

TEN 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

FOREWORD



London is truly a world city with an economy larger than several European countries and a rich and varied culture that attracts millions of tourists every year.

London is home to the national Parliament and also to a regional tier of government in the form of the Mayor and the Greater London Authority.

For the capital's 7.5 million residents, however, London is more often experienced as a patchwork of localities, each with their own character and their own distinct environment and history.

And most of the services Londoners and London businesses need and use on a daily basis are provided by local government, the 32 London boroughs and the City of London.

London Councils is the representative body for London local government, committed to fighting for a fair share of resources for our members and to ensure they have the powers to do the best possible job for residents and businesses.

This guide includes a mixture of facts, figures and some more unusual history and trivia, that offer a brief insight into the unique histories and character of each of London's boroughs and the City of London.

We hope it gives you an idea of the diverse nature of the capital's neighbourhoods and the various communities that collectively help create and maintain London's status as one of the world's most interesting cities in which to live, work, or visit.

Mayor Jules Pipe
Chair, London Councils

BARKING AND DAGENHAM

1 / **Barking power station provides over a third of London's annual energy consumption and has one of the best environmental records for similar buildings in Europe.**



2 / There are **25 parks and open spaces** spread across the whole of the borough with a wide range of activities at each.

3 / The London Sustainable Industries Park at Dagenham Dock will be the **UK's largest** concentration of environmental industries and technologies with significant opportunities for investment.

4 / 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.

6 / 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 / Barking and Dagenham has 31 listed buildings, including the 17th century Valence House Museum.

8 / The borough contains the UK's biggest **brownfield regeneration** site at Barking Riverside, where 10,000 homes will be built in the next 15-20 years.

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

10 / Barking and Dagenham is one of the **six host boroughs** for the **London 2012 Games**. The council's ambition is that the Games will help realise its vision for a borough which is clean, safe, fair and respectful, prosperous, healthy and where young people are inspired and successful.

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.

2 / A fair has been held in Barnet every year since 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.

4 / Barnet has a high proportion of both older and younger residents. The borough has both the second largest proportion of people **aged over 85** in London and the second largest population of children and young people.

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



6 / Over **two-thirds** of Barnet residents own their own home.

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

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

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

10 / More than 4,000 Barnet schoolchildren will be experiencing the Olympics and Paralympics first hand after their schools were allocated tickets via the 'Get Set Network', part of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) official London 2012 education programme.



BEXLEY



1 / Bexley's iconic new **Europa Centre** will provide the Games-time training venue for the **Olympic** and **Paralympic volleyball squads**.

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

3 / Bexley has a working population of around 110,000, of which about **70,000 work locally**.

4 / Bexley is one of the greenest boroughs in London with over **200 parks** and open spaces.

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

6 / The **Crossness Pumping Station**, built by Sir Joseph Bazalgette as part of Victorian London's sewerage 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.

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

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

10 / **Erith Yacht Club** is one of the leading sailing venues on the Thames. A brand **new clubhouse**, new boats and sailing coach are all part of a five year programme to increase the number of people getting involved in sailing and create a lasting legacy from the **2012 Games**.



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.

2 / Every year Brent hosts 'Dance Month', a month long celebration of dance and diversity. This year's dance month was delivered as part of Big Dance 2012, the UK's biggest festival of dance and the Cultural Olympiad.

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.**

4 / Brent is widely recognised as one of the **most ethnically diverse** 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.



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

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

8 / Famous residents of Brent have included: Daniel 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.

10 / Wembley Stadium will host both the **men's and women's Olympic football semis and finals**, while the Wembley Arena will host the badminton and rhythmic gymnastic events.

BROMLEY



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

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

3 / Bromley has **147,000** private, light goods vehicles registered in the borough, the highest number in London.

4 / Crofton Roman Villa, managed on behalf of the borough by Kent Archaeological 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.

6 / The **Crystal Palace**, 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.

8 / Other famous residents of 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**.

10 / Britain's fastest woman, **100m record holder Montell Douglas**, was a pupil at the Ravensbourne school in Bromley.



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.

2 / There is a difference in **male life expectancy** of more than **11 years** between Hampstead Town and St Pancras and Somers Town wards.

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

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

5 / **Camden's markets** are among the capital's most popular visitor attractions and are visited by around **100,000** people every weekend.

6 / Students make up 11 per cent of borough residents, the highest proportion in London.

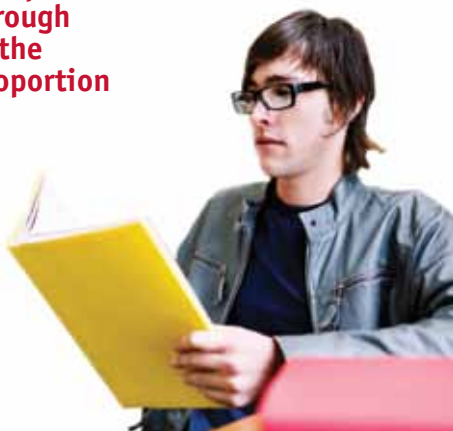
7 / Famous residents have included Charles Dickens, **Benjamin Disraeli**, Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and **John Keats**.

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

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



10 / Camden has developed 12 legacy projects, including sports, volunteering, community and business benefits, to ensure the London 2012 Games are used as a **catalyst** to improve the lives of people living and working in the borough.



CITY OF LONDON

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

2 / Though more than 300,000 people work within the City each weekday, the City of London's resident population is just **11,600**, many of whom live in the **Barbican complex**.



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

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

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.

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

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.

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

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

10 / **The City of Sport physical activity programme** has been set up to get record numbers of the **340,000 workers** in the City to get involved in sports from **cycling to kickboxing**, take part in an urban gym or learn how to fence.

CROYDON



1 / X Factor winner Leona Lewis and singer-songwriters Kate Nash and Amy Winehouse all attended the BRIT school in Croydon, Britain's only free performing arts and technology school.

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

3 / Croydon has among London's largest population with just over 140,000 households.

4 / Croydon is one of the country's largest commercial centres; home to more than 20 blue-chip companies and around 13,000 businesses.

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

6 / Croydon has over 3,000 acres of 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.

8 / Croydon has the most schools of any borough in London, including 89 primary and 20 secondary schools.

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

10 / Croydon Harriers, one of the capital's best known athletics clubs, is 90 years-old this year.



EALING

1 / Ealing has the largest Sikh community in London and is home to **Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara**, the largest Sikh temple outside India.



2 / Fewer than **half** (43 per cent) the pupils in Ealing schools have English as their **first language**. In primary schools the proportion is just 38 per cent.

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.

4 / There are **19** major open space areas in the borough - designated **green belt** or **metropolitan open land** areas - totalling 8.4 square km or 15 per cent of the total area of the borough.

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.

6 / Ealing studios celebrated its centenary in 2002, making it the oldest film studios in the world still in production.

7 / After English, **Somali** (9 per cent) is the second most widely spoken language in Ealing schools. This overtook **Punjabi** (8 per cent) in 2011.

8 / A **quarter** of Ealing primary school children are entitled to free school meals.

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



10 / Via its Team Ealing Ambassador Grants scheme, Ealing council is backing **five local athletes** in their bids for Olympic medals: boxer **Hannah Beharry**, hockey players **Hannah Macleod** and **Anne Panter**, sprinter **Laura Turner** and taekwondo fighter **Josh Webley**.

ENFIELD

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

2 / 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.

3 / The borough's **Chickenshed theatre** has a **membership of around 800 people** and is home to the **largest youth theatre in Europe**.



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

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

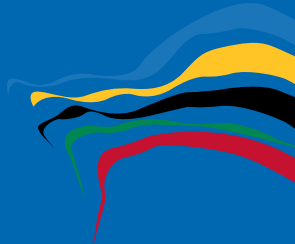
6 / The borough offers the second largest expanse of parks and open spaces in London, covering more than **900 hectares**.

7 / Enfield is home to three campuses of **Middlesex University**, one of the most popular UK universities for international students.

8 / Former famous Enfield residents include horror actor Boris Karloff, TV legend, **Sir Bruce Forsyth**, who was born in Edmonton, Myleene 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.

10 / The athletics track at Enfield's QEII stadium was upgraded as part of the borough-wide campaign to get '**Everybody Active**'. Originally opened in the Queen's coronation year, 1953, the track was where a young **Seb Coe** trained in the 1980s.



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.

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

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

4 / The Blackwall Tunnel was the **largest underwater 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.



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

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

8 / Greenwich was the site of a royal 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**. The ship caught fire in 2007 but the project to conserve her is expected to be completed in time for the London Olympics.

10 / Greenwich is one of the six host boroughs of the London 2012 Games and will host a total of **34 events across nine sports** at three venues: Greenwich Park, The Royal Artillery Barracks and the North Greenwich Arena.

HACKNEY



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

2 / The Rio Cinema in Dalston is 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.

4 / Built in 1901, the famous Hackney Empire has been 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.

6 / More people in Hackney cycle to work than in any other London borough.

7 / Hackney has more green space than any other inner London borough, with 62 parks and open spaces.

8 / Albert Square, the setting for the BBC soap **EastEnders**, was modelled on Fassett Square in Dalston.

9 / London's only Olympic-sized heated outdoor pool is situated in one of Hackney's green flag parks, London Fields.

10 / Hackney is one of the six host boroughs for the London 2012 Games and around a third of the **total Games area** falls within the borough.



HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM

1 / The 1908 Olympics were held at White City after the eruption of Mount Vesuvius caused the event to be relocated from Italy at short notice.

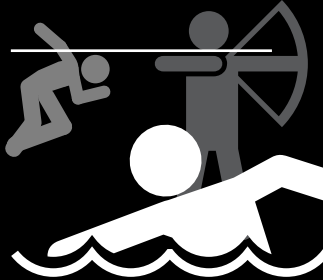
2 / One in five residents have incomes over **£60,000**, but five areas within H&F are among the 10 per cent most deprived nationally.

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

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

5 / The borough has the second highest proportion of **single adults** in England and Wales – 55 per cent.

6 / **Gandhi** lived on Baron's Court Road while studying law in London in the 1880s. Other famous former residents of the borough include the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge and composer Sir Edward Elgar.



7 / Hammersmith and Fulham is the fourth most **densely populated** local authority in England and Wales.

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



9 / The borough's largest employer is the BBC, with **BBC Television Centre** located at White City.

10 / The White City stadium was famous for hosting the finish of the first modern distance marathon (26 miles 385 yards), with a final lap of the stadium to finish in front of the Royal box.



HARINGEY

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

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

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.

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

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.

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



7 / Haringey provides **100 children's playgrounds, containing around 200 swings**.

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

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.

10 / The **Haringey 2012 Fund**, part of the borough's Olympic Legacy Plan, was set up to fund educational, sporting and cultural activities that celebrate the Olympics coming to London.



HARROW

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

2 / Twenty-two per cent of Harrow's population identify themselves as 'Indian' in ethnicity, the **highest** in London.



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

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

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

6 / Harrow is the **most religiously diverse** local authority in the UK; there's a 62 per cent chance that two random residents would be from different religious groups.

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

8 / Reg Dwight, alias **Elton John**, was born in Harrow and spent his childhood in Pinner.

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

10 / **St Mary's** church was selected by residents to represent the borough in the **London Landmark** series of badges cast to celebrate the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



HAVERING



1 / Romford Market celebrated its 750th anniversary in 1997.

2 / Havering's population has the lowest proportion of people from BAME communities in London – in fact, **92 per cent** of its residents identify themselves as 'White British'.

3 / More than half of the borough is park or green belt land, some of which shows evidence of early **Roman** settlements.

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

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.



6 / 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'.

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

8 / Famous people born in Havering include the cricketer **Graeme Gooch**, the footballer Jimmy Greaves and TV presenter **Richard Madeley**.

9 / Romford has one of the highest concentrations of **bars and nightclubs** anywhere in London outside the West End.

10 / Over the past year Havering schools have taken part in a host of **Olympic themed events** to celebrate the London Games including: the '**Big Wow / Olympics Comes to Town**' event, Havering 2012 Logo competition, the 2012 School Ambassadors programme, a carnival procession and Coopers Coburn's 'welcoming the world' project.

HILLINGDON

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

2 / Hillingdon has more land under prestigious Green Flag status than any other London borough.

3 / In December 2011, **Ruislip Lido**, which boasts one of London's few beaches, celebrated its bicentenary. Surrounding the lido is the Ruislip Woods National Nature Reserve, which provided timber for the building of **Windsor Castle**.

4 / At the height of the Battle of Britain in 1940, **Winston Churchill** visited the bunker at RAF Uxbridge, where he proclaimed, '**Never was so much owed by so many to so few**'.

5 / **Harefield Hospital**, where Sir Alexander Fleming did much 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**.

6 / **Manor Farm** is Hillingdon's flagship heritage and culture site.



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

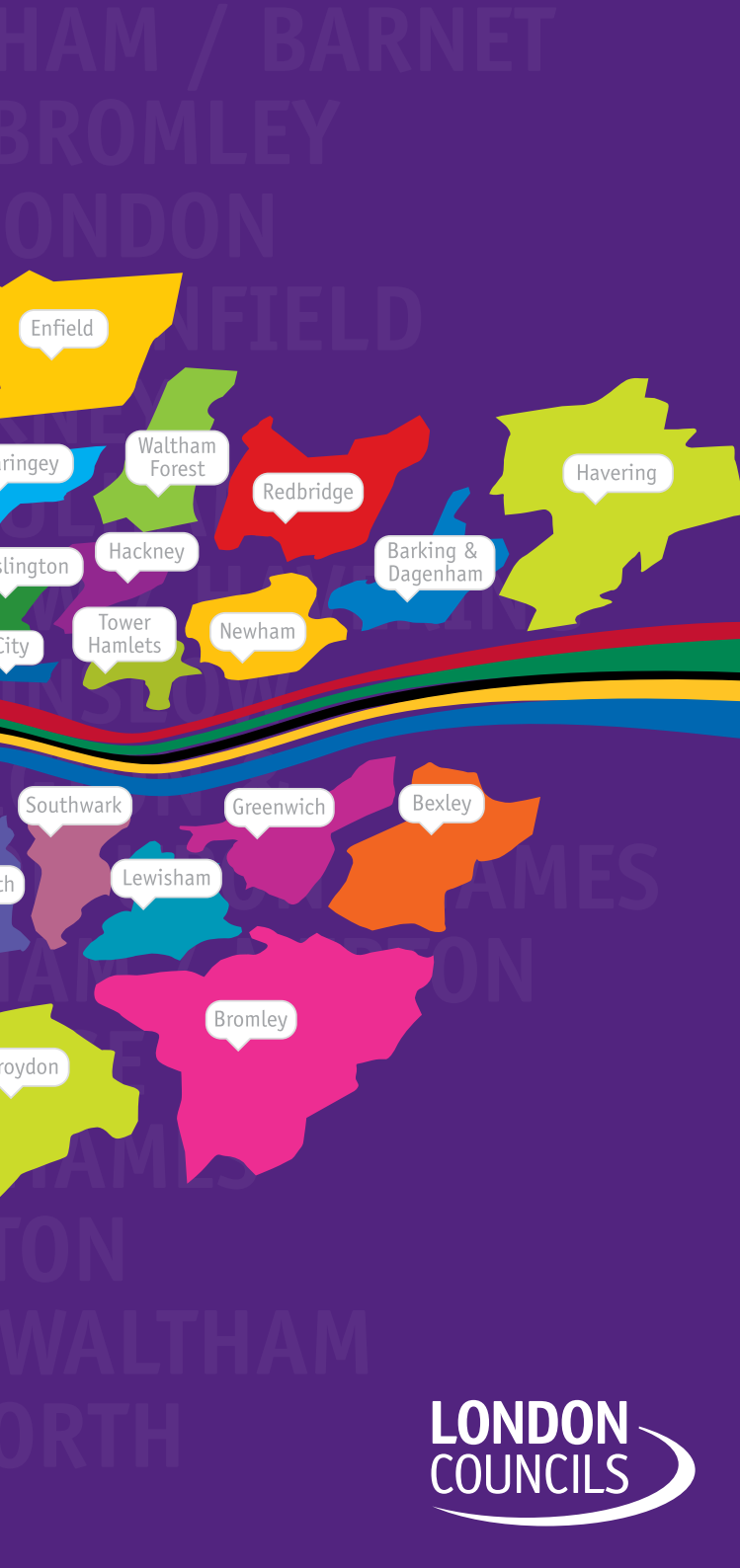
8 / In October 2008, Hillingdon opened the country's first playground designed specifically for **disabled children**.

9 / Hillingdon's **Blue Plaque** scheme 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**.

10 / The state-of-the-art Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Complex features the first 50 metre **Olympic-sized swimming pool** to be built in London for more than 45 years.

LONDON'S BOROUGHGS





Enfield

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Waltham
Forest

Redbridge

Havering

lington

Hackney

Barking &
Dagenham

City

Tower
Hamlets

Newham

Southwark

Greenwich

Bexley

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Lewisham

roydon

Bromley

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HOUNSLOW

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

2 / Hounslow Heath was once one 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.**



4 / There are over **120 languages** spoken in Hounslow.

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.

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

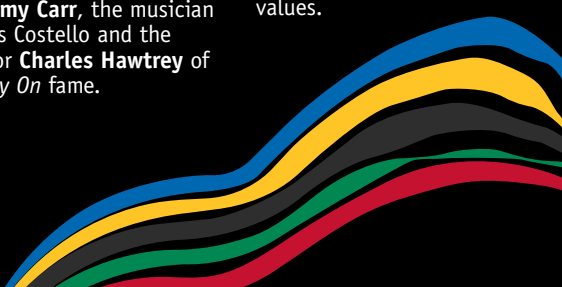
7 / The first English **strawberry** is said to have been cultivated in **Isleworth** in 1806.

8 / Seventeen per cent of Hounslow's population identify themselves as '**Indian**' in ethnicity, the second highest in London.

9 / The borough is home to several well-known **manufacturing companies** including Gillette, Wilkinson Sword, GlaxoSmithKline and Firestone tyres.



10 / More than 60 schools in Hounslow have signed-up to London 2012's **Get Set Network**, a special network of schools and colleges recognised for their commitment to the Olympic and Paralympic values.



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**.

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



3 / 209 Islington residents will attend Olympic Games for free, thanks to the borough's Community Heroes Scheme.

4 / Elizabeth Garrett Anderson school at Angel has its own 'special relationship' with the First Lady. **Michelle Obama** visited the school in 2009 and invited the girls to the White House in 2010 and 2012.

5 / Islington is the first borough to create a '**Fairness Commission**' to tackle high rates of child poverty.

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

7 / The Czech Olympic delegation are based at the Business Design Centre on Islington's Upper Street.

8 / Islington was the location of the UK's 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.

10 / Islington's Sobell Centre is the official training venue for volleyball teams taking part in the 2012 Olympic Games.



KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

1 / The borough has the **highest life expectancy** for both men and women in London - 83.1 years and 87.2 years respectively.

2 / Just under half of all residents in Kensington and Chelsea were **born abroad**.

3 / Four out of ten borough residents are educated to **degree level** or higher, roughly double the national average.

4 / The average property price in Kensington and Chelsea is just over **£1.3 million**, the highest in the country.

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



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

7 / Kensington and Chelsea is the country's **most densely populated** local authority with more than 13,000 people per square kilometre.

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

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

10 / The famous **Earls Court** music and exhibition venue will be transformed into a volleyball arena for the 2012 Games.



KINGSTON UPON THAMES

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**.

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

3 / **Dame Jacqueline Wilson OBE**, the children's author and children's laureate, grew up in and still lives in Kingston.

4 / 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.

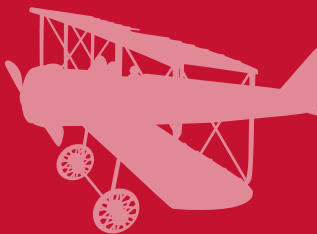
5 / The oldest surviving bridge in London is the **Clattern Bridge** at Kingston, dating back to the 12th century.

6 / **Kingston has 64,000 households, fewer than any other London borough.**



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

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



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

10 / The men's and women's **road cycle** races will speed through Kingston on the return leg of their journey back into central London for the London 2012 Games.



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.

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

3 / Brixton Village is home to an eclectic range of restaurants offering food from around the world. Voted **Best Food in London** by Time Out London 2011.

4 / The first Mayor of London and former leader of the GLC, **Ken Livingstone**, spent most of his childhood in Streatham.

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

6 / GCSE results in Lambeth have improved for 13 consecutive years, an increase of 7.4 per cent since 2010.

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

8 / 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.

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**.

10 / 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.

LEWISHAM

1 / Lewisham organises London's largest **free fireworks** display each November on Blackheath.

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

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

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

5 / Lewisham has the highest number of **parks and green spaces** in London.



6 / The ever-popular, bizarrely over-stuffed **Horniman 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.

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

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

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



10 / **Trinity Laban**, in Deptford, is the UK's only **Conservatoire of Music and Dance** and will be the starting point for the Lewisham leg of the Olympic torch relay.

MERTON



1 / At the time of the first census in 1801, Merton's population was **6,382**; based on the most recent projection, the borough's population is expected to top **212,000** in 2012.

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

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



4 / 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.

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

6 / The Village ward in Merton has the highest median household income compared to other London boroughs at £47,257 per year.

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

8 / Merton has more than **700 hectares** of open space.

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

10 / The famous All England Lawn Tennis club in Wimbledon will host the London Games tennis tournament of the 2012 Games.



NEWHAM

1 / Newham is the most **ethnically diverse** place in the country. Residents speak more than 200 languages and dialects.

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

3 / **7,000** Newham residents volunteer as part of the **biggest council-led volunteer programme in the country.**

4 / Newham has the highest proportion of **young people** 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.

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



7 / Green Street - dubbed '**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.

8 / London's historic **Royal Docks** were once the beating 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 / **Workplace**, the council's job brokerage scheme, was established in 2007 to ensure Newham residents benefited from the opportunities presented by the 2012 Games and the regeneration of the borough. By the start of 2012 it has already helped more than **10,000** local people into work.

10 / Newham is one of six host boroughs of the 2012 Games and will be home to 60 per cent of the Games' sites - around **450,000** people will visit the borough each day during the Games.



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.

2 / Ilford Hospital Chapel for 'infirm men' is the oldest 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.

4 / Redbridge is one of the greenest 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.

6 / 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.

7 / Barnardo's has its headquarters in Barkingside, and Redbridge is also home to the Rape Crisis Centre for East London.

8 / Redbridge has among the best schools in England and its pupils are among the highest achievers at GCSE.

9 / Redbridge council has pioneered web-based public engagement and created the award-winning YouChoose budget consultation tool.

10 / Redbridge is home to a £4.5 million state-of-the-art cycling centre, which opened in 2008 as the first **Olympic legacy** venue for ordinary Londoners.

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.

2 / Richmond, Virginia, was in turn named after 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 / Richmond is the **least** deprived London borough and has the lowest rate of child poverty.

4 / 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.

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**'.

6 / The borough is home to the **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.

8 / Richmond has large areas of open space and historic landscapes, including Richmond Park and Bushy Parks, and is **home to 72 designated conservation areas**.

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

10 / The men's and women's Olympic **cycling** road races will start on the streets of Richmond before heading out to Surrey and back into central London during the London 2012 games.



SOUTHWARK

1 / More than **one in five** of Southwark resident are below the age of 16.

2 / More than **100 languages** are spoken in Southwark's schools and 43 per cent of pupils speak English as an additional language.

3 / The recently completed 310 metre high **Shard** at London Bridge is Europe's tallest building.

4 / 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.

5 / Today Southwark is London's fastest growing **tourist quarter**.

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

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.

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



9 / Southwark has a long tradition as a centre of entertainment and in 1599 **Shakespeare's 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.



10 / As part of its Olympic legacy commitment, Southwark council recently granted a share of £2 million funding to 10 projects **dedicated to improving sports participation in the borough**.

SUTTON

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

2 / Sutton is twinned with **five towns** in Europe, including 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.

4 / Sutton is recorded in the **1086 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.

6 / Famous Sutton residents have included former Prime Minister Sir John Major, **Olympic rower James Cracknell** and comedian Harry Secombe.

7 / Sutton has **pioneered** projects to reduce car use and promote **cycling** instead and its Smarter Travel Sutton project has won a number of national awards.

8 / More than **120** local landmarks and buildings have been nominated by local residents for special protection as part of the council scheme to protect Sutton's local history.

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

10 / Tens of thousand of people flocked to Sutton library to view a **special exhibition** of a century of Olympic posters – after Sutton, the exhibition went on to be displayed in Mumbai and Melbourne.



TOWER HAMLETS

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

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

3 / Over half of Tower Hamlets' population are from **non-white** British ethnic groups. A third of these are Bangladeshi.



4 / 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.



5 / 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**.

6 / Pierre Du Coubertin, founder of the **Modern Olympic Games**, formulated much of his thinking while on a tour of England during which he stayed in Tower Hamlets and spoke at the area's famous Toynbee Hall.

7 / 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.

8 / Despite the removal of several docks, there are still **more warehouses** in Tower Hamlets than any other London borough.

9 / 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.

10 / Tower Hamlets is one of the six host boroughs for the London 2012 Games. The borough's '**Gifted and Talented**' programme has been set up to identify and support young sporting talent across the borough.

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

2 / The William Morris Gallery will reopen for the Olympics after substantial **renovation** works. The space, found in Morris' former family home, 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.

4 / Waltham Forest has developed a '**Beckham Trail**' that offers visitors the chance to trace the footballer's early years via local landmarks such as his childhood home, his first club and the local venue where he worked as glass collector for £10 a night.

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



6 / 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.

8 / 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.

10 / Waltham Forest is one of the six host boroughs of the 2012 London Games. A dazzling set of free events for residents, the **Big 6**, will help celebrate the momentous year.

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.

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

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

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

5 / There are **five bridges** extending over the River Thames in Wandsworth.

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

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



8 / Battersea Power Station, built in **1939**, was the first in a series of generators set up as part of the National Grid power distribution system. This system standardised the supply of electricity in England.

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.

10 / Battersea Park has long provided Londoners with fresh air and entertainment and in July 2012 it will be the setting for a **free weekend** of music to celebrate the arrival of the Games.



WESTMINSTER



1 / **Small businesses** play an important part in the economy of Westminster; **69 per cent** of firms employ fewer than five people and more than 90 per cent have fewer than 25 employees.

2 / Westminster has 40 public conveniences with an estimated **15 million users** per year.



3 / Westminster contains **450** hotels with **65,000** beds, which equates to 30 per cent of all London bed spaces.

4 / **The City of Westminster contains over 11,000 listed buildings of special architectural and historic interest and 78 per cent of the borough is included within a designated conservation area.**

5 / Westminster is home to 182 different nationalities, the **highest** of any London borough.



6 / Westminster's population contains the highest proportion of **Buddhist** residents in the country.

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

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

9 / The oldest surviving English Heritage blue plaque, put up in **1875** in honour of **Napoleon III**, is situated in King Street, St James's.

10 / Venues in Westminster will host a number of Olympic and Paralympic events including beach **Volleyball** at Horse Guards Parade, **triathlon** and **open water swimming** in Hyde Park and **archery** at Lords.

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, the City of London, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority - fund our work through subscription.

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

3 / London's 1,861 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.



4 / 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.

5 / London Councils has initiated and run several high-profile campaigns to improve the lives of Londoners. This includes campaigns to ban disposable, throwaway shopping bags and to encourage more people to stand as local councillors so that London local government is more representative of the capital's communities.



6 / We operate a Parking and Traffic Appeals Service (PATAS) to support the independent adjudicators responsible for considering appeals against parking, road charging and other penalty charges issued by the London authorities.

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.



8 / London Councils seeks to influence 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, London 2012, economic development, the environment, health and adult services, housing, infrastructure and local government finance.

10 / We have around 120 staff, most of whom work at our headquarters at 59¹/₂ Southwark Street, SE1. This unusual address was used to incorporate the building within the existing street numbering, established 30 years previously. Prior to its current incarnation as the home of London local government, the building had previously been used as an asbestos factory and a city bank.



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TEN INTERESTING THINGS

ABOUT LONDON'S BOROUGH

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
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