

A Travel Guide to Camberwell



Allow us to introduce you to our Camberwell Travel Guide – the essential companion for those in search of the real SE5.

In this guide you'll find beautiful parks, wonderful cakes, elegant clothing, intoxicating drinks and excellent coffee, as well as an internationally renowned art college. There are galleries, ghosts, a graveyard, a Turkish spa, a Greek Cathedral and Britain's first purpose-built mental health hospital. Robert Browning was born here, Michael Caine grew up here, Charlie Chaplin worked here, Dan Leno lived here and John Ruskin left in disgust when the railways ruined his view.

It's an unlikely mixture perhaps, but it's what we think of when we think of Camberwell. We hope it will inspire you to explore the area further, whether you're a local residents or a visitor to the area.

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Camberwell A-Z

A IS FOR ADDINGTON SQUARE

A BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN SQUARE HIDING A GRIM SECRET

IN THE 1960'S ADDINGTON SQUARE WAS THE BASE OF CHARIE AND EDDIE RICHARDSON, - SOUTH LONDON'S RIVALS TO THE KRAT TWINS. THEY RAN A PRIVATE DRINKING CLUB AT 35A, WHICH HAD 'MAD' FRANKIE FRASER AND TWO DANCING BEARS IN RESIDENCE (THE BEARS ESCAPED ON TO CAMBERWELL ROAD ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION). THE CLUB WAS ALSO USED TO TORTURE RIVALS, ACCORDING TO THE GANG'S OLD BAILEY TRIAL IN 1967: THEIR ALLEGED SPECIALTY WAS NAILING VICTIMS TO THE FLOOR AND CUTTING OFF THEIR TOES WITH BOIT-CUTTERS.

B IS FOR BROWNING

A VOICE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE

ROBERT BROWNING (1812 - 1889), ONE OF THE GREATEST ENGLISH POETS OF THE 19TH CENTURY, WAS BORN AND GREW UP IN CAMBERWELL. HE IS BEST KNOWN FOR DRAMATIC MONOLOGUES, SUCH AS *PORPHYRIA'S LOVER* AND *MY LAST DUCH*. JUST MONTHS BEFORE HE DIED A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NEW EDISON COMPANY MADE A RECORDING OF BROWNING RELITING LINES FROM HIS POEM *HOW THEY BROUGHT THE GOOD NEWS FROM GHENT TO AIX* ON A WAX CYLINDER. WHEN THE RECORDING WAS PLAYED IN 1890, ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH, IT WAS SAID TO BE THE FIRST TIME ANYONE'S VOICE "HAD BEEN HEARD FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE."



Illustrations by Amy Pennington

C IS FOR THE CAMBERWELL FAIR

SO ROWDY THAT LOCAL RESIDENTS RAISED MONEY TO CLOSE IT DOWN.

CAMBERWELL GREEN WAS ONCE THE SITE OF A NOTORIOUSLY RIOTOUS FAIR, HELD ANNUALLY TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. GILES, THE LOCAL SAINT. THE FIRST RECORD OF THE FAIR WAS IN 1277 AND BY THE 18TH CENTURY IT ATTRACTED LONDON-WIDE CROWDS FOR ITS ANIMATED REVEILY.

SO MUCH DANCING, DRINKING AND ENTERTAINMENT WAS CLEARLY A CAUSE OF CONCERN TO THE MORE AFFLUENT RESIDENTS OF CAMBERWELL, WHO REPEATEDLY TRIED TO GET THE FAIR CLOSED DOWN. EVENTUALLY, IN 1855, A GROUP OF RESIDENTS RAISED A SUBSCRIPTION TO PURCHASE THE MANORIAL RIGHTS OF THE GREEN AND SO BRING AN END TO THIS ANNUAL ANNOYANCE.



D IS FOR THE DOMESDAY BOOK

COMMISSIONED BY WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR AFTER HIS 1066 INVASION OF ENGLAND

THE FIRST DRAFT WAS COMPLETED IN AUGUST 1086 AND CONTAINED RECORDS FOR 13,418 SETTLEMENTS IN THE ENGLISH COUNTIES. CAMBERWELL GETS A MENTION. ITS DOMESDAY ASSETS WERE LISTED AS: 6 HIDES AND 1 VIRGATE; 1 CHURCH; 8 PLOUGHS; 63 ACRES OF MEADOW; WOODLAND

WORTH 60 HOGS. IT RENDERED £14 ANNUALLY TO THE HOLDER OF THE DEEDS TO THE AREA - HAIMO, SHERIFF OF KENT (AND BROTHER IN LAW TO WILLIAM).

E IS FOR EDWARDS J PASSMORE A VISIONARY PHILANTHROPIST

PHILANTHROPIST, WHO USED THE FORTUNE HE MADE AS A NEWSPAPER PROPRIETOR TO SUPPORT LIBRARIES AND OTHER CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS. IN 1893 HE PROVIDED A REAR EXTENSION TO THE SOUTH LONDON GALLERY TO HOUSE A LECTURE HALL AND MUSEUM. HE ALSO CONTRIBUTED AN ADDITIONAL SUM TO BUILD THE PASSMORE EDWARDS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE NEXT DOOR - NOW KNOWN AS CAMBERWELL COLLEGE OF ARTS. BOTH INSTITUTIONS HAVE GONE ON TO DEVELOP A WORLDWIDE REPUTATION IN THE VISUAL ARTS.

F IS FOR THE FRIENDLY FEMALE ASYLUM

FOR AGED PERSONS WHO HAVE SEEN BETTER DAYS

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FORMER ALMSHOUSES IN CAMBERWELL BUT NONE AS WONDERFULLY NAMED. BUILT IN 1821, AND SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS, THE FRIENDLY FEMALE ASYLUM HOUSED AS MANY AS 41 RESIDENTS BY 1871. THE BUILDINGS NOW FORM PART OF CHUMLEIGH GARDENS - A POPULAR MULTICULTURAL GARDEN, CAFÉ AND PLAY AREA IN BURGESS PARK.



G IS FOR THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

OR, TO GIVE ITS FULL NAME, THE GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

DID YOU KNOW THAT CAMBERWELL HAS ITS OWN CATHEDRAL? ST MARY'S, ON CAMBERWELL NEW ROAD, ALSO HOUSES A MONASTERY AND A GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL. THE LATTER IS WELL USED BY CAMBERWELL'S LARGE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY.

H IS FOR HUGUENOTS

THE FIRST REFUGEES TO LEAVE THEIR MARK ON CAMBERWELL

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EMIGRATING TO CAMBERWELL FROM AROUND THE WORLD FOR CENTURIES, SOME OF THE FIRST TO COME TO THE AREA WERE FRENCH HUGUENOT REFUGEES, SUCH AS THE DE CRESPIGNYS AND THE MINETS, WHO LEFT THEIR OWN COUNTRY TO ESCAPE RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND LEFT THEIR MARK ON CAMBERWELL IN LOCAL PLACE NAMES SUCH AS DE CRESPIGNY PARK AND MINET IRONWORK.

I IS FOR THE ICENI

CELTIC TRIBES IN CAMBERWELL?

FOLKLORE HAS IT THAT CAMBERWELL WAS THE SITE OF A BATTLE BETWEEN THE ICENI, UNDER BOADICEA, AND THE ROMANS, UNDER SUTTONIUS PAVLINUS. WHILST THIS HAS NEVER BEEN PROVEN, IT MAKES A GREAT STORY - AND IT'S EASY TO IMAGINE BOADICEA CHARGING DOWN CAMBERWELL CHURCH STREET IN HER SPIKED CHARIOT.



J IS FOR JONO'S SNOOKER CLUB

A LOCAL LANDMARK

JONO'S DIVIDES PUBLIC OPINION IN CAMBERWELL: IS IT AN EYESORE IN NEED OF URGENT REDEVELOPMENT - OR A UNIQUELY CAMBERWELLIAN BUILDING THAT SHOULD BE PRESERVED IN ALL ITS PEELING, GRAFFITIED GLORY. MUCH OF THE GRAFFITI IS ACTUALLY PRETTY GOOD, A LEGACY OF THE 2008 CANS FESTIVAL.

LIKewise WITH THE CLUB ITSELF: THERE ARE THOSE WHO CLAIM THEY'VE BEEN FOBbed OFF WITH UNFEASIBLE EXCUSES WHENEVER THEY'RE TRIEd TO GAIN ADMITTANCE, WHILE OTHERS PRAISE IT AS A FRIENDLY PLACE WHERE YOU CAN GET STILL SERVED AT 4AM.

K IS FOR SAM KING

COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNER AND SOUTHWARK'S FIRST BLACK MAYOR

JAMAICAN BORN SAM KING SERVED IN THE RAF DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND RETURNED TO THE UK IN 1948 ON THE HMS WINDRUSH. A TIRELESS COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNER, HE MOVED TO CAMBERWELL IN 1950 AND WENT ON TO HELP SET UP THE FIRST NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL. HE WAS ALSO A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE FIRST BLACK NEWSPAPER IN THE UK, THE WEST INDIAN GAZETTE.

HE WAS ELECTED TO SOUTHWARK COUNCIL IN 1982 AND IN 1983 BECAME SOUTHWARK'S FIRST BLACK MAYOR AND, AT THE TIME, THE ONLY BLACK MAYOR IN BRITAIN.



L IS FOR DR. LETTSOM

PHYSICIAN, PHILANTHROPIST AND FOUNDER OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM (1744-1815) WAS AN EMINENT 18TH CENTURY QUAKER PHYSICIAN AND HERBALIST - FRIEND OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, DR. JOHNSON, BOSWELL AND OTHER INTELLIGENTSIA OF THE DAY. BORN IN THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, HE MOVED TO ENGLAND TO STUDY MEDICINE AND HAD HIS COUNTRY RESIDENCE IN THEN RURAL CAMBERWELL. HE ESTABLISHED A BOTANICAL GARDEN OF RARE AND EXPERIMENTAL PLANTS, SOME OF WHICH CAN STILL BE SEEN TODAY IN LETTSOM'S GARDENS THOUGH A PIONEERING AND EMPATHETIC DOCTOR FOR HIS TIMES, HIS NAME GAVE RISE TO A LESS THAN FLATTERING POPULAR DITTY:

WHEN ANY PATIENTS CALL IN HASTE,
[PHYSICS, BLEEDS, AND SWEATS 'EM,
IF AFTER THAT THEY CHOOSE TO DIE,
WHY, WHAT CARES I?
I LET'S 'EM!]

M IS FOR UNA MARSON

THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN PROGRAMME MAKER AT THE BBC

IN MARCH 1941, CAMBERWELL RESIDENT UNA MARSON BEGAN HER JOB AS A PROGRAMME ASSISTANT WITH THE EMPIRE SERVICE, THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO BE EMPLOYED BY THE BBC. SHE HAD ALREADY MADE A STRIKE IN HER NATIVE SAMOA AS A POET AND PUBLISHER AND WAS A LEADING BLACK POLITICAL ACTIVIST. HER FIRST JOB AT THE BBC WAS ON CALLING THE WEST INDIES. SHE LATER WORKED ON A SERIES WITH GEORGE ORWELL BEFORE ESTABLISHING HER OWN POETRY STRAND, CARIBBEAN VOICES.

OVER TWO HUNDRED AUTHORS APPEARED ON CARIBBEAN VOICES, INCLUDING V.S. NAIPAU, GEORGE LAMMING AND DEREK WALCOTT. IT WAS DESCRIBED BY KAMAU BRATHWAITE AS "THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT LITERARY CATALYST FOR CARIBBEAN CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLISH". SINCE ON RADIO THE POEMS COULD ONLY BE APPRECIATED ORALLY, CARIBBEAN VOICES HELPED TO INFLUENCE LATER CARIBBEAN POETRY IN HAVING A MORE SPOKEN FORM. AS LAURENCE BREWER NOTES, THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF RADIO "MUCH WEST INDIAN POETRY WAS HEARD RATHER THAN SEEN."

N IS FOR NYMPHALIS ANTIOPA

BETTER KNOWN AS THE CAMBERWELL BEAUTY

THIS RARE MIGRANT BUTTERFLY WAS FIRST DISCOVERED IN BRITAIN ON GOLDHARBOUR LAKE IN 1748 - THOUGHT TO BE STOWAWAYS ON SHIPS BRINGING TIMBER FROM SCANDINAVIA.

ALTHOUGH NO LONGER TO BE FOUND IN CAMBERWELL, THE BUTTERFLY IS OFTEN USED AS AN UNOFFICIAL EMBLEM FOR THE AREA, HAVING FIRST BEEN USED 1919 BY SAMUEL JONES & CO - A PRINT MERCHANT BASED NEAR SOUTHAMPTON WAY - TO SHOWCASE THEIR TECHNIQUE OF PRINTING MULTIPLE COLOURS ON A PIECE OF PAPER. IT MAY HAVE DONE ITS JOB RATHER TOO WELL: DURING WORLD WAR II, GERMAN BOMBERS WERE ALLEGED TO HAVE TO HAVE USED THE BUTTERFLY AS THE TARGET.



O IS FOR THE ORIENTAL PALACE OF VARIETIES

A FORMER MUSIC HALL WHERE THE HSBC NOW STANDS

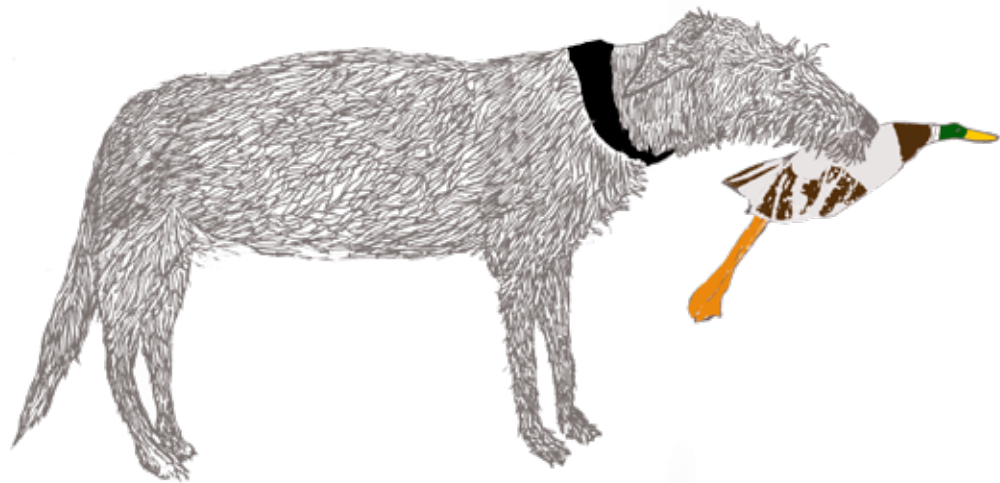
THE ORIENTAL PALACE OF VARIETIES WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DAN LENO COMPANY IN 1896. DAN LENO WAS ONE OF THE BEST-KNOWN MUSIC HALL STARS OF HIS DAY AND THIS VENTURE PROVED SO SUCCESSFUL THAT A NEW, LARGER THEATRE, THE CAMBERWELL PALACE, WAS BUILT ON THE SAME SITE.

LENO'S OTHER ASSOCIATION WITH CAMBERWELL IS THAT HE SPENT SEVERAL MONTHS IN THE CAMBERWELL HOUSE ASYLUM, UNDER THE CARE OF DR. SAVAGE, WHO TREATED HIM WITH "PEACE AND QUIET* AND A LITTLE WATER COLOURING". LENO MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE THE ASYLUM, TWICE BEING SUCCESSFUL. HE WAS FOUND EACH TIME AND PROMPTLY RETURNED.

P IS FOR PRINCE GEORGE OF DENMARK HUSBAND OF QUEEN ANNE OF ENGLAND, WHO HAD A HUNTING LODGE IN CAMBERWELL

AN IDEAL POLITICAL HUSBAND, PRINCE GEORGE WAS CONTENT TO LET HIS WIFE EXERCISE THE ROYAL PREROGATIVES WHILE HE SPENT HIS TIME BUILDING MODEL SHIPS. CHARLES II, ANNE'S UNCLE, FAMOUSLY SAID OF HIM. "I HAVE TRIED HIM DRUNK, AND I HAVE TRIED HIM SOBER AND THERE IS NOTHING IN HIM."

HE GIVES THE NAME TO DENMARK HILL, ONE OF THE MAIN THOROUGHFARES IN CAMBERWELL, WHILE DOG KENNEL HILL IS THOUGHT TO BE NAMED AFTER HIS HUNTING DOGS.



Q IS FOR QUEEN CAROLINE OF BRUNSWICK THE 'UNRULY QUEEN'

BRUNSWICK PARK (ORIGINALLY BRUNSWICK SQUARE) WAS NAMED AFTER CAROLINE OF BRUNSWICK IN CELEBRATION OF HER MARRIAGE TO GEORGE, PRINCE OF WALES (LATER GEORGE IV) IN 1795. IT WAS NOT THE MOST

SUCCESSFUL OF UNIONS - GEORGE WAS ALREADY ILLEGALLY MARRIED WHILE CAROLINE WAS SOON ACCUSED OF ADULTERY MOSES. SHE BECAME THE FIGUREHEAD OF A REFORM MOVEMENT THAT OPPOSED THE UNPOPULAR GEORGE, WHO USED THIS AS EVIDENCE IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO DIVORCE HER. THE FOLLOWING YEAR, IN 1821, CAROLINE FELL ILL AFTER SHE WAS BARRED FROM GEORGE'S CORONATION ON HIS ORDERS. SHE DIED THREE WEEKS LATER AND HER BODY WAS BURIED IN HER NATIVE BRUNSWICK.



R IS FOR RUSKIN

AND THE RAILWAYS THAT RUINED HIS VIEW

"THE PUBLIC LAUGHS AT MR. RUSKIN BECAUSE HE DETESTS RAILWAYS AND DENOUNCES THEM AS DESTROYERS OF THE LANDSCAPE AND THE ENEMIES OF ART," WROTE THE NEW YORK TIMES ON 13TH OCTOBER 1872. SO BITTERLY DID RUSKIN - THE INFLUENTIAL VICTORIAN WRITER, ARTIST, CRITIC AND SOCIAL CAMPAIGNER - OPPOSE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RAILWAY THAT HE IS REPUTED TO HAVE MOVED FROM CAMBERWELL TO THE LAKE DISTRICT IN 1871, AFTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DENMARK HILL RAILWAY LINE SPOILED HIS VIEW.

S IS FOR ST GILES

PATRON SAINT OF LEPERS AND CRIPPIES

LOCAL LEGEND ASSOCIATES THE DEDICATION OF ST GILES CHURCH IN CAMBERWELL WITH A WELL NEAR CAMBERWELL GROVE. AN ARTICLE, WRITTEN BY ROSSER IN 1827, STATES: "IT HAS BEEN CONJECTURED THAT THE WELL MIGHT HAVE BEEN FAMOUS FOR SOME MEDICINAL VIRTUES AND MIGHT HAVE BEEN OCCASIONED THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH TO THIS PATRON SAINT OF CRIPPIES".



THERE HAS BEEN A CHURCH ON THE SITE THAT ST GILES CHURCH OCCUPIES TODAY SINCE ANGLICAN-SAXON TIMES, AS RECORDED IN THE DOMESDAY BOOK. TODAY'S VERSION WAS REBUILT IN 1841, AFTER THE OLD CHURCH WAS DESTROYED IN A FIRE, TO A DESIGN BY GEORGE GILBERT SCOTT. THE EAST WINDOW WAS DESIGNED BY JOHN RUSKIN.

T IS FOR TURKISH BATHS

HIDDEN DECADENCE ON THE CAMBERWELL ROAD

IT MIGHT NOT BE IMMEDIATELY OBVIOUS NOW, BUT CAMBERWELL WAS HISTORICALLY A SPA TOWN. PEOPLE TRAVELLED LONG DISTANCES TO TAKE THE WATERS FROM THE CAMBERWELL WELL, RENOWNED FOR ITS HEALING PROPERTIES, AND THE ARCHITECTURAL LEGACY OF THIS FUNCTION CAN BE SEEN IN THE BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN BUILDINGS THAT LINE CAMBERWELL GROVE AND GROVE LANE.

THE PASHA SPA BRINGS THOSE DAYS OF LUXURY BACK TO CONTEMPORARY CAMBERWELL, WITH A MARBLED TURKISH HAMMAM AND STEAM ROOM - THE IDEAL DESTINATION FOR A BIT OF PAMPERING.

U IS FOR UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR BUNKER

COLD WAR RELIC OF SOUTHWARK COUNCIL

ON THE CORNER OF PECKHAM ROAD AND VASTRY ROAD IS A BORDERED UP PATCH OF WASTELAND. BENEATH THIS UNASSUMING PLOT LIES AN ABANDONED NUCLEAR BUNKER - BUILT IN 1953 TO HOUSE COUNCIL STAFF IN THE EVENT OF A COLD WAR NUCLEAR ATTACK. THE BUNKER WAS ABANDONED IN THE 1980'S AND BEEN LEFT VIRTUALLY UNTOUCHED EVER SINCE.

ARTISTS CORNFORD & CROSS CREATED A TEMPORARY PEACE GARDEN THERE AS PART OF THEIR INSTALLATION, WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH, DURING THE 2007 CAMBERWELL ARTS FESTIVAL. IN 2012 HANNAH CATHERINE JONES STAGED A SOUND INSTALLATION, RADIOACTIVE, ON THE SITE.

V IS FOR VANGUARD COURT

MAKING THE CASE FOR LOCAL ARTISTS

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF CAMBERWELL, IN A PICTURESQUE COBBLED COURTYARD, VANGUARD COURT IS HOME TO A UNIQUE CREATIVE COMMUNITY OF PAINTERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, JEWELLERS, POTTERS AND MORE. THEY HOLD COLLECTIVE OPEN STUDIOS TWICE A YEAR, IN THE SUMMER AND AT CHRISTMAS.

THE SITE WAS CONVERTED TO ARTISTS' STUDIOS OVER 30 YEARS AGO. PRIOR TO THAT IT WAS USED TO BUILD CARTS AND LATER VEHICLE BODIES (INCLUDING FOR THE FIRST LONDON BUSES) AND SUITCASES. VANGUARD ATTACHE CASES WERE STANDARD ISSUE TO BRITISH FORCES IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR.



W IS FOR WELL

All's WELL

AS YOU MIGHT GUESS FROM THE NAME, CAMBERWELL IS NAMED AFTER A WELL. WHAT IS LESS CERTAIN IS WHAT THE FIRST PART OF THE PLACE NAME MEANS. ONE THEORY IS THAT "CAMBER" MEANT CROOKED AND THAT WATER FROM THE CAMBER WELL COULD CURE "CRIPPLED OR CROOKED PEOPLE". ANOTHER THEORY IS THAT IT WAS NAMED AFTER PRINCE CAMBER, SON OF BRUTUS OF TROY, WHO - ACCORDING TO LEGEND - WAS THE FOUNDER OF LONDON.



X IS FOR XRAY VISION

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL STAFF
TRANSFORMED INTO REALITY TV STARS

SPENT WAITING TO GET SUSPECTED BROKEN BONES X-RAYED. CHANNEL 4'S EXCELLENT OBSERVATIONAL DOCUMENTARY, 2+ HOURS IN A&E, PROVIDED A REAL EYE-OPENER - AN

INSIGHT INTO THE VITAL, LIFE-SAVING WORK THAT TAKES PLACE INSIDE THE VAST LOCAL LANDMARK OF KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT IS JUST ONE OF 27 DEPARTMENTS AT KING'S, TREATING AROUND 130,000 PATIENTS A YEAR WITH INJURIES AND CONDITIONS THAT RANGE FROM BIZARRE TO LIFE-THREATENING. 2+ HOURS IN A&E DOCUMENTED THE INCREDIBLE WORK THE HOSPITAL'S TEAM CARRY OUT AND IS YET ANOTHER REASON TO BE DOWN IN CAMBERWELL.

Y IS FOR YE PARISH OF CAMBERWELL

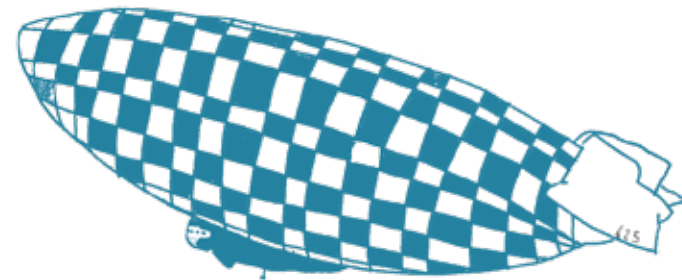
A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE PARISH OF CAMBERWELL, ITS HISTORIES AND ANTIQUITIES

WH BLANCH SET OUT TO WRITE A DEFINITIVE HISTORY OF CAMBERWELL IN 1875, THE RESULT IS FAR FROM BRIEF BY TODAY'S STANDARDS - AND A FAIR AMOUNT HAS HAPPENED SINCE ITS PUBLICATION - BUT BLANCH'S WORK IS DEFINITELY WORTH A READ FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF CAMBERWELL. IT WAS REPRINTED IN 1976 FOR THE CAMBERWELL SOCIETY IN AN EDITION THAT INCLUDES ADDITIONAL ILLUSTRATIONS. IT CAN ALSO BE VIEWED ON EBOOKS.

Z IS FOR ZEPPELIN

WHICH KILLED 12 PEOPLE ON CALMINGTON ROAD IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

A QUARTER OF A CENTURY BEFORE THE BLITZ, LONDON WAS TERRORISED BY ANOTHER AERIAL MENACE: GIANTIC AIRSHIPS, OR ZEPPELINS, LARGER THAN AN UPENDED GHERKIN BUILDING. FROM 1915-1917, GERMAN AIRSHIPS UNLEASHED HUNDREDS OF EXPLOSIVES ON LONDON.



Camberwell Histories

A Brief History of Camberwell

Camberwell's story is one of how a small Surrey farming community became engulfed by the great metropolis of London. Today, Camberwell is so much a part of the city that it's hard to believe the area once had its own mill and supported itself from the surrounding fields – or that it is traded with London by supplying the city with fresh fruit and vegetables and milk.

From a farming village, Camberwell became an exclusive Georgian retreat, attracting visitors because of its reputation for clean air and healthy waters – as well as improvements in transport. The most significant of these was the construction of new bridges over the Thames to bypass the congestion of London Bridge, which in turn led to the construction of a new local road network. Camberwell New Road, for example, was opened in 1818 to link Camberwell with Vauxhall Bridge, which was built in 1816.

As London's transport infrastructure expanded, Camberwell developed into an inner city suburb. By 1800 two firms ran coaches 7 times a day from Camberwell to Gracechurch Street in the City to accommodate commuters. This was a relatively expensive form of transport as tolls had to be paid. In the mid 1800s the horse-drawn bus was developed and the first buses came to Camberwell in 1851.

In 1862 a railway line was extended to Camberwell, followed by a station at Denmark Hill, enabling less wealthy people to commute

to London. In 1871 the service attracted competition from tram companies and by the 1900s as many as 250 trams passed through Camberwell every hour on 14 different routes.

By the beginning of the 20th century, Camberwell had become so over-crowded that philanthropic organisations began to look at how to improve housing in the area. In 1910 the Peabody Trust built flats by Camberwell Green followed by the development of Samuel Lewis Trust Buildings in 1915. Further redevelopment was necessary following World War II when air attacks destroyed 5,650 houses in the area.

Today, Camberwell has become well and truly part of London – an inner-city area with a diverse population. Elegant Georgian properties sit alongside council estates, giving the place its eclectic character. Throw into the mix a large teaching hospital, one of Europe's leading mental health research institutions and the students of Camberwell College of Art and you have a truly unique part of London.

Local resident Stephen Wilmot has created an interesting self-guided heritage walk – 'from Camberwell Green through genteel back streets to the South London Gallery.' It takes about 2 hours to complete and you can find full details on his website *Rex and the City*:

W: stephenwilmot.com/p/walk-into-camberwells-history.html

A Healthy History

It began when the first Londoners decided that the waters of the Camber Well were a remedy for life's ills. Ever since, Camberwell has been a cradle for medical discovery and innovation, particularly in the area of mental health and well-being. It's no wonder the Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell adopted the motto 'All's Well' when they were granted the right to a coat of arms in 1901.

Healing waters

The waters of the Camber Well were said to be rich in iron and mineral salts, with a beneficial effect on any number of ailments. Springs and wells are known to have existed on the southern slope of Denmark Hill, especially around Grove Park.

As a result of the springs, there are suggestions that Camberwell developed as a hamlet where people from the City of London were expelled when they had life threatening diseases like leprosy, for treatment by the church and the clean, healing waters from the local wells. An article, written by Prosser in 1827, states: 'it has been conjectured that the well might have been famous for some medicinal virtues and might have occasioned the dedication of (St Giles) church to this patron saint of cripples'.

By the 18th century, Camberwell's healing waters had established it as a desirable location for recreation and refreshment. People would come from far and wide to experience the healing waters and to delight in Camberwell's rural tranquillity. The elegant Georgian terraces of Camberwell Grove and Grove Lane are a legacy of Camberwell's prosperity during this period. Dr Lettsom, founder of the Medical Society of London, established a botanical garden of rare and experimental plants, some of which can still be seen today in Lettsom Gardens.

As the metropolis expanded between 1740 and 1840, the fields became streets and terraces. The health giving springs and wells became forgotten in all but the place name. However, in one of those curious threads of history, the neighbourhood itself remained vital to the health of Londoners.

The Camberwell influence today

Camberwell has become home to some of the world's most influential medical research organisations. Close to where Londoners took the healing waters of the Camber Well, three leading medical organisations – the Institute of Psychiatry, the Maudsley and Kings College Hospital – are now in residence.

King's College Hospital

King's College Hospital was founded in 1829 to provide clinical experience to students in the medical faculty of King's College London. It originally opened in 1840 in Portugal Street, close to Lincoln's Inn Fields, and moved to its current site on Denmark Hill in 1913 when a larger building was required. King Edward VI laid the foundation stone of the Denmark Hill location in 1909 and the new King's College Hospital was opened by King George V and Queen Mary on 29 July 1913.

Soon after its opening, it was requisitioned as a military hospital during WW1 and treated over 75,000 wounded soldiers during the course of three years. It is now one of London's largest teaching hospitals as well as providing general healthcare to the London boroughs of Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham – and a range of specialist services for patients across south east England and beyond. King's is recognised nationally and internationally for its work in liver disease and transplantation, neurosciences, cardiac services, blood cancers, foetal medicine, stroke and major trauma.

The Maudsley Hospital

The Maudsley is England's first purpose-built psychiatric hospital for treatment and research. It dates from 1907, when Dr Henry Maudsley offered London County Council £30,000 (subsequently increased to £40,000) to help fund a new hospital that aimed to find effective treatments for neuroses, mild forms of psychosis and dependency disorders, rather than simply providing confinement and 'asylum'. All patients were admitted on a voluntary basis – although a specific Act of Parliament had to be obtained in 1915 to allow the institution to accept voluntary patients.

By the time the hospital was built, World War I had broken out and the building was requisitioned as a war hospital, not opening as a mental health resource until 1923. Although the hospital initially struggled to secure funding from the Medical Research Council, in 1938 the Rockefeller Foundation made a substantial award to support research and education and the Maudsley has been an internationally renowned centre for research ever since. In 1948 the Hospital joined the NHS, amalgamating with the Bethlem Royal Hospital (better known as Bedlem) to become one of a small group of postgraduate Special Teaching Hospitals. The Maudsley continues to play an important role in today's modern NHS as well as being a world leader in research

Institute of Psychiatry

This Institute of Psychiatry is Europe's largest centre for research and post-graduate education

in psychiatry, psychology, basic and clinical neuroscience. It is the most cited research centre in its field outside the US – the second most cited in the world.

Its origins date back to 1896, when the eminent neurologist Dr Frederick Mott put forward proposals for the then novel concept of university level training courses in subjects related to psychiatry. However, it was not until 1914 that Mott's idea began to bear fruit when the London County Council agreed to establish the hospital in Denmark Hill with the assistance of a generous donation from Dr Henry Maudsley (see above).

Within ten years, the associated Maudsley Hospital Medical School had come to be officially recognised by the University of London and the new school retained this title until 1948 when it became a founder member of the newly formed British Postgraduate Medical Federation and changed its name to the Institute of Psychiatry.

Largactyl Shuffle

If you're interested in finding out more about the history of health in Camberwell why not join CoolTan Art's *Largactyl Shuffle*? CoolTan Arts believe mental well-being is enhanced by the power of creativity. It's a charity run by and for adults with mental distress.

Their *Largactyl Shuffle* monthly walks aim to break stigma around mental health, promote positive mental health / well being, encourage people to exercise, meet new people and learn more about their local history. If you're interested in London's hidden stories, the *Largactyl Shuffle* Walk will provide you with the unique opportunity to discover South London's mysteries and the history of mental health.

All walks are family friendly and people of all abilities are welcome to join. They meet every third Saturday of the month by the entrance to the Maudsley Hospital (Denmark Hill, SE5 8AZ) and walk from there to Tate Modern. Each walk has a specific theme linked to the month (eg Black History Walk, Women's Day Walk, Literary Walk etc). For further information contact CoolTan Arts on 020 7701 2696 or visit the website www.cooltanarts.org.uk

An Artistic History

Camberwell has a strong reputation for the visual arts – a legacy of the world-renowned art college that bears its name as well as one of England’s most pioneering galleries, the South London Gallery. Their histories are strongly interwoven, as can be seen from the fact that they still share the fabric of a building today, despite the different directions that they have taken.

South London Gallery

The South London Gallery began life in 1868 as a working men’s college on the Blackfriars Road. Its first principal was the biologist T. H. Huxley – grandfather of the novelist Aldous Huxley. A decade later, following a move to larger premises in Kennington Lane, a free library was established as well as a tradition of exhibiting art works from private collections. Early supporters included the then Prime Minister, William Gladstone, and artists Edward Burne-Jones and Sir Frederic Leighton, President of the Royal Academy.

The move to its present site took place in 1889, when manager William Rossiter bought the freehold of Portland House in Peckham Road in order to build a new gallery in the grounds. Two years later The South London Fine Art Gallery opened to the public, with a changing programme of fine and applied arts. Its now substantial collection began to form from works donated by artists and subscribers to the Gallery.

The collection grew substantially in the mid-20th century as work was commissioned from modern British artists, including John Piper, Christopher Wood and Duncan Grant. In the 1980s and 90s, with BritArt forcing its way centre stage, the Gallery began to focus on the latest developments in contemporary art, buying works by artists such as Antony Gormley, Anish Kapoor and Tracey Emin.

The roll-call of bankable names continues: recent exhibitions by internationally acclaimed artists such as Gilbert & George, Anselm Kiefer, Keith Tyson and Steve McQueen have boosted the Gallery’s profile as one of London’s foremost art venues – a reputation which has continued since the Gallery’s extension in 2010.

Over the past five years the gallery has also developed a name for its innovative education and outreach, such as *Making Play* – a three-year project inspired by the possibilities of bringing together children’s play and contemporary art practice. *The Shop of Possibilities* is a social space for play for local residents in a former retail outlet on the neighbouring Sceaux Gardens housing estate, which backs onto the Gallery.

Camberwell College of Arts

In 1892, the newspaper magnate and philanthropist John Passmore Edwards offered the South London Gallery £3,000 to build a lecture hall and library and the extension was opened by the Prince of Wales the following year. He offered a further £5,000 to finance a Technical Institute in memory of the recently deceased Lord Leighton.

Installation view from *Alice Channer: Out of Body* at the South London Gallery, 2012. Photo: Andy Keate. Image courtesy the artist and the South London Gallery.



The Technical Institute, built on the site of Portland House, was opened on 6 January 1898 by Sir Edward Poynter, President of the Royal Academy. The school aimed to give the 'best artistic and technical education to all classes in the district'. Originally, the school offered classes in specific trades, such as architecture, cabinet design, embroidery, wood carving and stencil cutting. By 1920, a Fine Art Department had been created.

During World War II, Victor Pasmore was appointed head of the Painting Department, which initiated an exciting period for the School. Many well-known artists, including Frank Auerbach and Edward Ardizzone, taught at Camberwell during this period, while Ron Kitaj, Euan Uglow and Frank Bowling followed in the 1960s and 70s. In 1973, the School expanded into a modern purpose-built block next to the existing premises.

In 1986, Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts became a constituent college of the London Institute, formed by the Inner London Education Authority to associate London's art, design, fashion and media schools into a collegiate structure. The school was renamed Camberwell College of Arts in 1989. The London Institute was granted University status and renamed University of the Arts London in 2004.

Camberwell and the YBAs

The 1980s saw a new chapter in Camberwell's artistic history – one that is more often accredited to neighbouring New Cross. In his memoir *Lucky Kunst*, Gregor Muir, writes:

'Not yet housed in the university building at New Cross to which it eventually moved in the late 1980s, Goldsmiths was a stone's throw away in Myatts Field on the other side of Camberwell Green. In contrast to Camberwell's Friday night bacchanal, Goldsmith's held its disco on a Tuesday evening with dinner ladies serving drinks, including tea, from a service hatch. This indicated to me that Goldsmiths was deeply uncool.'

During this deeply uncool period, students from Goldsmiths Fine Art department were taught in the Millard building on Cormont Road in Camberwell. A former convent and secretarial

school, the building was also the hospital where Vera Brittain served as a nurse, described in her memoir *Testament of Youth*. It is from this building that many of the group now known as Young British Artists – or YBAs – emerged. Some of the most celebrated artists of their generation, including Sarah Lucas, Gary Hume, Anya Gallaccio, Damien Hirst and Mat Collishaw, started their careers as artists in Camberwell.

Camberwell Arts Festival

Camberwell hosts an annual Arts Festival, timed to co-incide with the degree shows at Camberwell College of Arts. Now in its 18th year, the Festival celebrates the thriving local arts scene, taking art out of the studio and into the streets – from pubs to parks, cafes to crypts, shops to swimming pools.

The Camberwell Arts Festival is developed by Camberwell Arts, a local charity, in partnership with local organisations. As part of the programme, it provides opportunities for local residents to get involved in the visual arts.

W: camberwellarts.org.uk

GX Gallery

Camberwell even has its own commercial gallery scene. Established in 2001, GX Gallery specialises in contemporary abstract and figurative work. As well as working with up and coming artists, they show work by some of Britain's leading artists, including recent solo exhibitions by Peter Blake and Tom Phillips.

Artists' studios

Camberwell is home to many practicing artists as well as art students. Significant studio complexes in SE5 include: ASC Studios, 16A Wyndham Rd, SE5 0UH, www.ascstudios.co.uk
Clockwork Studios, 38 Southwell Rd, SE5 9PG, www.clockworkstudios.co.uk
Coldharbour Studios, 26–34 Southwell Rd, SE5 9PG, www.coldharbournlondon.com
Denmark Place Studios, 47 Coldharbour Lane, SE5
Vanguard Court, Rear of 36–38 Peckham Rd, SE5 8QT, www.vanguardcourt.org

A Literary History

Whilst the presence of Camberwell College of Arts has meant that the area has a strong historical association with the visual arts, it has provided inspiration for some writers, too. Here are six notable authors associated with Camberwell:

Robert Browning (1812–1889)

Rural until the advent of the railways, Camberwell was the childhood idyll of the eminent Victorian poet Robert Browning, who grew up just off Southampton Way. The area has changed significantly since Browning lived there: both Rainbow Cottage, where he was born, and Hanover Cottage, where the Browning family moved when he was 12, have long since been knocked down.

Browning disliked school and his education took place mainly at home, where his father amassed a library of around 6,000 books, many of them rare. At the age of sixteen, he studied Greek at University College London but left after his first year, clearly preferring the facilities available at home: he lived there until the age of 34, financially dependent on his family until his marriage to fellow poet, Elizabeth Barrett.

As a writer, Browning lived for many years in the shadow of his wife. However, he achieved success late in life through his brilliant use of dramatic monologue in works such as *My Last Duchess*, *Porphyria's Lover* and *The Ring and the Book*. These made him a literary icon and influenced future generations of writers. Thomas Hardy, Rudyard Kipling, Ezra Pound and T.S. Eliot were all influenced by Browning.

John Ruskin (1819–1900)

In October 1842, the Ruskin family moved from Herne Hill to 163 Denmark Hill. Writing about his home there, Ruskin later said, 'It stood in command of seven acres of healthy ground... half of it meadow sloping to the sunrise, the rest prudently and pleasantly divided into an upper and lower kitchen garden, a fruitful bit of orchard and chance inlets and outlets of wood walk.'

Only a year after moving to Camberwell, Ruskin came to widespread public attention with the publication in 1843 of his first volume of *Modern Painters* – an extended essay in defence of the work of J.M.W. Turner. In later volumes he championed the Pre-Raphaelites, who were influenced by his ideas.

From his study in Denmark Hill, Ruskin wrote on subjects ranging from geology to architecture, myth to ornithology, literature to education, and botany to political economy. His writing styles were equally varied and included essays, poetry, travel guides, letters and even a fairy tale.

He moved out of Camberwell to Cumbria in 1872, by which time he had become the leading English art critic of the Victorian era, as well as an artist, patron, social thinker and philanthropist. His main legacy to Camberwell is the stained glass window he designed for St. Giles' Church.

Una Marson (1905–1965)

During the years she lived in Camberwell, Una Marson gained a reputation as a pioneering publisher, broadcaster, feminist, pan-Africanist and anti-racist – the first black female to work for the BBC and producer of the influential poetry programme *Caribbean Voices*.

However, this aspect of her work sometimes overshadows the fact that she is also widely recognised as the earliest female poet of significance to emerge in Jamaican literature. Her best-known works, such as *Nigger* and *Kinky Hair Blues*, pioneered the articulation of gender and racial oppression and give subjectivity to the powerless and marginalised.

She also brought Jamaican vernacular voices alongside a Wordsworthian passion for nature. Drawing on both African-American and Jamaican speech, and of folk monologues, she wrote devotional sonnets and love lyrics as well as more modernist works.

Muriel Spark (1918–2006)

During her life, the novelist Muriel Spark travelled from her childhood home in Edinburgh to Rhodesia, London, New York, Rome and Florence – but it was in Camberwell that she wrote the first of the many novels she became famous for, including the *Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and *The Ballad of Peckham Rye*.

A local priest helped her find a bedsit at 13 Baldwin Crescent in 1955. She arrived a struggling single mother, recovering from a serious breakdown. Within 2 years she'd published her first novel, *The Comforters*. Once she'd started writing, Spark was unstoppable: over the next 20 years she published almost a novel a year, as well as short stories and plays.

In 1961 she published *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, her legendary tale of the Edinburgh spinster schoolteacher who devotes her middle years to her 'gerrils', to Mussolini and to having illicit sex. The success of *Miss Jean Brodie*, in its Broadway, film and television versions, assured her financial security for life, and a place in the most hallowed annals of Scottish and English literature. With the money she earned, she left Camberwell for New York in 1965.

Stella Duffy (b. 1963)

Born in London, Stella Duffy spent her childhood in New Zealand, before returning to her home city 20 years ago. She has lived in Loughborough Junction for the last 15 years and her Orange-prize long-listed novel, *The Room of Lost Things*, is inspired by her local surroundings.

It's an ensemble story, which showcases a diverse range of characters whose lives converge at Loughborough Junction. The characters range from a drug dealer to a nanny who is having an affair with her employer's husband. At the centre of the story is Robert Sutton, the 67-year-old proprietor of a dry-cleaning shop.

Stella Duffy is a prolific writer, with 12 other novels, 10 plays and many short stories to her name as well as feature articles for magazines and newspapers such as *Marie Claire*, *Elle*, *The Times* and *The Guardian*. She also finds time to perform and direct theatre.

She hosts *Up the Junction*, a series of readings, discussion and drinks at Whirled Arts in Loughborough Junction. For further information follow the event on Twitter @UpTheJunc1.

Martin McDonagh (b. 1970)

The award-winning playwright and film-maker Martin McDonagh grew up in Camberwell, of Irish parents, and spent most of his childhood summers in the west of Ireland. The titles of his best-known plays – *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *A Skull in Connemara* and *The Lonesome West* – suggest that Connemara may be more of an immediate influence on his work than Camberwell. However, the combination of pastiche rural Irish forms and displaced urban sensibility gives his best-known works a dark, violent and very funny edge.

So successful is this Camberwell / Connemara cultural collision that in 1997 McDonagh was widely described as the first dramatist since Shakespeare to have four works professionally produced on the London stage in a single season. In recent years McDonagh has moved from theatre to film-making, winning an Academy Award in 2006 for his first film, the short *Six Shooter*, and an Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay for *In Bruges* in 2008.

A Musical History

The soundtrack to contemporary Camberwell is one in which ambulance sirens play a key note – the result of having the busy A&E department of King's College Hospital located on Denmark Hill. But Camberwell has provided rich inspiration for musicians throughout the ages, providing a shifting soundtrack for the streets of SE5. From Mendelssohn to Florence and the Machine, we provide a *Playlist for Camberwell*, inspired by 7 musical moments and personalities in the history of Camberwell.

Mendelssohn and Camberwell Green

In 1842 Mendelssohn stayed in Camberwell with the Bennekes, affluent relatives of his wife who lived on Denmark Hill (in one of the villas that was knocked down to make way for Ruskin Park). He found the area so charming he was inspired to write *Camberwell Green*, now better known as *Spring Song*. It is taken from the fifth book of Felix Mendelssohn's series of lyrical piano pieces *Lieder ohne Worte*, or *Songs without Words*.

Music Hall and Camberwell

Camberwell has quite a tradition in popular music hall songs – a legacy of the many popular music hall venues in the area. In 1915 Lionel Monckton wrote *Chalk Farm To Camberwell Green* for his wife Gertie Millar. It includes the classic lines:

*Chalk Farm to Camberwell Green, all on a summer's day;
Up we climbed on the motor bus and we started right away.
When we got to the end of the ride, he asked me to go for a walk,
But I wasn't Camberwell green by a very long chalk.*

Camberwell also featured in a Gracie Fields number from the '30s, *Heaven Will Protect an Honest Girl*. In this song, written by the great R.P. Weston and Bert Lee team (with Harris

Weston too), Gracie sets out for London to go into service, gets into trouble, and heads home to Oldham in her undies:

*Said 'eaven will protect an honest girl.
Next day I pawned me shawl in Camberwell.
Then me skirt and blouse I sold 'em.
And went trampin' back to Oldham...*

Syd Barrett and Camberwell College of Art

In 1965, Syd Barrett won a scholarship to Camberwell College of Art, where he shared a flat with childhood friend Roger Waters – and musical history was made. Barrett joined Water's band *The Screaming Abjabs*, which was eventually named *Pink Floyd*.

His combined talents for eccentric pop songwriting and bold sonic exploration insured his rapid rise to fame and enduring legacy, but the equally rapid descent into chemically-induced mental illness sadly leaves us with the never-to-be-answered question of what Barrett would have accomplished had circumstances allowed him to achieve his full potential as a musician.

Jazz Umbrella and St Giles' Crypt

From 1995–2010, the crypt underneath St Giles' Church hosted one of London's best regular jazz events. Jazz Umbrella's weekly Friday night concerts, *Jazz Live*, featured top musicians from London, the UK, Europe and beyond.

Set in atmospheric surroundings, this small venue had a reputation for being one of the best places to catch jazz music being played at its best: live, challenging and undiluted.

Fans of *Jazz Live* will be pleased to hear that it is due to return to Camberwell soon, following a restoration programme at the Crypt.

Pulp and 59a Lyndhurst Grove

Lyndhurst Grove, close to Camberwell College of Arts, was the inspiration for the final track of *Inside Susan: a story in three songs*, which follows the eponymous Susan from her Rotherham puberty through wild teen years in Sheffield to her eventual marriage and settling down somewhere on the outskirts of London.

Lead singer Jarvis Cocker had this to say about the track in a 1994 *Record Collector* interview: '[It] was inspired by a party I'd been to the weekend before. We were thrown out by an architect but I got my own back by writing a song about the event. It was a really crap 'right on' party – there were children there. You don't take your children to a party in my book. I sent a copy of the CD to 59 Lyndhurst Grove, the lady of the house, because she was in a bad situation married to this prick, but she never wrote back. A Japanese fan went there and stood outside and asked if she was Susan!'

Basement Jaxx and Loughborough Junction

In terms of dance music, Basement Jaxx (Simon Ratcliffe and Felix Buxton) are one of the biggest acts to come out of South London – particularly in terms of their sustained output over the last 18 years. For much of this time their studio has been in Loughborough Junction and they have supported local initiatives, including the Loughborough Junction Action Group's 7 Bridges project.

Their most explicit tribute to the local area was the *Camberwell* EP released in 2000 under the name Banana Krew. Tracks include: *I Live in Camberwell* (with lines including 'I live in Camberwell, she lives in Brixton' and 'On the streets of Camberwell, the tramps are coming at me'), *Camberwell Skies* and *Camberskank*.

Florence Welch and Myatt's Field Park

Florence Welch, of *Florence and the Machine*, grew up in Camberwell and studied Foundation Art and Design at Camberwell College of Art, where she specialised in painting. We'd like to think the area has had a clear influence on her artistic development: in the London Evening Standard (30th July 2009) she described her earliest London memory as climbing the trees in her local park, Myatt's Fields, when she was about nine years old. 'The willow tree was the evil tree and the mulberry tree was the good tree. It was great for climbing and you could eat the mulberries in summer. I spent a lot of time in that tree.'



Twice Nightly by Sarah Doyle

An Entertaining History

Though no signs of it remain today, Camberwell was once renowned throughout London for its vibrant music hall scene. In this section of the Guide, we give a ghost tour of Camberwell's theatrical and cinematic history.

The Camberwell Fair

The earliest form of advertised theatrical entertainment in Camberwell was the Camberwell Fair, held annually from the Middle Ages until the mid 19th century to commemorate the feast of Camberwell's patron, Saint Giles. Around the 18th century, the fair was transformed from a country market to a funfair, with drinking, music, dancing, acrobats, puppet shows, magicians and dancing bears. The most famous act in the mid 19th century was Richardson's Theatre, which provided popular drama in the days before television or cinema.

Camberwell and Music Hall

In Victorian times Camberwell was a focal point of South London's music hall scene with household names, such as Dan Leno and Gracie Fields, performing here from the 1850s to the 1940s. The earliest music halls in Camberwell were in the back of pubs. One, the Nollywood (formerly the Father Redcap, built in 1853) still stands by Camberwell Green, though its interior and exterior are now much altered.

In 1896, the Dan Leno Company opened the Oriental Palace of Varieties on Denmark Hill, where the HSBC bank now stands. This was so successful that it was replaced in 1899 with a new theatre, the Camberwell Palace, which had a capacity of 1,553. The Metropole Theatre and

Opera House soon followed, which opened on Orpheus Street and presented transfers of West End shows.

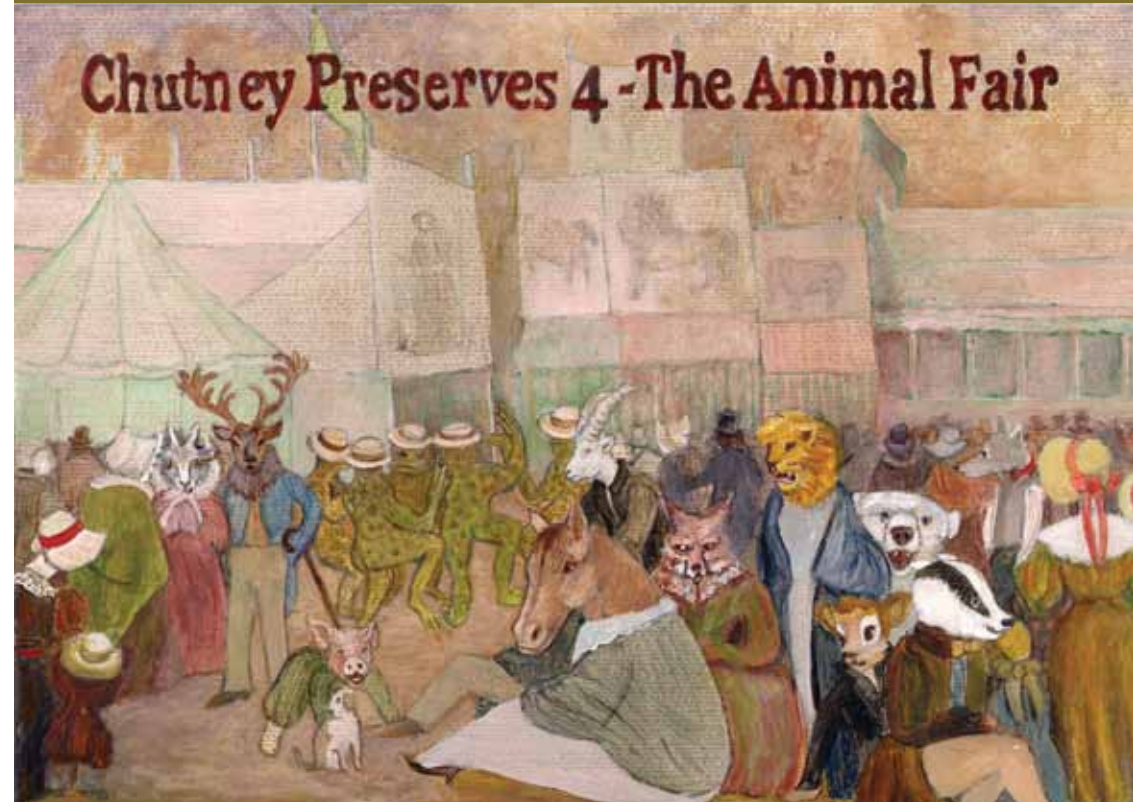
Following the advent of the cinema and later of television, Camberwell's music halls fell into decline, with the last closing in 1956.

Camberwell and Custard Pies

38 Southwell Road is now an artists' studio, housing a range of exciting artists and craftspeople. At the turn of the 20th century, however, the warehouse was labelled London's 'Fun Factory' – a venue that was home to Fred Karno's music hall performers. Two of the most notable of these were Charlie Chaplin and Stan Laurel.

Frederick John Westcott (26 March 1866 – 18 September 1941), best known by his stage name Fred Karno, was an English theatre and music hall impresario. He is credited with inventing the custard-pie-in-the-face gag. During the 1890s, in order to circumvent stage censorship, Karno developed a form of sketch comedy without dialogue. The resulting cheeky, authority-defying routines, such as *Jail Birds* (1896), in which prisoners play tricks on warders, can be seen as precursors of silent movie comedy.

Animal Fair by Sarah Sparkes



At his peak Fred Karno was producing many different productions throughout the world. The sets for these productions were built in the back yard of the 'Fun Factory', while trapeze artists practiced in the tall three-story building and the slapstick routines of Vaudeville were worked out in and around the rehearsal rooms.

Camberwell and Cinema

By 1912, music hall venues such as the Camberwell Palace were showing films as a part of their variety programme. It became an ABC cinema in September 1932 – known simply as The Palace Cinema. The Metropole Theatre was demolished to make way for an Odeon cinema – which has now now also been demolished.

A second ABC cinema, known originally as the Regal Cinema and later as the ABC Camberwell, opened in 1940. With only one screen but 2,470 seats, the cinema was one of the largest suburban cinemas in London. It continued to operate until 1973, after which it was used as a bingo hall until February 2010, when it became a church. It retains its Art Deco style and is Grade II listed.

Camberwell on Screen

The 1957 Peter Sellers film, *The Smallest Show on Earth* – which tells the tale of a struggling family-run suburban cinema – is thought to have been based on the Camberwell Palace.

Camberwell also has an unusual starring role in the cult classic, *Withnail and I*. The Camberwell Carrot is the name of the enormous spiff rolled, using 12 rolling papers, by Danny the Dealer. His explanation for the name is, 'I invented it in Camberwell and it looks like a carrot'.

'Not a lot of people know that'

Back in 1933, shortly after the birth of one Maurice Micklewhite junior, the Micklewhite family moved to 14 Urlwin Street, just off the Camberwell Road. A two-room flat at the top of this house was to become the childhood home of one of the finest actors of his generation. Sir Michael Caine's start in life was a tough one: not only did he live in one of the poorest

neighbourhoods in Camberwell but he also lived there through much of the Blitz.

Despite this, the roots of his future acting career can be traced back to Camberwell and Clubland, a youth club on the Camberwell Road run by the Rev. Charles Butterworth. He offered sports for boys and drama for girls but the young 'Michael Caine', motivated by a combination of clumsiness and adolescent lust, opted to join the drama group instead. One of his earliest appearances was in a Clubland production as a robot in Karel Capek's 1920 play *Rossum's Universal Robots*.

Camberwell's theatrical history lives on today in the Blue Elephant Theatre and Theatre Peckham:

The Blue Elephant Theatre

This 50-seat fringe theatre is situated in a residential area of Camberwell and produces an eclectic programme of new work across the performing arts from physical and dance theatre to new writing and revamped classics. They also run a great programme of theatre education workshops for young people and the local community.

W: blueelephanttheatre.co.uk

Theatre Peckham

Established over 24 years ago, Theatre Peckham is an inspirational theatre company that offers high quality arts education and training to children and young people residing in and around the borough of Southwark. Theatre Peckham also produces several productions each year that use a unique mix of professional actors and young people enrolled in the workshop programme.

W: theatrepeckham.co.uk

Palace of Varieties

Reclaimed and reinvigorated for 2013, Palace of Varieties Ltd are a new Camberwell based events company, drawing inspiration from the halcyon days of the local music halls. Reinstating SE5's bawdy affair with irreverent musicality and theatrical tomfoolery, their inaugural event will be held in February 2013. Visit www.palaceofvarieties.co.uk to find out more and sign up to the newsletter.

Fortean Camberwell

A tour around SE5's folklore, mythology and ghosts

This guide can be read or walked. It makes more sense if walked and, by the nature of the strange clusters of Camberwell, it can be taken as one walk with a longer walk in the middle or two walks – one through Burgess Park and one from Orpheus Street to St Giles Church. Or it can be used as and when you find yourself in certain parts of Camberwell. Enjoy it as you wish!

Burgess Park

Start by getting to the middle of Burgess Park – which is an area of London that is haunted by itself. Have your back to Albany Road and the lake to your left and you'll be looking across or standing on the ground that *Sacrilege*, the inflatable Stonehenge installation by artist Jeremy Deller, occupied on 4th August 2012. Beyond that is the pointless bridge, next to the red toy steam train. The pointless bridge is obviously pointless, as it's steps are blocked off and buddleia blown, but mainly because it crosses a path people walk and cycle down.

The bridge is a relic of the area's past when once all this green space was streets and houses with the Surrey Canal running through it. The Second World War destroyed the area and what is now Burgess Park was left as a breathing space for the choked folk of Southwark. People play football on Longcroft Road and fish on what was once Scarsdale Road and over Brymer Street and Dartnell Road.

Before the bridge became pointless the Surrey Canal ran underneath it and that is where we get our first traditional haunting rather than the relics of old Camberwell. Come along to the park at night and stand by this footpath and you may hear the 'bump, bump, bump' of ghostly children's footfalls and scurrying footsteps. These are long gone children who drowned in

the canal while using it and the boats moored on it as entertainment by hopping between them at night. They died for a lack of a playground and now their sounds hang over one. I was told this story by an artist who said she kept a studio near the park and heard the ghostly pitter-patter of little feet when working late at night. Remember, though, that artists are in the business of creating their own worlds within our worlds.

St George's Church

Turn right away from the revenant canal and walk towards Wells Way and St George's Church. Before you get to the church there's a red brick building with some brilliant stonework on it. The pert mermaids on either side of the doors are the attention-grabber but look to either side of the big door to see sideways faces of a woman on one side and a man on the other being consumed by foliage. These are modern versions of the foliage head, or green man – a popular medieval church decoration that usually has a man's face vomiting leaves. These Camberwell ones are leaves that are vomiting people. The building is a former public bathhouse and the faces on either side are there to demonstrate which door the men and women go through.

Turn right away from the mermaids and leaf-people and head next door to St George's Church. You'll pass a mosaic of the Camberwell



Beauty butterfly, which was discovered nearby, but pass that – we’re seeking stranger, uglier beasts.

You can see St George’s four-pillared spire as you approach. St George’s is the site of a genuine and disturbing mystery – a suggestion that once the church was a den of vampires. On the 4th September 1977 the *Sunday People* reported that raiders had smashed through a wall into the vault of St George’s, 12 coffins were opened and the bodies within strewn about the vault. Coffins were ripped open with what looked like ‘a giant tin opener’, two bodies were beheaded and one had a stake driven into it as if it were a vampire. The attack was described as a commando-style raid. What happened to build up to this?

The World Below

Turn away from the suspected vampires’ nest and cross the road back into the park. Carrying along the main path is an old lime kiln – a squat brick structure with arches. It is another relic from the area’s urban past and it said occasionally to be haunted. I’ve not heard by what, or whether there is a story to the ghost attached, but it feels fitting that two parts of Burgess Park’s past have a ghost attached to them.

Carry on over Addington Square to Camberwell Road, turn right, cross Albany Road and stop at Boundary Lane. There’s a forgotten tunnel beneath your feet with a story. In the 1940’s a tunnel was dug from Elephant & Castle tube to extend the Bakerloo line down to Camberwell Green via a station on Albany Road. The plan was abandoned, the official story goes, with the Victoria line extending to Brixton instead, but there is an alternative version. The 1950s and 60s, with the Korean War raging and the Cold War blowing, was a time with nuclear bombs hanging over it. Walworth and Camberwell Roads, near to Westminster yet in a deprived part of south London, would make an ideal hiding place for secret government bunkers to hide the great and good during a war and the tunnels are already dug, so it is less effort to place a secret base beneath Walworth and Camberwell’s streets. Government, though, requires a lot

The Lion Tamer Meets His End by Sarah Sparkes

more apparatus than a tube train – so how could the base’s construction, in the 1960s, be hidden from spies and any potential irradiated south Londoners wanting a safe haven amongst the great and good? How about building a huge shopping centre and, while it is constructed, filling the tunnels running to Albany Road with the needs of a post-nuclear government? And that, some think, is why the Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre was constructed.

Now turn back, walking back past Burgess Park, down Camberwell Road, through Camberwell Green, and stop when you get to the corner of Denmark Hill and Orpheus Street.

Greek Myth and Ghosts

Orpheus was the seer whose lyre playing and singing was so beautiful it could bring wild animals to sit beside him. He lost his love and travelled to the Underworld to reclaim her. Hades, the lord of the underworld, told him she would return to life with him if he were to leave the underworld without looking back. Just as he reached the gates of the Land of the Dead he did look back and lost his love forever.

I don’t know why this street is called Orpheus Street but, just to be safe when walking down it, don’t look back.

On the corner of Orpheus Street and Denmark Hill was once the Camberwell Palace Theatre, harking back to a time before cinema and television when everyone went to see variety acts and musical hall in London’s countless theatres. It is said that a Lion Tamer was mauled to death here in 1902 when his act went wrong and his bloody, bandaged ghost haunted the theatre until it closed in 1956. The theatre has since been demolished and a new building houses a bank and a chemist, where a ghost could certainly get some fresh bandages.

Bacchus is the Roman god of wine; he is the patron deity of agriculture and the theatre. He was also known as the Liberator (Eleutherios), freeing one from one’s normal self by madness, ecstasy or wine – the ideal god for Camberwell?

You can do a bit of magic with an A to Z. There was a temple to Bacchus where Leadenhall in the City now is: you can see the mosaic of Bacchus riding a tiger in the British Museum.

The *AA Street by Street Extended Map of London*, published in May 2001, actually marks the Temple of Bacchus as if it were a temple and not just an off-licence. Maybe a very well kept and tended off-licence, as this one is, in a place like Camberwell is a temple of sorts.

Cross Denmark Hill again and walk right, heading further down Denmark Hill until you arrive at the grey and brick building and iron railings of the Maudsely Hospital. We'll borrow now from 'gentleman ghost hunter' Elliott O'Donnell's *Casebook of Ghosts* which, like most of his books, contains stories of the author stumbling across folk tales and other people's ghostly encounters and pretending he'd been told them by an unnamed member of the aristocracy while he's sitting in his club.

This story harks back to 1780 with a young housemaid called Rebecca living and working in a lodging house on Fish Street Hill near the Monument. O'Donnell was keen to point out how 'plain' Rebecca was and how entranced by the sort of silly romantic literature that young girls so adore.

She falls in love with a handsome young man lodging in the house but is so shy about it he doesn't notice her, let alone her longing glances at him. When the day comes that the young man leaves the house Rebecca expects a kiss and proposal from the man but, as he leaves, he shakes her hand and tips her a golden guinea.

This sends Rebecca into a screaming frenzy, so maddened by this that she is committed to Bedlam, the mental hospital which, then, was on the site of what is now the Imperial War Museum. She spends her whole life there, never letting go of the golden guinea her handsome young man gave to her, until she dies. As she lies there an unsavoury character prised the guinea from her dead hand and makes off with it.

Rebecca's' ghost then wandered Bedlam, asking for her guinea back, and it seems just as her body could not leave Bedlam neither could her soul – because when Bedlam moved and merged with the Maudsley her ghost came with it. She wanders the area around Camberwell asking for her golden guinea, another lost soul asking for money on Camberwell's streets.

Cursed and Sacred Ground

Walk away from this story until you reach the grassy area on the corner of Demark Hill and Champion Park. If you've just stepped onto the greenery, then sorry: I may have just cursed you by accident. This grassy triangle between Denmark Hill and Champion Hill was discussed by the email list *Talking Folklore*.

There was, it was said, a local tradition that it was a 'plague pit', thus sacrosanct and never built on. But researcher Brian McConnell looked into it and it wasn't a plague pit at all – just a grassy triangle. Further ideas were thrown around. Folklorist Theo Brown had a sort of Romantic + Jungian theory that triangular patches left intact at road forks are what the Greeks meant by the accursed 'trivium' or triple crossroads which got poor Oedipus, it's that demi-god again, into trouble in Hades. There is at least one such grassy triangle in Sussex reputed to have been the site of a gallows.

Flee this area down Champion Park and, as it turns into Grove Lane, keep going until you get to the bottom where Grove Lane becomes Dog Kennel Hill and on your left is Champion Hill. Grove Lane and Champion Hill were two of the many places the 'Peckham Ghost' was seen – a pale figure in a long dark coat with a white lining that terrorised the areas around Peckham in 1872. The 'ghost' would leap out of the darkness of what was then the fields that south London was spreading across and terrify a young girl or drunk musician and then disappear again, occasionally leaping over a high fence. The hysteria created by this figure was so great that mobs in Peckham were reported to have burnt an effigy of the ghost by the railway sidings around Oliver Road. A man was captured and charged, after he was caught throwing dried peas at the window of a house, with being the ghost and although there was little evidence that he was the ghost the sightings stopped once he was arrested.

Walk up Grove Hill Road and turn right to walk up Camberwell Grove. On your right will be Grove Park, turn in and take the next right again. All roads here are called Grove Park. You will see a sign for allotments in one corner. Stop anywhere safe in this road. In the gardens of one of the flats here

lies the possible location of the Camber Well. No one quite knows why Camberwell is named so, but Ladywell and Clerkenwell both have wells so it could be presumed that Camberwell, too, is named after a water source. Further speculation suggested that the word 'camber' can mean 'bent' or 'crooked' so perhaps the Camberwell was a healing well where crooked men and women could go to be cured. This may be sacred, healing ground.

The well itself first emerged when discovered by a Dr Lettsom – 'physician, botanist, Quaker and philanthropist' – who bought his estate in 1776. He put red bricks around the well and garden around the well but it became lost by the 1950s amid the construction of the current Grove Park estate.

Enter, in the mid 2000s, local historian John Chapel who found the well on an ordinance survey map from 1868 and compared it to the original plans of Grove Park. John found the well in the back garden of one Noreen Morrin who, in keeping with being the guardian of a healing well, is a former midwife.

In his website *Britain's Hidden History* John describes finding the Camber Well: 'I was only about two feet out, which shows the incredible accuracy of the maps. Four or five feet under the lawn there was a big void, which was exciting to find. It is possible the well has gone dry but I would be surprised if there wasn't water down there. It will be expensive to excavate but I would love to find out.'

This is not the only mythological origin to Camberwell's name. The other goes back to the legendary origins of Britain itself. After the destruction of Troy, Brutus – next in line to the throne of the now-ruined kingdom – fled and found himself on an abandoned island. Sleeping in a temple to the goddess Diana, Brutus dreamt of a land beyond the Mediterranean he could rule. Setting sail, he landed on the island and named it after himself: Britain. After exterminating the indigenous population of giants Brutus founded his 'New Troy' around about where the Guildhall in the City of London is today. Brutus's son, Prince Cam, is thought to have made his home on the Surrey hills that are now Camberwell. The Brutus myth first cropped up in 9th century

Britain and the idea that the foundations of Camberwell, London and Britain were laid by legendary kings – even ones from the losing side of the Trojan war – is an idea too attractive for medieval chroniclers, the writers of the British Empire and twenty-first century south London antiquarians. As with a lot of historical mysteries, there can never be any conclusive proof against these ideas, and there have been some ancient finds in Camberwell, but the lack of proof against a myth or mystery does not always mean that the mystery is true.

But remember the theory of Camberwell being the place of a healing well? We'll meet someone who suggests this may be true.

The Outsider Saint

Leave Grove Park the way you came in and turn right up Camberwell Grove. Keep walking up until you pass Lettsom Street, named after our philanthropist botanist and well-discoverer, until you come to an alley on your right that leads into the churchyard of St Giles Church. Walk up it and into the churchyard. This path, Churchyard Passage, is haunted: in the 1970s a ghost was seen in clerical cloths and has been seen walking along here since, though the presence seems to have diminished and the last sighting couldn't identify the ghost as a vicar.

Walking around the side of the church you will see some rain-eroded gargoyles on the corner of each turret. A local legend says that these faces are caricatures of the political figures Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord Salisbury, Lord John Russell and abolitionist William Wilberforce. I have asked the current vicar about the gargoyles but he had not heard the legend and there is a similar story told about the stone faces of the houses on Telegraph Hill in New Cross. These are said to be caricatures of the late nineteenth century German royal family; pre-Great War Londoners were often German then.

Perhaps it's the ghost of the curate who moved into the vicarage in 1880 and served this church for 35 year. One of his three children was Rose Edith Kelly who, in 1903, married occultist and self-styled 'Great Beast' Aleister Crowley. She met Crowley through her brother, Gerald, who may also have been one of Crowley's lovers.

It was Rose, while in a trance, who pointed out a statue of Horus to him that was numbered in a Cairo museum as exhibit 666 – this being the number of the great beast of Revelation and a number Crowley had identified with since childhood. Through Rose, Crowley received his famous book *The Book of the Law* but, in keeping with those in touch with magical powers, Rose also took to intoxicants and developed a drink problem. It is as if she could not escape the bacchanalian spirit of Camberwell; after they divorced in 1909 Crowley had her committed to an asylum for alcoholic dementia.

Neil Transpontine, in his brilliant south London blog, found this passage the Great Beast wrote about a trip to Camberwell in his book *Magick without Tears*:

I remember sailing happily in to breakfast at Camberwell Vicarage, and saying cheerfully, in absolute good faith: 'A fine morning, Mr Kelly!' I was astounded at the reply. The dear old gentleman – and he really was one of the best! – half choked, then gobbled at me like a turkey! 'You're a very insolent young man!' Poor, tiny Aleister! How was I to know that his son had driven it well home that the hallmark of English stupidity was that the only safe topic of conversation was the weather. And so my greeting was instantly construed as a deliberate insult!

St Giles Church is a home to other stories. Buried in the churchyard is Lucy Warner, or Wanmer, the 'Little Woman of Peckham', who kept a school in order despite being only thirty-two inches tall. Lucy herself is said to have worshiped at Grove Chapel, the independent church on Camberwell Grove. Local legend has it she ran away from a travelling circus to form her school. Despite her height she lived a long life, dying at the age of 71.

Another outstanding woman of St Giles Church is Agnes Skynner, wife of Richard Skynner, who has a monumental brass in the church. It states that Richard died in 1407 but his wife died in 1499, making her a widow for 92 years. This may make her the longest lived widow in history. Or the brass is worn and is easy to misread.

For the legend of St Giles himself, let's go to the pub.

The Hermit's Cave

Turn left out of St Giles Church. The Hermit's Cave is the pub on the corner of Grove Lane but first walk down Grove Lane to the next pub for a rumour. The pub named *The Crooked Well* speaks for itself but it is a new name: the pub was known as *The Dark Horse* in 2008. There are rumours I've not been able to penetrate about the pub and the secret cult of 'The Horseman's Word' that are said to have conducted strange rites in the cellars of the pub. The initiates may be still among us but, such is the nature of the Horseman's Word, I'm afraid I can say no more. Turn on your heels and walk back up to the Hermit's Cave. London is said to have two saints – St Paul, who is the saint for the rich, and St Giles, the saint for the poor. Camberwell is rich and poor but it seems fair that we are in the Parish of St Giles. St Giles was a hermit who lived in a cave in a forest near Nimes in France. His only companion was a doe who fed him with her milk. One day he was struck by a hunter's arrow that was meant for his deer-friend and refused to have the wound treated: the infected wound would help him focus his mind on the holy.

Giles is often depicted as an old man with an arrow in his leg, living in a cave with a deer for company – as with the pub sign here: the Hermit's Cave. His cult spread rapidly far and wide throughout Europe in the Middle Ages, as is witnessed by the countless churches and monasteries dedicated to him in France, Spain, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Great Britain. St Giles is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers, and the only non-martyr, initially invoked as protection against the Black Death. His feast day is 1st September. Is St Giles crooked-leg our name's origin? Does the well belong to him?

He is the spirit of Camberwell, with its possible healing well, just as much as Bacchus and Orpheus are, and it is fitting to drink to his health is this excellent London pub. A while passed here can often tell you more about the mysteries of Camberwell than any amount of writing can. *Scott Wood is a writer and walks guide who currently co-runs the London Fortean Society.*

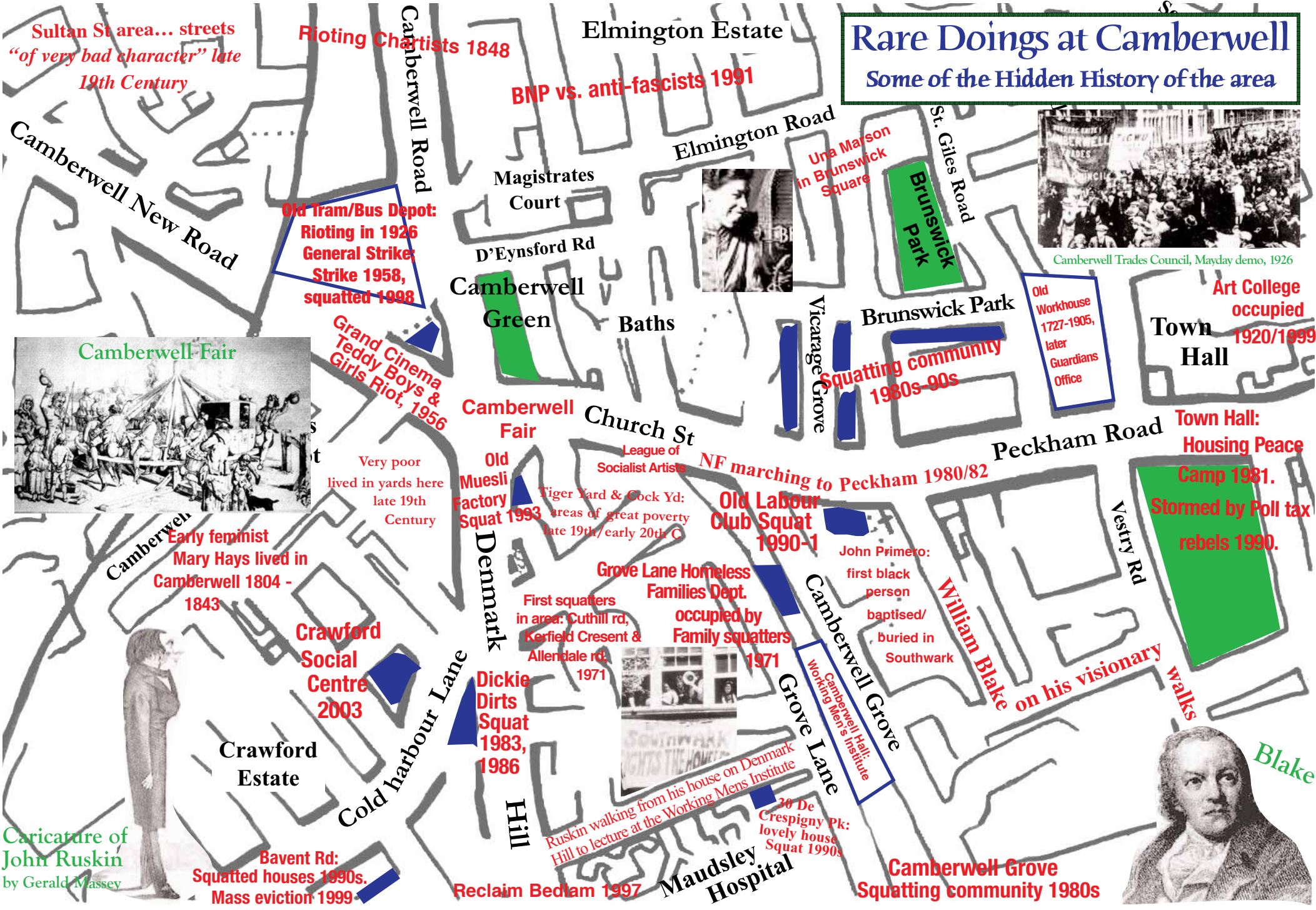
W: forteanlondon.blogspot.co.uk

St Giles & The Hermit's Cave by Ross Clifford



Rare Doings at Camberwell

Some of the Hidden History of the area



Sultan St area... streets
"of very bad character" late
19th Century

Rioting Chartists 1848

BNP vs. anti-fascists 1991

Old Tram/Bus Depot:
Rioting in 1926
General Strike,
Strike 1958,
squatted 1998



Una Marson
in Brunswick
Square



Camberwell Trades Council, Mayday demo, 1926

Camberwell New Road



Camberwell Fair

Grand Cinema
Teddy Boys &
Girls Riot, 1956

Very poor
lived in yards here
late 19th
Century

Early feminist
Mary Hays lived in
Camberwell 1804 -
1843



Caricature of
John Ruskin
by Gerald Massey

Crawford
Social
Centre
2003

Crawford
Estate

Bavent Rd:
Squatted houses 1990s.
Mass eviction 1999

Camberwell
Fair

Old
Muesli
Factory
Squat 1993

Dickie
Dirts
Squat
1983,
1986

Reclaim Bedlam 1997

Church St

League of
Socialist Artists
Tiger Yard & Cock Yd:
areas of great poverty
late 19th/early 20th C

Grove Lane Homeless
Families Dept.
occupied by
Family squatters
1971



Ruskin walking from his house on Denmark
Hill to lecture at the Working Mens Institute

Maudsley
Hospital

NF marching to Peckham 1980/82

Old Labour
Club Squat
1990-1

John Primero:
first black
person
baptised/
buried in
Southwark

William Blake on his visionary
walks



Blake

Brunswick
Park

Squatting community
1980s-90s

Old
Workhouse
1727-1905,
later
Guardians
Office

Art College
occupied
Town
Hall 1920/1999

Town Hall:
Housing Peace
Camp 1981.
Stormed by Poll tax
rebels 1990.

Peckham Road

Working Men's Institute

Camberwell Grove

Camberwell Grove
Squatting community 1980s

Vestry Rd

William Blake on his visionary
walks

“RARE DOINGS IN CAMBERWELL...”

Motto Of Camberwell Fair

CAMBERWELL GREEN

Demos, dissent, disorder C18-now
Once a traditional village green, it has always been a place for public meetings, protests & rowdiness:

• **Camberwell Fair 1279-1855**
Held every August from (at least) 1279 to 1855, originally for 3 weeks. By the 1800s Camberwell had become more urban and middle class and the rural functions of the fair had eroded. It was now only 3 days long, a feast of urban pleasures - and disorder. “For these three days the residents of Camberwell were compelled to witness disgusting & demoralising scenes which they were powerless to prevent”. Finally in 1855 local wealthy residents bought the land, suppressed the fair and turned the Green into a park.

• **Chartists 1840s**
Chartism was the first mass organisation of the industrial working class. It campaigned for the vote for working men & parliamentary reforms; however many Chartists felt they would have to seize power by armed revolt. Chartist meetings were held in Camberwell in the 1840s. On 13 March 1848 a group of Chartists broke away from a mass meeting at Kennington Park, marching to Camberwell. There was a riot: 25 people were brought to trial, including two black men, David Anthony Duffy and Benjamin Prophet. 18 of them were sentenced for 7-14 years transportation and 3 to one year’s imprisonment.

• **WWI anti-conscription 1914-1916**
Camberwell Trades Council campaigned against the First World War. Anti-conscription demos were held on the Green and a bakery set up to distribute bread to local people and provide jobs for conscientious objectors.

• **Unemployed activism 1920s/30s**
The Green was the starting point for National Unemployed Workers movement demonstrations against unemployment & opposing government measures like stopping milk for babies of the unemployed (1922) and the ‘Not Genuinely Seeking Work Clause’ benefit cuts (1927).

In the ‘30s Camberwell Workers Defence Movement agitated against harassment of the unemployed including mass marches, preventing evictions, supporting hunger marchers and passive resistance to public works not given to local unemployed.

• **Far right / Fascists 1980s**
The National Front held marches in 1980 and 1982 from Camberwell Green to Peckham.

• **Bonkersfest 2006**
A one day arts festival celebrating madness, creativity and eccentricity.

TRAM DEPOT (Now bus Depot)

• **General Strike 1926**
Called by the TUC in an unsuccessful attempt to force the government to act to prevent wage reduction and worsening conditions for coal miners. Lasted nine days, 3-12 May 1926. Crowds prevented trams being run from the tram depot opposite the Green. People arrested for putting sleepers across the tracks.

• **Squat 1998**
The depot, then a disused bus garage, was squatted for exhibitions and parties.

CRAWFORD STREET

• **Squatted social centre 2003**
The most recent squatted social centre in Camberwell. Run by Black Star collective, hosted gigs, the Lost Film Festival & a drop-in space.

MAUDSLEY HOSPITAL

• **Reclaim Bedlam 1997**
The Reclaim Bedlam campaign was set up in response to the Bethlehem (“Bedlam”) & Maudsley NHS Trust announcing a “celebration” of 750 years of psychiatry. Many users felt that celebration was inappropriate so protests were held.

GROVE LANE

• **Housing activism 1971**
Southwark Council’s Homeless Families Department occupied by Southwark Families Squatting Association (formed 1970) who had also occupied the Town Hall council chamber and the Walworth Rd Labour Party HQ. This led to a deal with the Council over shortlife housing and the setting up of Southwark Self Help Housing with 30 houses initially.

• **Camberwell Hall, 45 Grove Lane Meeting place 1748-?**
A venue for, among others, the Camberwell Working Men’s Institute. Mentioned in Dickens in *Sketches by Boz*. 1865: John Ruskin spoke there, he lived close by. 1866: a meeting held here of the Freedman’s Aid Society to hail the abolition of slavery in the US.

LOVE WALK

• **John Lawrence lived no 29 1962-2002**
John Lawrence (1915-2002) was an active trade unionist & sometime councillor, a driving force in the London May Day Committee which campaigned for demonstrations on Mayday itself (not, as usual then, the nearest weekend). In the 1970s he wrote for the anarchist journal *Freedom*. He lived in Love Walk from 1962 till his death in 2002.

CAMBERWELL GROVE

• **Squatting Community 1980s**
Many houses in a poor state of repair were squatted from 1983. The spiral staircases were listed so the Council couldn’t knock them down. Some had no hot water: residents went to East Dulwich Baths. Some houses became part of a short life housing coop.

• **no 41: Trades Union Club 1970s**
Housed Southwark Trades Council, Young Socialists etc.

GROVE PARK 1991-1992

Former children’s home squatted, renamed *Groove Park*; formed an arts co-op, café, gigs.

ST GILES CHURCHYARD

• **John Primero 1625**
John Primero, the first recorded black person in Southwark was baptised here in 1607 and buried in 1625.

CHURCH STREET

• **no 84: Labour Club squat 1990**
1990 squatted for gigs and a café. Labour Party tried unsuccessfully to get the police to evict the squatters. Later the squatters went away to a festival and came back to find the Labourites had retaken possession!

• **no. 18: League of Socialist Artists 1971-1975**

A sub-committee of the Artists’ Union, they agitated for a socialist-realist Marxist-Leninist art: “Our art must serve revolutionary politics. We place our art unreservedly at the service of the working class.”

CAMBERWELL ART SCHOOL

1898- today
1920: occupied by the National Unemployed Workers Movement, in their campaign for free use of municipal property (now isn’t that a good idea).
1999: occupied by students protesting at poor facilities and grants. Eight students taken to court.

SOUTHWARK TOWN HALL

• **Housing Peace Camp 1984**
October 8-12 1984 housing activists set up a housing peace camp on the lawn of the town hall. The main focus of the protest was against the council’s introduction of PIOs (Protected Intending Occupier) against squatters to evict them without going to court.

WREN ROAD

• **Harold Moody 1882-1947**
Site of Camberwell Green Congregational Church and Dr Harold Moody’s funeral. Moody was a Jamaican doctor, who lived in Peckham, a prominent civil liberties activist, who founded the League of Coloured Peoples in 1931 with the goal of racial equality around the world. Its primary focus was eliminating the colour bar at work, housing & social life. It was a powerful civil rights force until its dissolution in 1951.

More info at www.past-tense.org.uk

BRUNSWICK PARK & VICARAGE GROVE

• **Squatting Community 1980s-90s**
Many empty houses squatted in the 1980s and set up a community centre and art gallery. Some flats got unofficial licences from the Council. Most evicted 1987 but some in Vicarage Grove not till 1990s.

• **Una Marson lived at 29 Brunswick Square (now Brunswick Park) 1930s**

Jamaican-born feminist, activist, poet/playwright. In Jamaica she worked with Norman Manley in the anti-colonial struggle. Emigrating to London in 1932, Una campaigned on issues such as discrimination in the nursing profession; she also worked with Haille Selassie after Italy invaded Ethiopia, & with Harold Moody in the League of Coloured People (see below). From 1939-1946, she was the BBC’s first black female programme maker.

MAGISTRATES COURT

1979: The Secretary of Southwark Campaign against Racism & Fascism was prosecuted under the Representation of the People Act for a leaflet urging people not to vote for the NF in the general election.
1991: Valentine’s Day “Massacre the Poll Tax” demo for people being taken to court for non-payment.

ELMINGTON ESTATE

• **Anti-fascism 1990s**
In 1991 the British National Party stood a candidate, in the Brunswick Ward council by-election. They were vigorously opposed by local people & Anti-Fascist Action but still managed a march through the estate. Far right and fascist groups have been active in Camberwell over the decades and have always been vigorously opposed - Oswald Mosley’s blackshirts in the 1930s and again in 1957, the BNP in the 1960s and 1980s, the National Front in the 1970s.

CAMBERWELL, SOMEWHERE

• **Mary Hays 1804-1843**
Mary Hays (1760-1824) was an early feminist, writer & friend of Mary Wollstonecraft. Her books include *Appeal to the Men of Great Britain in Behalf of Women* (1798), *Victim of Prejudice* (1799) and the ground-breaking 6-volume *Female Biography* (1803) with explicit feminist purpose: “My pen has been taken up in the Cause, and for the benefit of my own sex”. She grew up in Southwark, moved to Camberwell about 1804 but we don’t know where. She died in 1843 and was buried in Abney Park cemetery in Stoke Newington.

WANDERING THROUGH...

• **William Blake Late C18**
Artisan revolutionary, visionary poet & engraver, author of the lamentably misused utopian song ‘Jerusalem’, Blake lived in Lambeth for many years, often walking through Camberwell. As a child (1767) he had his first vision of “a tree full of angels” on Peckham Rye.

Contemporary Camberwell

Camberwell Green

As well as being great places to walk and enjoy the fresh air, Camberwell's green spaces offer a surprisingly diverse range of activities from all the family.

You can listen to music on the Victorian bandstand at Ruskin Park, play table tennis on Camberwell Green, cook and eat a community breakfast made from locally grown produce at Myatt's Fields or take part in art workshops with Art in the Park at Burgess Park. We've compiled a summary of some of the best things about Camberwell's green spaces, below:

Brunswick Park

Overview

Brunswick Park is a lovely neighbourhood park with a resident albino squirrel named Boris. It was recently awarded coveted Green Flag status.

History

It was originally named Brunswick Square in celebration of the marriage of King George IV to Caroline, the daughter of the Duke of Brunswick, and was intended as a private square for the adjoining residents. It was acquired by the council in 1901 and opened as a public park in 1907.

Facilities

Children's play area
Tennis courts

Activities

The Friends of Brunswick Park organise plantings throughout the year, fetes, Halloween parties, dog-chipping days, coffee mornings and a range of arts workshops and events.

Friends of Brunswick Park

Everyone is welcome to join the Friends of Brunswick Park. Membership is £3 a year for individuals (concessions: unemployed and senior citizens £1). Family Membership is £5 a year and Lifetime Membership is available for £25.

W: friendsofbrunswickpark.org.uk

Burgess Park

Overview

At 46 hectares, Burgess Park is one of the largest parks in South London, and has been recently re-opened to the public after an £8m transformation project.

This has included new walkways, woodland, lawns, BBQ areas and a bridge. The wow factor comes from several new 'hills' which provide panoramic views to the north, as well as two 30ft fountains in the extended lake.

Within the park is Chumleigh Gardens – a world garden that reflect styles and plants from different parts of the world, including African and Caribbean, Chinese, Islamic and Mediterranean gardens. There are also raised beds for community gardeners and school groups to grow their own plants.

History

Burgess Park is an unusual park, in that it was not formed from common land, fields or an old manorial estate, like most London parks. Instead, it rose from the rubble of 19th century terrace housing and factories that were bulldozed after World War II to make way for a new 'green lung'. To give an indication of how much the landscape of the area has changed since the park was built, the park entrance on Camberwell Rd was once underwater – part of the Surrey Canal route.

Facilities

Adventure playground
BBQ area
Café
Car park
Conference centre
Go kart area
Lake
Picnic area
Sports Centre
Tennis Centre
Toilets
Under 5s playground
World garden

Events

Burgess Park runs a diverse programme of events, from outdoor film screenings to art workshops to wild and edible walks. This summer they even had an *Inflatable Stonehenge*, courtesy of artist Jeremy Deller and the *Mayor of London Presents* programme of events. For information about forthcoming events, please visit the Friends' website (details below).

Burgess Park is also home to Art in the Park, an arts education charity who offer a wide range of courses, workshops, events and activities for visitors of all ages throughout the year.

W: artinthepark.co.uk

Friends of Burgess Park

The Friends of Burgess Park are an association of people and other interested groups who are concerned to protect, promote and enhance the park. They meet regularly and welcome new members.

W: friendsofburgesspark.org.uk

Camberwell Green

Overview

Camberwell Green is the historic centre of Camberwell. The Green has been the focus of local life for many hundreds of years, once a market and a trading place, before becoming an area of recreation. Today the centrally located green has a children's play area and table tennis tables.

History

The ancient village of Camberwell had no market place and Camberwell Green was – and in many ways still is – the centre of social activity. From 1279 until 1855 a fair was held every August, to celebrate the Feast of Saint Giles. In 1885 the green was acquired, on a 1000 year lease, now held by Southwark Council, with covenants requiring it to be kept as 'an ornamental pleasure ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Camberwell'.

Facilities

Children's play area
Table tennis
Toilet

Activities

A Farmers' Market is held on Camberwell Green every first and third Saturday of the month. The Green is also a popular space for arts events, including those held as part of the annual Camberwell Arts Festival.

Camberwell Green also marks a half-way meeting point for Largactyl Shuffle walkers – a creative wellbeing, stigma-busting walk, set up by CoolTan Arts in 2006. This is marked by the Largactyl Shuffle Bench Commission on the Green – a sculptural bench, created by artist Rossen Daskalov and based on the theme of reconnecting, with each other and with nature. It is sited next to a Ginkgo tree planted by CoolTan Arts to commemorate World Mental Health Day 2011.

Friends of Camberwell Green

The Friends of Camberwell Green has recently been established. To find out more, please contact Craig Stansfield, Chair of the Friends, by email on cwstansfield@hotmail.com

Lucas Gardens

Overview

Walking down Camberwell Church St, it would be easy to think there was nothing more to Lucas Gardens than a bizarre ornamental rockery. Venture past these strategically

Myatt's Field Park Bandstand by Stephen Jakub



arranged boulders, however, and you'll discover a surprisingly large public park. Lucas Gardens has pleasant wooded gardens, creating an oasis of peace and shade in the middle of the city, as well as large open areas of grassland that are good for a kick-around, pick-nicking and sunbathing. There is also a popular children's playground.

Myatt's Fields Park

Overview

Myatt's Fields Park is everything a London park should be. Not only have the beautiful Victorian features been recently restored, thanks to a £3 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, but there is also an imaginative programme of events, from family sleep-overs to community cooking projects, where people can prepare and eat meals together, often using ingredients grown in the park's greenhouses.

History

During the nineteenth century the Myatt's Fields area was transformed from a collection of fields and market gardens into a populated neighbourhood. In the 1860s, after the Camberwell New Road Station opened, demand for smaller houses increased and the remaining land was laid out for residential use. The risk of over-crowding created demand for a park and the Minet family donated 14 ½ acres to the Metropolitan Board of Works for use as a public park.

The resulting Myatt's Fields Park opened to the public in May 1889 and was designed from the start to combine space for recreation with ornamental horticulture. It was named after the market gardener who previously tenanted the land, Joseph Myatt, and was designed by Fanny Rollo Wilkinson – Britain's first professional female landscape gardener.

Facilities

Café
Community greenhouses
Football pitch
Mulberry Children's Centre
Tennis courts
Victorian bandstand
Victorian summerhouse
Water play area
Wildlife area

Activities

The Myatt's Fields Park Project Group runs a diverse range of activities designed to enable local residents to benefit from the park. This includes food growing groups, lunch groups, breakfast clubs and a One O'Clock Club.

There is also a regular programme of arts events, music on the bandstand and an annual summer sleepover in the park.

Myatt's Fields Park Project Group

The Park Project Group has no formal membership. Anyone who is a local resident and / or park user and supports the aims of the Group is regarded as a member and can be involved. For information about meetings and mailing lists please visit the website www.myattsfieldspark.info

Ruskin Park

Overview

Ruskin Park is a large, scenic park at the top of Denmark Hill, incorporating wide-open spaces for sprawling out in, as well as overgrown spaces for privacy and playing hide and seek. Throw in a Victorian bandstand, children's playground, pond, sports pitches, tennis courts and spectacular views over central London and you have pretty much everything you could want in a park.

History

The park gets its name from John Ruskin, the famous artist, writer and social campaigner, who lived nearby from 1823 to 1871. At the start of the 20th Century local residents campaigned for a new park on 24 acres of land in Denmark Hill, and the famous parks designer J.J. Sexby laid

out the site. Ruskin Park was officially opened to the public on 2 February 1907, but was enlarged in 1910 by adding a further 12 acres of land to the south, which is now used for football and informal exercise.

Ruskin Park contains one listed building, the Portico, which was retained from one of the large houses, No.168 Denmark Hill, that were demolished to make way for the park. Although currently unlisted, the nearby Stable Block is another attractive remnant of the old villa landscape, including many mature trees and plants, which were retained in the park's layout.

Facilities

Bandstand
Children's play area
Dog-free area
Flower gardens
Football pitch
One O'Clock Club
Ornamental and wildlife ponds
Paddling pool
Tennis courts

Activities

The Friends of Ruskin Park run monthly weekend volunteering activities, a popular annual midsummer fair centred on the bandstand plus a wide range of other musical and community events. They also produce a regular newsletter for members with news about the park and the latest events.

Lost Stories of Ruskin Park is an on-going project run by Embrace to increase awareness of the historic and natural heritage of Ruskin Park. It includes a series of poetry writing workshops to connect past and present through the writings of John Ruskin. Find out more about the project at www.ruskinparkproject.wordpress.com

Friends of Ruskin Park

To join the Friends of Ruskin Park or to find out more about their work, you can email them at friendsofruskinpark@googlemail.com

St Giles Churchyard

Overview

St Giles Churchyard is maintained by Southwark Council, rather than the church, these days – but this secluded green space maintains a welcome air of tranquillity and contemplation nonetheless. Although only metres from the buses and bustle of Peckham Road, the park is well protected from the noise of the streets by lines of hedges and mature trees, as well as by the church itself, creating an oasis of calm at the heart of Camberwell.

The Secret Garden

Overview

This delightful community garden has been created by local residents out of a rescued strip of wasteland running between Mary Datchelor Close and a row of shops on Camberwell Church St. The garden is located by the entrance to the estate on Kimpton Road.

The idea of a Community Garden arose as a way to generate greater community cohesion on the estate, and as somewhere to relax and enjoy ourselves, as well as making new friends. Regular planting sessions are held and the garden is open from March – October, Thursdays and Saturdays from 3–6pm.

Everyone is invited to join or simply come and visit. You can find out more, as well as information about opening times and special events at www.camberwellsecretgarden.co.uk

Boules & Debate

The *Boules & Debate* event was part of *Lucky Dip* for the 2012 Camberwell Arts Festival. It was created in collaboration with a collective of locals: Tracy Allen, Simon J Taylor and A.N.Onymous. It was held in Ruskin Park 16–24 June 2012.

For this year's *Lucky Dip* we were allocated any space within the whole of Ruskin Park. After a walk around and some historical research we discovered that the Old Bowling Green was once a popular place for local people to socialise and bowl. Sometime around 1990 the club shut down and the green became disused. More recently it has hosted some horticultural projects including the Labyrinth garden, which has now come to an end.

We then found out that discussions and plans were taking place to revitalise the space in the near future. With this spirit in mind we became inspired and the bowling green seemed to be the most obvious and natural area in the park for us to present our ideas. Re-invigorating this disused social space became our first aim, so we decided to bring the Bowling Green back! Even if just for one week...

Another part of our plan was to collaborate with local people and make visual their opinions and thoughts. They were asked what was on their mind, what they wanted to discuss or talk about and what they wanted to see for their community. Feedback flyers were handed out and close to one hundred responses were collected. Topics varied from Camberwell's diminishing diversity of social spaces, to the expansion of local food growing projects. They were also given an invitation to come down to

the green on June 16th for an inaugural game of petanque, a discussion and a debate.

A selection of words from the responses were stenciled onto the layout of the Labyrinth Garden/The Old Bowling Green. These words reflected a collective of ideas from the local community. The project plagiarized the petanque rules, added some quirky ones, mixing and matching for a bit of fun. Boules sets were brought down and splayed around the green. People were welcomed and encouraged to have a game. Before, during, and after, they chatted about the slogans, sharing ideas and sparking debate. Friends and passers by joined in, played a bit, drank pastis and talked about stuff. And the conversation goes on...

Feel free to post thoughts and comments on the Facebook page: The Old Bowling Green *Boules & Debate*.

Top left: 'Taken in 1971 this shows how the Ruskin Park bowling green was back then. Every Sunday ladies and gentlemen would gather to pass away the afternoon. Then one day they all moved away to the other bowling green and they were never seen again'. David Buckley

Bottom left: 'Bringing it back on inaugural day' photo: Stephen Jakub, 2012



20 Things To Do In Camberwell

Local residents give their top tips for great things to do in Camberwell – whether you're a long-term resident or just visiting for the day.

Start with the perfect breakfast

Whatever your breakfast preference, No67 has it covered, whether its simple toast and jam, healthy fruit and yoghurt, comforting porridge or the full English. If you don't do breakfast, then the brunches are pretty good too – and all served in perfect surroundings.

W: southlondongallery.org/cafe

Check out some art

Love art and culture? It's a short step from No67 to the attached South London Gallery, which offers a dynamic programme of international contemporary art. Next door the Camberwell College of Arts often has interesting exhibitions showing in their foyer exhibition space.

W: southlondongallery.org

Art that Hits the Spot

Explore your creative side at the Sunday Spot – a free family workshop at the South London Gallery – led by artists and exploring themes in the SLG's exhibition programme. Ideal for children aged 3–12 years and their parents.

W: southlondongallery.org/thesundayspot

On Course

Take advantage of having a world famous art college on your doorstep by signing up to one of their specialist short courses, from physical typography to welding to paper conservation.

W: camberwell.arts.ac.uk/shortcourses

Shop for art direct from the artists

Tucked away on a charming cobbled courtyard, just off Camberwell Church Street, Vanguard Court hosts an eclectic range of artists' studios. They host Open Studio events twice a year.

W: vanguardcourt.org

Take a caffeine break

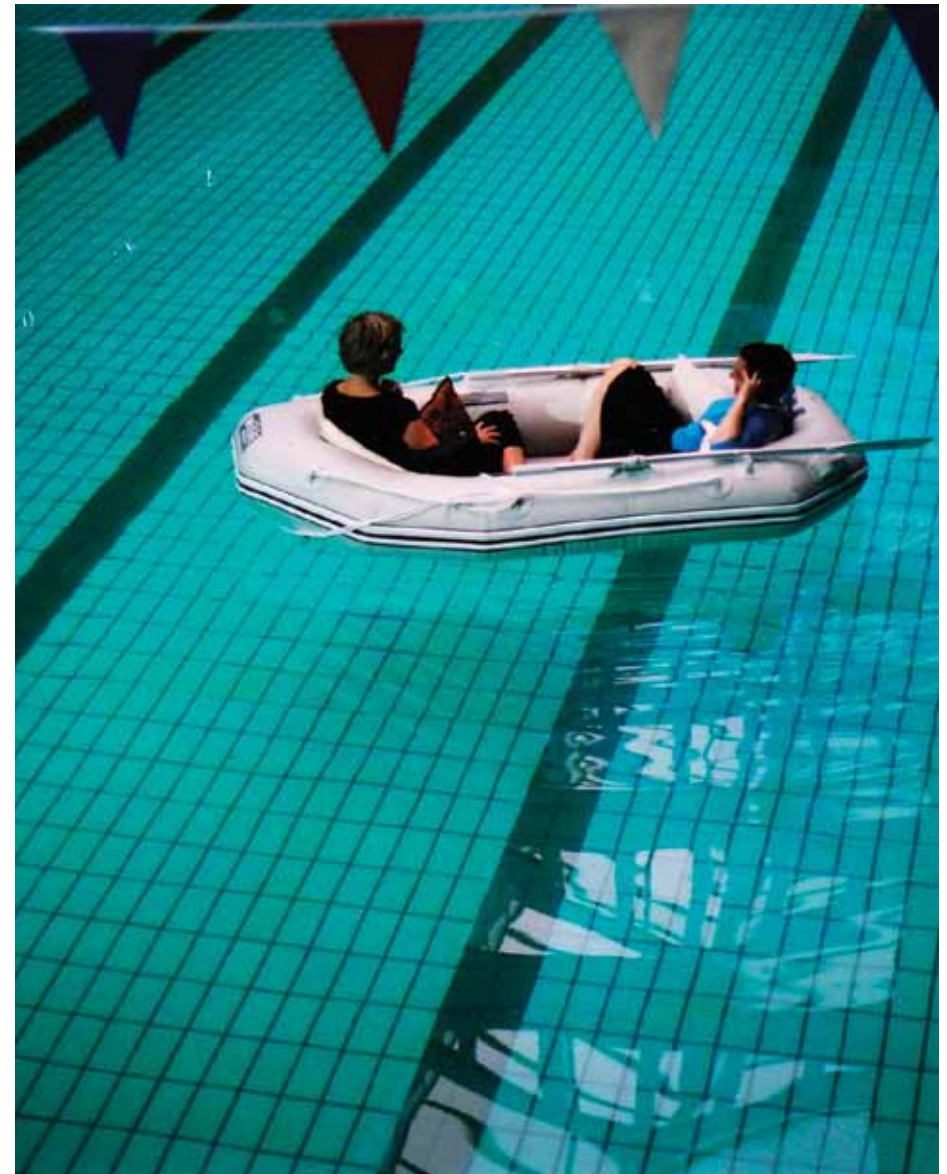
Fuel up with caffeine to keep you going at House Café. They also do a great range in fresh juices and smoothies – as well as offering free wifi, books and magazines for browsing. There's a small gallery downstairs, too, which houses an eclectic and changing programme of exhibitions.

W: house-gallery.co.uk

Swim through history

Enjoy a swim in one of the most beautiful pools in London – a Victorian wash-house that has recently received a modern make-over.

W: fusion-lifestyle.com/centres



drift by Amy Sharrocks. Photograph by Josie Lewis

Step up to the table

Play a game of free outdoor table tennis on Camberwell Green. Bring your own bats and balls – and why not challenge some passers by for an impromptu ping pong tournament?

Tap into some tapas

Perfect for any time of day, Angels & Gypsies offer a range of delicious, bite-sized creations – as well as Mexican street food on weekday lunchtimes. Team up with their impressive wines and sherries for a more leisurely meal.

W: angelsandgypsies.com

Afternoon cocktails

Avoid the evening crowds and sit back with a spectacular cocktail at the Crooked Well. Their friendly, knowledgeable staff make their own infusions and experiment with cordials to create the perfect cocktail for every occasion.

W: thecrookedwell.com

Relax in Ruskin Park

Named after one of Camberwell's most famous residents, this delightful park is full of charm. Take a stroll through the ornamental gardens, feed the ducks in the pond or take in a Sunday concert on the bandstand.

W: friendsruskinpark.org.uk

Get busy in Burgess Park

The newly renovated Burgess Park is the perfect environment for the sports-mad, offering a sports centre, football pitches, cricket pitches, tennis courts, table tennis, fishing permits, a 5k running track and, from 2013, a BMX track.

W: friendsofburgesspark.org.uk

Become a Food Champion

Communal cooking and eating in a beautifully preserved Victorian park – what could be nicer? Meet by the Myatt's Fields Park greenhouses every Saturday from 10.30am – 1pm (or by the café when the weather's good enough).

W: myattsfieldspark.info

Learn about local history

Lambeth Archives is a great local history resource that's open to the public, free of charge. Why not trace your family history or discover the origins of your neighbourhood?

Join a Reading Group

Check out classic and contemporary literature with the Camberwell Library Book Group, which meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

Be part of a choir

Come if you love to sing; come if you think you can't. The Camberwell Community Choir is for everyone who enjoys singing – regardless of musical experience. They meet at the St Giles Centre on Tuesday evenings.

W: musicatstgiles.com/page17.htm

Swing Dance at the Bear

Fun, friendly swing dancing classes with Swing Patrol every Wednesday at the Bear pub. Beginners classes start at 7.30pm followed by intermediate classes at 8.30pm.

W: swingpatrol.co.uk

Get Play-ful

Watch a play at The Blue Elephant Theatre – a great small theatre that produces an eclectic programme of new work across the performing arts, from physical and dance theatre to new writing and revamped classics.

W: blueelephanttheatre.co.uk

Big Plate Chicken

You'll need to bring a few friends to get through the legendary Big Plate Chicken dish at Xinjiang restaurant Silk Road. They also offer medium and small versions for those with smaller appetites.

Hang out at the Hermit

Have a drink with the locals at Camberwell's favourite boozier – one of the most sociable (and most inappropriately named) places in SE5.

Phileas Dogg's Guide to Camberwell

Well, Camber – SE5. My hood.

I am Attlee, aka Phileas Dogg, and I travel the country, with my team of rover reporters, investigating hang outs for hounds. After our investigations we write, on our special keyboards from Computers-4-Dogs-Are-Us, travel reviews of everywhere we've set paw for www.phileasdogg.com. Some establishments are mutterly miserable; others achieve a sought after score on the paws of five. That's the canine equivalent of three Michelin stars.

In some ways, my home patch is very friendly to us hounds. Example – every evening the good burghers of Camberwell throw chicken bones on to the pavement to ensure we do not go hungry the following day. In other ways, it is very unfriendly. Example – I have been kicked by a man for having the temerity to board a bus. Haterz. But we'll skim over that and focus on the good bits: the 99pence store in Butterfly Mall, which is as brimming with treats and toys for dogs as any pet shop; the people in the GX Gallery who welcome me as if I am Charles Saatchi himself, arrived to make a pricey purchase; and the lovely waitress in Wuli Wuli who, even though dogs aren't allowed, once let me lay my head in a broom cupboard while my owner, Jane, scoffed her lemon chicken.

Anyway, booze hound that I am, I was asked to list my favourite Camberwell hostelries, from my four legged, nose to the ground point of view. Here they are, in order of favouritism.

The Phoenix

This is my favourite Camberwell hostelry. I like The Phoenix; my owner Jane likes The Phoenix and The Phoenix likes us. Here's why I like it: I am always provided with a bowl of water within five minutes of my bottom touching the wooden floor. On sunny days, or even on not so sunny days as there is a canopy, I can sit outside at the wooden benches and watch the world go by, creating merry hell if another dog struts paSt

Here's why Jane likes it: the lentil and spinach burger with French fries. This is her latest discovery on The Phoenix's menu. Her previous favourite thing on The Phoenix's menu was the steak and thick cut chips that always came with a big beef tomato. Jane also likes The Phoenix because there is no music playing or television blaring – just chatter. And the décor – there is a big clock hanging from the ceiling. It used to be the railway clock at Denmark Hill station and Jane thinks this is quirky.

The Phoenix always has all the Sunday newspapers available – not just the odd scrappy supplement. This is good because Jane can justify the economic expense of Sunday lunch out by including a free read of the broadsheets (cost for all of them – about £10) in the equation. Oh – the final thing we both like about the Phoenix is that it is open, every day, from 12pm. And it serves food, every day, from 12pm.



No faffing about with kitchens opening here and closing there and then opening again an hour and 37 minutes later: just good food all day. High Paw!

Scores On The Paws – 5/5

The Hermit's Cave

I am not sure about this coming in second place but Jane is pressuring me and threatening me with Chappie for dinner if I don't oblige. She says The Hermit's is a Camberwell institution and as such must be revered. I suppose, in terms of hours spent per week in Camberwell boozers, The Hermit's wins. It is basic. It is no nonsense. It serves good beer for men and women who like ale. There is no food available apart from crisps and nuts. From my point of view this is a good thing. People are careless with crisps and nuts in a way they aren't with sirloin steak and there is always some overspill.

IMHO (in my hound's opinion), however, The Hermit's has a few flaws. For starters, I have never once been offered a bowl of water in the establishment. For mains, there is a French Bulldog in the role of barfly and I don't like the cut of his jib. And for pudding – well, famous actor Dominic Cooper once spotted me chewing Jane's expensive leather glove in the Hermit's. And informed her of the fact, spoiling my fun. Grrr-not-huzzah.

Scores on The Paws – 4/5

The Crooked Well

What a fanfare The Crooked Well has had since its arrival in SE5 – the broadsheets, which Jane reads and I skim the sports page of, talk about it as if it is the only decent place to eat in this nefarious part of London. Prior to its arrival, they had us believe, no sensible-minded dog would set paw in SE5 for fear of their lives. Dog's Bollocks. We might not have a Barks and Spencers or a Wait-wet-nose in Camberwell but we are far from savages.

The Crooked Well is unusual and deserving of applause if only for the fact that we dogs are not relegated to the bar area but allowed to take our places like normal members of society in the restaurant. Take that – haterz. And before the

waitress had even started to explain the extensive wine list to Jane and her dining companion, I had been taken care of, with a proper metal water bowl placed in front of me – not a plastic slops tray as is so often the case.

The restaurant feels upmarket but it isn't stuffy and when I barked – even though Jane had instructed me not to even consider such an act in this rarefied atmosphere – no one reached for the smelling salts. The food – ricotta and something ravioli for Jane and steak for dining companion – must have been good because there was nary a scrap for me. And here I have some advice for the Crooked Well. I am a well-travelled dog and, in many restaurants and pubs in the west of London, they have high quality pigs' ears for canine consumption. This, I would say, is a trend – and a trend The Crooked Well should latch on to.

Scores on The Paws – 4/5

The Tiger

Now I am a big fan of The Tiger and the reason for that is simple: Jane doesn't like the food in The Tiger as much as she likes the food in The Phoenix. The Tiger's equivalent of the lentil and spinach burger is the cumin spiced chickpea burger and, sayeth she, it doesn't compete. So in The Tiger there is a good chance of a chunky home cooked chip coming my way.

I also like the décor in The Tiger. It is what is referred to as shabby chic. Basically this means lots of old stuff lobbed together in a haphazard fashion. And old stuff smells good. Of course, to a biped's nose, The Tiger smells normal. But to me, with my superior canine snout, The Tiger smells goooooood. Antiques and old books and dusty lampshades have much to tell one with my olfactory power.

My only complaint – and Jane's too – is that when the football is being shown on the large screen in the left alcove of the pub it can be very noisy. And it's a shame because when the football isn't on, The Tiger has excellent music taste – for a cat.

Scores on the Paws – 3 and 4 fifths/5

Attlee's travel website is at

www.phileasdogg.com

He is on Twitter @phileasdogg

Pub Crawl

Where to start?

One of the many pleasures of Camberwell, for me, are its brilliant boozers – timeless taverns that are as deeply connected with the area's cultural identity as buses, art students and pound shops.

Throughout London, the social institution of the pub is being threatened: turned into flats, knocked down or, worse still, bought up by characterless chains. Yet somehow Camberwell has managed to cling on to a wonderful, diverse array of proper pubs.

Despite this, I realise that – like so many of us – I am guilty of taking for granted the rich cultural heritage on my doorstep. I have become lazy, centring my social life round the same small number of pubs that I know and love. To remedy this, I have agreed to take on the challenging task of taking a pub crawl through Camberwell and attempting to write about it afterwards. It's tough work, but somebody's got to do it.

To help me look at my local boozers with a fresh eye, I've invited some friends who don't live locally – and rarely venture south of the river – to join me on this arduous task. They are long overdue a visit south of the river and this is my chance to show them Camberwell at its best.

We meet at Denmark Hill station and don't have far to go to kick things off: the Phoenix is part of the station itself. Like its mythical namesake, this characterful pub rose from the flames of the great Denmark Hill Station fire

and remnants of the building's original character – including the impressive station clock – provide a great backdrop for boozing.

From there, we walk past the Salvation Army's training college (one of the most disapproving looking structures ever built) towards the Fox on the Hill. You've got to give Camberwell some credit: even the Wetherspoons pubs have character here. With its large beer garden – perfect for families and sunny days – it's hard to believe you're socialising on the site of an old plague burial ground.

The pub is conveniently sited close to Kings Hospital but we have no need of that yet and walk past it down Denmark Hill to the Joiners Arms. This is the best place for live music locally: we haven't timed our visit too well, as it's still a bright and sunny day and the dark backroom definitely comes into its own at night with the music turned up loud and the lights turned down low. But we stop for a quick game of pool (it's one of the few pubs in Camberwell with a table), admiring the tile work in the front room when we order.

Next stop is the Tiger, on the edge of Camberwell Green. Somewhere beneath the beautifully boho, shabby chic exterior lies the ghost of the Silver Buckle – a pub that once boasted the roughest reputation in Camberwell.

Found image by Tracy Allen

Borough of Camberwell.

Physical Deterioration and Alcoholism.

The Report of the Committee, presented to Parliament by command of His Majesty, states that—

The abuse of alcoholic stimulants is a most potent and deadly agent of physical deterioration.

Alcoholic persons are specially liable to tuberculosis and all inflammatory disorders. Evidence was placed before the Committee showing that in abstinence is to be sought the source of muscular vigour and activity.

The lunacy figures show a large and increasing number of admissions of both sexes which are due to drink.

The following facts recognised by the Medical profession are published in order to carry out the recommendation of the Committee and to bring home to men and women the fatal effects of alcohol on physical efficiency :—

- Alcoholism is a chronic poisoning, resulting from the habitual abuse of alcohol (whether as spirits wine or beer), which may never go as far as drunkenness.
- It is a mistake to say that stimulants are necessary for those doing hard work; this can usually be done better without alcohol.
- Alcohol is really a narcotic, dulling the nerves like laudanum or opium. Its first effect is to weaken a man's self control while his passions are excited: hence the number of crimes which occur under its influence.
- For persons in ordinary health the practice of drinking even the milder alcoholic drinks apart from meals is most injurious.
- The habit of drinking to excess leads to the ruin of families, the neglect of social duties, disgust for work, misery, theft and crime. It leads also to the hospital, for alcohol produces the most various and the most fatal diseases, including paralysis, insanity, diseases of the stomach and liver, and dropsy. It also paves the way to consumption, and frequenters of public-houses furnish a large proportion of the victims of this disease. It complicates and aggravates all acute diseases; typhoid fever, pneumonia and erysipelas are much more fatal in the subject of alcoholism.
- The sins of parents who have drunk to excess are visited on the children
- In short, alcoholism is the most terrible enemy to personal health, to family happiness, and to national prosperity.

G. WILLIAM TAGG, Town Clerk.
J. R. TOMKINS, Mayor.
FRANCIS STEVENS, Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall, Camberwell, August, 1905.

Where now people sup fine wines and peruse gourmet menus, the bare knuckled ghosts of the Silver Buckle fight on...

It's tempting to stop for a second in this charming pub but we have strict rules and more pubs to see. Plus the Hermit's Cave is just around the corner on Camberwell Church Street and if ever there's a pub to lure you in, this is it. The Hermit's Cave is a Camberwell institution: it's difficult to describe its charms beyond saying that this is the kind of London public house that students at Kingston University were talking about when they applied to UNESCO to give World Heritage status to the London pub.

By now, we are definitely in need of some sustenance to soak up the booze (this is, after all, an academic assignment) and where better to fuse good food and drink than the Crooked Well on Grove Lane? Since opening a year ago, the pub has pulled in all kinds of plaudits, from the Independent, Time Out and the like (some of it slightly too flattering: there were restaurants that provided knives and forks in Camberwell before, you know). Our meal fortunately lived up to its reputation and, most importantly, the wine list is impressive and the cocktails perfect (we had some time to kill before the meal arrived).

Some of us are starting to show the strain and the next stop allows the faint-hearted to order a reviving cup of coffee: the Grand Union is the kind of pub where such behaviour is deemed acceptable. The pile of games in the back room makes this a good place for families though right now there is only a scholarly (and mercifully silent) game of draughts going on.

Back on Camberwell Church Street we head to the Recreation Ground, which has a DJ to add ambience. For those that hold an NUS card, there is also the option of going to the upstairs student bar, the Wreck. I suspect the days when we could pass for students are long gone, so we stay downstairs, where we are now drunk enough to dance.

We're possibly a little too drunk for our next stop, the Stormbird – opposite the Hermit's Cave – which serves an impressive range of eye-wateringly strong beers, lagers and porters. Common sense tells us that we should order nothing but water; however, the bar staff are

so charming and knowledgeable about all those beers we've never heard of that we end up falling for a Yeti Imperial Stout at – I kid you not – 9.5%.

I don't remember what happened after that. I don't think we made it to the remaining pubs on my must-do list – the Bear and Old Dispensary on Camberwell New Road and the Cambria near Loughborough Junction being key amongst them (rounded off with a nostalgic tour past the late, great Sun and Doves). They will have to wait for another occasion. For now, Camberwell's pubs have defeated us...

The Phoenix

Windsor Walk, SE5 8BB
T: 020 7703 8767

Fox on the Hill

149 Denmark Hill, SE5 8EH
T: 020 7738 4756

Joiner's Arms

35 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
020 7701 1957

The Tiger

18 Camberwell Green, SE5 7AA
T: 020 7703 5246

Hermit's Cave

28 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8QU
020 7703 3188

Crooked Well

16 Grove Lane, London SE5 8SY
T: 020 7252 7798

Grand Union

26 Camberwell Grove, SE5 8RE
T: 020 3247 1001

Recreation Ground

65 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8TR
T: 020 7277 2601

The Stormbird

25 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8TR
T: 020 7708 4460

A Gourmet Guide

Camberwell's many excellent restaurants and cafes reflect the rich mix of people that live in the area. We've created a gastronomic journey – *Around Camberwell in Eight Cuisines* – to help you take in the full flavour of the area. The restaurants listed below represent our personal favourites but are by no means the only or best restaurants in Camberwell. For more details about where to eat locally (and for contact details for the restaurants listed below), please refer to the Directory section of this Guide.

African

Canaan Restaurant

163 Camberwell Road

A good value West African restaurant where you can dine well off substantial soups, yam, rice and bean dishes – washed down by palm wine – for less than £10 a head. Their speciality is their soups (more like a thick stew), such as Edikang Ikong Soup, Afang Soup, Efo Riro Okro Soup and Ogbono Soup, and their pounded yam is delicious dipped in these. For smaller appetites, the restaurant also offers snacks, such as meat rolls, puff puff, meat pies and chin chin.

Red Sea Restaurant

85 Camberwell Road

This restaurant offers an intriguing mix of Eritrean and Italian food. Whilst I have yet to try any of the Italian options on the menu, the Eritrean food was delicious, fun and sociable. If, like me, you enjoy eating with your fingers and sharing food, then you will enjoy Eritrean food. At the core of the meal are enjerras – communal pancake-like bread that you tear pieces off and use to pick up your food before wrapping it and eating it. Most of the main dishes are accompanied by delicious side orders of chickpea puree, spiced lentils, mixed vegetables and a cabbage, spring onion and garlic combination.

British

No67

67 Peckham Road

'An ace caff with quite a nice gallery attached' (to borrow a phrase). Where else in South London can you see work by leading contemporary artists as you digest your bacon and eggs? No67 is popular locally for its breakfasts – and now its dinners (British with Mediterranean influences) are starting to get plaudits too. The home baked cakes aren't bad either.

The Crooked Well

16 Grove Lane

It has become such an established part of the Camberwell dining scene that it's hard to believe they only opened up a year ago. In that time, they've garnered great reviews from the Observer, Independent, Time Out and the Telegraph, to mention just a few, and are more than living up to the hype. Their signature rabbit and bacon pie is well worth a try, as is the pork belly and pretty much everything else on the menu. The décor is informal but elegant; their staff are friendly, knowledgeable and helpful; the cocktails are pretty great too.



Caribbean

Amaryllis Bar and Kitchen

66 Coldharbour Lane

It has one of the best selection of rums you're likely to see in London, with 40 different brands from all over the Caribbean. It also offers a great mix of traditional British pub food, such as fish and chips, with West Indian classics, including duck curry and jerk chicken. Vegetarians are also well catered for and in the summer months they hold great barbeques in the beer garden.

Chinese

Lamoon

39 Denmark Hill

An elegant restaurant that provides a welcome refuge from busy Denmark Hill. The menu mixes traditional and creative contemporary Chinese dishes at reasonable prices. The restaurant is family-run and their service is friendly and welcoming. It must also be the most child-friendly restaurants in Camberwell: the very cute (and beautifully behaved) toddler-in-residence indicates their commitment on that front.

Silk Road

49 Camberwell Church St

Silk Road is so unpretentious and cheap that it's hard to believe they regularly receive rave reviews in the likes of Time Out and the Observer – until you taste the food. No ordinary Chinese restaurant, Silk Road serves food from Xinjiang, which is similar to Sichuan food but with less pork (Xinjiang's Turkic Uighur Muslims are the area's largest minority) and more lamb and cumin (a legacy from the Silk Road that ran through the area, transporting silks and spices from east and west). Popular dishes include pork dumplings – made fresh all day they are delicious and ridiculously cheap at only £3 for 10 – and the big-plate chicken – a savoury chilli broth. Once you've eaten all the sizeable chunks, a waiter obligingly dumps a load of hand made noodles to soak up the remaining broth – a bit like mopping up your dinner with bread but more tasty.

European

Angels and Gypsies

33 Camberwell Church St

A popular tapas restaurant that combines Spanish classics, such as such as Ibérico ham and tortilla, with more imaginative creations, including spatchcocked quail in a brandy-flavoured cream sauce, chicken hearts with pesto and swiss chard. To drink, there's an interesting selection of wines, sherry and cava as well as an extensive list of rums from South America and the Caribbean. The décor is cosy yet stylish: a mix of exposed brick walls, Spanish tiles and stained glass with whole hams hanging everywhere.

Caravaggios

47 Camberwell Church St

A Camberwell classic: a great local Italian restaurant that opened in 2007 but feels like it's been here forever (in a good way). Relatively unassuming from the outside, it's warm and welcoming inside, with friendly service, low

Left: No67 café at South London Gallery. Photo: Andy Stagg
Opposite: Dine Well at the Crooked Well



prices, generous portions and delicious food. As well as the standard pastas and pizzas you'd expect, they have a great meat and fish menu. It's also a good place to come for coffee during the day.

Johanssons **2-4 Grove Lane**

A café by day and a Swedish restaurant by night – not a combination often encountered. Both are excellent: the café is a popular place for lunch and coffee, particularly in the summer when you have the option of eating outside in their delightful, leafy garden. The switchover to Swedish restaurant occurs with the minimum of fuss and the evening menu is big on fish, as well as more exotic options, such as reindeer. Popular items include sea bass, pan-friend fillet of mackerel, reindeer terrine served with lingonberry compote and dill sauce (a Scandinavian classic) and warm goats cheese and beetroot salad with toasted pine nuts. The food is simple, fresh and delicious (as well as healthy) and the service friendly.

Greek

Vineyard Greek Taverna **3-5 Camberwell Grove**

Can be found at the end of leafy Camberwell Grove and is a firm favourite with locals, pre-dating most of Camberwell's other decent restaurants. When the weather allows, it's a great place to sit outside and watch passers-by as you sample meze, moussaka, meatballs and more. It's a popular place with Camberwell's Greek Cypriot community, which is always a good sign, and the prices are reasonable.

Indian

New Dewanium **225a Camberwell New Road**

A bustling neighbourhood curry house popular locally for its beautifully presented dishes and extensive menu. It's a spacious restaurant with a raised area for large groups. They are happy to cater for large parties and sometimes have live entertainment for special occasions. Overall, the restaurant has a friendly atmosphere and

is a good place to enjoy an Indian meal with friends and family or pick up a takeaway on the way home.

Turkish / Kyrgyz Kazakh

FM Mangal **54 Camberwell Church St**

Offers some of the best kebabs you will ever eat – and I say that as a vegetarian. Whilst my carnivorous companions swooned over their mixed grill (huge quantities of blackened lumps of meat that turned out to be succulently pink inside) I was equally entranced by the complementary bowl of onions and garlic cloves, charcoal-grilled and served with an intriguing pickle juice. As is often the case with Turkish food (maybe it's a vegetarian thing), I didn't make it beyond the meze but their hummus, grilled Cypriot cheese and deep-fried vegetables were all excellent.

Pasha **158 Camberwell Road**

London's only Kyrgyz Kazakh restaurant and an experience not to be missed. Housed in an unpromising location, surrounded by newsagents and fast food outlets, the journey through Hotel Pasha to the restaurant is a surreal and somewhat Tardis-like experience. Once you've negotiated the endless corridors and crossed the little stream (I kid you not) into the restaurant it's hard to believe you're still in Camberwell. Choose a night with belly-dancing or sword swallowers, opt for floor cushions rather than chairs and the transformation is complete. Just sit back and gorge yourself on simple, traditional Central Asian dishes, such as kasan kebab, beef stroganoff and marinated herring, or opt for more familiar Turkish dishes such as dolma and imam biyaldi.

Tadim **41 Camberwell Church St**

This popular café and restaurant is currently undergoing renovations but locals look forward to it re-opening soon. It's a relaxed and comfortable place for Turkish pastries, mezzo and full meals.

Café Culture

Exploring is all well and good, but sometimes we need to take it easy. Camberwell's cafes offer a mix of interesting places to while away an hour or two as you get your caffeine and cake fix. A couple even come with galleries attached, so you can get some culture without having to move too far.

No67

67 Peckham Road, SE5
T: 020 7252 7649

W: southlondongallery.org/cafe

No67 is the cafe attached to the revamped South London Gallery. As you might imagine, the décor is stylish and the ambience arty and laid back: you can sit outside at the front and watch the world go by or opt for the serene garden at the back; inside, you can choose between the old-fashioned parlour feel of the front room or the light and contemporary annexe with its communal table. These stylish surroundings also come accompanied by some pretty great coffee and home made cakes, as well as one of the best lunch menus around if you're up for a full meal.

House Café

70 Camberwell Church Street, SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7358 4475

W: house-gallery.co.uk

A bright, airy café serving what many people consider to be the best coffee in Camberwell, House also offers free wi-fi, a selection of magazines and books for browsing and a contemporary gallery downstairs. Their food range is limited to sandwiches and salads, but these are freshly made and appetising. The cakes and smoothies are pretty good too.

Johanssons

2 Grove Lane, London SE5 8SY
T: 020 7701 4944

W: johanssons.co.uk

Café by day and Scandinavian restaurant by night, Johansson's is a friendly, rambling café spread over the ground floor of a Georgian property. It also has an enchantingly overgrown and secluded garden for those rare warm days. Free wi-fi is an added bonus as is the fact that it's licensed all day, so you can opt for a lunchtime lager or glass of wine if you're in the mood.

Love Walk Café

81 Denmark Hill, London, Greater London SE5 8RS
T: 020 7703 9898

Love Walk Café is a great place to sit and watch the world go by. Situated on the corner of busy Denmark Hill and the quieter and beautifully named Love Walk, this café is popular with locals for Saturday brunch and is well used by staff from the nearby hospitals during the week. The coffee is good as are the breakfasts and sandwiches and the prices are very affordable.

A Young Person's Guide

If you're looking for something to relieve the boredom of teenagers and toddlers alike, then Camberwell offers a wealth of distractions for young people. This will be improved during 2013 with the opening of the new Camberwell Youth Centre at the Camberwell Leisure Centre. This will be open Monday to Friday and will include a purpose built music studio for young people. Until then, you might want to check out some of the following:

Art

The South London Gallery (SLG) provides a range of activities and events for young people of all ages. Arts Assassins, the SLG's young people's forum, is led by young people aged 13–20 and meets every Thursday. They run their own events and activities based around the SLG's exhibition programme, as well as contributing to the Louis Vuitton Young Arts Project – an annual summer academy. The Sunday Spot is a regular Sunday afternoon drop-in workshop aimed at younger children aged 3–12 years and their parents or guardians. Workshops are led by artists and explore themes in the SLG's exhibitions.

T: 020 7703 6120

W: southlondongallery.org

Art in the Park is a charity devoted to enriching Londoners' lives and environment through visual arts. They run art and performance based education and training workshops and are involved in community, studio and public art projects. Their well-resourced studios and training space are located in the centre of Burgess Park, and run by a team of experienced and talented artists. They run a range of after-school workshops for young people: check out their website for their changing programme.

W: artinthepark.co.uk

Drama

The Blue Elephant Theatre holds regular drama classes for young people. Participants work towards a performance at the end of each term at the Blue Elephant Theatre to an invited audience of parents and carers. Young people get to be part of a company devising their own work as well as performing from scripts. They meet on Saturdays and have the following age banded sessions:

10–11am, 7–11 years

11.15am – 12.15pm, 7–11 years

1.30–3.30pm, 11–14 years

4–6pm, 14+ years

T: 020 7701 0100

W: blueelephanttheatre.co.uk/young-peoples-theatre

Theatre Peckham offers an open access weekly workshop programme in dance, drama and singing for young people from 3 upwards. Last year they delivered almost forty classes for thirty weeks – and more than 150 accredited and in-house exams and assessments in performing arts (with a 100% pass mark in all disciplines).

Their Theatre Peckham's Apprentice Actor scheme aims to bridge the gap between child or student performances and professional work. Participants aged 16+ have the opportunity to

perform alongside a professional cast and get paid an expenses allowance.

T: 020 7708 5401

W: theatrepeckham.co.uk

Music

Camberwell Choir School is a community music project for children and young people aged 0-18. They meet on Saturdays during term-time and have the following age banded sessions.

10.30am-11.00am Mini Music 0-3 year olds
1.00am-12.00 noon Music Club 4-6 year olds
12.00 noon-1.00pm Juniors 7-9 year olds
1.30pm-2.30pm Seniors 10-16 year olds

Although they were set up as a church project by the Church of England parish of St Giles with St Matthew, and are still supported by the church, they now welcome children of all faiths and none. There is no specific religious teaching. They charge just £1 per child per week, which includes a healthy snack.

W: camberwellchoirschool.org.uk

Sport and outdoor

Camberwell Leisure Centre offer a comprehensive learn to swim programme working in partnership with the Amateur Swimming Association's (ASA) National Plan for Teaching Swimming. They also offer one-to-one swimming lessons for children and adults. Call 0844 893 3888 for more information.

Burgess Park offers a range of sporting activities and coaching sessions for young people, soon to be supplemented by a BMX track in 2013:

U16 football training: the team plays in the London Saturday Youth Football League and practices on Thursdays from 4-6pm. For further info call 020 7820 8200.

Burgess Park Colts Cricket Club (BPCCC): the club have been playing in the North, East & Central Surrey Colts League since 1999. The club is open to young people, of all cricketing abilities and provides opportunities to play cricket competitively or for fun, improve cricket

skills and awareness of the tactical aspects of the game.

W: burgesspark.play-cricket.com

Southwark Tennis Club: Be Active Social Enterprise deliver regular coaching programmes during the term and school holidays. Typical cost is £45 for a 1 day per week term time training programme. Call 020 7703 4275 for further information or check out the website.

W: southwarkcitytennisclub.org.uk

Myatt's Field Park has a purpose built children's centre, the Mulberry Centre, which houses the park's One O'Clock Club on Monday, Tuesday and Friday as well as other activities for children, including:

Nature Active Under 5s

NaturActive is a activity based session focused around Nature and conservation. It aims to encourage young children to feel comfortable in an outside environment. Be warned: children are encouraged to get dirty outdoors as well as participate in recycled crafts and learn about their natural environment.

Family Breakfast Club

This happens every Friday morning from 9-10:30am. Children and parents/carers cook and eat breakfast together. No need to book and all families with children under five are welcome.

W: myattfieldspark.info

Ruskin Park hosts a One O'Clock Club from Monday – Thursday, 1–4pm. One O'Clock Clubs offer free fun activities for children under 5 and their parents, as well as holding special events throughout July and August.

Bethwin Road Adventure Playground offers a wide variety of activities, including trips, camping, snooker, table tennis etc. 020 7703 4281

Youth Clubs and Youth

Camberwell Youth Council is part of Southwark Youth Council. If you're aged between 13–19 and interested in influencing local decision-making, then the Youth Council provides a voice for young people run by young people. They hold events and workshops as a way for young people to express their views and take those views to the decision makers.

W: whtvr.org.uk

Cambridge House Young People's Project

(CHYPP) offers creative, social and non-formal educational activities for young people aged 11–19 in the borough of Southwark. Working in partnership with local, voluntary and statutory organisations, they offer young people the opportunity to maximise their potential and develop their life skills. As part of this process, they provide:

- Youth clubs on Crawford and Elmington (Poets Corner) Estates in Camberwell
- Residential trips to enhance the social and personal development of members
- Accreditation opportunities
- Traineeship Programme for young people aged between 16 and 24 years old
- Youth Empowerment Panel for members to contribute to service design and delivery
- Volunteering opportunities for young people to deliver our youth services alongside trained youth workers

YOUTH CLUB DAYS

Poets Corner: Wednesday, 6.30–9pm
1a Londor house, Camberwell Road, SE5
(Behind Edwards Bike shop)

Crawford: Friday 6.30–9pm
Crawford Tenants Hall, Crawford Estate,
SE5 9EW

For further information contact Cambridge House:

T: 020 7358 7000

W: ch1889.org/youth

Drop in Centres

Kids Company offers a multi-disciplinary children's centre in Lambeth, South London, which supports up to 2,000 children and young people aged between 0 and 23. The centre provides a comprehensive package of care to vulnerable young people, most of whom refer themselves or are referred by their peers. All of their practical and emotional needs are met on site by a team of keyworkers, social workers, youth offending workers, teachers, employment advisors, psychologists, occupational therapists, nurses, alternative health therapists, arts therapists, and a GP. The centre also offers after school sports, art, music and drama clubs, and arranges trips out in evenings and holidays.

1 Kenbury Street, SE5 9BS

T: 020 7274 8378



Street Training by Lottie Child. Photograph by Richard Eaton

A guide to CAMBERWELL'S

"ANY SCOOP FOR A POUND!"

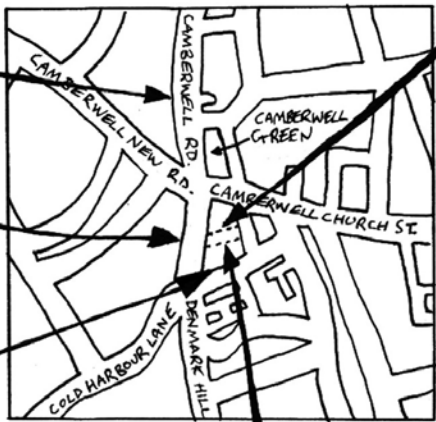
several vegetables for a pound (scoop not included)

PHARMACY

Not a proper pound shop, but it does display an extensive range of soaps for a pound.

...ETC.

Expect a good old-fashioned greeting on the door and a collection of heart-warming cut-price items, including marbles, scented candles, compost, and bingo dabbers.



99p Store

Any shop that you walk into and are at once confronted by a plastic brain on a paper tray is a winner with me!



A perfect mix of cut price brand names and random things that you never knew you wanted.

BARGAIN EXPRESS

I bought an umbrella here 18 months ago and it still works! Come here for their large range of low cost homeware that can be readily glued onto garments or accessories to instantly and affordably make yourself look like a Dr. Who monster.

This season's fashions... GET 'EM BEFORE THEY GO!

It's Halloween!
What's scarier than a skeleton hand?
a GIANT skeleton hand!

DOGGY ADVENT CALENDAR
Perfect for anyone who loves Christmas and eating dog biscuits.

BBQ IN A CAN
Easily heated in the microwave during those rainy winter months. Mostly suitable for vegetarians

~~EURO 2012~~
~~JUBILEE~~
~~OLYMPICS~~
~~PARALYMPICS~~
new football season
PARTY FLAGS AND CUPS

FrogMorris 2012

POUNDSHOPS



Pick of the pound shops...

2 SHOE HORNS FOR ONE POUND
Take both shoes off at the same time with this fantastic pair of shoe horns. Also works as a double back scratcher if you have two backs.
99p Store

BIG JAR OF THOSE PICKLED CHILLI PEPPERS OFF THE TOP OF A DONNER KEBAB
99p Store.

CELEBRITY MASK

These masks featuring mostly unrecognisable faces are the ideal disguise for any celebrities who don't want to get recognised when hanging out on Camberwell Green. Etc.

WIRE KITCHEN-ROLL HOLDER
Turn this on its side to make a super lazer gun attachment!
Bargain Express.

IT'S BANANA O'CLOCK!
Ever wondered which fruit to eat at which time of day? Problem solved with this **FRUIT CLOCK!**
Bargain Express.

BLUE BRAND CIOKO CAKE
99p store.

CAULIFLOWER
Any scoop for a pound.

FEATHER DUSTERS
Bargain Express

BENDY GIRAFFE
99p Store

DECORATIVE LIZARD
99p Store

MAX HOFFMAN BREAD BAGS
Throw away those inconvenient plastic bags that your bread comes in and use these branded MAX HOFFMAN™ plastic bags instead.
99p Store.

Shopping in Camberwell

Contrary to much public opinion (including, it has to be said, much local opinion) Camberwell is a great place to shop. There's a lot more to the area than the poundshops and bookies of public opinion: you just need to be prepared to look beyond the obvious.

Some of Camberwell's best shops are not the best-looking. If you're prepared to look beyond the surface, then there's some incredible bargains to be had, as well as an impressive diversity of products and ingredients. For the smart shopper, Camberwell offers a cornucopia of comestibles from around the world.

Camberwell's shops have all the elements that make for a great London neighbourhood: a well-stocked greengrocers; a decent bakery; an independent record shop; an art bookshop; bespoke clothing shops – not to mention a useful cluster of chemists and stationers.

To add to the mix, there's now a Farmers Market, held on Camberwell Green on the first and third Saturday of every month, where you can buy fresh locally-grown produce.

You can also buy directly from some of the many artists and craftspeople that have studios in the area. You can find out more about their work through *Made in Camberwell*, an online directory that provides images and information about local artists, craftspeople and designers www.camberwellarts.org.uk/madeincamberwell.

To get you started on your Camberwell shopping experience, we've listed a few of our favourite shops below. There are many other great shops in the area, of course, and details about these can be found in the Directory.

99p Store

**8–10 Butterfly Walk, Denmark Hill, SE5 8RW
T: 0207 703 7261**

You can while away hours in here, just marveling at the things that someone, somewhere (quite possibly China) decided to make. The Camberwell 99p store is cavernous, offering an incredible array of items for less than a pound – some of which are genuinely practical.

Camberwell Superstore

**32–34 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7703 1357**

This might look like any other newsagent but the unexpected addition of a DIY store in the basement means that local residents can buy ladders, drills and much, much more until gone midnight. It's also an off-license, so you can give yourself some Dutch courage before embarking on those midnight home improvements.

Capital News

9 Camberwell Green, SE5 7AF

Another generic looking newsagent that offers more than it initially promises, Capital News has an impressive stock of magazines, including obscure art and lifestyle publications.

Kamera Obscura. Photograph by Steph Singer



Cruson Greengrocer

26 Camberwell Church Street SE5 8QU

Crusons is a well-loved local greengrocer – the kind of place that makes you wonder why you ever go to a supermarket for your fruit and veg.

Cowling & Wilcox

8–12 Orpheus Street, SE5 8RR

T: 020 7703 1342

The largest art supplier south of the river, Cowling and Wilcox also stock a range of creative gifts, with an inventive craft range for kids. It's also a great place to pick up flyers about local exhibitions, life art classes, workshops etc.

Edwardes

221–225 Camberwell Road, SE5 0HG

T: 020 7703 5720

A family-run business that has been selling bikes in Camberwell for over 45 years, Edwardes offers a wide range of bikes and biking paraphernalia. They will also order bikes in, make repairs, etc.

Fowlds

3 Addington Square, London SE5 7JZ

T: 020 7703 2686

With one of the most picturesque workshops in London, Fowlds look every inch the master upholsterers their sign proclaims them to be. The business has been in the Fowlds family since 1870 and they now specialize in reupholstering and recovering traditional and modern furniture.

Kamera Obscura

235 Camberwell New Road, SE5 0TH

W: kameraobscura.com

Kamera Obscura is the label of Martine Abate, a London-based couture dress designer with a reputation for bold and original design, including bridal wear. They always have eye-catching window displays and, once inside the shop, clients get to leaf through fabric swatches, drawers of beads and overflowing boxes of trimmings to ensure they get exactly what they want.

Pesh

31 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS

W: peshflowers.co.uk

A beautiful oasis on Denmark Hill, Pesh Flowers has been at the heart of Camberwell for over 50 years. They create simple, stylish arrangements from a wide range of British-grown flowers and also offer plants and small gifts for sale. Pesh Flower School has proved a popular addition.

Rat Records

348 Camberwell New Rd, SE5 0RW

W: ratrecordsuk.net

Rat Records is a record lovers paradise and has been part of the Camberwell landscape for over 23 years. Established by expert vinyl dealer and collector, Tom Fisher, it has eclectic and regularly updated stock at affordable prices.

Sophocles Bakery

24 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8QU

This long-established Camberwell favourite sells delicious cakes and deserts, from bakewell tart to baklava, shamali to cinnamon bread. They stock a great range of breads, including olive bread, tahini bread, halloumi bread as well as sliced white.

United Super Store

Camberwell Church St, SE5

This looks like any other neighbourhood grocery from the outside, but it offers a great range of groceries, including African and Caribbean products.

Wing Ta

52–55 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS

T: 020 7737 6788

Camberwell shoppers have no need to travel to Chinatown when they have this cavernous, well-stocked Chinese supermarket on their doorstep. Wing Ta offers dried ingredients including tea tree mushrooms and white fungus, packaged ingredients such as nian gao (New Year rice cake), and fresh fish and chinese vegetables such as morning glory.

Where to Stay

Church Street Hotel

29–33 Camberwell Church Street, SE5 8TR

T: 020 7703 5984

W: churchstreethotel.com

The restrained exterior of Camberwell's very own boutique hotel gives no hint of what lies inside. The gold-painted altar for the reception desk gives a clue, as do the intriguing icons and artworks that lead you up the staircase, opening onto bedrooms in rich, vibrant colours. There is free wifi throughout, Mexican tiles line the bathroom, the Havana lounge has a 24 hour honesty bar and the hotel tapas restaurant, Angels & Gypsies, has been a big hit locally since opening in 2009.

Fiona Duncan, of the Telegraph, described it as 'Individual, eclectic, unusual, refreshingly different and well thought out... a Cuban/Mexican fantasy in Camberwell.'

Rates

Prices range from £70 for a single with shared bathroom to £160 for a family riple with en-suite bathroom.

New Dome Hotel

51/53 Camberwell Church St, SE5 8TR

T: 020 7703 5262

W: thenewdomehotel.co.uk

The New Dome Hotel is a small, friendly budget hotel, offering good value for London. All rooms are en-suite and have colourful bedlinen, a decent amount of storage space and satellite TV. There is wifi throughout, at an extra charge. The hotel restaurant serves a traditional Indian menu with a variety of vegetarian options available. Continental and full English breakfasts are also served daily.

Rates

£65 – £95

Pasha Hotel

158 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0EE

T: 020 7277 2228

W: pashahotel.co.uk

The Pasha Hotel is a comfortable, contemporary 3* hotels that welcomes its guests with Turkish / Kyrgyz hospitality, including a cup of Turkish tea on arrival. The hotel boasts a Turkish hammam steam bath and a stylish roof terrace as well as a Turkish / Kyrgyz / Kazakh restaurant serves a unique menu in cosy surroundings. Room features include free Internet connection and a flat-screen TV with satellite channels.

Rates

£70 – £120

36 Reasons to Love Camberwell

Tom Leighton introduces his local photography project that celebrates his favourite Camberwell venues.

You can see all 36 photos at www.tomleighton.co.uk/36reasons

You can also say what you love about these places by going to the Facebook page www.facebook.com/36ReasonsToLoveCamberwell or tweet @photosbytomtom with the hashtag #36Reasons

The idea for 36 Reasons To Love Camberwell started when I got to know the people in the United Superstore, or 'Africa' as I know it (I mistakenly called it the United Africa Store when I first went there). In March this year, I was walking down Camberwell Church Street on the way to Africa with my wife talking about doing a photo and we started to wonder what other photos I might do as well. I came up with a list of 36 places that I love in Camberwell, and a photography project was born.

I was also fed up of people moaning about how there was nowhere to shop in Camberwell, that it's all bookies, 99p stores, mobile phone shops and nail bars. Not only is this incorrect but even if it were true, it seems more of a middle-class gripe about how Camberwell isn't like East Dulwich (thank God I say!) than a genuine reflection of the reality. There are relatively few chain stores in Camberwell and yes, these independent stores may not look like boutiques, and may look a bit shambolic, but they are fantastic places to visit, with (mostly) lovely, warm and friendly people in them. I agree that the saturation of bookmakers has no place on the high street, but for the rest of them these are successful businesses and do very well thank you very much.

That is not to say that I visit all of the nail bars very often (in fact I never have), but 36 Reasons To Love Camberwell is a personal snapshot of

the places I love in Camberwell and visit. The criteria for inclusion was that I know the people in the photos and that I like visiting there. Since the exhibition in June 2012 I have got to know a lot of these people even more and hopefully it has encouraged other people to go out and look beyond the facades of these places.

If you look at the whole series you may notice that there are quite a few bars and restaurants on the list. One thing almost everyone agrees on is that Camberwell is a good food lover's heaven. The quality of restaurants, cafes, bars and pubs here is astonishing and should be celebrated, preferably in the Hermit's Cave with a pint of Shrimpers.

Speaking of the Hermit's Cave, this is where I held the exhibition in June 2012 during the Camberwell Arts Festival and where the photos are now back on display for the foreseeable future. During the festival, they became a real talking point for people and I hope that this continues.

The next few pages are a taster of the photos and what I love about Camberwell. You can see all the photos at www.tomleighton.co.uk/36Reasons, where you can also buy the book of the series and limited edition prints (each edition is limited to 36. Obviously!).



Maria and Aris from Cruson, 26 Camberwell Church St

Aris is an institution in Camberwell. He's been here, every day it seems for 40 years. I wish I had a gran like Maria. I come here for fruit, veg and flowers and to be called young man.



Vera and Maire from the Hermit's Cave, 28 Camberwell Church St

My second home. When I walk in, I don't even need to ask. A pint of Shrimper's gets poured (in a proper glass with dimples and a handle too). Maire and Brendon and everyone at the Hermit's bent over backwards to help get the exhibition up and running. If the Hermit's Cave goes, Camberwell will fall.



Faizel from *United Superstore*, 14 Camberwell Church St

This is the reason the project started. My favourite shop in Camberwell. I never get out of here in less than ten minutes as we always end up chatting for ages. And it's cheaper than the supermarkets too. Free range eggs for £1.09? A 5kg sack of onions for 50p? Don't get that in Tesco.



Alby and David from *House Gallery*, 70 Camberwell Church St.

I come here for the coffee (it's the only place I'd drink a cappuccino). It's also my unofficial office and a great place to relax.



Navid and Kemal from *Flying Fish*, 55 Camberwell Church St

The best Haddock and Chips, battered sausage and mushy peas you'll find this side of the Watford Gap.



Everton from *Master Mechanix*, 10 Camberwell Station Road

What can I say about Everton? He looks after our campervan, and provided the sounds at our wedding. He's a star.

Local resources

If you're interested in finding out more about Camberwell, here are some great local organisations and resources to start you off.

Local history

Cuming Museum

The Cuming Museum is the home of the worldwide collection of the Cuming Family (one time residents of Camberwell) and the museum of Southwark's history. It houses a diverse collection that includes archaeology, ethnography, social history and natural history.

151 Walworth Road, SE17 1RY

T: 020 7525 2332

E: cuming.museum@southwark.gov.uk

Lambeth Archives

Lambeth Archives is a great local history resource that's open to the public, free of charge.

Whether you want to trace your family history, discover the origins of your neighbourhood or look at the records of Lambeth Council, their staff will guide you through their great collections of historical material.

Lambeth Archives, Minet Library,

52 Knatchbull Road, SE5 9QY

T: 020 7926 6076

E: archives@lambeth.gov.uk

Southwark Local History Library

Camberwell is split across 2 boroughs, so you may want to access archives for both boroughs. Southwark Local History Library holds an interesting range of local history information, including copies of most printed books on the history of the area; pamphlets and periodicals produced by local organisations; microfilm holdings of local newspapers from 1856 to the present; maps, videos; illustrations; press cuttings and other ephemera. Their helpful staff are happy to guide you through their collection.

Southwark Local History Library,

John Harvard Library, 211 Borough High Street, SE1 1JA

T: 020 7525 0232

E: local.history.library@southwark.gov.uk

Looking Forward

Camberwell Society

The Camberwell Society was formed in 1970 and is the recognised amenity society for those living, working or interested in Camberwell. The Society's objectives, as defined by their constitution, are: to stimulate public interest in Camberwell; to promote high standards of planning and architecture in Camberwell; to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Camberwell.

W: camberwellsociety.org.uk

SE5 Forum

The SE5 Forum is a grassroots, non-political, umbrella organisation that exists to work for the improvement of Camberwell to benefit all members of the diverse local community. The Forum was set up to be the eyes, ears and voice of the community, to see and understand what is happening within the area, to listen to concerns and raise them with the relevant organisations. Everyone is welcome to join or attend meetings addressing issues such as local transport infrastructure, local regeneration plans etc.

W: se5forum.org

South London Guide

This online guide to South London's history, restaurants, shops, cafes and pubs is regularly updated and includes a section on Camberwell.

W: southlondonguide.co.uk/camberwell/index.htm

Local blog

Camberwell Online

Get inside local information from Camberwell Online – a popular and informative local blog described as 'a place for free and spirited exchange on anything with even a tangential connection to the South-East London district.'

W: camberwellonline.co.uk

Local promotion

Camberwell is Cool

Camberwell is Cool is a branding campaign: an umbrella to unify the activities, events, facilities and opportunities Camberwell offers. It is a vehicle that aims to generate pride in the district and engage with the wider community. The campaign is driven by the SE5 Forum for Camberwell through the Camberwell Business Network. It has recently received funding from Southwark Council from the Community Regeneration Fund to develop a year long calendar of events for Camberwell, which will see a new film festival for Camberwell in 2013 as well as support for the annual Camberwell Arts Festival, the 2nd Camberwell Food and Drink Festival and a new initiative for Camberwell – the Palace of Varieties Ltd. They are also in the process of creating an online Guide for Camberwell.

W: camberwellcool.com



Camberwell Directory

Whether you want to dine or to drink, to purchase unusual gifts and unique outfits, to keep fit or get your nails done, Camberwell is home to a wealth of shops, services and amenities.

We've selected a few of our favourites to get you started, below, and would love to hear your suggestions for future editions of the Camberwell Directory at info@camberwellarts.org.uk

Cafés

No67

67 Peckham Rd, SE5 8UH
T: 020 7252 7649
W: southlondongallery.org/cafe

Café Bay

5 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
T: 020 7703 2531

Eroma

16 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RZ
T: 020 7274 2772

House Café

70 Camberwell Church St,
SE5 8QZ
W: house-gallery.co.uk

Johanssons

2 Grove Lane, SE5 8SY
W: johanssons.co.uk

Johnnies Café

104 Coldharbour Lane, SE5
9PZ

Jungle Grill Café

20 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QU
T: 020 7703 4838

Little Cat Café

Myatt's Fields Park, SE5 9RA
W: littlecatcafe.wordpress.com

Rock Steady Eddie

2A Coldharbour Lane
SE5 9PR

Tadims

41 Camberwell Church St
SE5 9PZ
T: 020 7708 0838

Dining

No67

67 Peckham Rd, SE5 8UH
T: 020 7252 7649
W: southlondongallery.org/cafe

Amaryllis Bar & Kitchen

66 Coldharbour Lane, SE5 9PU
T: 020 7274 0188

Angels & Gypsies

29-30 Camberwell Church St,
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7703 5984
W: angelsandgypsies.com

Buddha Jazz

119 Grove Lane, SE5 8BG

T: 020 7737 1888
W: buddhajazz.co.uk

Camberwell Tandoori,

117 Wyndham Rd, SE5 0UB
T: 020 7277 0854
W: camberwelltandoori.co.uk

Canaan Restaurant

163 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HB
T: 020 7703 0201

Caravaggios

47 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7207 1612

FM Mangal

54 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7701 6677
W: fmmangal.net

Happy Valley Chinese Takeaway

160 Southampton Way, SE5
7EW
T: 020 7703 7516

Indiaah

59 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
T: 020 7252 4846

JJs

137a Southampton Way, SE5
7EW
T: 020 7703 3761
W: jjcaterers.co.uk

Johanssons

2 Grove Lane, SE5 8SY
T: 020 7701 4944
W: johanssons.co.uk

**Kazakh Kyrgyz @ Hotel
Pasha**

158 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0EE
T: 020 7277 2228
W: pashahotel.co.uk

Lamoon

39 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
T: 020 7708 5668

New Dewaniam

225a Camberwell New Rd,
SE5 0TH
T: 020 7703 1941
W: new-dewaniam.co.uk

Nivla Restaurant

51 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0EZ
T: 020 3490 4918

Noodles City

21–22 Camberwell Green
SE5 7AA
T: 020 7277 2020

Pappadom

219 Camberwell New Rd
SE5 0TJ
T: 020 7735 8176
W: pappadom-camberwell.
co.uk

Patty Island

40 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8QZ
T: 020 7701 1555

Red Sea

85 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0EZ
T: 020 7277 4494

Safa

Camberwell Church St, SE5
8QU
T: 020 7701 6004
W: safarestaurant.com

Silk Road

49 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8TR
T: 020 7703 4832

Su Thai

16a Coldharbour Lane, SE5
9PR
T: 020 7738 5585
W: suthai.co.uk

Wuli Wuli

16 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8TR
T: 020 7708 5024

Zeret Kitchen

216–218 Camberwell Rd, SE5
0ED
T: 020 7701 8587

Drinking

The Bear

296a Camberwell New Rd,
SE5 0RP
T: 020 7274 7037
W: thebear-freehouse.co.uk

Black Sheep

Camberwell New Rd, SE5 0RS
020 7735 9990,

The Cambria

40 Kemerton Rd, SE5 9AR
T: 020 7737 3676

Corrib Bar

181 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HB
T: 020 7703 4007

Crooked Well

16 Grove Lane, London SE5 8SY
T: 020 7252 7798
W: thecrookedwell.com

Flying Dutchman

156 Wells Way, SE5 7SY
W: flyingdutchmanlondon.com

Fox on the Hill

149 Denmark Hill, SE5 8EH
T: 020 7738 4756

Grand Union

26 Camberwell Grove, SE5 8RE
T: 020 3247 1001
W: grandunionbars.com/
camberwell

George Canning

123 Grove Lane, SE5 8BG
T: 020 7274 1527

Hermit's Cave

28 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8QU
020 7703 3188

Hoopers

28 Ivanhoe Rd, SE5 8DH
T: 020 7733 4797
W: hoopersbar.co.uk

Joiner's Arms

35 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
020 7701 1957

Old Dispensary

325 Camberwell New Rd, SE5
0TS
020 7708 8831

Nags Head

242 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0DP
T: 020 7703 7604

Nollywood

319 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HQ
T: 020 7701 1155

Prince of Wales

49 Knatchbull Rd, SE5 9QR
T: 020 7733 0876

The Phoenix

Windsor Walk, SE5 8BB
T: 020 7703 8767
W: thephoenixwindsorwalk.
co.uk

Recreation Ground

65 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7277 2601
W: recreationground.co.uk

The Stormbird

25 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7708 4460
W: thestormbirdpub.co.uk

The Tiger

18 Camberwell Green
SE5 7AA
T: 020 7703 5246
W: thetigerpub.com

Internet cafes

Ayoyemi

226 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0ED
T: 020 7998 7082

**Bam Bam Business
Solutions**

143 Camberwell New Rd
SE5 0SU
T: 020 7735 5111

Global Crest Services

207 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HG
T: 020 7252 4300

Mundo Services

58 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7703 5295

Salons

Alberto Hairdressing

15 Camberwell Green, SE5 7AF
T: 020 7703 9179

Alfred's Gents Hairdressing

12A Coldharbour Lane,
SE5 9PR
T: 020 7737 3385

Asante Barbers & Cosmetics

215 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HG
T: 020 7703 3101

**Chicago Barbers &
Hairdressers**

167 Southampton Way
SE5 7EJ
T: 020 7703 8598

Crown & Glory

16 Coldharbour Lane, SE5 9PR
T: 020 7744 7341

Exotic Unisex Salon

342A Camberwell New Rd,
SE5 0RW
T: 020 7733 6200

Finesse Unisex Salon

34 Wyndham Rd, SE5 0UH
T: 020 7703 0360

Gabby's Unisex Hair Salon

52 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7701 8100

Hair Shack

78 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7708 0497

Headnizm

23 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7252 6349

Hiikuss

222 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0ED
T: 020 7701 6478

Ikon

38 Wyndham Rd, SE5 0UH
T: 020 7277 1269

Indian's Unisex Hair Salon

82–84 Coldharbour Lane
SE5 9PU
T: 020 7733 0873

Merrygold Barber Salon

76 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QZ
T: 020 7252 5374

Raffles Hair Salon

106–108 Denmark Hill
SE5 8RX
T: (0) 20 7733 4114

Slick Rick

219 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HG
T: 020 7277 1667

**Standout Hairdressers &
Barbers**

46 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8QZ
T: 020 7358 4590

**Art supplies,
printers,**

Bright Printers and

Stationers
46 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RZ
T: 020 7738 5017

**Cowling & Wilcox – art
suppliers**

8–12 Orpheus St, SE5 8RR
T: 020 7703 1342

GX Gallery

43 Denmark Hill, Camberwell,
SE5 8RS
T: 020 7703 8396
W: gxgallery.com

Snappy Snaps

Butterfly Walk, Denmark Hill,
SE5 8RW
T: 020 7703 3488

South London Gallery Shop

65–67 Peckham Rd, SE5 8UH
T: 020 7703 6120
W: southlondongallery.org

Charity shops

Cancer Research UK – chart
Butterfly Walk, Denmark Hill,
SE5 8RW
T: 020 7701 2500

Scope
42 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RZ
T: 020 7274 2392

Chemists

Butterfly Pharmacy
17 Butterfly Walk, Denmark
Hill, SE5 8RW
T: 020 7708 0907

Davis Chemists
10 Crossthwaite Avenue,
SE5 8TU
T: 020 7274 9902

Day Lewis Chemist
13 Camberwell Church St,
SE5 8TR
T: 020 7703 2489

Junction Pharmacy
182 Coldharbour Lane,
SE5 9QH
T: 020 7274 7599

Kember & Lawrence
10–11 Camberwell Green,
SE5 7AF
T: 020 7703 3947

Opticians

Rodneys Opticians
7 Camberwell Green, SE5 7AF
020 7703 3615

Complementary Medicine

**Herbal Source Chinese
Medicine**
352b Camberwell New Rd,
SE5 0RW
T: 020 7095 8886

Hwato Clinic
132 Benhill Rd, SE5 7LZ
T: 020 7771 1389

Maya Homeopathic Practice
5 Love Walk, SE5 8AD
T: 020 7787 0821

**Traditional Chinese
Medicine & Acupuncture**
315 Camberwell Rd, SE5 0HQ
T: 020 7703 8198

Couture

Kamera Obscura
235 Camberwell New Rd
SE5 0TH
T: 020 7703 9021

Cyclists

Bob's Cycles
9 John Ruskin St, SE5 0NS
T: 07961 102 072

Edwardes
221–225 Camberwell Rd, SE5
0HG
T: 020 7703 5720

DIY

Camberwell Superstore
32–34 Camberwell Church St,
SE5 8QZ

Howard Brothers
4a Coldharbour Lane, SE5 9PR
T: 020 7274 8091

Electronics

S&S Electronics
37 Camberwell Church St, SE5
8TR
T: 020 7703 9969

Florists

Pesh
31 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS
T: 020 7703 9124

Food

Cruson Greengrocer
26 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QU

Crusty Loaf Bakery
158 Southampton Way
SE5 7EW

Margaret's Cakes
224 Camberwell Rd
SE5 0ED

Sophocles Bakery
24 Camberwell Church St
SE5 8QU

Spice & Nice
8a Coldharbour Lane, SE5

Record Shops

Rat Records
348 Camberwell New Rd,
SE5 0RW
T: 020 7274 3222

Camberwell Mesostic by Daniel Lehan

the crypt
silver lake
hermits cave
temple of bacchus
the recreation ground
jungle grill cafe
denmark food & wine
vineyard
patty island
ice land



Cultural

1. Blue Elephant Theatre
2. Camberwell College of Arts
3. Camberwell Leisure Centre
4. Camberwell Library
5. GX Gallery
6. Minet Library and Archives
7. South London Gallery
8. Theatre Peckham

Artists' studios

9. ASC Studios
10. Clockwork Studios
11. Coldharbour Studios
12. Vanguard Court

Green spaces

13. Brunswick Park
14. Burgess Park
15. Lucas Gardens
16. Myatt's Fields Park
17. Ruskin Park
18. St Giles Churchyard
19. The Secret Garden

Hotels

20. Church St Hotel
21. New Dome Hotel
22. Pasha Hotel

Other

23. Camberwell Police Station
24. Kings College Hospital
25. Institute of Psychiatry
26. Maudsley Hospital

Transport information

Camberwell is well served by public transport, with frequent buses passing through Camberwell from South East and Central London and trains running from Denmark Hill and Loughborough Junction stations. The Overground line is now also running from Denmark Hill Station.

Buses to Camberwell

From Elephant & Castle: P5, 12, 35, 40, 45, 68, 148, 176, 468, 171

From Oval (bus stop C): 36, 185, 436

From Brixton: 35, 45, 345

From Lewisham: 185, 436, 484

From Liverpool St: 35, 42

From New Cross: 171, 436

From Peckham: 12, 36, 345, 436

From Victoria: 36, 185, 436

From Euston: 68

From Kings Cross / St Pancras: 45

From Waterloo: 68, 171, 176

The nearest tube stations are Oval, which is on the Northern line, and Elephant & Castle, which is on the Bakerloo and Northern lines.

The nearest train stations are Denmark Hill, Loughborough Junction. Elephant & Castle and Peckham Rye stations are also close to Camberwell.

Camberwell is in Travel Zone 2.

For more detailed journey planning go to www.tfl.gov.uk



SWIM by Amy Sharrocks. Photography by Ruth Corney

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www.camberwellarts.org.uk



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