



# What has local government ever done for us?



## Local councils in Lambeth and their legacy

Lambeth Archives Open Day  
**Saturday 29 September 2012, 10am-5pm**

**Talks, film screenings and exhibition of archives**

Minet Library and Lambeth Archives (admission free)

52 Knatchbull Road, SE5

Phone: 020 7926 6076

[www.lambeth.gov.uk/archivesopenday](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/archivesopenday)



# What has local government ever done for us?

In this current period of “austerity” council services are going through some extraordinary challenges and changes and any previous certainty about who should run and fund them no longer exists. So this year we are taking a long view of local government in Lambeth and considering its versatility, the services which it has provided and the impact it has had and continues to have on local people’s lives.

Lambeth Archives Open Day is a free event which includes:

- Exhibition of archives
- Talks and films
- Local societies’ stalls
- Book stalls
- Children’s activities
- Home cooked refreshments

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**Talks and films** These are in the Michael Church on Burton Road.

- 10am **Vocation to serve?** Setting the scene. From the Elizabethan poor law to the big society. Len Reilly, Lambeth Archives
- 10.15am **‘The measure of a city’s greatness is to be found in the quality of its public spaces, its parks and its squares’** *John Ruskin.* Lambeth’s parks and open spaces. Dr. Iain Boulton, Lambeth Parks and Green Spaces
- 11am **To sweep, flush and collect.** Sewers and waste disposal. Fiona Price, Lambeth Archives
- 11.45am **Civic architecture in Lambeth.** Edmund Bird, Heritage Advisor to the Greater London Authority
- 12.30pm **The battle of the books: the Free Public Library movement in Lambeth** Jon Newman, Lambeth Archives
- 1.15pm **Films from the archives**
- 2.15pm **‘The health of the people is the highest law’** *Cicero.* Hospitals and health on the rates. Len Reilly, Lambeth Archives
- 3pm **The rise and fall of council housing.** Brian Bloice, Streatham Society
- 3.45pm **Reflections on Lambeth Council and community action since the 1970s.** Sean Creighton, Social Action and Heritage Consultant

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For more information look at our webpage

[www.lambeth.gov.uk/archivesopenday](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/archivesopenday)

or contact [Archives@Lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:Archives@Lambeth.gov.uk)

or phone us on 020 7926 6076

Why not follow us on Twitter? @LambethArchives

Lambeth Archives would like to thank the Michael Church and the

Minet Conservation Association for their generous support of this event.