

YourCroydon

ISSUE 19 - JULY 2008

'A place to be proud of'



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Help shape a child's future
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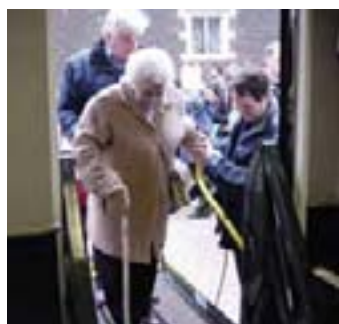
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Croydon sets the pace again

One of the biggest challenges facing any local authority is that of providing decent social housing at a price tenants can afford.

Historically, councils met that demand with building programmes which saw flats and houses being made available to those who could not, or chose not to, own their own homes.

Croydon Council is currently in the middle of just such a programme, the first in the borough for many years. But, despite our best intentions, we simply can't build enough to meet the growing demand.

And that is why we have launched a unique business initiative to help tenants find suitable homes in the private sector.

Our new Croylease scheme, the first of its kind in the country, offers potential long-term investors the opportunity of leasing their Croydon-based properties to the council to rehouse families in need of larger accommodation.

With the uncertainty surrounding the current credit crunch, Croylease offers landlords the security of long-term leases, as well as providing a guaranteed monthly income.

And, taking out the risks normally associated with letting on the open market, the council will manage and maintain the lets on the landlord's behalf for the period of the lease.

Investors interested in joining Croylease also have the option of favourable mortgage rates as the

council has joined forces with high-street bank Bradford & Bingley to offer competitive buy-to-let mortgages for suitable property.

Through Croylease we are seeking an initial 50 three-bed family-sized homes across Croydon for a term of five years, with plans to expand the scheme at a later date.

And our ground-breaking venture has sufficiently impressed the Government to award Croydon £50,000 to help with its start-up costs.

We have a commitment to the people of Croydon to find new ways of increasing social housing supply to meet local need.

However, we can't solve this problem alone, and that's why we are offering the private sector this unique opportunity to help us boost our resources while planning for a long-term investment.

Dudley Mead
Deputy leader and cabinet member for housing

Steering a safer course



Responsible driving will be one of the main messages at this year's motoring fiesta

Highlighting the potential dangers in a number of situations, the council's state-of-the-art driving simulator promises to be a top attraction at this year's Croydon Motor Show.

Returning for the third consecutive year, the show will run over the weekend of 28 and 29 June, between 10am and 5pm, at its regular Purley Way venue.

Croydon's Road Safety Partnership will have a stand opposite the entrance which, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Police, London Safety Camera Partnership and the Institute of Advanced Motorists, will be highlighting the dangers of speeding and the devastating effects it can have on drivers, passengers and other road users.

And visitors will be invited to test their driving skills on the council's simulator, featured in the May edition of Your Croydon. A computer-controlled, three-screen console, the simulator can be set to replicate a range of motoring conditions – including the effects of drink-driving.

Hosted by TV presenter Mike Brewer, and sponsored by the Croydon Advertiser and Motors.co.uk, more than 40 exhibitors will be on show for an expected 6,000-plus visitors over the course of the weekend.

Historic property records given to library

Public granted access to artefacts thanks to local chartered surveyor

A collection of historic property records relating to the borough since 1830 have been presented to Croydon Central Library.

The records, which belonged to chartered surveyor Stiles Harold Williams, whose origins in Croydon date back to 1798, have been given to the local studies library.

Commercial and residential property records including sales and auction particulars of every property for more than 130 years, Ordnance Survey maps, aerial photographs, Croydon street directories and volume newspaper cuttings from 1957-1963 are all part of the vast selection.

Three large aerial photos of central Croydon in the 1960s, mounted on solid wooden boards, form part of the collection, which is available for public viewing by appointment.

With a recent change of addresses in Park Lane, the significance of the collection and its importance to local historians was realised by the company.

Director Richard Plant said: "This information is significant to the history of Croydon."



"Our company's roots are firmly in Croydon so we wanted to share the archives with everyone who has a historic interest."

"We approached Croydon local studies library and were delighted to see the excitement about the collection."

Archivist Chris Bennett said: "We're absolutely delighted to receive this extremely large and important collection which, given its age, is in remarkably good condition."

"This is one of the largest collections we have received in recent years."

"The bound volumes, in particular, give a virtually unbroken history of the development of building in Croydon over 150 years."

New home for service

Croydon's employment and support service to move to smart new premises

Providing support to people with disabilities seeking work in the borough, the service is to move to a new upgraded facility in central Croydon, due to open by October.

Chatsworth Hall, in Chatsworth Road, is to be refurbished to provide a new training centre and a proposed drop-in facility for adults with learning disabilities.

Its present home, an old industrial building on Purley Way, is in a bad state of repair, and the inflexibility of the site and its poor public transport links prompted the search for a new site.

More conveniently located, Chatsworth Hall will require extensive internal building works to make it fully accessible and bring it up to standard.

A total of £370,000 is required to fund essential works, part of which is made up from a confirmed capital allocation for 2008/9 of £345,000. The balance will be met by a £25,000 contribution from the council's Disability Discrimination Act fund.

Refurbishment will include raising the ground floor, and adapting door widths and providing lifts and ramps to make the building more accessible.

Users of the service and their carers have been consulted about the move. All staff involved in the service, including those working for partners of the council, have also been fully consulted.

The possibility of providing a shared space which can be let for community evening and weekend use to generate income, is also being explored.

Child safety paramount in Croydon

Croydon's central shopping area is now a safer place for parents to take their young children.

Since the introduction of the Child Safe Zone, at the end of May, children straying from their parent or guardian can be quickly reunited, reducing what is often a panic-stricken time to the minimum.

Launched by Croydon BID, the Child Safe system is based on simple technology.

Posters are displayed around town with a direct number to each shopping centre's security team.

If a child becomes separated from their parent or guardian, the security team's search procedure swings into action, utilising foot patrols and CCTV cameras.



Free, colourful wristbands on to which shoppers write their mobile telephone number are available for their children to wear throughout their stay at any of the town's shopping centres.

Anybody finding a lost child can quickly make a call to let the guardian know where their loved one has wandered off to. Simple but effective.

Families should look out for the Child Safe Zone's smiley orange balloon stickers on shop windows.



New deals for improved service

Residents to benefit from renegotiated council service contracts

Two new contract extensions will help ensure Croydon Council continues to deliver the level of service residents' deserve, while offering great value for money.

The first of the new deals sees the council extending its contract with Capgemini UK plc for the provision of IT services until 2013.

The move is a key part of the council's programme of transformation, which has already improved the quality of local services and delivered significant efficiencies.

The new contract means that, for the next five years, Capgemini will be supporting all the council's IT and telecommunications infrastructure and networks, including some 4,000 desktop computers, and the council's key business applications, including finance, procurement and customer service.

The total value of the services to be provided



by Capgemini to Croydon over the five-year period is estimated at some £83m.

The second contract extension sees the council continuing its partnership with waste contractor Veolia.

This will produce a total of £6.3m savings, with immediate effect over a six-year period – the remaining two years of the existing contract and the further four-year extension.

Among the savings are an agreement that new services, such as food-waste collection, are provided at the same margin as currently, and forecast increases in the borough's population through to 2012 will incur no additional cost.

The extension also ensures continuity of service which should help the borough achieve a recycling rate of 40% while remaining able to respond to future recycling initiatives.

Uniting the community

A special event in Waddon looks to bolster the local spirit

Bringing the community closer together, and learning how its needs can be met, will be the main aims of an event being organised in Waddon.

Over the course of an afternoon and evening, more than 20 organisations and agencies will be on hand to answer questions from local people and to make the most of the opportunity to engage as many as possible in getting involved in their community.

Among the agencies being lined up to set out their stalls alongside the council's housing, Streetscene, noise pollution and antisocial behaviour teams are: the police, fire brigade, ambulance service, Together in Waddon, schools and youth clubs, Neighbourhood Watch, a GP, the residents' association and a local imam.

Scheduled for Wednesday, 9 July, between 3 and 8pm, the event will be held at St George's Church, Barrow Road, Waddon.

Croydon proves it's a good egg

Council's free-range policy recognised by animal welfare group



The commitment to banish battery hen eggs from its schools, care homes and canteens has netted Croydon Council a prestigious award.

The pioneering move has put the council among 15 top UK companies in being presented with a Compassion in World Farming Good Egg Award.

Croydon is one of only five local authorities in the UK to receive the award. Its move to free-range eggs will affect all kitchens in council-run establishments.

The council's main catering suppliers already use only fresh free-range eggs, and now caterers in all council establishments, such as schools and residential homes, are set to follow suit.

The use of free-range eggs will soon become a council requirement with the revision of its sustainable food policy, which will state that all eggs and egg derivatives used across council catering must be sourced from free-range chickens.

The council's action has won praise from animal-welfare campaigners.

Local campaigner, Ann Boyce, said: "I'm very encouraged by Croydon Council's commitment to go cage-free on eggs, which follows a national trend toward a more compassionate Britain.

"I'd like to thank the council for taking leadership and becoming one of the first local authorities to commit to higher welfare."

Free summer courses for young

Looking for something to occupy the long summer break?

We could have the answer

The Croydon Summer Uni Project, offers free courses to anybody aged between eight and 25 years.

The courses, running from July to August, and provided by Croydon voluntary and statutory organisations, offer more than 1,000 spaces to young people, ranging across study/careers, sports, arts, music and new media.

Some courses provide accredited AQA qualifications, equivalent to a single GCSE grade, while all provide record-of-achievement certifications.

Course titles include: youth choir academy; leadership training; music, dance and drama mentoring workshops; summer homework help club; black history trails; money investment; jewellery workshops; creative multi-media; fit for 2012; and many more.

The programme is open to all young people – whether they are homeless, a young offender, a refugee, unemployed or attending school or college.



It's an opportunity for children and young people to try something different, meet new people and learn a new skill – they might even gain an accredited qualification.

To enrol on a course or for more information, please visit www.summerunilondon.org or contact Nicole Beckford, the Croydon Summer Uni coordinator, by calling **020 8683 5913**.

Alternatively, she can be emailed at nicole.beckford@cvalive.org.uk or written to at: **Croydon Summer Uni, Croydon Voluntary Action, 97 High Street, Thornton Heath, R7 8RY**

Improvement from top down

Fewer chiefs in charge of improved service to customers

A major overhaul of the council's management structure will see an improvement in services, and savings across senior-level salaries.

The restructure, which should help Croydon in its quest to become a four-star council, will reduce the number of departments from seven to five and cut senior posts at director and assistant director levels.

The resultant savings will be ploughed into improving front-line services to the public by departments working far more closely together, particularly in vital service areas such as regeneration and social care.

The first phase of the restructure, affecting directors and assistant directors, will be completed by October.

A second stage, reviewing the next two tiers of managers, will be completed by next March.

The Audit Commission recently announced that the council has maintained its position as a three-star council that is "performing well".

This means that, despite severely limited resources, Croydon continues to be rated among London's better-performing councils.

The restructure is part of a programme which aims at ultimately achieving a four-star rating, the highest attainable, and increasing resident satisfaction of all council services.

Kicking the habit

New clinics to give smokers free support to get off cigarettes

Croydon's Stop Smoking Service is setting up new clinics around the borough this summer, offering free advice and support for those who want to stop smoking.

The service also offers discounted or, in some cases, free nicotine-replacement therapy.

A smoker is four times more likely to give up for good if they use a local stop-smoking service, with regular support and information on the right products to help the fight against tobacco.

The service's advisers offer a planned programme of weekly sessions designed to help and support smokers to kick the habit.

The sessions are relaxed, informal and – best of all – free of charge.

Below is a list of the Stop Smoking Service's existing clinics, but more are planned for the borough; for more information, call the freephone number **0800 019 8570**.



When	Where	How
Mondays 2 – 5pm	Parkway Health Centre, New Addington	To book, call Parkway on 01689 842117 or Joanna Orpin on 020 8274 6389 .
Tuesdays 3.30pm – 6.30pm	Walk-in Centre, High Street, Croydon	Drop in anytime between 3.30 and 6.30pm. No appointment needed.
Thursdays 10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm	Parkway Health Centre, New Addington	To book, call Parkway 01689 842117 .
Thursdays 1.30pm – 2.30pm & 2.30pm – 5pm	Antenatal clinic, Mayday Hospital	Drop-in: 1.30pm – 2.30pm. Appointment only: 2.30 – 5pm call 0800 019 8570

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Get ready to party at

Croydon Summer

Once again Croydon Council is set to welcome to Lloyd Park thousands of visitors, intent on having a good time, to two days of great sounds – and the entertainment comes free.

WORLD PARTY, Saturday 12 July, 1pm-8pm



Stretch out in the park and enjoy four stages of world and popular music, the global market, food village, funfair, kids' area, outdoor entertainment and licensed bar.

For more information visit www.croydonfestival.com or call the festival information line on 020 8760 5672. Lloyd Park, Croydon, will be swarming with activity for two days of FREE, fresh, dynamic sounds from a range of UK and international artists.

Main Stage

Stereo MCs

Stereo MCs hit the big time in the 1990s with a Brit Award and massive hits, including Connected and Elevate My Mind.

Speed Caravan

Musician Mehdi Haddab, of Algerian descent, has managed to radically transform the image of the oud. With his frenetic and joyous playing of rock and roll, he has imposed this symbol of oriental music into the heart of the urban scene. He is joined by bassist Pascal Teillet who brings with him a captivating world forged alongside artists such as King Mensah, Ganoub, Mazaher, Archie Shepp and electro-musician Hermione Frank.

Finley Quayle

A true maverick with a multi-ethnic catalogue mashing up pure pop to the underground – Quayle takes sweet sunshine reggae and mixes it up with grubby lo-fi, before going on a nu-folk excursion or coasting some blessed-out grooves.

Joji Hirota & The Taiko Drummers

After an unforgettable appearance at last year's Live Earth at Wembley Stadium, Joji Hirota and his team of five Japanese taiko drummers are set to stun the crowds with their massive rhythms.

Acoustic Stage

Abdullah Chhadeh

With a remarkable career as a master of the traditional Arabic stringed instrument, the qanun, Syrian-born Chhadeh has established himself as a relentless musical adventurer.



Cellar Door

This talented duo, winners of this year's Testing1,2,3 competition, have been writing music for five years. The blending of Mike Brown's enticing guitar techniques with the haunting vocals of Aimee Grinter produces amazing ethereal sounds.

Paprika Balkanicus

Hailing from Romania, Serbia and Slovenia, their sound – on violin, guitar, double bass and accordion – is a fiery blend of traditional and Gypsy music from the Balkans and eastern Europe; and their songs mirror the longing, passion and joy of the long-hidden delights of their homelands.

Dance Stage

Massukos

Mozambique's Massukos are known for their extensive humanitarian work. Their music offers an uplifting blend of traditional sounds and has been described as "musical sunshine – life-giving, happy music that makes you want to dance."

Lyanna Austin

Accompanied by her funky eight-piece band, this former choir-girl had everyone dancing at Croydon's Testing1,2,3 competition. With inspirational original material and unique renditions of classic tracks, this group are guaranteed to get the party going.

Nathan "Flutebox" Lee

With his trademark live fluteboxing (where he beatboxes and plays the flute at the same time) Nathan Lee's explosive blend unites hip-hop, drum'n'bass and ragga beats with Indian classical, jazz and funk melodies. A true 21st century musical pioneer, he takes acoustic performance to the next level and urban music into uncharted waters.



mer Festival

FREE! NO TICKET REQUIRED

LLOYD PARK, COOMBE ROAD, CROYDON



CROYDON MELA, Sunday 13 July, 1pm-8pm

Main Stage

Sukshinder Shinda

A gifted singer, composer and producer with an impressive string of hits across the world, Sukshinder Shinda has been a force on the Asian music scene for more than 15 years. Shinda won Best Act and Best Album at the 2008 UK Asian Music Awards.

The Dhol Blasters

This youthful team of vibrant dhol drummers and bhangra dancers, led by King Gurcharan Mall, described as the "most famous dhol player of all time", they have already earned themselves gold and platinum discs.

Trickbaby

Trickbaby have sold more than two million albums worldwide via extensive contributions to Bollywood movie soundtracks.

Bollywood Brass Band

Funky drummers and a hot six-piece horn section playing massive hits from Indian films, Bollywood Brass Band are driven by the huge beat of the dhol.

Classical Stage

Sacred Music Project

Expect a combination of bhajans, geets, ghazals and instrumentals, illustrating music and poetry from the Indian sub-continent through the ages.

Debashish Bhattacharya

One of the world's most remarkable slide-guitarists, he started playing the Hawaiian lap steel guitar and has since established himself as an award-winning musician, combining aspects of Indian classical music with detours into the blues and Hawaiian music.



Bollyhood Stage

Join Club Asia's DJ SAN-J SANJ (xzeccutive) and Class Act for an afternoon of the latest sounds brought to you by the hottest up-and-coming DJs and bands.

Plus a global market, funfair, kids area and outdoor entertainment.



Public transport: 15 minutes from London Victoria/London Bridge to East Croydon; 35 minutes from Brighton to East Croydon. Then take tram Route 3 to Lloyd Park – it couldn't be easier.





All items include a six-month warranty and can be delivered and installed for a small charge.

Save some money - and help save the planet

Low-income families, landfill sites and, most importantly, the environment benefit from the work of a Croydon charity.

Walk along any high street and it's impossible not to notice the shop windows full of the latest hi-tec gadgetry fighting to ease the cash and plastic from your wallet.

And who can resist the temptation of a new three-piece suite or a replacement for that old bed?

It is the replacement of such household goods that keeps our consumer-oriented society ticking over – but it also presents the problem of what to do with the items you're replacing.

The historic answer has been to throw them away. Simply put them in the dustbin, or take them to the tip, and let somebody else deal with them.

In this day and age of reuse and recycle, however, the old-fashioned way is no longer acceptable – and that's where Croydon-based charity Appliance Reuse Centre can offer a solution.

More commonly known as Arc, the charity can take that old washing machine, cooker or fridge and, after some expert attention in its workshop, offer it a new lease of life for the benefit of low-income families who might find the price of a brand-new appliance beyond the family budget.

And it's not just electricals; the Arc showroom and warehouse, in Grafton Road, Waddon, also offers refurbished items of furniture – such as tables, beds and suites – for sale.

Anybody can go along to make a purchase, with reductions for people receiving income support. And by reoffering goods that can enjoy an extended life, rapidly-filling landfill sites are being spared the extra burden.

Unwanted household appliances and furniture can account for up to 35% of waste going to landfill, while huge numbers of people living on very low incomes are unable to afford to equip or furnish their homes to an acceptable standard.

Since opening, in summer 2005, Arc has helped almost 3,000 households and supplied more than 6,000 items of furniture and appliances. It has collected and recycled more than 10,500 items, amounting to more than 600 tonnes of what would previously have been dumped.



Arc's skilled team of engineers repair and fully test all electrical appliances, and thoroughly clean them ready for display.

Any items unsuitable for repair are disposed of through Approved Treatment Facilities.

Additionally, the organisation helps people get back into employment by providing training and work experience for those who are at a disadvantage in the labour market.

For more information, call Arc on **020 8662 8002**, send an email to info1@arc-croydon.org.uk or visit the website at www.arc-croydon.org.uk

Croydon Council provides a quick, safe and efficient way for customers to claim council tax and housing benefit.

The screenshot shows the Croydon Council website. At the top is the Croydon Council logo and navigation links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, and News. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Type words' and a 'Search' button. A secondary navigation bar contains links: Home, About Us, Contact Us, News, Services, and More. The main content area features four service tiles: 'Add to the council' (with a 'Search and apply for jobs' button), 'Benefits calculator' (with a 'Use the calculator to see how much benefit you can get. Your only source' button), 'Refuelling' (with a 'Click to see information about the refuelling of your council car' button), and 'Go online' (with a list of links: 'Play Ball!', 'Report a', 'Apply for a', 'Ask for a', 'View a', and 'Book for a').

What are the advantages?

The application form can be completed at your leisure at any time of the day. You can even stop half way through, save what you have done and return to it later.

The form can be completed in the comfort of your own home, at the library or anywhere with internet access.

You will not need to wait for a letter to tell you what other information you need to supply, you will know immediately and be able to provide the information more quickly, meaning you will get your money sooner.

You can find out immediately if you are entitled to housing benefit.

If your circumstances are going to change, you can see how the change might affect your entitlement.

You will be given an accurate indication of the benefit you are likely to receive.

If the signed form and the required proof are returned straight away, we will pay your claim within 10 days.

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By planning ahead, you can ensure that, as the holiday season approaches, your prized blooms survive the summer break and Croydon is looking its best in time for the visit of the bBritain in Bloom judges.

Holiday blues

and greens and reds and yellows and . . .

How to keep your garden blooming when you go away

Entries for Croydon in Bloom are now closed but we want to ensure that the borough is looking its best in time for a visit from the Britain in Bloom judges in August.

Judges will be looking for evidence of good conservation practice and a high standard of cleanliness, as well as viewing the borough's best beauty spots.



By planning ahead, you can ensure that, as the holiday season approaches, your prized blooms survive the summer break and Croydon is looking its best in time for their visit.

Tips for keeping your garden healthy and vibrant while you are away

- Some plants are especially good at managing without a lot of water and well-known drought-tolerant varieties include: dianthus (pinks/carnations); celosias; alyssum; salvias; gazanias; marigolds and geraniums.
- At the planting stage it is worth including a good mulch and/or water-retaining crystals in your pots as this will help your plants retain moisture while you are away.
- Before packing your bags, try to de-head your annual plant collections, it is worth removing all dead heads and plants with full flowers to encourage blooms on your return.

- Give your plants the tonic of a good liquid feed prior to going away.
- Make sure your pots, containers and borders are weed-free, as even a week away can result in weeds going to seed, with the headache of their germinating all around your garden or patio!
- Try to get a neighbour to water your plants while you are on holiday. Don't take your hanging plants or baskets down for a friend or neighbour to look after, as this could advertise the fact that you are away.
- If you get a friend or neighbour to water your plants suggest that they water late evening or early morning, as this is the best time to water to prevent leaf or flower 'burn'. This is when the water droplets act as a magnifying glass and burn holes in the leaves or flowers. Watering when it is likely to be cooler means the water will soak into your pots or containers down to the roots rather than evaporating in the sun.

Judges will be looking for evidence of good conservation practice and a high standard of cleanliness, as well as viewing the borough's best beauty spots.



Transforming Croydon schools

*'giving our children the best
chance to succeed'*



**Croydon is embarking on a major new programme to
invest more than £350m in creating schools for the future.**

This will improve opportunities for children, young people and learners across the borough. We want your opinion on the vision for this programme and how it will affect secondary schools in the borough.

In this supplement you will find the proposed key principles of the vision for secondary education and how you can have your say.



Background & context

Croydon is about to embark on the largest investment in its school estate the borough has ever seen as part of a process of improving education.

The borough is aiming for sustained economic growth. We need to attract blue chip businesses to Croydon and to do that we need to offer first class schools to families. We also need to keep more of those talented children, around one in three, who leave the borough when they move on to their secondary education.

This programme is part of the government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, which aims to rebuild or renew nearly every secondary school in England.

Croydon will be investing in excess of £350m to transform its schools, and needs to spend this money wisely to get the best deal for children, young people and learners.

Changes in technology, the types of skills young people

need for the world of work, and advances in how education is delivered, mean that our schools need to be as flexible as possible, and tailored to the needs of their local communities.

We have reviewed our entire school estate and created a vision for education in Croydon.

This has led us to make a series of recommendations as to how schools may need to change in order to meet the future needs of learners.

We have laid out these proposals in this document for all residents to comment upon.

We would encourage all residents to consider them carefully and what their impact might be on increasing the life chances of all young people in Croydon.



Our key principles for change

We have considered the issues our schools are facing, and what might be done to improve education in Croydon.

We have also looked at how our borough might change in the future and what might be needed to help our young people prepare for that future. At all times, we have listened to residents' feedback and opinions, and from this we have created a series of key principles to guide us in improving Croydon schools.

THESE KEY PRINCIPLES ARE LISTED BELOW:

All schools in Croydon should be high-performing schools

There are many good schools in Croydon. But we want all schools to be excellent. We want to tackle under-achievement and present solutions to help improve attainment. This may mean transforming schools that are not performing well into academies or partnering them with other successful schools. Our expectation is that, over time, all Croydon schools should be achieving a minimum of 40% GCSE A*-C, including mathematics and English.

Every young person should have the best chance to succeed at school

This programme is not just about buildings. It is about working with schools to create a learning culture where parents and guardians can be confident that their child will be treated as an individual young person with a unique set of needs, talents and potential. We want to bring best practice from successful schools around the country – in both the independent and state sector – into our Croydon schools.

All learners in Croydon should have local access to quality learning opportunities

We want learners in Croydon to have access to choice of provision without having to travel out of their local area. This means ensuring schools are the right size, which may entail reducing the size of some, increasing the capacity of others or moving schools to a different location.

Parents, guardians, young people and teachers should expect high standards of attendance and behaviour

The transformation of our schools must include higher standards of discipline. We will not tolerate high levels of unauthorised absence and we will work with parents, guardians and teachers to ensure that the bad behaviour of a small minority of young people does not disrupt the education of the vast majority of our young people who are eager to learn and achieve.

Learners with additional physical or learning needs should be able to access appropriate provision at their local school or in their area

We want each local area to have its own provision for special educational needs, alongside or within mainstream schools, wherever possible. This may mean co-locating special schools on mainstream sites, or developing specialist provision within mainstream schools.

Croydon needs flexible and inspiring school buildings that meet the needs of learners and the requirements of their areas

We want Croydon to have school buildings fit for the 21st century that learners and the local community can be proud of. This may mean constructing new facilities and remodelling or replacing those that are not fit for purpose. The aim is to ensure that the best possible environments are created for teaching and learning, and for community activities.

Post-16 learners should have choice and diversity of opportunities, which can be accessed locally

We want young people in Croydon to be able to access the opportunities they want within the borough or their locality. This would mean creating sixth form centres in every school in Croydon and partnerships between schools and colleges to provide a full range of courses between them.

Schools should work in partnership to improve results and offer the widest possible learning opportunities

We want schools to work together to provide the widest number of courses for learners, as well as sharing best practice to improve performance. This could mean that successful schools form partnerships to support under-performing schools, or that learners receive their education at several schools rather than one.

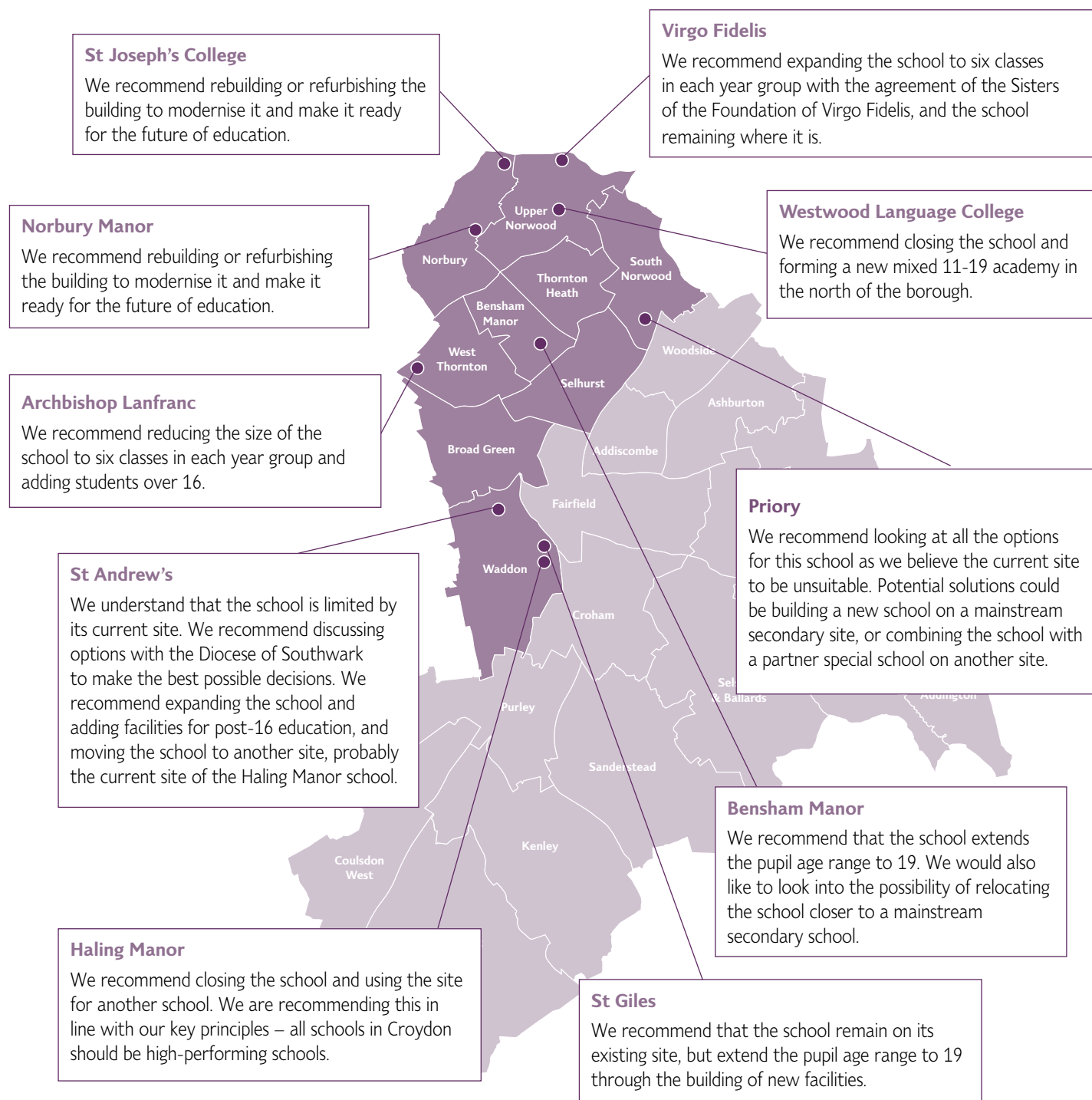
You can have your say on these key principles, and other issues surrounding, through many ways explained on the back of this brochure.

Proposals for the north of Croydon

We have looked at many different options for the north of Croydon, with several options for each school to help it meet its potential, and fit the needs of its local area and Croydon as a whole.

We have taken earlier local feedback into account, and sought evidence to ensure our recommendations are appropriate.

Our recommendations are shown here.



If you want to have your say on any of our recommendations above, you can do so by any of the means explained at the back of this brochure.

Proposals for the east of Croydon

We have looked at many different options for the east of Croydon, with several options for each school to help it meet its potential, and fit the needs of its local area and Croydon as a whole.

We have taken earlier local feedback into account, and sought evidence to ensure our recommendations are appropriate.

Our recommendations are shown here.

Edenham

We recommend reducing the size of the school to six classes in each year group and adding facilities for students over 16 in response to parental requests. We also recommend the school works in partnership with other schools nearby to improve its performance.

Ashburton

We recommend reducing the size of the school to six classes in each year group and adding facilities for students over 16. We also recommend looking at the possibility of the school becoming an academy.

Shirley

We recommend expanding the school to eight classes in each year group, and establishing facilities for pupils aged between 16 and 19, remaining on its current site.

Beckmead

We recommend rebuilding or refurbishing the school on its current site.

St Mary's

We will liaise with the Archdiocese of Southwark regarding planned participation of both Thomas More and St Mary's in the programme. Coloma Convent School might enter into a partnership to improve the performance of other Catholic schools.

Archbishop Tenison

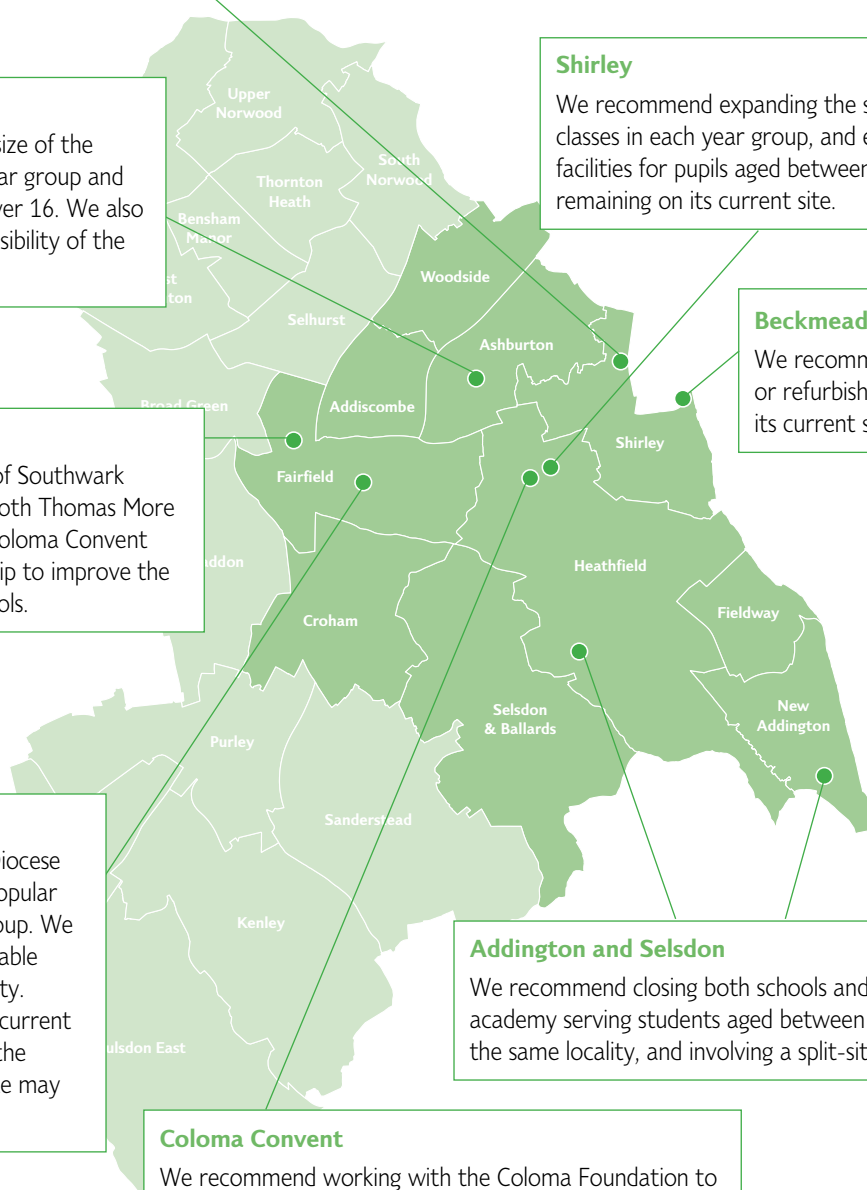
We recommend working with the Diocese of Southwark to expand this very popular school to six classes in each year group. We also recommend finding a more suitable site for the school in the same locality. One strong option is the site of the current council-owned Coombe Nursery. If the school does relocate, the current site may become a new primary school.

Coloma Convent

We recommend working with the Coloma Foundation to expand this very popular school to six classes in each year group, and use the school to help improve other schools.

Addington and Selsdon

We recommend closing both schools and forming an academy serving students aged between 11 and 19 in the same locality, and involving a split-site approach.



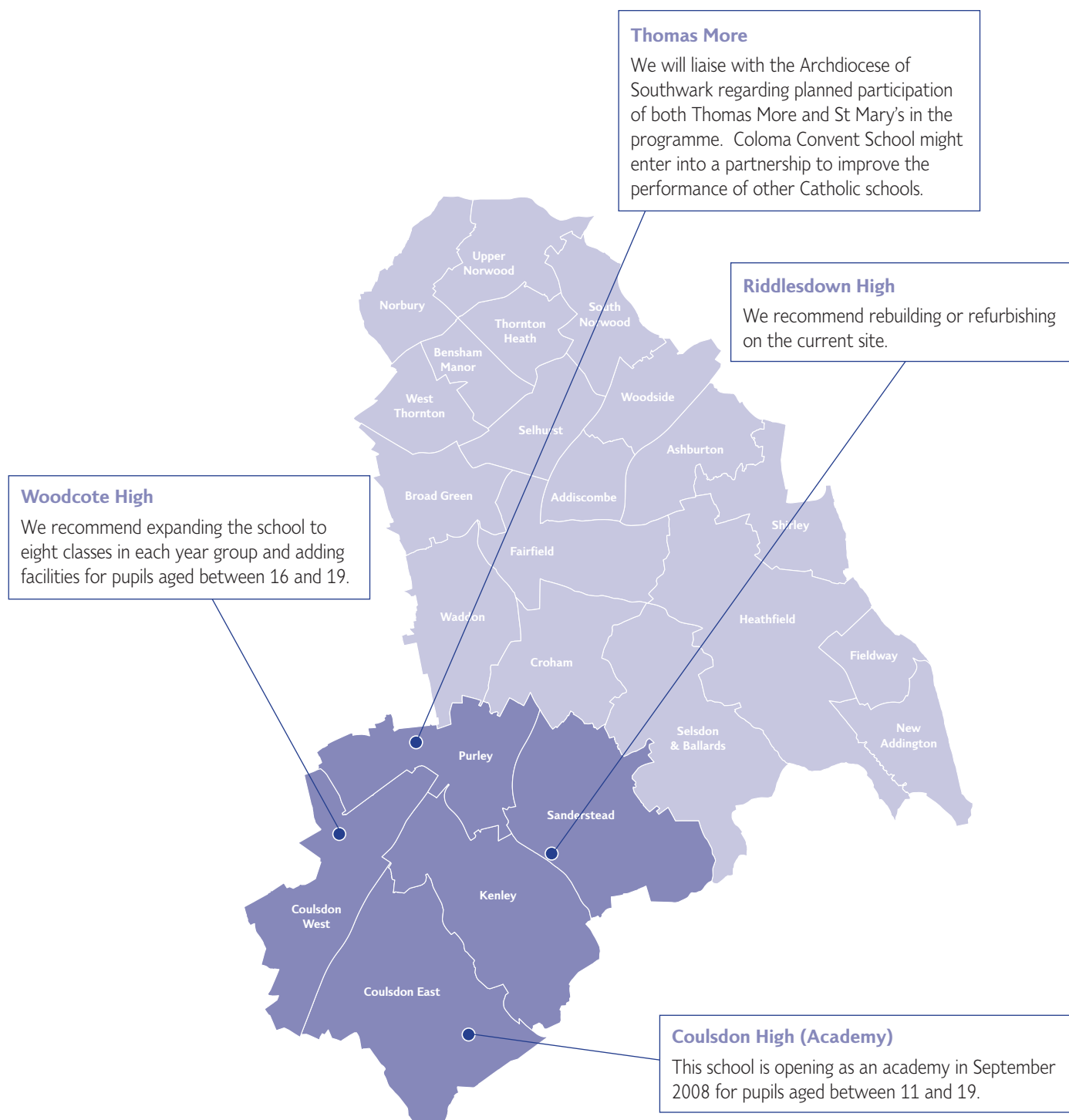
If you want to have your say on any of our recommendations above, you can do so by any of the means explained at the back of this brochure.

Proposals for the south of Croydon

We have looked at many different options for the south of Croydon, with several options for each school to help it meet its potential, and fit the needs of its local area and Croydon as a whole.

We have taken earlier local feedback into account, and sought evidence to ensure our recommendations are appropriate.

Our recommendations are shown here.



If you want to have your say on any of our recommendations above, you can do so by any of the means explained at the back of this brochure.

Your Questions Answered...

In developing our recommendations, we have consulted with local residents on key questions related to changes in education. We have presented a selection of these below, and our answers.

Q. How did you choose which schools to recommend for closure, extension or replacement?

- A.** Choices were made after looking carefully at schools across the whole of Croydon. We need more places in popular and successful schools, and in areas where there are growing populations. Where populations are smaller, or schools less popular, we may need to reduce or close some schools. We also looked at where people live and intend to make sure everybody has a good neighbourhood school.

Q. Aren't you restricting choice by changing single-sex schools to mixed?

- A.** We are, in fact, offering wider choice, by giving opportunities for children to take advantage of some of the best education that Croydon can offer, rather than preventing some sections of the community attending the schools of their choice.

Q. Will my access to local schools be reduced?

- A.** On the contrary, it is likely to be increased. By making sure schools are sited where there is most demand, we are increasing the provision and choice for most of our children.

Q. Won't these new schools be too big to give my child individual attention?

- A.** Research shows us that children succeed best in schools with six or more classes in each year group. This enables schools to break into smaller groups to give individual attention, while enjoying the economies of scale that a larger school brings. It also allows them to offer a wider range of courses and resources, which can be personalised to best effect. We want each young person to be able to forge a strong personal identity within the school environment. That means putting more effort into helping them manage the transition from primary school, and ensuring that they are secure and cared for as they make their way through their secondary education.

Q. Will my child have to travel to a new school?

- A.** We will be reducing the need for travel by making sure each neighbourhood has a good school, to which parents can choose to send their children.

Q. Can you guarantee that my child will get a place at the school of our choice?

- A.** We will work closely with all schools including academies to ensure the fairest admission system possible and we will ensure that we greatly increase the number of good schools across the borough.

Q. How will my child be able to adapt if everything is new?

- A.** Children are naturally adaptable. They will be kept fully informed and prepared for any change. Their natural curiosity about new environments will excite and engage them.

Q. How will you stop my child's education being disrupted through this process?

- A.** Plans for minimising disruption are built into the proposals for each school and site. For example, there should be no building noise and dust during exam periods. The schools will work together to prepare all our young people for the changes.

Q. Will my child have to buy a new uniform?

- A.** Changes like this will happen over time. Nobody will be expected to provide a new uniform except at the time it would have been replaced anyway, and everybody will have plenty of warning about any changes.

Q. What will happen to the sites of schools that are closing?

- A.** Some will be used for new school buildings and others will see a change of use. All will be used to benefit the children of Croydon.

Q. How much will this cost me through taxes or community charges?

- A.** Education will cost no more than it did before – the government is contributing the money for the changes.

Have your say . . .

Croydon is working in partnership with the educational consultancy Bryanston Square Consulting to seek your views on the proposals for changes to secondary education in your area. The opportunity to invest large sums of money in new educational buildings comes around only once every generation, so we need your views to ensure we are making the right decisions for the learners of Croydon.

The consultation will run until 30 September 2008, and you can have your say in a number of ways.

Have your say online:

Residents can find all the information about the consultation on our dedicated website. A series of online questionnaires give residents the chance to express their views and comment on the proposals. To access the information or participate in our questionnaires, visit

www.croydon.gov.uk/secondaryreview

Have your say in writing:

We welcome written communication on the proposals from residents. If you wish to write, please address your correspondence to the following addresses:

Post: **Croydon Secondary Review
c/o Bryanston Square Consulting
5th Floor, St Clare House
30-33 Minories
London EC3N 1DD**

E-mail: **croydon@bryanstonsquare.co.uk**

Have your say on the phone:

Bryanston Square Consulting is available on the phone between 9am and 5pm to answer questions or hear opinions from residents. Call **020 7480 4102** and ask to speak to the Croydon team.

All feedback will be gratefully received and will be reflected in a final report on the consultation, available in October 2008. Any comments given will be held in confidence and no names will be recorded.

Have your say by text:

Text your message to **07507 779859**



Popping out to help

During July, Croydon Council's Pop Service will be visiting venues across the borough, offering help and advice to older people and those with disabilities. A selection is listed below. Full details, and information on changes, can be obtained by checking with local service providers, calling **020 8654 4440**, emailing info@croydonpop.org.uk or visiting www.croydonpop.org.uk



DATE	TIME	SERVICE	VENUE	SERVICE PROVIDER
Saturday 5 July	2pm-4.30pm	Bus	Forget-Me-Not Café, St Matthew's Church, Park Hill	Age Concern, Pharmacist
Tuesday 8 July	10am-2pm	Bus	North End, Croydon, CR9 1SX	Alzheimer's Society, Age Concern, Health visitor, Pharmacist
Wednesday 9 July	10am-noon	Bus	8 Sunny Bank, South Norwood	Pharmacist
Wednesday 9 July	1.30pm-3.30pm	Bus	Mayday Hospital, Woodcroft Road, Thornton Heath	Alzheimer's Society, Health visitor, Welfare rights, Hearing Resource Centre.
Thursday 10 July	10.30am-12.30pm	Bus	Peter Kennedy Court, 180 Orchard Way, Shirley	Pharmacist, Age Concern,
Thursday 10 July	1.30pm-3.30pm	Bus	Mayday Hospital, Woodcroft Road, Thornton Heath	Alzheimer's Society
Monday 14 July	1.15pm-3pm	Bus	West Wickham & Shirley Baptist Church, Wickham, Shirley	Pharmacist, Age Concern
Wednesday 16 July	11am-12.30pm	Bus	1-29 Fisher Close, Lower Addiscombe Road, Addiscombe	Pharmacist, Age Concern
Monday 21 July	10am-3pm	Bus	Fairfield Halls, Park Lane, Croydon	Occupational therapy
Thursday 24 July	10am – 2pm	Bus	Waitrose, Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead	Pharmacist, Health Visitor Stroke Association
Tuesday 29 July	10.30am-12.30pm	Bus	Old Coulsdon Centre for the Retired, Grange Park, Coulsdon Road, Old Coulsdon	Pharmacist
Thursday 31 July	10am-12pm	Bus	Frylands Court, Hutchinson Road, New Addington	Pharmacist, Age Concern, Health Visitor

Genesishomes at Bauhaus Mason's Avenue (off High St, Croydon)

Your opportunity to own an affordable home in a unique, stylish environment.

Prices from £48,900* on a part-buy/part-rent basis.

shop croydon

With thriving independent stores and top high street names including Zara, Topshop and House of Fraser within Centrale and the Whitgift Shopping Centre.

eat croydon

Catering for every taste and budget, Croydon offers a variety of local restaurants, trendy bars and traditional atmospheric pubs.

live croydon

16 one and two bedroom apartments in this iconic development available on a part-buy/part-rent basis.

Call now for more information

0845 600 4663

or to download a brochure visit www.geneshomes.org.uk

Genesishomes



For many older people in Croydon, sheltered housing is an irreplaceable lifeline – here's how the council provides this valued service.

Retirement housing in Croydon falls into two distinct categories: sheltered and special sheltered housing.

Both are part of the same overall service, and are similar in many ways, but there are major differences between them.

The thinking behind special sheltered is to provide "a home for life", with flats usually becoming vacant only when a tenant passes away or, very occasionally, when their needs have become so great that they have to be admitted to a nursing home.

Although the level of dependency and frailty of new tenants has increased in recent years, the special sheltered housing service does its utmost to meet these needs and keep these tenants in "their home" rather than move them on.

Most tenants who move to live in this type of retirement property before their dependency becomes too high usually improve and live happily for many years, secure in the knowledge that help is never far away if needed.

Both services provide:

- self-contained flats, central heating, one bedroom, lounge, kitchen and bathroom, plus a small number of bedsits in ordinary sheltered;
- secure door-entry systems and lifts to higher floors;
- well-maintained gardens and outdoor sitting areas;
- guest rooms for visiting relatives in some of the units.

Below are highlighted some of the differences between the two categories, in relation to the levels of service provided by the sort of sheltered accommodation.

SPECIAL SHELTERED HOUSING FOR OLDER PEOPLE	SHELTERED HOUSING
Who is it for?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 65 but occasional exceptions • Support and personal care needs that cannot be met in current residence • Must be assessed and referred by a care manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 60, but occasional exceptions • No longer in full-time employment • A level of needs on the grounds of security, health, mobility, isolation • Apply direct to housing department.
Provision and Facilities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approximately 260 flats in six units throughout borough • Communal lounge/dining rooms for social activities and weekday lunches • Laundry rooms used by staff on behalf of tenants • Purpose-built bathrooms for tenants who need assistance from staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 1,000 flats in 24 units throughout borough • Communal areas for social events and activities • Laundry rooms for use by the tenants or their helpers



Most tenants who move to live in this type of retirement property before their dependency becomes too high usually improve and live happily for many years, secure in the knowledge that help is never far away if needed.



Special sheltered units are staffed by teams comprising a manager, two assistant managers and a care officer, all working a shift pattern.

In addition, between 8.30am and 9pm, a team of in-house home helps assist the tenants with personal care, shopping, housework, laundry and support with medication as required. Domestic and catering staff are also provided.

As well as daily visits from the duty officer to ensure tenants are well, chiropodists, opticians and hairdressers make regular calls.

A care package is worked out for all new tenants on arrival, according to their assessed needs, with the full involvement of the client; this is regularly reviewed.

Lunch is provided five days per week in the dining room, and assistance can be given to tenants for hot meals if requested at the weekends.

All the flats have a pull-cord alarm system, enabling a member of staff to be with the tenant in a matter of minutes in an emergency.

Social activities and events also encourage tenants to make friends, and relieve the feelings of loneliness and isolation sometimes common among older people.

The generally frailer tenants in special sheltered care accommodation enjoy and benefit from all these services while maintaining their independence. They are free to come and go, but are reassured that help is never very far away if needed.

By contrast, in sheltered units there is one sheltered housing officer, on duty between 9am and 4pm each weekday and sometimes outside these hours to provide social activities.

They are also on-call between 11pm and 7am Sunday to Thursday.

Often, the sheltered housing officer will be covering more than one unit during the day, so will not always be on site but will respond to tenants' calls, monitored by alarm-monitoring control centres. Domestic are shared between the schemes.

Each tenant has an alarm in their flat and can pull the cord in case of emergency.

Sheltered housing officers are required to monitor the welfare of tenants by regular visiting and contact. They organise social activities, liaising with other agencies such as care management, housing, health professionals and the tenants' families.

Many tenants of housing for older people have other visiting services, such as homecare, district nurse or meals on wheels.

The sheltered housing officers keep a support plan for each tenant so that individual preferences are catered for.

The older people's housing service seeks to meet the physical, social, emotional and psychological needs of tenants encouraging them to live as independently as possible, with dignity and self-respect.

The most recurring positive feedback from those living in the council's tenancies for older people is the fact that they have peace of mind and know that help is available when required.



In addition, between 8.30am and 9pm, a team of in-house home helps assist the tenants with personal care.

Social activities and events encourage tenants to make friends, and relieve the feelings of loneliness and isolation sometimes common among older people.



Your Croydon Green Tips

Each month, from now until September, you are invited to send us your Green Tip on that month's theme. The Ecocitizen Judging Panel will award £75 in vouchers to the best tip (20-word summary and up to 200 words only, please – a photo or picture can be sent, too).

BRITAIN IN BLOOM – Croydon's entry in this national competition will be boosted by your participation in Croydon Ecocitizen.



croydon ecocitizen

The hunt for Croydon's Ecocitizen is up and running – could it be you?

Our new scheme to recognise the great environmental changes that individuals, groups and schools are making in Croydon was launched in the May edition of *Your Croydon*.

Nominations have begun rolling in and the winner of the May Green Tip will be announced in the August edition.

Nominations can be made online via the council website www.croydon.gov.uk/environment or by completing the form below. The deadline is Friday, 25 July.

There will be a grand presentation ceremony on Thursday, 23 October, in the Arnhem Gallery, Fairfield, Park Lane, between 2 and 4pm

Why 'Ecocitizen'?

Over the next few years, Croydon's town centre will begin to be transformed, with stunning new buildings designed to high environmental standards, and a move to more pedestrian-friendly streets. Throughout the borough – and especially in district centres such as Thornton Heath, Purley, Coulsdon, New Addington and elsewhere – new dwellings, shops and offices are beginning to be built. These are now under the council's forward-looking requirements for high standards of sustainable design, including the requirement for at least 10% of the power to come from low-carbon technologies on the development. This new eco-city is forming around us and we want to encourage and recognise the pioneer ecocitizens who are helping to make it happen.

Recycle now

Our first month's Green Tip theme concerned recycling.

All houses now enjoy a fortnightly collection of green garden waste, running until the end of November. This is on the same day as your rubbish collection, to help keep your life simpler!

We are installing hundreds of recycling sites at blocks of flats, so that residents can recycle paper, cardboard, cans and glass.

Tell us if you have taken up recycling using these services, about unusual things you have recycled, or about how much you recycle.

JULY and AUGUST – have you been using your car less often?

Tell us how, and this month's prize could be yours. It could be your own habits, or the whole family's; at home or at work.

Complete an I Move London pledge online and commit to reducing your car travel. See: www.tfl.gov.uk/imovelondon

SEPTEMBER – energy saving and renewable energy.

Enter this month's prize draw by sending us your top energy-saving tip, or advice on choosing solar panels or other renewable energy.

By now, you can prepare for winter by signing up for loft or cavity wall insulation through the council's offer with British Gas. Visit www.keepcroydonwarm.org.uk or call **0845 971 7731** and quote ref. CCCT for the council's offer with British Gas.

So get signing up and increase your chance of winning!

Recycle more

A nomination for Channa de Zoysa "for being such a good recycler"

"Channa is always picking up things that other people have thrown away – some of the things we use ourselves, such as an old water butt for the garden; or an old water cylinder which we have converted into a raised bed to grow salad in.

"Other times, we pass things on, such as an old petrol lawnmower that was discarded on the street.

"He helps the organisers of events at our local school to sort out the rubbish into glass and cans so that they can be taken for recycling.

"I'd really like to see his conscientious attitude rewarded, so that others can follow his example."

Entries

Entries will be judged according to the sustainability of the project and its outcome, originality and any positive impact on the wider community.

There will be a grand presentation ceremony on Thursday 23 October, 2-4pm in the Arnhem Gallery, Fairfield Halls.

Details of the categories can be found on the council website: www.croydon.gov.uk/environment/

Category

Recycler of the year

Low carbon household

Favourite Croydon 'green' project

Natural Croydon

Best environmental 'message/campaign'

Primary school

Secondary school

The Croydon Ecocitizen 2008

IN THE WORK PLACE

Businesses play an important part in changing our approach to the environment. The council supports Environmental Business Excellence (ENVIBE), which will run its next awards programme in summer 2009. For details contact Debbie Clement on 020 8760 5536, or visit: www.envibe.co.uk The council will run an internal prize scheme.

I'm 16 years old and I've served a term as a member of the UK Youth Parliament for Croydon. I'm doing my bit to make Croydon safer are you doing yours?



For further information about the UK Youth Parliament, visit www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk



INCORPORATING THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:



UK Youth Parliament

The UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) enables young people to use their energy and passion to change the world for the better. Run by young people for young people, UKYP provides opportunities for 11-18-year-olds to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change.

There are currently over 500 elected MYPs (Members of Youth Parliament) and Deputy MYPs who represent both young men and women, including young people from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, and with physical and learning disabilities.

UKYP elections take place each year, in every part of the UK. Any young person aged 11- 18 can stand or vote in UKYP elections. In the past two years over 550,000 young people have voted in UKYP elections. Once elected MYPs work with their MPs, councillors, school and youth councils and peer group members on the issues of greatest concern to their constituents.

UKYP regularly brings together its MYPs at a regional level, to organise campaigns, projects and events and identify common issues of concern. UKYP then, where possible, links to the regional Government Offices, Assemblies and Development Agencies to ensure young people's views are being heard and acted upon.

UKYP is a clear example that young people from all walks of society are interested in politics, and given the opportunity to engage, will do so. In 2006, 53% of UKYP's MYPs were female and 47% were male, 2% had disabilities and 21% were from black and ethnic minority groups (compared to 8% of the total population, using 2001 census statistics). These figures are in contrast to the widely held belief that politics is dominated by white, middle class males.

For more information about the UK Youth Parliament visit,

www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk

Nominations

croydon
ecocitizen
2008

My name

Contact number/email:

My green tip

I am nominating

Category

Name

Contact number/email

Reason for nomination

Please return to: Environment and Sustainability team, 18th floor, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3BT Tel. 020 8760 5791 email: sustainability@croydon.gov.uk

The odds are stacked against the young driver. Motorists under the age of 25 represent 10% of all drivers, yet they have 25% of the crashes.



GROWING UP but slowing down

Young motorists must learn to kill the speed, not themselves

There is one question that every young driver between the ages of 16 and 24 should ask themselves when they get behind a steering wheel.

That question is: "I'm not going to have an accident, why should I be concerned about road safety?"

Without wishing to appear alarmist, Croydon Council's road safety team has evidence that more and more young people are involved in road collisions. This is more than any other age group, and males are more likely to have a collision than females.

Rather than provide a string of statistics relating to incidents in Croydon, it would be more beneficial to look at the chances of being involved in a collision.

The odds are stacked against the young driver. Motorists under the age of 25 represent 10% of all drivers, yet they have 25% of the crashes.

This is one area of activity that should not be learnt by making mistakes on the road. Every driver goes through a systematic learning process which is continued after passing the driving test. Extending the knowledge by trial and error is not the answer.

Speed is the biggest contributory factor, and while a high percentage of drivers exceed the speed limit, the consequences can be grave should they be involved in a collision, be it with another car, a stationary object or a person.

A vehicle travelling at 30 mph would, in normal circumstances and in dry weather, stop at 23 metres. The same vehicle at 35 mph would be travelling at a speed of 22 mph when it has reached 23 metres.

Who could imagine how they would feel if an innocent pedestrian was hit because their driving speed was allowed to increase?

That rise of five miles per hour could make the difference.

Yet many young people are travelling at speeds far greater than this, and their inexperience leaves them unable to handle the vehicle when confronted with something they should have reacted to earlier.

It is prudent, if not imperative, to keep within your driving capabilities. Experience will come with time; don't be the driver who has caused a serious injury because of a lack of self control.

The message is clear: just travelling a few miles an hour over the limit heightens the chances of killing someone on the road.

Be safe; don't take chances; concentrate and keep to the speed limits.



Be safe; don't take chances; concentrate and keep to the speed limits.

Croydon

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orbit
FIRST STEP

HomeBuy
a government led initiative

Thought you couldn't afford to buy a brand new apartment in Croydon?

Think again! Take your first step on the
property ladder with Orbit First Step.

Luxurious 1 bedroom apartments are available now from Orbit First Step on the prestigious Whytecliffe Road South development for sale on a part buy/part rent basis from only £44,375 for a 25% share with rent payable on the remainder. And following the March 2008 Budget announcement, they are now even more affordable with the option of no Stamp Duty to pay*

These contemporary apartments are built to an extremely high specification with an EcoHome rating of 'Excellent' to deliver lower heating and electricity bills and have a reduced impact on the environment. They also feature video entry phone systems and laminate flooring and carpets throughout and are situated close to Purley rail station making them a great location for commuters.

With all these features at a truly affordable price, we don't expect these apartments to be on the market for long, so call us now on 08458 50 20 50 for more details or visit our website at www.orbitfirststep.org.uk where you can download an application form.



building brighter futures...
for people and communities

* Up to 80% share only.
Prices correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change.
Orbit First Step is managed by OOL Housing - a division of Orbit
Group Ltd, an exempt charity and a member of the Orbit Group





As 2008 is the National Year of Reading, this is a great opportunity to make a difference in your community and to change a child's life forever.



EASY as ABC

Local volunteers are making a difference with reading skills in borough schools

With the current National Year of Reading now in full swing, a group of volunteers is helping schoolchildren to discover the delights of a good book.

Many children struggle to develop vital reading skills, but the volunteers, all local people who spend just a few hours a week in Croydon's primary schools, are making a real difference.

Volunteer Reading Help (VRH) recruits volunteers to provide reading help for six- to 11-year-olds who may lack confidence or language skills, or do not get the opportunity to read with an adult at home.

In fact, 98% of the children VRH helpers have worked with have shown an improvement, not only in their reading but in overall achievement and self confidence.

Going into school for an hour-and-a-half twice a week, they usually support three children throughout the year.

The main qualities needed are good written and spoken English, and a real commitment to stay for one year.

VRH provides training, books and games, and meets expenses. There are regular meetings and opportunities to learn and share ideas with other volunteers and develop new skills.

Some use their experience to go on to work in schools, others simply enjoy being involved in their local community and making a difference.

The charity already has several volunteers working in five primary schools in Croydon, and is looking for others so that more children can be reached.

Jan Doole, a volunteer and trustee of the charity, says: "Reading with the children at my local primary school is one of the highlights of my week.

"It's both challenging and extremely rewarding. I love it!

"We want to try to get into more schools, but to do that we need more volunteers".

As 2008 is the National Year of Reading, this is a great opportunity to make a difference in your community and to change a child's life forever.

If you have a few hours to spare, twice a week, live in the borough of Croydon, and are interested in learning more about volunteering, come along to our drop-in session on Monday, 30 June.

Staff and volunteers will be on hand at our office at 4 Lower Belgrave Street, Victoria (adjacent to Victoria station) to answer any of your questions between midday and 2pm.

If you can't make that, call **020 7730 2429**, email valerie.williams@vrh.org.uk or visit the website at www.vrh.org.uk

Volunteer Reading Help recruits volunteers to provide reading help for six- to 11-year-olds who may lack confidence or language skills, or do not get the opportunity to read with an adult at home

From here to modernity

Croydon notoriety

A second chance to see the work of the then-fledgling photographer, Frazer Ashford



As I explained last month, most of the archive pictures in this series have been selected from the images that I took for 'The Croydon Guide' between 1978 and 1982.

However, while digging into my dusty old archives, I found an unmarked film that, by a process of elimination, appears to have been shot around 1965.

This, therefore, is not only one of the first pictures that I ever took, but certainly from the first film that I developed with an Ilford Home Photo Lab kit in my bedroom.

This image is of Tamworth Road looking north toward the London Road/North End junction. Apart from the fact that the area was mainly residential then, the outstanding point of interest is on the left-hand side of the view, Croydon House.

Some 13 years earlier, on 2 November, 1952, Christopher Craig and Derek Bentley tried to break into this building, the warehouse of confectionery manufacturer and wholesaler Barlow & Parker.

The two youths were spotted climbing over the gate and up a drainpipe to the roof by a nine-year-old girl in a house across from the building, the wall of which can

still be seen on the right-hand edge of both pictures. She alerted her parents and her father called the police from the nearest telephone box.

As a result of events which are disputed to this day, Pc Sidney Miles was shot dead.

Albert Pierrepoint hanged Derek Bentley for the crime on 28 January, 1953, at Wandsworth Prison.

There have been many debates, campaigns and arguments over the judgment and the sentence, but there is no dispute that Tamworth Road has earned its place in criminal history.

For more examples of Frazer's work, visit www.frazerashford.com

I had saved my money and bought my first camera, a PlusFlex 35mm SLR, from somewhere in Holborn when I was living as a schoolboy a short distance from East Croydon station.

This is not only one of the first pictures that I ever took, but certainly from the first film that I developed with an Ilford Home Photo Lab kit in my bedroom.

Dates for your diary

Council

Deadlines for public questions for forthcoming full council meetings (all start at 6.30pm) Noon on the relevant deadline date.

Meeting

Deadline

 Monday, 14 July	Monday, 30 June
 Monday, 6 October	Monday, 22 September
 Monday, 1 December	Monday, 17 November

To submit a question (maximum number of words: 50) for consideration at a full council meeting, email it to council.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to **020 8760 5657**; print and complete the form at www.croydon.gov.uk/councilquestion and post it to Questions for the Council, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS; or call **020 8726 6000 extn 63876**

Scrutiny

Deadlines for the forthcoming scrutiny and overview committee public question sessions. Noon on the relevant deadline date.

Meeting

Deadline

Cabinet Member

1 July	Children, learning and leisure	23 June	Cllr Maria Gatland (children's services and adult learning)
15 July	Community services	7 July	Cllr Phil Thomas (environment and highways)
 22 July	Scrutiny and overview	14 July	Cllr Mike Fisher (leader of the council)

To submit a question (maximum number of words: 50) to the cabinet member detailed above, email it to scrutiny.public.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to **020 8760 5657**; post it to Scrutiny Public Questions, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS; or call **020 8726 6000 extn 62529 or 62315**.


Neighbourhood Partnership

Neighbourhood partnership meetings (all start at 7.30pm)

Meeting

Group

venue

 2 July	Coulsdon East & Coulsdon West	Coulsdon Congregational Church, Coulsdon Road, Old Coulsdon
9 July	Norbury & Upper Norwood	Norbury Manor Business & Enterprise College, Kensington Avenue, Thornton Heath
16 July	Fairfield, Heathfield & Shirley	Shirley High School, Shirley Church Road

For information on Neighbourhood Partnerships, visit the website at www.croydononline.org/neighbourhood_partnerships/, email neighbourhood.partnerships@croydon.gov.uk, write to Neighbourhood Partnerships, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS or call **020 8726 6000 extn 62564 or 62396**

Croydon Community Police Consultative Group Partnership

Meetings of the Croydon Community Police Consultative Group are held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall. All are open to the public and begin at 6.30pm. For further information, go to www.croydononline.org/ccpcg

Forthcoming meeting dates are: Wednesday, 9 July; Wednesday, 17 September; Tuesday, 25 November.

Details of all Croydon Council meetings can be found on the council website at www.croydon.gov.uk/meetingsofthecouncil

 These meetings are to be transmitted using webcasting; Neighbourhood Partnership meetings are not webcast live. They can be viewed at www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php

What's On

www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure

Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon

Ticket office: tel:020 8253 1030

Email: ticketoffice@croydon.gov.uk

Text: 07771 837121

July 08

DAVID LEAN - JUNE

Smart People 15

Mongol: The Rise to Power of Genghis Khan 15

Caramel PG

La Vie En Rose 12A

Sex and the City 15

In Search of a Midnight Kiss 15

The Edge of Love 15

Private Property 15

The Visitor 15

Female Agents 18

Let's Get Lost 15

Children's & Family Films

Air Buddies U

The Game Plan U

Nanny McPhee U

Curious George U

Nim's Island U



Sex in the City



Female Agents



The Visitor

Guided walks in July

Saturday 5 July

Summer wildflower walk,
Selsdon Wood

Saturday 12 July

10am, car park
Story time in Selsdon Wood

Friday 18 July

21.30pm, end of Dunmail Drive
Bats and glow worms over
Riddlesdown

Saturday 19 July

2 to 4pm, Millers Pond
Millers Pond open day

Saturday 26 July

10am, junction Queenhill
and Littleheath Road
Littleheath in leaf



Saturday 26 July

10am, car park
Butterflies in Selsdon Wood

Sunday 27 July

Hutchinson's Bank, 11am to 3pm
Family fun and reserve open day;
meet the sheep

Museum of Croydon Exhibition

The Art of Dr. Seuss

Until 20 September 11am- 5pm

Dr. Seuss has been delighting children and helping them learn to read for more than 50 years with his unique combination of hilarious stories, zany pictures and riotous rhymes. However, his "secret art" gives us an insight into his private thoughts and inspirations and shows us artworks he rarely, if ever, exhibited during his lifetime.



Discover all this and more throughout this special exhibition featuring an incredible range of prints, poetry, advertisements, cartoons, magazine cover designs, secret art and "unorthodox taxidermy" sculpture from the world's most celebrated author of children's literature.

Families can discover Dr. Seuss anew in our special Dr. Seuss Reading Room where they can relax on a beanbag with a book. Look out for the exciting Seussian-linked activities in the Clocktower and a Croydon library near you.

Exhibition brought to you by
the Animation Art Gallery -
www.ArYouGrewUpWith.com™
& © 1957 Dr. Seuss Enterprises,
L.P. All Rights Reserved The Art
of Dr. Seuss: retrospective and
international touring exhibition



Live Performance - July

Children's Theatre

Brilliant

Tuesday 1 July 1.30pm,

Wednesday 2 July 10.30am & 1.30pm

Thursday 3 July

10.30am, Friday 4 July 10.30am

For three- to four-year-olds. Moments of darkness make it unsuitable for children under three years

Dazzling theatre for the very young, with live music, beautiful lighting and captivating imagery. Imagine it's bedtime. Imagine it's time to turn out the light. Imagine the moon outside, and the stars, bright. Imagine the flickering of a thousand candles, or the sparkle of a grand chandelier. Imagine being in a place that is made of light. Imagine how brilliant that would be **£5.80 (£4.80)**

For further information of these and other walks and wildlife, go to
www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/events or call the community
partnership officer on 020 8726 6900 ext 64952

Croydon Adult Learning and Training
providing opportunities for you.

Look out for the new CALAT Course Directory
available from Mon 30 June 2008

Enrol on a CALAT course

Call 0870 556 1630



Gain new skills

Get a qualification

Learn for Leisure

Bringing learning to life

calat@croydon.gov.uk www.calat.ac.uk

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