

Free map to help guide visitors through Brixton

A new town centre map is nearing completion.

The Brixton way-finding map, which includes a detailed markets map, will be available on the Lambeth Council website and also to commuters and visitors to Brixton. The map will make shopping in the markets, meeting friends and making your way from A to B in the town centre much easier.

If your business would like some of the free maps to hand out to your customers let us know by sending an email to bnorris@lambeth.gov.uk



This is a draft of the way-finding map, the final version will be in colour.

Local business wins female entrepreneur award

Congratulations to Anne Fairbrother who runs Brixton Comercochia in Brixton Village. Anne won the Silver Award at the Brand Amplifier competition final, on 17 November. The competition is run in partnership by Lambeth Council and Brixton-based communications company, JP Creative, for emerging female entrepreneurs. Brixton Comercochia sells delicious locally sourced, homemade food and collects food stories about recipes, ingredients and people. Anne's prize was a £300 investment in her business and mentoring support from the Brand Amplifier mentors.



David Teet

Boost for Brixton's night-time businesses

A mystery-shopping exercise for local evening businesses, as part of the Purple Flag project, has proved that Brixton is a great place to go out at night.

Independent research specialists Skillsmart Retail carried out surveys of 47 evening retail and hospitality premises and conducted street-interviews with 102 members of the public asking what they thought of the area. The results were overwhelmingly positive.

- Eighty-six per cent of mystery shoppers would return to the venue they visited and eighty-four per cent would recommend it to a friend.
- More than three-quarters (77 per cent) of street-interview respondents agreed that the town centre was clean and tidy.
- The vast majority (97 per cent) of respondents enjoyed visiting Brixton at night.
- Ninety-three per cent of people surveyed in Brixton say the council has done a good job in improving the area over the past two years.

For more information contact rgonyou@lambeth.gov.uk

If you would like this information in large print, Braille, audio tape or another language please contact us on 020 7926 3026.

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Brixton Business

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Welcome to the sixth edition of the Brixton Business Newsletter. In this issue you can read the latest about a new map of Brixton town centre which will help visitors to find their way around the markets. You can also find out more about help for your business, and also how Brixton Market will be represented at the New Year's Day parade and much more. Season's greetings!

Stephanie Butcher
Town Centre Director
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Jane Airey



news



Good news for small businesses

As of October 2010 small businesses with properties that have a rateable value of not more than £6,000 may be eligible to receive additional small business rates relief. The council collects business rates on behalf of the government, the pool of money collected is then re-distributed to local councils and other agencies to fund local services. Many of the local services funded through business rate contributions are vital to the business community, such as street cleaning, tackling antisocial behaviour, enforcing trading standards and managing waste. To fill in a Small Business Rate Relief Form visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/businessrates. Or contact the Lambeth Business Rates Section for more information on **020 8315 2255** or email lambethnndr@capita.co.uk

Free breakfast and networking opportunity

Brixton has a number of excellent business breakfast events coming up which offer a great opportunity to network, learn from and share with other local businesses. All the breakfasts take place at either The Ritzy cinema or Satay Bar between 8am and 10am. Contact businessadvice@gle.co.uk or telephone **020 8678 5450**.

Dates for your diary include:

- Getting more from your website – 9 December 2010.
- Understanding your lease and business rates relief – 13 January 2011.
- Improved customer service and visual merchandising – 10 February 2011.

Brixton Market at the New Year's Day Parade

Once again this year Lambeth will be a star attraction at the Mayor of London's New Year's Day Parade. The larder of Lambeth that is Brixton Market will represent the borough on the parade. A float will be adorned with market stalls and fruit. Traders will then hand out 'I love Brixton market' freebies including environmentally friendly bags and fruit. Last year's parade was a music and dance filled extravaganza and if you do attend be sure to give the Lambeth float a cheer!

Brixton town centre parking

Demolition of the former Pope's Road car park is now underway and expected to complete in March 2011. The car park was forced to close in December 2009 as it is a dangerous structure and must be demolished for the same reason. The market traders' car park, which continues to operate from the site,

will be re-provided to the rear of the site as part of the proposals for a temporary ice rink. This car park will continue to be accessible during demolition works.

Since the closure of Pope's Road car park 36 free short-term parking bays have been installed, mainly in Brixton Station

Road and Valentia Place. The council is also looking at other options to increase the number of town centre parking spaces and a planning application is expected for a temporary car park at the corner of Buckner Road and Porden Road to provide approximately 32 spaces.



A new, easy-to-use town centre parking map has been produced to promote the 320 spaces currently available within the town centre.

This is available online at www.lambeth.gov.uk/parking in the 1 December issue of Lambeth Life and as a flyer.

If you would like copies to distribute from your business please contact bnorris@lambeth.gov.uk



Charlotte Wiig

Helping your business to win contracts

A new and improved three-year Supply Lambeth programme was launched on Monday 22 November. Supply Lambeth aims to help small local businesses win contracts with the council and other public sector organisations. You can register your business's details on the

Supply Lambeth Portal to find out about events and support available. You can also find out about upcoming contracts and get in touch with other businesses to form consortia. The next three events are:

- Fit to Supply workshop on 9 December, 4pm to 6pm at Oval House

Theatre, Vauxhall

- Capacity Building workshop on 9 December, 4pm to 6pm at Oval House Theatre, Vauxhall
- Third Sector workshop on 14 December, 4pm to 6pm at Novotel London, Waterloo.

Further information, including how to book your place at www.lambeth.gov.uk/supplylambeth