

your

# croydon



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

ISSUE 85 – SUMMER 2019

*Your main source of community news*



**New festivals attract thousands to Croydon Music City - See P7**

Image by: Andy Hughes

Delivering for Croydon

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

# Culture at the heart of all we do

“One of my proudest moments as the leader of Croydon Council, was in 2018 when we took the decision to bring our library service back in-house to be run by the council, securing the future of every library across our borough.

I am delighted that one year on, we have approved ambitious plans to invest in and upgrade all 13 of our libraries, ensuring they will be a fantastic resource for generations to come.

It's great to see this work under way, as we are building a new library in South Norwood and have begun consultation on a £1m investment in Norbury Library, with more to follow.

Equally, everyone in the Town Hall is as excited as I know you are that the £40m refurbishment of the Fairfield Halls is now almost complete.

This iconic venue is set to reopen this September, with new theatre companies, new restaurants, facilities for young people and much more. Shows are selling fast so get your tickets now at [www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)

In our election manifesto last year, we committed to put culture at the heart of Croydon's multi-million pound regeneration.

This is both because we believe it is the right thing to do in terms of transforming Croydon's cultural offer, but it is also key to creating new jobs for local people, as we attract more companies to Croydon.

The role culture plays at the heart of London's youngest, most diverse borough is crucial.

Croydon's hugely successful new music events, Cro Cro Land and The Ends, have brought tens of thousands of visitors to our borough and created a wealth of opportunities for residents.

And we are looking forward to a fantastic summer programme, with town centre entertainment; Croydon PrideFest; Croydon Mela, and free summer activities and swimming for young people.

We continue to see Croydon transform itself, from what some saw just a few years ago as a sleepy London suburb, to today becoming a place that looks and feels like a modern European City on the edge of London.

We are already talking to a number of universities about them locating at least part of their future campuses and educational offers in Croydon.

I hope you agree we are making progress, but there is still a long way to go to repair the damage of past under-investment.

We are determined this time to secure Croydon's cultural heritage and future for generations to come. ”



**Councillor Tony Newman**  
Leader of the council

[@cllrtony](https://twitter.com/cllrtony)

## Highlights

### A new chapter for libraries ..... 5

Find out about plans to invest in and improve your local library

### The curtain's about to rise..... 6

Fairfield Halls – have you got your tickets yet?

### Choose Your Future ...10

How our campaign is helping young people with their mental health

### Green Croydon .. 14 & 15

Making your borough greener and cleaner

### Take a stand against hate crime.....19

Sign our pledge to say no to hate crime

### Knitathon for dementia .....21

A knitting marathon to help raise awareness



To keep up-to-date with what's going on, subscribe to *Your Croydon* and receive a free weekly email that's full of news and information about your borough. Go to [www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe) and visit

[f /ilovecroydon](https://www.facebook.com/ilovecroydon)

[@yourcroydon](https://twitter.com/yourcroydon)

# CROYDON PRIDEFEST AND MELA RETURN

Wandle Park will once again host a major entertainment double-bill over a single weekend when two of the borough's best-loved events – Croydon PrideFest and Croydon Mela – return on 13 and 14 July. Last year an estimated 17,000 people flocked to the park over the two days.

## PRIDEFEST

Warm-up parties for Croydon PrideFest are well under way as this popular Pride event – the second largest in the capital – returns for the fourth year.

Lady Leshurr, David McAlmont, and Soju (from RuPaul's Drag Race) are headlining at the event, which promises to be bigger and better than ever with a brand new cabaret tent.

The free festival takes place on Saturday 13 July 12-10pm.

It starts off with a parade from Croydon town centre to Wandle Park, to live music from Rhythms of the City.

Also performing on the main stage are Son of a Tutu, Danny Beard, Asifa Lahore, The London Mozart Players, Kim Mazelle, and Bugeye.



In the new cabaret tent, hosted by Batty Mama, will be Miss Prince, Bellavie Lady Bee, LMT, DJ Ritu, and more.

In addition to live music and entertainment, dance, food and drink, Croydon PrideFest-goers have the opportunity to speak to businesses, community groups and charities who will be promoting their work.

Pre-festival events include a mini queer film festival at David Lean Cinema with Rafiki screened on Tuesday 25 June and Tucked on Tuesday 9 July. Well Versed Ink, will

perform a commissioned poem live before each film.

On Friday 12 July, Batty Mama will host a cabaret event at The Front Room, 37-39 St George's Walk, Croydon.

More information is available on Croydon Pride Facebook page. Instagram [@croydonpride](https://www.instagram.com/croydonpride) and [www.croydonpride.org.uk](https://www.croydonpride.org.uk).

Croydon PrideFest this year won £8,000 funding from Arts Council England for an 'exceptional' bid, in addition to support from Croydon Council.

## MELA

Apache Indian will top the bill when Croydon Mela returns for a mass celebration of Asian culture, creativity and cuisine at Wandle Park.

The bhangramuffin star will be joined by Indian rock group Project MishraM, Najma Akhtar who will perform a sufi set, DJ Ritu and Croydon-based Stunflower.

From 1pm-8pm on Sunday 14 July, the free event will showcase spectacular performances from local community arts groups as well as international stars.

And for the first time, the mela has been programmed by an all-female crew – Chetna Kapacee, Malti Patel and Anusha Subramanyam – all from Croydon, placing the community firmly at the heart of the festival.

There will be something for everyone, with a fantastic array of food and entertainment for all ages.

In addition to the main stage, there will also be Mela Rung Family Zone,



produced by Malti Patel of Apsara Arts and Kathryn Bilyard of Emergency Exit Arts.

This colourful, playful family zone will feature The Bridge of Stories, an installation made of stories from people across Croydon; a performance stage for dance, spoken word and poetry; and the World of Imagination tent, featuring close-up interactive performances and a workshop area for drawing and craft.

Anusha Subramanyam of Beeja Dance has programmed the Dance Dhamaka Stage to showcase some of the best dance companies from Croydon and beyond.



The programme will include a mix of South Asian classical and folk styles, Bollywood, and dance forms from around the world. The audience will even get to learn and practice classical and film dance moves.

Croydon Mela has been supported by Croydon Council; Arts Council England; Croydon Cultural Partnership; LV; Wilmott Dixon; Sunrise Radio and Colours TV.

Malti Patel said: "It showcases the vibrant diversity of Asian arts and culture and offers something for every generation and every community."

For more information visit [www.croydonmela.com](https://www.croydonmela.com)

# STREET LIVE IS BACK



**Live music, dance and theatre has returned to Croydon High Street for a second successive summer, with something on offer for all the family.**

Street Live, which is organised by Croydon Council and Croydon Business Improvement District (BID), launched on 9 June, opened by Apsara Arts – Croydon Cultural Dance.

This summer's activities are the first in High Street since it permanently became a pedestrianised zone in April.

Busk Stop returns, providing live music every other Friday between 5pm and 8pm, to get people in the mood for the weekend and for the first fortnight of July, Wimbledon Live is back – giving everyone the chance to catch all the tennis action on a big screen throughout the tournament.

Towards the end of July there will also be the chance for families to get competitive, with nine holes of crazy golf on

20 and 21 July.

There will also be entertainers from Covent Garden wowing crowds and, for the first time, the beach will be coming to the High Street – giving people the opportunity to enjoy the seaside without having to get in the car or jump on the train.

Creative Arts company Scanners Inc are also returning to High Street and on 17 August, there will be a BMX exhibition, with riders performing amazing and exhilarating tricks.

A full programme of events can be found at [www.checkoutcroydon.com](http://www.checkoutcroydon.com)



## JOIN THE WINDRUSH CELEBRATIONS

**Celebrations are under way with a host of Croydon events including a celebratory dinner, street party and thanksgiving service paying tribute to the borough's Windrush community.**

The term Windrush generation refers to those invited to relocate in Britain from their homes in Commonwealth countries between 1948 and 1971. The first significant number arrived at Tilbury docks aboard HM Empire Windrush on 22 June 1948 from the Caribbean, although migration was also from Africa and Asia.

National Windrush Day was on Saturday 22 June and Croydon celebrated with a Windrush street party & Caribbean cookout in the town centre.

Croydon Minster organised a multi-faith Windrush thanksgiving church service on Sunday 23 June to celebrate

the borough's diversity and the impact different communities have had on the British way of life.

The celebration includes the continued exhibition at Croydon Museum, showing artefacts from the 1940s and 1950s telling the story of Croydon's Windrush generation, and a Windrush exhibition coming this September to the newly-opened Fairfield Halls.

Croydon Council is supporting a range of different community events across the celebration. Visit [www.croydon.gov.uk/community/commonwealth-windrush](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/community/commonwealth-windrush) to find out more about the upcoming events.

# STORMZY'S COME HOME

**Stormzy came home this month - when a stunning portrait of the artist and his mum arrived at the Museum of Croydon on loan from the National Portrait Gallery.**

The image of the chart-topping grime artist from Thornton Heath with his mother Abigail Owuo was taken by Olivia Rose, the photographer behind *This is Grime*, the book that charted the rise of the music phenomenon.

It has been lent to Croydon Council as part of COMING HOME, a major new initiative from the National Portrait Gallery to lend 50 portraits of iconic individuals to places across the UK with which they are most closely associated.

The exhibition officially opened for a year on Tuesday 4 June, in the Exhibition Gallery, Museum of Croydon, Croydon Clocktower.

It also features an installation by Thornton Heath artist PINS, inspired by the portrait and exploring the theme of home.

Photographer Olivia Rose told Your Croydon about the day she took the snap: "It was a real honour to see Stormzy talk at Oxford University that day, he's such a humble and brilliant guy and it was just so dreamy to see his mum get to be a part of it."



Image by: Olivia Rose

PINS said: "Croydon...my home, Stormzy's home, our home. For us, family, self-belief, passion, and community, have enriched us both internally and externally. Using these foundations, we have shaped our paths, brick by brick."

To find out more about the installation follow @museumofcroydon on Twitter and Instagram

Visit [www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk) to find out more about the COMING HOME project #PortraitsComingHome

## EXCITING NEW CHAPTER FOR CROYDON'S LIBRARIES

**Ambitious plans to transform Croydon's libraries into thriving cultural hubs at the heart of local communities, have been approved and are under way.**

All 13 libraries will be modernised and upgraded through a programme of refurbishment and investment, creating welcoming, inspirational spaces that meet local needs now and in the future.

This includes the ambition to create a flagship library within the Clocktower building in Katharine Street.

Work has already begun, with South Norwood's new library opening in spring 2020, and Selsdon, Norbury and Thornton Heath libraries all being refurbished over the next 12 months.

Approved by the council's cabinet in May, the 10-year Libraries Plan follows the council's decision to take the service back in-house last year.

Written and spoken word will remain at the heart of libraries, with investment to increase the number of physical and digital books available.

In addition, an exciting programme of events will

encourage creativity and celebrate culture, from live performances to exhibitions and workshops.

Homework clubs and job clubs will be expanded, and digital zones enhanced with modern IT equipment.

And to give residents longer access to their new library spaces and services, the council will pilot new technology, Open+, allowing them to access the building with their library card.

To get more people of all ages involved, the council will develop its volunteer programme, and partnerships with the voluntary and community sector. Volunteer at [www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/volunteer](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/volunteer)

Councillor Oliver Lewis, cabinet member for culture, leisure and sport, said: "Libraries play a vital role in our communities and we are creating a fantastic network we can all be proud of - inspirational, welcoming, flexible spaces where everyone can learn, read, work, meet people and get involved."



## Croydon's best-loved theatre, Fairfield Halls, will celebrate its reopening with a special event to welcome back fans and showcase the venue's multi-million refurbishment.

The iconic venue will open its doors to the public for the first time on 16 September, welcoming visitors to a stunning new arts centre.

Visitors will be able to drop in and enjoy a programme of live music in the Arnhem Foyer, go on a tour of the venue spaces, meet the staff and find out what's in store at the new Fairfield Halls.

The café and bar facilities will be operating throughout the day with special Open House promotional rates on offer.

Last entry will be 4.30pm with the venue closing to the general public at 6pm.

Venue Director Neil Chandler said: "We know how much people have been looking forward to Fairfield reopening and we wanted to give everyone a chance to visit as soon as possible.

"The open events are a fantastic opportunity to get to know

Croydon's stunning new arts centre and find out what's on offer – enjoy some free entertainment and sample the menu at our café.

I hope to welcome as many people as possible on the big day."

The redeveloped venue includes the world-class Phoenix Concert Hall, Ashcroft Playhouse, Arnhem Foyer as well as new spaces including The Recreational, Savvy Studio and John Whitgift Community Cube.

Behind the scenes guided tours will also be taking place throughout the Open House festival on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September. Register at [www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)

Visit [www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk) for more information and to sign up to the mailing list for the earliest announcements.



## WIN TICKETS TO SEE THE MUSIC OF BOND

We're giving away two pairs of tickets to a concert celebrating the world's most famous secret agent at Fairfield Halls on Friday 25 October at 7.30pm.

At The Music of Bond, the London Concert Orchestra will perform legendary hits such as Goldfinger, Thunderball, Diamonds are Forever and Skyfall.

They will be joined on stage by the acclaimed guest singers and West End musical stars Tim Howar and Louise Dearman.

To enter the competition just tell us who sang the title song for the Bond film Skyfall - a) Sam Smith b) Adele or c) Madonna?

For Music of Bond tickets or further info call the box office 020 3292 0002 or visit [www.raymondgubbay.co.uk](http://www.raymondgubbay.co.uk)



### PLEASE FILL OUT IN COMPLETED IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Your answer: ..... Name: .....

Address: .....

Telephone number: ..... Email address: .....

Please tick if you would like to receive the *Your Croydon Weekly* e-bulletin.

Post entries to: *Your Croydon* magazine, 7D Bernard Weatherill House, Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

Alternatively email your answer to [yourcroydon@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:yourcroydon@croydon.gov.uk) along with your name address and phone number.

All entries must be received by midnight on 31 July and the winner will be drawn at random.

# NEW FESTIVALS ROCK CROYDON MUSIC CITY



Two new festivals put Croydon on the map as the borough continues to develop as a music city, a place where music is at the heart of the local economy. Cro Cro Lands and The Ends were both sell-out events and hailed a huge success.

## CRO CRO LAND

Croydon's inaugural Cro Cro Land, organised by the creators of The Croydonist blog, was a sell-out this spring, with a line-up that attracted music-lovers from across the UK including more than 70 industry professionals.

The brand new event at Urban Xchange in April was supported by Croydon Council through its cultural partnership fund, and Arts Council England.

Residents Julia Woollams and Angela Martin developed the festival to celebrate Croydon's music history as the birthplace of punk, with a line-up featuring 40 of the UK's most exciting indie and alternative bands and DJs across three stages.

It was billed as a gender-balanced event, with women fairly represented in both the line-up and the backstage crew.

Through a partnership with local charity Lives not Knives, Cro Cro Land offered a programme of work experience and training for young people.



Blood Red Shoes rocking out

Image by: Jon Mo

## THE ENDS FESTIVAL 2019

Thousands flocked to Lloyd Park as Croydon's newest major music festival The Ends proved a sell-out earlier this month.

Hailed a huge success, the three day Metropolis (Livenation) event from 31 May-2 June was headlined by international stars including Nas, Wizkid and Damian Marley.

It also gave local young musicians a chance to shine on the council-sponsored Future stage, which provided aspiring artists from Croydon with a platform.

Among them was Nokwamz Kaio from Norwood. He said: "It has been a great opportunity, to perform at home. It's been my biggest performance to date.

Tricey, who also performed on the Future stage on Friday, said: "It's been an amazing experience."



Nokwamz Kaio performs

Image by: Eredde Onadeko



Damian Marley closing the main stage

Image by: Andy Hughes

# CROYDON TAKES CENTRE STAGE WITH THEATRE



**Thousands of new opportunities for young people to get involved in theatre, in their neighbourhoods and at world-class venues, are being created as Croydon becomes one of five Youth Performance Partnerships in England.**

Croydon successfully bid for the £1m Arts Council England funding for London, fending off competition from across the capital.

Secretary of State for Culture Jeremy Wright announced the award at The BRIT School in March.

Developed by Croydon Council through Croydon Music & Arts hub, with young people, arts organisations and schools, the three-year programme will create performing arts opportunities for more than 2,000 young people locally.

It will target black, Asian and minority ethnic young people who are historically under-represented in theatre.

National companies like Talawa, The BRIT School and Dance Umbrella will teach young people practical performance skills, like drama, dance and music, as well as script writing, directing and tech.

Local groups including SAVVY Theatre Company, ZooCo, Well-Versed Ink, Reaching Higher and Syrus Consultancy, will also be involved, with more than 150 BRIT School students aged 16-19 offering peer-to-peer support every year.



Workshops will be delivered in schools and community centres, initially in New Addington, Thornton Heath and South Norwood with opportunities for young people borough-wide.

This will be co-ordinated by Meridian High Secondary School, Oasis Academy Ryelands and Legacy Youth Zone.

Young people will also have the chance to perform in or work on productions at The Fairfield Halls, and to visit arts centres throughout London and the South East.

Local young ambassadors for the programme include spoken word artist Zhanai Wallace, 15; Keanu Reid, 15, from the hugely successful Croydon Rap Club; Jude Yawson from #Merkybooks, who co-wrote Stormzy's recent autobiography Rise Up; and Mason Sestanovich AKA 'Rager', 16.

Zhanai Wallace, whose poem The Garden of Croydon was featured in the bid, said: "It's really important to get young people involved in arts programmes.

"It boosts them and it gives them a platform and a stage."

## EXCITING TIMES FOR CULTURE

**By Councillor Oliver Lewis, cabinet member for culture, leisure and sport**

We've seen some fantastic new additions to Croydon's cultural calendar this year, with both The Ends festival and Cro Cro Land putting our borough back on the map as a destination for live music. We are determined to build on this success as we continue to grow and develop as a music city.

And we have plenty more to look forward to, with our first Windrush celebration, the return of Croydon PrideFest and Croydon Mela and our Street Live programme. These free events offer something for everyone.

At the same time we are creating new opportunities for local artists, giving them platforms in their home town. Through initiatives like our new youth performance partnership, to our new creative enterprise

zone offering reduced studio rates, we are building a legacy to keep culture at the heart of Croydon for future generations.

With all this, and the opening of Fairfield Halls in September, it's definitely a special year for culture in Croydon. You can find out more in our culture plan at [www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk)





# LEGACY YOUTH ZONE LAUNCH DATE ANNOUNCED

**Croydon's stunning new £6.5m state-of-the-art Legacy Youth Zone will officially open its doors with a launch event on 7 September 2019.**

All are welcome to join the celebrations, which start at 11am, and enjoy a wide range of activities suitable for the whole family.

Entry on the day is free.

Legacy Youth Zone in Whitehorse Road, Selhurst, will offer young people aged eight to 19, and up to 25 for those with additional needs somewhere to go, something to do and someone to talk to, seven days a week.

The brand new centre will host an impressive 3G kick pitch, indoor climbing wall, sports hall, dance studio, fully equipped gym, music room with recording studio, martial arts studio, training kitchen, wellbeing room, café and much more.

For an annual membership fee of £5 and then just 50p per visit, members can enjoy more than 20 activities every night.

The Youth Zone is being developed by the national charity OnSide with Croydon Council contributing £3.25m towards the



**Council leaders and the Legacy team celebrate 100 days to go.**

construction costs and £300,000 of the annual £1m revenue budget.

Angel Chizea, 17, from Legacy Young Peoples' Development Group, said: "I'm really happy to see Legacy finally coming through.

"I am so excited, it will give a lot of opportunities to myself and other young people in Croydon to make their mark and leave a Legacy."

To become a member or for more information visit: [www.legacyyouthzone.org](http://www.legacyyouthzone.org)



## FREE SWIMMING & ACTIVITIES ALL SUMMER

**Croydon residents aged 16 and under can remain active over the summer holidays as free swimming sessions return for the seventh consecutive year in July.**

From 24 July to 2 September, there will be free swimming sessions for U16s at each of Croydon's five leisure centres - New Addington, Purley, South Norwood, Thornton Heath and Waddon - during general Swim For All Sessions.

To access the free sessions, residents will need a membership card.

They will be able to complete an application form online via [www.better.org.uk/croydon](http://www.better.org.uk/croydon), or by using the self-service machines at one of the leisure centres.

All membership cards, which cost £2, need to be collected from the

centres.

ID may be required.

Eight-year-olds and younger will need to be accompanied by an adult to sessions, who must also register them.

The £2 membership card can be used throughout the summer, and replaced for an additional £2 if lost or stolen.

Pool timetables and opening times for each leisure centre can be found at [www.better.org.uk/croydon](http://www.better.org.uk/croydon)

Find out as soon as the cards become available by signing up for the Your Croydon Weekly e-newsletter - [www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe)

Also throughout the summer, Croydon residents between eight and 19-years-old, or up to 25-years-old with a disability or learning difficulty, can sign up for sports, art, music, dance, cookery, employability skills, barbering, social media, music production and more.

Keep your eyes peeled throughout the summer as the new youth engagement bus will be touring the borough, bringing pop-up advice and information sessions to the communities it visits.

For more details of the activities visit [www.youngcroydon.org.uk](http://www.youngcroydon.org.uk)



## CHOOSE TO LOOK AFTER YOURSELF

**Young people who feel stressed, anxious or overwhelmed are being inspired by their peers to look after their wellbeing, look out for others, and seek help when they need it.**

The latest phase of the award-winning Choose Your Future campaign launched during Mental Health Awareness Week in May and coincided with the exam period.

Half of all adults with a lifetime mental illness, excluding dementia, will experience symptoms by the age of 14 and up to 10% of young people may self-harm.

Growing up and thinking about your future can be daunting. At the borough's second youth congress last year, young people highlighted mental health as one of their top three concerns, along with crime and safety, and jobs and success.



Choose ambassador and Rap Club member Tya Cunningham, 16, explains how music helped her cope with bereavement.

"Last year, I was feeling sad and angry due to the deaths of people that I knew.

"This changed me and it also affected my eating. I lost weight and people were concerned.

"I was in denial because, like me, a lot of young people keep things to themselves and don't want to ask for help.

"As a rapper, I was able to express myself and release my emotions through my music.

"This helped me to believe that things would get better. I do now have a brighter future."

Local organisations which offer support, such as Croydon Talking Therapies, Croydon Drop In, Ment4 and Off the Record, are also backing the campaign.

Off the Record's vision is to 'Bring an end to mental health misery for children and young people in South London'.

Their excellent work to improve people's health and wellbeing has been recognised nationally with a 2019 GSK IMPACT Award and rewarded with £30,000.

In Croydon, the charity offers free counselling, support for young carers and young refugees.

It also works with the council's gangs team and local professional and community groups to support young people following a violent or sudden death.

In addition to face-to-face counselling, it has developed an online platform, to find out more about choose your future visit [www.choose-your-future.com](http://www.choose-your-future.com)

By listening to young people and identifying the barriers that might stop them from getting mental health care, the charity has been able to help children and young people to prevent crises and make positive choices.

As they celebrate their 25th anniversary, Off the Record are continuing to use new and innovative ways to connect with young people and provide urgently-needed support.

To find out more about Off the Record's work or to get help, visit [www.talkofftherecord.org](http://www.talkofftherecord.org)

# CROYDON HAS TALENT

## Hundreds headed to Thornton Heath to be wowed by a spectacular showcase last month - the borough's first ever Croydon has Talent.

Open to young people aged eight-25 from across the borough, the competition was organised by Croydon BME Forum with support from Croydon Council's Choose Your Future campaign, celebrating young people's positive choices.

The audience at Oasis House, Peall Road, were treated to a fantastic night of live entertainment from solo performers and groups, with acts ranging from dance to DJ sets, from classical Indian music to rap.

On the judging panel were X-Factor 2018 finalist and Croydon resident Rae Elle Williams, Roger Samuels from The Voice 2019; DJ Milktray; Finesse Forever; Leader of the council, Councillor Tony Newman; and cabinet member for children and young people, Councillor Alisa Flemming.

The Mayor of Croydon also attended as a special guest. In the under-16s category, dancer Amare Caleb Yawson, 10, came first; New Addington singer Karson Reynolds, 13, came second; and 11 XI Ten, a group of rappers aged 11, 11, and 12, came third.

In the over-16's category, singer Albert Amankwah, 25, was awarded first place, followed by dancer Jaykwarn Payne (stage name Azulo), 17; while rapper D'sean Boswell, 17, (stage name KS More Time), came third.

The evening was hosted by Anthony King and Inspiring Vanessa.



Rae Elle Williams

Image by: Lee Townsend



## SCORING A GOAL AGAINST KNIFE CRIME

### Young people from the Premier League Kicks flagship community football programme came 'top of the league' at Cut It Out – an anti-knife crime football tournament that united all ages.

The BME Forum-led event saw 1,000 people meet up at Crystal Palace Football Club to pitch their skills on the Premier League club's turf.

Croydon Council, Croydon Police, Palace for Life Foundation and community groups helped organise and fund the tournament.

It championed the goals of the council's Choose Your Future campaign - to unite Croydon against serious youth violence and support young people to make positive choices.

Cut It Out also included competitions, workshops and support groups which encouraged everyone attending to meet new people.

The young people's team pitched their skills against Croydon Police, with other teams including All Inclusive Football Team; Croydon All Stars; Croydon councillors; Croydon Female All Stars; City Hall staff; the Fathers Forum; Lions Society; London Road Businesses; Neighbourhood Safety Officers and Selhurst Community Team.



# GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

**An inspirational young girl who helps look after her sister and completed St John's Ambulance training was among 67 young people recognised at a special awards ceremony.**

Eleven-year-old Emily Troop from Broadmead Primary School was one of the winners at the Good Citizenship Awards.

"I wanted to do the training because of my cousin," she said. "She really inspires me. I was proud to get the award

and I want to be a paramedic when I grow up."

The awards ceremony recognised the successes of young people across the borough for achievements including helping their communities, being a good example to their peers, charity work and more.

# SCHEME TO BOOST APPRENTICESHIPS IN CROYDON LAUNCHED

**A scheme to encourage Croydon employers to take on and develop skilled and motivated local apprentices has been backed by businesses.**

The 100 in 100 campaign will see local apprentices recruited into 100 positions across the borough in 100 working days.

And ahead of the first day of the campaign, 5 August 2019, the council is looking for more businesses to pledge positions for Croydon residents to apply for.

So far more than 60 places have been pledged.

The campaign provides the opportunity for employers to increase productivity and reduce training costs by hiring and developing skilled and motivated apprentices from across the borough.

The Croydon Apprenticeship Academy, a virtual partnership of providers, businesses and the council, will provide support to those pledging positions for the campaign to make hiring apprentices as simple as possible.

Up to 100% of apprenticeship training costs could be covered for employers, with recruitment support also

available through Croydon's free job brokerage service, Croydon Works.

For more information, and to sign up to the campaign, employers should contact [Gurvinder.Doal@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Gurvinder.Doal@croydon.gov.uk)

Those who wish to apply to become apprentices should register to Croydon's free job brokerage service, Croydon Works – [www.croydonworks.co.uk](http://www.croydonworks.co.uk)

Danielle Barker, who has been an apprentice in the council's children, families and education department since November 2017, said: "I enjoy being an apprentice thoroughly.

"The best thing about it is meeting the different people and different apprentices.

"I think if people are unsure about their future they should think about an apprenticeship, to experience the different things and departments.

"I would recommend it 100%."



## FIRST 100% AFFORDABLE BRICK BY BRICK DEVELOPMENT LAUNCHES

Homes at the first all-affordable Brick by Brick development are now on sale to borough residents and will complete later this year.

Flora Court in Thornton Heath consists of 24 shared ownership flats and three affordable rented flats. Prices start at £315,000, meaning those buying a 25% share will pay £78,750.

The three affordable rented homes at the development, which is on the site of a former derelict care home off Chipstead Avenue, will go to people on the council's housing waiting list.

Croydon Council set up Brick by Brick in 2016 to boost local housing supply by developing more than 2,000 good-quality homes, including affordable homes, with any development profits to be returned to the council to reinvest in the borough.

Brick by Brick's first homes went on sale in Upper Norwood in March, and it has another 24 schemes either on site or coming into contract, with more in the pipeline.



Councillor Alison Butler, Croydon Council's deputy leader and cabinet member for homes and Gateway services, said: "The council set up Brick by Brick to boost supply of homes for Croydon people that are good-quality and genuinely affordable, so this progress with Flora Court is very encouraging. This will be the first of many Brick by Brick schemes giving local people affordable rented homes, which will remain in the public sector for those in need for many years to come."

For more information, visit the Brick by Brick website [www.bxbdevelopment.com](http://www.bxbdevelopment.com)

## SHARING MEMORIES CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF COUNCIL HOMES

Croydon residents can share their memories, photographs, videos, rent books and even antique domestic appliances in an exhibition throughout August celebrating 100 years of council housing.

This summer local authorities nationwide will mark the centenary of the 1919 Housing Act, which heralded a huge council house building programme in the decades since, including around 25,000 built in Croydon such as Godstone Road in the 1920s and New Addington's postwar estate.

Croydon Council and staff at the Museum of Croydon are now gathering memorabilia and people's stories to be included in the exhibition, which will run every day in August in the museum and Croydon Central library.

Memorabilia provided already include photographs of estates under construction, rent books and even kitchenware from kettles to toasters. Council tenants old and new have also been providing films and can even submit their memories as audio recordings.

Norbury resident Brigid Griffin, 85, moved into her council house off Green Lane with her husband Pdraig and their eight



Brigid Griffin showing family photos

children in December 1969, and still lives there.

Her memories include children playing in the street, neighbours knowing each other and having their front door re-painted in a choice of colours every four years. She lent family photos taken at her home to the exhibition, and urged others to provide their memories of living in a Croydon council house.

She said: "It provided stable accommodation for us having so many children. It's the garden I like most and that is why I would never move away. If people have good memories I would advise them to contribute."

To share your memories, contact [residentinvolvement@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:residentinvolvement@croydon.gov.uk) or call 020 8726 6100 extension 47350.



# LIVEABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

**A £17m fund will help transform Old Town in Croydon to make the area more accessible for everyone.**

Croydon Council is investing £7.75m in the scheme from the Growth Zone fund along with £9.6m from Transport for London.

The scheme will reduce speeds on the flyover, transform subways at the roundabout and create new segregated bicycle lanes while creating a healthier boulevard and connecting communities.

The indicative design work was supported by residents and access groups.

Isabelle Clement, director of Wheels for Wellbeing, a cycling group representing the views of disabled cyclists, said: "Changing the existing subways into light-controlled crossings can make it easier for disabled cyclists to navigate the junctions.

"We'll be working with Croydon Council throughout the project to help make the Liveable Neighbourhood improvements the best that they can be for current users and generations to come."

## DMWC CLEAR UP

**April saw Croydon's Don't Mess With Croydon – Take Pride partner with the Great British Springclean to organise a host of litter picks throughout the borough.**

Over the month 215 people joined the 19 litter picks in locations across Croydon, helping to collect a total of 300 bags of rubbish. Also, eight new street champions signed up to help organise litter picks in their own communities throughout the year.

Street champions are supported by Croydon Council to organise litter picks. The council provides equipment and support and helps to clear away the collected waste.

Email [champions@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:champions@croydon.gov.uk) to find out more or to become a Street Champion. You can check a list of upcoming litter picks in your area online at [www.croydon.gov.uk/environment/dontmess/community-clean-ups](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/environment/dontmess/community-clean-ups)



# PROPOSALS FOR SCHOOL STREETS ACROSS CROYDON

**Proposals to introduce up to eight new School Streets across Croydon have been widely supported by the communities they would help.**

Ten schools at eight new sites were shortlisted for the trial with letters written to the schools and the surrounding communities.

Hundreds of responses to the public engagement have been received with nearly 70 per cent supporting the scheme.

The proposals build on a successful pilot scheme that saw temporary pedestrian zones that only operate during the school run created at three Croydon schools.

The first three schemes led to 250 fewer children travelling to school by car with most of them walking, cycling or scooting instead.

To be considered for the School Street scheme, schools should be part of the London-wide STARS programme, which helps them develop other ways for pupils to get to school, including walking, scooting, cycling and public transport.

The shortlisted schools are:

- Norbury Manor Primary, Norbury
- Cypress Primary, South Norwood
- Winterbourne Junior Girls, Bensham Manor
- Winterbourne Junior Boys, Bensham Manor
- Fairchildes Primary, New Addington
- Harris Academy Purley, Purley Oaks and Riddlesdown
- Regina Coeli Catholic Primary School, Purley Oaks and Riddlesdown
- Downsview Primary & Nursery, Upper Norwood
- Harris Primary Academy Kenley, Kenley
- West Thornton Primary Academy, Broad Green

## TURN YOUR ROAD INTO A CAR-FREE PLAY STREET

**Children across Croydon will have the chance to turn their local street into a safe temporary playground later this year to mark international Car Free Day.**

Croydon Council has signed a pledge to help residents and interested parties run new Play Streets across the borough on Car Free Day on 22 September.

A Play Street sees a section of a road closed to traffic for a short period of time giving children a safe space to play outside. They are designed to give children and neighbours a space to enjoy and an opportunity to make new friendships.

There are already regular Play Streets across Croydon but anyone can apply to set one up at any time of year.

To organise a new Play Street for World Car Free Day, contact [cfp@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:cfp@croydon.gov.uk) by 29 July.



## YOU CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR LOCAL GREEN SPACES

**We want to hear your views on how important local green spaces are to you.**

Many of Croydon's open spaces are already protected against development by planning policies, but to ensure they are further protected for generations to come, the council is looking to hear from communities about why they are important to them.

This research is part of the partial review of the Croydon Local Plan, which will allow the council to demonstrate to the Planning Inspector the significance of these spaces to local people. A list of spaces put forward as part of the 2016 submission of the Local Plan was rejected as the inspector felt there was not enough local evidence to prove how important they were to their local communities.

There are no planning proposals for any of the sites, but the Local Green Space designation the council is seeking would provide additional protection against any future



development. The designation would also influence any neighbouring proposals.

Visit the council's Get Involved website before midnight 22 July to see the spaces suggested, have your say and add areas of your own for consideration. Visit [www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/project/571](http://www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/project/571)



## CHILDREN TO GET £650,000 HOLIDAY CLUB BOOST

**Thousands of Croydon children will get free summer holiday activity clubs and healthy meals after the council and a national charity jointly won £657,000 in Government funding.**

Croydon Council and Family Action were named in April as London's only successful bid for Department for Education funding to give up to 9,000 young people sports activities and healthy food classes throughout the summer holidays, plus welfare support for their families.

The largest of its kind to date in Croydon, the programme will include around 7,000 children who qualify for free school meals, including those in emergency accommodation and young people with special educational needs.

As well as encouraging young people to lead a healthier and more active lifestyle across 16 four-week sessions, the programme will support their families to improve their finances and job prospects through budgeting advice, training and housing information.

Up to around 100 eligible schemes, including schools and youth clubs, will now be invited to bid for the funding, which ranges from £260 to £400 per session, plus £300 equipment grants.

For more information, email: [haf@family-action.org.uk](mailto:haf@family-action.org.uk)

## JOIN CROYDON'S AUTISM BOARD

**Croydon's Autism Partnership Board (APB) wants new members from the borough's autistic community, including carers and a child.**

The APB considers all-age autism issues, sets directions for service improvements and stakeholders include the healthcare, business and voluntary sectors. It wants:

- Three carers of children or young people with autism
- Three carers of adults on the spectrum
- Three adults on the spectrum
- One young person aged 16+ who is on the spectrum

Support will be provided so those on the spectrum can participate in meetings. Board chair Councillor Jerry Fitzpatrick is particularly keen to hear from carers with experience of involvement in voluntary organisations which support autistic services.

For more information, email [jerry.fitzpatrick@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:jerry.fitzpatrick@croydon.gov.uk)

## OH YES SHE IS.....

**The winner of the Fairfield Halls pantomime tickets competition is Karen Green, of Hillcrest Road, Purley.**

Mrs Green, 58, scooped a family ticket for four to see Cinderella, after correctly answering that Tim Vine will play Buttons, the question in the previous edition of Your Croydon magazine.

The lifelong Croydon resident and Crystal Palace Football Club season ticket holder said: "It's wonderful to have the Fairfield Halls back.

"We need a local theatre – it's really important and it's such a big part of the community. I'm really excited – especially now I've got some panto tickets!"







**CHERRY HUB**  
AND GARDEN CENTRE

# £1M MAKEOVER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY HUB

**A £1m revamp creating a community hub for Croydon residents of all ages with or without disabilities has been completed this month.**

Last year work began to refit and upgrade a 1980s building in St James's Road into the Cherry Hub, which is for the use of council adult social care services, local voluntary groups and the wider public.

## THE HUB INCLUDES:

- A new specialist dance and workout studio for around 30 people
- Flexible meeting rooms with wifi
- A training kitchen, with adjustable height surfaces for wheelchair users
- A top-of-the-range sensory room
- A specialist wing for the council's autism service

The hub is not a day centre in the traditional sense – people with disabilities use it as part of their tailored activity programmes around the borough. Other members of the public will also be able to hire rooms in the future, and customers have already included The BRIT School for dance classes with

local schoolchildren and the NHS for meetings.

Rooms at the newly-fitted building, which used to be the Cherry Orchard Day Centre, have full disabled access including hoists and handrails. The neighbouring Cherry Orchard Garden Centre remained open for business throughout construction and continues to sell a range of plants to the public.

Dana Xavier, from Thornton Heath, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder, works four days a week at the Cherry Orchard Garden Centre and runs her own wedding floristry business. The 21-year-old said: "I enjoy having my own space to do my work, making new customers and meeting new people. The staff are very nice and friendly, and the things on sale here are at good prices and good quality."

The Whitehorse Youth Centre and nursery continue to use a separate part of the building. The borough's other Active Lives services for people with disabilities now have the additional opportunity to use the hub's resources either in groups or as individuals. For more information, email [activelives@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:activelives@croydon.gov.uk)





# A NEW MAYOR FOR CROYDON

**Backing local businesses, supporting people with disabilities and celebrating Croydon's diversity are priorities for the borough's new Mayor.**

Councillor Humayun Kabir, who represents Bensham Manor Ward, was sworn in for his year in office at the annual council meeting in May.

A Croydon resident for more than 40 years, he has been a councillor since 2010, serving as deputy cabinet member for both economy and jobs, and finance and treasury, as well as vice-chair of the planning committee.

Councillor Kabir came to England in 1972, moving to Croydon when he opened his first catering business in 1977.

After studying for a Bachelor of Education degree, he began a new career at Tower Hamlets Council, as a parent advocate and family support services manager.

He has been an active member of the local community, serving as president of Croydon Bangladesh Welfare Association for two terms.

He was also a founding member of the Asian Resource Centre; helped to establish the Queens Community Hall through Bensham Manor Community Association; and was on the committee that helped to develop Shahjalal Mosque.

As Mayor he will champion five local charities, and has launched a new Mayor's ambassador scheme to get the community involved in fundraising.

To volunteer contact [the.mayor@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:the.mayor@croydon.gov.uk)

The father-of-three will be supported by his wife of 37 years, Rahena, as his consort.

Councillor Kabir said: "I am delighted and honoured to serve as Mayor for our wonderful community in Croydon.

"My background as a small business owner means I'm passionate about our economy, while my later career as a parent advocate, and my experiences as a councillor have made me keen to support people with disabilities.

"As Mayor I look forward to working with as many groups as possible to celebrate Croydon's rich cultural diversity."



## The Mayor of Croydon's charities 2019:

- Mind in Croydon, which promotes good mental health [www.mindincroydon.org.uk](http://www.mindincroydon.org.uk)
- Croydon Vision helps those who are blind or visually impaired [www.croydonvision.org.uk](http://www.croydonvision.org.uk)
- Apasen International (Croydon) helps to meet the needs of vulnerable people [www.apasen.org.uk](http://www.apasen.org.uk)
- Ashdon Jazz Academy provides support to vulnerable young women [www.ashdonjazzacademy.org](http://www.ashdonjazzacademy.org)
- Croydon Refugee Day Centre supports asylum seekers and refugees [www.croydonrefugeedaycentre.co.uk](http://www.croydonrefugeedaycentre.co.uk)

## And his deputy.....

A mum-of-two who believes in championing children and young people will take on the role of Deputy Mayor this year.

Councillor Maddie Henson, who represents Addiscombe East, will support Councillor Kabir throughout his year in office.

Born and bred in the borough, Councillor Henson grew up in South Norwood attending Crossfields Nursery, where she is now a governor; South Norwood Primary; and then Harris Crystal Palace.

Later, she gained a BA in History from Kent University, Canterbury.

She first became a councillor in 2014 for Ashburton ward, and was re-elected in 2018 for the newly-formed Addiscombe East.

She has served on many committees, specialising in adoption and fostering and championing children and young people.

Her husband Mark Henson is her consort.



# TAKE A STAND AGAINST HATE CRIME

**Croydon takes a zero-tolerance approach and is encouraging everyone to sign its new anti-hate crime pledge.**

The pledge is for everyone, whether you are part of an organisation (including businesses, community groups, voluntary sector, private sector or statutory) or an individual that lives, works or visits our borough.

The goal is to strengthen our community against these crimes and to make Croydon a safer and welcoming, inclusive borough.

We aim to raise awareness of these issues and encourage more people to report these crimes.

Reporting for vulnerable groups, such as those with a disability, and those from the LGBT+ community has been declining for several years, despite the spike of incidents after Brexit.

The police, together with all the many partners that are working to reduce hate crime, want to increase confidence in people reporting their

concerns, and need to know if you feel you are being targeted in any way because of this offence.

Gaining a greater understanding of the issues people are facing means officers can respond effectively.

If matters go unreported the police and partners cannot act quickly to deal with these issues together.

The Safer Croydon Partnership will treat and respond to all hate crimes equally by working closely with our community safety partners and passing on specific details to the police.

To sign the pledge please visit [www.croydon.gov.uk/saynotohate](https://www.croydon.gov.uk/saynotohate)

To find out more about hate crime, and to report a hate crime, please see [www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime](https://www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime)

You can also call 101, or 999 in an emergency.



**Hate crime takes many forms, including:**

- Race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality or national origins
- Religion or belief
- Gender or gender identity
- Sexual orientation
- Physical or mental disability
- Age can also be an aggravating factor.

# Sign our Anti-Hate Crime Pledge

[www.croydon.gov.uk/saynotohate](https://www.croydon.gov.uk/saynotohate)

Did you know offences committed against you because of your race, religion, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation, or a physical or mental disability are hate crimes? Please report them.

[www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime](https://www.met.police.uk/true-vision-report-hate-crime)  
call 101, or 999 in an emergency

## JOIN ME IN SIGNING THE ANTI-HATE CRIME PLEDGE



I want to tell you about what more we can all do to tackle hate crime in Croydon.

Together with the council and our partners, we are launching an anti-hate crime pledge, encouraging everyone to sign up to a zero-tolerance approach to all hate crime in Croydon.

But we can only act if people talk to us about what is happening.

Never be afraid to tell us if you or someone you know is being victimised

because of the colour of their skin, their ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation or because of a disability.

Croydon is an incredibly diverse borough and I for one am proud to be part of that.

Let's embrace our culture and background and make Croydon a fantastic home and place of work and play for anyone and everyone.

I hope all our partners, businesses and all of you will be able to join me

in signing our pledge to work towards a truly inclusive, diverse and amazing borough.

Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine.

*Craig Knight*

Chief Inspector 240237  
Neighbourhoods and Partnership  
South Area Basic Command Unit

## NEW PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH TO CRIME

### The council is backing plans to treat serious youth violence, including knife crime, as a public health issue.

The plans went before cabinet on 10 June, when members agreed that this was the best way to reduce borough violence. Lib Peck, Director of the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit, attended the meeting and praised the council's new approach.

The public health approach sees violent crime as a complex problem, and Croydon will work with partners to help stop offences before they happen by focusing on the causes, as well as the impact of the crimes.

This approach means that everyone has a role to play in preventing and reducing violence; it is a societal issue as opposed to the responsibility of a single agency or group of agencies.

The work will build on the 21.7% reduction in serious youth crime achieved in the borough this year (from the rolling 12

months from May 2018 to April 2019 compared to May 2017 to April 2018)\*.

The plans include the development of trauma-based training for staff, the community and voluntary sectors.

This will enable people to identify and understand adverse childhood and adult experiences and ensure those who experience them are properly supported.

Children and young people who experience trauma are more likely to develop health-harming and antisocial behaviours, perform poorly in school and be involved with crime.

Croydon's public health approach takes a broad and inclusive approach to violence reduction, in line with the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit.

\*Source: Met Stats



Councillor Hamida Ali, Lib Peck and Council Leader Tony Newman.



# CROYDON KNITS, DANCES AND SINGS TO SUPPORT DEMENTIA

**Residents came out in force to support events for this year's Dementia Action Week in May, organised by the Croydon Dementia Action Alliance (CDA).**

The CDA is a partnership with Alzheimer's Society, Croydon Council, NHS services, Age UK Croydon, the Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade and more than 20 other local organisations.

The week helps to raise awareness of the condition, encourage people to take positive actions, such as becoming a Dementia Friend, and support those with dementia and their carers to enjoy activities with other residents in their local community.

A 12-hour extravaganza was held at Croydon University Hospital, which included a knitathon making hand muffs for dementia wards at the hospital and South London & Maudsley NHS Trust. The muffs help to relax people living with dementia during their hospital stay or visit and can help prevent them getting agitated.

Residents joined Croydon Council staff and Councillor Jane Avis, the council's cabinet member for families, health and social care, to knit and sew. Even outpatients attending for blood tests also took part.

In addition, the hospital hosted

dementia information sessions and stalls to raise money for dementia causes. More than 100 cupcakes were sold and there were raffle prizes to be won. Matthew Kershaw, Croydon Health Services' Chief Executive, is now a Dementia Friend and there will be regular knitting groups at the hospital as a result of the event.



The CDA also arranged a popular tea dance with live singing and Croydon's new Mayor, Councillor Humayun Kabir, participated in the fun. One lady, who was a bit anxious, was able to dance with Adrian Forward, the volunteer dance teacher. She said, "I'm

worried about my legs not being strong enough." But she danced at least twice and her family said she had not had that much fun in ages.

"I would have been sat at home just with the TV, instead I have had a lovely time and danced", said Janet who attended the tea dance.

As a special treat, hand and Reiki back massages were offered by social care organisations Right at Home and St Christopher's Hospice during the dance.

In addition, the week saw people joining in the singing and dancing at the dementia friendly screening of *Summer Holiday* (1963), starring Cliff Richard and The Shadows, at Croydon's David Lean Cinema. Sharon Boyd, who is a carer and a sponsor of the film screenings, said: "I love Cliff Richard and sang along all the way through, it was fun."

There were also dementia open days and more singing and dancing at The Memory Tree Café at Age UK Croydon, Croydon's BAME Forum, Marsh and Willow Day Centre and Sunrise Senior Living care home.

# IT'S TIME TO STAMP OUT MEASLES IN CROYDON

**Measles continues to be an issue in communities across London, the UK and globally. We can stop this.**

Two doses of the MMR vaccination provides immunity against not only measles, but also mumps and rubella. It is best to take positive action to protect your health and that of your loved ones. The more people who have this immunity, the more the whole community is protected from measles. Some people are unable to receive the MMR jab, so we are protecting them too.

Immunity is what happens in your body after you have two doses of the vaccination. The vaccine stimulates your immune system so that it can recognise the disease and protect you from future infection.

Rachel Flowers, Croydon Council's director of public health, said: "It is really important that more people in Croydon are vaccinated. This is something that you can do for your children and yourself. It is a quick action that can lead to life-long benefits to your health. Two doses of the MMR provide an immunity against these highly infectious diseases. If they are contracted, they can have very serious and potentially fatal complications. The vaccine is proven to be safe and effective and a full course is just two injections, which you can complete at any age."



## How you can help eliminate infectious diseases:

- Speak to your GP about your vaccination record
- Get the facts and advice about vaccinations from a GP, pharmacist, health professional or the NHS website [www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine)
- If you work at a school or college, find out their vaccinations policy and consider sending information to parents /carers, students and staff to ensure everyone is adequately protected.

# LOOK AFTER YOUR SEXUAL HEALTH

**Croydon's young people are being supported by Croydon Council's public health team to have healthy relationships and look after their overall wellbeing.**

The C-Card scheme offers free condoms to those aged 24 and under, along with confidential sexual health support through

trained professionals. This work also supports the updated guidance for all schools in the borough to teach children about looking after themselves and keeping safe while online.

There is more information at [www.gettingiton.org.uk](http://www.gettingiton.org.uk)

No matter your age, taking care of your sexual health and wellbeing should be a priority. You can speak to a GP, pharmacist or health clinic or visit [www.JustBeCroydon.org](http://www.JustBeCroydon.org)



## Council meeting dates

Full council meetings start at 6.30pm and are held in the council chamber of Croydon Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon CR0 1NX.

**Meeting:** Monday 15 July      **Deadline:** Monday 8 July

**Meeting:** Monday 7 October      **Deadline:** Monday 30 September

Questions for consideration at a full council meeting, can be emailed to [democratic.services@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@croydon.gov.uk); alternatively, write to **Questions for the council, Democratic services, 7C Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA.**

Unless otherwise stated, cabinet meetings start at 6.30pm, in the council chamber of the Town Hall.

**Meeting:** Monday 8 July, Thursday 19 September

For information on meetings, minutes and agendas, go to [www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings) For information on cabinet and shadow cabinet members, go to [www.croydon.gov.uk/cabinet](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/cabinet)

Unless otherwise stated, scrutiny meetings start at 6.30pm, in the council chamber of the Town Hall.

**Meeting:** Tuesday 16 July, Tuesday 10 September

For information on scrutiny, go to [www.croydon.gov.uk/scrutiny](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/scrutiny) or email [democratic.services@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@croydon.gov.uk)

Meetings of the Safer Neighbourhood Board are held in the venues indicated. For further information, check [www.croydononline.org/safer-neighbourhood-board](http://www.croydononline.org/safer-neighbourhood-board)

The next public meetings:

**Meeting:** 4 September      **Venue:** F10, Town Hall

Details of all Croydon Council meetings can be found at [www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/meetings)

## Useful contacts

**For police, fire brigade, ambulance, call: 999 or 112, Text phone 1800**

**Croydon Council general enquiries  
020 8726 6000**

**Croydon NHS Walk-in Centre  
020 3040 0800**

**Non-emergency urgent care - 111**

**Croydon University Hospital  
020 8401 3000**

## Get in touch

To get in touch with the *Your Croydon* editorial team, email: [yourcroydon@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:yourcroydon@croydon.gov.uk)

If anybody you know isn't receiving the online *Your Croydon* weekly, tell them that they can ensure delivery by subscribing at [www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/subscribe)

### Central Library and Museum of Croydon

Katharine Street, Croydon CR9 1ET

Open: Monday to Saturday (see website for daily hours)

**Library – [www.croydon.gov.uk/central-library](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/central-library)**

**Museum – [www.museumofcroydon.com](http://www.museumofcroydon.com)**

Telephone: **020 8726 6900**

Telephone: **020 8253 1022**

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

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

## Guided Walks

With summer just starting there's never been a better time to explore the wide range of parks and green spaces in the borough. There are a whole host of special events taking place that can help you enjoy these eye-catching places, but you can visit them at any time.

### JULY

#### Sunday 14

##### **Picnic in the park – Grangewood Park**

Bring your picnic, friends and family to join in as the Friends of Grangewood Park host the Picnic in the Park. The event runs from 1pm to 5pm. Email [friendsofgrangewood@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:friendsofgrangewood@yahoo.co.uk) for more information.

#### Sunday 21

##### **Evening moth walk – Grangewood Park**

Join a guided walk to try and see some of the moths who make their home in Grangewood Park. The event is being run as part of the Great North Wood project. Contact [sbtoon@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:sbtoon@wildlondon.org.uk) for the time and meeting place.

#### Sunday 21

##### **Putney and Wimbledon Brass Band – Wandle Park**

You're invited to bring a picnic and enjoy free musical entertainment as the Putney and Wimbledon Brass Band entertain crowds at the Wandle Park bandstand. Their performance runs from 3pm to 5pm.

#### Wednesday 24

##### **Community garden open day – Wandle Park**

Learn all about gardening in small places as the Wandle Park Community Garden opens its gate for everyone. Find out more about growing food, planting, weeding, harvesting and tasting while children enjoy free fun activities.

#### Thursday 25

##### **South London Downs Discovery Day – Farthing Downs and Happy Valley**

Find out more about the breathtaking landscape around the South London Downs.

### AUGUST

#### Saturday 24

##### **Summer Tree Walk – Beaulieu Heights**

Take in some of the trees that make up the fantastic local views. Meet at the South Norwood Hill entrance at 2pm for the event which is part of the Great North Wood project. Email [sbtoon@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:sbtoon@wildlondon.org.uk) for more information.

For full details, visit: [www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/parksandopenspaces/walks](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/parksandopenspaces/walks)



# Capel Manor College

Your route to a  
brighter future



**Interested in nature, animals and the environment?**  
Find your perfect course at our Crystal Palace Park Campus!

**[www.capel.ac.uk](http://www.capel.ac.uk)**