or sports club got planned? Get in touch with your stories at [lambethtalk@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:lambethtalk@lambeth.gov.uk) and we will feature a selection in our Olympic supplement in June 2012.

## Keeping businesses moving

Travelling around London next summer will be challenging and it's time to get prepared. There will be severe disruption across certain areas of the transport network.

Roads and public transport will be busier and your normal journeys to and from work may be disrupted. Planning in advance will make travel easier for everyone, allowing more people to enjoy the Games and continue their everyday activities. Visit [www.london2012.com](http://www.london2012.com) where you will be able to check if you are in an affected area, and download planning tools and action plans.



## Celebrate the Games with your own event

We are working with the Games' organisers to support local people who would like to become Local Leaders and set up and run some events and activities to celebrate the London 2012 Games.

You can decide on what sort of event that you might like to run, but some ideas are:

- Gardening for the Games – how about brightening up the Olympic Torch Relay route with some flowers and plants.
- Question of Sport – hold a sports quiz.
- Opening night in – host an Opening Ceremony party at home.

Find out more about becoming a Local Leader online at [www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders](http://www.london2012.com/get-involved/local-leaders)



# Goodbye to 2011

Lambeth talk looks back at an eventful year in our borough.



## JANUARY

Lambeth launched its cooperative council vision giving people more involvement and control over the services they use and the communities they live in.

## FEBRUARY

Archbishop Tenison's pupil, David Oyedele, 16, was named Lambeth's Youth Mayor after polling more than 10 per cent of the vote at the annual youth elections. More than 10,000 young people voted.

## MARCH

National Offer Day saw 83 per cent of Lambeth children receive a place at one of their top three preferred secondary schools. Figures released this month also showed 92 per cent of Lambeth children received a place at one of their six preferred schools for the next school year.



## APRIL

A new waste strategy was agreed which included compulsory recycling for the first time to save more than £400,000 per year on waste disposal and increase recycling rates to 35 per cent.

Royal wedding fever gripped Lambeth with 20 street parties being held to celebrate Kate and William's big day.

## MAY

A new children's water play area opened in Brockwell Park complete with paddling pool, rock pools, a stream and sand pit. The water play area is part of a major restoration of Brockwell Park.



## JUNE

Lambeth's sailing team cruised to victory at the Thames Water London Youth Games Regatta.

## JULY

Torrential rain didn't stop 60,000 people flocking to the Lambeth Country Show in Brockwell Park to enjoy music, medieval jousting, farm animals and everything else that makes it such a special event.



## AUGUST

Hundreds of volunteers contacted the council to offer their help to clear up after looting and public disorder hit Lambeth. Lambeth secondary schools celebrated improved GCSE results for the 13th consecutive year. Our "five or more A\*- C grades" rating, which include passes in English and Maths, soared from 53 per cent in 2010 to 60.4 per cent.

## SEPTEMBER

Recycling rates rocketed with 81 per cent of households using orange bags, setting us on course to double our target and save £900,000 by the end of the year.

## OCTOBER

Abigail Tackie-Yarboi from Stockwell was named Lambeth's 'Carer of the Year 2011' and given £250 in shopping vouchers, two tickets for next year's Olympics, a trophy and a certificate. Booker prize winning author Ben Okri read from his latest work "A Time for New Dreams" at Brixton Library as part of Black History Month.

Abigail (left) with Dr Patricia Kirkman from NHS Lambeth



## NOVEMBER

Thousands watched the annual fireworks at Brockwell Park, while an event to find adopters during National Adoption Week drew more than 100 people from across the Capital.

## DECEMBER

A new temporary ice rink was expected to open in Brixton.

## Balancing our books

How the council spent your money in 2010/11.

### WHAT DID WE SPEND?

We spent more than £1.1 billion in the financial year (April to March 2010/11) providing more than 600 day-to-day services such as collecting rubbish, delivering meals on wheels, supporting foster parents, running libraries and improving the borough's streets and buildings.

### WHERE DO WE GET OUR MONEY FROM?

Although we do raise money from council tax, much of our money comes from the Government in the form of grants for particular services, such as a dedicated schools grant. However, the Government is cutting this funding by a third as part of its deficit reduction strategy so we have made some tough decisions and will need to do so again. While we had to make the very difficult decision to cut some services such as park rangers and school crossing patrols, we protected frontline projects such as weekly rubbish collections and family support services. We also funded 22 police community officers to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Moreover, we have also done everything possible to save money by freezing pay, reducing staff and sharing services with neighbouring councils. We are even selling underused council buildings and exploring how to make more revenue from our parks and open spaces from concerts and public events.

Next year it's going to be even harder as we still have to make enormous savings. Exactly how the reduced budget is allocated for 2012/13 will be decided in January. You can see how every penny is spent and how we are managing the cuts at [www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk)

# Don't let condensation get you all steamed up!



**Condensation can be a problem for many of us, causing mould and damage to curtains and clothes.**

**There is always some moisture in the air, and this is what can cause condensation. We create more by cooking, taking baths and showers, drying clothes indoors, and by using bottled-gas heaters.**

If warm moist air has nowhere to escape it turns into water when it hits a cool surface like a wall, mirror or window causing condensation. On some surfaces condensation will lead to mould growth.

Lambeth Living who manage approximately 34,000 tenants' and leaseholders' properties on behalf of the council have provided the following tips on preventing mould and condensation.

## TOP TEN TIPS

- 1 Open windows and cover pans when you are cooking.
- 2 Dry washing outside where possible.
- 3 Do not block up air vents in doors and walls.
- 4 Ventilate your home to remove moisture by opening windows and doors.
- 5 Keep bathroom doors closed when bathing and open slightly once you have finished.
- 6 To reduce steam fill your bath with cold water first then top up with hot water.
- 7 Regularly wipe surfaces where moisture settles.
- 8 Extra insulation is a good way to minimise condensation.
- 9 Closing curtains at dusk will also help to keep rooms warm.
- 10 Very often condensation is mistaken for damp.

### How can I prevent mould?

- Treat any mould you already have in your home. If you deal with the basic problem of condensation mould should not reappear.
- To kill and remove mould wipe down walls and windows with a fungicidal wash (these should carry a health and safety executive approval number).
- Dry clean any mildewed clothes and shampoo carpets.
- After treatment use a good quality fungicidal paint to help prevent mould reoccurring.
- The only lasting way to avoid severe mould growth is to eliminate dampness, which is usually caused by condensation.

### How do I stop condensation in the future?

- Keep your home warm - if you can keep your heating on low this will stop moisture in the air cooling and will reduce the amount of condensation.
- Ventilating your home helps to stop moisture building up. Make sure the small air vents in the frames of modern windows are open.

For more useful tips go to the Energy Saving Trust website [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk)

**For any Lambeth Living enquiry, please call 020 7926 6000**



# Get prepared for any winter woes

**A new repairs manual has been launched to help tenants stay safe and warm this winter. It has been written in a user friendly format and has been designed in partnership with tenants.**



The manual explains your repair responsibilities as a tenant and ours as your managing agent (landlord).

The repairs manual is designed to help you when reporting a repair. It looks at different types of repair and gives important hints on what you need to know when reporting a repair.

There are also a number of illustrations, which will help you describe faults to us. When you report a repair, we will ask that you refer to your manual to describe the problem. This way, it will help us do the work right first time.



The repairs manual also contains important information on home safety and top tips to save heat and reduce condensation. For repairs that are your responsibility, we have included instructions to help you resolve common problems around your home.

Hopefully it will not be necessary, but if you need to report a repair, you can report repairs to the Lambeth Service Centre on 020 7926 6000. A 24 hour emergency repairs line is also available on 020 7926 6666.

Before contacting us you should be aware of the repairs that you are responsible for. You can also visit our website for information at [www.lambethliving.org.uk](http://www.lambethliving.org.uk)

## Gearing up for switchover

Lambeth Living is busy getting ready for the digital switchover so that tenants can enjoy Freeview coverage in April 2012 (see page four for more information about the switchover).

Lambeth Living is responsible for ensuring that tenants (who it has a responsibility to provide an aerial system to), have their television systems checked to see if they can accommodate a digital signal, and if not, what works are needed to achieve that.

Lambeth has 7,118 properties connected to communal systems and some of these systems will have to be upgraded for digital television; an investment of £1.48 million.

Lambeth Living will only carry out work to blocks which currently have communal TV aerials. If you are in doubt about whether your home will be made ready for the digital switchover, call 020 7926 6000.

## PAY YOUR RENT BEFORE IT'S SPENT

**Or you may get an unwanted surprise**



**We don't want you to lose your home. If you are falling behind with your rent speak to the Lambeth Living Rent Team. We're here to help. Call us on 020 7926 6000**





# Don't give burglars the green light this Christmas

## Real men know the difference

Last year we launched a campaign called 'Know the difference' to tackle rape and sexual assault in Lambeth.



The campaign was aimed at men and focuses on challenging attitudes and behaviour around rape and sexual assault.

Following its success, the campaign will be re-run during this holiday season.

Unfortunately in the run up to Christmas, there is usually an increase in burglaries.

Burglary is usually an opportunistic crime, rather than a planned one – a burglar will want to take the easiest and quickest option.

Here are some simple steps that you can take to secure your property and belongings this Christmas:

- 1 Mark or etch your property with your postcode and register your property including your new gadgets from Santa at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)**
- 2 Close and lock all your doors and windows even if you are only going out for a short time.**
- 3 Do not put any packaging out with the dustbin which advertises desirable items that burglars might find inside your property.**
- 4 Keep valuables out of sight.**
- 5 Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home.**
- 6 Cancel milk or other deliveries if you are going away over the holiday period.**
- 7 Prevent letterbox burglaries by storing keys away from the front door.**
- 8 Do not label house keys in case you lose them and they fall into the wrong hands.**

To find out more about how to keep your home and property safe go to: [www.met.police.uk/bumblebee](http://www.met.police.uk/bumblebee)

## Clapham licensing scheme will give residents new voice

A new licensing policy for Clapham has been agreed giving residents more power to stop new pubs and clubs opening.

Pubs and clubs in the cumulative impact zone (which is more commonly referred to as a saturation zone), could also be prevented from extending their alcohol licences if local residents or statutory bodies object. Under the new policy, the applicant would need to prove that the proposed extension would not add to crime and disorder within the zone.

The zone runs along Clapham High Street from Clapham Park Road to Bedford Road and Clapham North station, including several adjacent side roads. It then runs north along the Pavement to Grafton Square, and along Clapham Common South Side

to its junction with Crescent Grove.

Councillor Rachel Heywood, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, said "It was clear from our consultation that the great majority of local people were in favour of introducing a saturation zone in Clapham.

"This new policy will help us to get the balance right and protect the right of local residents and businesses to not be affected by anti-social drinking."

Alongside the saturation policy, the council will be launching 'Be Safe – Clapham' in the run up to Christmas working with licensees to help them encourage their customers to socialise responsibly.



## Offenders notch up more than 40,000 hours of recompense

Offenders have completed 47,816 hours of unpaid community work in Lambeth this year.

Courts can sentence offenders to undertake unpaid work to repay communities for the wrong they have done. Recently, offenders took part in a Community Freshview clean-up of overgrown bushes and litter in Palace Road nature garden in Streatham Hill.

The action is designed to deter anti-social behaviour in future.

As a resident, you have an opportunity to decide on projects which would benefit from a hard working, supervised and unpaid labour force. If you know of an area or location that would benefit from Community Payback, please contact London Probation Trust on 07894 176 943 or email [payback@london.probation.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:payback@london.probation.gsi.gov.uk). You can also visit [www.london-probation.org.uk](http://www.london-probation.org.uk) to find out more.

## Join us and make your street safer

We all want to make Lambeth a safer community to live in.

By talking to your neighbours, sharing advice or setting up a local Neighbourhood Watch, you can help keep your community and home free from crime.

For information on how to find your local group, or to set one up yourself, visit [www.neighbourhoodwatch.net](http://www.neighbourhoodwatch.net) or you can contact Lambeth's Neighbourhood watch co-ordinator Karen Hunn on 020 7926 2716 or email [KHunn@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:KHunn@lambeth.gov.uk)

'Tis the season to be jolly, but over indulgence in the festive period will prompt many of us to seek a healthier lifestyle in 2012. Here are four options.

# New year, new you!



Being active is not about getting a six-pack. It's about leading a fuller and healthier life. Lambeth has a lot to offer and it doesn't mean you have to fork out for expensive equipment and gym memberships. There are many free and inexpensive options, and Lambeth residents are entitled to significant discounts.

## 1 Get yourself down to a leisure centre

Our leisure centres have great facilities, including aerobic studios, swimming pools and much more where you can get discounts using the Lambeth REAL Plus card. For more information, contact one of our leisure centres (right) or email [lambethleisurecard@gll.org](mailto:lambethleisurecard@gll.org)

The new Clapham Leisure Centre is due to open early in 2012. For more information, or to sign up to become a member, email [clapham@gll.org](mailto:clapham@gll.org). Office opening times are 11am to 7pm on Monday to Thursday, and

10am to 3pm on Saturday.

Lambeth leisure centres are:

**Brixton Recreation Centre**

27 Brixton Station Road

Telephone 020 7926 9779

Email [brixton@gll.org](mailto:brixton@gll.org)

**Ferndale Community Sports Centre**

Nursery Road, Brixton

Telephone 0845 130 8998

Email [ferndale@gll.org](mailto:ferndale@gll.org)

**Flaxman Sports Centre**

Carew Street, SE5

Telephone 020 7926 1054

Email [flaxman@gll.org](mailto:flaxman@gll.org)

## 2 New to exercise? Get some tips from experts

If you are new to exercise and want to get some tips on how to get started, the NHS offers courses that can help to build your confidence.

Anyone in Lambeth can attend a six-week self care skills course that teaches you how to take care of yourself, from getting active to eating well.

There is also the option of using Lambeth's health trainers, who are specially trained to help you improve your lifestyle from getting fitter to eating well or giving up smoking.

Contact your GP to see if you are eligible. If you are, your GP can make a referral. For more information about the health benefits of being active this winter, visit [www.nhs.uk/lambeth](http://www.nhs.uk/lambeth)

## 3 Over 60? Age is no barrier to having fun and keeping fit

Don't let your age put you off; there are clubs and activities for over-60s available. The Waterloo Action Centre offers everything from line dancing (Mondays at 2pm) to an hour of gentle exercise at 10.30am every Tuesday. You can find out more about clubs and activities for over-60s, as well as exercise tips for all ages on the NHS Choices Lambeth website [www.nhs.uk/lambeth](http://www.nhs.uk/lambeth)

## 4 Love Lambeth parks – they're great for exercise

If you enjoy getting out in the great outdoors we have more than 60 parks that you can use, some of which have outdoor gym equipment. See [www.lambeth.gov.uk/parks](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/parks)

# Skills zone will help you find the right path

Whatever your situation or experience, the Green Man Skills Zone in Brixton, can help you find employment and training.

There is so much on offer including free internet access for job searches, CV workshops, IT courses and support to find the right job or training for you. John had been unemployed for several months and really wanted to get back into work. With the support and facilities on offer at the centre, he was able to do just that.

John said: "Having no internet access at home was a major barrier to me as I know lots of jobs in my area of experience are advertised online. At the Green Man I was able to use the free internet to search relevant job websites."

Help is also on hand to set up an email address, find job search websites and to access information on learning and training courses. There are also several IT workshops on offer that cover things such as sending emails, searching the web, and using software such as Microsoft



Word and Excel. John added: "My advisor from Jobcentre Plus, who is based at the Green Man, was really helpful and arranged for me to have an interview with a catering company as they had a chef vacancy."

The specialist officers on hand help you to maximise your employment potential and let you know about recruitment opportunities available and support you so that you find the job that's right for you. There is no need to book an appointment, just drop in any time.

"The advisors are really helpful and

think of everything; they even lent me a tie for my interview. I did well in my interview and they asked me to do a trial in the kitchen. They must have been impressed as they offered me a job and I am currently working towards a promotion," John said.

Other things on offer at the centre are careers advice, which provides advice and information on CV layout, changing your career, completing applications forms, preparing for interviews and information on courses at training centres, colleges and universities.

For more information about what's on offer pop in to the: **Green Man Skills Zone, 225 Coldharbour Lane, Brixton SW9 8RR** email [lambethworking@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:lambethworking@lambeth.gov.uk) or phone: 020 7926 5607 [www.lambeth.gov.uk/greenman](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/greenman)



# It's your neighbourhood

## We're ready for snow patrol

**Lambeth is well prepared to beat the freeze with its winter gritting programme in place to make sure our highways are clear.**

Our winter service runs until 13 April 2012 and officers and gritting crews will be on standby for any snow and icy weather. We receive daily forecasts from the Met Office, which helps us decide when to grit roads and pavements over the winter period.

We have a priority system in place and where possible we pre-grit the main routes before ice forms from snow falls to keep Lambeth moving and minimise delays, accidents and damage resulting from snow and ice.

We have spent the last few months replenishing salt supplies, stockpiling more than 1,000 tonnes of grit.

In addition to our road gritting, we are one of only five London boroughs who have a volunteering scheme in place for people to help clear snow and ice from their neighbourhood. More than 100 snow wardens have volunteered to be part of the scheme, which sees the council give away free grit to residents who have been trained so far.

The volunteers receive basic health and safety training at Lambeth Town Hall and will get gloves, shovels, grit bins and hi-visibility jackets.

Residents can still volunteer throughout the winter.



## Have a zero waste Christmas!

**With the food, presents, cards, decorations and trees that we all love to have at Christmas, more leftovers and rubbish are created than at any other times of the year. Here are some tips to help you keep your waste down.**

### Food and drink

- ▶ Buy fruit and vegetables loose without packaging.
- ▶ Use re-usable bags or old plastic bags to shop for your Christmas feast.
- ▶ Make sure you put your empty food cartons and bottles out for recycling.
- ▶ Don't forget to put your vegetable peelings from your Christmas dinner in your home compost bin.

### Gifts

- ▶ Go for gift bags and boxes instead of wrapping paper. These can be re-used for another occasion.
- ▶ Stick to tradition and put presents inside a Christmas stocking.

### Cards

- ▶ Send e-cards this year, or if you do buy Christmas cards remember to recycle them or donate them to a Christmas card recycling scheme. You can find collection bins in many high street retailers.

### Trees

- ▶ Don't forget Lambeth has a real Christmas tree collection and recycling service. You can take them to our recycling stations between 9 and 22 January 2012, or we collect from kerbside properties between 9 and 14 January 2012.

## Save money by going green

**We all want to save money this winter, so Lambeth's Green Community Champions are running workshops across the borough to help people save cash and do their bit for the environment.**

These workshops have taught attendees a variety of useful skills.

Sue Sheehan, Green Community Champions Officer, said: "So far, we have made chutney, repaired and upcycled clothes, and done lots of draught proofing (which we call

draught busting) and curtain lining. Most of all we've had lots of fun."

The workshops continue until March 2012 and the Green Community Champions are looking for more spaces to hold workshops.

To find out more please email [greenchampion@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:greenchampion@lambeth.gov.uk), join us on <http://projectdirt.com> and search 'green communities' or on [www.facebook.com/groups/greencommunities](http://www.facebook.com/groups/greencommunities) or follow us on [Twitter@GreenCChampion](https://twitter.com/GreenCChampion).



## Parking just got easier in Lambeth

**We have listened to customers and over the next few months we are introducing a number of initiatives to make parking easier.**

Customers can now renew their permits online 24 hours a day, meaning they no longer need to queue at a customer centre. Customers can still continue to visit a customer centre or apply for a permit by post if they want to.

In response to customer feedback, the Kennington parking shop will close on 16 December. We will still provide a face-to-face service for parking queries at our customer centres.

In addition, drivers will be able to pay for parking using their mobile phone under a scheme that will end the hassle of finding change for the meter. We are rolling out cashless 'pay by phone' parking in the new year. This allows drivers to pay by making a phone call or sending a text. The new technology means that if motorists find they are delayed at the shops or in a meeting, they can top up their parking time remotely without having to hurry back to their car.

Our civil enforcement officers will be able to check their system to see if payment has been received, meaning that customers who pay by phone will not need to display a paper ticket. The customer has proof of payment with an optional SMS confirmation or can check all their parking transactions online. We have also improved the online PCN appeals process so that customers can now complete a form online to ensure all relevant information is captured to help us respond fully to letters and emails. Visit [www.lambeth.gov.uk/parking](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/parking) for more information.

## Have a savvy Christmas

Whether you have a little or a lot, you can still make Christmas special. These tips and tools from the Money Advice Service can help you manage your money throughout the festive season.



Add some Money Advice Service advice to your Christmas list and make the most of your money this festive season. Whatever your situation, you'll get clear, unbiased advice. Visit [www.moneyadvice.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.org.uk) or telephone 0300 500 5000.

### Deciding how much you can afford to spend first and sticking to it will help, so:

- **Write a list** – estimate the cost of each present and check the total is within your budget. Stick to your list.
- **Compare prices of different retailers as well as internet and shop prices** – they often differ. Price comparison websites can be useful but try and use different sites to get a full range of prices.
- **Budget for delivery costs** – if buying online, remember to budget for delivery costs, and try and consolidate your shopping to get the best delivery prices.
- **Do you need insurance?** Check if your gifts are covered by your existing contents insurance policy. And think twice before buying any extended warranties as you may already be covered.

### Gifts are likely to take up a sizeable chunk of your budget, especially if you have children, but they don't need to. How about these alternatives?

- **Home-made gifts** – these are often cheaper and show a lot of thought and effort. Home-made jam or cookies nicely wrapped can look and taste great.
- **Personalised gifts** – they may take more time to prepare but are unique and usually cheaper. Why not try a personalised calendar or framed photograph for example?
- **Family gifts** – how about giving a gift for the family to share rather than for individuals. Board games, puzzles or a big box of chocolates or biscuits are often an inexpensive option and loved by everyone.
- **Pre-loved gifts** – online auctions and the Oxfam website are good places to look for clothes, accessories, music and more.

# Keep warm, well, safe and active this winter

When the temperature starts falling, it's tempting to stay indoors for longer periods of time, but are you ready for the winter months? Here are some top tips for older people to keep warm, well, safe and active.

## Keep warm, keep well

There are things you can do to stay well in winter. Here are some handy tips from NHS Choices Lambeth:

**Keeping warm** is an important part of staying healthy during the colder months. Keep occupied rooms at a temperature of between 18-21 degrees Celsius. If you need help with the cost of heating your home you may be eligible for Winter Fuel Payments. For more information call the Winter Fuel Helpline on 08459 151 515.

**Keep active.** Keeping active is an important part of staying healthy and happy in the winter. Lambeth's Happy Bus Pass outings are open to anyone with a Freedom Pass and run throughout the winter. They leave from the Waterloo Action Centre every Monday and Wednesday at 11am. For more details call 020 7261 1404.

**Get a flu jab.** Anyone over the age of 65 is eligible for a free flu jab. Find your local GP using the 'find and choose' services tool on [www.nhs.uk/lambeth](http://www.nhs.uk/lambeth)

**Eat well.** Maintaining a good diet, including hot drinks and meals, helps to keep you warm and well in winter. Age UK Lambeth's "Fit as a fiddle" programme offers advice on healthy eating and exercise. For more information call 020 7346 6802.

## Make small changes and avoid falls

**Making small changes in your home can make a big difference in helping to prevent accidents.**

Remove clutter, trailing wires and frayed carpet and use high-wattage light bulbs in lamps and torches so that you can see clearly. Organise your home so that climbing, stretching and bending are kept to a minimum and to avoid bumping into things.

## Worried about crime or anti-social behaviour?

**If you are worried about anti-social behaviour in your street, contact our hotline on 020 7926 4000 to report it, or call 101 to speak to the police.**

## Be a good neighbour

**If you live next door to, or close to an older person, keep an eye out for them this winter.**



## Make your home safe, snug and secure

Age UK Lambeth has a free Handyperson service for people over 55, which will help you make your home warmer, safer and secure. Its team of experts can:

- do minor repairs directly related to your safety and security
- install or fit door chains, memo minders, grab/hand rails, cold alarms, and door bells
- advise on home safety, energy use and basic maintenance.

Handypersons carry an ID card. There will be a charge for materials. Interested? Call 020 7346 6806.

London Fire Brigade offers a free fire safety check to older people and will fit a fire alarm free-of-charge if you need one. Call 08000 28 44 28 to book your visit.

Past times with Lambeth Archives

▶ With the death of the photographer Harry Jacobs three months ago at the age of 94, it is fair to say that Lambeth has lost one of its best-known characters. When his son went to Lambeth Town Hall to register the death even the woman behind the desk looked at the name and said, "What, 'the' Harry Jacobs? He photographed my wedding".

# Harry Jacobs:

But perhaps the black community of south London will remember him best because for them his studio on Landor Road was where you went. He photographed their rites of passage: christenings, marriages, graduation ceremonies and funerals. Harry never turned a job down and tens of thousands of local people passed before that famous studio backdrop which many people believed was a view of somewhere in the Caribbean but which actually he bought from a wallpaper shop in Peckham.

Harry Jacobs was brought up in the East End and moved to Brixton in the 1950s. He began photographing people in their own homes, before getting his Stockwell studio in about 1965. In an interview in 2004, Harry said: "Our first shop in Granville Arcade was right opposite Geneva and Somerleyton Roads where most of the black people were living. They already knew my brother's jewellery shop, so going out knocking door-to-door, they were my obvious customers."



Somerleyton Road, off Coldharbour Lane, seen here in 1962.

Harry Jacobs

"I used to do my spiel. I'd get the woman at the door and explain what I was doing, taking photographs... And then I'd arrange to go back in the evening; the whole family would be there in the front room in their best clothes. I'd put Photo-flood bulbs in the light sockets, burn about a pound's worth of their electricity and take the photos."

# the end of a Lambeth institution



Lynette Reid at Lambeth Archives this month, reunited with the recently discovered photo of her younger self, taken by Harry at his studio in 1966.



For any black celebrity visiting Brixton, from the Jamaican High Commissioner on down, a visit to Jacobs' studio for a photo-shoot was one of those thing which you just did. Here boxer Frank Bruno poses with his manager Terry Lawless in 1985.

When Harry finally retired in 1999 he left some 5,000 anonymous portrait photos stapled to the walls of his office and studio. This remarkable 'community archive', the record of over 40 years' work, was carefully removed and is now preserved at Lambeth Archives. It is a collection which continues to surprise and

excite. During Black History Month some of Jacobs' photos were exhibited in the town hall. One man suddenly recognised his aunt, and so Lynette Reid was reunited with her portrait taken 45 years ago; just one of many people who continues to use the archive to this day.

Did your family use Harry Jacobs' studio? You can see a small selection of his portraits on our Lambeth Landmark website [www.lambethlandmark.com](http://www.lambethlandmark.com). Or if you want to locate a specific photo then you can visit Lambeth Archives and search the collection.

**Lambeth Archives is the borough's record office and local history library. It is open to the public, free of charge. Whether you want to trace your family history, a house history, discover the origins of your neighbourhood or look at the records of Lambeth Council, staff will guide you through our collections of historical material and assist you. Visit Lambeth Archive, located in the Minet Library, 52 Knatchbull Road, SE5 9QY, or call 020 7926 6076, or go online at [www.lambeth.gov.uk/localhistory](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/localhistory)**

[www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk)

[www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk)

# What's happening...

**There's a lot going on in and around Lambeth over Christmas and the new year. If you would like to get your venue or event listed in this section, email us at [lambethtalk@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:lambethtalk@lambeth.gov.uk)**



**Traditional Christmas market**  
Now until 24 December, opening times from Monday to Thursday are 11am to 8pm; and Fridays and Saturdays are from 10am to 10pm; Sundays 10am to 8pm. Free

The traditional German market returns to the South Bank with hot food, seasonal wares, handcrafted gifts and Christmas spirit. *South Bank, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX*

**Take a View: Landscape Photographer of the Year 2011**

Now until 28 January 2012. Free  
This stunning exhibition of over 100 photographs that show the dramatic beauty and variety of our country. *National Theatre, South Bank, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX*

**Memory Remains: Francesc Torres**

Now until 26 February 2012. Free  
Open daily 10am to 6pm, last admission 5.45pm, (closed 19, 24, 25 and 26 December)

A photography exhibition to mark the 10th anniversary of 9/11. *Imperial War Museum London, Lambeth Road SE1 6HZ*

**Strictly Winter Ballroom**

Sunday 1 January 2012, 3pm. Free  
Celebrate the new year with Nicky Miles and The Ross Mitchell Combo as they provide a range of workshops, demonstrations and live music. *The Clore Ballroom, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX*

**Winter River Tango**

Sunday 8 January 2012, 12pm. Free  
Brought to you by River Tango, join in an afternoon of workshops, demonstrations, DJ's and live music. *The Clore Ballroom, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX*

**Minet Filmclub**

Shows cult and classic movies free-of-charge.

**Saturday Night and Sunday Morning (1960)** Karel Reisz

Tuesday 10 January, 6.30pm  
**Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner (1962)** Tony Richardson

Tuesday 7 February, 6.30pm

**Billy Liar (1963)** John Schlesinger

Tuesday 6 March, 6.30pm

For more information call 020 7926 6073 or email [minetlibrary@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:minetlibrary@lambeth.gov.uk)



**South Lambeth market**

Saturday 14 January, 10am to 4pm (open the second Saturday every month)

A community led market for foodies, arts, crafts and plant lovers. This month's theme is Strictly South Lambeth market with dance expos through the day.

Saturday 11 February, 10am to 4pm (open the second Saturday of every month)

The theme for this month's market is love, with Valentines goodies on sale. [www.southlambethmarket.com](http://www.southlambethmarket.com)  
*The Cavendish, Hartington Road SW8 2HJ*

**Holocaust Memorial Day event**

Sunday 29 January, 3pm to 5pm. Free

The programme commemorates the Holocaust and other global atrocities where lives have been lost. It will feature experiences, readings and music. [www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk)  
*Lambeth Town Hall, Assembly Hall, Brixton Hill SW2 1RW*

**Lambeth Orchestra**

Saturday 11 February, 7.30pm  
Tickets on the door £10, concessions £8, and children £1

The programme for this evening's performance will feature Dvorak's "In nature's realm", Glazunov's Violin concerto, Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen" and Shostakovich's "Symphony No.1". The orchestra will also be performing Puccini's "La Boheme" on 31 March, 7.30pm.

[www.lambeth-orchestra.org.uk](http://www.lambeth-orchestra.org.uk)  
*All Saints Church, Rosendale Road, West Dulwich SE21 8LN*

**Badminton coaching**

Mondays, 6 to 8.30pm (term time only). Free

Come along for coaching from level two qualified coaches for children aged from 11 to adults.

*The Elmgreen School, Elmcourt Road, SE27 9BZ*

**Beginners squash and racketball coaching sessions**

Thursdays, 5 to 6.20pm

Under 16s £2; adults £3.50

Weekly coaching sessions for those interested in improving their squash and racketball. For more information, contact Trevor Grant on 07916 760 159 or Lambeth Sports on 020 7926 0396/0338.

*Brixton Recreation Centre, 27 Brixton Station Road, Brixton SW9 8QQ*

**Brixton Dance School**

Saturdays. £1 a session

Ballet for four to 13-year-olds, 3pm to 3.30pm

Street dance for four to eight-year-olds, 3.30pm to 4.30pm  
Street dance for nine to 15-year-olds 4.30 to 5.30pm. Call 0845 130 8998.  
*Ferndale Sports Centre, Nursery Road, Brixton SW9 8BP*

**Club Brixton for the over 50s**

Fridays 10am to 12noon

Sessions cost: £4 to non members, £3 to Real Card members and for GLL Club member they are free

Club Brixton is a supervised session for anyone aged 50 years or over. Activities include badminton, racquet ball, short tennis, squash, supervised gym sessions, swimming and table tennis. Come and make new friends and try out a new sport. For more information call 020 7095 5100.

*Brixton Recreation Centre, 27 Brixton Station Road, Brixton SW9 8QQ*

**Impulse junior netball club**

Tuesdays 6 to 7pm from Tuesday 10 January (alternate weeks for different schools years, call for more information). Cost £2

Coaching is provided by level two qualified coaches. Groups train fortnightly on alternate weeks to accommodate different school years. Group one includes school years five and six, while group two includes school years seven to 10. For more information on dates for each group, contact Lambeth Community Sports 020 7926 0338/0396.

*Streatham and Clapham High School, Sports Hall, 42 Abbotswood Road SW16 1AW*

**St. Matthew's Project**

Saturday club

Every Saturday until 21 July 2012 at 10am. Free.

Free coaching from FA-qualified, CRB-checked coaches, includes six-a-side and two-touch football and regular half-term tournaments. For young people aged six to 11 of all abilities. For more information contact Lee Dema on 07944101134 or visit [www.thesmp.net](http://www.thesmp.net)  
*Near the tennis courts, Brockwell Park, Herne Hill*

**Table tennis coaching**

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 10pm, Saturdays 1 to 5pm  
Cost £2 for children under 16 and £4 for adults

Coaching from level two qualified coaches. Open to all ages. For more information contact Alex Facey on 07961 192 844.

*Evelyn Grace Academy, 225 Shakespeare Road, Brixton SE24 0QN*

**Wheels for wellbeing/Bikes in the park**

Fridays 10am to 1pm and Saturdays 9.30am to 12.30pm  
Cost for disabled cyclists coming with one carer is £3 per session, additional carers pay £1 to cycle

Accessible cycling sessions, for disabled people, with two, three or four wheeled cycles on the all weather pitch between the Lido and the BMX track. For more information visit [www.wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk](http://www.wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk) or call 020 7346 8482.

*All weather pitch, Brockwell Park, Herne Hill*

For more details about what's happening in Lambeth visit [www.lambeth.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/whatson)



# Support local

I use the Brixton Pound (B£) because it supports Brixton businesses and encourages local trade and production. We still use pound sterling as well but lots of my loyal customers like using the B£.

**WE'RE BECOMING A  
COOPERATIVE  
COUNCIL**

\*Model used in picture

**“We are always ready to participate in any scheme that can help the community to develop, and we believe Brixton pound is one of them.”**

Amanuel Ghebrowold  
Café Brixton owner

To find out how you can make a big difference visit:  
[www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/cooperativecouncil)

  
**Lambeth**