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TimeOut

LONDON

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Inside

This issue of Time Out
in no time at all

Sweet!

Why is the West End filling with
US-style sweetshops? And fillings?
And Gemma Collins screaming?

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If you're still swerving your local lido,
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Don't let a drop of rain put you off,
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Hello, London

Joe Mackertich
London Editor
@j_mackertich



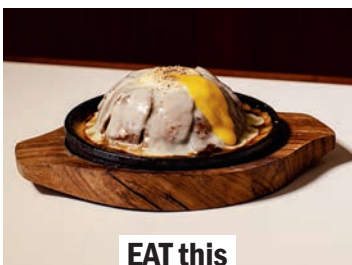
So close, London. We are so, *so close*. Close to when you won't have to go back for your mask every time you leave the house in a rush. When you'll be able to visit a pub and not have to download three apps to get a pint. When theatres and football stadiums won't have to operate at a loss. And crucially, when you can dance about in a basement like a chimpanzee hopped up on orange juice. That's how I do it, anyway – you may well possess qualities like 'rhythm' and 'dignity'.

I wish someone had told me when I was younger that no one cares if you can or can't dance. Unlike crossing the Euston Road or taking a gamble on an improv comedy night, getting it wrong does not have disastrous consequences. In fact, the opposite is true. Bad dancing *encourages* others to join in. Like the opposite of a flash mob.

London won't be properly London again until its venues are heaving with breakers, boppers and ballerinas. After months of not feeling free, the sense of agency that comes with thrashing around like a malfunctioning dog will feel amazing. If we have to wait a bit longer to have that back safely, I can take it.

THE EDITOR'S ESSENTIALS

Three things you have to do in London



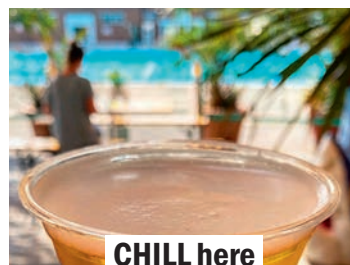
EAT this

Cafe Bao's sizzling-aged-beef-cheesy-rice thing is next-level comfort food. A great addition to King's Cross.



DRINK this

Exale's taproom on the Blackhorse Beer Mile had a great vibe when I dropped in last week. Top 'za, too, courtesy of Freewheelin' Pizza.



CHILL here

The Brockwell Lido caff, called **Four Hundred Rabbits**, might be the most idyllic spot in London when it's sunny. Felt like I was on holiday.

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LONDON

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City life

Edited by Isabelle Aron
@timeoutlondon



Why London Trans+ Pride is essential

Supporting and celebrating trans people should matter to everyone, says London Trans+ Pride volunteer Ren, ahead of the event's third annual edition this weekend

THE FIRST LONDON Trans+ Pride was in September 2019, a year after a group of trans-exclusionary radical feminists promoted messages of hate and division in the queer community at the front of the Pride in London march. After that, there was a lot of talk about the need for a Pride event at which trans people could feel safe, so we made our own event and it's been a great success ever since.

London Trans+ Pride, at its heart, will always come from the idea that pride is a protest – an act of resistance against a society that has shunned us and relegated us into the darker corners of the night. London Trans+ Pride was one of the first major opportunities that we had as a community to bring ourselves out from the shadows and into

the daylight and celebrate ourselves under that daylight, just like everyone else.

Trans+ Pride is important to me because we get to celebrate one another in an unashamed way. That's something unique and extremely validating for trans people. Even within the community, we can find ourselves rejected, vilified or misunderstood. We get to be together, celebrate together, cry together, dance together, to be in an ocean of people who are like you, when you previously felt that you were alone – these are things that make Trans+ Pride special. Our hope is that it doesn't just have to be in London. We hope that Trans+ Pride events start popping up everywhere, so that there are more avenues for people to be able to have this experience.

One of the best moments I've had was when we collaborated with Black Lives Matter for the Black Trans Lives Matter rally. As a Black trans person, that was tremendously meaningful to me, that Londoners were willing to show their support for a marginalised group within a marginalised group.

Trans+ Pride should matter to us all because trans rights are just human rights. Having empathy and standing up for the marginalised are things that should matter to everyone. Events like Trans+ Pride should be important to everybody, because they are a way for anyone who attends them to show the rest of the world, all the trans people, all the queer people, that someone cares and is willing to fight for them. ■

→ London Trans+ Pride is on Jun 26. Read more on p51.

HYPE DISH
DISSECTION

Bancone's silk handkerchiefs, walnut butter and confit egg yolk

What goes into the London plates that everyone bangs on about

WHEN PEOPLE ARRIVE at Bancone, they sometimes don't even look at the menu. They're there for one thing: the silk handkerchiefs with walnut butter and confit egg yolk. 'We get people walking in and waving their phone around with a picture, saying: "I want this",' explains

co-founder Will Ellner. It wasn't his intention to create an Instagram-worthy hit dish. In fact, it's a reinterpretation of a classic Italian egg yolk ravioli, which he says they've kind of 'turned inside out'. He talks us through it. ■ *Isabelle Aron*
→ Various locations. £9.



HEYWOOD AVENUE NW9

THE STREET THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

Actor *O-T Fagbenle* on the Colindale street where he got his big break

I WAS ON Heywood Avenue when I got the call from Rada telling me I'd got into drama school. I'd decided I was going to go to university and get a proper job. At the last minute, I had an epiphany while I was in a school play and decided I wanted to be an actor.

I didn't have enough money to apply to drama schools. You're supposed to apply to six or seven and we only had enough money to apply to two. This was in 1998, when only 17 boys out of the 2,000 who applied each year would get in, and only one of those boys would be Black. All the odds were against me. When I got the call saying I'd got in, while I was walking around the Grahame Park estate, it was surreal. I thought: Wow, my entire life is going to change.

That was a huge moment, but so much of my life has played out on the streets of north-west London, because that's where I spent most of my life growing up. As a mixed Black African and white British person, I loved growing up in a place where there's such a cornucopia of cultures, be it Caribbean, West African, Somali or white British. It's not the flashiest part of London, but it has the richest mix of cultures and people. ■

Interview by Alexandra Sims
→ O-T Fagbenle is in 'Black Widow', in cinemas on Jul 9.



The egg yolk
'We confit our egg yolks by slow cooking them in vegetable oil at 63 degrees for 20 minutes. It cooks the yolk but doesn't harden it, so when you cut into it, it bursts.'

The textures
'It's a simple dish, but there's a lot going on with each mouthful. There are great textures: our pasta has a really lovely bite and the toasted walnuts bring crunchiness.'

The pasta
'We make a firm pasta dough - it's hard work putting it through the machine. We start with sheets of pasta and trim them with a feather cutter to give a lovely jagged edge.'

The sauce
'We make a beurre blanc with shallots, white wine, black peppercorns, juniper, cream, unsalted butter and white wine vinegar. It creates a rich sauce with the yolk.'

The colours
'We use rich yolks for the pasta - we want it to be sunshine yellow, not a wishy-washy beige. Then there's the dark toasted walnuts and the bright orange confit yolk.'

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At this party, not even the artichokes have hearts

How to throw an actually decent dinner party

Hosting skills a bit rusty? Four London supper clubbers share their tips on how to ace it

Let your guests help themselves

'When having friends over for dinner, I stick to one golden rule: rather than serving up individual plates, put dishes on the table, sharing-style. It saves on decoration, because a colourful salad or a joint of slow-roasted meat, ready to be pulled from the bone, makes for the ultimate centrepiece.'

Elena Silcock, founder of You Bring The Wine

Don't make ten different dishes

'Make life a bit easier with a one-size-fits-all starter and dessert, which will work for guests who are vegan, gluten-free or nut-free. For example, an orange, mint and radish salad to start and a vegan flourless cardamom torte for after.'

Ellie Brawn, sous and development chef, Fat Macy's

Think beyond bog-standard G&Ts

'Elevate your hosting game with a cocktail made from seasonal and surprising ingredients. Try a rhubarb and rosemary gin martini – you can make a syrup from rhubarb, apple juice, sugar and thyme sprigs, which can be prepped in advance, then just add gin and soda at the last minute.'

Gabi Adams, co-founder of Gooce Supper Club

Get ahead of the game

'Prep most of the elements in advance. Pickles, crunchy toppings, sauces and garnishes can all be made ahead of time and will elevate the meal with minimal effort. Try quick pickled red onions, dukkah, savoury granola or edible flowers.'

Elizabeth Kerr, co-founder of Fork & Knife



TimeOut
LOVE LOCAL

LONDON MAKERS

Wine making doesn't just happen in balmy French vineyards, and **Renegade Urban Winery** in Bethnal Green is proof of that. It makes vino right here in London, ranging from a chardonnay using Essex-grown grapes to its Bethnal Bubbles 2.1 (left), a hopped sparkling wine.

→ Bethnal Bubbles 2.1, £27. www.renegadelondonwine.com

WORD ON THE STREET

The most ridiculous things we've overheard in London this week

'I've eaten crisps and now I need to fart.'

'Do you know what depresses me? Shit pictures of avocado on toast.'

'Anyway, enough about my bum.'

'My "mmm" had nothing to do with the carrot.'

'Forget butter, the cheese is the lubricant.'

'What are your thoughts on french fancies?'

'Silent discos are shit, aren't they?'

'If I go and have a poo, will I burn my toast?'

'You don't hear a lot about HGVs any more, do you?'

'Right, I better check my emails before I have a nap.'

'I've run out of both coffee and fucks to give.'

Overheard something weird? Tweet us #wordonthestreet @timeoutlondon

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A photograph capturing the essence of olive harvesting in Italy. In the foreground, a large, overflowing pile of dark, ripe olives is scattered with green and yellowish leaves. The background shows a person, likely a worker, standing in a field of olive trees, their hands reaching towards the branches. The scene is bathed in soft, natural light, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The overall mood is one of traditional, labor-intensive agriculture.

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Europe is getting a ton of cool new sleeper trains

Historic routes are choo-chooing back into action across the Continent

SLEEPER TRAINS are like Martinis: a bit old hat, a bit James Bond, and maybe a bit overdue to get a – somewhat ironic – ‘cool’ rethink. Which is fortunate, because plans have just been revealed for a whole new generation of European sleepers set to criss-cross the continent. Night-rail services have been gradually cut back over recent decades. But as the world begins to open up again, the trend is reversing, and we’re super-excited about the announcement of several new sleeper routes connecting Europe’s biggest cities, all launching over the next few years.

Why? Because not only are trains greener, more spacious and generally less hassly than flying – but when you travel at night, they eliminate the major downside of railways: lengthy journey times. Here are the routes for next time you fancy city-hopping across Europe.

The capital connector

Cast your mind back to 2004 and you may remember ‘From Paris to Berlin’ by Danish groovesters Infernal. And also its video, in which the two singers zip from one city to the other with the help of neon disco trains. Come 2023, that could be you: rail consortium Nightjet is launching a new sleeper that’s set to link up with the Eurostar and whisk you from the bistros to Berghain.



The Scandinavian tour

If you’ve ever tried to take the train from Berlin to Copenhagen, you’ll know it’s a drag (three-plus changes). Not for much longer. Swedish firm Snälltåget is launching a new sleeper service linking Stockholm, Malmö, Copenhagen, Hamburg and Berlin this month. Now there’ll be no getting lost at the hauptbahnhof in some obscure city: you’ll just snooze the night away.

The ultimate stag do

What could be larger than a trip to Amsterdam with the lads (or indeed gals)? A trip to Amsterdam *and* Prague, that’s what. European Sleeper is working with Czech company Regiojet on a new route – set to launch in 2022 – that runs from Brussels to Prague, via Amsterdam and Berlin. Sounds like quite a trip.

The hotels on wheels

Forget the white-gloved waiters and tasselled chandeliers on classic services like the Orient Express. A new start-up, Midnight Trains, offers a very different kind of sophistication aboard its ‘rolling boutique hotels’ from 2024 (think natural wine, dainty dinners and super-sleek decor). The routes will centre on the Gare du Nord in Paris, and stretch as far as Madrid, Venice, Vienna, Budapest, Copenhagen and Edinburgh. ■ *Huw Oliver*

CITY ENVY

Great things that we love in other cities

Oakland’s queer gym

Maniacally cheerful instructors, muscle-bound regulars and machines that look like medieval torture devices: the average gym can be an ordeal at the best of times. But that sense of intimidation can be all the more extreme if you identify as LGBTQ+, which is why we’re full of admiration for Oakland gym The Perfect Sidekick. Founded by queer trainer Nathalie Huerta, the USA’s first dedicated LGBTQ+ gym celebrates its eleventh birthday this month. Featuring gender-neutral bathrooms, a lack of mirrors and tailored training for trans members preparing for surgery, the gym helps California’s LGBTQ+ community get fit and experience the mental and physical benefits of exercising in a safe, welcoming space full of fellow queers. And if you want to get in on the action?

It’s just started offering online classes too.

Rosie Hewitson

→ www.thequeergym.com



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This city really, really, really wants to dance

Londoners haven't been *out-out* for 15 months. *Kate Lloyd* talks to experts and performers about why we crave it so much. Portraits *Andy Parsons*



WHEN WAS THE last time you danced? Like, properly squeezed yourself into a sweaty crowd, shook off your inhibitions and got down? For me, it was March last year. I was at The Heathcote & Star pub in Leyton, it was around 1am and it involved my whole Whatsapp group screaming 'I'm horny - horny, horny, horny' across a birthday cake-covered dancefloor.

It's been 15 months since that (deeply uncool) moment. And while, during the pandemic, I've got drunk, been to (outdoor seated) nightclubs in Tottenham

and Brixton and tuned into (live-streamed virtual) festivals, I haven't danced. I can't remember a period of my life when I haven't done it for this long. At this time of year, in normal times, I'd be one of the thousands of Londoners gearing up for a summer punctuated by dancing: at Pride, at Carnival, at festivals, nightclubs and weddings. But now things still feel uncertain.

Across the city, culture is returning. We've got our art galleries, theatres, cinemas, restaurants and bars back. But dancing at a party is still just out of reach. Sure, we might be able to attend a wedding now, but we aren't





The ballet dancers who took to the streets

Annette Buvoli (and partner Harry Churches) are Royal Ballet dancers who took to a floating stage in lockdown

Lockdown felt extremely isolating. We still trained five days a week on Zoom. But live theatre is what we train for!

Then we saw an Instagram post from a fellow Royal Ballet dancer. It was about putting on shows on the Regent's Canal

People just stumbled across us. They'd be walking down the canal like: 'Oh my God, there's a ballerina there *en pointe!*'

The word got out. People would set up a little picnic. It felt like they were so grateful to see us and we were so grateful to be able to perform.

One time it poured with rain and we were slipping about on stage. But the audience just pulled out umbrellas and cheered us on.

For me, it was really freeing. At the Opera House everything is a serious production. But doing ballet purely for the love of it was incredible.

→ Annette and Harry will be performing in The Royal Ballet's Beauty Mixed Programme, Jun 26-Jul 11.

Dance

Big parties to book now

The one with no line-up

Low End Theories is part of Printworks' Redacted series is being advertised to parties based on vibe alone not big-name artists. This one's mood? 'High-energy MCs, reloads, dynamic B2Bs, dnb crews.'

→ Printworks. Sun Sep 19.

The Pride party

Thanks to the good old pandemic, Pride month has been moved to the autumn. To mark this year's celebration of London's LGBTQ+ community, Fabric's putting on a bash called He.She. They starring Maya Jane Coles.

→ Fabric. Sep 11.

The one with Ibiza vibes

Amnesia. That club you went to as an 18-year-old but couldn't afford any drinks in. It is now putting on an party at the Drumsheds with a ridic line-up. Honey Dijon, The Blessed Madonna, Richy Ahmed and more play.

→ Drumsheds. Sep 3.



Giant crowds, like this one at Printworks, have been missing in London since 2020.



All archive shots from the Museum of Youth Culture

allowed to do the YMCA with the father of the bride. Dance classes were back, but that's no use for those of us whose skill level only goes so far as throwing our hands in the hair and jumping about a bit. The reopening of nightclubs has been pushed back to late July. A third of UK festivals have already been cancelled.

Moving through time

This might sound trivial to you. You're maybe thinking: *Why make such a fuss about dancing when so much of our lives is back to semi-normality? Just look at the mess caused by all those illegal raves last summer: woodland littered with tins and balloon canisters, people selfishly putting lives at risk all for the sake of a few hours of fun.* Here's the thing, though: dancing is actually integral to the human experience.

'Humans have been dancing for as long as they've been human,' says music and culture writer Emma Warren. Recently she's been reading a book called 'Dancing in the Streets: A History of Collective Joy' by Barbara Ehrenreich. 'She talks about there being lots of images of people dancing in cave paintings,' says Warren. 'But not a lot of people sitting around having conversations. The things that people chose to represent then were to do with movement and music.'

It's hard to think of any culture in any period of history that hasn't danced. In London alone our history is entangled with the art form. During World War II, dance clubs were seen as community unifiers, morale boosters, part of the war effort. Newspapers used stories about people continuing to jive

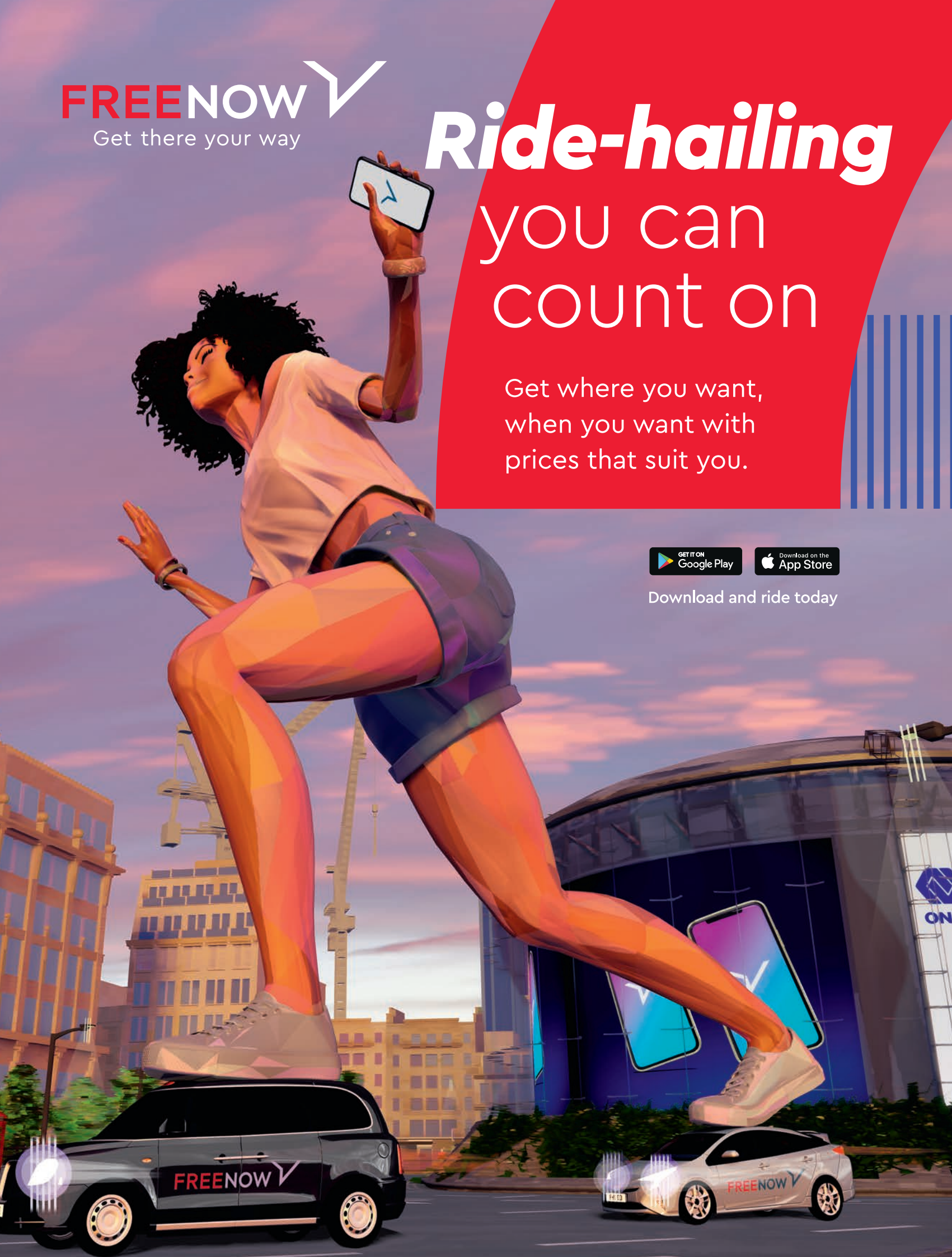
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The dance school that's a lifeline

Joelle D'Fontaine is the founder of At Your Beat

I didn't grow up with family. I started At Your Beat to create one.

That's why, when lockdown hit, I decided nothing was going to change. Every single class would go online. We'd give people a sense of normality.

I'd lived alone from the age of 15. I knew what it's like to be isolated. I was like: I just want to make sure that all our members are okay.

Eventually we started getting members to do music video concepts from their houses. Creating something was really powerful, especially for the teachers whose mental health was destroyed.

Our members bonded more than ever before. Lots are now doing things together outside of At Your Beat. Now real-life classes are back, people are bringing their kids who'd got into it at home.

There are some classes where I don't recognise anyone. They all started on Zoom! It feels like we've got a new generation of the family.
→ At Your Beat x Nike London are holding free dance sessions in August. Sign up via Nike Play.



Places to learn good moves

The iconic one
Pineapple Dance Studios has been keeping our city swaying since 1979. It still hosts over 250 classes a week, from contemporary to modern.
→ 7 Langley St, WC2H 9JA.

The pole one
You'll find London's most badass dance class at Kelechneoff Studio in Peckham. The pole-dance sessions here are a real body-confidence boost.
→ Sojourner Truth Centre, SE15 6JL.

The tap one
City Academy runs hundreds of classes, but it's the signature tap lessons that are a must. That scene from 'La La Land' will be yours in a shuffle.
→ Multiple locations.

even as air raid sirens sounded – ‘the dancers continued as though nothing had happened, although many of the windows had been blown out’ – as a way to build blitz spirit. More recently, dance scenes and nightclubs have been born to provide homes for outsiders. ‘Look at the soundsystem generation,’ says Warren. ‘Black British people who had to requisition spaces because most traditional nightclubs weren't available, for reasons of direct and indirect racism. It was about creating community spaces, safe spaces and important places.’

The sixth sense

You know that feeling as you walk down a dark club corridor towards

the dancefloor? You've just arrived, everything feels a bit disorientating. You can't see the DJ yet, the music is muffled, but your heart rate starts going up. It's like your body is getting ready to dance...

That's something called ‘sensory motor coupling’ – the same process that makes you react to a loud, sharp bang by jumping out of your seat – and it's a biological drive to move to sound. Or at least that's how Dr Peter Lovatt explains the science of it. He's a psychologist who has been researching the power of dance. ‘We have found that when you're dancing in nightclubs, you're communicating in ways you don't communicate in almost any other place on the planet,’ he says. ‘Via





Caramel

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Must-see shows

The hip hop celebration

Breakin' Convention at Sadler's Wells is the UK's longest-running festival of hip hop, celebrating its eighteenth year in 2021. This year, it promises two days of top hip hop crew showcases.

→ Sadler's Wells. Jul 3-4.

The Royal Ballet's birthday bash

The grand old dance institution celebrates its ninetieth birthday with a special celebratory bill of works entitled 'beauty'. It works back in time through the company's history, ending with an excerpt from Petipa's 'The Sleeping Beauty' – the first work it ever performed.

→ Royal Opera House. Jun 26-Jul 11.

The greatest dance musical of all time?

For most of the summer, Sadler's Wells will host just a single show: but what a show! 'Singin' in the Rain' needs no introduction: a stage version of one of the all-time great screen musicals, it combines kinetic choreography with endless iconic songs.

→ Sadler's Wells. Jul 30-Sep 5.



Royal Ballet dancers perform 'The Sleeping Beauty' in the Before Times. It's back on June 26.

hormones and genes that influence the way you dance.' (The impact of hormones on your dance style is so great that – if you are someone who has a menstrual cycle – the way you dance will change throughout it and the way other dancers react to you will change too.)

To Lovatt, dancing is almost like a sixth sense: a way of understanding and interacting with the world. His work has found that dancing in a crowd is so powerful that it releases opioids in your brain (something that doing it alone in your bedroom doesn't achieve). Afterwards people report liking each other more. They feel more similar in terms of aspirations, hopes and values. They trust each

other more and want to help each other more. It doesn't matter what kind of music they're listening to.

This doesn't surprise Jamie Brett from the Museum of Youth Culture. For the past few years, he has helped build an online archive of photographs of nightlife movements through history. When these pictures are uploaded,

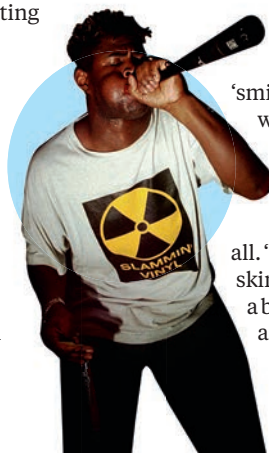
they're organised by tagging them with words like 'smiling' or 'jumping with friends'. Doing that has helped him notice a commonality between them all. 'You'll start to see a skinhead jumping off a brick wall at a gig, and then you'll see

ravers jumping into a crowd,' he says. 'And you see a crossing over of these moments of celebration. It's not just a mod or it's not just a raver. You're seeing the same elation and camaraderie and, you know, togetherness.'

Feeling free

Look, I'm not an idiot. I'm not about to risk my life or the lives of those around me so I can go and do my comedy line-dance jig to 'Old Town Road'. I'll wait it out. But lockdown has made me realise the importance of dancing in my life. That it's not something that I'll grow out of or just an excuse to stay up too late and get drunk. It's something I need to feel alive.

'Nightclubs didn't start just because of some whim or fancy,' says Lovatt. 'They serve a biological and



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The pioneering strip collective

Victoria Rose, April Fiasco and Averi are part of virtual club Cybertease, launched to help sex workers carry on making cash in lockdown

Victoria Rose

In a mainstream strip club, dancers can end the night in debt to the club.

You have to pay house fees to work there and you only get paid what you earn from your dances.

We're a co-op. Money from tips and tickets is broken up between us, the DJs and our guest performers.

My highlight since we started? April did a 'Dirty Dancing' number where she did the lift and landed on a cake.

Another time one of the performers whipped someone in a Boris Johnson mask. We like to get political.

April Fiasco

People always want to distance themselves from strippers. Even in the pole-dance community there was the hashtag #notastripper. But we pioneered pole dancing!

Themes make things fun. Especially for creative ideas. We do things with cake, watermelon and in the shower.

Because our performers are diverse, our audience is diverse too. We have all genders and body types and Queer House Party does the music.

We want to do real-life events. With a stage show and private dance area.

Averi

I'm thankful to have a community of sex workers. I wouldn't have made it through 2020 without them.

To me, dancing is about being powerful. Whether that's strip, or just contemporary. It's showing off your power, appreciating others' power and finding liberation in that.

→ Watch Cybertease x Berlin Strippers Collective, Jun 24, 8.30pm. www.cybertease.co.uk.



psychological need. You connect with other people, you connect with the music, you're connecting with your own biology. It's no wonder we feel bad [right now] because we've lost a basic human need.'

Studies show that if you strip creative movement from people's lives, their minds become dulled, their bodies start to ache, they have fewer ideas, their mood drops. In a time when so many of us have lost so much control over various aspects of our lives, for me the biggest loss is of the sense of escape that dancing offers. Jamie Brett from the Museum of Youth Culture agrees. 'I think that those transcendental moments that you have in clubs are quite radical,' he says. 'You're taking control of the world that you live in and doing something quite different from your daily life. It's adding brief moments

of complete freedom to your life.'

As we wait for clubs and festivals to return, there is one good thing to hold on to. Have you noticed that you've had a stronger reaction to music in lockdown? That's because of the dulled environment we've been in, says Lovatt, and it means that when we are back on the dancefloor it's going to feel even better than it did before.

'Imagine somebody took away another of your senses for 18 months,' he says. 'And then you got that back again. The world would feel richer. And so when those clubs open again, we'll have this amazing experience. If we relax, let ourselves go – boom – we'll be back on it.' ■

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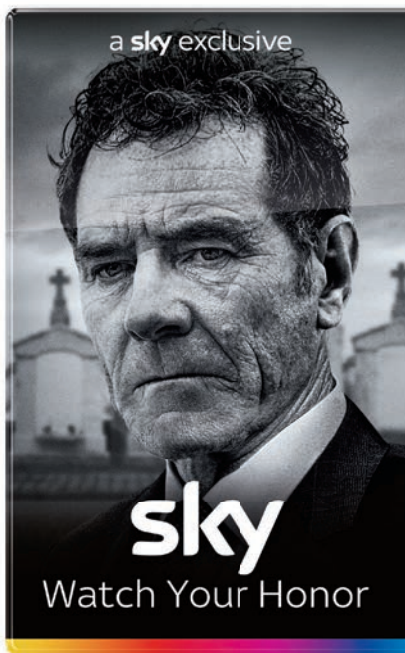
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Why is London so full of sweetshops?

American candy giants are taking over Oxford Street, locked in a sugary struggle for customers. *Amelia Tait* tries to figure out why. Photography *Andy Parsons*



THERE IS A stretch of pavement on Oxford Street – beneath the London College of Fashion and just before the department store John Lewis – where the air mysteriously smells of bubblegum. It's not that it's a popular place to vape; there's no abundance of pink sticky stuff underfoot. Instead, the smell emanates from a tiny plastic tube protruding from a locked purple box next to a small tower of 'Chips Ahoy!' breakfast cereal. If you look closely, you can even see the steady stream of scented mist.



This aroma-diffusing technology is designed to entice customers into Kingdom of Sweets, a fluorescent candy shop filled with Twinkies, Oreos and a four-foot Big Ben made of Kit Kats and Cadbury's Eclairs.

Why would a sweetshop on the UK's busiest shopping street need to resort to pumping out clouds of gas to get punters through the door? It might have something to do with the local competition. If you walk from Kingdom of Sweets towards Marble Arch, you'll pass American Candy Land, Worldwide Candy: The House of American Candy, and, four doors down from that, the words

'American Candy' printed on a blue banner covering an old shop name. Look over the road: there's Candy Surprise. If you walk back towards Tottenham Court Road, you'll pass Candy Shop, American Candy, American Candy World, and – if you pop round the corner on to Charing Cross Road – Candy World.

That's nine American sweetshops in just two kilometres. Nearly one every 250 metres.

Spies and souvenirs

Inside, these stores are as generically similar as their names. All sell row after row of American snacks – most



Sweetshops

feature both a bespectacled Harry Potter and a red Jelly Belly sporting a chef's hat. A single box of cereal can easily set you back £10, while you won't get much change from a fiver if you want a bag of exotic M&Ms. Nearly all are soundtrack by untz-untz-untz-ing electropop (though Kingdom of Sweets does play Disney music during half term).

Individually, these shops' red, white, and blue E-numbers run amok. Together, they raise the question: how did London get such a gooey, chewy centre?

'We were the first people to have a sweetshop in Oxford Street,' says Alan Wiggett, managing director of Kingdom of Sweets, from behind an imposing mahogany desk in the company's Soho offices. Framed pictures of sweets line the walls – an unlit and oddly small neon sign reading 'Welcome to the Kingdom!!!' distinguishes an otherwise ordinary kitchen. 'We've had people spend £1,000 before,' he says. 'We've had to take a trolley to their house.'

The legend of the Kingdom goes like this: 18 years ago, founder Chase Manders started importing American candy to sell in a Barnsley shopping centre. Customers went wild for it. By 2012, his Oxford Street shop had opened. Then five more across London. But, as life got sweeter, along came the spies. In 2018, Kingdom of Sweets employees started to notice people sneaking into their stores and taking photographs.

'They come into the shop and copy us,' Wiggett says, adding that staff have had to ask competitors to leave. Since then, Manders has gone from having the only specialist sweetshop on Oxford Street to being just one of nine. Many copycats used to be souvenir shops. Before that, some were perfume 'auctioneers' with permanent closing-down sales. Wiggett says it's affected sales. 'It's not a competition,' says Riya, manager of American Candy World, which has been open a year and which has an 8,000-piece motorised London Eye in the window. Standing behind his counter next to a gutted bureau de change, he says that every sweetshop on Oxford Street has enough customers that notions of competition are irrelevant. 'If they're passing,' he says, 'they'll buy it.'



'They come into the shop and then they copy us'

The one that started it all



Perhaps competition is irrelevant when the prices are more gut-wrenching than a tube of pickle-flavoured Pringles. An online review for one Oxford Street sweetshop laments 'Overpriced! overpriced!! overpriced!!!' – the reviewer spent £37 on two bags of crisps, a 99g box of sweets, and a jar of peanut butter. Riya says his average customer spends between £25 and £30 on six or seven items. Which raises another question: why are so many people prepared to spend so much money on American sweets, and why now?

Gemma 'Wonka' Collins

'Consumers can't seem to get enough of all things retro at the moment,' says Shokofeh Hejazi, senior editor at foods trend agency the Food People. Hejazi explains that 'there's comfort in familiarity so shoppers look for 'nostalgic' treats. At first glance, this answer seems counterintuitive – how many of us ever munched on Twinkies as kids? But Hejazi explains that consumers experience 'borrowed American nostalgia' for the stuff we saw on TV.

Then, of course, there's social media. In the last decade, videos of people desperately trying to be sarcastic as they chew their way through imported Twizzlers have become immensely popular – the top ten YouTube results for 'British people try American candy' have 29,840,800 combined views. 'We've seen growing demand for sensory foods that provide "eatertainment",' say Alexandra Hayes and Lisa Harris, co-founders of food consultancy business Harris and Hayes. 'Bright colours, crazy flavours and surprising ingredients.'

American sweets are bigger than ours, dumber than ours and much more photogenic than ours. In the age of influencers that counts for a lot. Check #KingdomOfSweets on Instagram and you'll see plenty of people posing in their best outfits in front of rows and rows of sweets. A Story Highlight on the @kingdomofsweetsofficial Instagram

Social media-savvy celebs are buying in to the sweets hype





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line of American drinks. Now his cornershop is filled to the brim with pancake mixtures, Kool-Aid and barbecue sauces as well as candy. He shows me the small selection of English sweets he offers, which suddenly seems pathetic and dull. 'People didn't have a special reason to come to this shop,' he says. 'So we decided to do something different.'

With more people shopping locally thanks to lockdowns, Ravat's business boomed in 2020. 'It's a massive demand,' he says. But suppliers aren't always reliable – Ravat says items can go out for stock for months at a time. 'One Jolly Rancher drink used to sell well but I can't find it any more,' he says, while Riya had to stop selling the Nerds Rope after his suppliers told him it had been banned in the UK. After selling out his initial order of the viral TikTok jelly fruits, Ravat couldn't get his hands on more (his supplier said 'there's an ingredient in there you can't sell' in the UK, but is unclear whether this is true. Copycat products have emerged).

It is possible that in a few months there will be even more sweetshops on Oxford Street. Despite lockdown and a lack of tourists, the sugar rush continues unimpeded. Perhaps the secret to success is obvious: all-American snacking appeals to tourists and Londoners alike. But even after diving face first into the E numbers, these shops retain an (artificially scented) air of mystery – reminiscent of the very first temple to American sugar on central London soil. For two decades, no Londoner has been able to walk through Leicester Square without muttering, 'Who goes there? And why?' at a big, bright, chocolate-scented building. M&M's World walked so Kingdom of Sweets and all of its competitors and imitators could one day run. ■

THREE TOP PUDS



Advanced cheesecake

Honey & Co's signature dessert is vanilla- and honey-tinged whipped feta, → 25 Warren St, W1T 5LZ.

Odd ice cream

'Liquid nitrogen ice-cream parlour' Chin Chin's flavours include tonka bean and mozzarella-cherry. → 54 Greek St, W1D 3DS.

Austrian tart

Kipferl's sachertorte: chocolate cake, two layers of apricot jam and chocolate icing. → 20 Camden Passage, N1 8ED.

account sees reality star Gemma Collins spinning candyfloss, sleeves draped in the drum, while insisting three times that someone film her. Later, she poses with teens under a Toxic Waste sour candy logo; Willy Wonka with bikini tan lines.

'To fit a shop out, it's a £50,000 sound system, it's £40,000 on lights, plus stock,' says Wiggett. 'We spend a lot of money trying to get a great experience.' Pre-pandemic, the store stayed open until midnight to capitalise on crowds emerging from theatres and restaurants, looking for 'something sweet on the way home'.

Wiggett says business dropped 80 percent in London after the first lockdown, and when we talk in October, he is pinning his hopes on the Christmas period (believe it or not, Christmas Day is their busiest day of the year – 'heaving'

with tourists). Regrettably, further lockdowns dashed these dreams, but Wiggett hopes to attract tourists and theatregoers when that kind of thing is normal again. 'Our stores are getting busier,' he says when I catch up with him in early May, 'We have taken on three more stores during lockdown and they are trading well.'

Sugar rush

Now that candy stores have taken control of the tourist traps, they're coming for your neighbourhood too. Faizal Ravat converted his Stoke Newington newsagent into Hollywood Candy two years ago. 'If I were still a newsagent, I would've shut the shop by now,' he says. Ravat is an affable man who somehow has a visible smile behind a facemask.

He explains that the transformation started with a small



Property

Edited by Kate Lloyd
timeout.com/property

Everything to know about moving house in 2021

Rumour has it that Dante based his concentric circles of torment on London's property market. *Vicky Spratt* explains how to do a big move without it becoming hellish. Illustrations *Eynon Jones*

1 It might not feel like it, but now is a good time to haggle

Trying to move can make you frustrated and jaded. But, right now, there is less demand for housing in many but not all (see: Newham, Bexley and Greenwich) parts of the capital than there has been for years. In fact, house prices are actually falling as people leave London because of the pandemic. So it's important to remember that you have more power than you think. Hold your ground. Haggle. Negotiate. And, if something sounds like it isn't right, if you feel like you're being fleeced or told half a story – whether that's about moving-in dates or how much you're about to be charged for something – then question it.

2 Beware of 'wear and tear'

Too many landlords seem to think of tenants' deposits as a little bonus. I have heard story after story of tenants being automatically charged for professional cleaning when they move out of a rented home. Your landlord *can* charge you for genuine costs to restore the property to its original condition, but this excludes 'reasonable wear and tear'. In my experience, landlords and letting agents interpret what's 'reasonable' very elastically, so quote Shelter's definition at them and push back. If you're not getting anywhere, the best way to challenge these deductions is through your deposit protection scheme's alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

→ england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice/repairs/damage_to_your_rented_home

3 Know when the stamp duty holiday ends

As things stand, the stamp duty holiday – which means that you don't pay land tax surcharge on properties costing up to £500,000 rather than the usual £125,000 – is set to end on June 30. From then until September, the holiday will apply for places up to £250,000. If you're rushing to complete before this tax break is taken away, keep an eye on your solicitor or developer. You don't want to miss the deadline.

4 Receipts or it didn't happen

This is especially important to private renters but it applies to homebuyers as well. Estate agents will often try to have difficult conversations over the phone: 'Oh, actually, we need £600 for a holding deposit that may or may not be legal', or, 'Sorry, the move-in date on your new-build is actually delayed by six months because a contractor went bankrupt.' This can make it tricky to follow up and claim compensation.



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So, get them off the phone. Do everything over email or text so there's a paper trail. Move-in dates, in particular, are delayed all the time. Get them confirmed in black and white because, if you've already given notice on your old home, you could find yourself without anywhere to live. Also, whether you're buying or renting, you need to make sure you document any issues in your new home as soon as they arise. Take photographs. Send emails. Keep records. Buy a box file!



5 Don't feel pressured into doing anything you aren't comfortable with

We might be in the midst of a pandemic, but the housing market is now well and truly open, and physical viewings – both in rentals and sales – are taking place. However, NAEA PropertyMark, the professional body for estate agents, still advises against open viewings. If you're moving out and your letting agent or landlord is making you hold viewings in your home, they *must*

give private renters at least 24 hours notice prior to entering the property. Know your rights. And, if you don't feel that the proper precautions are being taken, complain. Health is wealth and coronavirus is still very much with us.

6 Remember that the devil is in the details

When you buy a house, you trust your conveyancing solicitor, don't you? You're paying them huge wads of cash, so they know what they're doing, right? Probably, but check and double-check everything. In London, particularly, if you're buying a leasehold property (one that you own for a certain amount of time) make sure you know exactly what you're getting into and what your lease entails.

7 And finally, make sure you tell your energy and water suppliers...

I know this sounds like stating the bleeding obvious but I have heard stories of bailiffs knocking on doors in search of a long-departed tenant who owes hundreds of pounds in unpaid utility bills. It's really important that you let everyone know you're moving and give a forwarding address. If you don't, you could end up with a county court judgement against your name which will impact your credit rating. And don't forget to register to vote at your new address. After the last 18 months, having a say in who runs the country feels more important than ever. Plus, being on the electoral role is good for your credit rating as well as for democracy. Win-win! ■



Vicky Spratt's book 'Tenants: Stories of Britain's Housing Shame' is out in 2022.

London's best canalside living

Water: it's good for you. Why not get a flat near it?



The extremely well-connected one King's Cross

What's it like? You might know it as the home of trains and a big Waitrose, but thanks to some extremely chichi development work, King's Cross is now the proud owner of numerous sparkling pedestrianised squares, canalside sunbathing spots, posh restaurant chains (hello, Dishoom!) and the bougie outdoor shopping mall Coal Drops Yard. Basically, move here and you'll never run out of Aesop.

Best places to eat and drink? Granary Square Brasserie does a mean steak tartare, then roll over to nearby pub The Lighterman for a pint on its pretty terrace.

Any downsides? If you're after a quiet neighbourhood, give this one a wide berth. King's Cross is buzzing well into the early hours.
How much would it cost to rent a place here? According to property aficionados Rightmove (who let us know all the prices in this piece), the average rent is £2,958 per month.
And to buy? An eye-watering £1,094,282.

The hip one Hackney Wick

What's it like? This east London area has a vibrant but kinda weird energy. Once home to a community of artists living in warehouses, it's now filled with new-builds galore. Although these are broken up by kooky little restaurants.
Best places to eat and drink? Find tasty dishes made from locally sourced ingredients at No 90





Little Venice

The one that's almost in the countryside
West Drayton

What's it like? Think: suburban, quaint and extremely green. It would be understandable if you mistook this west London neighbourhood for a Yorkshire village.

Best places to eat and drink?

Family-run restaurant Poppins has a home-away-from-home vibe. Your local? The Plough and its pretty beer garden.

Any downsides? Heathrow is just a few miles away, so aircraft noise is no joke.

How much would it cost to rent a place here? £1,368 per month.

And to buy? £389,713.

The iconic one Little Venice

What's it like? It has a Continental holiday energy with postcard-perfect waterways. Plus, when looking at the canal and saying 'that's nice' no longer hits in the same way, you can catch some quality cabaret, comedy and gigs at the Canal Café Theatre.

Best places to eat and drink? The Summerhouse specialises in seafood faves. The Prince Alfred pub does a mean Sunday roast.

Any downsides? Truly, the price. Read on...

How much would it cost to rent a place here?

Rightmove estimates that an average monthly

rent would set you back £3,101 – tranquillity here costs a pretty penny.

And to buy? £1,261,230 on average.

The hidden gem Kensal Town

What's it like? Officially an area of Kensal Green, Kensal Town sits along the

Grand Union Canal and has a calm, residential and tight-knit community feel. Portobello Market is just a short walk away, as is Notting Hill – perfect if you feel like a) retracing Hugh Grant's steps, and b) never having to do that dreaded journey home after Carnival.

Best places to eat and drink?

Joy at Portobello serves simple dishes alongside the canal, and you can drink showstopping cocktails at Paradise by Way of Kensal Green.

Any downsides? Nope, this neighbourhood is pretty perfect.

How much would it cost to rent a place here?

You'd be looking at around £1,902.

And to buy? About £638,479. ■



King's Cross

LITTLE VENICE: KRISTI BLOKININ/SHUTTERSTOCK; KING'S CROSS: ANDY PARSONS

Bar & Kitchen. And, in an area with no shortage of breweries, Crate is one of the best, with a drinking terrace right by the canal.

Any downsides? If you're after a house, you might have a little difficulty. This is a flats zone.

How much would it cost to rent a place here?

The average is around the £1,818 mark.

And to buy? £596,225.



By Paula Akpan
Who you can follow on Twitter at @paulaakpan.



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YOU DON'T NEED us to tell you that ceramics are big news right now. Your flat is probably already full of tastefully wonky fruit bowls and candle holders. But while it's cheap, easy and very tempting to impulse-buy nice pottery from every big generic online store that finds you on Instagram, let us lure you away from the mass-produced numbers and towards the handmade work of some very talented locals. A new wave of London potters are making ceramics that are so unique they're basically little pieces of art. Think: designs with geometric paintwork, layered glazes, bright block colours, unusual structures and loads of unexpected texture, from Bisila Noha's marbled pots to Jacqueline de la Fuente's pink lumpy lads. Sure, many are definitely investment buys but they're statement pieces that you'll keep so long one of your great-grandkids will end up calling dibs on them in your final days. ■

PUYAVAKILI:KATIE HAMMOND @KATIEHAMMOND_PHOTOGRAPHY



Puya Vakili
→ www.instagram.com/puyaceramics

Giuseppe Parrinello
→ www.giuseppeparrinello.com

EPC Studio
→ www.epc.land

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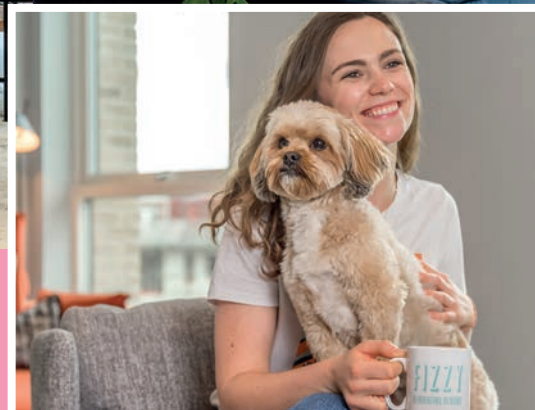
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IT WAS STILL dark when the banners started going up on Brick Lane. By the time dawn broke, a message hung from the buildings: 'Stop the Truman Brewery Shopping Mall'.

The east London street became a hub for the Bengali and Bangladeshi communities in the '60s and '70s, as families fled war and came to London to look for work. As they settled, Brick Lane became a little Bangladesh. Now the strip is lined with desi sweetshops, street signs in Bangla, lampposts painted green and red (the colours of the Bangladeshi flag) and curry houses. But rising rents and falling profits have started to displace the community. In 2020, a special report by race think tank the Runnymede Trust found that there were just 23 curry houses on Brick Lane, compared to 60 in the mid-2000s. Now plans to develop the site of the Old Truman Brewery into office buildings with a shopping mall, restaurants and gyms have the community worried.

The Truman redevelopment isn't offering things that Londoners don't want. But it comes with a cost. 'This mall would strip Brick Lane of its historical and cultural roots,' says Dr Fatima Rajina, one of the activists who hung the banners. 'Local

Fighting to protect the spirit of Brick Lane

Campaign group Nijjor Manush is giving the famous street's Bangladeshi business owners a platform. *Faima Bakar* finds out more. Illustration *Steve Beech*

businesses who have been here for decades won't be able to compete.'

Rajina is a member of Nijjor Manush, a British Bangladeshi campaign group that takes inspiration from the Asian Youth Movements of the 1970s, when activists highlighted concerns of South Asians. Nijjor Manush is trying to do the same for Brick Lane's Bangladeshi business owners.

If you chat to them, it's clear that they need a platform. Ashikur Rahman from A&Y off-licence says: 'The

development will decimate small businesses. We can't keep up.' Jamal, owner of corner shop Taj Stores, has mixed feelings. 'It's good to create jobs and draw people in,' he says. 'But it will cause problems.'

Once bustling with tourists, Brick Lane has been empty during lockdown. Shams Uddin has worked at the Monsoon restaurant since 1978 and owned it since 1999. 'It's a different Brick Lane now,' he says. 'I'm worried about the future.' Since Covid hit London,

Tower Hamlets Council has paid £73.5 million in grants to more than 5,000 businesses under emergency measures. But after shelling out for high rents and bills, there wasn't much left for businesses like Uddin's. 'I still have to pay suppliers, but I don't have the customers,' he says.

Nijjor Manush's work is already having a positive impact, though. After 99 percent of respondents to a public proposal opposed the plans for the Truman Brewery, including residents, businesses and local amenity groups, the development committee of Tower Hamlets Council met in April to vote on Brick Lane's future. They decided to defer the Truman Brewery proposal. The brewery will have to account for the impact of its plan on local businesses.

The battle between Nijjor Manush and developers is one that's been fought across our city many times, but it's worth paying attention to. If it can protect the character of the street, while still allowing our city to evolve, we might have a blueprint for preserving cultures and businesses across the capital. 'Brick Lane is my life,' says Uddin. 'I'm alive because Brick Lane is alive.' ■

→ Find out more at www.instagram.com/nijjormanush

It's a battle that has been fought many times

Read more London stories at [timeout.com/news](https://www.timeout.com/news)

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BYOB pottery class

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→ Token Studios, St Saviour's Wharf, SE1 2BE
www.timeout.com/byob-pottery



Bottomless brunch at Yumsa

What is it? A boozy exploration of Thai cooking at a Putney restaurant with a good rep.

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Wait, how much? Only £32. Which, friends, is 50 percent off.

→ 88 Plaza Gardens, SW15 2DT.
www.timeout.com/yumsa-brunch

Silent Disco at the London Aquarium

What is it? A party surrounded by some underwater pals.

Why go? If you've ever wanted to shake your jelly to a jellyfish then this really is a good opportunity to do so. Plus big tunes from three DJs each vying for your aural attention.

Wait, how much? £29, which is a bargain for this kind of sensory overload.

→ SeaLife London Aquarium, SE1 7PB.
www.timeout.com/silent-disco-sealife

Bottomless brunch at Circus

What is it? A three-course feast with prosecco at a bonkers Covent Garden venue.

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→ 27-29 Endell St, WC2H 9BA.
www.timeout.com/circus2021

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Things to do in London

Edited by **Katie McCabe**
[timeout.com/thingstodo](https://www.timeout.com/thingstodo) @timeoutlondon



VENISEWY BY SADIIE LEE, PHOTO: JON PAUL DAVIS

The Rebel Dykes Art and Archive Show opens in Kennington this week with painting and photography from radical LGBTQ+ artists. It packs a serious punch. **Turn to p51 to read more.**

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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Art fairs & festivals

C W Kensington + Chelsea Art Week

Last year Kensington + Chelsea Art Week made a visit to the glossy bit of west London seem infinitely more appealing by plonking a giant sculpture of a rotting apple in Holland Park. The 2021 edition is looking just as tempting, with 11 days of exhibitions, talks, walks, murals and the return of the KCAW Art Trail. One to look out for on High Street Kensington is Zak Ové's 'Autonomous Morris', a commanding sculpture made of deconstructed vintage car parts. → Various locations in Kensington and Chelsea. Jun 24-Jul 4. Free, some ticketed events.

C The Other Art Fair

The art fair for artists without commercial gallery representation is back for 2021 with an in-person event at West Handyside Canopy in King's Cross. At Frieze, you find pop-up Pommery bars, at The Other Art Fair, it's more DJ sets and stick 'n' poke tattoo stalls. It's usually full of surprises, one of the strangest this year being the 'star guest artist', Ronnie Wood – yep, that Ronnie Wood. The fair is a chance to buy direct from UK artists – all 110 of them – or just wander around and look at Bruce Asbestos's weird installation of a giant green eye by the entrance. → West Handyside Canopy. Jul 1-4. £11.

C S Cockpit Arts Summer Festival

Did lockdown infuse you with a new sense of nosiness? Here's a rare chance to go shopping for cool objects inside the very studios where they were made. This festival will take place across two weekends at the Cockpit studios in Holborn and Deptford, where you can meet the 'makers'. That word usually means you'll find a bit of everything – people selling screenprints, ceramics, even violins. → Cockpit Arts Holborn, Jun 25-27. Cockpit Arts Deptford, Jul 2-4. Free, but register in advance.



The Other Art Fair

but at last we get the Guerrilla Girls, right? → Until Jul 18. Free. Find the online art premieres and further event details at artnight.london



Vauxhall Food & Beer Garden

C Art Night 2021

Art Night normally crams a whole lot into just 24 hours, but this year, it's doing things differently, with a mix of online art commissions (premiering every Tuesday and Friday at 7pm) and events around the UK. Locally, we've got a new series of searingly critical Guerrilla Girls billboards going up in two London locations, and publishing collective OOMK distributing a free newspaper in various parts of the city filled with politically inclined art writing. It's not the late-night art party we've all grown to love so much,

Windrush Day

N Windrush Festival

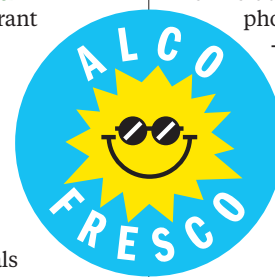
Tottenham's Bernie Grant Arts Centre is turning Windrush Day into a multi-day celebration with a night of slow jams hosted by the 'Queen of Lovers Rock', Carroll Thompson, and two family-friendly festivals in the venue's outdoor square. If you've never been to Bernie Grant, now is the time. The programming is top-notch, and there's even a tiny cinema. → Bernie Grant Arts Centre. Jun 22, 26 and 27. Prices vary for each event, booking required.

S The Portrait Parlour

Photographer Harry Jacobs was a local legend in south London, a documentarian for the Black community who captured weddings, christenings and family portraits, leaving behind an incredible archive of Brixton

life in the 1960s and '70s. To mark Windrush Day on June 22, you can take your portrait at this interactive exhibit using Jacobs's iconic photo backdrop.

→ Brixton Village. Unit 11 Market Row. Until Jun 28. Free.



Outdoor eats

S Vauxhall Food & Beer Garden

Need somewhere outdoors, with loads of seating and as much food and booze as you can consume in 90 minutes? Try this space in the Vauxhall arches, where you can get just that every Monday and Tuesday for £25 per person. Choose your fighter – ie food vendor – and you can overdo it on tacos, pizza or wagyu burgers. If competitive eating isn't your bag, there's also drag, bingo and comedy. → 6a South Lambeth Place. Mon-Sun. Prices vary.

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HERITAGE LIVE
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james

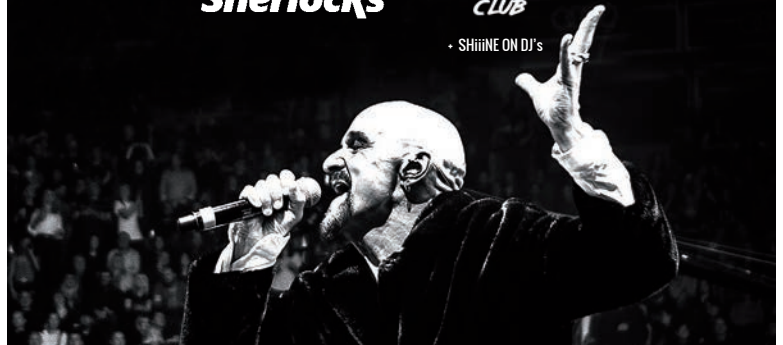
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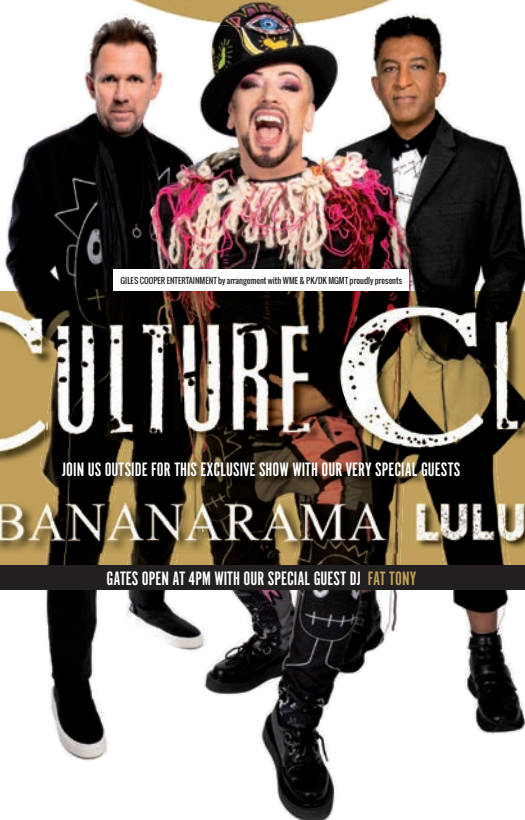


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Gates open 4pm Event ends 10.45pm

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Pride nights and protests

UK Black Pride: Love and Rage

Last year, UK Black Pride marked its fifteenth anniversary digitally, and for 2021, the organisers have decided to err on the side of caution by keeping things virtual, this time with a three-day live streamed festival of talks and performances. Details are still being finalised, but we do know the theme is 'Love and Rage', which the organisers explain was chosen 'to honour what has been a tremendously difficult year for so many in our communities'.

→ Jul 2-4. £tbc. www.ukblackpride.org.uk

London Trans+ Pride

Gather at the Wellington Arch at Hyde Park Corner on June 26 to take part in London Trans+ Pride, which aims to unite voices 'against increasing disregard for trans safety, healthcare and wellbeing in the UK'. Organisers are asking that those participating wear flowers as part of the demonstration, which starts at 2pm.

→ Wellington Arch. Jun 26. Free. Follow

@londontranspride for updates.

Theatre to see asap

'After Life'

Jack Thorne's miraculous 'After Life' is a stage version of Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda's cult 1998 film of the same name. Set in a waystation between death and whatever comes after, the freshly deceased souls of 'After Life' are given a limited amount of time to decide upon a single memory they wish to be physically recreated to take forward with them. Our reviewer gave it a full five stars, calling it 'a moving and serious consideration of what constitutes a life'. Currently it's very sold out, but tickets for the last few weeks of the run go on sale June 25.

→ National Theatre. Until Aug 7. £20-£50.

'Seven Methods of Killing Kylie Jenner'

Cleo wants to kill Kylie Jenner. Her friend Kara just wants Cleo to chill out and stop tweeting elaborate death threats about



ONE UNMISSABLE THING



The Rebel Dykes Art and Archive Show

A powerful portrait of the activist lesbian community of 1980s London, the 'Rebel Dykes' documentary was one of the highlights of this year's BFI Flare festival. This show celebrates the cultural contributions of the same radical group of queer women through photography, art and video footage.

→ Space Station Sixty-Five. Jun 25-Sep 17. Free, booking required.

Insta-celebrities. But for Cleo, the success of 21-year-old 'self-made millionaire' Jenner taps into something much deeper. Jasmine Lee-Jones's powerfully original debut play follows these two female friends having the most blistering meme-scattered row of their lives. Nothing's off-limits, from primary school humiliations to the vast structural privilege that light-skinned women have.

→ Royal Court Theatre. Until Jul 27. £12-£35.

'Doctor Who: Time Fracture'

Combining sundry English obsessions including the Blitz, heavy drinking and, of course, beloved time-hopping sci-fi serial 'Doctor Who', 'Time Fracture' is a major new immersive theatre show that provides a fairly neat encapsulation of the highs and lows of the genre. It's not out of this world, but it's a fun themed night out, with a couple of decent scares.

→ Unit HQ. Until Apr 16 2022. £57-£77.

Comedy nights

Balham Comedy Festival

When Banana Cabaret comedy club started at The Bedford in Balham, George Michael was still in Wham! That's how long its been going. And that established name means that when this 'Nana Cabaret-organised comedy fest rolls around, they're able to draw some recognisable names. Acts for the 2021 edition are still being confirmed due to the change in post-June 21 restrictions, but all going well, they'll have Paul Foot, Shappi Khorsandi and Dane Baptiste on the bill.

→ The Bedford. Jul 9-18. £16pp (tables of 4-6).

Aisling Bea plus some friends

Kildare comedian Aisling Bea is one of the few stand-ups to appear on dozens of

Dave-channel panel shows without ever losing her charm. She's got as much warmth as she does wit, and crucially, seems like she'd be a lot of fun on the sesh. For this outdoor set in Regent's Park Open Air Theatre, Bea will be joined by some as yet unspecified comedian friends. We have reason to believe they are not imaginary.

→ Regent's Park Open Air Theatre. Jul 2. £21.80.

Closing soon: art exhibitions

Matthew Barney: 'Redoubt'

Matthew Barney's a real onion of an artist: we're talking layer after layer after layer of meaning and myth and narrative and concept and aesthetics, on and on for ever and ever. So your chances of fully grasping what this show's about – even if it didn't include a two-hour film – are pretty slim. But that doesn't mean it's not worth a go.

→ Hayward Gallery. Until Jul 25. £12.

Bedwyr Williams: 'Milquetoast'

Williams's work spans drawings, video, performance and objects but his 2020 was all about Instagram, specifically an almost daily drawing skewering some aspect of the artworld: shit discussions, argumentative art couples, taking-themselves-too-seriously curators, lame residencies, you get the idea. This show is a protracted in-joke that is actually funny. Williams can also draw really, really well, which is a definite plus.

→ Southwark Park Galleries. Until Jul 11. Free.

Yayoi Kusama: 'I Want Your Tears to Flow with the Words I Wrote'

Yayoi Kusama is already the hottest art ticket in town with her Infinity Mirror Rooms at Tate Modern.

While you're waiting for new tickets to be released for that in September, you can sate your Kusama hunger with this exhibition of new paintings, sculptures and her famous bronze pumpkins.

→ Victoria Miro.

Until Jul 31. Free, but book in advance.



Millicent Wong in 'After Life' at the National Theatre

Hello, sunshine



Crodino, a classic Italian non-alcoholic aperitivo, has just launched in the UK and it's got summer 2021 vibes written all over it



Ready for the summer? Same. It's been a long time coming. And if you're looking for a fancy new drink to toast the arrival of all this ace warm weather, then we might have something for you. It's called Crodino. And it's an authentic slice of Italian aperitivo culture, but you might be surprised to hear that it's non-alcoholic. Plus, it's sat beside Aperol Spritz and Negronis in piazzas across Italy since 1965 so, you know, it has plenty of heritage.

And yeah, sure, we could bang on about how it's infused for up to six months to give it a rich aromatic profile and a complex, bittersweet taste with a long, herbal and woody finish... but look, we don't want to sound pretentious because at heart we're a simple bunch. Instead, let's

just say that we've tried it and it's delicious. And basically a very good choice for superb summer drinking.

So where to try it? Well, we have some suggestions. Let's start with **Lardo**, because this ace Hackney joint is one of our top spots when it comes to authentic Italian pizza and charcuterie. We also really like **Vermuteria** and not just because it's in **Coal Drops Yard** – we're big fans of Anthony Demetre's superb take on continental bistro classics.

There's also **Di Stefano**, a cute coffee shop and café on Mile End Road, **Chucs** for when we're people-watching in west London and the café and bar at **21Soho**, which has a very handy little terrace on Soho Square if you fancy a cheeky after-work aperitivo.

We have even more good news. If you scan the QR code below and register, you can bag yourself a complimentary Crodino at one of the participating bars and restaurants listed on the website (T&Cs at the bottom of the page). See you in the sunshine, friends.



#Crodino @crodino.uk

→ Discover Crodino at venues and shops across the UK

CRODINO
APERITIVO NON ALCOLICO
— DAL 1965 —

FIRST LOOK

The Moomins have arrived at the Wetlands



E 'The Woman Who Fell in Love with an Island'

I was never much of a Moomins fan. To me, they seemed tinged with melancholy. Those marshmallow trolls were always getting lost in dark, entangled forests or trudging through rainstorms. But they were a reflection of their creator, Tove Jansson, a Finnish artist who had absolute reverence for the natural world, even at its most unruly. Along with her partner, Tuulikki Pietilä, she spent her summers on a remote island in the Finnish archipelago called Klovharun, living in a cottage with no electricity.

A new exhibition about Jansson attempts to draw parallels between her island life and the landscape of the Walthamstow Wetlands. It may seem like a reach, but somehow, it makes sense. Like that ever-quotable

Moomin wisdom, the show is pared-down and simple. A tiny display of photographs and footage of the artist is mounted on the red brick walls of the Wetlands' Victorian Engine House, then the exhibition spills out into a family-friendly outdoor art trail of Moomin-character cut-outs. But the best part is the one you can't see: an audio download of



Jansson's lyrical essay 'The Island', read by her niece and set to music by Erland Cooper. When you look out at the bird-swarmed islands on the Wetlands' reservoir, her words feel weirdly meditative. 'Sometimes the dream of the island can be a passive symbol for what is one step beyond reach,' she says. She is talking about Klovharun, but it could just as easily be those curious little islets of E17. *Katie McCabe*
 → Walthamstow Wetlands. Until Sep 23. Free, but £3.50 for 'The Island' download.

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Five ways to rediscover the colours of London

Embrace London's reopening by experiencing the capital at its brightest



Peggy Porschen

1 Peggy Porschen

The first thing that strikes you about this beloved Belgravia afternoon tea spot is its pastel-pink exterior, the door framed in luxurious blooms of every rosy shade. The outrageously elaborate confections by cake designer Peggy Porschen are as tasty as they are Instagrammable. Read on to find out about how you can win a champagne tea party there!

→ 116 Ebury St. Chelsea branch: 219 King's Rd.

2 Egg hopper at Hoppers

The hopper – a bowl-shaped pancake – is a breakfast staple in Sri Lanka and the perfect vehicle for the karis, chutneys and sambols served up by the London restaurant group. For a real burst of colour, be sure to order the egg hopper. Breaking into its centre will unleash an orange river of yolky goodness. Load it up with spice and get ready for a vibrant taste sensation.

→ King's Cross, Soho, Marylebone.

3 Peckham Levels

In 2017, the disused levels of this multi-storey car park were transformed into community spaces that now house nearly 100 indie businesses. There are also street food stalls, bars and studios across its seven floors. Its neon-hued pink stairwell is worth the trip alone and is easily the capital's most snapped flight (no, seriously).

→ F1-F6 Peckham Town Centre Car Park, 95a Rye Lane.

4 God's Own Junkyard, Walthamstow

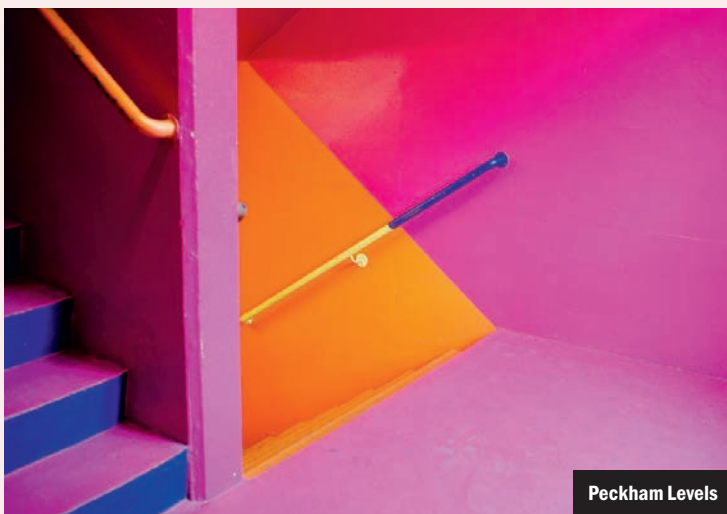
Nestled away between a mechanic and a brewery on an industrial estate in Walthamstow lies God's Own Junkyard – a warehouse-based wonderland of neon lights.

→ Unit 12, Ravenswood Industrial Estate, Sernhall St.

5 Barbican Conservatory

Perched at the top of the brutalist Barbican Centre lies a lush green space that leaves your houseplant collection firmly in the shade. The conservatory houses 1,500 species of plants and trees from around the world. Lush!

→ Barbican Centre, Silk St.



Peckham Levels

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Thanks to Ocean Spray, you could win a fairytale-esque champagne tea party at Peggy Porschen in Belgravia, plus a night in the gorgeous five-star Ham Yard Hotel and lots more. To enter, visit www.timeout.com/coloursoflondoncompetition



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Buy a can from your local independent convenience retailer and enjoy it as the perfect accompaniment to a day spent exploring the city.

→ Find more inspiration at www.timeout.com/coloursoflondon



Where to watch the Euros

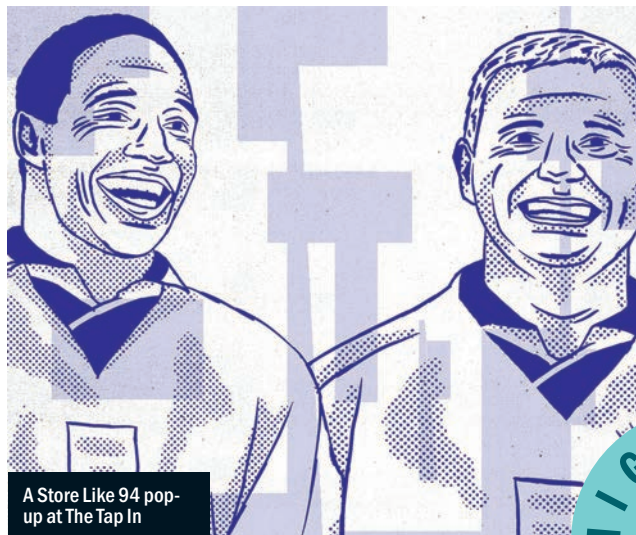
N Euro Warehouse

From the people behind The Cause and Costa del Tottenham, Euro Warehouse is a new dedicated football space in a huge – you guessed it – warehouse. It's been kitted out with two 13-by-eight-foot LED screens showing every game. Now the only question that remains is whether football is, in fact, coming home. Answer: tbc.

→ Costa del Tottenham. From £7.50 per person, six to a table.

E 😊 Skylight

There was a time when rooftop drinking was the ultimate London cliché, something you did to keep out-of-town friends entertained when they came to visit. Now, at a time when watching football in a packed pub full of irate fans makes a lot of people nervous, these outdoor spaces, with their beer-hall-style seating, have come in very handy for the Euros. At



A Store Like 94 pop-up at The Tap In

Skylight's rooftop in Tobacco Dock, there are decent vistas, stomach-lining street-food options and an oversized screen so nobody can block your view. Tickets start at a fairly steep £15 per person (including a can of Bud) but if you're determined to watch the games in a big group, this might just be the answer.

→ Tobacco Dock. From £15 per person.

S The Tap In

Want to keep it indoors? Try Elephant & Castle's new foody bar The Tap In, where you can reserve a table for free (if you can snag one in time). Visit on June 26 and 27 to catch a pop-up shop from A Store Like 94 stacked with Euros memorabilia and vintage football shirts.

→ 2 Sayer St. Booking essential.

Outdoor gigs

S Pub in the Park

Pub in the Park is a genteel, well-heeled food festival that combines brilliant chefs with a mixed bag of music acts. It's split across two London fests this year: Dulwich in June, Chiswick in September. First up: Morcheeba, Toploader and a Basement Jaxx DJ set in Dulwich Park. Tickets are sold out except for the Friday (that'll be Morcheeba), join the waitlist for the rest.

→ Dulwich Park. Jun 25-27. From £45.



Indoor gigs

E Spitalfields Music Festival

This local fest features 15 world premieres of new works from classical and experimental composers performed at beloved east London venues like The George Tavern, Café Oto, and the Genesis Cinema.

→ Various east London venues. Jul 1-11. £15.



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Open-air theatre

E Today I'm Wiser

As the name suggests, Arcola Outside is an outdoor bar and performance space built from reclaimed materials located just off the Arcola theatre's Ashwin Street home. Although the intention is to use the original building again, Outside will initially relocate all of the Arcola's public functions alfresco, with a big old canopy allowing it to stay open all year round. It is due to be fully open at the end of June with the launch of Today I'm Wiser, a long-running festival of theatre and art that will stretch into November: highlights include queer romcom 'Sunnymead Court', a visit from comedian and writer Mark Thomas with his new show 'Seriously Annoying', and a new adaptation of classic comedy 'The Game of Love and Chance'.

→ Arcola Outside, Ashwin St. Jun 27-Nov. £tbc.

C 'Romeo & Juliet'

Rising star director Ola Ince makes her Shakespearian debut with everyone's fave immortal romantic tragedy at the Globe. Similarly upwards-bound actor Alfred Enoch (who you might recognise from the Harry Potter movies) plays Romeo, with Rebekah Murrell as Juliet. Act quick and you might just nab one of the Globe's five-quid tickets.

→ Shakespeare's Globe. Jun 26-Oct 17.
£5-£59.

Music fests

S Wireless Festival

Wireless Festival attracts some of the biggest names in American hip hop while still handing over the main stage to respected UK acts, and this year is no different. Migos, Skepta and Future are in the headline slots for 2021. Megan Thee Stallion is slated for the Sunday, and we really need this festival to happen so our 'Hot Girl Summer' can finally begin.

→ Crystal Palace Park. Sep 10-12.
From £77.50.



Have you become addicted to making plans? Look ahead, way ahead, to the must-see London events in 2021 (and 2022)

Mighty Hoopla

Things to Do



📍 **Mighty Hoopla**

Mighty Hoopla is London's biggest pure pop festival and a highlight of the LGBTQ+ summer calendar. Taking place in Brixton's Brockwell Park for a third year, the 2021 edition has Cheryl Cole, Atomic Kitten and En Vogue on the line-up, as well as 'RuPaul's Drag Race UK'-formed band The United Kingdolls. Try as you might, you will never get 'Bing Bang Bong' out of your head. Right now, tickets are sold out, so brace yourself for the next resale date on August 2.

→ Brockwell Park. Sep 4. £49.60.

Not Glasto

📍 **V&A Glastonbury Weekender**

While we feel the sting of another fallow year for Glasto, the V&A will be providing a soothing dock leaf in the form of a free, interactive Glastonbury Weekender, at the museum

and online. A programme of classical and contemporary orchestral music exploring the mythology of the Glastonbury site will take place in the arches of the Raphael Gallery, while an immersive video in the museum's lecture theatre will try to capture the Worthy Farm experience using projected archive festival footage. It's not quite Kendrick Lamar on the Pyramid Stage, but it'll have to do for now.

→ V&A. Jun 26-27. Free, drop-in.

Unmissable art exhibits

📍 **Sophie Taeuber-Arp**

The contribution Swiss artist Sophie Taeuber-Arp made to modern art and design can never be overstated. In the 1920s and '30s, she experimented with abstract painting, embroidery, sculpture and puppetry, blurring lines between art forms. She was a literal mover and shaker of the early Dada group, who danced on stage in 1916 performances of the Cabaret Voltaire. This Tate Modern retrospective will feature Taeuber-Arp originals that have never been seen in this country before.

→ Tate Modern. Jul 15-Oct 17. £16.

📍 **Helen Frankenthaler: 'Radical Beauty'**

Frankenthaler's work is rightly celebrated as some of the most important painting of the twentieth century, all big, swooping, bold colours and shapes. She was one of the most important Abstract Expressionists out there, but this show of her woodcuts promises to be a calming look at a totally different side to her work.

→ Dulwich Picture Gallery. Sep 15-Apr 17 2022. £tbc.

📍 **Raphael**

Raffaello Santi (aka Raphael) is a true giant of art history, a master of the Renaissance who had a massive hand in shaping the course of art. This show was originally meant to celebrate the 500th anniversary of his death in 2020, but was delayed and is now celebrating the less satisfying 502nd anniversary of his death in April 2022.

→ National Gallery. Apr 9-Jul 31 2022. £tbc.

BETWEEN THE BRIDGES

Now Open

London's Biggest Beer Garden



Programme

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COLLEEN 'COSMO' MURPHY / EROL ALKAN
LUKE UNA / MEL BLATT-ALL SAINTS
NABIHAH IQBAL / NOBLE & HEATH
NORMAN JAY MBE / OLD DIRTY BRASSTARDS
GUILTY PLEASURES / LOST IN DISCO
QUEENS OF POP CLUB / R&SHE
SOUNDS FAMILIAR MUSIC QUIZ
SAVAGE DISCO / THE BEAT HOTEL
WE ARE THE SUNSET / ZIG A ZIG AH

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Awhora / Baga Chipz / Bimini Bon-Boulash
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FOOD LINE-UP
Birria Tacos / Born & Raised
Burger & Beyond / El Pollote / Flank
Rice Guys / Urban Falafel / Secret Nicky's

PLONK GOLF / TEJO

www.betweenthebridges.co.uk

Queen's Walk, South Bank, London SE1

Love Local

Edited by Kate Lloyd
timeout.com/lovelocal

This tiny caff is London's king of sandwiches

The rise and rise of Dom's Subs and its Instagram-famous semolina buns

HOW THE HELL does a new London sandwich delivery company end up doing a collab with big streetwear brand Carhartt? Top-tier fashion connects? A load of money? No, not really. 'They were just getting sandwiches here quite a lot,' says Dom Sherington, co-founder of Dom's Subs on Hackney Road.

When Dom put Dom's Subs on Instagram in the first lockdown, he wasn't expecting how quickly things would blow up. Sure, Lanark – the café he ran on Hackney Road with co-founders Matt Scott and Greg Boyce – had a neighbourhood fanbase. Sure, their sarnie pop-ups at Visions in Dalston and Rochelle Canteen in Shoreditch had been pretty popular. But nearly 1,000 followers overnight? 'Bizarre,' he says. 'I think we're very lucky to have opened when no one had anything to do. We had a crazy captive market.'

Dom's output speedily gained a rep for being some of the best in London: Italian-American-style rolls packed so full of fillings they could put you in a food coma for a solid weekend. Soon, anytime you walked

down Hackney Road you'd find people waiting for subs. Meanwhile, Instagram filled up with pictures of cross-sections of the sandwiches, like the Cold Cuts: bresaola, gabagool, salami and mortadella in a semolina roll. Now the team make up to around 300 subs a day.

'We started it on a whim,' says Dom. 'Our way of doing it is just thinking of a sandwich, putting it on the menu and then hoping for the best. We've been very lucky.'

It hasn't all been plain sailing, though. 'There have been moments when things taper off a bit and you think: Oh no, is this just a flash in the pan?' says Dom. 'You just have to come up with new ideas.' Right now those ideas include launching a bakery to meet the brand's bread demands. The trio have opened a second café in the City. And, of course, there's that Carhartt T-shirt drop.

'The guy who organised it is called Fabio,' says Dom. 'And around the time that he contacted us, we had a special on called The Fabio. I don't know whether that influenced him, ha!' ■ *Kate Lloyd*
→ Dom's Subs, 262 Hackney Rd, E2 7SJ.



Dom's Subs' owner Greg Boyce

Hackney Road



Chosen by
*Jin Ahn, owner
of Conservatory
Archives.*

→ 493-495 Hackney Rd, E2 9DG.

Haggerston Park

'Hackney Road can be really busy, always packed with cars and traffic and lots of pollution. But if you head to the park, it's nice and green and full of dog-walkers. When I'm working in our shop I'm always with my dog - she's a cavapoo called Hackney - and she loves to go there.'

→ Yorkton St, E2 8NH.



Henri

'It started as a pop-up and does very practical, but timeless, women's shirts and jackets. I have a white, very classic shirt from there. Everything it sells is so well made.'

→ Studio 9, 45 Vyner St, E2 9DQ.

Premises Café

'It's a family-run restaurant in the same building as the famous recording studios, which has been there for a really long time. I like to go here for breakfast and brunch. I'll have a breakfast with extra bubble and squeak!'

→ 209 Hackney Rd, E2 8JL.

A Portuguese Love Affair

'The ladies who own it are Portuguese and they used to have a shop in Columbia Road, which is closed now, but this is its little café and wine bar. They do a really good bacalao, which is a Portuguese salted-cod dish, and lots of finger food you can take away, like cod-and-shrimp croquettes. Sometimes they do pop-ups with famous Portuguese chefs.'

→ 326 Hackney Rd, E2 7AX.

The Sebright Arms

'I only found out about it in 2019. From Hackney Road, there's a little alley called Sebright Passage which takes you there. I found it one day so I went there for a beer. It's a music venue, too.'

Interview Leonie Cooper
→ 31-35 Coate St, E2 9AG.

Studio Wylder

'It's a womenswear shop and everything is made in east London. The owner, Natasha, also used to run Tiosk, which was a teashop on Broadway Market. It's all handmade and sustainable. Everything is different and there's only one of each piece. I saw an amazing sheepskin coat there recently. It's on my wish list!'

→ 258 Hackney Rd, E2 7SJ.

A New Tribe

'It's a quite new homeware store. There's amazing vintage Moroccan rugs, ceramics, candles, perfume and books. It opened at the start of last year, just before the pandemic!'

→ 273 Hackney Rd, E2 8NA.





The New Cross garden that bloomed in the pandemic

New Cross Gate Trust has spent ten years supporting south-east Londoners

NESTLED IN THE green surroundings of Besson Street Community Garden, New Cross Gate Trust has a special place in the hearts of south-east Londoners.

An offshoot from the government's New Deal for Communities programme, which launched back in 2001, it has helped Londoners 'live happy, healthy, stable and fulfilled lives' for a decade.

'We offer activities and opportunities to the people of Lewisham and parts of Southwark and elsewhere – we're not big on borders!' says Jill Mountford, long-time New Cross resident and centre manager in charge of community development.

The garden itself is home to rare and wonderful trees and plants and it's also on the Charter for Trees, Woods and People. Meanwhile, whether it's practical career advice or just gardening tips, the charity offers workshops for just about everything and everyone. There are adult-education classes, teaching about the environment and £1 music lessons for primary-school-aged children. 'This year we're offering the ukulele,' Jill says. 'Anyone can get involved in our activities: just turn up, have a chat.'

While the garden has been a boon to the community for ten years, during the pandemic it has really come into its own. As the world went

into lockdown last year, New Cross Trust remained open 'ready to help and support anyone who came by'. Classes migrated to online spaces. 'We have helped people learn how to use Zoom,' says Jill, 'and we've given out laptops and tablets to help people stay connected.' The team even reopened the garden – in a Covid-secure manner – to small groups of families who didn't have access to their own outdoor space.

This year they've been offering a six-week wellness course, with mindfulness guides and cognitive behavioural therapy, plus pop-up vaccine appointments in the garden specifically for the over-45s – one of Jill's proudest achievements. 'The

day was – in the words of the doctor running the clinical side of event – an "astonishing success"; she says. 'We had 155 people vaccinated: 130 for the first time, 11 people who were not registered with a GP, and a whole group of people who were not sufficiently connected with technology to get notifications about the vaccine.'

Jill's love for New Cross and engagement with its community is clear. 'The best thing by far about living in New Cross is the people,' she says. 'We have a fantastically diverse population and it is so rich and beautiful in the best real ways. Viva New Cross!' ■ *Niellah Arboine* → 81 Besson St, SE14 5AE.



Folkestone Gardens

'This is a lovely area, especially in the summer when everyone's out and about. There's a skate park, pond (complete with baby coots) and lovely café-restaurant Festa sul Prato.'

→ 55 Rolt St, SE8 5NJ.

Bridgehouse Meadows

'A lovely quiet stretch of grass with a little hill, from where you can see Canary Wharf and loads of the city. It's close to a cycle/footpath to Surrey Quays that's really nice for a meander.'

→ Lovelinch Close, SE15 1HA.

Rocoto Pepper

'This Latin American restaurant will make you look at freshness and flavour from a whole different perspective. Incredible food, coupled with warm and friendly service from owners Andrea and Jhon.'

→ 181 New Cross Rd, SE14 5DG.

Green Onions

'A record and whole foods shop providing a little bubble of tranquillity from the hustle and bustle. Lovely staff, great stock and lots of plants.'

→ 6 Clifton Rise, SE14 6JP.

Jade's Jerk

'Jade cooks a mouth-watering buffet of Caribbean food and you can pick and choose what you fancy. Her smile along with the bright yellow interior invites you in from the busy road, ready for a warm and delicious meal.'

→ 127 New Cross Rd, SE14 5DJ.

The Greenhouse

'More towards Deptford, a lovely queer-friendly café. It's very warm and cosy, with great coffee and vegan brownies.'

→ 481 New Cross Rd, SE14 6TA.

Telegraph Hill

'Pretty much the undisputed hotspot in the area for a banging view. It's quiet and serene: you can just sit there and watch the city in front of you. If you can make it for sunset, do!'

→ 75 Kitto Rd, SE14 5TN.



New Cross



Chosen by Nic Desborough, presenter of LGBTQ+ podcast Fluid.

→ www.roundhouse.org.uk/transmission/fluid

Time Out LOVE LOCAL

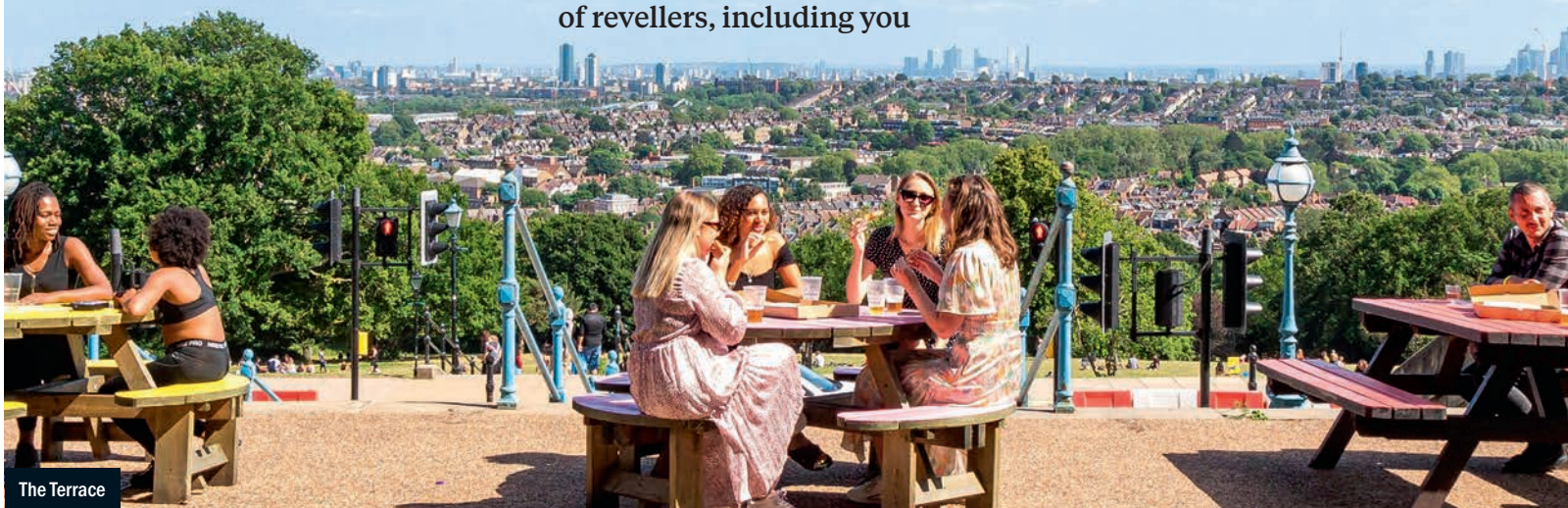
Time Out's Love Local campaign supports local food, drink and culture businesses in London. Find out how you can help the places that make our city great. timeout.com/lovelocalondon

Food & Drink

Edited by Sarah Cohen
timeout.com/eatdrink @timeouteatdrink

Huge outdoor drinking terraces

These vast spaces can welcome hundreds of revellers, including you



The Terrace

The riverside playground

As its name suggests, **Between the Bridges** sits on the South Bank between Waterloo and Westminster bridges. As well as loads of space for alfresco boozing, there's sustenance from street food-faves like El Pollote, The Cheese Wheel and Burger & Beyond. There's a great line-up of DJs and music (including Norman Jay and Erol Alkan). The place will also host weekly markets, mini-golf and drag brunches. And it's bringing tejo to the capital, a Colombian game that involves throwing things and explosions. Entry is free apart from on Friday and Saturday evenings when it'll cost you a fiver after 5pm.

Capacity: 950

→ The Queen's Walk, SE1.

The revitalised gem

The Perry Hill Pub has just opened again after two years and it's got one hell of a beer garden, divided into a terrace, a deck and a sheltered back garden. You can book the covered tables, but the rest are for walk-ins. There's a tasty new menu from Jamie Younger (owner of Peckham's The Begging Bowl) featuring beef brisket, shredded pig's shoulder and smoked celeriac steak, all from the on-site smokehouse. Local artist Lionel Stanhope has created a mural in the garden – south Londoners will recognise

his work from those big area nameplates on and under railway bridges. Something to look at, nice stuff to eat, a huge garden to drink your beer in: that'll do nicely.

Capacity: 250

→ 78-80 Perry Hill, SE6 4EY.

The cut-price cocktail courtyard

The folk behind Pop Brixton and Peckham Levels have launched a new 'cultural destination' in east London called **Hackney Bridge**, offering street food, booze, big-screen sport,

workspaces and markets. The Courtyard, its outdoor eating and drinking area, looks on to the canal and is open for bookings and walk-ins. Expect cocktails, local craft beer and speciality wine. Street-food traders include The Jewish Deli and Filigrillz. Oh, and you can get half-price cocktails on Thursdays and £5 dishes every Wednesday.

Capacity: 200

→ Units 1-28 Echo Building, East Bay Lane, E15 2SJ.

The really, really big one

There are big claims coming from **The Garden Kentish Town**. It's by the creators of Vauxhall Food & Beer Garden and, at 12,000 square feet, is self-identifying as the biggest outdoor drinking space in north



Between the Bridges



Hackney Bridge

London. That's fighting talk – The Faltering Fullback, you better watch out! This gigantic terrace will host comedy nights, sports screenings, drag bingo, ping-pong, bottomless brunches, karaoke, street food and 'gladiator duels', which we're hoping are closer to the '90s TV show than watching two former slaves hack each other to death.

Capacity: 950

→ 24-27 Regis Rd, NW5 3EZ.

The returning hero

Back for its second year, Alexandra Palace's outdoor boozing area

The Terrace is a roomy spot with panoramic views of the capital's skyline. And it's scrapped its £5 entry fee, so you can now gaze at those vistas for free. Last Night a Vegan Saved My Life, Browski Burger and Mr Bombay are on hand to feed you, with Ally Pally's food and beer festival StrEATlife popping up from June 25 to 27 and August 21 to 22. The venue is table-service and payments are made via an app, so wasting half your evening queuing at the bar is a thing of the past.

Capacity: 400

→ Alexandra Palace Way, N22 7AY.

The weatherproof wonder

For a side of architecture with your pint, head to **Pergola on the Wharf**, the latest venture from the group behind Lost in Brixton and The Prince, which has just launched at Crossrail Place in Canary Wharf. The

building's striking, lattice-like roof structure, designed by Foster and Partners, juts over Pergola's elevated terrace, so you can sip and swig in the open air without worrying about a sudden downpour. Riverside views are part of the package here, as is a classy brasserie menu. Come for a boozy weekend brunch or party at the venue's Friday Lates club nights.

Capacity: 200

→ Crossrail Place, E14 5AR.

The beer-drinker's paradise

Last year, the team behind east London craft brewery Truman's transformed a huge space in Walthamstow into **Truman's Social Club**, featuring a brewery, taproom and giant beer garden. Since then, they've opened a workspace and beer hall on the site, but the main attraction – for the summer at least – is still that impressive drinking terrace. Refreshment comes from more than 20 Truman's and guest beers on draught, plus street food provided by Up in My Grill and Japanese snack merchants Zero. You can pitch up without a reservation, but it's better to book a table: you'll be charged a £5 no-show deposit per person, so make sure your more flaky friends turn up.

Capacity: 320 ■

→ 1 Priestley Way, E17 6AL.



The Perry Hill Pub

More outdoor bars at timeout.com/eatdrink

**THIS IS THE ONLY AMBER LIST YOU
WILL HAVE TO CHECK WHEN VISITING US**

It's worth the quarantine



Pudim
do Abade

New openings

Six fresh dining destinations

Bar Crispin

Born from the fires of the fertile minds that brought us all-day and all-night café Crispin in Shoreditch it's... Bar Crispin. With an explicitly '80s Soho feel (complete with zinc bar), this place boasts a huge natural wine list and a high-quality menu curated by Naz Hassan.

→ Opening this summer. Kingly Street, W1B 5PW.

Turnips

Or to give it its full name: 'Turnips with Tomas Lidakevicius'. This is a new foraged-goods restaurant that began life as a (exceedingly popular) pop-up in Borough Market. Tomas worked for Jason Atherton



Bar Crispin

and wants Turnips to be known for seasonal, world-class produce.

→ 43 Borough Market, SE1 9AH.

Teatro Della Carne

A 120-seat restaurant which is arranged like a theatre! The kitchen and bar are in the middle so you watch it all being prepared, like a performance. The menu is very

'everything Italy all of the time', and the owners take sourcing of ingredients seriously. The name means 'meat theatre', by the way. → 39-45 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 6LA.

Mama's French Kitchen

Trad French dishes with fresh twists are the order of the day at this eye-catching hotel restaurant. So you

get your frogs' legs, but they're served in salt and chilli with wild garlic and grelot onions. There's also a big roast on Sundays, which doesn't sound all that French, tbh. → 437 Hackney Rd, E2 8PP.

Taqueria

This taco restaurant, which started in Portobello Market more than 16 years ago, is finally opening a second branch. Head to Exmouth Market from late June for quesadillas, Margaritas and churros with caramel. *Arriba, arriba!* → 8-10 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QA.

OTE

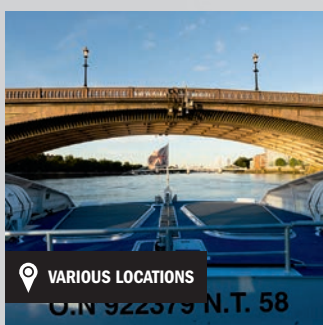
With a name that stands for 'Original Turkish Eatery', this new joint in Fitzrovia serves food in bento-like boxes and trays with compartments. Expect stews, meatballs and pide, with rice, dips and salads on the side. ■ *By Joe Mackertich and Sarah Cohen* → 45 Charlotte St, W1T 1RU.

Discover more new restaurants [timeout.com/newopenings](https://www.timeout.com/newopenings)

BAR CRISPIN: MAROLINA BAUDA

Sponsored listing

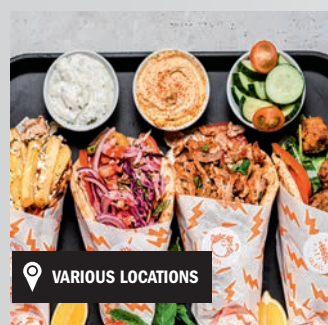
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VARIOUS LOCATIONS

UBER BOAT BY THAMES CLIPPERS SAYS:

'Picture this: you're back at the office, long day, but now you're sitting on the back deck of the River Bus, sipping a G&T from the café-bar, enjoying the sunset while gliding through London. Life is good again. This could be your commute! Ticket carnets available to fit flexible working.' 23 piers along the Thames.



VARIOUS LOCATIONS

KALAMAKI STREET GREEK SAYS:

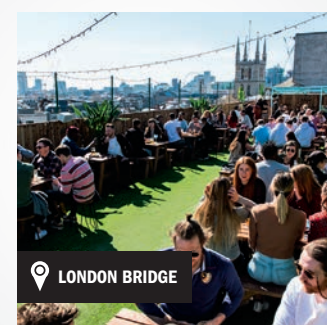
'When Kalamaki Street Greek says fresh, it means it! It uses time-honoured Greek cooking methods, adding a modern twist. Try its food in London Bridge, Fulham, Covent Garden or Hackney Wick, and on Deliveroo in Swiss Cottage, Crouch End and Whitechapel.' Various locations.



KING'S CROSS

MAGENTA RESTAURANT SAYS:

'Come and celebrate the launch of Magenta Restaurant and enjoy a fabulous two-course lunch of fine Italian food for only £22 per person, including complimentary house wine (Tuesday to Saturday). Book now at www.magentarestaurant.co.uk.' 23 Euston Rd, NW1 2SD.



LONDON BRIDGE

LONDON BRIDGE ROOFTOP SAYS:

'Your hidden rooftop adventure awaits on top of a six-storey brutalist building. Expect views, vibes, cocktails, beers, slushies, burgers and vegan options, DJs and bottomless brunch, all right by The Shard. Book now via the website.' Colechurch House, London Bridge Walk, SE1 2SX.

Travel

Edited by James Manning
timeout.com/daytrips

Really, really wild swimming spots across the UK

Completed the local lido? Get out of town and dive into one of these instead



THERE COMES a time of year when, no matter how much you think you're a Winter Person, no matter how averse you are to stripping down to your pants in public, wild swimming feels like a truly excellent idea. Now, we feel, is that time. It's muggy AF. The Euros are on. 'Love Island' 2k21 is about to start. Time to take the plunge.

But where? You've completed the Hampstead Heath Ponds. Your local lido feels incredibly stressful right now. If you're looking for new options, we suggest heading out of town and exploring one of the UK's beautiful outdoor swimming spots, from rural rivers to submerged quarries and waterfall plunge pools. Read on for our round-up of six of the best places to go wild swimming right now. Better dig out your swimming cossie (or maybe make that a wetsuit).



River Wharfe

River Isis Port Meadow, Oxford

Looking like something straight out of a Gainsborough landscape, Port Meadow is commonland roamed by cows and horses, sprawling at the upper reaches of the Thames (known here as the Isis). It's a popular spot for a dip on hot days. Aim to dive in by Fiddler's Island, near central Oxford, or upriver, at Godstow and Wolvercote.

Goldiggins Quarry Minions, Cornwall

A quarry might not sound like the most inviting place to strip down to your smalls. This one, however, is tucked away in the craggy beauty of Bodmin Moor and is now home to a deep, jewel-bright pool. It's inaccessible by car, so you'll need to park up in nearby Minions – the highest village in Cornwall – and walk across the blustery moorland, past some quirky rock formations.



Blue Lagoon

Better dig out your cossie... or maybe make that a wetsuit

Linhope Spout Northumberland

You'd be hard-pressed to find a more striking backdrop for a wild swim than this fairytale plunge pool with a dramatic 18-metre waterfall crashing down into it. Surrounded by an intimate wooded glade in the middle of Northumberland National Park, this foaming pool is just big enough for a small group to wade in on a hot day.

Falls of Falloch Crianlarich, Scotland

Set in the shadow of snowcapped mountain Ben Lui, this cool, calming swimming spot is framed by a dramatic ten-metre waterfall



THREE OF THE BEST

Places to help you reconnect with nature

Switch off your smartphone and plug into the great outdoors at these remote hideaways



BEST FOR BEING BY WATER Bowcombe Boathouse

From this converted boathouse on the banks of Bowcombe Creek in Devon, you can watch the boats drifting by towards Salcombe – or even join them by borrowing a kayak and casting off from your own private jetty.



BEST FOR FIRE-GAZING The Danish Cabin

Hiding in a secluded former slate quarry in Cornwall, this cabin is the place to experience the parasympathetic calming effects of fire by the bucketload, as you cook your dinner over the pit on the cosy private deck.



BEST FOR FOREST BATHING Gwennol

You can't really get any more off the beaten track than this rustic wagon in a forest clearing in the Black Mountains of Wales. It's accessible only by foot, bike or horseback, so it really is just you and the trees. ■ *Rosie Hewitson*

→ All available to book at www.canopyandstars.co.uk.



River Isis

and delicate woodland canopies. Just off the West Highland Way – and accessed via a bumpy farm track – the large circular plunge pool is known locally as 'Rob Roy's Bathtub' (after the fabled Scottish outlaw who may or may not have bathed here).

Blue Lagoon Pembrokeshire, Wales

Forget jetting off to Iceland, Wales's Blue Lagoon is just as beguiling. The sea has flooded this former quarry, creating a seemingly bottomless pool that shines azure in the sun. The lagoon's depth makes it perfect for plunging into from the high cliffs (you can only dive in with an organised group, fyi).

River Wharfe Appletreewick, Yorkshire

This tiny village in the Yorkshire Dales National Park is absolutely as idyllically quaint as the name of 'Appletreewick' suggests. A narrow track/road opposite the appropriately romantic New Inn leads you away from the surrounding chocolate-box-perfect stone cottages to the River Wharfe, where rocks and shingle give way to a secluded pool containing a small rocky island and some gentle rapids. Want to really make a splash? Have a go on the rope swing dangling from one of the waterside trees. ■ *Alexandra Sims*

APPLETREWICK: ANNA WATSON/ALAMY; BLUE LAGOON: ROBERT MELENY/SHUTTERSTOCK; FORT MEADOW: GREG BILATCH/DORIS/SHUTTERSTOCK; BOWCOMBE BOATHOUSE: OWEN HOWELLS/JUMPING MAN; STEVE PHOTOGRAPHY/SHUTTERSTOCK

Film

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

Eight starlit cinemas to book this summer

Pack your slanket and cool box because outdoor screens are back in a big way this summer – and everyone's invited

1 Rooftop Film Club
Ten years old, this outdoor staple returns to its two London homes, Roof East in Stratford and Peckham's Bussey Building, with crowd-pleasing flicks like 'Princess Bride' and 'Dirty Dancing', as well as newer releases. They all come served with a side order of wood-fired pizza, gourmet burgers and cocktails delivered direct to your deckchair. Bliss, basically.
→ Until Sep 30.



fare. Tickets are £15 per person and for anyone keen for space to snuggle with a loved one or consenting stranger, a two-seater sofa will cost £30.
→ Jul 13-25.

3 The Luna Cinema
With 17 outdoor venues across the city, from Bexleyheath to Brompton Cemetery, Luna's screens are everywhere this summer (check your back garden). Kenwood House, Hampton Court Palace and Royal Hospital Chelsea are three of the grander backdrops, while Regent's Park Open Air Theatre is swapping plays for movies with late summer screenings of 'Moulin Rouge!' and 'The Shining'. Luna's programme runs from July into the autumn.
→ Jul 1-Oct 3.

2 St Katharine Docks Floating Film Festival
Roll up for starlit cinema on a floating pontoon, kicking off on July 13. Expect 'Knives Out', 'Toy Story 4', comedy-drama 'Misbehaviour' and other feelgood

4 Film & Food Fest
This new spin-off from Adventure Cinema will be roadshowing across the UK this summer. In its capacious boot? Movies (obvs), stand-up comedy and local street food. There are two stop-offs in London: Finsbury Park (July 22 to 25) and Beckenham Place Park in Lewisham (August 26 to 29). Tickets come in at £16.50 for adults and half that for under-12s at the afternoon screenings.
→ Jul 22-Aug 29.

5 Hideaway Cinema
Want to watch brand-new films outdoors? Some might consider you a dangerous maverick. Not Hideaway Cinema, which prides itself on screening films as soon as two weeks after their cinema release. Catch 'In the Heights' and 'The Father' at lustrous London locations including Kew Gardens (July), Hendon Park (August) and Hampstead Heath (September). Save room for the retro pick 'n' mix, gourmet hot dogs and candy floss.
→ Jul 7-Sep 12.



The planet's 40 most beautiful outdoor cinemas at [timeout.com/film](https://www.timeout.com/film)



Openaire Float-In Cinema on the Regent's Canal

The Luna Cinema at Westminster Abbey

6 Openaire Float-In Cinema

If the idea of boat-based cinema grabs you, Paddington Basin is where to head to this summer. A six-by-three-metre LED screen will be showing crowd-pleasers like 'The Greatest Showman', 'Jaws' and 'Mamma Mia!', with wireless headphones and treats provided by Häagen-Dazs. Boats costs £240 and seat eight, while landlubbers can grab a deckchair for £17.50. Films start at 8.45pm.

→ Until Jun 27.

7 Pop Up Screens

Back for more than two months of outdoor cinema, Pop Up Screens has a slate full of old favourites (hello again 'The Greatest Showman'), alongside cult classics ('The Craft' and 'Priscilla, Queen of the Desert') and '80s hits ('The Goonies' and 'Ghostbusters'). Its screens are popping up in an array of London locales, including Bishops Park in Fulham, North Greenwich and Kennington Park. Tickets cost £14, or £9 for under-12s.

→ Jul 9-Sep 19.

8 Sunset Screening Sessions

The stately surrounds of Beckenham Palace Park offer a fitting backdrop to a line-up of British film royalty in a new outdoor screen running every Friday from July 2. On the bill? 'Rocks', 'Passport to Pimlico', Alfred Hitchcock's 'The Lodger' and 'Withnail and I'. The park's popular Homestead Café will be on hand with the finest wines available to humanity – and pizzas. ■

→ Jul 2-Sep 10.

...and two you can't

It's not all good news on the outdoor cinema front. Lockdown uncertainty means that Somerset House's annual **Film4 Summer Screen**, which always has a reliably excellent line-up, is off. Look out, instead, for the ultimate in socially distanced mayhem – dodgems – in the cobbly quadrangle. **Secret Cinema**'s summer plans have also fallen by the wayside. After negative press around its use of a Walthamstow sports ground, the experiential cinema company has postponed its 'Dirty Dancing' run, citing 'ongoing uncertainty around the hosting of mass gatherings'. But Baby will be back in 2022.

Another Round



CULT TV COMEDY ‘Teachers’ followed the classroom-to-pub existence of a group of jaded educators. But what if teachers turned to booze while in school? That’s the provocative premise of ‘Another Round’, a blackly funny character study from Danish writer-director Thomas Vinterberg. His ‘The Hunt’ collaborator Mads Mikkelsen plays despondent secondary school teacher Martin, a man out of love with his work and losing his way in his marriage too. He’s so uninspired – and uninspiring – in the classroom that his students’ parents turn up to complain.

His spark is lit again on a night out with three mates who teach at the same school (Thomas Bo Larsen, Lars Ranthe and Magnus Millang). There’s a new report, one of them says, that suggests microdosing

alcohol can boost productivity. They all agree to give it a whirl, with Martin leading the way. Soon he’s flourishing during lessons, regaling his newly intrigued students with the accomplishments of boozy historical figures like Ernest Hemingway and Winston Churchill.

Vinterberg’s typically assured direction brings a sense of swagger to ‘Another Round’ (‘Druk’ or ‘binge drinking’ in Danish), even as it coolly observes the quartet’s increasingly erratic behaviour. Is this all a midlife crisis or an anarchic gesture of rebellion? He bookends the film

with scenes of boozed-up teenagers cutting loose. Do we encourage youthful abandon while frowning upon it in older folks? No direct judgments are made, but you can draw your own conclusions from this merry bin fire of male fragility. ■ *Stephen A Russell*

WHAT IS IT...
Can booze improve your job? Mads Mikkelsen’s teacher finds out.

WHY GO...
Mikkelsen’s epic dancing on Copenhagen docks.

→ Director Thomas Vinterberg (12A) 117 mins. Out Jul 2.



Supernova



WHAT IS IT...

A writer with dementia and his partner go on a Lake District road trip.

WHY GO...

Ruby the adorable, farty dog is a scene-stealer.

→ Director Harry Macqueen (15) 93 mins. Out Jun 25.

STANLEY TUCCI AND Colin Firth are Tusker and Sam, a 20-year couple embarking on a campervan holiday around old Cumbrian haunts. Tusker is a writer, Sam a musician – both evidently of some standing, even if Tusker’s latest novel isn’t coming together. There’s a reason for that: he’s been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer’s and he’s in decline. The book will never be finished.

The bones of writer-director Harry Macqueen’s moving road-trip drama are simple, but Firth and Tucci’s immaculate performances put ample flesh on them. Without preamble, they communicate a sense of a lived-in love affair, emotions that have deepened with time. Over 90 minutes they will basically reduce you to mush.

Firth is perfect as the buttoned-up, fussing, terrified Sam, but it’s Tucci’s movie. He maps out poles of bonhomie and aching vulnerability and jags between them as the pair face the future. Tusker’s piss-taking keeps the dread at bay, with some aggro with the chirpy satnav a highlight. ‘She sounds like Margaret fucking Thatcher,’ he notes. ‘First, it’s Section 28, and now she’s going to tell us where to go on our holiday.’

‘Supernova’ is a film of landscapes – the painterly ones the pair pass through (you will want to visit the Lake District asap), and roiling internal ones as they wrestle with their fears. Macqueen’s script smartly identifies that it’s as much Tusker looking after Sam as the other way around. It’s one of the relatable truths in a film full of them. ■ *Phil de Semlyen*



Sweat



WHAT IS IT...

A journey into the dark side of Instagram celebrity.

WHY GO...

To feel less bad about your 47 followers.

→ Director Magnus von Horn (15) 106 mins. Out in cinemas and on Curzon Home Cinema Jun 25.

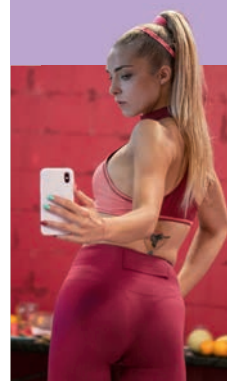
WHAT DOES THE colour pink mean to you?

Forced femininity? Rose-tinted positivity? For Sylwia (Magdalena Kolesnik, magnetic), it’s both. She’s a fitness influencer and wears a lot of the stuff. In bougie Warsaw, her job gets her loads of freebies. Through her videos, TV appearances and workout demonstrations, she remains poised and professional. Occasionally she feels liked – but she wants to be *loved*. Her eyes betray anxiety and unhappiness. Loneliness, too.

‘Sweat’, assuredly helmed by writer-director Magnus von Horn, follows Sylwia in the build-up to a chat show interview. By the end, she’s hit breaking point. She’s misunderstood by family. Misunderstood by her 600,000 followers. Misunderstood by men. And then there’s the small matter of the stalker parked by her flat.

As she tells her family, there’s a dark side to what she does. There are good days and there are bad days. But the cleverest thing? The film also poses the question: is she really so unhappy, or is that a performance too? Von Horn’s second feature is a sharp critique of the influencing world and the nefarious impact it can have on its practitioners. It could so easily have been patronising, but it feels honest.

The direction is sharp, the camerawork in-your-face, and the lilting synth score by Piotr Kurek recalls ‘Drive’ – as do Sylwia’s neon outfits. And through it all, Kolesnik gives a remarkable performance that nails the public/private schism at the heart of Instagram celebrity. ■ *Huw Oliver*



Your Uber awaits

Time to

~~stare at tv, water plants, colour
code books, do a jigsaw, bake
bread, sit in bath, think about
things, stare at clock, cry a bit,
bake more bread, reminisce,
redecorate, internet shop, wash
up, go to park, stare out window,
watch the neighbours, stream a
series, put on slippers, organise
pants, another jigsaw! scroll
phone, send some emails, sit on
chair, video call, stare at laptop,~~