

# Penge Festival 2015

By **Alexander Baron** - Apr 26, 2015



*Penge ( Credits: Joolz Saville-Hippely)*

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Penge in South East London has a population of around 18,000. A very ancient settlement – predating the *Domesday Book* – it has been called one of the **worst places** to live in Britain. That judgment is more than a little unfair, but what does it offer in the way of culture? Well, Bill Wyman of the Rolling Stones went to school there, but perhaps most

notably the famous poet **Walter de la Mare** lived in Penge and neighbouring Anerley for many years. There is also an annual Penge Festival and, believe it or not, a Penge Tourist Board.

The Festival was first held in 1972, and includes a poetry competition. This **closes on May 15**, so if you want to enter, best start scribbling quick. You might like to avoid anything beginning with “Is there anybody there?” said the Traveller, Knocking on the moonlit door...” or “There was once a young lady of Penge”.

Both these have been done before, one by a **famous poet**, another by a **not-so famous one**.

This year’s Festival runs from June 7 to June 28 and includes music, a comedy night (presumably of an adult nature), and plenty of family friendly entertainment, including specifically for children. Details can currently be found on the **Penge Tourist Board** website.

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