

10

INTERESTING THINGS

ABOUT LONDON'S BOROUGHES

BARKING & DAGENHAM / BARNET
BEXLEY / BRENT / BROMLEY
CAMDEN / CITY OF LONDON
CROYDON / EALING / ENFIELD
GREENWICH / HACKNEY
HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM
HARINGEY / HARROW / HAVERING
HILLINGDON / HOUNSLOW
ISLINGTON / KENSINGTON &
CHELSEA / KINGSTON UPON THAMES
LAMBETH / LEWISHAM / MERTON
NEWHAM / REDBRIDGE
RICHMOND UPON THAMES
SOUTHWARK / SUTTON
TOWER HAMLETS / WALTHAM
FOREST / WANDSWORTH
WESTMINSTER

LONDON
COUNCILS

The logo for London Councils, featuring the words "LONDON" and "COUNCILS" in a bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. A thick, black, curved line sweeps from the bottom right of the word "COUNCILS" upwards and to the left, ending under the word "LONDON".

FOREWARD

Lots of people feel that they 'know' London even if they've never actually visited it.

One of only a handful of truly global cities with a reputation an economic powerhouse with world famous architecture, rich in history and art, an open, vibrant and diverse culture, and one of the world's top tourist destinations.

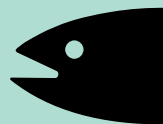
It is all these things of course but a closer look reveals the capital as it is experienced by its 8 million or so inhabitants, a patchwork of neighbourhoods and localities, each with their own unique flavour and their own unique histories.

These localities are the domain of London local government that provides the majority of services that Londoners and London businesses use on a daily basis. From schools to social care, from parking to parks and from emergency planning to waste collection, it is their local council that Londoners rely on.

London Councils is the representative body for all 32 London boroughs and the City of London, committed to fighting for a fair share of resources for our members and to ensure they have the powers needed to do the best possible job for their residents and businesses.

This guide includes a mixture of facts, figures and some more unusual history and trivia that offer an insight into the distinctive character of the 33 local authorities that collectively comprise 'London'. We hope it gives you an idea of the variety of the capital and its communities that help create and maintain London's status as one of the world's most interesting cities in which to live, work or visit.

BARKING AND DAGENHAM



1 The **population** of Barking grew rapidly in the 19th century as a result of its thriving **fishing industry**.

At its peak in the 1950s the **Ford** motor plant at Dagenham covered four million square feet and employed 40,000 people.

3 The only **English Heritage Blue Plaque** in Barking and Dagenham is on the home of World Cup winning England captain Bbbby Moore.

Barking and Dagenham is at the heart of the **Thames Gateway** with excellent road and public transport links to central London and the rest of east London, between central London and the M25.



5 William the Conqueror used **Barking Abbey** as his headquarters while the Tower of London was being built. It is the second oldest abbey in the country.

The **Becontree estate** was built in 1921 to reward the families of soldiers who had served in the First World War. It was the largest council housing estate in the world at the time.



7 The borough has seven Grade I and II listed buildings, including the **Valence House Museum**.

Barking Riverside is one of the UK's largest regeneration sites, with plans for around **11,000 new homes**, equivalent to the town of Windsor.

9 **Famous inhabitants** have included Billy Bragg, Dudley Moore, Vera Lynn, Max Bygraves and Sandie Shaw.

At 2.41 births per woman Barking and Dagenham has England's **highest total fertility rate** (England average is 1.83).



BARNET



1 Barnet was the site of one of the most important battles in the **War of the Roses** - the Battle of Barnet on 13 April, 1471.

A fair has been held in Barnet every year since **2** 1588 and became so well known that **'Barnet fair'** became Cockney rhyming slang for hair.

3 Barnet has the highest proportion of **Jewish residents** of any local authority area in the UK.

Barnet is the **most populous** London borough, with **4** a population bigger than cities such as Cardiff, Coventry and Leicester.



5 An **1895 film** of a hay cart crossing Barnet's Hadley Green is one of the earliest films ever made.

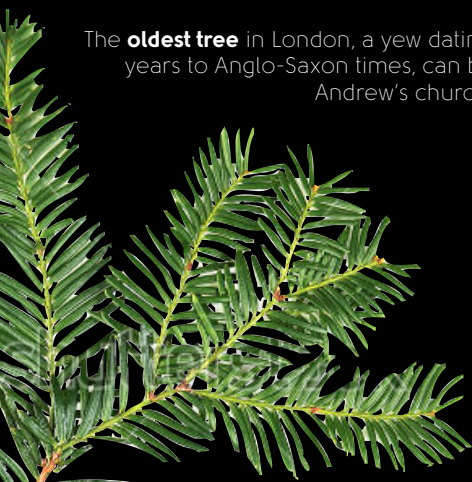
The **Oxford English Dictionary** can trace its origins **6** to a tin shed in the grounds of Mill Hill school where headmaster James Murray edited the first edition.

7 Barnet is **twinned** with eight other towns around the world, including Jinja (Uganda); Ramat Gan (Israel) and Tempelhof (Germany).

It is rumoured that **Winston Churchill** secretly met **8** Rudolf Hess in Barnet.

9 Barnet is home to the **first Roman built road** in England (formerly Watling Street, now the A5).

The **oldest tree** in London, a yew dating back **10** 2,000 years to Anglo-Saxon times, can be found in St Andrew's churchyard in Totteridge.



BEXLEY

1 The ruins of **Lesnes Abbey**, founded by Richard de Luci in 1178 but closed by Cardinal Wolsley to finance Wolsley College Oxofoed, have been described as a 'hidden treasure in the heart of suburban London'.

Famous Bexley residents have included Kate Bush, **2** Roald Dahl and Lennox Lewis.

3 With around 78,000 jobs within the borough, Bexley has a **high economic activity rate** in comparison to other outer London Boroughs.

Bexley-born architect John Shaw (1776 **4** - 1832) was one of the first to design 'semi-detached' housing in the capital.



5 More than half (51 per cent) of all Bexley's waste is **recycled**, the highest rate in London.

The **Crossness Pumping Station**, built by Sir Joseph Bazalgette as part of Victorian London's sewerage **6** system, contains some of the period's finest ornamental cast ironwork.



7 The historic **Red House in Bexleyheath** was originally built for the Victorian artist William Morris and is known as the home of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Bexley is mentioned in **8** the **Domesday Book** of 1086, where it is described as a village with 12 ploughs and a mill.

9 Bexley, Ohio a suburb of the city of Columbus was **named** after its British predecessor at the suggestion of an early settler.

Bexley has a **five mile** frontage **10** onto the River Thames.



BRENT

1 Neasden Temple, the first and largest traditional Hindu Mandir outside India, is made of 2,000 tonnes of **Italian marble** and 3,000 tonnes of **Bulgarian limestone** which were carved by Indian craftsmen and shipped to London.

The famous **'Tricycle Theatre'** **2** opened on Kilburn High Road in 1980 was based on the Georgian Theatre Royal in Richmond, Yorkshire.



3 Covering twice the area of the original venue, and with **90,000 seats**, the new Wembley Stadium is the largest covered football stadium in the world.

Brent is widely recognised as one of the most **ethnically diverse** **4** local authorities in the country.

5 In 1986 Merle Amory became leader of Brent council, the **first black woman** to reach this position within a British local authority.

The 4,004 seat State Cinema in Kilburn was the **largest in Europe** when Gracie Fields opened it **6** in 1937.

7 Brent is named after the **River Brent** which runs through the borough.

Famous residents of Brent have included: Daniel **8** Craig, Lily Allen, Sienna Miller, Jade Jagger and Peter O'Toole.



9 John Logie Baird received the **first TV pictures** from the continent at Kingsbury Manor studio in 1929.

Brent will become the 'London **10** Borough of Culture' in 2020 coinciding with Euro2020 when Wembley will host the final.

BROMLEY

1 Bromley has **26 rail stations**, more than any other London borough, but no underground stations.

A labyrinthine network of **underground caves** at **2** Chislehurst were formed when digging for chalk used in brick-making for the building of London.



3 Legendary cricketer **W.G. Grace** is buried in Beckenham cemetery.

Crofton Roman Villa, managed on behalf of the borough by Kent Archaeological **4** Rescue Unit, is the only such **villa open to the public** in Greater London.



5 Bromley boasts the **largest area of green space** in London, with half of the borough covered by green belt countryside.

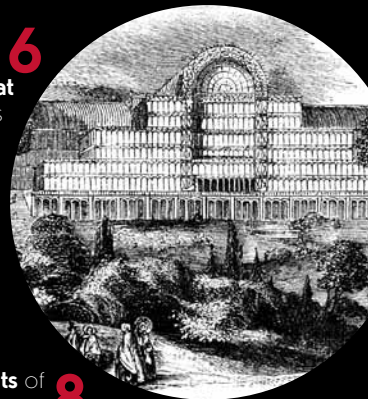
The Crystal Palace, **6** the huge exhibition hall constructed for the **Great Exhibition** in 1851, was relocated to Penge in 1854 but was destroyed by fire in 1936.

7 **HG Wells**, author of The Time Machine and The War of the Worlds, was born in Bromley in 1866.

Other **famous residents** of **8** Bromley have included Napoleon III, Enid Blyton and Charles Darwin.

9 Biggin Hill aerodrome, built in the early 1930s, was the main aerodrome for RAF fighter pilots during the **Battle of Britain**.

In the **10th century**, Bromley was chosen by the **10** Bishops of Rochester to be their base for visitors to London; the latest Bishop's Palace, built in 1775, with its moat, now forms part of the extensive Bromley Civic Centre.



CAMDEN

1 Camden has **39 conservation areas** which cover half the borough, including several parks such as Regent's Park, Primrose Hill and Hampstead Heath.

At their peak in the 19th century, **2** Charles Goodall and Son's Camden works produced 75% of all **playing cards** produced in Britain and the first mass produced **Christmas cards** in 1866.



3 The 1665 outbreak of **Bubonic plague** first struck in Holborn, around the poor, overcrowded area of St Giles-in-the-Field.

London's **first bypass** was opened in Camden in 1756 and is now the Euston Road running from Paddington to Islington.

5 Camden Market is the fourth most popular visitor attraction in London, attracting approximately **250,000 people** each week.



The **German Gymnasium** in King's Cross was the first purpose-built gym in England when it opened in 1865. **6**

7 **Famous residents** have included Charles Dickens, Benjamin Disraeli, Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and John Keats.

Camden is home to three of London's largest rail stations: King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston. **8**

9 The borough is home to London Zoo, the world's oldest scientific zoo which opened in 1828.

Camden had the first Bangladeshi and Muslim mayor in England, who was also the youngest mayor in the country (Nasim Ali in 2003 elected mayor at the age of 34). **10**



CITY OF LONDON



1 The **City of London** is ancient, founded in AD 43-50 by the Romans.

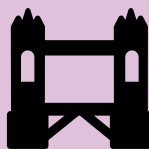
The City has a resident population of just 9,401 but more than **300,000 people** commute to and work there. **2**

3 **St Paul's Cathedral** is the most popular visitor spot in the city.

The City's population was estimated at **208,000 in 1700** (139,000 of which was within the city walls). **4**

5 The City of London is **not classed as a 'borough'** – it is governed by the City of London Corporation, elected by residents and businesses, and has several unusual features, such as its own police force.

London's first **public drinking fountain** was unveiled on 21 April 1859, at the boundary wall of St. Sepulchre's church, Snow Hill. **6**



7 The City controls the full spans of **London Bridge** and **Blackfriars Bridge** but only half of the river underneath them, a feature which is uncommon within British local administration.

The **City Bridge Trust** is London's largest independent grant-making trust, of which the City of London Corporation is the sole trustee. **8**

9 The City of London Corporation owns and manages land elsewhere in London, notably **Hampstead Heath** and **Epping Forest**.

From medieval times, the City has comprised of 25 ancient wards, each headed by an Alderman, who chairs Wardmotes, which still take place at least annually. **10**



CROYDON



1 The Brit school in Selhurst, which was established in 1990, has produced talented artists such as Amy Winehouse, King Krule, Leona Lewis and Jessie J.

The Croydon Aerodrome was built in **2** 1915 as **London's first airport**, but was replaced by Heathrow in 1959.

3 Croydon is London's second most populous borough with a population of more than **390,000**.

Around **14,000 businesses** are based in Croydon – including offices for well-known brands such as **4** Superdrug, Body Shop and EDF Energy.



5 The **Surrey Street Market** in Croydon, founded in 1276, is one of the oldest markets in the country.

Croydon has over **3,000 acres of 6** parkland, countryside and open space within its borders.

7 The **Surrey Iron Railway** from Croydon to Wandsworth opened in 1803 and was the world's first horse-drawn railway.

Since opening in 1962, Croydon's **Fairfield hall** has hosted many famous concerts, including David Bowie, Ella Fitzgerald, Elton John and The Beatles.

9 Croydon was once known as '**The Valley of the Crocus**' and was where England's Archbishops entertained kings and queens.

Croydon has the most schools of any borough in London, including **95 primary and 21 secondary schools. 10**



EALING



1 Ealing is home to the biggest **Sikh community** in London.

Southall has many churches, **2** temples and mosques and the biggest Sikh temple in Europe, the **Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha**, is here.

3 Ealing is derived from the Saxon "**Gillingas**" and is recorded as a settlement in the 12th century. It was originally in the middle of a great forest to the west of London.

More than a quarter of Ealing is open space, including **1,000 hectares** of space **4** designated as natural conservation areas.



5 Ealing started to develop in the mid-19th century, and by the 20th century was nicknamed the '**Queen of Suburbs**' because of its attractive, tree-lined streets.

Mick Jagger and Keith Richards 6 first met Brian Jones at the Ealing Jazz club in 1962.



More than a **fifth of households** in Ealing do

7 not have anyone in the household with English as their main language.



The 2011 Census population of **8** Ealing was **338,400**, making it the 3rd largest borough in London.

9 Ealing has one of the largest **Polish communities** in London.

The British children's television comedy show **Rentaghost** was **10** set in Ealing.



ENFIELD



1 The Royal Small Arms factory at Enfield Lock, built in 1815, became the **main manufacturing site** for the British army's infantry weapons, including the Lee Enfield rifle.

Although not bordering the Thames, Enfield includes **2** the longest length of river corridor in London, known as the **New River Loop**, which covers more than 27 miles.

3 **Enfield FC** beat a team from Tottenham Hotspur 5-1 at their Tucker's Field ground in 1893. The club joined the league in 1895, but they folded in 1898.

Sir Cameron Mackintosh, the **4** producer behind shows such as *Les Miserable*, *Miss Saigon*, *Phantom of the Opera* and *Cats*, was born in Enfield.

5 The world's first electric fire, halogen cooker and man-made fibres were all **invented** in Enfield.



The borough offers the **second largest** expanse of **6** parks and open spaces in London, covering more than 900 hectares.



7 Enfield is home to three **Middlesex University** campuses with more than 140 nationalities are represented at the university's Hendon campus alone.

Former **famous Enfield residents** include horror actor **8** Boris Karloff, TV legend, Sir Bruce Forsyth, who was born in Edmonton, Mylene Klass and Amy Winehouse.

9 The **Rose & Crown Pub** in Enfield dates back to the 15th Century and was once owned by the notorious highwayman Dick Turpin's grandfather Mr Mott. It is said that Dick would hide in the pub to avoid capture and that his ghost still haunts the pub today.

Barclay's Bank in Enfield was home to the world's **10** **first cash point machine**, officially opened by local resident and On the Buses star Reg Varney in 1967.

GREENWICH



1 Greenwich was formally granted **Royal Borough** status on 3 February 2012, in recognition of hundreds of years association between the borough and the Monarchy.

The **first golf club in England** was set up in **2** Blackheath in 1608.

3 Maritime Greenwich was awarded **World Heritage Site** status in 1997.

The Blackwall Tunnel was the **largest underwater** **4** **tunnel** in the world when it opened in 1897.

5 Greenwich is world famous as the traditional location of the **Prime Meridian**, on which all Coordinated Universal Time is based.

The capital's first **steam railway** was **6** extended to Greenwich in 1838 and linked the borough with London Bridge.



7 At eight miles, Greenwich has the longest **embankment** along the River Thames.



Greenwich was the site of a royal **8** palace from the 15th century, and was the **birthplace** of many in the House of Tudor, including Henry VIII and Elizabeth I.

9 Greenwich is home to the world's largest tea clipper, the **Cutty Sark**.

Greenwich was one of six host **10** boroughs for the **2012 London Olympics** and events were held at the Royal Artillery Barracks (shooting), Greenwich Park (equestrianism) and The O2 – the former Millennium Dome (gymnastics and basketball).



HACKNEY

1 Hackney Marshes has the largest concentration of **football pitches** in Europe; over a hundred games are played there every winter weekend.

The **Rio Cinema** in Dalston is **2** one of the few independent and community-run cinemas in the country.

3 Stamford Hill is home to the **largest Jewish Charedi community** in the world, outside New York and Israel.

Built in 1901, the famous **Hackney Empire** has been **4** a music hall and a TV studio - following a recent restoration it is still a major arts attraction today.



5 The **Gunpowder Plot** was uncovered in Hoxton on 26 October 1605, when an anonymous letter arrived at the home of local resident Lord Monteagle, warning him not to attend Parliament.

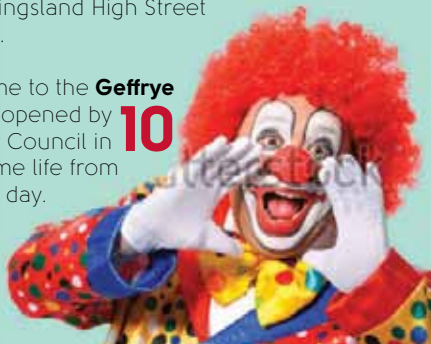
The first aerial bomb ever dropped on **London** hit **6** Alkham Road in Stoke Newington on 31 May 2915.

7 In the Tudor period Hackney became a retreat for the nobility and **Henry VIII built a Palace by Lea Bridge roundabout**, where BSix Sixth Form College stands today.

The **National Centre for Circus Arts**, which offers **8** BA degrees in circus skills, is based in a former Victorian power station in Hoxton.

9 Pop art veterans **Gilbert and George** have had the same dinner at the same time at the same Turkish restaurant on Kingsland High Street for more than 20 years.

Hackney is home to the **Geffrye Museum** - originally opened by **10** the London County Council in 1914 - that explores home life from 1600 to the present day.



HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

1 Originally known as the London Borough of Hammersmith in 1965, the council **voted to change the name** to include Fulham on 1 January 1979.

The rules of polo were established at **2** the **Hurlingham Club** in 1873.

3 The first half of the annual **Oxford and Cambridge boat race** course is along the borough's southern border on the River Thames.

The borough's **Westfield shopping centre** took 13 million man-hours to build and used enough concrete to fill **4** 117 Olympic swimming pools.



5 The Grade II art deco **Hammersmith Apollo** originally opened as the Gaumont Palace in 1932. In 1952 Buddy Holly played his last UK shows at the venue.

A **German street lamp** that stands on Farnival Gardens was given to the borough by former **6** German Chancellor Willy Brandt when he was Mayor of West Berlin in 1963.

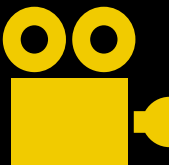
7 Built in 1829, **Gasholder 2 at the Fulham Gasworks** is by far the oldest surviving Gasholder in the world.

The borough is home to three of the country's **8** **top football teams**: Chelsea, Fulham and Queens Park Rangers.



9 The Franco-British Exhibition in 1908 that celebrated the 1904 Entente Cordiale attracted 8 million visitors to the white painted exhibition halls, that gave their name to the area **'White City'**.

The borough is home to the **10** **The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA)**, the oldest drama school in the UK, alumni include Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Malcolm McDowell and Kim Cattrall.



HARINGEY

1 **Finsbury Park** was Britain's first public park, created by an Act of Parliament in 1857.

In 1909 Walter Tull was the first **black player** for Tottenham FC and the first black army officer commissioned in the UK. **2**

3 Haringey has a relatively **young population** with around 20 per cent of its population aged 0-15 and less than 10 per cent of pensionable age.

Seven Sisters is named after seven **elm trees** planted in the Page Green area. **4**

5 In ancient times, what we now know as Haringey was made up of two large manors, **Hornsey** and **Tottenham**. In the Middle Ages, Tottenham's population consisted of 59 serfs, four slaves, two freemen and a priest.

The world's first public broadcasts of high-definition television were made by the BBC from **Alexandra Palace** in 1936. **6**



7 Haringey was formed in **1965** from the Municipal Boroughs of Hornsey, Wood Green and Tottenham which had all previously been part of Middlesex.

Haringey is home to **five ancient woods**, including Coldfall Wood, Bluebell Wood and North Wood. **8**



9 Now a free museum, **Bruce Castle** in Tottenham is one of the capital's oldest brick buildings, originally built by one of Henry VIII's leading courtiers.



The first **Lotus** cars were built in Haringey in 1954. **10**

HARROW

1 **Mrs Beeton**, the original domestic goddess, lived at Chandos Villas in Hatch End from 1856-62.

54 per cent of Harrow's residents are **married**, which is the highest level in London. **2**



3 Harrow public school is famous for educating seven **Prime Ministers**, including Winston Churchill, and has also featured in the Harry Potter films.

The fictional BBC comedy series '**One Foot in the Grave**', starring Richard Wilson and Annette Crosbie, was set in the borough. **4**

5 One fifth of the borough is composed of **parkland** and open spaces, creating a green belt equivalent to eight Hyde Parks.

Harrow is a **religiously diverse** area with the highest proportion of Hindu followers in the country (25.3%) and the highest number of Jains (2.2%). 37.3% of residents are Christians and 12.5% are Muslims. **6**



7 Punk designer Vivienne Westwood studied fashion at **Harrow Art School**, near where her parents ran a sub post office on Station Road.

David Sutch renamed himself **Screaming Lord Sutch**, 3rd Earl of Harrow in the 1960s and enjoyed string of minor hit records prior to founding the Monster Raving Loony Party in 1983 and unsuccessfully contesting more than 40 elections. **8**

9 You can find the remains of one of the last surviving **Saxon Churches** in England at St Mary's Church in Harrow.

98% of households in Harrow have **central heating** in their homes - the highest level in London. **10**



HAVERING

1 Romford market has been in existence since 1247 when **Henry III** ordered the sheriff of Essex to establish a market there to be held on Wednesday.

Havering is home to three **2** large County parks.



In 1937, plans to stage races at **3** Romford Greyhound Stadium using **Cheetahs** imported from **Kenya** were abandoned due to safety concerns.

Harold Hill Estate, built during the 1940s, was once Europe's largest council estate. **4**

5 Upminster Windmill, built in 1803 by local farmer James Noakes, is considered one of the finest examples of a '**smock**' windmill remaining in England.

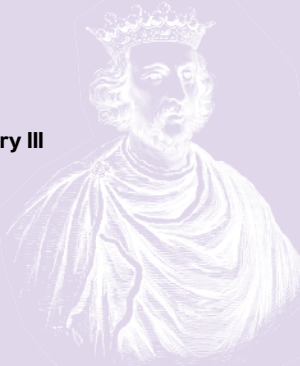
The name Havering is recorded in the **1086** **Domesday Book** as the ancient folk name of Haueringas, which means 'the settlement of the family of a man called Hæfer'. **6**

7 The borough was formerly known as the Royal Liberty of Havering, to which **Edward IV** granted a charter in 1465.

Parliamentarian Richard Deane, one of the signatories of the death warrant of **Charles II**, was a **8** tenant at Havering-atte-Bower.

Havering Palace manor house **9** formerly in the Liberty of Havering has royal associations going back as far as Edward the Confessor.

While men in Havering (16%) are less likely to smoke than the London average (18.5%), but women in Havering (13.9%) are more likely to **smoke** than women in London as a whole (11.9%). **10**



HILLINGDON



1 Hillingdon has more land under prestigious **Green Flag** status than any other London borough.

Hillingdon is the second largest London borough by area, and is home to one of the world's busiest airports, **Heathrow**. **2**



3 **Ruislip Lido** used been used as a set for major films including The Young Ones with Cliff Richard and saw the Titanic sink in the 1958 film A Night to Remember.

Hillingdon is home to Brunel University whose **alumni** **4** include footballer Tony Adams, actress Archie Panjabi and comedian Jo Brand.

Harefield Hospital, where Sir Alexander Fleming did much **5** of his work, is one of the **world's largest centres** for heart and lung transplants. In 1983, a team of doctors, led by the eminent Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub, performed Britain's first heart-lung transplant.

Hillingdon is home to **RAF Northolt**, which has the longest history of continuous use of any RAF airfield. **6**

The Fountain House Hotel in Hayes was **7** once a school where the famous writer George Orwell - author of **Animal Farm** - lived and taught.

In October 2008, Hillingdon opened the country's first playground **8** designed specifically for **disabled children**.



Hillingdon's **Blue Plaque** scheme **9** celebrates important people who have lived in the borough, including Nobel Prize winner Sir Alexander Fleming, Second World War fighter pilot Douglas Bader, and anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce.

The name Hillingdon appears in the **Domesday Book** (1086) as Hillendone, meaning "The hill of a man named Hille". **10**

LONDON'S BOROUGHES



HOUNSLOW



1 Artists **Hogarth** and **Turner** are among the famous residents who once lived within the borough.



Hounslow Heath was once one **2** of the most dangerous stretches of land in London, famous for highwaymen and robbers including **Dick Turpin**.

3 Today, Hounslow Heath is one of London's largest nature reserves, home to **132 bird species** and several rare insects and plants.

The first mention of a settlement **4** at Hounslow was by Robert Fitzwalter, leader of the Barons at the signing of **Magna Carta** in 1215

5 Other **famous people** to have been born or educated in Hounslow include the comedian Jimmy Carr, the musician Elvis Costello and the actor Charles Hawtrey of Carry On fame.

The Native American **Pocahontas** travelled to London **6** in 1616 and stayed in Brentford.



7 The first **English strawberry** is said to have been cultivated in Isleworth in 1806.

In 1647 **Oliver Cromwell** encamped his **8** army of 20,000 men on Hounslow Heath, before marching, at their head, to London.

9 Hounslow council is currently building a **new civic centre** while its former home for more than 40 years will be redeveloped to create hundreds of new homes.

Hounslow Heath (which is around **10** 200 acres today) once covered more than 40,000 acres.



ISLINGTON



1 **Water** plays a big part in Islington history; wells, springs, a **canal** and a man-made river have brought commerce to the area since the 13th century.

Camden Passage at Angel is one of London's best **2** loved **antiques markets**.



3 George Orwell began writing his dystopian novel **1984** while living at 27b Canonbury Square, NI.

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson **4** **school** in Angel has its own special relationship with former First Lady Michelle Obama who visited the school in 2009 and invited pupil sto the White House in 2010.

5 From 1734, William Caslon ran England's leading **typefoundry** from his premises in Clerkenwell, the foundry continued to trade until 1936.

Whittington Stone on Highgate Hill is where **Dick** **6** **Whittington** supposedly heard the Bow Bells calling him to be Mayor of London.



7 Islington resident Douglas Adams named the character Hotblack Desiato in the Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy after a well-known local **estate agent**

Islington was the location of the UK's **8** **first gay rights demonstration** by the Gay Liberation Front in 1970.

9 Playwright **Joe Orton**, sci-fi novelist **Douglas Adams**, singer **Alexandra Burke** and ex-Prime Minister **Tony Blair** all lived in Islington.

The first recorded gay right **10** **demonstration** in the UK took place in November 1970 at Highbury Fields where the Gay Liberation Front held a torch lit rally to protect police harassment.



KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

1 Life expectancy in Kensington and Chelsea is 85.1 years for men and 89.8 for women the highest in the UK.

Queen Anne moved to the then rural Kensington in part due to her husband, **2** Prince George's, asthma to escape the 'grime of Whitehall.

3 Kensington and Chelsea has 175 English Heritage blue plaques, second only to the City of Westminster in London.

Bob Dylan played his first London show at the Troubadour café on Old Brompton Road. **4**

The borough is home to around 4,000 listed buildings, **5** including the Natural History Museum, the V&A and also Trellick Tower, the 1970s high-rise designed by Erno Goldfinger.

The Notting Hill carnival is one of London's most important cultural events and the largest street party in Europe. **6**

Up until the 1940s, Portobello Road market mainly sold food and other essential items from the 40s onwards it first **7** became home to more rag and bone men and subsequently the antiques it is best known for today.

Isaac Newton, the artist **J.M.W Turner**, Sir Thomas More and **Queen Elizabeth I** all lived in the borough. **8**

In 1916, **cocaine** was sold to the public in **Harrods** **9** and described as 'A Welcome Present for Friends at the Front'.

The Royal Court Theatre in Sloane Square has had a reputation for showcasing new playwrights since it opened in in 1888. **10**



KINGSTON

1 Kingston's **Coronation Stone** dates back to the 10th century and was used at the coronation of King Athelstan, crowned in 925 and generally regarded as the **first King of England**.

The **Korean** population in New Malden is estimated to be the largest in Europe. **2**



3 The first filtered water supply to London came from Seething Wells sand beds in Surbiton by the river Thames. This water supply played a major part in reducing cholera in London.

Kingston Upon Thames is the UK's oldest Royal Borough, having been designated as such in 925 AD by Saxon, King Athelstan. **4**

5 The oldest surviving bridge in London is the **Clattern Bridge** at Kingston, dating back to the 12th century.

Motion picture pioneer **6** Eadweard Muybridge was born and died in Kingston and Kingston Museum hosts a selection of material he bequeathed, including over 2,000 glass magic lantern slides.



7 Kingston Bridge was the only crossing of the **River Thames** between London Bridge and Staines Bridge until Putney Bridge was opened in 1729.

The famous Sopwith Camel fighter plane was developed in Kingston in 1917 and destroyed more **8** enemy aircraft than any other during the First World War.

9 Kingston's Old London Road is home to a famous art installation in the form of falling over phone boxes officially named 'Out of Order' by artist David Mach.

The borough hosts one of the country's leading theme parks - **10** Chessington World of Adventure.



LAMBETH



1 Lambeth is home to world class attractions such as the Southbank Centre, the Oval Cricket Ground, **London Eye**, the London Aquarium, the Old Vic and some other gems such as Windmill Gardens, the Cinema Museum and the Garden Museum.

The **Ritz Cinema**, Brixton, built in 1911 was one of England's first purpose built cinemas. **2**



3 Pioneering British documentary 'We Are The Lambeth Boys' was shot over six weeks in the summer of 1958, in and around the Alford House, a youth club in the Oval area of South London.

Both former Prime Minister John Major (Brixton) and former London Mayor Ken Livingstone (Streatham) were **born** and raised in Lambeth. **4**

5 Lambeth is home to the UK's largest **Portuguese** population at 'little Portugal' near Vauxhall.

Lambeth Palace was acquired by the archbishopric of **6** Canterbury around 1200 AD and has been their London residence ever since.

7 Former Lambeth residents include **Charlie Chaplin**, diarist Samuel Pepys, actor Roger Moore and supermodel Naomi Campbell.

Built as part of the **Festival of Britain** in 1951, the Royal Festival Hall became a Grade I listed building in 1988; the first post-war building to do so. **8**

9 West Norwood cemetery is one of the **finest examples** of Victorian cemeteries; notable burials include sugar magnate and gallery founder **Henry Tate**, Paul Julius Baron von Reuter, founder of the news agency and famous cookery writer **Isabella Beeton**.

Built in 1891 the **Herne Hill Velodrome** hosted the cycling events at the **1948 London Games**. Tucked away amid East Dulwich streets, Herne Hill is still a cycle track and considered the home of UK track cycling. **10**



LEWISHAM

1 In the Middle Ages the manor of Lewisham belonged to the Abbey of Ghent in Flanders.



Astronomer Edmond Halley is buried at St Margaret's Church, Lee. **2**

3 Elizabethan dramatist and poet, **Christopher Marlowe** is buried in an unmarked grave in the churchyard of St Nicholas, Deptford.

Archbishop **Desmond Tutu**, who lived in Grove Park in the early 1970s, was made a **Freeman of the Borough** in 1990. **4**



5 The Rivoli in Crofton Park is London's only intact 1950s **ballroom** and appears frequently on film and TV.

Sydenham Parish records note **6** in 1791 the burial of Elizabeth Fearman, whose coffin was six feet and ten inches long, three feet five inches wide, and two feet six inches deep.

7 New Cross in Lewisham is home to Goldsmiths, whose alumni include Antony Gormley, Mary Quant, Damien Hirst, Bridget Riley and Malcolm McLaren.

Lewisham was the first council to have a directly-elected **young mayor**. **8**

9 Lewisham was administratively part of Kent until 1889.

The ever-popular, bizarrely over-stuffed **Horniman** **10** **Walrus** has been displayed at the Horniman Museum, Forest Hill since 1901. It was mounted around 1870 when people knew little about the walrus anatomy.



MERTON

1 At the time of the first **census** in 1801, Merton's population was 6,382; based on the most recent census information, in 2014 the population was estimated at 203,515, and is projected to grow by between 1.7 per cent and 6.4 per cent by 2020.

Baitul Futuh Mosque in Morden is the **largest** **2** purpose-built mosque in Europe, accommodating **1,600** worshippers in each of its two prayer halls.

3 Merton is famous for being the one-time residence of **Lord Horatio Nelson**.

Merton is the only London borough to be served by tube, rail and tram services. **4**

5 Merton is home to the world-famous All England Lawn Tennis Club, where the **Wimbledon Championships** take place every year bringing an extra 500,000 people into the borough.

Henry VI was crowned at Merton Priory in 1437, the only **coronation** of an English King outside of Westminster in 1,000 years. **6**

7 Comedian **Paul Martin** is better known by his stage name inspired by the area of London he grew up in, Merton.

Merton has 677 hectares of open space on 76 sites, covering 18 per cent of the borough. **8**

9 In 1798, Prime Minister William Pitt fought a duel against the MP for Southwark on Wimbledon Common.

Arthur **Liberty**, founder of the world famous Liberty department store, began his business hand-printing imported silks at his factory on the banks of the river Wandle in Merton. **10**



NEWHAM

1 Newham is one of the most ethnically diverse places in the country. Top languages spoken other than English include Bengali, Urdu, Lithuanian and Romanian.

Westfield Stratford City, the new **2** shopping complex in Stratford, is the **largest** urban shopping centre in Europe, also hosting the biggest casino in London.



3 Newham is **home** to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and the London Stadium which is now home to West Ham United.

Newham has the highest proportion of **young people** **4** in London and one in four residents is aged 15 or younger.



5 Newham has the only **airport** in inner London. It's two miles from the Olympic site, three miles from Canary Wharf and six miles from the City of London.

Newham offers a pioneering programme called 'Every Child a Musician' that offers free music tuition and a free **6** musical instrument to every year 5 pupil in the borough.



Green Street - dubbed **7** 'the Bond Street of the East End' - has over 400 independent shops selling food, jewellery, designer saris and a myriad of cafes and restaurants from around the world.

London's historic **Royal Docks** were once the beating **8** heart of Britain's overseas trade. They used to be the largest Docks in the world attracting shipping from every corner of the globe.

9 More than 7,500 Newham volunteers supported the Games and 1,000 residents took part in the opening and closing **ceremonies**.

"Newham's" motto is 'Progress with People' taken from the latin 'Progressio cum Populo' used by the former Westham County Borough. **10**

REDBRIDGE

1 The only **mammoth** specimen with a complete skull was found in Ilford, and mammoth remains can be seen in Redbridge Museum. An important Palaeolithic site was also found in Woodford during building of the M11.

Ilford Hospital Chapel for 'infirm men' is the oldest **2** building in Redbridge. It was founded in 1145 and later took in people with leprosy returning from the Crusades.



3 The 'Great Vine' at **Hampton Court** Palace was grown from a cutting taken from Valentines Mansion in 1768. A cutting was returned to Valentines Mansion in 1987, which is now a thriving visitor attraction after a major restoration.

Redbridge is one of the greenest **4** London boroughs, with large areas of forest and parkland. They include Claybury Woods and Park, which incorporates some design ideas by renowned landscape architect **Sir Humphrey Repton**.



5 The former Epping and Woodford constituency was represented in Parliament by Sir Winston Churchill from 1924 to 1964, and his statue stands in Woodford Green.

The name 'Redbridge' is from a red brick bridge across the River Roding. The borough was named after this former landmark when it was created in 1965 from the municipal boroughs of Ilford and Wanstead and Woodford. **6**

7 **Barnardo's** has its headquarters in Barkingside, on the site where the original children's homes were built in the late 1800s.

The Ilford Photo Company that became worldwide for its black and white film was founded in and named at **8** the town in 1879.

9 An 1851 Act of Parliament that designated Hainault Forest as waste ground saw more than 92 per cent of its **trees felled** and sparked the birth of the modern British conservation movement.

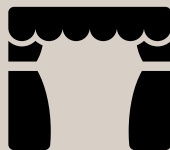
Dame Maggie Smith was born in Ilford in 1934. **10**



RICHMOND UPON THAMES

1 Richmond derives its name from the palace of the same name built by **Henry VIII** and named in recognition of his ancestral home in Richmond, Yorkshire.

Richmond, Virginia, was in turn named after **2** Richmond upon Thames by that town's founder **William Byrd II** because the view of the James River was strikingly similar to the view of the River Thames from Richmond Hill.



3 Built in 1899, **Richmond Theatre** remains one of the country's most successful theatres and attracts more than a quarter of a million theatre-goers a year.

Richmond Park is around **three times** the size of New York's Central Park. **4**



5 Twickenham, one of the country's **largest** sporting venues, was built on land previously used to grow vegetables, giving rise to the stadium's nickname of the '**cabbage patch**'.

The borough is home to the **6** Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, one of London's four World Heritage sites.



7 Richmond is the only London borough to span **both sides** of the River Thames.

Remembrance Poppies have been produced at the Poppy Factory in Richmond since 1925. **8**



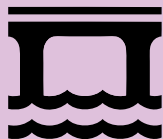
9 The area has traditionally been home to large number of actors, musicians and entertainers, including **Richard Attenborough, Mick Jagger** and **Eddie Izzard**.

Mortlake in Richmond has been the finishing line for the Oxford and Cambridge Boat race since 1838. **10**

SOUTHWARK

1 Modern foodie mecca **Borough Market** can be traced back to at least 1276 and has occupied its current site since 1756.

Over 120 languages are spoken in Southwark. Other than English, top languages spoken include Spanish, **2** Chinese, French and Arabic.



3 London's **first crossing** over the River Thames stretched from Southwark, the poorer side of the river, to the more prosperous City on the north bank.

The borough has a wide tourism offer; being home to the Tate Modern, borough market and the Golden Hinde, a recreation of Francis Drake's famous ship. **4**



5 **Charles Dickens**, the scientist Michael Faraday, Charlie Chaplin and William Shakespeare all lived in the borough.

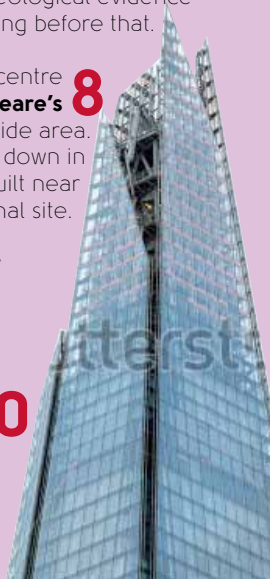
Peckham Library was awarded the Stirling Prize for architecture in 2000. **6**

7 There has been a **church** on the site of Southwark Cathedral since AD 606 and archaeological evidence of Roman pagan worship on the site long before that.

Southwark has a long tradition as a centre of entertainment and in 1599 **Shakespeare's** **8** **Globe Theatre** was built in the Bankside area. Although the original theatre burnt down in 1613, a modern replica has been built near the original site.

9 The City and South London railway line, the **world's first deep level underground** railway line was opened 1890, and ran through Southwark.

The Shard at London Bridge, completed in 2012, is **Europe's** **10** **tallest building** at 310 meters high.



SUTTON



1 Sutton has a good claim to be London's 'greenest borough' with around 1,500 acres of green open space and parks.

Sutton is twinned with **five towns** in Europe, including **2** Gladsaxe in Denmark, Minden in Germany and Tavernelle in Italy.

3 Sutton is one of the few London boroughs not to have a **London Underground** station within its boundaries.

Sutton is recorded in the **1086** **4** **Domesday Book** as Sudtone, which in Old English means 'The south farm'.



5 Sutton railway station opened in **1847** and this connection to central London saw the area's population more than double within a decade.



Famous Sutton residents include Noel Coward, Sir Harry Secombe and Joan Armatrading. **6**

7 The Thomas Wall centre, formerly known as the Sutton Adult School, was opened by benefactor Thomas Wall of Ice Cream fame in **1910**.

There are two grade II listed buildings in Sutton; Sutton Baptist church built in 1934 and the police **8** station built in 1908.

9 Sutton has three accredited **museums** - Honeywood in Carshalton, Little Holland House in Carshalton Beeches and Whitehall in Cheam.

There have been several archaeological finds in Sutton, including the site **10** of a Roman villa in Beddington.



TOWER HAMLETS



1 Tower Hamlets takes its name from the historical association between the Tower of London and the surrounding hamlets (villages).

Prompted by the poor conditions in the East End, William Booth formed his **Salvation Army** at a meeting held on the Whitechapel Road. Today, a statue commemorates both his mission and his work in helping the poor.



3 The Victorians renamed Petticoat Lane 'Middlesex Street' in the 1830s to avoid any reference to underwear, although the market there is still known by the original name.

Tower Hamlets is London's **fastest growing borough**, with a population increase of 33 per cent expected by 2020.

5 Thomas Barnardo opened his first 'ragged school', proving **free eduction** to poor children in Mile End in 1867.

Walford East, the fictitious district line station in **EastEnders**, is supposedly positioned between Bow Road and West Ham stations, thus replacing the real Bromley-by-Bow station.



7 The docks around Canary Wharf were once part of the **world's largest** port, and the area takes its name from the many goods imported from the Canary Islands.

The Whitechapel area was **notorious** haunt of Victorian serial killer Jack the Ripper.

9 Nearly half Tower Hamlet's population is age 20-39, making the boroughs median age of 30.6 one of the lowest in the UK.

Alongside some of the highest income households, Tower Hamlets has some of the highest rates of child and pensioner **poverty** in England.

WALTHAM FOREST



1 Waltham Forest Town Hall is one of the most impressive in London. Built in the 1930s, it is Grade II listed and features on the borough's Olympic pin badge.

The William Morris gallery in Walthamstow Central celebrates the life and art of one of the borough's most celebrated former residents, and a leader in the Arts and Crafts movement.

3 Other famous residents of Waltham Forest have included: footballer, David Beckham; film director, Sir Alfred Hitchcock; actor, Sir Derek Jacobi; and iPod designer, Sir Jonathan Ive.

The first all-British aircraft was assembled on Walthamstow marshes in 1909, and piloted by Alliot Verdon Roe.

5 In the early 20th century, Walthamstow was home to the fledgling British **film industry**, with four film studios.

Walthamstow Market is Europe's **longest** daily street market.



7 Waltham Forest boasts rich natural resources including vast areas of marshland in the Lea Valley to the west of the borough, and Epping Forest to the north east.

The **Bremer**, Britain's first car with an internal combustion engine, was produced in Waltham Forest in the 1890s. An example can be seen today in the borough's **Vestry House Museum**.

9 Waltham Forest established royal links when Queen Elizabeth I used a hunting lodge which still stands – and now accepts visitors – in Chingford.

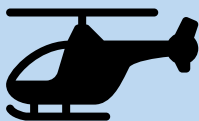
Waltham Forest is the London borough of Culture 2019, the first borough to hold this accolade.



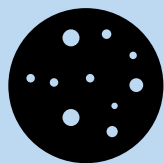
WANDSWORTH

1 Many of the Huguenots who fled France in the 1600s settled in Wandsworth. A Huguenot monument was erected by public subscription in 1911 and still stands today on Wandsworth High Street.

Wandsworth is home to London's **2** only licenced **heliport**.



3 Leading **Suffragettes** Christabel and Emmeline Pankhurst held a number of meetings of the Women's Social and Political Union at Battersea Town Hall, now Battersea Arts Centre.



Wandsworth takes its name from the **4** **River Wandle**, which enters the Thames at Wandsworth.

5 In 2005, Tooting had a **crater on Mars** officially named after it by the International Astronomical Union.

In 1913 Battersea elected London's **6** **first black mayor**, John Archer. In 1922 Battersea North elected London's first communist MP, the Indian-born Shapurji Saklatvala.



7 The decommissioned grade II listed **Battersea Power Station** is now a mixed use neighbourhood containing restaurants, an exercise studio, housing and hosts events throughout the year.

Wandsworth has five Grade I and 39 Grade II* listed **8** buildings, ranging from the **Church of St Mary's** in Battersea to the **Young's Brewery** in Wandsworth Town.

9 The famous Clapham Junction, Britain's **busiest railway station**, is really in Battersea, but when it opened in 1863 the railway company felt the name Clapham would attract more middle class passengers.

The world famous Battersea **10** Dogs and Cats Home finds new homes for more than **5,000** animals each year.



WESTMINSTER



1 Westminster Abbey has been the **coronation** church for the British Monarch since 1066, with 39 coronations taking place there, the most recent being Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

Westminster is an **2** internationally known tourist area, with 40 per cent of London's hotel beds located in the borough.



3 The Waterloo and City Line is the only London tube line not serving a station in Westminster.



Westminster was originally an **4** island above the Thames marshes, and there is evidence of an early Roman settlement.

5 Westminster's population includes the second highest proportion of Buddhist residents in the country.

The economy in Westminster is driven by the **6** service sector, and it has the highest GDP of any London borough.

7 Around **5,300 food businesses** are regulated by the council's Food Team, more than any other London local authority.

It is estimated that more than 95 per cent of visitors to **8** London visit Westminster, representing approximately **28.5 million people** per year.

9 Created in the 10th century, The College Garden in Westminster is Britain's oldest garden.

The oldest surviving **English 10** **Heritage Blue Plaque**, put up in 1875 in honour of **Napoleon III**, is situated in Kind Street, St Jame's.



LONDON COUNCILS

1 London Councils is a cross-party organisation, funded and run by our member authorities to work on behalf of them all, regardless of political persuasion. Our members – all 32 London boroughs and the City of London – find our work through subscription.



London Councils' main policy decisions are taken by **2** our Leaders' Committee, which meets monthly and brings together the leaders of all member authorities.



3 London's 1,833 elected local members are at the heart of the capital's democracy and provide a vital link between their local communities and the wider network of local, regional and national bodies responsible for the governance of London.

London Councils' purpose is to help London's local government successfully shape London as a world class city and best serve its individual communities and localities. **4**



5 London Councils' annual London Government Directory contains details of every London councillor, senior managers in the 32 boroughs and the City of London and is distributed free to members every autumn. An online directory is available at directory.londoncouncils.gov.uk

Through London Tribunals, London Councils supports the work of the **6** Environment and Traffic Adjudicators and the Road User Charging Adjudicators, which are the independent tribunals that consider appeals against Penalty Charge Notices issued by the London Local Authorities and Transport for London.



7 We manage the Freedom Pass, funded by London's boroughs, to provide free 24 hour travel on London buses, tubes, trams and trains to more than one million older and disabled Londoners.

London Councils seeks to influence **8** the government and others on issues of importance to London through commissioning research and developing policy to support our lobbying campaigns. This involves making the case for changes to proposed legislation and promoting private legislation to win more powers for our member councils.



9 London Councils carries out a wide range of policy work covering all the important issues for our member authorities, and Londoners. This includes children and young people, crime and public protection, culture, tourism, economic development, the environment, health and adult services, housing, infrastructure and local government finance.

Prior to 2006 London **10** Councils was known as the Association of London Government which itself was a merger of the London Boroughs Association and the Association of London Authorities in 1995.



London Councils
59½ Southwark Street
London SE1 0AL
www.londoncouncils.gov.uk
020 7934 9999

design: mightyagency.com
images: Thinkstock/London councils
printing: Sterling Media Associates
publication date: June 2018
ISBN: ISBN 978-1-85494-233-3

