

Lambeth
**Readers and
Writers Festival**
May 2010

All events are
free





I am delighted to welcome you to the sixth Lambeth Libraries Readers and Writers Festival.

Since the first festival it has become a regular highlight in the Library calendar and goes from strength to strength. In 2010 we have another month of events to suit all tastes whether you enjoy reading, writing, discussion or simply sitting back and listening.

Come and join us and express yourself! You'll be amazed at the fun you can have in your local library.

Peter Jones

Divisional Director Cultural Services,
Lambeth Council

All **events** are
free

To avoid disappointment please book events on
020 7926 1075 or **readersandwriters@lambeth.gov.uk**



Photo: Katy Vandyck



**‘Lara is a wonderful piece...
extraordinarily beautiful...rich and
evocative...fascinating in its span of
time and continents. Like all the best
writing, by the end I felt not only a little
older, but a lot wiser.’**

Andrea Levy

Wednesday 5 May 7pm

Bernardine Evaristo **Lara** - London book launch

Bernardine Evaristo was born and raised in London. She has published four cross-genre novels and in March published *Hello Mum* about teenage knife crime aimed at adult and teenage readers. She co-edited the Granta new writing anthology *NW15* and has written short fiction and drama for BBC radio and literary criticism for the Guardian, Times and Independent. She is an Associate Editor of the international literature magazine *Wasafiri*.

Lara is a powerful semi-autobiographical novel-in-verse based on Bernardine’s own childhood and family history. The novel travels back over 150 years, seven generations and three continents of Lara’s ancestry.

**Join us for an evening with one of the
UK’s most innovative writers.**

Wednesday 26 May 7pm

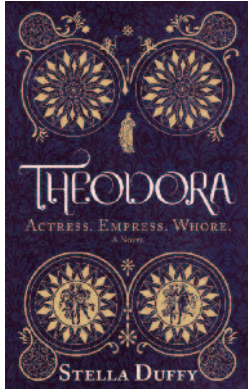
Stella Duffy
**Theodora: Actress, Empress,
Whore**

Join us for the launch of Stella Duffy's new novel **Theodora**. Theodora of Constantinople rose from nothing to become the most powerful woman in the history of Byzantine Rome. In Stella Duffy's breathtaking new novel, she comes to life again - a fascinating, controversial and seductive woman. Some called her a saint. Others were not so kind... From the vibrant streets and erotic stage shows of sixth century Constantinople to the holy desert retreats of Alexandria, **Theodora** is an extraordinary imaginative achievement from one of our finest writers.

Don't miss Stella in conversation at what will be a highlight of Lambeth's literary festival.



Photo: Ben Smith



Friday 28 May 7.30pm

William D Drake and Arch
Garrison



William D. Drake is a man out of time - a composer, songwriter and pianist who broods, twisting resonant falling key changes

with evocative pastoral passages that surprise and confound with equal measure.

He will be accompanied by Miss Duggie Parker, who sings like a sandpiper when she isn't banging her miniature tambourine and James Larcombe playing his hurdygurdy.

Joining William will be the creative force behind the North Sea Radio Orchestra, Craig Fortnam and his new project - Arch Garrison. Craig has been listed as one of the UK's most original and

distinctive talents and Lambeth Libraries are proud to be able to showcase his latest incarnation.

Arch Garrison will be performing tracks from their latest album **King of the Down**. Fans of North Sea Radio Orchestra have come to expect beautiful melodies and these are all in abundance in Arch Garrison, with Craig's fantastic nylon and steel string guitar playing combining with his trusty Philicorda organ, synths and percussion.

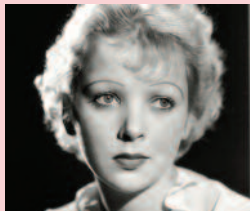
An evening full of melodic, harmonic and lyrical invention: music to wind down to; played with skill and invention.

Book early for this event which is bound to sell out fast.



1-14 May

Outing Hollywood: Suppression of Identity Exhibition, Carnegie gallery



Sandra Shevey, BFI Associate Tutor and Film Historian, curates a photographic exhibition of Herne

Hill born film star and director Ida Lupino.

Outing Hollywood is an exhibition of research by Sandra Shevey reflecting on Hollywood manipulation and suppression in a wide range of areas including image, age, politics, money, ethnicity, marriage, faith and children. Her research has been gleaned from a career which spans over 40 years as a megastar journalist, interviewer and author. The exhibition draws upon stills from Sandra's personal collection as well as her audio archive.

Wednesday 19 May 7pm

Edmund Bird Edwardian Lambeth



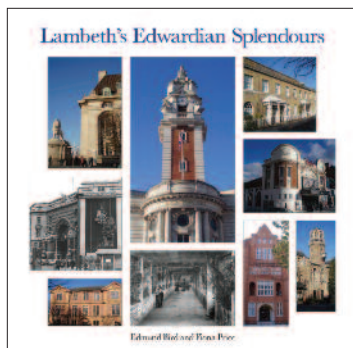
The Edwardian era was a period of considerable development in England and Lambeth was no exception. Major improvements to

transport, education and health brought huge changes in the way in which people lived and worked.

As Heritage Advisor to the Mayor of London, and having worked and lived in Lambeth for a number of years, Edmund Bird is in an excellent position to consider the buildings constructed during this time and their impact on a changing society.

To book free tickets phone **020 7926 1075**

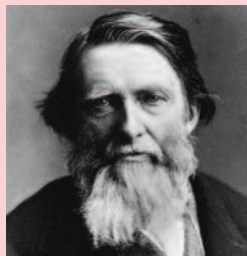
If you've ever wondered about the forces that built the Lambeth we live in, come along for what will be a fascinating insight into Edwardian Lambeth.



Join Edmund and local archivist Fiona Price to launch this new publication.

Monday 24 May 6.30pm

Walk: John Ruskin's Lambeth
with Jon Newman

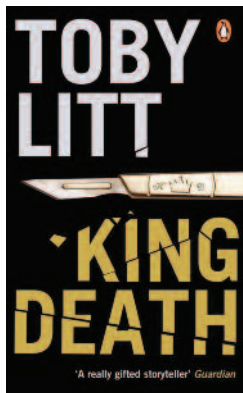


'If studied closely and well... there was not a single corner of a street which would not be beautiful.'

So wrote John Ruskin the Victorian art critic of his beloved Venice. Can the same be said of the streets of South London?

Join archivist Jon Newman for a walk round Ruskin's home territory of Herne Hill and Denmark Hill where he grew up in the 1820s and where he continued to live until the horrors of the nineteenth century - railways, suburban development and the Crystal Palace - forced him to flee.

Walk lasts one and a half hours.



To book free tickets phone **020 7926 1075**

Tuesday 25 May 7pm

Toby Litt **King Death**

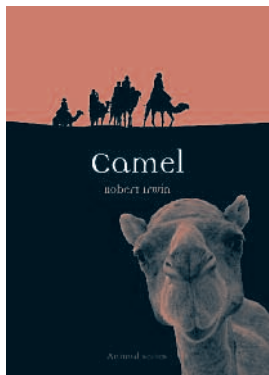
Kumiko saw it first. A heart – a human heart – slithering down outside the window of a train travelling between London Bridge and Blackfriars. Someone must have thrown it out from a carriage in front. Kumiko is determined to find out who – and why. Kumiko and her ex-lover set out – separately – on a bizarre trail of discovery. Darting between dingy student pubs, the roofs of Borough Market and the corridors and car-parks of Guy's Hospital, they become embroiled in the seedy world of young medical students. Eventually the gossip and the stories lead them both to the hospital's infamous dissection lecturer – known behind his back as 'King Death'...

Toby Litt is the author of many novels and was one of Granta's Best Young British Novelists.

Join Toby – a writer of best-selling literary bizarre - to discuss his work and launch his latest novel.

Monday 17 May 6.45pm

Robert Irwin
From Arabian Nights to Camels



Lambeth Libraries are excited to present historian, novelist, and Arabic literature expert, Robert Irwin. Robert is a Research Associate at The School of Oriental Studies and the Middle East editor

of The Times Literary Supplement. He has published widely on the Middle East in history and also writes as a novelist.

Here, Robert will be talking about **The Arabian Nights**, which he wrote a companion to in 1986 and edited and introduced for Penguin this year. **The Arabian Nights** has become a synonym for the fabulous and the exotic, yet even specialists in oriental literature don't have a clear idea of its true meaning, a labyrinth of

stories within stories - fables, epics, erotica, debates, fairy tales, political allegories, mystical anecdotes and comedies.

In addition to **The Arabian Nights** Robert will also be exploring why a fantastically elaborate literature and vocabulary has been devoted to the humble camel. The camel has provided a source of fascination for so many cultures, including those where they are foreign. Camels have appeared in the visions of Leonardo da Vinci and in Japan have become a symbol of erotic contentment.

Join Robert and The Friends of Durning Library for a fantastic evening with one of the most interesting writers of our time.





Tuesday 11 May 6.30pm

Burning Reel presents The Golden Door

film showing, as part of the Cinema Italia season

As part of the Cinema Italia Season, Burning Reel will be presenting a free film showing of Emanuele Crialesi's *The Golden Door* (2007).

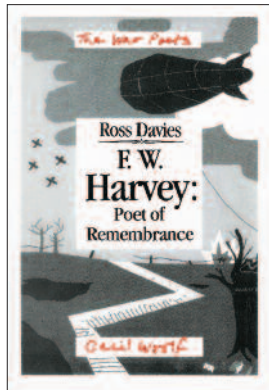
In 1913 a widowed father and his two sons leave a treacherous, barren and rocky Sicilian countryside for America. On their way they meet a mysterious English Lady and unexpected things start to happen in this sometimes surreal and imaginative film. A real treat for film lovers!

Certificate PG





Photo: Tim Clifford



Monday 10 May 7pm

Ross Davies Poet F W Harvey: War and Remembrance

Lambeth author Ross Davies and actor Charles Davies tell the dramatic story of a scruffy young infantry officer captured in a daring one-man raid on the German trenches during the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

Ross's new book, **F W Harvey: Poet of Remembrance** tells how Will Harvey was shuttled around seven prison camps in two years, yet in between attempted escapes and generally making life difficult for his captors, Harvey found the time to write *Ducks*, hailed as the greatest comic poem of the First World War. Throughout his captivity and for many years afterwards, this gentle humorist also wrote *If We Return*, *Requiescat*, *Remember* and other impassioned poems of remembrance for lost comrades, a vanished fellowship and the dream of a better England. Ross Davies's books include *Drummond Allison: Come, Let Us Pity Death* and the acclaimed *Vauxhall: A Little History*.

Lambeth Libraries and the Friends of Tate South Lambeth Library invite you to an evening of poetry-tender, tragic but not all tears.

Monday 10 May 4.30pm

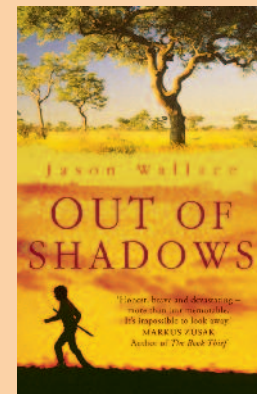
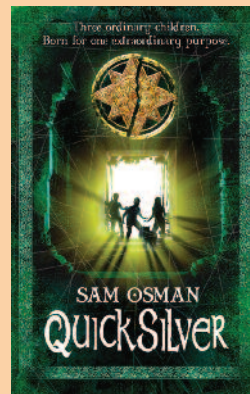
Meet the authors

Sam Osman
Quicksilver

(For children 7 -12 years old)

Dark powers from the past are searching for three extraordinary children... Wolfie, Tala and Zi'ib were born on the same day on opposite sides of the world. They are brought together by astonishing coincidence - or so it seems. But only they can fulfil an ancient prophecy and find a treasure of incalculable power.

Join Streatham Chatterbooks Group and author Sam Osman to discuss writing a novel and her latest book.



Meet the authors

Jason Wallace **Out of Shadows**

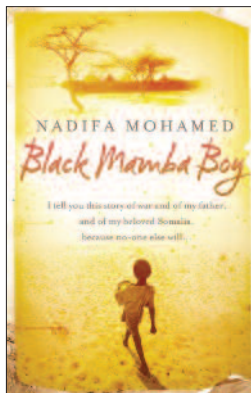
(For teenagers 13 – 16 years old)

A double header at Streatham Library – for teenage readers Lambeth Libraries bring you Jason Wallace, author of **Out of Shadows**. Set in 1980s Zimbabwe, independence has been won and Robert Mugabe has come to power offering hope, land and freedom to Black Africans. But for Robert Jacklin, in a new country and new school, he very quickly learns that for some of his white classmates the sound of guns is still loud. . . Boys like Ivan - clever, cunning Ivan. For him, there is still one last battle to fight.

Join Streatham Teenage Reading Group and author Jason Wallace to discuss his latest novel – Out of the Shadows.



Photo: Saiven Hussain



Thursday 20 May 7pm

Nadifa Mohamed **Black Mamba Boy**

Nominated for the Orange Prize for Fiction, Nadifa Mohamed tells the story of the **Black Mamba Boy**. A stunning novel set in 1930s Somalia spanning a decade of war and upheaval, all seen through the eyes of Jama, a ten year-old boy alone in the world. Aden 1935: a city vibrant, alive and full of hidden dangers, but when Jama's mother dies unexpectedly he finds himself totally alone. Jama is forced home to his native Somalia, the land of his nomadic ancestors. War is on the horizon and the fascist Italian forces who control parts of east Africa are preparing for battle. So begins an epic journey which will take Jama north through Djibouti, war-torn Eritrea and Sudan, to Egypt and from there, across the seas, to Britain and freedom. This story of one boy's long walk to freedom is also the story of how the Second World War affected Africa and its people; a story of displacement and family.

Tuesday 4 May 6.30pm

Walk: William Blake's Lambeth
with Jon Newman

'I wander thro' each charter'd street,
Near where the charter'd Thames does flow.
And mark in every face I meet
Marks of weakness, marks of woe.'



William Blake is one of Britain's most world renowned poets, artists and thinkers. His life in Westminster is

widely celebrated; yet his decade in Lambeth from 1790 – 1800, when he produced arguably his greatest works, is undervalued and little known. Discover the traces of Blake's Lambeth with archivist Jon Newman.

Walk lasts one and a half hours.

To book free tickets phone 020 7926 1075

Thursday 13 May 6.30pm

Bobbie Darbyshire
Love, Revenge and Buttered
Scones



Lambeth Libraries are pleased to host a discussion with local award winning writer Bobbie Darbyshire. In her latest novel an innocent meeting of a reading group sparks a series of bizarre events. Three troubled people, driven by loneliness, vanity and revenge, hurl themselves on the Inverness public library to find that nothing is as they expect.



Join Waterloo Library Book Group to discuss Bobbie's latest rip-roaring new novel.

Saturday 8 May 7pm

Future-Proof: The Time-Hacks and Life-Mods of Cory Doctorow

Cory Doctorow is a science fiction author, activist, journalist and blogger - the co-editor of Boing Boing (boingboing.net) and author of the bestselling novel Little Brother and newly released For the Win.

Cory will be modding your reality at the mere price of your presence! Join him for tales of woe and wonder that will explore the realms of storytelling as techno-social activism; delving into creativity as symbiotic, cross-cultural hacking; breaching the dangers and shelters of reason; examining the copy-wrongs of copy-right; transducing pathways to a post-scarcity world while pondering if truth is truly in sight? Be there and glimpse the future, right now...

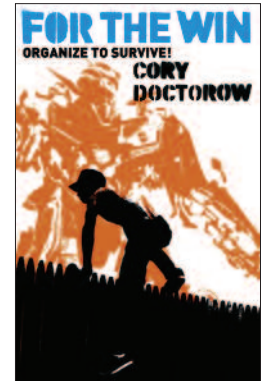
(Just a regular author Q&A about some perhaps unusual themes...)

“A provocative and exhilarating tale of teen rebellion against global corporations from the New York Times bestselling author of Little Brother – a call to arms for a new generation.”

Review of For the Win



Photo: Jojo / Jo



This event is part of Sci-Fi London 2010, the International festival of Science Fiction and Fantasy www.sci-fi-london.com

SCI-FI-LONDON

Friday 14 May 4.30pm



Meet children's author Sam Osman

Dark Powers from the past are searching for three extraordinary children... Wolfie, Tala and Zi'ib were born on the same day on opposite sides of the world. They are brought together by astonishing coincidence - or so it seems. But only they can fulfil an ancient prophecy - and find a treasure of incalculable power.

Join West Norwood Chatterbooks Group and author Sam Osman to discuss writing a novel and her latest book.



Friday 21 May 7.30pm

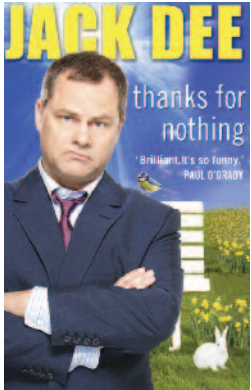
Comedy Writing with Jack Dee and Jeremy Hardy

What evening could be more convivial than being in the company of two of the UK's happiest comedians? Lambeth Libraries are proud to bring you Jack Dee and Jeremy Hardy.



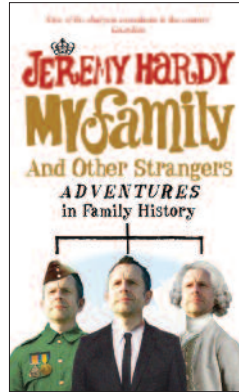
Photo: Jay Brooks





Jack Dee is famous for his sardonic, dead-pan style. In his autobiography **Thanks for Nothing**, for the first time, Jack reveals the highs and lows of his early life and disastrous day jobs. You don't just wake up jaundiced and

bitter; it's taken Jack years of dedication and commitment to brew his unique cocktail of disillusionment and bile. Once you've read this book, you'll never think of Jack Dee as a smiling, happy-go-lucky, friendly face again.



Jeremy Hardy is one of the UK's best-loved stand-up comedians. In his new book **My Family and Other Strangers** Jeremy decides to explore his ancestry, in part, to get to the bottom of dubious claims that the family descended

from the 'high table'. Other legends ranged from the great aunt who ran illegal hooch to the wronged Victorian servant girl and the illegitimate Hardy, not forgetting the family's rightful claim to a large country estate. With wry humour and a keen eye for the absurd, Jeremy takes us on a funny and moving journey into the world of family ancestry.

Don't miss this night of hilarity from the most miserably funny comedians over 40.

Wednesday 26 May 6pm



Outros Contos da Montanha (Other tales of the Mountain) with Isabel Maria Fidalgo Mateus

Outros Contos da Montanha is a book composed by 36 short stories, dealing with the rural life in North East Portugal. As a whole the stories represent the different aspects of the cultural and social life of the community since past times, passing through the harsh period of the Portuguese Dictatorship (1928-1974).

Isabel was a teacher in Portugal for 10 years before moving to the UK in 2001 where she completed a PhD and now lectures at Liverpool University – she is the author of three books. She has been working with Portuguese speaking schoolchildren in Lambeth and here talks about her book and the experience of emigration.

Not only will Isabel be discussing her work but would also like to hear the stories of other Portuguese migrants for inclusion in her next book.



Silver Surfers Day Friday 21 May 2010



Photo: Digital Unite

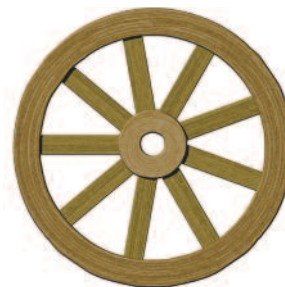
Silver Surfers' Day is the biggest, national campaign to promote use of digital technologies by older people. It is run by Digital Unite and was started in 2002. Lambeth Libraries are very pleased to be involved.

Contact your local Lambeth Library for details of activities on the day.



Gypsy, Roma Traveller History Month (GRTHM)

June 2010



The month of June will celebrate and acknowledge the contribution of Gypsy and Roma communities to society and the arts, and aims to challenge some of the myths.

Why not find out more at the launch on **Thursday 27 May at Brixton Library.**

The month will include lots to see and learn with storytelling, films, author and history talks, dance and music.

Find out more at
www.lambeth.gov.uk/libraries

Blake Society

Blake in Lambeth, Lost and Found
South Lambeth Library
Wednesday 9 June 7pm



William Blake has been associated with Lambeth for many years and yet his time here bears little remembrance. Join us in the 25th anniversary year of the Blake Society to hear the detective story which led to the discovery of William Blake's missing grave.

A talk by Carol and Luis Garrido, trustees of the Blake Society. Introduced by Kate Kelly and presented by the friends of Tate South Lambeth Library.

Over three centuries of mistakes and mystery in Bunhill fields cemetery, East London, left the grave of William Blake un-marked until Carol and Luis Garrido finally re-discover it. Now

the race is on to raise funds for a gravestone before it becomes forgotten once again.

The Blake Society is a set of individuals who love Blake - poet, artist and visionary. We search for the provenance of his imagination and we try to act with creativity and vision.



www.blakesociety.org

Reading for Life

The National Year of Reading in 2009 a celebration of reading. Its aim was to help build a greater national passion for reading in England for children, families and adult learners.

In 2009 the successful National Year of Reading became Reading for Life and we aim to continue Lambeth's campaign encouraging everyone to make

'Every Lambeth Home a Reading Home'.

Throughout 2010 Lambeth will be hosting events and projects to realise the potential of reading. Why not join your local library today where we've got loads of fun ways to make reading part of your family life.

Drop into your local library or visit the **website below.**



www.readingforlife.org.uk

www.readingforlife.org.uk



Lambeth



To avoid disappointment please book events on **020 7926 1075** or **readersandwriters@lambeth.gov.uk**

Date	Time	Event
Tue 4 May	6.30pm	Walk: William Blake's Lambeth
Wed 5 May	7pm	Bernardine Evaristo – Lara
Sat 8 May	7pm	Future Proof: The Time-Hacks
Mon 10 May	4.30pm	Meet the authors Sam Osman
Mon 10 May	7pm	Ross Davies – Poet F W Harv
Tue 11 May	6.30pm	Film: The Golden Door, part o
Thur 13 May	6.30pm	Bobbie Darbyshire – Love, Re
Fri 14 May	4.30pm	Meet children's author Sam C
Mon 17 May	6.45pm	Robert Irwin – From Arabian M
Wed 19 May	7pm	Edmund Bird – Edwardian La
Thur 20 May	7pm	Nadifa Mohamed – Black Mar
Fri 21 May	7.30pm	Comedy writing with Jack De
Mon 24 May	6.30pm	Walk: John Ruskin's Lambeth
Tue 25 May	7pm	Toby Litt – King Death
Wed 26 May	6pm	Outros Contros da Montanha
Wed 26 May	7pm	Stella Duffy – Theodora: Actre
Fri 28 May	7.30pm	William Drake and Arch Garris

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f Cinema Italia season	Minet Library	10
evenge and Buttered Scones	Waterloo Library	14
sman	West Norwood Library	16
Nights to Camels	Durning Library	9
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mba Boy	Streatham Library	13
e and Jeremy Hardy	Nettlefold Hall, West Norwood Library	16-17
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Brixton Library

Brixton Oval SW2 1JQ
Phone: 020 7926 1056

Carnegie Library

188 Herne Hill Road
SE24 0AG
Phone: 020 7926 6050

Clapham Library

1 Northside, Clapham Common
SW4 0QW
Phone: 020 7926 0717

Durning Library

167 Kennington Lane SE11 4HF
Phone: 020 7926 8682

Lambeth Archives and Minet Library

52 Knatchbull Road SE5 9QY
Phone (Library): 020 7926 6073
Phone (Archives): 020 7926 6076

South Lambeth Library

180 South Lambeth Road SW8 1QP
Phone: 020 7926 0705

Streatham Library

63 Streatham High Road SW16 1PL
Phone: 020 7926 6768

Waterloo Library

114-118 Lower Marsh SE1 7AG
Phone: 020 7926 8750

West Norwood Library and Nettlefold Hall

1 Norwood High Street SE27 9JX
Phone (Library): 020 7926 8092
Phone (Nettlefold): 020 7926 8070

Reading Groups

We run adult, teenage, family and children's reading groups as well as over 50s silver surfers, and parent and toddler groups.

For more information contact your local library.

Literary quiz 2010

Can you name ten books that have numbers in their titles? The clue is in the number.

Which book titles contain these numbers?

1. **One** - Randle McMurphy doesn't like "Big Nurse".
2. **Two** - "It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known".
3. **Three** - A humorous account by Jerome K. Jerome of a boating holiday on the Thames.
4. **Four** - Sherlock Holmes sits in a cocaine-induced haze. His mood is lifted by a visit from Mary Morstan, whose father vanished ten years before.

5. **Five** - After dying in a freak accident, Eddie encounters people who have significantly affected his life.

6. **Six** - Classic kids' picture book where each owner believes that Sid the cat belongs to them only... until the day he is found out.

7. **Seven** - It's their very first adventure and Enid Blyton's super-sleuths are already on the trail of a mystery!

8. **Eight** - Alistair MacLean story in which millions of pounds in gold bullion are being pirated in the Irish Sea.

9. **Nine** - LAPD homicide detective Harry Bosch is back on the job in this 2009 Michael Connelly mystery.

10. **Ten** - An eyewitness account of the Russian Revolution.

Send your answers to: to'dell@Lambeth.gov.uk or complete overleaf and post to:
Tim O'Dell, Reader Development Officer Brixton Library London SW2 1JQ.

All correct answers will be entered into a prize draw to win book vouchers worth £20.

Library quiz answers

One

Two

Three

Four

Five

Six

Seven

Eight

Nine

Ten

e-mailing list

Lambeth Libraries run a very extensive activities programme throughout the year for both adults and children. If you are interested in joining the Lambeth Libraries e-mailing list, please fill in your name and e-mail address.

Name

Email

Local Library

All events

Adult events

Children's events

Return this slip to your local library
or e-mail: to'dell@lambeth.gov.uk

Spanish

Si desea esta información en otro idioma, rogamos nos llame al 020 7926 1075

Portuguese

Se desejar esta informação noutro idioma é favor telefonar para 020 7926 1075

French

Si vous souhaitez ces informations dans une autre langue veuillez nous contacter au 020 7926 1075

Bengali

এই তথ্য অন্য কোনো ভাষায় আপনার প্রয়োজন হলে অনুগ্রহ করে ফোন করুন 020 7926 1075

Twi

Se wope saa nkaeboy yi wo kasa foforo mu a fre 020 7926 1075

Yoruba

Tí ẹ ba fẹ ìmoràn yíí, ní èdè Òmíràn, ẹjò, ẹ kàn wà l'ágogo 020 7926 1075

If you would like this information in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or in another language, please phone 020 7926 1075.

This information was believed to be correct at the time it was published, but may be subject to changes and circumstances outside the control of the organisers.

For more events and information visit
www.lambeth.gov.uk/libraries