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TIMEOUT.COM/LONDON August 2020 No.2593

**'A one-off who changed our world'**

Tony Elliott: 1947-2020

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in no time at all

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# Hello, London

**Caroline McGinn**  
Global Editor-in-Chief  
@carolinemcginn



It's *really* good to see you again. For five long months we've been Time IN – streaming art, music and theatre, keeping fit with drag stars, cultivating sourdough starters, celebrating lockdown heroes, and getting fat and drunk on deliveries from the city's fine restaurants and bars. Like them, we've turned what we do outside in, to survive and to bring a bit of solidarity and fun to Londoners. Local lockdown spirit has been irrepressible. But despite all our efforts, Covid-19 has punched the lights out of the West End and turned live music and nightlife into endangered species. It's also kicked the heart out of shared experience: the live, tactile, collective contact that creates new feelings and ideas, and starts every relationship you ever have. This stuff is not optional for city life (or human life). Zoom can't replace shared tapas or a boat party at sunset. Contactless cards are safe, but a contactless life is deadly.

Which is why Time Out and London need YOU. Now. This is a pivotal moment for our culture and for us as Londoners – we've made sacrifices, lost jobs, learned to live with uncertainty. I'd like to invite you to join us in a quest to bring the city we love back to live, connected life. If you spot something new, inspiring, collective or just weird tell us ([hello@timeout.com](mailto:hello@timeout.com)). And please subscribe to our new newsletter – a biweekly love letter to London and an indispensable guide on how to go out and connect in the time of corona. We'll dedicate Time Out to championing live culture, performers and venues as they start up again. We'll be parking reviews for a while: cafés and restaurants need our custom not our criticism. We'll be documenting the new localism – neighbourhoods are where it's at right now. And we'll keep you updated about new stuff, and how to support the little guys via our Love Local campaign. In a crisis, city cultures are like petri dishes, one moment they look empty, suddenly they're teeming with new life.

We've been inspired at this moment of crisis and change by an extraordinary person: our founder, Tony Elliott, who died in July from cancer (see the feature on p20). This issue, our first print magazine since Covid, is dedicated to his life and legacy. Tony was a visionary, a tireless champion of city culture, and a staunch friend. He invented Time Out in London in August 1968, a moment not unlike the one we're in now. Society was divided. Change was afoot. Upstart events, art, performance and happenings were bubbling up – if you could only find out where and when. Over 52 years, 328 cities and countless languages and formats, Tony's desire to connect people with events has led millions to engage with cities, shared experiences and each other.

Tony: we salute you! You can rely on us to keep up your good work.

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# City life

Edited by Isabelle Aron  
@timeoutlondon



## London's back: damaged, quieter but also kinder

After months in lockdown, our city is reopening. There's no doubt that things are different, but are some changes for the better? *Joe Mackertich* explores our New Normal



**WHAT WAS YOUR** immediate reaction to lockdown? I'm not proud to admit that mine was 'annoyed'. Annoyed at the universe for unleashing a devastating pandemic at such an inconvenient time for *me personally*. Being made editor of Time Out just as all of London's restaurants, pubs and venues shut felt like getting a job as chief dodo correspondent or manager of the chocolate teapot factory.

My grotesque self-interest was fleeting, however. It vanished as I watched a coffin being carried out from my next-door neighbour's house. Annoyance was replaced by something new: fear. Fear for my parents. Fear for my friends. Fear for my city.

ILLUSTRATION BY NINA MAYES

Make no mistake: London has suffered a serious blow. But like a York Hall prize fighter who won't stay down, it rises from the canvas, battered but not beaten. Something has changed, though. This city has been humbled. Even the estate agents look a little bit less cocksure.

Warped within the crucible of illness, London has emerged with new, positive qualities. People are supporting local businesses and, judging by the surge in donations to food banks, looking out for the vulnerable. Covid has ravaged the capital, but it has also produced a quieter, gentler, kinder city. Some of us are even chatting to our *neighbours*, unthinkable only four months ago.

My advice: find a mask that complements your eyes, accept that sneezing in public is now a

horrifying taboo and get used to having the waxy, over-washed hands of an embalmed chimp. Remember also: no one knew how this would pan out. We all have that one friend who, in April, was mentally prepping for The Fall, asking which you'd do: join a gang of scavenger cannibal bikers or begin a new life off the grid in Norfolk. Having to book a table for a pint down the pub is a pain, but it's a small price to pay to save lives.

Covid is an absolute shitter, but it won't beat London. Nothing ever does. Our New Normal isn't perfect, but as long as we look out for each other, take a bit of extra care and, yes, occasionally even talk to the people next door, we will create a different London that we'll be still proud to call our home. ■

## SHE'S A LEGEND



### 'Lockdown gave me time to think bigger about my work'

The youth worker changing the lives of Black queer young Londoners

**FOR NEARLY TEN** years, youth worker Tanya Compas has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Black queer young people. She's created spaces for them to meet, connect and access resources. During lockdown, amid the Black Lives Matter protests, she decided to start a programme called Exist Loudly. Having raised more than £100,000 through crowdfunding, she's now on track to launch her own charity.

**I've been a youth worker since I was 18.** My first taste of working with young people came from a gap year in Peru where I was the 'big sister' to 13 young boys in an orphanage. Now, my focus is on helping Black queer young people who are experiencing homelessness.

**I've got first-hand experience of being homeless.** At 26, I wasn't able to stay in my family home when my queerness became too much. When I brought my girlfriend home to stay over, they couldn't ignore the fact that I'm gay.

**After being made homeless,** I began running events for Black queer people with similar

experiences. Last year I launched Queer Black Christmas which brought 30 people together for a day of workshops, games and food. It was everything I'd hoped for. It reminded me that my strength is in building community spaces.

**It's hard to navigate the charity sector as a Black queer woman,** even within queer charities. They're still inherently white, with so many biases. They don't acknowledge that how they view people can impact their level of care.

**Care for young homeless people has to go beyond a place to stay.** They might start to feel comfortable exploring their identity, but lots of people aren't prepared for dealing with drinking, sex and figuring out what a healthy community looks like.

**Lockdown gave me time to think bigger about my work.** I decided to create an entire programme called Exist Loudly, packed with daytime activities and retreats. I was quibbling over how much to crowdfund. With about £10,000, I knew that I'd be able to pay for all the ideas I had.

**The crowdfunder raised about £40,000 on the first day.** The staggering number of donations meant that I could consider making Exist Loudly a charity and for this to be my job. It's hard to put into words how much this means to me.

**Under Exist Loudly, I want to deliver a research project on the lives of Black queer young people.** All the research that exists in the UK at the moment doesn't talk about the implications of race, and if it does, it's under BAME – it's not specific to queer Black experiences.

**Black queer young people and their experiences require specificity.** When they're an afterthought in the charity sector, the needs that exist at the intersection of their Blackness and their queerness are never catered to. At Exist Loudly, this community will always be at the core of our work. ■ *Interview by Paula Akpan*  
→ Follow @existloudly on Instagram.

For more unique looks at London life, head to [timeout.com/stories](https://www.timeout.com/stories)



# How to eat out again

London restaurant staff on the one thing they want you to know about eating out in the New Normal

**Neil Campbell** Head chef, Rovi

‘What I want customers to know about coming to restaurants post-lockdown is that it is safe. We fully appreciate that spending time out in public can seem daunting. Please reach out to us, or wherever you’re planning to eat, to ask for clarity on the guidelines in place. We don’t want to compromise on the overall guest journey.’

**Harnet Baweja** Founder, Gunpowder

‘If you’re unsure about what time you’ll be able to come for dinner, please don’t book multiple sittings. This ties up empty bookings and puts added pressure on our teams who meticulously plan each service. Instead, just let us know in advance and we’ll accommodate you.’

**Stephen Tozer** Owner, Le Bab

‘Talk to us. When you’re in the restaurant we want to know how you feel. Every restaurant has different measures in place to reflect the variety in comfort levels among guests. We have to guess the perfect balance, but if there’s anything we can do to make you more comfortable, please be vocal.’

**Jonny Boud** Owner, Passo

‘Now is a time to support the places you love. The biggest support we can get is from you coming in to experience the food and service we work hard to provide. Most importantly, please show up! Or if plans change, just cancel the booking. This is crucial so we can support our staff and our supply chain and together bring back this industry.’ ■

## BETTER THAN BEFORE

London’s key workers on what they want to see sticking around post-lockdown



‘People thank me for coming to work now. It’s nice to hear, because the risk is there every day you come in. There’s only so much protection. When people say thank you, I think: Yes, I can do this.’  
*Adeola Ogunseitan, pharmacist*

→ Read more stories from key workers at [www.timeout.com/frontline](http://www.timeout.com/frontline).

## MADE IN LONDON

Three of the best masks made in the capital



**Isabel Manns**

If bold floral prints are your jam, go for these sustainably made cotton masks by a high-end reversible clothing brand, with profits going to the NHS.  
→ £12. [www.isabelmanns.com](http://www.isabelmanns.com)



**Inobe Designs**

This London maker has two bold styles of masks (with nose grips): the all-over African print and Afrofusion, which has a pattern across half of the fabric.  
→ From £6. Available on Etsy.



**Myth & Ritual**

This designer’s patterns change regularly but all masks come with nose wires for a comfy fit. There’s also a pay it forward option so you can donate one to a local charity.  
→ £7.50. @myth\_and\_ritual

HYPE DISH

# The Quality Chop House's perfect confit potatoes

DISSECTION

What goes into the London plates that everyone bangs on about

**DURING LOCKDOWN**, The Quality Chop House made dreams come true by delivering its famed confit potatoes to cook at home. Now, the restaurant has reopened and the spuds are back on the menu. In fact, it's the only dish that's been served consistently since it was devised, back in 2013. Given his focus on high-quality

meat, head chef Shaun Searley was surprised when a potato dish became the star. It's cooked in duck fat, though, so he sees it as a win for the carnivores. 'We get enough vegetarians and vegans loosening their belt for it,' he says. ■ *Bobby Palmer*

→ The Quality Chop House. 88-94 Farringdon Rd. £6.

### The potatoes

'We slice the potato as thinly as possible, then layer it. We use fluffy, starchy potatoes, so the layers stick. We've never counted, but it's a lot of layers.'

### The dressing

'It's a mustard vinaigrette, made with good dijon. We put the mustard on there because of the fat content - it needs acid to cut through, like lemon on fish.'

### The crunch

'It's got a crisp exterior, then a fluffy interior with that savoury duck-fat taste. We use duck fat because of the low burning point: it makes them go perfectly golden brown.'

### The layers

'We make a sort-of breeze block of potato layers, press it overnight, then slice it. It gives the illusion that we've put one tiny slice on top of another.'

### The format

'In the early days, we were scooping them out and frying them in big messy chunks - it was delicious, but a bit rustic. Now we use exact measurements: 3cm by 3cm, every time.'

## ISOLATION SOS

Nervous about returning to reality? Life coach *Dave Knight* offers his top tips

### Have a daily routine

'This is something we can keep on doing no matter what is going on in our lives. It is our foundation, provides structure and can be a protective barrier. We don't need to think about it - we just do it - and as a result we have less to worry about.'

### Don't stress about the future

'The future might seem like a scary unknown at the moment but, when you think about it, we've never had control over the future; it's just that things have been easier to predict before. We do have control of the present moment - what can you do to feel better now?'

### Consider how others might be feeling

'Can you share how you are feeling with someone you trust? Can you ask how they feel too? This helps to take the spotlight off your own feelings. It will also help you realise that your experiences are normal. When we do that, we are more in a position to embrace them.' ■

→ Find out more about Dave's life-coaching packages at [www.sundaysettler.com](http://www.sundaysettler.com)

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# YOUR WORLD ACCORDING TO TIME OUT

The best stories this month from  
our editors around the globe



## A robot superhero is handing out face masks in New York

### USA

Just when you thought 2020 couldn't get any weirder, New York's transport authority is deploying a robot-like 'superhero' to hand out masks to commuters. The character with glowing eyes is called Metro-Man, and he was spotted handing out masks in July at Grand Central Station, to passengers on the Metro-North railway to Connecticut.

Like all superheroes, Metro-Man has a kooky origin story: he dates back to 1983, and was originally an actual remote-controlled robot who travelled around educating kids about rail safety. Nowadays he's played by a human in a suit and looks like a less violent RoboCop. Transport for London, you need to up your game! ■ *Shaye Weaver, Time Out New York*

### BARBADOS

## You can WFH in a tropical paradise

When that much-anticipated second wave hits, would you rather be a) working from a sofa in your tiny flat, or b) checking your emails from a sun lounger in Barbados? The Caribbean island is taking applications for a new type of visa for remote workers, who will be free to stay for up to 12 months. Other countries floating 'digital nomad' visa schemes include Georgia, Estonia and Bermuda. Zoom background? That's no Zoom background! ■ *James Manning*

→ [www.barbadoswelcomestamp.bb](http://www.barbadoswelcomestamp.bb)



IMAGE COURTESY MTA, METRO-NORTH RAILROAD/LORNE LIEB

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**ITALY**  
**Bike-in concerts are a thing now**

Like many cities, London has gone drive-in crazy. But if all that gas-guzzling gives you the quease, consider this bright idea from an alliance of Italian music promoters. At their Bike-In arena, punters rock up on bicycles instead of in cars, park up in a dedicated spot (with bike rack) and watch a gig under the stars. The first Bike-In concerts run until September in the city of Mantua, with plans for more. Four wheels bad, two wheels better – even if it ain't quite 'Grease'. ■ *JM*

→ [www.bike-in.it/en](http://www.bike-in.it/en)



**JAPAN**  
**RIP to Tokyo's IRL Mario Kart**

Many Tokyo first-timers expect the city to look like a videogame. Of course, it's not – but until recently, you could see costumed characters zooming on the streets à la Mario Kart, taking in the sights. Now those Street Kart tours are no more, following a crippling Nintendo lawsuit and the collapse of tourism in Japan. A Save the Street Kart crowdfunding campaign raised just ¥11,569 (£85). Shibuya is a little less colourful without the whizzing tourists in Yoshi onesies – but local drivers won't miss them. ■

*Kasey Furutani, Time Out Tokyo*



**AUSTRALIA**  
**An underwater museum has opened in the Great Barrier Reef**

In a normal year, millions of tourists would visit the colourful fish, coral and giant clams of the Great Barrier Reef. Now, just as Australia has closed its borders, there's a brand new reason to go: the Museum of Underwater Art.

Its first installation is a sculpture of a 12-year-old Indigenous girl, sitting above the waterline and changing colour based on live weather data (the idea is to highlight coral bleaching on the reef). The second is even more ambitious: a full-scale underwater building, filled with 20 figures of children conserving the reef. It's 50 miles from the coast and you can only see it by swimming through it with scuba or snorkelling gear. The work is pH-neutral to encourage coral growth, so it'll eventually become part of the reef.

Two more sculptures are due in 2021 – by which time, hopefully, you'll actually be able to come and see them. ■ *Cass Knowlton, Time Out Australia*



**SOUTH AFRICA**  
**Cape Town has a new approach to statuegate**

In the wake of the summer's Black Lives Matter protests, statues of contentious historical figures have been toppled over. This has been, er, a little controversial: are protestors erasing history, or just setting the record straight? Now Cape Town is considering a new approach for its iffy statues: move them all to a single outdoor site. If enacted, it could become South Africa's answer to Budapest's famous Memento Park – hopefully complete with piss-taking gift shop. ■ *Huw Oliver*

IMAGES: BIKE-IN CONCERTS: NICCOLÒ PIRELLI; MARIO KART: JON CHICVA; SHUTTERSTOCK; UNDERWATER MUSEUM: MATT CURNOCK







PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS: BRYAN MAVES

# London is awake again, but something's changed

As lockdown eases, *Kate Lloyd* hears stories of hardship, healing and hope from every corner of a city in metamorphosis

*Tower Bridge. The Gherkin.*

Every day in lockdown Joshua went for a jog around the City.

*Guildhall. St Paul's.*

He says it was like being in a movie: 'All the landmarks but everything closed.'

*Barbican. Monument.*

He thought about all the things he was grateful for. Told himself: focus on today, not yesterday, not tomorrow. Then he'd head back to Travelodge London City where he was living alongside 164 other homeless people. He never knew how long he'd be able to stay.

For four months, parts of London that are usually in constant motion – *Oxford Circus. Soho* – stood still. So still that photographers biked and walked miles to capture them, feeding a public hungry for at least one beautiful thing to come from the pandemic.

But while our city might have looked static, its life did not pause. Ripples of change and challenge coursed through people's lives: the way we work, the way we see friends, whether we can hug our parents, whether they remain alive. Luck was redistributed, disparity was

heightened. Covid reshuffled every Londoner's cards. And yet, across the city, people have helped each other, toughed it out and adapted.

London has survived.

*Heathrow Airport. Travelodge London City.*

For three and a half years, Joshua lived in Terminal 5 of the UK's biggest airport. His routine ran like clockwork. Wake up at 4am and use the airport's showers during the shift change. Dress smartly, 'like a traveller, not a homeless person'. Eat one meal. Use the wi-fi in hotel lobbies, coffee shops and local libraries to look for work. Stay positive. Focus on today, not yesterday, not tomorrow. Return to the terminal to sleep. Start again.

Then, on March 20, he noticed that the libraries were shutting. Then it was Costa – while he was sitting in it – and the Travel Inn he used for wi-fi. Then Heathrow Terminals 3 and 4 closed and he started to get worried that they might shut the whole airport. 'I didn't know where to go,' he says. 'It was a very low point. I'd been on the streets for three and a half years and things were just getting tougher.'



What happened next was luck or maybe fate, says Joshua. The day he decided to stay in the terminal rather than look for a library, a café or a lobby was the day an outreach team worked their way through it.

Many of the hotels used to shelter homeless people during the pandemic were run by charity St Mungo's. If you speak to a volunteer they'll tell you that running them was busy work. They helped people apply for Universal Credit and permanent accommodation. Fixed meals. Found lost keys. When it was sunny, the space came alive. When it rained, people slept for hours.

Joshua spent his time in the Travelodge writing in his journal a lot, hoping that he might publish it as a book one day. St Mungo's helped him find a one-bed flat. 'That will change everything,' he says. It's hard enough to get a job without a permanent address in normal times, let alone with a global pandemic on. He says that during lockdown he saw attitudes change. Before, homeless people were ignored when they sat outside supermarkets and stations, now shoppers were bringing whole bags of food to them. He hopes the government's attitude has changed too: 'It would be a shame to tell everyone: Lockdown has been lifted. Time to go back on to the streets.'

*Monument. Cannon Street.*

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, cleaner Nancy and cleaning manager Celia always make time to eat lunch together. They've worked with each other for 16 years in a big glass box of an office block near Monument station. Normally there are 1,800 people working there but for most of this year there's been 20. It takes everyone a while to get used to seeing it empty, says Celia. It's very sad.

Usually, Nancy and Celia will get something to eat from Waitrose before they sit and chat. More often than not, that's about their families – in Colombia (Nancy) and Spain (Celia) – who they both miss very much. Two of their colleagues have returned to their home countries for good to be closer to their

parents. Celia says that a Spanish expats' Facebook group she's in is full of people leaving.

Cleaning has become more stressful since the pandemic. 'You want to wipe every single handle, every single thing. Wiping, wiping, wiping,' says Celia. They've had to start using stronger products and focus on more areas, do their best to make people feel safe. Before, clients were always trying to review costs, like 'We clean the carpets once a week, can we clean them once a month?' Now, suddenly, they have millions and millions to spend on cleaning. (Although two of Celia's three cleaning jobs still pay less than the London Living Wage.)

The office workers seem to have more solidarity with Nancy and Celia now. 'Before they'd expect the cleaner to come behind and clean everything for them,' says Celia. 'If they've dropped coffee on the kitchen counter they expect somebody to come to clean it up.' Now they're being more considerate. Celia thinks she's changed too. She's worked Monday to Sunday almost every week for nearly 20 years. Now she thinks that family is more important. 'If I could be with my family it would make my whole experience completely different,' she says. But she's not, so, right now, she's lonely. It's unlikely Nancy will be able to go to Colombia until next year. Learning that made her cry and cry.

*Brixton. Hackney.*

Have Londoners cried more over the past few months? They've probably shed more tears two metres from friends. And inside hospitals. And outside shuttered venues. Perhaps there have been more tears in parks, as loudspeakers have demanded 'keep moving, *please keep moving*'. There have definitely been more tears shed over Zoom calls, rolling down cheeks, splattering on to keyboards.

In March, Dom stood at the entrance to his 86-year-old mum's bedroom as she cried. He'd gone to drop off her shopping and some food he'd cooked her.

**'Most incomes were down, but the amount of food we were given shot up'**

She's got dementia and relies on his visits to survive. It was her birthday. Tears streaked her face. Just come and cuddle, she kept saying, just take your gloves off and hold my hand.

It's in moments like this that Dom worries he's working too much. Sometimes he feels overwhelmed. Like when his mum needs him and his head's full. Or when his 11-year-old's being an 11-year-old and needs his support too.

He's always worked a lot, though. You might know him as the guy who founded Street Feast. He started it on his own: directed the promo videos, printed off the reserved signs, put up the big tent people sat under. And a couple of years ago he invested all of his money – even the rainy-day savings he swore, *swore* he wouldn't spend – into a business he was going to open in Brixton this spring: The Civic, one of those multipurpose rooftop spaces that keep appearing in south London.

Then the pandemic happened before it could open.

Of course, he wallowed in self-pity for a while. *What the hell was he going to do?* But then he remembered something his mum told him: there are always people in a much worse situation than you. He asked himself what the right thing to do was, he says, and thought about restaurants in London and how so many had become about investment and franchising rather than serving people. Soulless, he says. Then he phoned up restaurateurs and asked whether he could turn their spaces into production kitchens.

*When you're at ground zero, you can make a conscious decision to choose a better path.* That's what Dom told himself. He built a team of 11 people. They started making food for people who needed it. Hot meals. Recipe boxes. Now they've given out tens of thousands. 'This is not a badge-wearing exercise,' he says. 'We're building infrastructure.'

A few days ago, Dom went for a long walk around his neighbourhood.





## How to help people in London right now

**1** Become a St Mungo's campaigner and keep encouraging the government to use this time as an opportunity to end homelessness for good.  
→ [www.mungos.org](http://www.mungos.org)

**2** Sign up to Time for Trussell, food bank charity The Trussell Trust's weekly email where you'll find volunteering and campaigning opportunities. Or arrange to make a monthly donation.  
→ [volunteer.trusselltrust.org](http://volunteer.trusselltrust.org)

**3** Got a car? Volunteer to pack or transport meals for A Plate for London, delivering hot food and recipe kits to people who need them around the city.  
→ [www.plateforlondon.org](http://www.plateforlondon.org)

**4** Support businesses that are crowdfunding on the Mayor of London's Pay It Forward scheme. The money you donate will go towards helping them rebuild and recover.  
→ [payitforward.london.gov.uk](http://payitforward.london.gov.uk)

**5** Donate to mental health charity Mind to give it the support it needs to tackle the mental health crisis caused by the pandemic.  
→ [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

**6** Domestic violence rates shot up during lockdown. Clapton-based charity Sistah Space provides help for African-heritage women and girls who have experienced it. It's at risk of closure. Join the campaign to keep it open.  
→ [www.sistahspace.org](http://www.sistahspace.org)

Read the full feature at [timeout.com/awake](http://timeout.com/awake)

August 2020 **Time Out London**

*Haggerston. Hackney Road.*  
It was one of those hot early summer mornings when London's buildings are reflective and the parks are full of people doing squats.

*Shoreditch. Kingsland Road.*  
He thought about what he'd learned in lockdown.

*Stonebridge Gardens. Brick Lane.*  
That your goals don't just have to be for you, that if you look wider you might find a hole you had inside yourself is filled.

*Southfields. Wandsworth.*  
Who knows how the capital's citizens will remember this period? Through the shaming lens of tabloid clickbait: a mass of selfish people sunbathing in the parks and land-grabbing toilet roll, shagging, fleeing, not self-isolating? Or will it be remembered as something else? As a turning point?

You might have always known that London relies on networks of support. You might have watched as the city filled with ironic pop-ups, hungry start-ups and luxury tower

blocks, knowing that the capital's foundations aren't breeze blocks and cement, they're communities and the links between them. That lots of us were getting it wrong.

But, around the city, those of us who once packed our lives so full of Negronis and brunches and small plates and barre classes that we sometimes failed to make time to say hi to our neighbours in the lift, let alone help them out, are changing.

At a food bank in Wandsworth, Rachel, a volunteer, says that working during the pandemic has been tough. It's been much harder to help people when you can't meet them in person, she says. And there are more people who need help. Job losses and rising costs have left people unable to afford food. Rachel's talked to people who've had their electricity cut off when they needed it for medical equipment. She's spoken to locals who only have six slices of bread left in their cupboards. Demand has increased by 120 percent.

But so has support from Londoners.

Donations from the local community have risen so much that while the team normally give food for a three-day emergency, they've been able to increase that to seven. They've got a waiting list for volunteer slots. 'At a time where most incomes are going down, the amount of food and money we were given went up,' says Rachel. 'It could so easily have gone the other way. It's incredible to see.'

At the start of all of this, you might have predicted that the pandemic would cause arguments and divisions across the city. In some ways it has. But that's not how this story will end. Talk to any Londoner and you'll hear tales of people becoming more connected to the capital, to each other. We've learned there's strength in numbers, that survival is about more than just fighting for ourselves. And all of that has made us tougher than anyone ever expected. ■

# How to make Carnival happen at home

Notting Hill Carnival isn't totally cancelled... it's going global with a three-day online festival

**FOR A LOT** of Londoners, Notting Hill Carnival flashes by in a blaze of feathers, Red Stripe and tinnitus. To those who work within it, it is a year-round operation, and its cancellation has been devastating for many involved. But it looks like 'cancelled' isn't the right word after all. Behind the scenes, the Carnival community has rallied together to take it from the streets and into cyberspace with a streamed version of the event. Using different channels, they'll celebrate as much of the 'real' Carnival as possible, not just the music, but the history, the culture and the artistry of the mas bands. We spoke to some of the people who are making it happen.



## THE SOUNDSYSTEM

### Rampage

It's been almost 27 years since Rampage DJ Mike Anthony first set up his speaker towers on Coville Terrace. Since then, it's grown into Carnival's largest static soundsystem – and its most talked about. It pulls crowds so huge that certain Rampage moments have become Carnival folk tales, like the time Ms Dynamite decided to do a drum 'n' bass version of 'Dy-Na-Mi-Tee', and 15,000 people rushed to get to the front, putting a 45-degree bend in the metal barriers ('It was

like "Indiana Jones" when that big stone ball comes rolling through!' says Mike Anthony). Or when they played Lethal Bizzle's 'Pow!' in 2004, and ravers got so hypercharged they tried to rip a tree out of the ground like it was King Arthur's sword. But people don't just go to Rampage for the mayhem. The soundsystem has a well-deserved rep for giving a platform to UK talent right before they explode: Dizzee Rascal, Bashy and Stormzy have all hit the Rampage stage. That it won't be on the streets this year is cause for what Rampage member Treble T describes as 'a Carnival mourning', but the crew have already delivered online raves during lockdown, and they've got a seven-hour stream

planned for the August bank holiday weekend. Maurice Dennemont, who joined the Rampage team around nine years ago, says one positive of the whole thing is that this year, 'the world is watching'.

Rumours that Carnival could be moved or become ticketed have circulated a lot in recent years. Now we've had an actual cancellation forced upon us and seen the reality of what a year without it would look like. If it weren't for the Carnival community taking action, it would be too grim to take. 'We have to do everything in our power to make sure there is that continuity,' says Mike. 'We want to protect it at all costs.'  
→ Catch Rampage on the Notting Hill Carnival online Sound System Channel, Aug 30 and 31.





Notting Hill Carnival Access All Areas 2020 will be streamed for free over four channels on Aug 29, 6pm-midnight and Aug 30 and 31, 9am-11pm. Register at [www.nhcarnival.org](http://www.nhcarnival.org).

THE PERFORMER

A'sha Morris aged 12

'It's sad [that Carnival isn't happening] but at the same time, it's fine, because we're still allowed to let everyone celebrate at home through technology. [My Mas outfit is called] The Promised Land. It's pink and it reminds me of a flamingo. I feel excited [when I wear it]. I feel like a queen. It's really fun, when you're dancing on the streets, people want to take pictures of you and your costume. Everyone just joins in and I can wave my feathers around. I just feel alive. [Recording for the online Carnival] was quite nerve-racking because I'd never done something like that before, but at the same time, because I'm very confident, I just let myself have fun. [On Carnival weekend] I'll just be watching the show and dancing with my mum. Even if we're not doing it on the streets, we'll still have fun at home dancing together. I'll definitely still wear my costume. Carnival isn't just one day to celebrate, it's the whole summer.'

→ A'sha will be appearing on the Parade Channel on Aug 30 and 31.



Out of the Blue costume by Clary Salandy

THE DESIGNER

Clary Salandy

**We haven't got a team out making for Carnival this year.** We have gone into the archives, we're bringing things back. [Normally] we have to select a theme. In 2005, it was 'a stretch of the imagination'. [The costume pictured above, right] is called Out of the Blue, which comes from that thing of 'what is the imagination?'. Out of the blue, you get this spark.

**[With this costume] we wanted to show** that carnival is an exciting form to work in.

**We see our work as art.** You don't throw your art away; you put it in a museum. We treat our art with absolute respect and reverence.

**In this particular year,** where there is this spotlight on Blackness, it's really important for us to show how wonderful the work we do is.

**Carolyn [who is wearing 'Out of the Blue'] has been the queen of Notting Hill Carnival** for many years. That face: she lights up and breathes life into any costume that you put her in. She's a brilliant dancer, and an expert at manoeuvring and bringing to life these giant character costumes. You will never see her in a costume that isn't lit-up and alive.

**The history of Carnival** really started exactly as we are right now, with the killing of Kelso Cochrane [in 1959], leading into Carnival. And here we've had George [Floyd]. Now [is the right time] for us to refocus on the reason for the season. I'm glad for the opportunity to present these things that show exactly how amazing Black people are. Just imagine if we were all given the opportunity to reach our brilliance.

**Right now we need a hell of a lot of inspiration** – out of the blue – to save this world. ■

→ Clary Salandy is the founder of Mahogany Carnival Design. See her work on the Parade Channel, Aug 30 and 31.



IMAGES: CAROLYN FLORE, DANIEL PETT, SOUNDSCAPES, EVERETT COLLECTION, PHOTOFEST, PHOTOFEST IMAGES/ALAMY, OTHER IMAGES: COGNAC HILLS/NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL LTD

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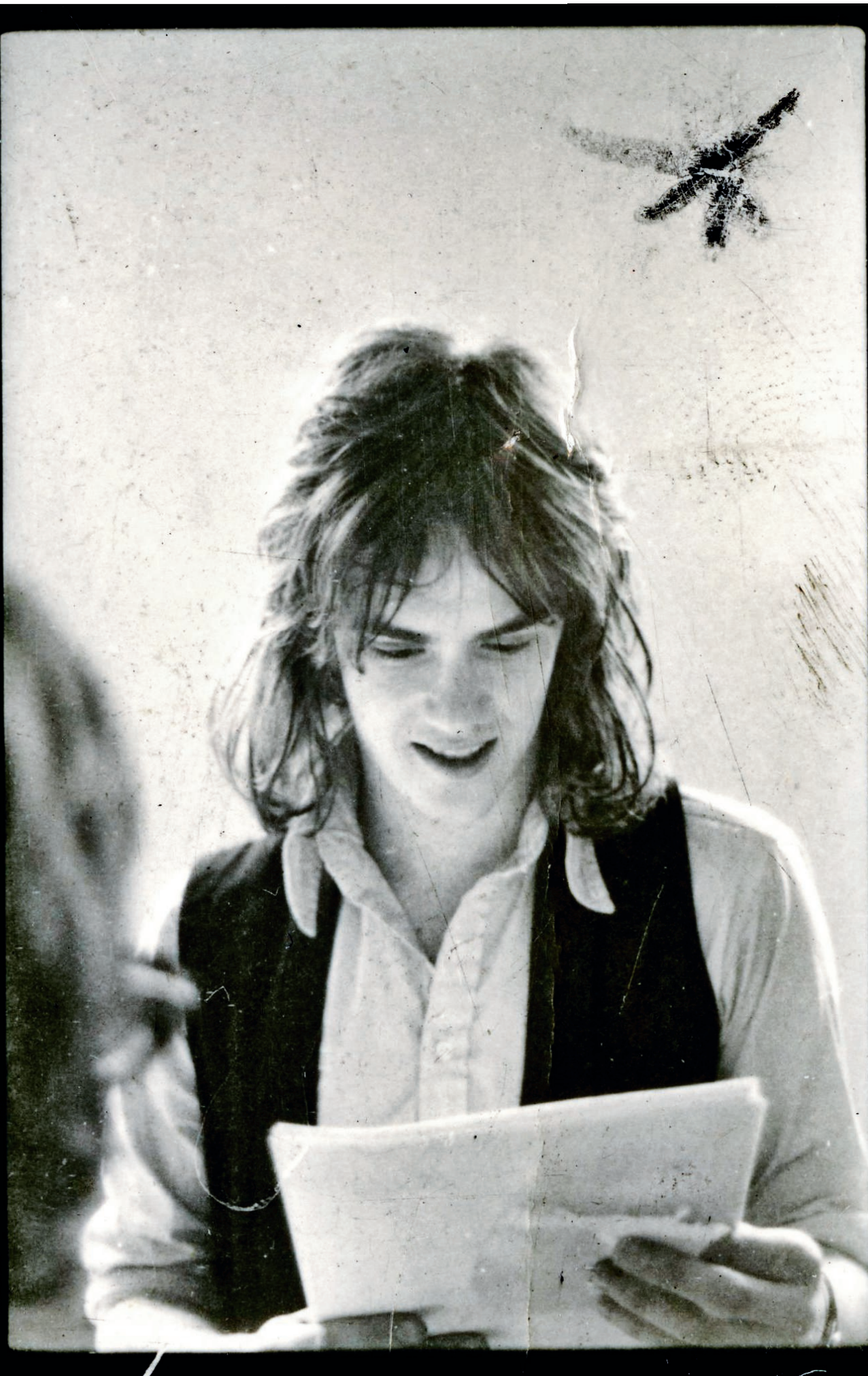
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Tony Elliott in 1970



# Tony Elliott

## 1947-2020

Time Out's founder died last month at the age of 73. We trace his extraordinary career and invite friends, colleagues and cultural icons to pay tribute to the man they knew, loved and occasionally feared

**TONY ELLIOTT WAS LONDON.** From the age of two, when he moved with his family from Reading to South Kensington, his life was inexorably linked to the city he loved. As a student in the '60s, he plugged into the city's countercultural scene. He founded Time Out as a radical listings magazine aged 21, and steered it – successfully and (mostly) profitably – through four decades of incredible social change. He mentored a generation of independent-minded magazine publishers, editors and journalists, fought for social justice, minority rights and the conservation of London's historic buildings, and, behind the scenes, was an indefatigable supporter of the capital's arts and culture.

From the '90s onwards he took Time Out global, launching magazines in 60-odd cities alongside a definitive series of travel guidebooks, a website covering more than 300 destinations and six editor-curated Time Out Markets. But despite all that globetrotting, Tony remained a lifelong Londoner, and it was here in the capital that he died on July 17 2020, at the age of 73.

It's hard to overstate how much Tony's 'big idea' changed London and the world. In launching Time Out, he embarked on his life's mission to make the city's best happenings (from weird art and underground club nights to food, drink

and shopping) more accessible to more people than ever before. Long before the internet, Time Out democratised culture, making anyone who picked up a copy an instant insider. That was entirely down to Tony's obsession with 'the information about the information': not just giving you the bare details of an event or opening – the what, when and where – but telling you *why* it mattered.

Within the company, Tony's attention to detail was as legendary as his paisley shirts. Despite stepping away in 2010 from full ownership of Time Out, he remained energetically involved as a board member right to the end, assiduously reading the magazines, prowling its city websites and invariably sending feedback to editors. He believed that Time Out at its best was the only guide you needed to make the most of city life, and that belief still inspires us.

As soon as news broke of Tony's death, we began to hear from the people who knew him best: family and friends, cultural leaders, and Time Out staff past and present. Over the next few pages, you'll find tributes and memories from just a few of the people whose lives Tony touched. Without him, you wouldn't be reading this magazine right now. Time Out will miss his guiding, questioning presence, and London has lost one of its greatest ever champions.



### Underground origins The 1960s



Though enrolled at Keele University, Tony Elliott spent most of his time driving his VW Beetle down to London to soak up the city's chaotic, exploding counterculture. In the summer of 1968, he decided London needed a comprehensive guide to all the best places to go out. Having unsuccessfully offered to take over the listings page of countercultural bible *International Times*, Tony turned his idea into the first issue of *Time Out*: a fold-out A5 pamphlet, produced using birthday money from his aunt.

Issue 1 of *Time Out*, published on August 12 1968, included sections on art, film, architecture and political demos ('Meet the Fuzz'). Tony's girlfriend Stephanie Hughes covered theatre, shopping and 'rabbit food'. Bob Harris (later a BBC DJ) did music and helped Tony get the magazine seen: he and Tony distributed *Time Out* to hip shops around London and even sold it at the Rolling Stones' legendary concert in Hyde Park.

By the end of 1969, *Time Out* had a basement office, a small team of clued-up editors and a groovy readership of 10,000 – including David Bowie and Marc Bolan. 'We were a bright light,' Tony later said. 'The one magazine that covered the new underground, independent culture alongside the best of the mainstream.'



#### Nicholas Ferguson Businessman

'I met Tony at a dancing class when we were both 11. As the years went on, we graduated to the Marquee Club in Soho. I've always thought that Tony's interest in what to do in London stemmed from those years. On one occasion, around 1963, we had tickets to stand in the gods for a concert at the Royal Albert Hall. Top of the line-up were The Beatles: neatly cut hair, matching collarless suits. The house exploded and we realised we'd seen the early part of a phenomenon. I hadn't realised that I was also standing beside one.'

#### Joe Boyd Music producer

'In the winter of 1967-68, a couple of sales reps came to my office to sell me on the idea of advertising my UFO Club posters in *Student* magazine. One was Richard Branson, the other Tony Elliott. I booked the ad. Of the pair, Richard became more of a household name but Tony may have had a more wide-ranging effect on the world. The idea of listing everything happening in London was revolutionary in 1968. I would suggest that the way we use the internet is due in part to the way Tony Elliott and *Time Out* shaped our brains. A quietly transformative guy; a one-off who changed our world.'

#### Cassie Beadle Cob Gallery

'Tony hired my father, Jeremy Beadle, to join the *Time Out* team around 1969, and it undoubtedly changed his life. Tony took a chance on Dad – a loose cannon, albeit an especially talented one – and despite his shortlived time at the magazine, he and Tony established a lifelong friendship. Later on, Tony was incredibly supportive of Cob Gallery and we were always so grateful for his advocacy. If Tony recognised it, for me, it was the the greatest seal of approval out there.'

#### Michael Craig-Martin Artist

'The late '60s was, as legend has it, a wonderful time to be young, engaged, optimistic, and hopeful for a better, fairer, more inclusive world. Tony Elliott became one of the few of us who were able to translate that idealism into a practical reality: *Time Out*. The magazine was for Londoners, particularly the young. It was extraordinary in those early days to find a section devoted to gay life (only recently legalised). Many people I then knew and admired subsequently abandoned their ideas, but Tony still held to all those values. His passing is the end of an era.'

### Politics and picket lines The 1970s

Facing a challenge from new magazine *Ink*, Tony took *Time Out* weekly in 1971, with art director Pearce Marchbank and an expanding crew of left-leaning writers on board. The magazine's accurate listings, radical politics and bold covers made it essential reading for young Londoners – even though Mick Jagger reportedly complained that 'the problem with *Time Out* is that you have to cross a picket line to get to the music listings'.

Tony rebuffed offers from Condé Nast and the founders of *New York* magazine to buy him out. *Time Out* campaigned to save Covent Garden Market from demolition and stop police brutality, and covered the rise of David Bowie, Notting Hill Carnival and Rock Against Racism. The magazine saw its first spin-offs: a London guidebook, a directory of radical community organisations and a consumerist sister magazine, *Sell Out*, edited by Janet Street-Porter, then married to Tony.

Even as the magazine increased its coverage of culture, food and shopping, it ran establishment-baiting stories – to the point where two *Time Out* writers were tried for breaking the Official Secrets Act. 'We were political, but with a small "p";' said Tony later. 'It wasn't just arts and culture and it wasn't just politics, and that was one of the reasons people responded so well to it.'





**Brew crew** Above: editorial meeting, 1972, with Tony second from left. Left: Hermione Farthingale, David Bowie, Tony Visconti and John Hutchinson at Trident Studios, 1969. Below: Tony, 1971

**Marsha Rowe**  
**Founder of Spare Rib**

'I first met Tony when I was working for Oz magazine. Later, I was in the process of starting an "alternative women's news magazine", *Spare Rib*, which became a byword for second-wave feminism. Tony invited me to a Time Out editorial meeting to talk more about the new-fangled women's liberation movement. He was forthcoming and helpful, unlike many of his male contemporaries: never patronising me about my desire to make *Spare Rib* happen.'

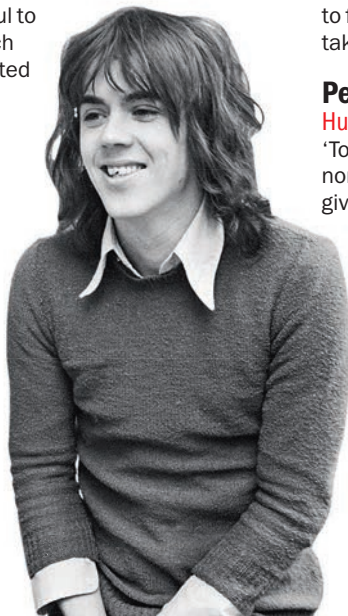
**Michael Palin**  
**Comedian and writer**

'Time Out and Monty Python were born around the same time, and I still have a copy of the entire edition that Time Out devoted to

Monty Python. The magazine's endorsement, which included a Terry Gilliam cover, meant an awful lot to us. I shall always be grateful to Tony for creating something which changed the way London presented itself to the world, and made life much more exciting.'

**Anna Wintour**  
**Condé Nast**

'I met Tony in the early '70s. He was part of the underground crowd, but he wasn't trying to man the barricades: he was interested in information. He knew all the hole-in-the-wall places to eat, he knew fringe theatre, he knew where to see compelling movies at some run-down little cinema in Notting Hill. We all helped him



because we liked him and saw how brilliant his idea was. He was both of his time and ahead of his time.'

**Geoffrey Robertson QC**

'The '70s were an oppressive time for the "alternative" press. Two Time Out journalists – Crispin Aubrey and Duncan Campbell – faced many years in prison under the Official Secrets Act in the "ABC" trial, in which I defended Duncan. Later, I defended Time Out editor David May, also charged under Official Secrets for a Time Out story; the police raided Time Out's offices. Tony stood up to the state, and his courage deterred further raids.'

**David Pirie**

**Screenwriter and former Time Out Film editor**

'When Time Out was starting to grow in the 1970s, the Film section met some resistance. Following a bad review, one distributor even refused to let us see any of their films. Tony never once blinked: freedom always came first. The upside of this was not so much that we could trash movies, but that we were able to champion with impunity films that others found no space for, like early Scorsese, Hellman, Coppola and John Carpenter. This was a direct result of Tony's hands-off approach.'

**Neil Lyndon**

**Former features editor at Time Out London**

'In 1973, my girlfriend Wendy Thomas was working at *New York* magazine where she sometimes talked to Clay Felker, its founder and editor, about Tony and Time Out. One day, Felker said, "I want you to call Tony Elliott and tell him I want to buy Time Out." At that time, Felker held court in New York as a kind of Sun King. Wendy duly called Tony. "Clay Felker has told me to tell you that he wants to buy Time Out," she said. Tony replied: "Tell Clay Felker to fuck off." Nobody was going to take his creation away from him.'

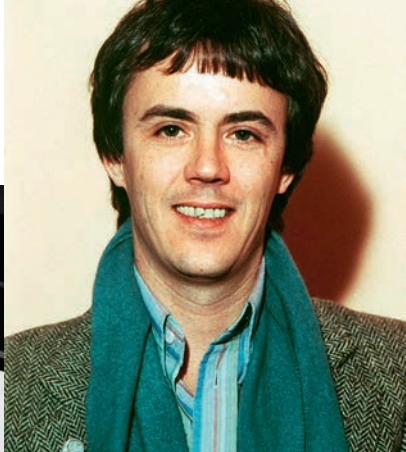
**Peter Tatchell**

**Human rights activist**

'Tony Elliott's Time Out was the first non-LGBT+ magazine in Britain to give consistent coverage to the LGBT+ liberation movement in the early 1970s. The pink triangle issue on 22-28 June 1979 was, to my knowledge, the first mainstream non-LGBT+ publication in the UK to have an LGBT+ image and story on its cover. Tony was on our side and made this possible. He will be remembered with appreciation and affection.'

STAFF MEETING: DON MORLEY/GUARDIAN/EVE VINE/STEVENSON/SHUTTERS/OCK; TONY: STAN WEAVER/DAILY EXPRESS/HUTTON ARCHIVE/GETTY

## A tribute to Tony Elliott



### Shopping and striking The 1980s

In 1981, after a strike, 42 members of staff quit to found a rival magazine, *City Limits*, while Richard Branson launched his shortlived Time Out competitor, *Event*.

Tony relaunched Time Out in the autumn of 1981. It came a new focus on shops, restaurants and nightlife. 'We wanted to reflect the fact that London life had evolved,' he explained later. Time Out thrived, publishing its first 'Eating & Drinking Guide to London', which eventually gave rise to the prestigious Eating & Drinking Awards. Tony bought a 50 percent stake in style bible *i-D* magazine in 1985 and started a city-guide series. He won a personal battle with drinking, and in June 1989 he married Janey. Together they had three sons – Rufus (born April 1988) and twins Bruce and Lawrence (born October 1990).



### Don Atyeo

Former Time Out London editor

'Tony changed my life when he took a punt on an unknown hack and hired me post-strike – arguably the best job I ever had. During those years, I came to greatly admire Tony as that rarity: a truly honourable man. He was not afraid to risk everything – even the loss of the entire magazine – to defend the principles in which he believed.'

### Richard Branson

Virgin

'Following the Time Out strike, I foolishly decided to set up a competitor magazine in London called *Event*. Tony competed brilliantly and we had to retire with our tail between our legs. Despite that, Tony and I remained good friends – perhaps helped by him marrying one of my closest friends, Janey. He would never miss a birthday.'

### Tricia and Terry Jones

*i-D*

'Tony brought financial structure to a couple of hippies who had no plans to own a magazine at all! He allowed *i-D* to flourish and grow over the years. At the beginning, Tony owned 51 percent to our 49 percent of shares, but he never challenged Terry's creative decisions. At the beginning of the 2000s we offered to buy back the crucial 2 percent. Tony, with huge generosity, gave them to us. As a business partner and a close personal friend, we love you, Tony, and will always miss you. Forever grateful!'



From top: Tony, 1979; a view from inside Time Out Market Lisbon; Time Out street poster, 2003. Below: the Soho issue from 1986

### Dominic Wells

Former Time Out London editor

'A few weeks into being acting editor, I showed Tony a cover I had sweated blood on. It was Michelle Pfeiffer in her leather Catwoman suit. I had flown to LA to interview her and Tim Burton over the weekend, written it up on the plane, and delivered the copy on Monday to hit the newsstands on Tuesday morning – to scoop *Empire*, who were furious. Tony looked at the cover and said, simply, "Is the logo a little too far to the right?"'

### Jefferson Hack

*Dazed & Confused*

'Without Tony, there would be no *Dazed & Confused*. I first met him when I interned at Time Out in 1990. He was the godfather of the independent press in the UK and he gave us our first deal: an advance against sales. To have that was like a golden ticket. Thanks, Tony, you are a towering legend who paved the way for all us indie publishers.'

### New York and London The 1990s

In the 1990s, Tony's time was split between London and New York. 'Tony loved New York and helped establish Andy Warhol's *Interview* magazine in the UK,' recalls friend and colleague Bob Wilson. He had always nursed an ambition to launch Time Out New York, and it finally arrived in September 1995 with almost overnight success. As London became the capital of Cool Britannia, the city's renaissance extended beyond music, film and posh restaurants. Tony was a passionate supporter of the YBAs and the landmark 'Sensation' exhibition at the RA in 1997. He was also a founder of the Roundhouse Trust. 'He was deeply involved from 1998 right up until his death,' says its chief executive and artistic director, Marcus Davey. 'He came to all the gigs, shows and performances, and he never missed a board meeting.'

### Cyndi Stivers

Former Time Out New York editor

'When we launched Time Out New York, few thought we had a prayer. But Tony always had an almost naive faith that his patented listings formula would work. In my opinion, he was medialand's first information architect, anticipating a zillion websites to follow. Beyond his adored family, Tony's human legacy is the talent Time Out attracted: a global tribe that has stayed connected over decades and includes dozens of names the world now knows.'

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## New beginnings The 2000s onwards

Time Out continued to expand around the world, but by the end of the decade, the recession had left the company financially stretched and risking irrelevance in the face of the internet. Tony quietly mortgaged his house to keep Time Out afloat, and looked for the right partner, consistent with the fierce independence which was in his and Time Out's DNA. In 2010, Oakley Capital took a controlling stake in the company. Digital expansion followed and in 2012, the London magazine went free, giving the inside angle on city culture to a vast new London audience and winning numerous awards in the process. 'There was a misconception that Tony didn't like change,' says former editor-in-chief and CEO Tim Arthur. 'But he loved it when it was done well.'

In Lisbon, more change was afoot: an ambitious project to bring Time Out curation to life in a food market. Five years later, the Lisbon market would be one of Portugal's biggest tourist attractions, with further markets in Montreal, New York, Miami, Chicago and Boston.

In 2016 Time Out launched on the stock exchange. Tony was no longer directly involved in management but his cultural antennae remained super-sensitive. His instincts never tired or went mainstream and his enthusiasm was undimmed by a long tussle with the cancer which eventually claimed his life. He was the kind of 73-year-old whose response to a nasty chemo treatment was to offer you his tickets to that evening's Primal Scream gig: 'Those guys can really make some noise!'



Tony, London, 2018

### João Cepeda

Founder, Time Out Market

For me, and all of us at Time Out Lisbon, opening the first Time Out Market was a huge milestone. Tony knew all about the project, of course. The day Time Out celebrated its fiftieth anniversary I sent him a message thanking him for his creation. He thanked me back "for laying the foundation for the next decades". It was the most important compliment any of us ever received.'

### Peter Dubens

Oakley Capital

'I vividly recall the first time I walked through the entrance to the Time Out office on Tottenham Court Road, with its iconic red neon logo reminding me so much of how proud I was to be a Londoner. I arrived at that entrance to meet Tony Elliott. I decided then and there that Tony was a person – and Time Out was a brand – that Oakley would be proud to invest in, to build a digital (and later bricks-and-mortar) version of Time Out. How sad I am that he is unable to be with us to see the next steps in its global story.'

### Julio Bruno

Time Out Group CEO

'Tony loved Time Out: it was his life project, and his passion for the brand was apparent in every conversation we ever had, whether in a board meeting or having lunch. I remember,

when we took the company public in 2016, how proud he was that his creation was now listed on the stock exchange. He told me: "This is the beginning of the next chapter, and you have to go with the times and innovate. Time Out will go on." I will miss his advice, his smile, his passion and his profound understanding of the media world.'

### Janey Elliott

'I met Tony when I worked with Pearce Marchbank, designer of Time Out's most iconic covers in the '70s. We went on to have three boisterous boys and an unforgettable 40 years together. Every era has its heroes, and my beloved husband

belonged to the pantheon who rose out of that extraordinary cultural time in the '60s. Tony was an incredible person in so many ways, and wherever he laid his magic hands, he gave his all. He made sure that, whatever you did, Time Out was essential reading each week. The family tree of people who have honed their skills at the university of Time Out would make a remarkable read. He sat on many boards and charities that were important to him and gave support to countless other causes. He had huge energy and spirit and an extraordinary capacity for friendship. He was interested in everything to the end. So, thank you, darling, for all your love, loyalty and friendship. You've lived a good life and leave it loved by so many. The world is a poorer place without you.'

## The end of an era...

On Tony's death on July 17, Time Out received hundreds of tributes from friends, ex-colleagues, readers, travellers and cultural explorers whose lives he'd all enhanced in some way. Friends described him variously as 'Peter Pan', 'eternally youthful', a 'gentle soul' and an 'enthusiast'.

His death occurred during the peak of Covid-19, which has challenged the cities, galleries, restaurants and culture spots which were Tony's and Time Out's passion. It's the end of an era which was spanned by his life but also the beginning of a new one, where – as in 1968 – calls for change and a punkish attitude to creating culture and society are reinvigorated. Tony would have been incredibly excited to be part of it. ■

By James Manning, Caroline McGinn and Laura Lee Davies.





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**Wait, how much?** For you, dear reader, it's £25 for the lot. That's around half the regular price.

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**What is it?** A damn big brunch, that's what. You'll get a main, as well as unlimited starters, pancakes and prosecco. Wear your stretchy pants.

**Why go?** For the mountain of food, sure, but also for the sweet, sweet tunes. This place is also a music school, so you can jam while eating your, well, jam.

**Wait, how much?** Less than you think, we'd bet. All of this is just £20.

→ Music & Beans. Until Oct 15.

[www.timeout.com/musicandbeanscamden](http://www.timeout.com/musicandbeanscamden)

## Yum Sa

**What is it?** A great deal on a legendary combo. Tuck in to bottomless beer and wings for £20.

**Why go?** Did you completely ignore that last bit? It's bottomless beer and wings! This place has put its own Thai twist on the chicken, too, so you'll be in for something a little different.

**Wait, how much?** Twenty of your English pounds is all that's needed.

→ Yum Sa. Until Oct 10.

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# Things to do in London

Edited by **Katie McCabe**  
timeout.com/thingstodo @timeoutlondon



PHOTOGRAPH BY LUKE TUBBS

Professional filthmonger Baby Lane is bringing pub quizzes back into the real world with a night of X-rated trivia. The only thing that won't be sanitised is your sewer-mouthed host. **Turn to p36 to read more.**

## Things to Do



Costa Del Tottenham

## Bike gangs

### ☞ Summer Cycle at Kew

*Kew Gardens, Aug 13, £20.* Bicycles are normally a no-go at Kew but for one day each year, visitors are invited to BYOBike and cycle through the grounds. We wish all bike gangs could be like this one. If the Hells Angels' only goal was to ride through a botanical garden just as the sun begins to set, they'd probably have a better rep.

### ☞ IBike London Super City Disco Ride

*Central London, Aug 15, free.* Thought rollerskates were the only set of wheels that go with disco? Get a load of this rhinestoned peloton.

To take part, follow the cyclists in the disco wigs from 2pm to 5pm (you can find the route on the website). Dress with caution. Wide-leg flares are a chain-catching deathtrap.

## Open-air food fests

### ☞ StreetEat

*South Bank, until Oct 10, Wimbledon Park, Tue-Sun until Aug 23, Victoria Park, until Aug 31. All free entry.* Underbelly's big fat purple tent was a familiar summer fixture on the South Bank for circus and comedy

shows. Now it's entering a brave new world by pivoting to street food (with the odd free live music and cabaret performance thrown in). You can sit in a safe, socially distanced pod and snaffle food from your friend's plate. What's a few chips between members of the same social bubble?

### ☞ DnB Big BBQ

*The Cause, Sep 5, £25 per person.* Miss dancing in a fleshy mosh of sweaty bodies? This drum 'n' bass barbecue at The Cause's outdoor area Costa Del Tottenham is the next best thing. Fill your belly with meats and your ears with beats from jungle dream-maker Kenny Ken. There's also bottomless rum cocktails from 12.30pm, but go easy: that two-metre distance won't keep itself.

## Bittersweet stand-up

### ▶ Save Live Comedy

*Aug 16 and 23, free or £9.99. www.claphamgrand.com* The Clapham Grand has been Geldofing all lockdown with its non-stop charity nights. Now it's out to save the UK stand-up scene with fundraiser streamed from the venue. Your hosts, the Pub Landlord Al Murray and comic Jayde Adams will provide the funny segues to live sets from Dane Baptise and Don Biswas (Aug 16). Others, like Nish Kumar and Aisling Bea, will join digitally. Streaming tickets are free, but you can pay £9.99 to sit in the 'virtual Zoom front row'. If a stand-up tries to single you out, you can just bash that 'hide camera' button.

### ▶ Always Be Comedy

*Dates vary, £5. www.alwaysbecomed.com* Pre-lockdown, it was a regular stand-up night at The Tommyfield in Kennington, but for now, Always Be Comedy lives on as a Zoom-based comedy club. Even in its virtual iteration, it gets big names like Harry Hill (Sep 16). A comedian without laughs is like an unwatered pot of basil, so MC James Gill makes sure the performer can hear the audience response, and get some of the sweet validation they've been missing.

## At the drive-in

### ☞ West End Musical Drive-in

*Troubadour Meridian Water, Aug 29, from £65.* Being trapped in a car listening to showtunes from the stars of West End musicals is either a dream or a nightmare depending on your taste. It's £65 per car with up to two people. Our guess is only true fans will be prepared to pay those West End-level entry prices.

### ☞ Gals Aloud Live

*Troubadour Meridian Water, Aug 22, £50 per car.* Enfield Tesco's car park has never seen so much action. As well as the musicals, it's also the scene of the UK's very first drive-in drag show: a glittery, pop-banger-filled tribute to noughties band Girls Aloud. Fingers crossed for a lip-synched re-enactment of Nadine's lost passport debacle.



# We went to a one-to-one concert and it broke our hearts

## C Culture Clinic

*Kings Place, Aug 22 and 29, free (donations encouraged).*

Concerts and social distancing do not go hand in hand. In response to the lockdown fallout, a few temporary stand-ins have been offered, like Wireless Connect's VR sets and live-streamed festivals. Kings Place arts centre in King's Cross, however, has come up with a more permanent answer: tiny gigs. I'm here for the first day of its free Culture Clinic. The idea is that musicians chat to a very small audience (a maximum of six people from the same social bubble are allowed into each performance) about how they've felt during



the pandemic, and then create a 15-minute performance reflecting their experience.

Wearing a mask, I'm ushered into a concert hall where jazz pianist Elliot Galvin is perched at a Steinway baby grand.

Sitting two metres away in the low-lit, cavernous space, he asks me how I've found lockdown.

It's the first time a stranger has asked me this question, and I'm unexpectedly talkative. He takes my words and

transforms them into a delicate improvisation with sweeping melodies and jazz inflections. After months of listening to music through speakers, hearing warm buttery notes ringing around me is both humbling and

completely overwhelming. Three other audience members join me for the next session from classical duo violinist Elena Urioste and pianist Tom Poster. 'It's so wonderful to hear applause again,' says Urioste, as the sound of my clapping echoes in the 415-seat concert hall.

It doesn't compare to sharing gig with a room full of fans, but what makes this so special is the intimacy. It's a privilege being treated to an experience that would normally be off limits for anyone without the cash to hire a private pianist. If anything can make you appreciate the power of hearing live music, it's this. ■ *Alexandra Sims*

## Tiny gigs

### 👉👉 Nest Collective: Campfire Club

*Various locations, Aug 12, 22 and 26. £15 live gig, £5 online stream.*

For 15 years musician Sam Lee has been gathering small groups around campfires in secret green spaces to listen to mesmeric folk music. Kora player Kadialy Kouyate and Haitian-born singer-songwriter Germa Adan are just two of the acts you can spend a magical evening with. Can't make it? Stream it online. If you don't have anywhere to start your own campfire, just light a candle or something. Job done.

### 👉👉 Live Jazz on the Canal

*Grow Hackney, every Thu, £10-£30.*

As far as venues go, Grow ticks a lot of boxes. Firstly, it's right beside the River Lea. Secondly, not only can you sit down for a drink and a bite to eat, but you can watch a live jazz quartet led by Mercury-nominated double bassist Rio Kai. You can book a table for two (£10) or six (£30) to hear the group serenading guests every Thursday throughout the summer. Dreamy.

## River festival

### 👉👉 Totally Thames

*Various locations, Sep 1-30, prices vary.*

The month-long tribute to London's great liquid highway is back. Feeling adventurous? Try some sea kayaking or join guided river walks and an audio treasure hunt following the path of London's lost River Fleet. More comfortable staying in? Watch live-streamed sea shanties. The last few weeks are the closest most of us have ever been to experiencing the life of a lonely sea captain, so we can relate.

## Safe swims

### 👉👉 Parliament Hill Lido

*Gordon House Rd, £4, concs £2.40.*

Cool off in this Grade II-listed art deco-style pool. It's gorgeous and parent practical (it has a paddling area for under-fives). There's a limited number of 60-minute slots available each day, with new sessions released at noon. With fewer bodies in the water, it's a chance to appreciate the rare stainless steel pool liner, which gives the lido its metallic mirrorball shimmer.

### 👉👉 Hillingdon Lido

*Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex, £4.70.*

Another Grade II-listed 1930s beauty, this 50m, open-air pool has been recently restored with elegant cascades (fountains) at either end. Kids can bring their own floats, and as it's part of the Better leisure group it's easy to book a 50-minute slot on its app, so you don't have to spend your lunchbreak browsing swimming pool websites. You can waste it on Twitter instead.

## Really wild swims

### 👉👉 West Reservoir Centre Open Water Swimming

*Green Lanes, £10 (for non-Better members).*

As its name suggests, this reservoir hidden in a very pretty corner of Stoke Newington is for hardy water babies willing to brave an adventurous wild swim. If it's on the chilly side swimmers must wear a wetsuit: it's an English reservoir, people, not a tropical beach.

### 👉👉 Beckenham Place Park Lake

*Beckenham Hill Rd, £6, concs £3.50, Lewisham residents £5, concs £3.*

Lewisham's biggest park refilled its lost Georgian lake last year to create London's newest wild swimming spot. Bathers are surrounded by ancient woodland, sweeping grass verges and more than a few ducks. And when you've had enough of all that glorious nature, the park café is open for take-out post-swim snacks.



IMAGES CULTURE CLINIC: MONIKA S. JAKUBOWSKA/KINGS PLACE



Save Live Comedy

# Oh how we've missed ZOO!

After months of hibernation, London Zoo is roaring back into action. With safety measures in place and some adorable new residents, there's never been a better time to visit

**A** Galápagos tortoise could have moved at a speedier pace than the first half of 2020. But if the last few months have felt a tad tedious (to say the least), then we've got good news: some of London's best-loved attractions have reopened! It doesn't get much more iconic than ZSL London Zoo, located within Regent's Park. The Zoo's 18,000 animals have been patiently awaiting your return – and aside from the joy that comes from hanging out with giraffes, meerkats and penguins, your visit helps to fund vital conservation work. Keen to plan your visit? Let's take a closer look at what's new at the Zoo...





### Choose your route

To help maintain social distancing, you'll be asked to choose between three routes on arrival at London Zoo. Your path could take you on a journey into the rainforest, across the savannah or to India's Gir Forest – and once you've completed your walk, you can embark on another one.

### Reconnect with the natural world

No matter how many times you've visited, there's something so enchanting about moving through London Zoo's many lush habitats in search of their inhabitants. Laugh at the antics of cheeky monkeys as they swing from tree to tree in the living indoor rainforest, pay your respects to the monarchs of Gorilla Kingdom and stay very still in Butterfly Paradise... a colourful new friend might just land right in front of you.

### Rest assured that you're in safe hands

Not only has London Zoo implemented timed entry slots, limited visitor numbers and one-way routes to ensure proper social distancing, but the charity has also introduced other safety measures. These include clearly marked two-metre distances wherever queues might occur, hand sanitiser stations and the use of face coverings in indoor areas and walk-through exhibits. The Zoo is also only accepting contactless payments.

### Support essential conservation work

The only other time that the world's oldest scientific zoo has ever shut before this was for two weeks during the Blitz. This year, London Zoo has missed out on visitor income from hundreds of thousands of people – revenue that is used to fund global conservation efforts and scientific research. While you're there, consider donating. Your animal friends will thank you for it.

### Otterly charming

On April 15, while we were all in lockdown, two sleek little otters called Bubble and Squeak came into the world. Until recently, they were cosyng up with their parents Pip and Matilda in their indoor holt. Now, they've emerged into their leafy London Zoo home (complete with private riverbank). Give them a wave for us!



Visitors to London Zoo will need to book a timed slot in advance. Tickets start from £30 per adult, £19.20 per child (3-15 years). Members go free all year.



→Book your ticket to ZSL London Zoo now at [www.zsl.org/london](http://www.zsl.org/london)

## Things to Do

# Blockbusters

### **S** Ai Weiwei: 'History of Bombs'

Imperial War Museum, until May 24 2021, free, pre-book.

The Imperial War Museum has reopened with a startling installation from Chinese artist and activist Ai Weiwei. Part of the museum's Refugees season, 'History of Bombs' sees life-size diagrams of explosive devices – from WWI hand grenades to nuclear missiles – cover the IWM's floor and stairs. It's cold and implacable, eerie and weirdly beautiful. Tote bags are promised.

### **W** 'Electronic: From Kraftwerk to The Chemical Brothers'

The Design Museum, until Feb 14 2021, from £14.50, pre-book.

With this expansive exhibition charting the history of electronic dance music, The Design Museum has accidentally produced the most prescient show for lockdown times. In parts, it's a tribute to the ravers who turned face masks into fashion, at a time when every visitor will (hopefully) be wearing one.

### **C** Cao Fei: 'Blueprints'

Serpentine Gallery, until Sep 13, free, pre-book.

Enter a site-specific replica of Cao Fei's Beijing studio at the Serpentine, then explore a stop-motion dystopia populated by giant rampaging turtles and have your soul punctured by Fei's feature-length film about a man losing his son in cyberspace. By invoking sci-fi to explore themes of destruction, surveillance and capitalist workspaces, the multimedia artist shows us just how slender our grasp on reality has become.

### **C** Toyin Ojih Odutola: 'A Countervailing Theory'

The Curve, Barbican Centre, until Jan 24 2021, free, pre-book.

The Curve is not what you'd normally call a 'blockbuster' gallery. But the sheer intensity of its bendy, pitch-black space means that once you've seen a powerful piece there, you never forget it. We have high hopes for the takeover by Toyin Ojih Odutola, whose cycle of 40 drawings will fill the gallery's 90-metre sweep, accompanied by a conceptual soundscape from Peter Adjaye and a new text from author Zadie Smith.

## BEHIND THE VIBES

# Harry Gay



### **►** Queer House Party

Next date tbc, free (donations welcome). [www.facebook.com/queerhouseparty](http://www.facebook.com/queerhouseparty)

When lockdown hit, Londoner Harry Gay and his fellow DJs (who also happen to be his housemates) created a weekly LGBTQ+ Zoom party from their New Cross home. Now that the city is slowly reopening, we ask him: what does the future hold for online nightlife?

#### How did Queer House Party begin?

'In March my friends and I saw our DJ bookings disappear, so we thought of ways to make some extra cash and get our friends together. The first party was DJing for four hours from our kitchen, and over a thousand people came. The next day we sat down and said, "Let's do this!"'

#### What has the response been?

'We've had messages from people in countries where it's illegal to be queer thanking us. It's given a lot of hope to people.

[Some of the attendees] have even gone on dates after meeting at the parties.'

#### How has it evolved?

'We've done 15 and now we're experts in online parties. We've had big-name DJs approach us, but we want to keep it DIY.'

#### What have you learned from Queer House Party?

'There are so many people who can come to Queer House Party that wouldn't normally be able to go out to a queer bar in London. Now the parties have a BSL interpreter, audio descriptions and captioning. I hope there's a real push to make venues more accessible after this.'

#### Are online parties here to stay?

'Even when we go back to real-life events, we'll always have an online element so they're always accessible. It's something that hasn't really been done before. I'm excited about what it can become.' ■ Alexandra Sims

IMAGE: HOLLY WHITAKER PHOTOGRAPHY

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## Beer garden parties

### **S** 🍷 **The Brixton Courtyard sessions**

*Brixton Jamm, various dates, from £10.*

Brixton Jamm is making its recently done up beer garden count with sessions from big-name DJs.

Highlights include sets from Horse Meat Disco (August 19) and Moxie (August 22). You've maxed out that 'throwback vibes' Spotify playlist. Time to branch out.

### **E** 🍷 **The Old Car Wash in Homerton**

*24 Ponsford St, Fri-Sun until Sep 27, book your table in advance.*

Even lockdown could not slow the unstoppable train of pop-up cocktail bars in novelty locations. The latest is an abandoned car wash that's been gussied up with bunting. It has a line-up of Hackney DJs planned over the August bank holiday weekend. No need to request Rose

Royce, they've got it covered: '(Work and work.) Keep those waxin' machines humming...'

## Out and proud

### **N** 🍷 **Touché**

*The Cause, Aug 15, 22, and 29, Sep 5 and 12, from £20.*

Tottenham's club with a conscience, The Cause, is using the outdoor space of its new venue to host a run of open-air drag and cabaret shows in partnership with queer club night Adonis. Every Saturday brings a new drag starlet.

For each show, former Blitz Kid Princess Julia will be on the decks – if you don't have HRH Julia at your party, what's the point?

### **S** 🍷 **Drag Bingo presents Pride 365**

*Brixton Jamm, Aug 18, from £15.*

Drag and bingo go together like Cagney and Lacey. Why? A shared love of bawdy humour and

run-down venues with kitschy carpets. The lip-syncing queens of this night are taking ball calls from the Mecca halls to the open air at the Brixton Jamm courtyard. Covered benches or booths can be booked for up to 12 people. Yes, you're playing for prizes, but you won't want to keep your eyes down for this show.

## IRL festivals

### **S** 🍷 **Greenwich and Docklands International Festival**

*Various locations, Aug 28-Sep 12, free.*

Greenwich and its surrounding areas will be flooded with colourful performances as part of London's biggest celebration of outdoor theatre. Over 16 days, the festival will pack in timely theatre shows and art exhibits that are all free to visit. Look out for 'The Weavers of Woolwich', a poetic art installation by Booker Prize winning author Bernardine Evaristo and Gijs van Bon, and 'In Memoriam', artist Luke Jerram's tribute to victims of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **N** 🍷 **Kaleidoscope presents Unlocked**

*Alexandra Palace, Aug 30, from £20.*

We can't believe it either: an actual music festival in 2020! While Ally Pally's annual one-dayer won't be quite as comprehensive as usual, it has decent names on the line-up, like Norman 'Good Times' Jay and DJ Yoda. Organisers say there'll be 'a lot more extra room than you'd usually expect', which sounds mysterious. Please just let us dance.

### **S** 🍷 **The New Normal Festival**

*Le Gothique at The Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, until Aug 31, prices vary.*

If you're not over the cancellation of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, this new fest could provide some comfort. A walled courtyard in Wandsworth's Grade II-listed Royal Victoria Patriotic Building has been transformed into a socially distanced space where you can watch fringe theatre, comedy and cabaret. See stand-up from Sara Pascoe, a show about witches and, in true fringe style, many *quirky* Shakespeare adaptations.



# Masculinities

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barbican

## Things to Do

### Post-Zoom pub quizzes

#### **N** The Pub Quiz at The Old Queens Head

*The Old Queens Head, every Tue, £3 per person.*

It's mostly known as 'the one with the good roasts', but this Essex Road pub happens to have a very popular quiz with pretty generous cash prizes (the jackpot has been known to reach £1,000). Lucky Chip is looking after the menu, so you can tuck into a 'Royal wit Cheese' while you relearn to socialise.

#### **E** Quiz on My Face

*The Glory, Aug 18 and Sep 1, £5 per person.*

Consider the title of this event a warning and wear that protective face mask with pride. All guests at the quiz will be kept a good distance away from its all-powerful host, Baby Lane, a drag queen with a grubby sense of humour and hairdo filled with equally filthy secrets. Despite her dirty mind, Lane is strictly safety first, so play by her rules and the only thing you'll be spreading is the word.

### Markets and more

#### **S** DIY Art Market

*Copeland Park and Bussey Building, Sep 5, £1 entry.*

Sick of staring at the same four walls of your flat? Change it up with a flamboyant print or some jazzy ceramics from this fair showcasing an eclectic range of emerging artists and independent publishers. Like a cross between the Frieze art fair and a primary school jumble sale, there's plenty to see here – knitwear, jewellery, zines – whether you're building a collection or just glad to be back browsing stalls again.

#### **C** ☺ Canopy Market

*Coal Drops Yard, every Fri-Sun, free entry.*

Pick up handmade crafts and fresh local produce from King's Cross's weekend market. It's found new digs in swanky Coal Drops Yard while its usual home is used as a car park for key workers. There won't



Norman Jay, appearing at Kaleidoscope

## ONE UNMISSABLE THING



### 'Titian: Love, Desire, Death'

*The National Gallery, until Jan 17 2021, £12, pre-book.*

It took nearly 400 years for Titian's series of huge, mythological 'poesie' paintings to be reunited in full for this exhibition. Then Covid hit, and the whole thing closed after five days. The run has since been extended to 2021. If you're going to brave the tube for any exhibition, make it this one.

be any hot food, but you can still pick up provisions and unique pieces from designer-makers, including jewellery from Audra's Brooches and blooms from English Flowerhouse. So wholesome.

#### **S** ☺ Plant n Go

*Copeland Park, Sep 4-6, free entry.*

Our plant obsession reached a peak in lockdown. Cultivate those green fingers at this botanical market filled with stalls selling indoor and outdoor plants, pots, horticultural supplies and more. It'll even be giving free plants to the first 25 visitors each day. There's always room for one more succulent!

### Park workouts

#### **C** ☺ Outdoor Workouts with Frame

*Various King's Cross locations, until Aug 31, from £10.*

Fitness studio Frame is taking its perky group classes outside. Join everything from high-intensity dance cardio sessions to meditative flow yoga in different outdoor locations around King's Cross, like Granary Square's faux-grassy canalside steps or Lewis Cubitt Park. No more whacking over your lamp trying to do a backbend!

#### **S** ☺ Yoga on the Beach

*Fulham Beach, every Sat, £20.*

Swap your Zoom yoga class for a session in the sunshine at Fulham's

Thameside urban beach. Bring your own mat, spread it out in a socially distanced spot and get stretching. Tickets include a mystery vegan treat. We really hope it's a pack of Oreos.

### Socially distanced theatre

#### **C** ☺ 'Jesus Christ Superstar: The Concert'

*Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, Aug 14-Sep 27, £25-£65.*

While most West End theatres won't open properly until 2021, iconic outdoor stage Regent's Park Open Air Theatre is still giving us a dose of Lloyd Webber with this special concert staging of his rock opera. This pared down production is from the same team behind the famously camp version first seen at the park theatre in 2016. Not into musicals? Try the Monday night comedy. On September 7, catch Mae Martin and Lolly Adefope, who is going to be bigger than Jesus one day.

#### **N** 'Sleepless'

*Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre, Aug 25-Sep 27, from £15.*

Wembley Park's poor Troubadour theatre only opened last year before being dealt the hellish hand that is 2020. Thanks to its size (it has 2,000 seats), it's one of the first theatres in London to open for indoor performances. It's kicking things off with an adaptation of the 1993 film 'Sleepless in Seattle' starring Girls Aloud's Kimberley Walsh, which follows the lead of saccharine movie classics like 'Pretty Woman' getting big-scale musical-theatre reworks.

#### **C** 'Blindness'

*Donmar Warehouse, until Aug 22, £17.50-£45.*

Here's one way to ensure social distancing on stage: ditch the actors. The Donmar has done just that by adapting Portuguese author José Saramago's dystopian novel 'Blindness' as a sound installation voiced by Juliet Stevenson. Put on headphones and enter a city experiencing a pandemic of its own: without warning or explanation, its inhabitants have developed an infectious form of blindness. Very cheery stuff.

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Try [timeout.com/thingstodo](https://www.timeout.com/thingstodo)



# Food

timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink



## Five stellar street-food spots

**4-8** The first thing you need to know about street food in London right now? It's all change. You've got just two months to eat at **Dinerama** in Shoreditch before it shuts for good after five years in the biz. Meanwhile, **Kerb** – another don of the scene – is keeping most of its permanent markets shut and is instead running a pop-up called Summer of Kerb on the South Bank, featuring Bleecker Burger and Only Jerkin. For a guaranteed seat, head to **Vinegar Yard** for Indian-inspired burgers and Italian snacks. (You've got to book a track-and-trace ticket to go, but a visit is well worth handing your contact details over to Big Street Food.) **Pergola Paddington** is also bookable. Sure, it's pastel-coloured, foliage-filled and exactly where grouchy boomers think millennials hang out, but it also serves up some of London's finest street treats. Finally, if you're hungry for a goddamn bargain, you'll be excited to hear that all the **Boxparks** have 50 percent off drinks ordered on Mondays and Wednesday in August.

# 25 ways to eat outside in London

Sure, you could head to the park clutching a sad meal deal, but you deserve so much more. Here are some top options

**1 Order doughnuts from a bench**  
Ever found yourself chillaxing on a comfy bench within three miles of Trafalgar Square only to be hit with a very specific craving? Something like: God, I'd love someone to deliver six vegan doughnuts made by an ex-St John baker to me right now? Well, friend, check out **Poster Bakes** because, for a mere £15, dreams can come true. Just pick your custard of choice – chocolate, vanilla or blueberry.  
→ Mon-Fri. £15 for six. [www.posterbakes.com](http://www.posterbakes.com)

**2 Refuel after flower shopping with a cornershop samosa**  
Sure, Columbia Road is full of bougie food spots. You could easily pop to the market and leave armed with a Pavilion pastry or hammered on Laxeiro sangria. But can we recommend dropping by unassuming cornershop **Maks News** too? There you can bag samosas cooked fresh for Sunday shoppers and perfect for eating with one hand as you lug your plant haul home.  
→ 154 Columbia Rd, E2 7RG.

**3 Head to Supermarket of Dreams for snacks to eat in Holland Park**  
Back when we were properly locked down (the good old days, eh?), the team behind Notting Hill Fish Shop launched a grocery store stocked with some of London's finest food: Allpress shit, Ottolenghi shit, Spring shit. Go blow £20+ on a pretentious picnic of posh sushi and salad and wolf it all in Holland Park like you're a spoilt child of a rock star who only eats organic and trendy.  
→ 128 Holland Park Avenue, W11 4UE.

IMAGE: PASCO PHOTOGRAPHY



## Gorgeous restaurant terraces

**9-13** Sometimes only the fanciest dose of outdoors will do: birthdays, anniversaries, evenings when you're sad. On these occasions you want a terrace. Ideally one with nice plants and waiters. And, boy, do we know some good 'uns. Like **Tavolino** – a just-launched Italian place in London Bridge – which has amazing river views. Or **Rochelle Canteen's** yard in Shoreditch, which feels like a bougie literary friend's garden with a menu – smoked cod's roe, lamb croquettes, peach jelly – to match. Want a highbrow setting with lowbrow food? Adam Rawson has brought a dive-bar menu and a Moët vending machine to **The Standard** King's Cross. Udon? You can eat a summer menu featuring chicken karaage with pickles and vegetable kakiage chips at **Koya City's** outside bit on Bloomberg Arcade. For the ultimate terrace, though, a Provençal-style spot surrounded by olive trees and scattered with rug-strewn blocks, you want **Westerns Laundry** in Highbury. Expect to pay £35 for three courses, making the most of the summer's best ingredients.

Rochelle Canteen

## 14 Join the party on the Hackney Wick restaurant strip

Head along the River Lee Navigation towards the Olympic Park, and when you get to what looks like a university campus you'll stumble upon a cluster of restaurants and a patch of grass by the water. This grass – right by The Breakfast Club, Italian joint Gotto and Randy's Wing Bar – has become a lively afterwork spot since things started opening up. Come for spritzes, stay for vibes. → Here East, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, 14 East Bay Lane, E15 2GW.

## 15 Sit by Regent's Canal with tip-top fish and chips

Perhaps the only chippy in town where you can order your (sustainably caught) cod with a Mojito on the side, **Poppies** is an institution. Expect chips so crispy

they melt as you eat them and a menu that spans seafood platters, apple pies and pickled eggs. Then plonk yourself on a lock at the Camden stretch of Regent's Canal and watch the crusties drift by on their barges. Ah, this is the life! → 30 Hawley Crescent, NW1 8NP.

## 16 Indulge in a fancy picnic hamper

Did you even know that **Colette**, the Chelsea-based fine-foods place, has launched a collection of ready-made picnics that come in wicker baskets? Did you even know that? One for two people will set you back upwards of 50 quid, but they contain top-notch nosh like tomato consommé, ham hock terrine, quince jelly (but of course) and more. Truly a hamper to make all other park-goers weep into their Kettle Chips with envy. → 315 Fulham Rd, SW10 9QH.

## 17 Take a very good sandwich to Highbury Fields

**Trullo**. Simple Italian food, done exceptionally well. Until now the only way to get its stuff to go was by slyly decanting the boar ragù into a soup bag under the table. No longer! The Jordan Frieda pasta palace has been joined by a delightful one-room shop next door. The result? You can grab sandwiches, meats, buns, all sorts, and decamp to Highbury Fields to consume an Italian feast in the sun. Bonus: spending time in that park increases your chances of bumping into this mag's charming editor, Joe. Say hi! → 300-302 St Paul's Rd, N1 2LH.

## 18 Do brunch on Newington Green

As far as greens go, Newington is one of London's greenest. Not only is it right next to the legendary Newington Green Fruit and Veg (one of the city's premium spots for niche cabbage variants), but one of our hottest eateries, **Jolene**, is right there! The menu changes daily, but fans of pizza and sandwiches should take heart: there's pretty much always pizza and sandwiches. Now get on that green and brunch. → 21 Newington Green, N16 9PU.

## 19 Grab some craft gelato right by Brockwell Park

Ice cream is all well and good but have you ever tried... homemade ice cream that only uses the finest ingredients? That's what **Minus 12**, located literally inside Herne Hill railway station, is all about. And where better to consume its highly rated wares than in that hidden walled garden in Brockwell Park? You know, that really pretty bit that no one knows about apart from you? Oh, whoops! → Railway Station, The Booking Hall, Railton Rd, SE24 0JW.

## 20 Eat one of London's best rotis on Clapham Common

It's a Saturday afternoon. You're on Clapham Common. You're starving after an exhausting day lying static, slowly working your way through a Chilly's bottle full of G&T. What do you do? Head to anonymous-looking **Roti Joupa** on the high street and get yourself a Trinidadian hand snack, of course. The rotis here – filled with chickpea curry, or goat, lamb, chicken or pumpkin – are some of the best in town. ■ *Isabelle Aron, Kate Lloyd, Joe Mackertich.* → 12 Clapham High St, SW4 7UT.





The Duke of Edinburgh

Hungry for more? Head to [timeout.com/food](https://www.timeout.com/food)

## Five sunbaked beer gardens

**21-25** Let your sessions roll on without a rumbling stomach to hold you back at a primo pub backyard like the *huuuuge* one at **The Duke of Edinburgh** in Brixton. Food there comes courtesy of the excellent White Men Can't Jerk. Or hit up the Burger Shack residency at the decked garden at historic riverside pub **The Ship** in Wandsworth. (It's got a covered area and heated booths for those classic less-than-warm summer days.) Need more choice? There are five stalls, including Steak It Easy, Last Night a Vegan Saved My Life and Browski Burger at **The Terrace**: Ally Pally's

newly repurposed south-facing area with panoramic views of the capital. It's table service-only there and all payments are made through an app. Want to feel super-safe? **The People's Park Tavern** has an outdoor kitchen serving a simple menu of burgers, chips and the like, plus a foolproof one-way system, app for ordering drinks and hand-sanitiser-armed staff ready to guide you through it all. (No pub in east London got social distancing so right so quickly.) Finally, for something a little different, try grabbing a pizza at **The Dolphin** in Sydenham. It's a big mock-Tudor joint with a surprising trump card: a spacious, manicured garden with gravel paths leading to a series of self-contained nooks, each tucked away inside a circular hedge.

Sponsored Listing

# Going out? Try here.



ISLINGTON

### FREDERICK'S SAYS:

Having celebrated its fiftieth birthday, family-run Frederick's is delighted to be back in business post-lockdown. It offers a bar and two private dining spaces. The restaurant is spacious, and with our secluded garden we are confident that our customers and team are safe.  
106 Camden Passage, N1 8EG.



HACKNEY

### NEST SAYS:

Nest offers a multiple-course set menu built around the British seasons, served alongside organic and natural wines. August's menu includes Aged Duck & Halibut, then it's Vegetables Season in September, which celebrates the very best grown and foraged produce in the country.  
177 Morning Lane, E9 6LH.



SOHO

### BERENJAK SAYS:

The Soho kababi is back, with some brand new additions: a new grab-and-go hatch with kabab wraps, new cocktails – including the must-try 'Watermelon Shum-Pine', featuring Victory Pink Gin, verjus, rose petals and sparkling watermelon – and a late-night bottomless kabab menu.  
27 Romilly St, W1D 5AL.



LEICESTER SQUARE

### THE HALAL GUYS SAY:

We're pioneers of American halal food, serving sandwiches and steaming platters of chicken or gyro over rice, all with our famous white and hot sauce. With our restaurants in Earl's Court and Leicester Square, you can now discover why our food-cart lines are the longest in New York.  
14-15 Irving St, WC2H 7AU.

# Love Local

Edited by Kate Lloyd  
timeout.com/lovelocal

## Up close and personal

Introducing our new section Love Local, where we'll be getting a local's eye view on the best stuff to do in neighbourhoods around London

**WE AT TIME OUT** have always loved uncovering the best things to do in the city for you, our reader friends. We've been doing it since 1968, like a little team of truffle pigs on the hunt for brilliant restaurants, great exhibitions and exciting shows. The good stuff.

Now, though, it feels more important than ever for us to be on the side of the little guy. You know the places we mean: the ones that, over the past few months, have become simultaneously more at risk and more important than ever. That caff near you that does the best hash browns in the city, the garden nurtured by a nearby school, the corner shop with the incredible

veg selection, the places that make our lives in London *our* lives – and that can easily slip through the cracks.

That's why we're launching this new section of Time Out. It's the next stage of our Love Local campaign, launched in lockdown, to champion independent businesses across the city during these tough times. In this first edition you'll find local experts from Lewisham, Greenwich and Soho spilling the beans on the gems they love in their areas (and why they mean so much to them). Plus celebrations of grassroots innovation happening across the city. We hope it inspires you to go out and explore the indie venues near you.



Brockley Market

### Lewisham, Brockley and Forest Hill



*Davidson Otobo, the founder of Ordrs, has lived in Lewisham for 15 years.*

#### Horniman Museum

'I've been visiting the Horniman since I was a kid. I remember going there on school trips when I was at primary school. I think I took it for granted before we went into lockdown, but it being closed has made me realise how unique it is for there to be a museum that's not in central. And the outside space is amazing – there's always an ice-cream van there in the summer.'

→ 100 London Rd,  
SE23 3PQ.



### Safika Organic Health Centre

'A vegan and multicultural hidden gem where you can get everything from cream for backache to niche products like sugar cane and jelly coconut – which is really refreshing in the hot weather. Kwame, who runs the shop, is super-friendly, knowledgeable and really passionate about boosting health in the community. Whenever I go there's always loads of people socialising there.'

→ Upper Brockley Rd, SE4 1SX.

### Brockley Market

'This is a really, really vibrant local market that supports the community. Stalls stock everything from fresh produce to locally sourced honey to soaps. There's always sellers shouting to each other and a very bustling atmosphere.'

→ Lewisham College Carpark, Lewisham Way, SE4 1UT.

### Lewisham Bowl

'This bowling alley has been in Lewisham since before I moved here as a child. It's probably the number one birthday party spot in Lewisham, ha! There's a little arcade and you can get decent fast-food options there, but what I care about is the bowling: and that's pretty affordable here compared to other places.'

→ 11-29 Belmont Hill, SE13 5AU.

### The Orchard

'It's the quality of food at this Brockley café that makes it stand out. Simple things like omelettes and scrambled eggs are cooked in a way that makes them extra-special. It's got a homely atmosphere with comfy sofas and friendly owners. I like to come here for brunch.'

→ 5 Harefield Rd, SE4 1LW.

### Ladywell Fields

'I like jogging there early in the morning. It's very spacious and is connected to the Thames. You can head on a path around the whole park or to the running track. In the afternoon, it's great for families: there's always kids playing football or on the skatepark and there's a little café towards the entrance where you can get drinks and snacks.'

→ 126 Ewhurst Rd.

### Olives and More

'I stumbled across this shop while exploring Forest Hill. There's quite a few unique stores around there. It's run by a woman called Ma, who moved here from Spain, and it specialises in products made of olives. It does really nice olive cakes, chocolates made with olive oil, olive oils infused with unique flavours. Ma is really helpful – she gave me a really good paella recipe, actually.'

→ 13 Perry Vale, SE23 2NE.

### Crofton Park Library

'This was my hangout area when I was younger. I remember visiting it to do a lesson with an artist on how to draw manga characters. I did a course on cash management there recently too and they run book clubs as well. It was about to be shut down by the government a few years ago so the community took it over. I'm so glad that happened because it would be a huge shame if we lost it – it's such a beautiful building! *Orders is an online shopping service that connects people with the unique grocery stores in their area.*

→ 375 Brockley Rd, SE4 2AG.

Currently closed but you can support it at [www.localgiving.org](http://www.localgiving.org).





## From ghost town back to Chinatown

**TABLES SPILL ON** to the streets in Chinatown. Diners sit outside restaurants under a sea of scarlet lanterns. It's glorious to see. Especially given that when the pandemic hit, it was the place that emptied first.

This wave of outdoor dining is thanks to a successful campaign to temporarily pedestrianise Soho. The project has meant an extension to how far outside restaurant owners can place tables on thoroughfares including Greek Street, Dean Street and Frith Street. Its launch on July 4 has led to copycat schemes around the city – from the Bermondsey beer mile to King's Cross.

'It's amazing. The atmosphere reminds me of how it's done in East and Southeast Asia,' says Ellen Chew, owner of Malaysian spot Rasa Syang on Frith Street. She's used her period of forced hiatus to develop a barbecue menu for the restaurant's new outdoor area: chargrilled satay skewers and banana-leaf-wrapped spicy grilled seafood.

Other restaurants such as Gerrard's Corner, Lotus Garden and Plum Valley have been offering alfresco dim sum, setting up tables and chairs on the street since the reopening weekend. Look on Instagram and you'll see pictures of the area full of life.

Iris Ma, acting manager of Cantonese dim sum restaurant Plum Valley on Gerrard Street, says that its 30-cover outdoor seating area has been busier than she expected. 'Customers have been loving this new outdoor set-up, especially because of the good weather. It's wonderful to see the area buzzy and a little bit busier again,' she enthuses.

And, most importantly, business is growing again. Ma says: 'It isn't as good as before, but I expected way worse.' Meanwhile, Z He, co-founder of Bun House on Lisle Street, says that the restaurant is getting more takeaway walk-in business. 'We're in the process of applying for an outdoor seating licence and our other site, Wun's Tea

Room, is set to reopen in this month,' he says. 'People have been dying to go out after being locked down.'

There are still challenges ahead, though. 'What we're doing now is really not something that we're used to,' says Chew. 'There are more variable factors to consider for outdoor seating, such as weather and extra hygiene.' Ma adds that she fears that the new congestion charge might put people off driving into central. And, of course, as we head into the autumn, there'll be worse weather and the potential of another lockdown to compete with. Until then, though, the pedestrianisation makes things look a tiny bit more hopeful. 'Without it businesses wouldn't stand a fighting chance,' says He. 'I hope they carry this on for many years to come.'

It's still too early to tell whether this mini-spike of customers in Chinatown is here to stay, but it's good to know that Londoners haven't lost their appetite during lockdown. *Angela Hui*

## Soho, Chinatown and Covent Garden



**Jeremy Joseph** has run G-A-Y Bar on Old Compton Street since 1979.

**The Ivy**  
 'Technically not in Soho, but I love The Ivy and it's not because I'm a snob or anything. Food is a difficult thing for me due to having an eating disorder. Their food is simple and it's a place where I know what I'm going to get. I'm very, very boring. I'll start off with a duck salad, followed by a steak with sweet potato and for dessert some sort of sorbet. If they had a TV series called "Come Dine with Me: The Fussiest Eater", they would use me because I'm a nightmare.'  
 → 1-5 West St, WC2H 9NQ.

**Soho Square**  
 'People think having a dog in London is weird, but I don't know what I'd have done during lockdown without my cocker spaniel, Jacob. In all honesty, Soho isn't the most dog-friendly place compared to Europe or America. A lot of restaurants and cafés don't allow dogs, but I love walking Jacob around Soho Square and Covent Garden.'  
 → Soho Square, W1D 3QB.

**Berwick Street Market**  
 'Soho's lost its appeal over the years. The landlords are willing to put anybody in rather than protecting its identity and preserve unique independent businesses like Berwick Street Market. Threats from high rents and rates are driving people away and we should all make an effort to support local independent businesses because our favourites might not be around [after] this tough time. Whether it be Soho or anywhere else in London, they're the ones who are going to find it toughest to survive.'  
 → Berwick St, W1F 0PH.

**The Phoenix Theatre**  
 'I love being right next to the West End; I'm a big musicals fan and it's so heart-wrenching that the theatres aren't open. I used to love walking past the Phoenix Theatre seeing what show's on and who's in it.'  
 → Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0JP. Currently closed but you can still grab a drink in the theatre bar Phoenix Arts Club.

**Amorino**  
 'They do the most amazing sorbets. What I love about them is that you can get a little tub and try as many flavours as you like, such as mango and raspberry. Their sorbets are delicious.'  
 → 41 Old Compton St, W1D 6HF. Open for delivery only at the moment.

**Old Compton Street**  
 'After the shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando four years ago, everyone on our street did a two-minute silence. We had a day to turn everything around and organise a tribute. The street was completely packed with people wanting to pay their respects - it was one of the most emotional, amazing days ever and I'll never forget that.'  
 → Old Compton St, W1D 5JR.

**Odeon Luxe Leicester Square**  
 'I'm desperate to go back to the cinema and I have to say I love the Leicester Square Odeon. I actually love sitting in the front row seats because you can put your feet up and no one's going to be in front of you.'  
 → 22-24 Leicester Square, WC2H 7LQ.



## The show's not over yet in Greenwich

**WHAT DOES A** circus performer do when she's stuck at home without a crash mat in sight? If it's Freya Stokka, she turns her flat into a rehearsal studio. 'My sofa has definitely felt the impact,' she says. She's part of Mimbire, a trio of female circus artists who are rehearsing over Zoom ahead of their performance at Greenwich and Docklands International Festival (GDIF). 'I miss having them sliding over my face – normal people don't do that! I even looked into performing with cats.' But the trio's sensory deprivation has inspired their new work 'To Untouch', during which they'll stay at least a metre apart. 'We're exploring the spaces between us,' she says, 'and how lockdown exposed our need for touch.'

Social-distancing rules have meant that almost all of 2020's planned theatre festivals have either been scrapped or moved online. But GDIF has decided to go ahead, swapping its usual large-scale spectacles for intimate performances that will bring art to unexpected spaces.

Outdoor artist Luke Jerram's installation 'In Memoriam' will respond to the restrictions on funerals by turning a local park into a temporary memorial, where hospital bedsheets will float above the grass like flags. 'There's a need for places for people to come together and grieve,' says Jerram, who explains that the installation will house performances for local NHS workers. 'After lockdown I feel uncomfortable in enclosed spaces so I wanted to make art for a windy field.'

Jerram developed his installation by spending lockdown dreamily covering his lawn in bedsheets. 'My wife wasn't very happy,' he says. But it was tougher for choreographer Jeanifer Jean-Charles, who's creating new dance work 'Black Victorians'. She and her dancers will have just three days of in-person rehearsal time to answer questions like: 'How do you duet without touching?'

She's been inspired by researcher Renée Mussai's collection of photos of nineteenth-century Black Britons. 'I wanted to know what these people might

say, how they might move,' says Jean-Charles. They'll perform in Greenwich's St George's Garrison Church which, like her hip hop-inspired performance, mixes old and new: crumbling old walls and a modern 'floating' roof that lets the air blow through it. Still, there's a worry about safety: 'Word out there is that Black people are more vulnerable to Covid. Am I taking a bigger risk than anyone else? But we're going for it. After Black Lives Matter, it's more important than ever that the true history of Britain is told.'

For Jean-Charles, creating live performance in near-impossible conditions is about transformation: turning a weary neighbourhood into somewhere that's lit up with flashes of strangeness, magic and silliness. 'I'm worried I'll get a bit emotional,' says Stokka. 'The fact that people could walk off but choose to stay is precious. And you get kids saying loudly "Is it finished yet?" Which I love.' ■ *Alice Saville*

→ Greenwich and Docklands International Festival. Various venues. Aug 28-Sep 12. Free.

Greenwich and Docklands International Festival



STEPHEN WRIGHT

## Greenwich and Docklands



Ruby Amarteifio has been running vegan bakery stall Ruby's at Greenwich Market for ten years.

### The Cutty Sark pub

'My favourite place to have a pint is definitely The Cutty Sark pub. Despite the name, it's a little bit further off the beaten track so it's not full of tourists. It's got great benches right out on the Thames so you can sit with your legs hanging over the water looking at Canary Wharf. It's so typically London, that mix of old cobbled streets and the new modern buildings of the city.'

→ 4-6 Ballast Quay, SE10 9PD.

### Thames Clippers

'Grab the boat from Westminster and you get these panoramic views of the Thames. What a lovely way to arrive in Greenwich. An old Victorian tea clipper they've turned into a museum, and you can walk to the market in minutes.'

→ Greenwich Pier, Greenwich Promenade, SE10 9HT.

### Pickwick Paper and Fabrics

'Greenwich is the place to go for niche, beautifully finished, traditional products that you're just not going to find anywhere else. Pickwick is an amazing shop which has been going since the '70s and sells really beautiful old-fashioned prints.'

→ 6 Nelson Rd, SE10 9JB.

### Greenwich Market

'My home is full of things I've bought here. There are so many different traders - not just food, but craft, vintage clothing, bags and homewares. There's a great trader that makes vegan beauty products and hand creams - obviously being a baker, I need those all the time. And I bought a really cool old Greenwich street sign for my wall, because that's how much I love living here.'

→ Greenwich Market, SE10 9HZ.

### The Fan Museum

'Greenwich has lots of big museums, like the Cutty Sark, but if you want something you definitely won't find anywhere else, there's a little fan museum tucked away just next to Greenwich Theatre, overlooking the park. You really feel like you're in a little corner of olden times.'

→ 12 Crooms Hill, SE10 8ER. Closed but visit its digital exhibition at [www.thefanmuseum.org.uk](http://www.thefanmuseum.org.uk).

### Royal Teas

'This cafe is tucked away on Royal Hill, behind the hectic town centre - it does the best breakfasts in town.'

→ 76 Royal Hill, SE10 8RT.

### Greenwich Park

'You have to see the view from the top of the hill, at the Royal Observatory, right by the meridian line. I'm biased but I think it's the best park in London. Walk up to the top of the park and you're in Blackheath, which has a collection of shops and cafés - including the most amazing rare bookshop, The Bookshop on the Heath - it's very cute.'

→ Greenwich Park, SE10 8QY.

# Escapes

Edited by Ellie Walker-Arnott  
timeout.com/daytrips

## UK spots that look nothing like the UK

Seriously, these destinations will make you feel like you're abroad



### WE'VE HAD A

tough few months but, unlike Glasto, Carnival, the Fringe and almost every other

event we were looking forward to this year, summer itself definitely isn't cancelled. Holidays? They're back, and it's no surprise that, after months in the city, the urge to swap London for somewhere new is strong. There's zero need to brave the airport, or risk falling foul of Boris's rapidly changing travel restrictions, though. Head to these distinctive UK places to find international vibes without having to remember where you left your passport.

### Portmeirion Gwynedd

It's a town clinging to the North Wales coast, but, if you didn't know better, Portmeirion could be the Italian Riviera or the hilltops of

Sintra, just outside Lisbon, with their rainbow-hued palaces. Built throughout the twentieth century by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, the collection of technicolour buildings on the edge of Snowdonia National Park were designed to make up a playful, mock-Italian village. *Bellissimo!*

### Dungeness Kent

Few places in the UK make you feel as though you've stumbled through a portal more than Dungeness. The bleak and atmospheric beach, made up of scrubland, wild flowers and shingle, is dotted with lighthouses, neat wooden huts, tumbledown shacks, fishing boats, a bloom of new, design-led cabins and even a nuclear power station for added otherworldly atmosphere. It could be the northern coast of Norway or, like, the moon.





Make the most of your new-found freedom at [timeout.com/daytrips](https://www.timeout.com/daytrips)



Kynance Cove

Isles of Scilly

### Hitchin Lavender Hertfordshire

You don't have to brave the Channel Tunnel for a heady whiff of the purple stuff this summer. Sure, Provence is delightful but so are the fragrant fields of Hertfordshire. Pre-book a slot to explore 35 miles of lavender-lined rows and picnic among the blooms, which usually peak in mid to late August.

### Chapel Down winery Kent

Daydreaming about sun-soaked afternoons spent sipping local wines among the vines? No need to go to

**There's no need to go to Bordeaux to sip wines among the vines**

Bordeaux for that, pals. England has some world-class vineyards, and several of the best are within daytripping distance of London. Head to Chapel Down and wander the estate before sampling glasses of British wine made from grapes grown in the south east of England.

### Isles of Scilly Cornwall

If you don't feel like you're on holiday until you've crossed a body of water, try out the subtropical Scillies. They're an unspoilt archipelago just off the English coast, but thanks to the islands'

white sandy beaches and bobbing palms (Tresco Abbey Garden is like the inside of a Kew glasshouse gone wild), you might be able to convince yourself you're in the Caribbean rather than Cornwall.

### Henrhyd Falls Powys

Tropical Bali is reopening to international tourists in September, but you don't need to travel that far for some just-as-stunning scenes. Henrhyd Falls is the highest waterfall in South Wales, and plunges dramatically into a lush, wooded gorge, just like infamous Nungnung and Tegenungan waterfalls on the Indonesian island. You'll just want walking boots and waterproofs, rather than your most photogenic swimwear.

### Kynance Cove Cornwall

Little imagination is required to believe you've swapped the UK for somewhere further afield at Kynance Cove, thanks to its clear, turquoise waters, dramatic rock stacks and soft sands. The stunning and super-popular Cornish beach could easily be mistaken for the rocky coast of Sardinia or the kind of gems you'd discover while island-hopping through Croatia.

### Isle of Skye Inverness-shire

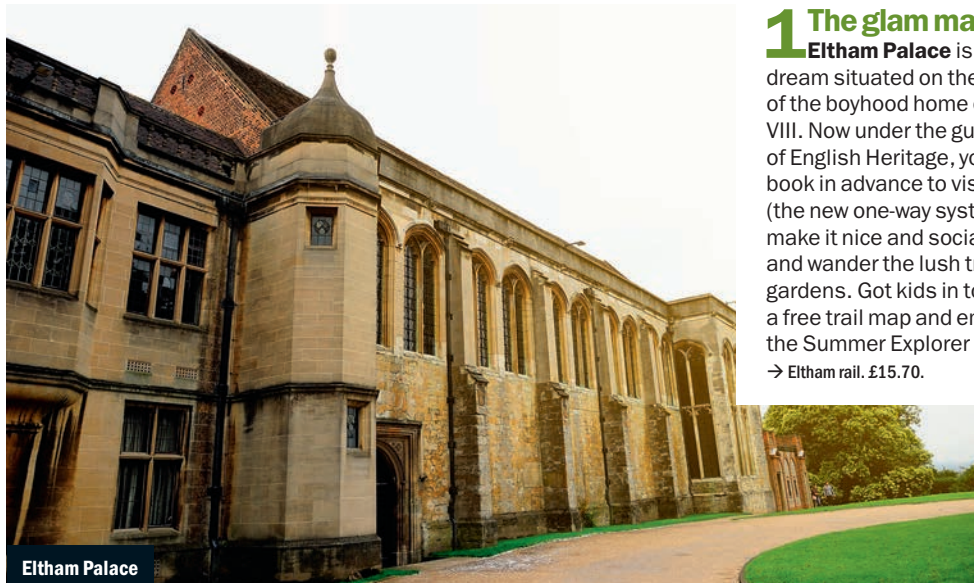
You can find Iceland-esque landscapes, without paying out for an antibody test, on Scotland's Skye. The island's Mealt Falls is a dead ringer for Háifoss waterfall in Iceland, and the rest of the spot's mind-boggling scenery makes a stellar stand-in too. Check out the Scandi-style houses that dot the northern reaches around the Quiraing landslip. Bonus points if the Northern Lights make an appearance. ■ *Ellie Walker-Arnott*

# Yes way! Staycay

Can't get away right now?  
Get inspired by these tips  
on holidaying at home



**A**long with pigeons, rain and Pret, one thing that London has buckets of is local pride. During lockdown, that passion only intensified as we got to know our neighbourhoods even better (you're not the only one on first-name terms with the dude at your local offy, pal). But here's the thing: you'd be forgiven if you were craving an escape. Lucky for you, London is so huge, and so varied, that you can feel like you're holidaying even if you never cross the M25. In partnership with Enjoy Summer Safely, we've found five spots in London that will make you feel like you've gone on holiday. So grab your face covering and get out there – it's time for some (responsible) exploration.



Eltham Palace

**1 The glam mansion**  
Eltham Palace is an art deco dream situated on the grounds of the boyhood home of Henry VIII. Now under the guardianship of English Heritage, you need to book in advance to visit the house (the new one-way system will make it nice and socially distant) and wander the lush traditional gardens. Got kids in tow? Download a free trail map and embark on the Summer Explorer Quest.  
→ Eltham rail. £15.70.



Hollow Ponds



West Reservoir Centre

## 2 The serene boating lake

Row, row, row your boat on the gentle waters of **Hollow Ponds** in Snaresbrook, on the fringes of Epping Forest. Pretend you're a character in 'Wind in the Willows' as you wave to the swans, then settle down on the banks for a picnic. You've earned it.

→ 📍 Snaresbrook. Free.

## 3 The leafy ruin

Encounter central London in a whole new light by paying a visit to **St Dunstan-in-the-East**: it's a shell of a medieval church which has been overtaken by nature after being bombed out during WWII. Spend a quiet moment under its vine-covered arches, then consider heading for a drink or a meal at a nearby restaurant. Many London eateries have signed up to the government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme, including much-loved modern Mediterranean restaurant Haz and London Bridge wine bar Boot & Flogger. Remember to book ahead!

→ 📍 Monument. Free.



Barbican Conservatory

## 4 The hidden swimming spot

There may have been a bleak moment during lockdown when you thought you might not be able to do so much as dip your toe into water this summer. Thankfully, getting wet is on the cards again – but why not go somewhere a bit different? The **West Reservoir Centre** near Green Lanes is a terrific little-known wild swimming spot. All you need to do is book online using the app.

→ 📍 Manor House. Check website for prices.

## 5 The urban jungle

Ah, the **Barbican Conservatory**. A verdant utopia of dreams that always seemed to be closed whenever you tried to visit it in the Before Times. In a gift to cooped-up Londoners, the Conservatory has extended its opening hours to weekdays. Book a slot online and prepare to lose yourself in the tropical plants and trees which cover the Barbican's brutalist concrete. London will feel a million miles away.

→ 📍 Barbican. Until Aug 23. Free.



St Dunstan-in-the-East

### Hungry?

Remember, the Eat Out to Help Out scheme is now running, which means you can get a 50 percent food and soft drinks discount (up to a maximum saving of £10 per person) when you eat in at participating restaurants across the UK every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until August 31.



Barbican Conservatory photo credit: Scott Wylie

→ Find more UK travel inspiration at [www.timeout.com/enjoysummersafely](http://www.timeout.com/enjoysummersafely)

ENJOY  
Summer  
SAFELY

# Five *dreamy* UK coastal escapes

Because you don't need to go abroad for some lush holiday vibes

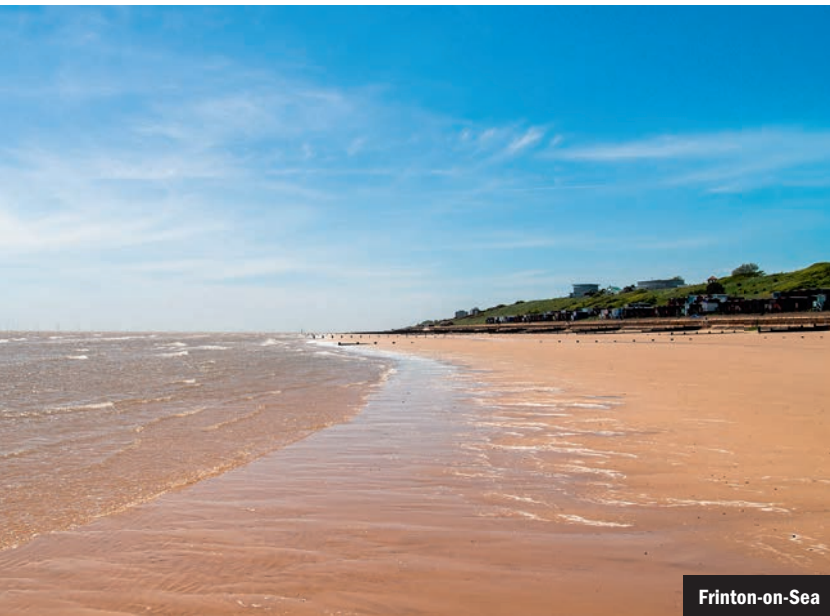


There can't be many things more nostalgic than taking that first breath of fresh sea air as you arrive on the coast. After all, trips to the coastal towns, fishing villages and hidden little inlets of the UK's coastline are about as British as it gets. And with our wanderlust wings clipped a little right now, people are looking more closely at all the great things on our doorstep.

There's a lot here. Sure, we might not be able to offer the azure waters

of the Caribbean or the chance to cook yourself on a lounger in the Spanish sun but you know what? A UK coastal escape could be exactly what you need right now. From fish and chips, ice cream and amusement arcades to rugged cliffs, wooden boats bobbing on the water and remote beaches all to yourself, this is where it's at. Here are some of our favourites to get you started – each as dreamy as the last.





Frinton-on-Sea



Margate



Walberswick

### 1 Walberswick

This charming Suffolk village has a belting sandy beach with dunes that offer some very pretty views to the town of Southwold, over the river to the north. You'll probably want to stay overnight so try The Anchor, a traditional pub with some cracking garden chalets. Try your hand at crabbing too, but just remember they take it seriously here – locals call it 'the crabbing capital of the world'. You have been warned.

### 2 Selsey

Prefer getting someone else to catch the little nippers? Crab from this historic fishing town just south of Chichester is about as good as it gets, with the popular Potters or Julie's Crab Shack fine purveyors. For dessert, head to Chaplins, where you can build your own epic sundae with fresh ice cream (there are dairy-free options too). Selsey's long, shingle beaches are beautiful, and you can easily walk along the Manhood Peninsula to the equally lovely fishing village of East Wittering.

### 3 Frinton-on-Sea

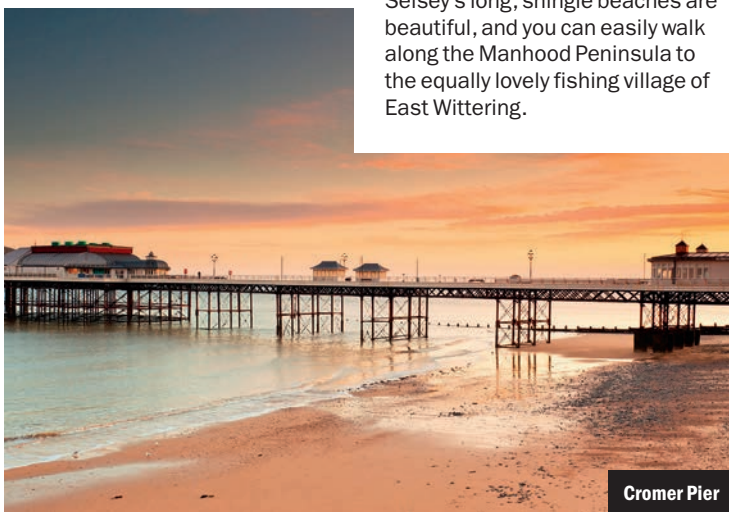
The big draw of this classy Essex seaside town is its long stretch of sea and sand with rows of vibrantly painted Victorian-style beach huts, many of which are available for hire. It's worth exploring the town itself, too. With its tree-lined avenues leading down to an impressively old-school esplanade, you can see why it was once a popular retreat for the aristocracy. Wright's Delicatessen does fantastic homemade pies, and you can pick up some real treasures at Danish homewares and accessories shop Great Danes, browse antiques at No 24 of Frinton or stock up on treats at The Olde Sweet Shop.

### 4 Cromer

Twenty-three miles north of Norwich on the Norfolk coast, Cromer's a bona fide tourist destination. But that's a good thing. It's got a great beach, a striking octagonal lighthouse, a Grade II-listed pier, museums, galleries and even a South American-themed zoo (Amazona) to the south of the town. Our tip: pick up some top-notch fish and chips from Mary Janes to enjoy on the sand. The restaurant also happens to be part of the government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme, which means you can get a 50 percent dine-in food and soft drinks discount (up to a maximum saving of £10 per person) every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until August 31.

### 5 Margate

When the sun's out, there's nowhere better to be than the sandy beaches of Margate – but that's not the only reason to visit this pretty Kent town. The striking Turner Contemporary is open until September 6 (it's free, but you'll need to book ahead) and many of its quirky cafés and restaurants are back, too. Sample wonderfully fresh seafood platters at Buoy and Oyster (also participating in the Eat Out to Help Out scheme) or pick up a tasty takeaway brunch from The Bus Café (yes, it's served from a literal bus).



Cromer Pier

Keep an eye out for Visit England's 'We're Good to Go' industry standard. Venues displaying this mark have put all the necessary social distancing and staff training in place. That means the government guidance is being followed.

# This is the summer of the UK break

Why go abroad when lockdown has prepared us so well for escapes closer to home?

**ON MY FIRST** post-lockdown escape from London, the further we got from the M25 the giddier I felt. Unloading food into a different fridge? A total rush. Showering in a new bathroom? A genuine high. I was practically delirious waking up in a bed that wasn't mine. It helped, of course, that the bed was on the mezzanine level of a charming cabin in the lush Sussex countryside.

As a travel editor, I had an urge to be the first person through airport security the day the travel ban was lifted. In mid-July, I should have been honeymooning, eating caper-studded pizzas and drinking negronis on the Aeolian Islands. Instead, I was walking sections of the South Downs Way in a waterproof and eating homemade sandwiches. And it was glorious.

While the last few months have been sad and stressful, the Great



Pause has also been a chance to really slow down and practise gratitude. Lockdown took away our ability to make plans and forced us to live in the moment. The little things I'd barely have clocked before – pubs serving pints! A quiet footpath! – now seem incredible. That's an amazing starting point for having a holiday in the UK that feels nothing like a compromise.

That charming cabin was The Wisp, near chunky hills with views of the sea, mystical rings of trees and famous beauty spot Devil's Dyke.

It was made for quiet, dark nights by the firepit and slow days swinging in a hammock, watching birds and walking through wild grasses.

After months inside my flat, feeling restricted and tense, fresh air, empty green space and seeing new sights felt revolutionary. I leant into the fire, knowing that my clothes would smell of smoke for weeks. I swam in the sea, even though it was cloudy and actually kind of freezing. It felt like living.

Right now, we don't need endless Greek sunsets when seeing a

squiggle of salty grey on the horizon is so thrilling. There's no need for the sensory overload (or the potential angst when 2020 cancels yet another grand plan – hello, unexpected travel quarantine) when just the ability to leave home feels so heightened and freeing.

There will come a time for the bold trips that max out your overdraft and take months to plan. But this feels like the summer of simple travel pleasures. ■ *Ellie Walker-Arnott*  
→ The Wisp, Sussex. Sleeps two. From £115 a night. [www.canopyandstars.co.uk](http://www.canopyandstars.co.uk)

## THREE OF THE BEST Campervan rentals



### Camptoo

Campervanning is so 2020. Hire a van and you can keep yourself to yourself, bring all your own kit and socially distance with ease. Camptoo is like the Airbnb of campervans – you can rent an array of local, privately owned vehicles to escape the city in. See ya.

→ [www.camptoo.co.uk](http://www.camptoo.co.uk)



### Quirky Campers

Sceptical about going off grid? The campervans this site lists will guarantee your break feels special. All the vehicles are unique and handcrafted, featuring incredible, cleverly designed and really nice-to-look-at interiors. You'll basically be sleeping inside a work of art.

→ [www.quirkycampers.co.uk](http://www.quirkycampers.co.uk)



### Indie Campers

This lot match campers with vans all over Europe. You can pick up your wheels from west London and hit the road in a sleek van or RV-style motorhome, with an itinerary and extras like wi-fi, a shower and bikes and barbecues in the boot. Effortless camping? Yes please.

→ [www.indiecampers.co.uk](http://www.indiecampers.co.uk)

Find sweet places to park at  
[timeout.com/campsites](http://timeout.com/campsites)



Whitby to Scarborough

# Surprising UK walks

'Guerrilla geographer' *Dan Raven-Ellison* spent lockdown creating the Slow Ways: 7,000 walking routes that connect Britain's towns and cities. Here are five of his favourite wanders

## Abereiddy to Porthgain Pembrokeshire

'This is a very small section of the Pembrokeshire Coast Path. Close to the start of the walk is former slate quarry the Blue Lagoon. Come in the autumn and from the high clifftops you could get lucky and see seal pups sheltering on secluded beaches and rock formations below. The walk finishes at The Sloop Inn, or you can loop inland back to the starting point.'

→ How long does it take? One hour.

## Blairmore to Sandwood Bay (and back) Sutherland

'Sandwood Bay is one of Scotland's most beautiful and remote beaches. The cliffs are home to rare birds and the rocks are some of the oldest in the world. It's a 7km walk to Sandwood Bay from Blairmore,

perhaps one of the longest walks to the beach many people would make, but it's well worth it.'

→ How long does it take? Half a day to one day.

## Whitby to Scarborough Yorkshire

'This is a great full day's walk along the North York Moors National Park's coastline. It follows part of both the Cleveland Way National Trail and the new England Coast Path. The coastline is dramatic with sweeping bays, wooded valleys and hidden beaches. Along the way you'll discover coastal villages with cosy pubs to help keep you going.'

→ How long does it take? One day.

## Rowlands Castle to Alton Hampshire

'This is a decent two- or three-day walk across the South Downs National Park through one of most beautiful parts of the country. The

highlight for me are the Hangers, a line of hills with steep slopes that are covered by ancient woodland. Some are tough to ascend, but at the top you'll discover glorious views of the British countryside.'

→ How long does it take? Two to three days.

## Woolwich to Woolwich London

'See London like you've never seen it before by walking the Capital Ring. The 126km route goes through Crystal Palace to the south, Greenford to the west and Finchley to the north. It's suggested that you complete the walk in 15 sections and 15 days. I've done it in four consecutive and increasingly painful days. Prepare for incredible views of the capital, a rich tapestry of culture and lots of surprises.' ■

→ How long does it take? Four to 15 days.

Find out more about the Slow Ways and volunteer to try out the new routes at [www.ravenellison.com](http://www.ravenellison.com)

## ICYMI: England is getting the longest coastal path in the world



Daily walks were our saviour during isolation, and now we can hear the call of the open hiking trail. Luckily, England is getting a new one and it's jumped to the top of our post-lockdown list.

Slated to be completed in the next couple of years, the England Coast Path will take hikers along the entirety of the English coastline and, at 2,800 miles long, it'll be the longest coastal walking route on the planet when it's finished.

The ECP will link up some existing stretches of seaside walkway (like the South West Coast Path, which already runs from Somerset through Devon and Cornwall to Dorset), improve others and, in some places, create new routes for hikers to appreciate the country's coastline. It'll pass through seaside towns and major cities, by flat white beaches, industrial heritage, sand dunes, high chalk cliffs, rugged, rocky coastline, ruined castles and islands. We'll be ready to hit the trail as soon as we can. ■ *Elle Walker-Arnott*

# Film

Edited by Phil de Semlyen  
timeout.com/film @timeoutfilm

## TIME OUT MEETS

# John David Washington

The 'Tenet' star tells *Phil de Semlyen* about the long-awaited blockbuster and his love of Nando's. Portrait *Andy Parsons*

**AFTER FOUR RELEASE-DATE** changes, 'eagerly anticipated' doesn't come close to describing Christopher Nolan's 'Tenet'. Not that zen-sounding ex-NFL player, 'BlacKkKlansman' star and son of Denzel, John David Washington, is feeling the pressure of headlining the movie that might just save cinema. Having spent lockdown like the rest of us ('Routine. Movies. Great documentaries about Michael Jordan. PS4'), he's about to step into the limelight in a big way. 'Going from Spike Lee to Christopher Nolan?' he says. 'That's the dream.'

**Your co-star, Robert Pattinson, talks about how he was locked in a room when he first read the 'Tenet' script. What was your experience?** 'They provided water, so it wasn't like a panic room. I remember reading the title, then [Christopher Nolan's] name and thinking: Oh my God, this is not real life right now. I took my iPad out, put on some classical music and started reading.'

**Does it still feel significant as an African-American actor in 2020 to be the lead in a blockbuster?** 'I'm standing on the shoulders of so many African-American performers. It's definitely more accepted now to cast African-Americans in a genre where they've usually been overlooked. [But] I didn't think about that while approaching this movie. It wasn't in the script anywhere – "Black guy in his thirties" – and Chris and I never discussed it. But I'm proud to be picked for it, I can tell you that.'

**You've been on film sets since you came out in 'Malcolm X' as a kid. Do they feel more diverse now?** 'It depends on the set. I would like to see more faces of colour, male or female, in those boardrooms where people green-light films.'

**You spent a day working with Michael Caine. What was that like?** 'It was a thrill. Between "action" and "cut" all that was going through my head was: "Sir Michael Caine

is talking to me!" I contained it as much as I could. When we got all his close-ups and were turning round [for mine], Chris went: "All right, you're up. No pressure."' (*Laughs.*)

**Did you pick up any cockney slang?** 'I don't know if I should say. Put it like this: I was very surprised [by] his lexicon. He's a character, man.'

**You filmed some scenes in London. How was that?** 'I explored a little bit. I have to admit, I'm obsessed with Nando's – and because they grill the chicken, I wasn't breaking my diet. It's all about that Nandonian sauce, man.'

**Is it true that, as a kid, you used to cosplay as Denzel's 'Glory' character, Civil War soldier Silas Trip?** 'I did. I can still remember some of my dad's speech in the movie. Back when I was eight, I knew every word. I got a blue suit for Christmas and a little rifle and a hat.'

**Can you remember any of his dialogue from 'Training Day'?** 'I get PTSD repeating [the "King Kong ain't got shit on me!" scene], because in my rookie year in the NFL they made me recite that scene every week. I've retired that monologue.'  
→ 'Tenet' is out Aug 26.





# Babyteeth



**THIS INTOXICATING AUSTRALIAN** coming-of-age drama is bookended by two shots of a newly extracted child's tooth drifting serenely to the bottom of a glass. It's a brilliantly left-field motif for the growing pains of its teenage protagonist, Milla (Eliza Scanlen): a bruising, jarring and yet strangely beautiful process that's at once relatable and, as captured by first-time director Shannon Murphy, a big old mystery.

Adapted from a play that debuted on Sydney's repertory circuit, 'Babyteeth' delights in keeping you off-balance. Milla is waning with an initially unspecified illness and depressed, so when she brings home small-time drug pusher Moses (Toby Wallace, sporting a nightmarish rat-tail), her parents, psychiatrist Henry (Ben Mendelsohn) and lapsed musician Anna (Essie Davis), expect the flirtation to be fleeting. But then the twentysomething Moses starts to become a fixture in Milla's life – and their home – and their latitude turns to a kind of hushed parental panic. 'He's a drug addict,' they warn Milla. 'Don't pigeonhole him!' she replies.

The brilliance of 'Babyteeth' is in getting you to laugh at the exchange and then, later, wonder why you did, as Moses reveals new layers and Henry and Anna are the ones struggling to hold it all together.

It's beautifully observed stuff – its fractured but tender family dynamics and depiction of unspoken parental pain reminded me a little



**WHAT IS IT...**  
An electrifying Aussie coming-of-age drama.

**WHY GO...**  
Eliza Scanlen from 'Little Women' is stunning as a teenager on the edge.

→ Dir Shannon Murphy  
(15) 118 mins.  
In cinemas Aug 14.

of Ang Lee's 'The Ice Storm' – as it gradually lets you into a world of well-heeled suburbia that's carefully shorn of all the usual Sydney landmarks. Each character is fully drawn by writer Rita Kalnejais (adapting her own play), and the gifted Aussie cast does the rest. Davis, in particular, seems to get better with every film and here she recalls some of her maternal anguish in 'The Babadook' behind Anna's beatific, Xanax-glazed veneer.

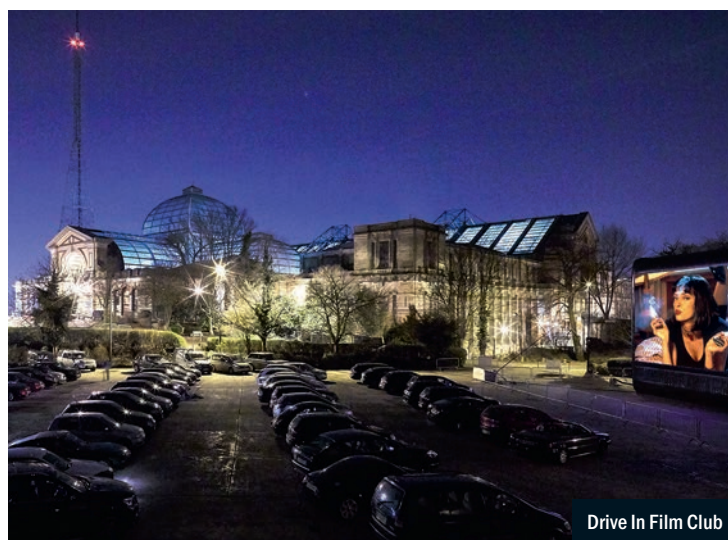
But it's Milla's story and the captivating Scanlen mainlines her with herky-jerky energy (aided by editor Stephen Evans's arrhythmic cuts) and otherness as she rapturously loses herself in music, dancing and the swells of first love. Full of the joys of discovery and the pain of mortality, she's at once real and ethereal. You can almost imagine her as one of the girls in 'Picnic at Hanging Rock', vanishing into the ether in a wash of shimmering dance moves. ■ *Phil de Semlyen.*

## FIVE THINGS TO SEE Cinemas, drive-ins and pop-ups

**AFTER FOUR LONG** months, cinemas are open for business in a big way, with a certain Christopher Nolan blockbuster ready to roll. Immersive screenings and drive-in movies are also on the menu.

**1 'Tenet'**  
The most eagerly awaited film – for all sorts of reasons – since 'Avengers: Endgame' remains shrouded in mystery. Just who is John David Washington's urbane-looking spy? All will become clear in late August. Just no spoilers on social media, y'hear?  
→ In cinemas Aug 26.

**2 Drive In Film Club**  
Run by the crew behind Rooftop Cinema, this early adopter of four-wheeled cinema is back at its old Ally Pally home, offering choice Hollywood cuts and gourmet 'dogs from Camden food truckers Popdogs. Look out for a night-time screening of 'Jurassic Park' on August 15.  
→ Alexandra Palace. Various dates.



**3 'Les Misérables'**  
Not the musical with a caterwauling Russell Crowe but a new French police drama that crackles with energy and racial tension. It's the work of first-time director LadjLy, who has been dubbed 'the French Spike Lee'.  
→ In cinemas Sep 4.

**4 The Winter Night Garden**  
Sure, it's not technically winter but in 2020 anything goes and – within the bounds of social distancing and good common sense – probably will at Backyard Cinema's fantastical late-summer screenings. If entering via a magical wardrobe doesn't grab you, the line-up of crowd-pleasers ('Labyrinth', 'The Greatest Showman', 'True Romance'), the gourmet street food and studio bar just might.  
→ Capital Studios. From Sep 4.  
Free screenings for NHS staff Sep 2-3.

**5 Redefining Rebellion**  
The freshly spruced, socially distanced BFI Southbank reopens on September 1, kicking off with a flurry of fiery, politically fuelled dramas to mark the re-release of 'La Haine'. In the season? 'Taxi Driver', 'Beau Travail', 'Battleship Potemkin', 'Persepolis' and 'Norma Rae', the 1979 trade union drama that won Sally Field her Oscar. Just the classics, then. ■  
→ BFI Southbank. Sep 1-30.



# What to stream in August

'Rising Phoenix'

Finished Netflix? Don't panic, there's more to come

**PROMISING TO MIX** the meds-enhanced sci-fi of 'Limitless' with stacks of superhero action, **'Project Power'** (Netflix, Aug 14) boasts Jamie Foxx, Joseph Gordon-Levitt and a premise involving a mysterious pill that gives its user superpowers. For some reason the tagline isn't 'Netflix and pill' but we'll let that slide.

Gorehounds have Russian 'Alien' riff **'Sputnik'** (streaming sites, Aug 14) and a digital **FrightFest** (Aug 28-31) to look forward to. Look out for paranormal romance **'A Ghost Waits'** on the 25-film-strong programme. Apocalyptic thriller **'She Dies Tomorrow'** (Curzon Home Cinema, Aug 28) follows a woman whose fear of dying within 24 hours begins to infect the people around her.

More foreign-language thrills come via the **BFI Japan** season (BFI Player), which shifts focus to indie cinema. Make time for **'Funeral Parade of Roses'**, an Oedipal tale set in the gay underground of '60s Tokyo, and Hirokazu Kore-eda's first film **'Maborosi'**. And if you have a spare four hours, settle in with Sion Sono's epic romantic drama **'Love Exposure'**, too. Asian filmmaking mavericks are also big on Mubi, with the Wuxia spectaculars of King Hu – **'A Touch of Zen'** (Aug 4) and **'Dragon Inn'** (Aug 16) – on the slate. Fans of 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon' and Zhang Yimou's movies should make a date with them both. Xavier Dolan's **'Matthias & Maxime'** also lands on Mubi, on August 28.

There are buzzy docs to look out for in **'Boys State'** (Apple TV+, Aug 14) and **'Rising Phoenix'** (Netflix, Aug 26). The first follows American teenagers building a government from the ground up, while the second charts the stories behind the Paralympics. **'Coup 53'** (virtual screening, Aug 19), an account of the 1953 CIA/MI5 coup in Iran, is less uplifting but no less fascinating.

And if you're after family viewing and have a tolerance for talking-animal movies, **'The One and Only Ivan'** (Disney+, Aug 21) is a feelgood yarn starring a gorilla, an elephant, a dog and Bryan Cranston. Animal voices are provided by Sam Rockwell, Angelina Jolie and Danny DeVito. It's all based on a true story, too. Okay, most of it is. ■

## LOCKDOWN LIFESAVERS

Four actors pick the show that got them through



**THE LAST DANCE**  
Picked by  
Jason Isaacs

'My dad and I made our way through [Michael Jordan and Chicago Bulls series] "The Last Dance" during lockdown. I don't like basketball, but I loved it. It was made by Jordan's company, but he didn't come across as someone that I ever wanted to spend any time with. Great drama works when the characters reveal something about themselves that they didn't intend to.'

→ Available on Netflix.



**TIGER KING**  
Picked by  
Gemma Arterton

'I watched it early in lockdown and it was so entertaining. Joe Exotic and the other characters are completely unique and off-the-wall. If you're an actor and you played one of them, everyone would think it was far-fetched. Who would be the best director for a "Tiger King" movie? I think someone like Danny Boyle or maybe Andrea Arnold because she's obsessed with Americana.'

→ Available on Netflix.



**SUCCESSION**  
Picked by  
Jim Sturgess

'Loved "Succession", especially Matthew Macfadyen as [obsequious in-law to media moguls the Roy family] Tom Wambsgans. I've seen Matthew in so many things and he's always been such a brilliant actor, but he looks like he's having the time of his life playing that character, just being as repulsive and ridiculous as possible. He's enjoying every moment of it.'

→ Seasons 1-2 available on Now TV.



**THIS COUNTRY**  
Picked by  
Maxine Peake

'I got through the first week of lockdown by watching it. It's funny but it's beautiful, and all the characters are great. There are moments that remind me of when I was younger, like when [Daisy May Cooper's character] Kerry Mucklowe is asked if she wants a scone or biscuits and she says: "Both!" You can keep your Fleabags, Kerry Mucklowe is the woman for me.'

→ Seasons 1-3 available on BBC iPlayer.

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