

# YourCroydon

ISSUE 22 - OCTOBER 2008

*'A place to be proud of'*



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## Doing our bit

The purchase of a home is traditionally seen as a sign of a person's, or a family's, stability; of putting down roots. Sadly, in these uncertain economic times, those roots suddenly seem to have been planted in shifting sands.

The credit crunch, which many experts believe is set to continue for some time yet, has seen the value of homes in Croydon, and across the country, fall.

Indeed, house prices are estimated to be falling at their fastest for almost 20 years.

A knock-on effect is the impact all this is having on the mortgage market. The number of mortgages being offered is smaller than it has been for decades, making it harder than ever for first-time buyers to get their feet on the first rung of the home-ownership ladder.

Young people hoping to take that first step are now having to find ever-larger deposits. Many lenders are now asking for 25% of the purchase price, and with the average first-timer's house in London now topping the £200,000 mark, raising the necessary is no easy matter.

And, even if they are successful in scraping together the required amount, there's no guarantee that their application for a mortgage will be approved.

The government has introduced measures that it feels will alleviate the situation, but it's unclear whether this will make any difference to Croydon.

The council, though, is only too aware of the pain being felt by many residents. That is why we are engaged in the largest council house-building programme in the borough for some 20 years.

This will see an increase in the number of council houses being made available, giving more people the chance of living in modern, clean and safe homes – at realistic rents that won't break the bank.

The first of these new homes is set for completion in May. Currently, three sites are under development – in Sumner Gardens, Broad Green; and Frensham Drive and Dunley Drive, Fieldway – and will provide 26 new houses.

The first phase, taking in a fourth site, will eventually offer new homes to 32 families; families that might otherwise have faced a bleak future, living in cramped, unsuitable and over-priced accommodation.

Croydon Council would be able to do an awful lot more if the government allowed us to borrow money without penalty, but, while we may not have a quick and easy answer to the current housing problems, we've listened to your concerns and we're doing our best to help.

**Dudley Mead**  
Deputy leader and cabinet member for housing

# Rising to the challenge

## Youngsters are invited to take part in a scheme designed to bring out their best

Feelings of self-worth and confidence, along with life and learning skills, are among the valuable attributes youngsters can gain by taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

Running in Croydon for more than 20 years, the DofE, as it's affectionately known, can be accessed through a range of schools and youth organisations.

The value of participating in the scheme is acknowledged by colleges, universities and employers who all recognise the positive impact it can make on young people.

The Youth Service also values the award highly because it is an accredited programme which engages a great many young people while, at the same time, clearly supporting the government's Every Child Matters scheme.

Presenting a personal challenge, rather than a competition, the DofE is a programme of activities undertaken by young people, aged from 14 to 25, in their spare time. It provides them with a sense of responsibility, and the confidence and ability to make decisions.

Programmes are tailor-made to reflect individual starting points, abilities and interests and the scheme requires personal commitment, involvement and motivation.

About 350 young people receive awards at Croydon's annual civic presentation ceremony.

Young people who would like to enrol or find out more about the DofE are invited to a presentation evening on 24 September, from 7.30 to 8.30pm, at Lanfranc Youth Wing, Archbishop Lanfranc School, Mitcham Road.

Enrolment will take place that evening, and over the following two weeks.



The Open Award Centre provides a full bronze, silver and gold programme and, funding permitting, it is hoped that expeditions to some exotic locations will be on offer in the future.

DofE in Croydon is closely linked with the Croydon Adventure Project, and it is anticipated that even more adventurous activities will be offered as part of the award.

For more information, call the Award Officer on **020 8688 3544** or **020 8689 8813**.

Alternatively, write to The Award Office, Lanfranc Youth Wing, Mitcham Road, Croydon CR9 3AS.

## Your Croydon, your place

### What do you think of Croydon as a place to live?

As part of a national scheme, Croydon Council and the local strategic partnership will be inviting a sample of local residents to tell us about their views of the borough.

As part of the Place Survey, every council in England will be asking the same set of questions to local residents so that the results can be compared.

In Croydon, up to 5,000 local residents will receive a questionnaire through the post in late September or early October.

Questions will cover a range of local services, and ask residents what are the most important issues for the borough.

As only 6,000 questionnaires can be sent out it is vital that those who receive one take part and complete the questionnaire.

The results will be central to the way in which Croydon is viewed by the government.

If you receive an invitation to participate in the Place Survey, please consider taking part as you will be making a real difference to the future of Croydon.

## Reassurance at the turn of a page

### A new library service will help people cope with minor problems and improve their mental wellbeing

Presenting a prescription from your GP at the library may not be the traditional way of borrowing books, but a new scheme to be introduced later this month could see this method becoming more common.

Croydon Libraries, with the Healthy Croydon Partnership and Croydon PCT, is launching the Books on Prescription scheme with the aim of improving the mental wellbeing of borough residents.

Under the initiative, a GP treating a patient with a mild-to-moderate mental health issue – such as anxiety, obsessive behaviour, eating disorders or panic attacks – may decide that a self-help book is the best method of addressing the issue.

The GP will then write a prescription for a particular book title, which can be borrowed from any of the Croydon's 13 libraries.

The books can be found in the healthy living section of the libraries.

If the person is not a member of the library, they simply show the prescription or one item of ID bearing their name and address, and they can join and borrow the book straight away.



Croydon's libraries have so much to offer, including a wonderful selection of books; free access to the internet; reading groups; IT classes; and free advice on learning and work through Nextstep advisers.

There is also a range of activities for the family, including rhyme times for the very young, story times, family reading groups and teenage reading groups.

For more information about the Books on Prescription scheme and Croydon libraries, visit [www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk) and follow the link from the home page, or call **020 8726 6900**.

The Books on Prescription service will be launched on 22 October.



# WEEE initiative brings big success

**Residents are recycling more electrical and electronic goods, smashing national targets**

The EC directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) was introduced with the aim of reducing the amount of waste generated from electrical and electronic equipment.

One year on, changes made to help residents have proved successful in bringing the amount of WEEE waste collected in Croydon per head to 4.75 kg – beating the national target 4 kg per head by a fantastic 18%.

Facilities at the council's three reuse and recycling centres at Factory Lane, Fishers Farm and Purley Oaks have been improved to make it easier for residents to dispose of items ranging from televisions to electric toothbrushes.

All items are collected, dismantled and recycled where possible. For example, PC monitors and TVs go to Light Brothers which uses specialist staff and technology to process equipment.



The council charges £15 per visit to collect domestic white goods – call 020 8726 6200 or visit [www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk) for more details.

Figures from the first year of WEEE collection show that the council collected 9,133 fridges and 5,882 large domestic products, such as cookers and washing machines.

More than 21,000 TVs and monitors were also collected, with collections peaking in the months after Christmas, suggesting residents may have treated themselves or family members to more up-to-date models at that time.

# PCs are easy-peasy with EasyPC

**Be sure your computer skills are up to the job**

Career change. New job. Running a business.

All of the above, and more besides in these computer-controlled times, are likely to require some small degree of IT skill.

If your skills could do with a bit of a brush-up, Croydon's library service could have the answer.

If you need to improve your IT skills to change your career, help you find a job or run your business more efficiently, training company Easy PC is providing flexible IT classes at the Central and Thornton Heath libraries.



The courses offer the chance for you to learn and improve your skills in a relaxed atmosphere.

And for those keen to go that step further, they can study to complete the ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) course.

For more information on IT classes provided by Easy PC, call **020 8684 4414**.

# Cooking up a storm

**A month of events is set to put Croydon on the food map**



Culinary talents will be under the spotlight as, over the coming month, Croydon Food Festival gives the public a chance to sample the range of delights on offer across the borough.

A number of events and activities will be taking place, and, with specialist markets planned for North End, visitors will be able to sample foods from around the globe.

Demonstration kitchens set up in Whitgift Shopping Centre will be the focal point, with an opportunity for chefs (celebrity or otherwise) and other food professionals to showcase their skills.

In addition to local produce, a number of Fairtrade products and organic foods will also be on offer as part of an ongoing programme to encourage restaurants within the local community to work with Fairtrade and locally sourced produce.

Running throughout October and set to coincide not only with half term but with a number of events which are also taking place (including Black History Month and National Chocolate Week), Croydon Food Festival is sure to be a big hit.

Businesses keen to become involved with sponsorship, restaurant offers or any of the other events (including demonstrations in the Whitgift demo kitchens) should contact Angela Reed at [areed@croydonbusiness.com](mailto:areed@croydonbusiness.com) or by calling **020 8680 6104**.

For more information visit the website [www.croydonfoodfestival.com](http://www.croydonfoodfestival.com)

# Protocol set for sudden-death tributes

## Council lays down guidelines for roadside memorials

New guidelines for the sensitive treatment of roadside shrines that often accompany sudden deaths have been developed in Croydon.

Adoption of the procedures follows consultation between Croydon Council, local police and Transport for London, and research undertaken in other London boroughs.

In the absence of any known procedures adopted by other public organisations in dealing with floral tributes, Croydon concluded that a common approach would not be entirely suitable and that each public fatality needed to be handled individually.

The council also recognises that such incidents require both sensitivity and consistency.

Underpinning the council's stance is the viewpoint that no permanent displays will be allowed at the roadside.

However, although the council says it is not appropriate to have a set time in respect of how long tributes should be left in place, generally they would not be removed until after a funeral has taken place.

Only if tributes were of such a scale that they were causing an obstruction, or if they featured inflammatory messages or insignia, would they be removed or shifted at an earlier stage.

The removal of shrines would always be done in consultation with the family of the deceased, often through the police family liaison officer, who would ascertain views and ensure they are followed if possible.

Plaques and cards will always be passed on to the family.

It is hoped that, through adopting these guidelines, and letting people know of them, the council will be able to give some comfort to all involved in these unhappy situations.

# Baby bookworms get first certificates

## An enjoyment of books kick-started for borough's youngest readers

Babies and toddlers who took part in Croydon libraries' Bookstart Book Crawl were guests of honour to receive their certificates from the Deputy Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Robert Askey.

The Bookstart Book Crawl, which took place over the summer in all Croydon libraries, is designed to introduce babies and toddlers to books and reading.

To be eligible to receive a certificate, parents enjoyed sharing four books with their babies.

This summer, all libraries ran a special weekly Bookstart Book Crawl morning which proved very popular.

Croydon libraries welcome children aged under five, and offer weekly Rhyme times for babies, Wiggle & Jiggle sessions for toddlers, and Storytimes for preschool children.

This year's events ran as part of The National Year of Reading, a nationwide campaign promoting the power of reading to change the lives of individuals and communities.



As well as celebrating reading for purpose and pleasure and the reading of all texts across the media, it creates opportunities to motivate the wider community to start reading – or to read more.

For more information, visit [www.yearofreading.org.uk](http://www.yearofreading.org.uk)

# A home for the future

## Croydon's newest housing facility for older people has opened its doors

Having recently celebrated their Diamond Wedding, and with a card from the Queen to mark the event, Alec and Doris Taylor were keen not to be parted when the time came for them to consider sheltered accommodation.

Croydon Council was more than happy to listen to their request and the couple, who originally saw the news about the opening of Fellows Court reported in Your Croydon, became the first tenants of the new facility in Morland Road, Addiscombe.

Mr Taylor (pictured with a photograph of his and Mrs Taylor's wedding day), speaking on the couple's second day in their new home, said: "It's marvellous.

"I read so much about it, I thought it couldn't be that good, but we're very pleasantly surprised. It's very nice and well thought out."

Part of Croydon Council's ground-breaking Homes for the Future initiative, Fellows Court

has been designed to meet the needs of frail older people, allowing them to live full, independent lives in their own flats.

The development is one of four such sheltered accommodation schemes in the borough.





# Stub it out

Croydon's Stop Smoking Service has established more clinics around the borough, 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.

## New clinics to give smokers free support to get off cigarettes

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 2pm – 5pm	Parkway Health Centre, New Addington	To book, call Parkway on <b>01689 842554</b>
Tuesdays 4pm to 5.30pm	Croydon Town Hall - for pregnant ladies	To book, call Sonia on <b>020 8274 6390 or 0800 019 8570</b>
Tuesdays 3.30pm – 6.30pm	Walk-in Centre, High Street, Croydon	Drop in anytime between 3.30pm and 6.30pm
Tuesdays 6.30pm to 7.30pm	Fieldway Talkbus (under 25s)	Just drop in
Wednesdays 10am to 11.30am	Croydon Town Hall, Katharine Street	Just drop in
Wednesdays 4.30pm to 6pm	Croydon Town Hall, Katharine Street	Just drop in
Wednesdays 1pm to 3pm	Fieldway Family Centre	Just drop in
Thursdays 10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm	Parkway Health Centre, New Addington	To book, call Parkway <b>01689 842554</b>
Thursdays 1.30pm – 5pm	Antenatal clinic, Mayday Hospital	Appointment only call <b>0800 019 8570</b>



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 E. [sales@sharedhorizons.org.uk](mailto:sales@sharedhorizons.org.uk)  
 T. 020 8726 8839

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**sharedhorizons**  
 Home Ownership from AmicusHorizon



"He is testament to the fact that it's never too late to learn and he's truly deserving of this success."

# Calat learner wins national award

## Father of four proves it's never too late to learn

A lone parent who, a little over a year ago couldn't read or write, is one of seven winners in a national literacy competition.

Jamaican-born Calbert Williams, 37, from Shrublands, attends English classes with Croydon Adult Learning and Training (Calat) and had his piece of writing picked from hundreds of entries to appear in the Voices on the Page project.

Voices on the Page was launched in 2006 to encourage adults in literacy classes throughout England to write and share stories and poems.

Calbert was inspired to write his text, Talking about reading and writing, when he saw the published anthology that contained last year's entries. His writing will appear in the 2008 edition.

Calbert said: "People look at you as if you're nothing when they find out you can't read and write.

"I've always wanted to learn but it took me a couple of years to pluck up the courage to enrol on the course.

"Now I can write a proper sentence and it's really built my confidence. I want to carry on and to let people like me know that the teachers aren't monsters and that it doesn't matter what age you are, you can still learn."

Tutor Julie Meredith said: "It's been wonderful to see how winning this competition has boosted Calbert's confidence.

"He is testament to the fact that it's never too late to learn and he's truly deserving of this success."

Calat offers a range of free day and evening English and maths courses across the borough, including in the workplace and in a number of community venues.

For more information, call **0870 556 1630** or visit [www.calat.ac.uk](http://www.calat.ac.uk)



Practical help and advice on mobile computer use for silver surfers

## Old is gold

### The borough gets ready to celebrate older people

The beginning of October is notable for two events of particular interest to Croydon's senior residents.

In addition to the celebration of International Older People's Day, 1 October sees the publication of Croydon Council's older people's strategy.

And the theme will be continuing with the hosting of a special week, commencing Monday, 13 October, in which older people themselves have been involved in the planning and organisation, which will celebrate the lives and achievements of the older people of Croydon.

Celebrations and events are scheduled to be held at different venues around the borough throughout the week, with a main event at Fairfield Halls on Thursday, 16 October, to launch the older people's strategy.

As Your Croydon went to press, final details had not been agreed, but it is hoped the week's events may include:

- healthy lifestyles information, with promotions and taster sessions on sloppy slippers, seated exercises, advice from dieticians, healthy drinks, low-impact exercises;
- advice on preventing isolation and promoting positive health;
- exhibitions and displays of arts and crafts, music, talks and movement;
- personal and local history, incorporating photos, stories and memories;
- practical help and advice on mobile computer use for silver surfers.

If you or your organisation has any ideas, events or celebrations you would like to include in this notable week, email either Jan Bannister or Jayne Brown at [jan.bannister@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:jan.bannister@croydon.gov.uk) or [jayne.brown@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:jayne.brown@croydon.gov.uk)

Alternatively, call **020 8726 6500**, extn **63812** or **62976**; or write to: Jan Bannister or Jayne Brown, 11th floor south-east quadrant, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3JS.



# Are you registered to vote?

**Croydon Electoral Services is updating the Register of Electors, and we answer some of your questions on this important process**

## **What is the Register of Electors?**

This is a list of all eligible residents registered to vote. All British and Irish citizens, and citizens of all other European Union and Commonwealth countries are able to register to vote.

Currently, more than 249,000 residents are registered to vote in Croydon.

## **When is the Register of Electors updated?**

It is completely updated every autumn, and published at the beginning of December, with monthly revisions from January to September.

## **How do you make sure that you are registered to vote?**

During August, a household registration form was sent to every address in Croydon.

The form listed the names of those persons currently registered to vote at the address. Every address must respond to this form.

- If there are no changes to the information printed on your form, you can either sign and send back your form, or confirm there are no changes using the internet or freephone registration services (information on how to use these services was delivered with the form).
- If the information printed on the form is incorrect, change the form: cross out the names of anyone who should not be registered at your address, add the names and nationalities of anyone who is missing. Then sign and return your form.
- If you have lost your form, don't worry. You can contact electoral services and a replacement form will be sent.

Electoral Registration canvassers will also be visiting addresses that have not responded to the registration form during October.

Each canvasser will carry photographic ID, which they must present on visiting an address.



For further information, visit [www.croydon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/elections)

Alternatively, you can email electoral services at [electoral.services@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@croydon.gov.uk) or call **020 8726 6300**.

## **Why is it important to register to vote?**

- Your opinion won't count if you are not registered to vote. If you are not on the Register of Electors, you will not be able to vote in elections that take place in Croydon. The next scheduled elections are for the European Parliament on 4 June 2009.
- The law says that you must do so. Even if you do not intend to vote, you must complete and return the electoral registration form every year. If you do not register you could be fined up to £1,000.
- You may have difficulty obtaining credit or opening a bank account. The information contained in the Register of Electors is used by credit referencing agencies to verify your address. If they cannot do so, you may have difficulty obtaining credit or other financial services.
- Getting access to other services. The Register of Electors is also used by the council to verify residents' addresses. If this cannot be done, residents may have difficulty obtaining services.

The law says that you must do so. Even if you do not intend to vote, you must complete and return the electoral registration form every year. If you do not register you could be fined up to £1,000.



If you have lost your form, don't worry. You can contact electoral services and a replacement form will be sent.



# An Apetito

**Back in March, Meals on Wheels in Croydon underwent a huge revamp – first reports indicate it's been a great success**

All service users will have the chance to win a day out to remember with their family.

The introduction of the new Apetito Meals-on-Wheels service has provided extra flexibility to meet clients' needs, a greater choice of food and, most importantly, a positive response from its customers.

At the start of this new contract, Apetito – the chosen contractor – provided meals to some 450 people who were assessed by social services as being in need of a meal-delivery service.

Six months on, this figure has grown to more than 500, which, in part, is due to the availability both of a seven-day week service to all who require it, and the greater choice and quality provided.

Residents have been enjoying a meal service that has given them a greater choice over what they eat and how it is cooked.

On offer is a range of nutritionally balanced meals which includes halal, kosher, and African and Caribbean speciality dishes and seasonal salads.

Also available are frozen meals. Customers choosing this option have several meals delivered at once, giving them the freedom to choose which meal they want to eat each day, and at a time that suits them.

People who opt for the frozen food service are provided with a freezer and microwave oven at no additional cost.

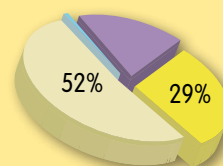
A customer survey conducted in May saw 305 forms distributed and 173 returned – 56% of the total.

As part of the national Community Meals on Wheels Week, running from Monday 6 to Sunday 12 October, Apetito will be staging a Days to Remember competition.

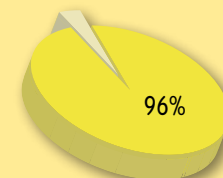


## The illustrative pie charts show that:

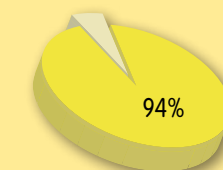
- more than 80% feel the service overall is good or excellent



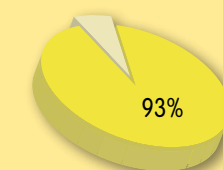
- 96% feel the meal is good value for money



- 94% say the meals look appetising



- 93% are satisfied with the variety of meals available.



Additionally, 13% of those who responded indicated an interest in other service options, including breakfast and teatime deliveries.

This supports the council's desire to develop a range of options in order to provide a truly flexible and innovative service.

The council and Apetito are currently working toward extending the service to the general public, providing the opportunity, for those who prefer not to come through the council, to access the service.

It will be attractive to those who want to pay for the service or would like to purchase additional meals on top of their usual delivery, so that they can entertain family and guests in their own home.



# for change

## Water of life

Apetito is currently piloting a rehydration programme within the borough.

With the council's backing, the company has taken the initiative and responded to government and agency recommendations to get service users to drink more water and fluids.

It has been found that, because of an unawareness of the need to regularly drink water, dehydration can be a particular problem among older people, leading to possible health implications.

To combat the problem, and to raise the levels of awareness, Apetito has distributed a number of sports-type water bottles, along with instructions on use and recommended daily intake of water, among its customers.

It is hoped the rehydration programme will see a reduction in the likelihood of dehydration among customers, especially during spells of hot weather.

For further information on any of the company's services, visit the Apetito website at [www.apetito.co.uk](http://www.apetito.co.uk) or phone **020 8688 1636** for more details.



Additionally, 13% of those who responded indicated an interest in other service options, including breakfast and teatime deliveries.

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# croydon ecoexpo 2008



**Between 17 and 27 October, Croydon's Eco Expo will inspire and celebrate sustainable living**

**Are you ready to play a key role in creating a low-carbon future for Croydon?**

Finding answers to climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our century, so come and be part of these powerful events.

## 15 - 27 October

### Eco Home

#### North End

Come and visit an example Eco Home in North End. Advice on home energy, recycling, saving water and protecting the planet!

## Saturday, 18 October



### Public launch

10:00am - 5:00pm

Whitgift Shopping Centre | North End

Team Extreme, the UK's only professional team for BMX, skateboarding and inline skating displays, performers and coaches. Many of whom hold world and European titles. Come along to this alternative freestyle sports event, full of urban creativity.

Extreme athletes showcase complex moves, set to music, on a mini-ramp. They will also provide skills-training workshops geared toward teaching young

people how to ride or skate safely, encouraging an active lifestyle. A great day out!

### Eco music fest

8:00pm | The Green Dragon | 50-60 High Street

The Green Dragon presents an extravaganza of fantastic live music, while, at the same time, supporting the planet.

## Sunday, 19 October



### Indecent exposure to Carbon

1:00 - 3:00pm

Start: The Queen's Gardens | Katharine Street

The wildest event of the year! We expose our underwear to draw attention to the negative environmental and social impacts of a car-dominated culture. Ride your, or anyone's, bike and make a wheel difference. To register call **07958 397794** or email **expo@croydon.gov.uk**

## 20 - 25 October



### Croydon Food Festival

10:00am - 5:00pm | North End

A fantastic selection of foods. What a delightful way to shop. Explore the vibrancy and tastes of Fairtrade and organic produce.

## 21 - 25 October



### Envibe business workshops and events

9:00am - 5:00pm | various locations

Businesses in Croydon that want to make positive improvements to their environmental performance can receive support and recognition through Envibe. Launched in 2004, the partnership supports local environmental actions, which could be implemented into each business. For more information

and bookings, call Debbie Clement on **020 8726 6000 extn 61420** or email **Debbie@envibe.co.uk**

## Thursday, 23 October

### Eco Citizen Award Ceremony

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. | Amhem Gallery | Fairfield Halls

The Deputy Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Robert Askey, will acknowledge the commitment of Eco Citizens. There have been more than 70 nominations. Come and meet the participants and congratulate the winners. Space is limited, so please book your seat. Call Rupa **020 8760 6000** or email **rupa.cook@croydon.gov.uk**



### Waste not, wear it! fashion show opening the ceremony

Roll out the carpet. Green is the new black! Revamp fashion designers will present exciting innovative creations made from recycled materials.

One-of-a-kind garments, the outfits are made of anything from plastics and paper to factory off-cuts. This will be worth standing still for and recycling your clothes.

## Thursday, 23 October



### Film: Grow Your Own

8:15pm | David Lean Cinema

Clocktower | Katharine Street

A British comedy, in the vein of Brassed Off and Calendar Girls, by acclaimed screenwriter Frank Cottrell, featuring a stellar cast, including the wonderful Eddie Marsan.

## Friday, 24 October

### Fairtrade at Chefs

12 noon - 2.00pm | Chefs Restaurant | Croydon College, Park Lane

The Croydon Fairtrade Network invite you to a Fairtrade 'eat as much as you like' buffet for just £8 a head. Chefs will be running a special one-day menu containing as many Fairtrade products and ingredients as possible - everyone welcome. Advance booking would be appreciated, for tickets contact **info@fair-enough.co.uk**, or just turn up on the day.





### Composting class

10:00am & 2:00pm | Spa Hill | Upper Norwood

Composting is nature's way of recycling. By using the natural process of decomposition, organic materials often considered "waste" – such as grass clippings, food scraps, autumn leaves and, even, paper – can be recycled into a nutritious soil conditioner. Anything that once was living will decompose. These sessions will cover everything from using plastic 'dalek' bins in small gardens up to our medium-sized allotment operation, which uses 8 cubic metre bins. Demonstrations galore. Rain or shine.

Call Jack 020 8653 5636 or email: [jackds@spahill.org.uk](mailto:jackds@spahill.org.uk)

## Saturday, 25 October

### Farmers' market

10:00am - 5:00pm | Coulsdon

Environmentally sound British food and drink. Local farmers' markets offer a fantastic selection of organic foods.



### Waste not, wear it! finale

2:00pm | Centrale Atrium | North End

Chantal Cooke, co-founder of Passion for the Planet, the UK's green radio station will be the MC and present awards to the three top designers. Revamp fashion will present one-of-a-kind garments. A show not to be missed! You can listen to Passion for the Planet on DAB radio, and on the internet at [www.passionfortheplanet.com](http://www.passionfortheplanet.com)

## Sunday, 26 October

### Eco music fest.

6:00pm - late | Black Sheep Bar | 68 High Street

Two stages, DJs, live bands, local artwork, grass, nibbles and piles of rubbish ... you will be entertained! This event is hosted by The King of Croydon hip-hop, Oliver Sudden, and features music from: Size Nine, Wonk Unit, Yookay and more. Entry: £3 – please bring ID. For more information visit [www.blacksheepbar.com](http://www.blacksheepbar.com)

## Sunday, 26 October



### Happy Eco Garden

11:00am – 3:00pm | 13 - 27 Moore Road

Visit local community garden, while sipping heated apple juice to warm your insides.

## Monday, 27 October

### Environment and Climate Change Partnership

10:00am | Braithwaite Hall | Katharine Street

Mark Edwards' startlingly original presentation, Hard Rain, explores the state of the world at this critical time. The combined problems of climate change, poverty and the sixth great extinction are shown alongside innovative solutions being developed by businesses. This will urge us to be part of the solutions that will define the 21st century. This invitation-only session launches the new Environment and Climate Change Partnership, that will lead Croydon beyond Carbon. For more information on the partnership call Kia Colbeck on 020 8726 6000 extn 63849 or email [Kia.Colbeck@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Kia.Colbeck@croydon.gov.uk)

## Throughout October

### Sustainable Secrets

Cherry Orchard Road hoardings | Whitgift Shopping Centre, second floor

An inspiring photographic exhibition demonstrating the achievements of Croydon's sustainable developments. Stunning photography that will take your breath away.

Dr. Green



# Surgery is open...

Welcome eco-patients. The sustainable surgery of Dr Green is now open. Here is a selection of the problems that have been presented.

*Hello Doctor,*

*It's a bit embarrassing, but, to be honest, I don't really care that much about the environment. I'm just a normal person that's interested in saving money. What can you suggest?* Mrs E Seacombe.

*Well, Mrs S, the good news is that there are lots of simple changes you can make that are not only free, but will actually save you money immediately.*

**Remedy:**

- turn your heating down and turn lights off in empty rooms.
- don't leave anything on standby.
- don't fill the kettle – boil only the water you need.
- don't buy fruit and veg out of season – it will have come a long way.
- recycle your waste paper, glass, cans and plastic.
- hire or borrow things you will use infrequently.
- avoid unnecessarily over-packaged goods.
- avoid patio heaters, leaf blowers, gas barbeques, big TVs.
- repair appliances/furniture, or donate them.

*Hello Doctor*

*I'd like to do what I can, but with rising energy and food prices, can I really afford to think about the environment, too?* Mr E Zeego.

*Unfortunately, rising prices mean that if you do nothing it's still going to cost you more, so why not invest to save?*

**Remedy:**

- Insulate your home – start with loft, windows, doors and cavity walls. Visit [www.keepecroydonwarm.com](http://www.keepecroydonwarm.com) or call 0845 971 7731 and quote ref CCCT for a special offer – £100 off your Council Tax if you insulate your home through this scheme.
- Replace your incandescent bulbs because most energy is wasted as heat. Visit [www.energyadvise.com](http://www.energyadvise.com) or call 0800 512 012 for free advice.
- Compost organic waste, grow your own veg.
- Take on an allotment with like-minded friends.
- Change to a totally renewable electricity tariff.
- Use trains – enjoy the journey.

*Hello Doctor,*

*I already know a bit about global warming, and do what I can to reduce my personal impact. How can I make sure I'm doing everything possible and avoid becoming complacent?* Mr B Smart.

*Well Mr S, you are taking responsibility for your actions, and have clearly benefited from a belief in the power of the individual to effect change.*

**Remedy:**

- I would suggest you check your carbon footprint, visit [www.actonco2.direct.gov.uk](http://www.actonco2.direct.gov.uk)
- In your spare moments you could also browse:
- [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/)
- [www.cen.org.uk/](http://www.cen.org.uk/)
- [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)

*And please remember, patients, a positive state of mind enables a speedy recovery, so avoid doom, avoid apathy. Do something. Anything!*

*Good health to you all!*

Dr Green

# Happy first

## One year on from launch, what impact have neighbourhood enforcement officers had on the borough?

**It is a year since Croydon Council launched its neighbourhood enforcement officers scheme with a view to its combating crime, antisocial behaviour and environmental offences.**

The first recruits to the team numbered 10 but that has since grown to a current total of 19, with a full complement of 29 in 2009.



As an integral element of the Safer Croydon Radio network, Neos pass intelligence and sightings to the police and traders.

### **Before taking to the streets, new recruits undertake a robust training programme that sees them instructed in:**

- enforcement;
- issuing fixed penalty notices;
- evidence gathering;
- report and statement writing;
- taking witness statements;
- conflict management;
- drug and alcohol awareness;
- first aid;
- noise pollution;
- antisocial behaviour legislation;
- dealing with vulnerable persons;
- mental health awareness; and
- licensing issues.

Fully integrated with police safer neighbourhood teams (SNT), the neighbourhood enforcement officers (Neos) provide a joint council-police resource to tackle crime.

They attend police briefings, are tasked on a daily basis by SNT sergeants, and use powers to investigate incidents of crime, gather evidence, interview witnesses, and attend court as professional witnesses.

They promote preventative measures to deter antisocial behaviour, while also using a wide range of legislation – including issuing fixed penalty notices, and taking appropriate enforcement action to deal with environmental issues such as graffiti, fly-tipping, trade and domestic waste, dog fouling, litter, and nuisance/abandoned vehicles.

It has been a busy time for the Neos and the team has bonded well with the police and other partner agencies in tackling quality-of-life issues that affect us all.

### **On environmental issues, Neos have:**

- reported 239 incidents of graffiti;
- dealt with 12 abandoned vehicles;
- handled 64 incidents of fly-tipping; and
- issued 116 fixed penalty notices.

They have been proactive in educating the public on littering offences, including the dropping of cigarette ends and chewing gum, both classed as litter under Section 88 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Residents and members of the public have acknowledged a more robust approach to street drinking in the town centre, and the Neos' presence and intervention have resulted in a decrease in illegal street trading.

An increase in the number of Big Issue sellers within central Croydon has led to an agreement from the publishing company to revoke the licence of those selling illegally in Croydon.

Successful outcomes have resulted in an Antisocial Behaviour Order being served on one individual, while another was convicted of a public order offence. Both were based on intelligence gathered and evidence given at court by Neos, proving the effectiveness of a joint-agency approach.





# birthday Neos



Neos have been proactive in the early-intervention initiative of Acceptable Behaviour Agreements (ABAs) in identifying young individuals to sign up to this voluntary agreement so that they take responsibility for their antisocial behaviour. The Neos, while monitoring the perpetrators, also offer advice and support to these individuals.

As an integral element of the Safer Croydon Radio network, Neos pass intelligence and sightings to the police and traders, and, with the aid of data-protected target files, identify and deter prolific offenders.

Weekend late-night revellers in the town centre have benefited from the Neo-stewarded taxi marshal service, recently rebranded Cabsafe Croydon and run in conjunction with the Croydon Business Improvement District team.

Neos visit schools, and community and faith groups, where they outline their roles, describe their daily work lives and offer reassurance. They also attend Safer Neighbourhood Panel meetings, Neighbourhood Partnership meetings and residents' associations gatherings.

Successful outcomes have resulted in an Anti Social Behaviour Order being served on one individual, while another was convicted of a public order offence.

## Other work undertaken by Neos during their first operational year includes:

- Operation Gerstan, leading to a commendation from Croydon police for Neos' outstanding contribution toward the success of this high-profile Christmas season reassurance initiative for shoppers, night-time visitors and users of public transport;
- assurance visits to those in the community who have been victims of crime;
- active involvement in a knife arch project at Croydon schools;
- attendance at six class-A drug premises closures;
- active participation in a multi-agency fireworks campaign;
- joining trading standards officers in licensing inspections;
- undertaking two town-centre seizures of counterfeit goods;
- serving an injunction in partnership with the council's housing department; and
- involvement in Operation Blunt 2 knife-crime initiative.

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"My partner Anna was pregnant when I went away, and my daughter Chloe was born four weeks after I returned, which was the best welcome home present a man could ever wish for."

# Honouring Croydon's military volunteers



## Borough's reservists to take salute in town-centre parade

The borough's servicemen and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan are to be honoured with a military parade through central Croydon on 12 October.

Territorial Army reservists attached to 31 Signals Regiment, Royal Yeomanry, 151 RLC and the Paras, all based in Croydon, will take part.

Alongside the Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Jonathan Driver, dignitaries and guests are expected to include: the Queen's representative in the borough, the Deputy Lieutenant for Croydon, Colonel Iain McRobbie; regimental commanding officers; overall service chiefs of London's reserve forces; and other senior representatives of the armed forces.

Reservists train to carry out the same roles as their full-time counterparts and augment the regulars when operational demands require it, especially in long-running campaigns.

As a result, reservists have been called upon to play an increasingly heavy role in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

The parade is expected to be headed by the Royal Yeomanry Band, followed by 100 marching soldiers in a mix of service/combat 95s and desert uniform, and a number of military vehicles.

### 151 (London) Transport Regiment

Privates Nathan Lewington and Erol Christie served a six-month tour in Afghanistan from October 2007 to April 2008.

**When not on duty, Private Nathan Lewington, 25, is a travel insurance supervisor.**

He said: "I come from West Wickham and have served as a chef in the Territorial Army for four years. "I recently returned from Afghanistan where I was attached to the brigade field kitchen.

"We worked long hours, in very difficult conditions, providing food to 1,000 operational troops. "The tour went quickly and I gained a lot of experience.

"My partner Anna was pregnant when I went away, and my daughter Chloe was born four weeks after I returned, which was the best welcome home present a man could ever wish for."

**Private Erol Christie, 36, is a furniture polisher from Croydon**

He said: "I've been a chef in the TA for five years.

"My wife and family were very supportive during my tour of Afghanistan, as was my employer. "When I returned, I slipped back into civilian life as if I'd never been away."

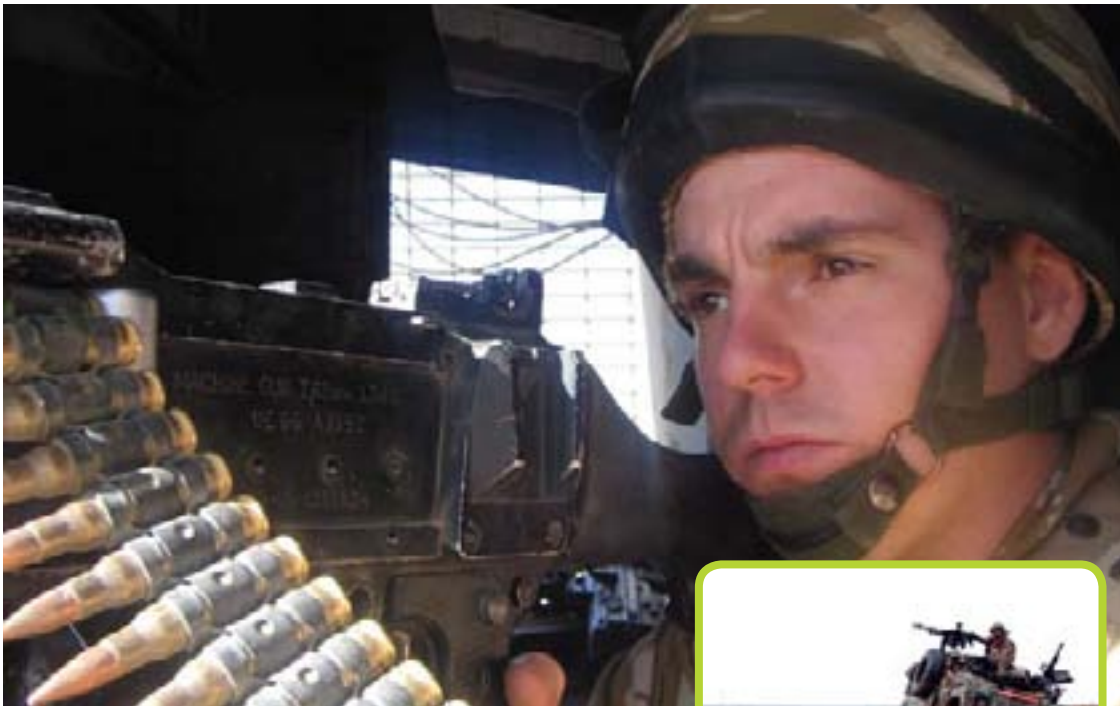
### Parade schedule

**Timings:** 09.30am Muster in North End  
09.45am Mayor of Croydon to be driven to start point in army vehicle  
10.00am Step off from North End to Town Hall  
10.30am General salute and inspection  
10.50am March past dais and salute  
10.55am Parade and guests to march/make their way to Fairfield Halls reception  
13.00pm Parade is stood down

### Order of parade

- Royal Yeomanry Band leading
- Royal Yeomanry and Gideon (standard)
- 151 (London) Transport Regiment RLC
- Paras
- 31 Signal Regiment





Reservists have been called upon to play an increasingly heavy role in both Afghanistan and Iraq.



## The first 100 years

Butchers, bakers, candlestick makers – people from all walks of life make up the modern Territorial Army.

The Territorial Force came into being in April 1908 thanks to the previous year's Territorial and Reserve Forces Act.

Formed from the Volunteer Army, already in existence, the Force underwent major reorganisation, creating Yeomanry Brigades and 14 infantry divisions.

A county association under the presidency of its Lord Lieutenant administered each division.

Within 10 years, and by the end of World War I, there were more than 700 Territorial Force battalions in existence, but that number was reduced, through restructuring, in 1920 and a new name given.

The Territorial Army underwent further changes following World War II, the ending of conscription in the 1960s and subsequent strategic defence reviews.

Those changes brought about the TA we all know today, a specialist and committed volunteer reserve force, comprising men and women from all walks of life, that serves our country both here and abroad.

Territorials normally have a full-time job or career, which in some cases provides skills and expertise that are directly transferable to a specialist military role, such as NHS employees serving in medical units.

Volunteers undergo military training in their spare time, either as part of a local unit or as specialists in a professional field, and undertake to serve a minimum 27 training days per year, with specialists required to serve 19 days, which normally includes a two-week annual camp.

Terriers, as the reservists are fondly known, have served alongside Regular forces in almost every conflict in which Britain has been involved since World War II.

Notable among these have been the Balkans crisis and the present engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Almost 7,000 Territorial personnel were mobilised for Operation Telic, the invasion of Iraq, and the TA continues to provide about 1,200 troops each year in support of Regular operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Balkans.

So, at the end of its first 100 years, the Territorial Army is required to be increasingly flexible in its response to new challenges, both in overseas theatres of engagement and in training.

And, rather than being regarded as a force of last resort, it has become the reserve of first choice in support of Regular army operations.



The parade is expected to be headed by the Royal Yeomanry Band, followed by 100 marching soldiers in a mix of service/combat 95s and desert uniform, and a number of military vehicles.

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# Keeping the borough ticking over

**Croydon Council is a big operation with thousands of employees working for the good of the borough's residents, businesses and visitors.**

Obviously, that work encompasses a host of disciplines, which, by their very nature, don't all sit happily within the 9 to 5 average working day.

Running the council, then, is a 24-hour operation. In this second part of the feature, we'll be taking a look at some of the jobs, and one or two of the people that do them – the jobs that keep the borough ticking over and offer its council taxpayers outstanding value for money.



Acceptable behaviour agreement coordinator Tracy Gilbert has seen a huge change in those she has worked with.

## Challenge and Support Project

The Challenge & Support Project does exactly as its name suggests: it challenges the behaviour of young people who are engaging in antisocial behaviour, and supports them in changing it.

The project is unique in that it provides a system where a person at risk of, or engaging in, antisocial behaviour can be identified at the earliest opportunity before the problem escalates.

It has been very successful in Croydon, with 89% of young people no longer engaging in antisocial behaviour.

Acceptable behaviour agreement coordinator Tracy Gilbert has seen a huge change in those she has worked with.

Tracy works outside of office hours so she can meet young people after school and families who work during the day.

Once an individual is identified – by the police, education, housing, council enforcement officers, or even a member of the public – a referral is made to the project.

Tracy then carries out checks with relevant agencies such as social services and the council's youth offending team. This is essential to get a clear picture as to why that individual is behaving the way they are.

She then arranges for the young person to meet with their parents to discuss how they will all work together to change the behaviour. A full assessment is carried out by a youth inclusion and support panel case officer.

Depending on the type of behaviour and the history behind it, they will be expected to abide by a set of conditions set out in an acceptable behaviour agreement (ABA).

Tracy and other support agencies then put together a support package to run alongside the ABA. This could include anything from positive activities to occupy spare time, mentoring and one-on-one support.

Last year, 85 young Croydon people were subject to ABAs; since April of this year, 23 have engaged successfully with the project.

## Spreading the reach of Safer Croydon Radio

The Safer Croydon Radio scheme, formally known as Community Radio Against Crime (Crac), was started in 1994 with a membership of 12.

With a current membership numbering more than 250, its success is self-evident. Those members include businesses, retailers, pubs and clubs, who all feel safer for the scheme, which unites them with the council and police against crime.

The council rents to each member a hand-held radio complete with charger for £24 a month. If a crime or suspicious activity is reported, they can use SCR to alert the other system users.

The message also reaches staff in the council's CCTV control room staff, who respond by issuing alerts to the police and all the other members of the scheme, who, in turn, can then keep their eyes open for potential trouble.

The CCTV operators also assist by swinging their cameras on to a scene when a call is logged, often helping the police in detaining a suspect.

SCR currently operates in Croydon town centre, Thornton Heath, Valley Park and Norbury, and there are plans to expand into other areas of the borough, including New Addington and Purley.





## Emergency response vehicle

The council's purpose-built emergency response vehicle puts Croydon's emergency response team among the capital's best equipped to deal with local incidents.

The Renault Master van is at the ready should an emergency occur at any time of day or night, be it a small-scale evacuation following a fire, to dealing with the aftermath of a large-scale disaster.

Providing a high-visibility base of operations for council support staff at the scene, the vehicle is an invaluable tool in helping to ensure a coordinated and speedy response to any emergency.

Fully equipped with monitor and radios, the mobile unit also links with the council's central CCTV control room in Taberner House.

The council has always provided a support facility to the emergency services and the local community in the event of large incidents around the borough.

This has included setting up rest centres to provide food, supplies and blankets to those displaced from their homes by incidents such as gas leaks or fires, and providing transport or clean-up operations.

The vehicle has proved to be the envy of other local authorities in London, many of which have used Croydon's as a model for their own.



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October 08

## Croydon Food Festival takes place in October 2008



- Whitgift demonstration kitchen
- Tasting sessions
- Themed events
- Specialist food markets in North End
- Special offers with the Food Festival Discount Card
- Farmers' Market in Surrey Street

Love Food... Love Croydon



visit [www.croydonfoodfestival.com](http://www.croydonfoodfestival.com) for details





"The support you're given is brilliant and there's always someone to speak to out-of-hours, or to ask for advice."



# foster the future

## Have you ever considered becoming a foster carer, but held back because you weren't sure who to ask?

If your answer to that question is "yes", a series of meetings held by Croydon's foster care team could be just the place for you to find out more.

A meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Katharine Street on Saturday, 15 November, starting at 10am'.

In the run-up to those meetings, *Your Croydon* spoke to local foster carer Debbie Seddon to find out what it's like to open your home to a child who isn't your own.

"While fostering can be a challenge, it can also be very rewarding," Debbie said.

"The satisfaction you feel when you see someone you've looked after change, develop and turn their life around is fantastic. The children I've fostered have become part of my extended family – and Mothers' Day at my house is like a florist's shop!"

Debbie and her partner, Dave, have been fostering for five years and Debbie's daughter, Laura, 17, lives with them. She is a great supporter of their work and has made many new friends through it.

"Yes, at times, fostering can place demands on all the family," said Debbie, "but it's also very, very rewarding.

"The support you're given is brilliant and there's always someone to speak to out-of-hours, or to ask for advice."

Croydon particularly needs foster carers for children and young people aged between 10 and 16, from white British, black African, Caribbean and dual-heritage backgrounds.

These young people are likely to have difficulties in their relationships, struggle with their education, and may not even be in school.

They may also be experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties, which will present a challenge to anyone offering to care for them.

However, as Debbie said: "I find it very satisfying to foster teenagers, as the public perception of them being out of control can be so wrong.

"Often, all they need is bit of love and attention; sometimes just giving them a break away from their families can change their lives for the better."

Carers are also needed to look after babies and pre-school children. These carers will need to be at home full-time and be able to assist in contact with birth families up to five times a week.

There is also a need for more foster carers who can accommodate up to three siblings.

Barbara Peacock, director of care and development in Croydon Council's children, young people and learners department, said: "Fostering is a big commitment, but, as Debbie testifies, it can be very rewarding.

"By providing some continuity in these children's troubled lives you can help them reach their potential and become independent and confident adults.

"If you have ever thought about fostering, why not come along to one of the meetings to find out what's involved?"

Foster carers in Croydon are given ongoing help and advice, incorporating a mentoring scheme, a confidential counselling service and a 24-hour support service from qualified social workers. Carers can also take the opportunity to become NVQ-qualified in caring for children and young people.

If you are unable to attend either of the meetings but would like more information, please call **0800 389 0129** with your details and a fostering information pack will be sent to you.







# A jubilee for all

**Renowned local photographer Frazer Ashford looks back at Katharine Street then and now...**

Katharine Street seems much quieter these days, with buses being the main form of road vehicle passing the Town Hall and Clocktower complex.



It's 1977 and Katharine Street is the centre of the borough's colourful celebrations.

It was more than 30 years ago that Katharine Street was the site of a spectacular parade organised to celebrate a notable anniversary of national significance.

So, it was around June, 1977, that my wife Clare, my six-month-old daughter Beccy and I stood in the hot sun with the crowds to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

The parade mainly comprised floats entered by local companies, with Croydon Chamber of Commerce and Industry sponsoring one of the biggest.

It was more than 30 years ago that Katharine Street was the site of a spectacular parade organised to celebrate a notable anniversary of national significance.

Other attractions included military bands, the Salvation Army, and a number of guests, including The Kent Carollettes, an American-style marching band from Maidstone.

The Jubilee year had already been a very good one for me, having photographed the opening of The Queen's Silver Garden in Hyde Park, and seeing some of my pictures on display at The Queen's Silver Jubilee Photography Exhibition in Piccadilly, organised by the British Institute of Professional Photography.

This was my first exhibition and a memento is the programme to the event, which I have to this day, tucked away in a drawer.

Katharine Street seems much quieter these days, with buses being the main form of road vehicle passing the Town Hall and Clocktower complex.

And with not a Kent Carulette in sight.

For more examples of Frazer's work, visit [www.frazerashford.com](http://www.frazerashford.com)

The parade mainly comprised floats entered by local companies, with Croydon Chamber of Commerce and Industry sponsoring one of the biggest.


# 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, 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](mailto:council.questions@croydon.gov.uk); fax it to **020 8760 5657**; print and complete the form at [www.croydon.gov.uk/councilquestion](http://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

7 October	Children, learning and leisure	29 September	Cllr Steve Hollands (culture and sport)
14 October	Health and adult social care	6 October	Cllr Margaret Mead (health and adult social care)
21 October	Safety and cohesion	13 October	Cllr Steve O'Connell (safety and cohesion)

To submit a question (maximum number of words: 50) to the cabinet member detailed above, email it to [scrutiny.public.questions@croydon.gov.uk](mailto: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
8 October	Addiscombe, Woodside and Ashburton	Ryelands Primary School, Albert Road, South Norwood
15 October	New Addington and Fieldway	Rowdown Primary School, Calley Down Crescent, New Addington
22 October	Broad Green and Waddon	Canterbury Road Community Centre

For information on Neighbourhood Partnerships, visit the website at [www.croydononline.org/neighbourhood\\_partnerships/](http://www.croydononline.org/neighbourhood_partnerships/), email [neighbourhood.partnerships@croydon.gov.uk](mailto: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 62811**.

## 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](http://www.croydononline.org/ccpcg)

**Forthcoming meeting dates are:** Tuesday, 25 November

Details of all Croydon Council meetings can be found on the council website at [www.croydon.gov.uk/meetingsofthecouncil](http://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](http://www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php)



# What's On

[www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure)

# October 08

Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon

Ticket office: tel:020 8253 1030

Email: [ticketoffice@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@croydon.gov.uk)

Text: 07771 837121

## Live events at the Clocktower

### Upfront Comedy Club: Three Hens and a Stag

Thursday 9 October: 8pm

A banging international comedy bill, featuring three of the funniest female comedians currently at work on the comedy circuit ... and a bloke.

£12 (£9 concessions)

### F-IRE Collective Large Ensemble: Tales from London

Friday 10 October: 7.30-9.15pm

Featuring music by Nick Ramm, Ingrid Laubrock, Jonathan Bratoeff, Barak Schmool and Tom Arthurs, who put the inspiration of life in London into one high-energy suite of music.

£12 (£9 concessions)

### Shoe Baby

Saturday 11 October:

2-2.45pm & 3-3.45pm

Suitable for ages two to five years

£5.80 (£4.80 concessions)

### Presented by Long Nose Puppets Influx Dance: Arrival

Wednesday 15 October: 7.30-8.30pm

A vibrant and refreshing production of contemporary dance, offering unique perspectives on the theme of journeys that reference each choreographer's personal culture and identity.

£10 (£7.50 concessions;

£5 for 14 to 19-year-olds)

### Elizabeth & Rayleigh: Late but Live

Thursday 16 October: 8-9pm

A new comedy by Stewart Lee, starring Simon Munnery as Queen Elizabeth, and Miles Jupp as Sir Walter Raleigh. Potatoes, tobacco, Elizabethan dance, cross-dressing, xenophobia and laughs galore from the most creative comic-theatre team on the circuit. Unsuitable for under 16s.

£12 (£9 concessions)

## DAVID LEAN – OCTOBER 2008

The Boy in Striped Pyjamas 12A

The Wackness 15

El Bano del Papa 15

Mamma Mia! PG

Linha de Passe 15

Lady Chatterley 18

The Duchess 12A

I've Loved You So Long 18

Killer of Sheep 12A

Grow Your Own PG

Brideshead Revisited 12A

Gomorrah 15

The Fall (tbc)

### Children's & Family Films

Nim's Island U

Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian PG

Heidi U

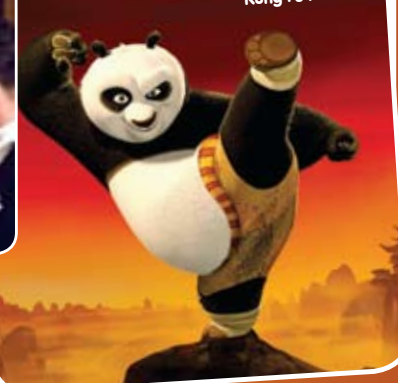
Kung Fu Panda PG

Wall-E U

Brideshead Revisited



Kung Fu Panda



### Presented by James Seabright Locked In

Wednesday 22 October: 7.30-8.30pm

Thursday 23 October: 10.30-11.30am  
& 1.30-2.30pm

All shows followed by a 20-minute discussion session

In an abandoned tower block, Blaze and Riqi rip up the airwaves on a leading pirate station. When a local gangster asks for a serious favour, suddenly there's a choice to be made that could split their world wide open. For audiences aged 13 and over.

£5 (no concessions)

### Mitch Benn: Sing Like an Angel

Thursday 30 October: 7.30-9.30pm

Following his previous sell-out visits to the Clocktower, Mitch Benn and his band The Distractions are returning with a new show.

£12 (£9 concessions)



## Guided walks in October

### Saturday 18 October

Great galls of fire, Whyteleafe to Sanderstead countryside

11am, Dunmail Drive, one to two-hour walk

Find out more about the peculiar growths on plants that can be seen all year round, galls. From perfectly round ones, such as the marble gall, to the brightly coloured robins pincushion.

### Sunday 26 October

Happy Valley and Farthing Downs nature trail

2pm, Farthing Downs car park  
Walk the scenic Happy Valley section of this varied trail which has recently been reopened with a new guide booklet; 90 minutes to two hours.

Nearest Bus: 60, 405

Nearest train: Coulsdon South, walk one mile along Downs Road.

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



“

My payments are sorted  
you see, so I don't have  
to get into a flap.

”



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