

Funding raised by The National Lottery

and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Zeppelin 1917: the story of Burgess Park in WW1

Revealing the WWI impact on people's lives and society

Almost 100 years ago, on October 19 1917, a Zeppelin bomb landed in Calmington Road, Southwark killing 10 people, injuring 24 and demolishing a fish and chip shop, doctor's surgery and houses. Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players, the Friends of Burgess Park project "Zeppelin 1917" will uncover the stories of local heroes and piece together the dramatic raid right over what is now Burgess Park.

Jon Pickup and Andrew Pearson, from Friends of Burgess Park, are leading the project, which was awarded a National Lottery grant of £9,800 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Jon Pickup said: "We're looking for a people to volunteer and during the summer we'll be visiting the Imperial War Museum and Southwark Heritage Library to look into archive material about the people who lived in the street. This is a fantastic opportunity to do some original research and uncover hidden stories. We're also delighted that Southwark Council are funding an art piece for the park to remember this event."

Southwark Council has appointed artist Sally Hogarth to create a new art work for Burgess Park. Cllr Johnson Situ, Cabinet Member for Business, Culture and Social Regeneration, said: "This fabulous project celebrates the bravery and heroic actions of the people of the borough 100 years ago. Qualities that were equally abundant during recent tragic events here in Southwark. We are happy to help commemorate the valour of local residents on the historic anniversary of the terrible Zeppelin strike in Burgess Park, by funding a new work of art for the park, from the excellent Sally Hogarth."

The project kicks off with children's workshops at the Creation Trust Giraffe House in September led by Art in the Park. Over the summer volunteers will find out more about the Zeppelin and the lives of

ordinary people who took heroic actions as part of the war effort. The work by children and volunteers will be shown in the festival.

During October 2017 a festival of events at Theatre Delicatessen, in the old library, Wells Way, will showcase the work created by local residents. John Whelan will bring together the historical research with volunteers to tell the story of the raid through an animated walk. Stephen Bourne, local historian, and author of *Black Poppies*, will talk about black servicemen as well as the men and women who stayed at home and played a heroic role in the civil defence.

The Zeppelin 2017 festival will involve:

(1) Exhibition – A timeline of the raid and archival display – open Saturdays during October 2017, with opening talk by Zeppelin expert Ian Castle on Saturday 7 October.

(2) Hidden Heroes – Talk by Stephen Bourne, author of *Black Poppies*, on the black community and the Great War, Saturday 14 October 2017.

(3) Animated Walk - With actors using the research local volunteers have created to animate the history of WW1 and the Zeppelin Raid of Calmington Road in October 1917 on Saturday 21st of October. Followed by a scratch theatre performance “Unsung Heroes” with Theatre Delicatessen.

(4) Family events – Drop-in family events including art workshops with Art in the Park, Cumming Museum object handling, stories and rhymes with Vanessa Wolf, Saturday 7 and Thursday 26 and Friday 27 October.

Theatre Delicatessen are supporting the project hosting events at the old library, Wells Way.

Stuart Hoble, Head of HLF London, said: “The impact of the First World War was far reaching, touching and shaping every corner of the UK and beyond. The Heritage Lottery Fund has already invested more than £90million to more than 1,700 projects – large and small - that are marking this global Centenary; with our small grants programme, we are enabling even more communities like those involved in Zeppelin 1917 to explore the continuing legacy of this conflict and help local young people in particular to broaden their understanding of how it has shaped our modern world.”

ENDS

Notes to editors

About Friends of Burgess Park

The Friends is a local community group of volunteers who work to protect, promote and enhance Burgess Park for the benefit of local residents. Find out more by joining our [Facebook Group](#) or mailing list and on [Twitter](#). We hold events in the park to promote biodiversity, heritage and engage the wider

community. The Friends previous successful "Bridge to Nowhere" project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund explores the history of Burgess Park.

Further details about "Zeppelin 1917" project at <http://www.friendsofburgesspark.org.uk/zeppelin-1917>

Friends of Burgess Park are working with John Whelan to engage with local people as volunteers to undertake research and create the animated walk and the exhibition. John Whelan who has produced several animated walks locally. **To volunteer contact John Whelan: whelanjohnwalworth@gmail.com phone 07535 413884.**

About the Heritage Lottery Fund

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife. www.hlf.org.uk. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and use #HLFsupported.

About Sally Hogarth /Southwark Council

Artist Sally Hogarth has been commissioned by Southwark Council to produce and install a new visual artwork at Burgess Park to commemorate the people and places impacted by WWI zeppelin bomb that landed on Calmington Road, which is now incorporated into Burgess Park. Sally Hogarth will work with the local community to create a high quality visual art installation that commemorates the people and places impacted by the zeppelin bomb on Calmington Road and celebrates the heritage of the local area. This will be installed into the park in October 2017.

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About Theatre Delicatessen

Theatre Delicatessen are working with Southwark Council to transform The Old Library in Burgess Park into a vibrant new arts and cultural space for the local community. Over the last year Theatre Delicatessen have established a performance space for use by both the local and London's wider artistic community, alongside rehearsal and development studios hosting residencies for emerging companies to develop new performances.

For further information, images and interviews, please contact

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