

Top of the pop-ups

London's a-poppin' with ephemeral enterprises. **Sonya Barber** picks six of the best



UNDERGROUND SELF-IMPROVEMENT

Brite Space London

Longevity Only seven days left.

Exclusivity 50 people per event. **Price** Free to £10.

Eventbrite are the latest people to take over a unit in the pop-up playground that Old Street station has become.

They're hosting Q&As and masterclasses with local creative organisations including The Dalstonist, BeerBods and Hoxton Mini Press. Sort out your professional life by learning how to launch a business, or pep up your leisure time with cocktails by candlelight or an introduction to raw food. It doesn't get more east London than this.

Unit 2, Old St station, EC1Y 1BE.

► Mon Oct 20, times vary.



MEAT FEAST

Dirty Tommi's

Longevity Every Sunday for at least the next six weeks.

Exclusivity 120 people. **Price** Free entry. Mains £7-£11.

Sunday gluttony busts a gut as two of London's finest fast food joints combine for the ultimate hangover cures. Tommi's Burger Joint is going west to Dirty Bones' Kensington home to mash up menus for artery-clogging delights such as the Tommi's Burger Dog (Tommi's patty and Dirty Bones short ribs in a hot dog roll) and the Dirty Mac Burger (Tommi's burger with Dirty Bones steak glaze and mac 'n' cheese), all washed down with boozy shakes.

Dirty Bones, 20 Kensington Church St, W8 4EP.

Sundays noon-4pm, 6-11pm.



MUSIC-LOVER MECCA

Spiritland

Longevity Until January 1 2015.

Exclusivity 80 per night. **Price** Free entry.

For their residency in the bar of Angela Hartnett's acclaimed Shoreditch restaurant Merchants Tavern, the folks from Spiritland have put together a swoonworthy selection of vinyl, a sound system to make audiophiles weak at the knees, and some top guest programmers including Franz Ferdinand's Alex Kapranos and Paul Thomson. There are nights dedicated to Lou Reed, Prince and Paul Simon, and many other aural treats.

Merchants Tavern, 36 Charlotte Rd, EC2A 3PG.

Mon-Fri 5pm-midnight; Sat, Sun noon-midnight.



SUSTAINABLE SINGING SUPPER CLUB

The Opera Opening Gala

Longevity One night. **Exclusivity** 60 people.

Price £25 (meal and a cocktail).

Forget singing for your supper, instead be serenaded by a mezzo-soprano and a pianist while you chow down on a five-course vegan feast crafted from food that would normally have gone to waste (no, they didn't just take it out of the bins). The chefs don't know what they'll be cooking until the day so the menu is a surprise, but it's for a good cause, with all proceeds going to food-waste-reduction charities. Dressing up is encouraged.

The Russet, Hackney Downs Studio, E8 2BT.

Mon Oct 20, 7-11pm.



TRIMS WITH TUNES

The Rhythm Parlour

Longevity Once a month.

Exclusivity 70 people, first come first served.

Price Free to attend, £20 a haircut, £10 a beard trim.

This nomadic hair-styling event ticks all the pop-up boxes: it's a trendy barber shop where you can sift through records, sup cocktails, munch Vietnamese street food and listen to DJs spin house, disco and funk while you wait to get your beard or hair done. Who said men can't multi-task! It's the brainchild of London-based stylist Ryan MacGregor and is moving to a different venue each month.

Rye Wax, Bussey Building, 133 Rye Lane, SE15 4ST.

Nov 1, 1-9pm.



ALPINE RETREAT

The Lodge

Longevity Three months.

Exclusivity 36 diners and bar space for 20 people a night.

Price Mains £10-£19. Booking required for lunch/dinner.

Balham may not have pristine pistes or swathes of pine forest, but it offers the only après-ski action in town. Pop-up maestro Jimmy Garcia (Southwest Supper Club, Wild Food Kitchen) is turning a disused shop into a cosy ski lodge to serve up hot cocktails and wintery comfort food from breakfast till dinnertime, including fondue made with cheese from Neal's Yard Dairy. Pretend you've just come straight off the slopes, instead of the Northern line.

9 Hildreth St, SW12 9RQ. Oct 25 ► Jan 25 2015.



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