

Welcome LETTER



Spring – it's the season of new beginnings, with the thrill of summer ahead and the best of 2017 yet to come. It's my favourite time of year, and so it seems apt that in my inaugural *Living South Resident* welcome letter, I am introducing the May issue while simultaneously picturing a lazy Sunday picnicking in Brockwell Park and meandering around Brixton Market.

As a south Londoner through and through (my internal sat-nav goes haywire if I ever dare to venture too far north of the river), I've contributed to this magazine for a while now – but the more I get to know the area, the more inspired I am by the spirited, loyal and fun-loving communities within it.

From Herne Hill to Dulwich, via Peckham, we explore three notable examples in this very issue – from the Save the Half Moon campaign, which has seen the iconic pub quite literally rise from the ashes, to the awesome variety and energy of the Dulwich Festival (turn to page 34 to meet some of the fantastic makers taking part in the Artists' Open House) and the runaway success of the Peckham Rye Music Festival, which is now in its second year and counting.

After all of that excitement, you may need to wind down. Handily, our homes editor Kara O'Reilly has put together an enticing spread of dreamy tubs to treat your senses and transform your bathroom (check them out on page 42) and also introduces us to the wonders of bold, botanical house plants.

Speaking of growth, the talent that emerges from our patch is another source of inspiration. Don't miss our interview over the page with *Call the Midwife* star Charlotte Ritchie, who first graced our screens alongside Jack Whitehall in *Fresh Meat*, and credits James Allen's Girls' School with sowing the seeds of her success. See you again next month.

Madeleine Howell, Assistant Editor

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*This month's
top 3 Instagram
posts from
The Resident*



Find out more about the new pavilion at the Dulwich Picture Gallery next month

We're excited to welcome new restaurant @sparrow.london to #Lewisham



@theworkshopldn is a new #Vintage & #Antiques Market in Vauxhall's old fire engine workshops