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# London's powerful come to our party

## Mayor, ministers and activists rub shoulders with arts and TV stars

**Gideon Spanier**

HUNDREDS of London's most influential people gathered for the launch of the Evening Standard's annual guide to the rich and powerful.

Guests from Boris Johnson to super-model David Gandy packed into the London Transport Museum to mark the fifth edition of The 1,000 magazine.

Cabinet ministers including Iain Duncan Smith and Francis Maude rubbed shoulders with Ken Livingstone and Holly Valance, star of Strictly Come Dancing and girlfriend of property developer Nick Candy.

Mr Livingstone told British Airways supremo Willie Walsh: "You're the person I'm rudest about in London," before the pair embarked on a debate about airport expansion.

The former mayor posed alongside Lib-Dem rival Brian Paddick. "Where's Boris?" asked Mr Livingstone. "We want Boris to make it a threesome. We want a threesome with Boris."

Mr Johnson was mobbed on arrival at the museum in Covent Garden and button-holed by Climate Rush eco-activists Tamsin Omond and Rosie Warin.

As guests sipped cocktails and canapés supplied by top catering and events company Fizz, new friendships were formed. Metropolitan Police Commissioner Bernard Hogan-Howe and best-selling Wild Swans author Jung Chang swapped tips on literacy with Sue Porto, boss of children's charity Volunteer Reading Help.

The doyenne of divorce lawyers, Tory peer Baroness Shackleton, mixed with Labour QC Baroness Kennedy and Mark Lewis, the solicitor who represented Milly Dowler's

family in the phone-hacking scandal. BBC London TV presenter Riz Lateef swapped notes about the east London internet start-up scene with Michael Acton Smith, creator of Moshi Monsters.

Other guests included designer Ron Arad, Kids Company charity founder Camila Batmanghelidjh and Tatler editor Kate Reardon.



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**Mingling:** from far left, Met chief Bernard Hogan-Howe; Camila Batmanghelidjh; Baroness Shackleton; designer Ron Arad with wife Alma; Nick Candy, Holly Valance and James Caan



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**Button-holed:** Mayor Boris Johnson with Climate Rush eco-activists Tamsin Omond, centre, and Rosie Warin

INGEL, HOWARD AND DAVE BENNETT



**Influential guests:** from left, Wild Swans author Jung Chang and Sue Porto, CEO of charity Volunteer Reading Help; British Airways supremo Willie Walsh and Ken Livingstone; Jenny Jones, the Green party mayoral candidate with Labour MP Sadiq Khan; Tatler editor Kate Reardon with interior designer Nicky Haslam; and David Gilmour with his wife, the author Polly Samson at the Transport Museum last night