

Games on the big screen

MISSED OUT on getting tickets for the Games, but still want to savour some of its famous atmosphere? No worries, the whole of London is celebrating this summer, so get involved with one of the many free events taking place in the capital. Here are a few free events to get you in the mood:

For a family and friends affair, *West Norwood* is the place to be, where they're celebrating this international event in local style and showing opening ceremony. Citing a 'Great Sunday Feast vibe', they promise a bar, great kids' activities and even better food from a variety of stalls. In typical British style, they're even got covers in case of rain, so make your way down at 7pm on June 27th! *The event takes place at St Luke's Church, Knight's Hill, London, Greater London SE27 0HS. For more info, visit www.norwoodfeast.com.*



With live music, bouncy castles, bungee-runs and face painting, the **Oasis Olympic Community Festival's** free screening on July 27th has entertainment to rival the Olympics itself! Set at Oasis Academy Johanna from 6pm, the event will be right at the heart of the action and if residents also attend the day before on the 26th, they will even get a chance to have their picture with the Olympic torch! *Oasis Academy Johanna is situated on Johanna Street, Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RH. For more info, visit www.oasisacademyjohanna.org.*

The party never has to end at **Greenwich Summer Festival**, with their all-day Olympic Screenings turning alfresco cinema at night

outside the Old Royal Naval College, found at King William Walk, Greenwich, SE10. 'Midsummer Night Flicks' are just part of the entertainment though, with amusements and quality food stalls making one of London's most famous lawns a real hotspot for Olympic fun. The Opening Ceremony will be screened free after performances from brass bands and an aerial circus show make sure the Games are kicked off in style. *'Midsummer Night Flicks costs £10 for Adults and £8 for Picturehouse members. For more info, phone 07815 897 959.*

London Bridge is set to welcome the world during the Games, starting from July 26th. Performances ranging from hula hoop to **acoustic musical sets**

will take place there, as well as in Hay's Galleria and King's College London Guy's Campus every day from 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm. With 25 acts being specially chosen to amaze and entertain, there'll be no shortage of family fun in Southwark this summer and that's not even counting the small matter of the Olympics itself! *For more info phone 020 7407 4701 or visit www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk.*

The Lea Valley was once a sprawling, post-industrial wilderness, an area characterised in 2007 as a "ragged hole in the city's fabric". Five years later and much has been done to try and tame this "hole", but the exhibition **Residual Traces** has still managed to poetically capture the wild remnants of a quickly

transforming landscape in six combined projects. Set against the backdrop of an England preparing for the Olympic Games, highlights include Steven Gill's lo-fi photographs, taken on a 50p camera from Hackney market, that document the moment when the bulldozers moved in and Gesche Wurfel's poignant portraits of the deserted Manor Garden Allotments.

Photofusion Galleries, 17a Electric Lane, SW9 8LA. It runs from 27 July – 7 September, Tuesday – Saturday 11am – 5pm. Thursday 11am – 7pm. Admission is free. For more information, phone 0207 738 5774 or visit www.photofusion.org

Many think the worst part of the Olympics is the traffic, but independent filmmaker Alexandre Hamel is truly diving into the dark history of the event this summer at Whirled Cinema. His new movie, 'Propaganda and the Olympics', explores the controversial coverage of the games in years gone by. It specifically draws on the fascist yet beautiful Nazi film 'Olympia' by Leni Riefenstahl, described by some critics as the best sports film ever made. It also contains archive footage of Afro-American athlete Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals in front of Hitler at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Canadian filmmaker and confessed propagandist Hamel, who has also extensively researched the 'crazy' life of Leni Riefenstahl, will be present and a lively debate is expected. *Propaganda and the Olympics is at the Whirled Cinema, 259 Hardress Street, SE24 0HN on 31 July and 6 August at 8pm. Tickets are £8 in advance, £10 on the door and are available at www.alexhamel.com*



Life is a cabaret

FESTIVAL SEASON is well and truly upon us, but if you're looking for something with a twist the Royal Vauxhall Tavern is serving up a cocktail of cabaret, comedy, music, magic and everything between for the Hot August Fringe.

Now in its fourth year the Fringe will host a range of performances including experimental theatre, bands, poetry nights and even psychics, all with a particular accent on cabaret. Director Nathan Evans' latest show, *I love you but we only have fourteen minutes to save the earth*, is part of the sizzling line-up. The show consists of three 14-minute solo performances where cabaret artists will tell the audience how they would save the world in, you guessed it, 14 minutes (the modern day, time-poor answer to Flash Gordon).

I love you but we only have fourteen minutes to save the earth is on Thursday 16 August from 8:30pm. Royal Vauxhall Tavern, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11. 020 7820 1222/ www.rvt.org.uk. For the full line-up of Hot August Fringe events visit: www.hotaugustfringe.com

De-stress

SHAKING OFF stress can be tricky at times, but you might find the solution at Brixton's 'Mind, Body and Soul' market.

Whether you are a holistic connoisseur or novice you are bound to find something to interest you.

Mind, Body and Soul, Brixton Station Road Community Market, SW9 8QQ. Saturday 28th July, 10am-5pm. Free of charge.

Family day

THE CHILDREN of Effra Children's Centre in Brixton are taking over Brockwell Park for a fundraising day for all the family.

There will be a bouncy castle, face painting, arts and crafts, a raffle and a good old cake stall.

Effra Children's Centre Fundraising Day, Brockwell Park 16th August 10:30am – 2pm £1 entry per family