Hello Calat, goodbye Cets
Page 6

Walking through Croydon’s green and pleasant land
Page 11

Time to vote for your favourite market stall
Page 19

Getting involved with Neighbourhood Partnership
Page 12
Bus heroes honoured

Street wardens’ swift reactions rescue boy trapped under bus

When they saw a schoolboy trapped under a bus, two of Croydon Council’s street wardens knew they had to act fast.

Neil Sharp and Nathan Thompson immediately organised a group of 10 bystanders into a team which rolled up its sleeves and lifted the bus off the ground just high enough for Halim Manor pupil Corey Wilson to be dragged free.

Their quick thinking has now been rewarded with citations from Mayor of Croydon Councillor Derek Millard who praised the pair for the cool, calm manner in which they dealt with a potentially life-threatening situation.

The incident happened when the youngster tripped and fell beneath the wheels of a bus in Katharine Street as he tried to catch it. He was trapped under the bus, suffering a broken leg and cracked pelvis.

Nathan and Neil are pictured with the Mayor at the presentation of their citations at Croydon Town Hall.

Drawing on experience

Local cartoonist’s international work on show

Visitors to Croydon Clocktower still have a few days to catch an exhibition that has sparked a deal of interest over the past month.

The exhibition runs until Saturday, 28 July, with the work on show from the Croydon Advertiser to The New Yorker of world-renowned Croydon cartoonist Alex Noel Watson.

It features the work and satirical humour of Alex, who lives in Kenley, worked at the home town’s Croydon Advertiser and the urban fabric.

Alex has also illustrated several books and, as a leading authority on cartoon art, often speaks to the media and societies.


Alex, who lives in Kenley, worked at the Croydon Advertiser as staff cartoonist, film reviewer and feature writer, while continuing to draw cartoons for national newspapers.

The exhibition runs until Saturday, 28 July, at Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street. Opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm.
Looking after number ones

Caring for baby – now and in the future

With the alarming fact that one baby creates an average of 52 bin bags full of disposable nappies in a year, Croydon Council is acting to bring that figure down.

Borough mums are to be given a financial incentive to leave disposable nappies on the supermarket shelf and adopt the reusable cotton variety.

The scheme, similar to those running in 20 London boroughs, will be open to 150 low-income families and the council predicts that if three-quarters of that group make the switch a permanent one, more than 90 tonnes of waste could be diverted from landfill in only two years.

A family could save more than £500 a year by switching from disposable to cotton nappies laundered at home – even taking into account the purchase of a washing machine, electricity and washing powder.

Real nappies have the advantage of being made from natural fabrics, while disposables use paper pulp and plastics, and contain super-absorbent chemicals.

Through the real nappy incentive trial, eligible mums will be offered two options: either a month’s free use of a local nappy laundry service, or vouchers worth £30 toward the cost of a starter nappy kit.

The council hopes that a majority of those taking up the trial offer will make a permanent switch and that, gradually, the benefits of reusable nappies will be widely understood by new mothers.

Reaching out to gangs

New appointment to coordinate information

The council has announced that it is to appoint a dedicated person to coordinate all activities in the borough that work to reduce the negative impact of gangs.

The youth gangs project coordinator will be the lead person to pull together the work of the many agencies involved in gang diversion work.

The role intends to boost information-sharing on young people’s involvement in gangs from different agencies, working closely with the police Gang Intelligence Unit.

The coordinator will also work with community organisations who achieve a lot of successful work with young people who are involved directly or indirectly in gang life.

Best bib and tucker

A smart new look to welcome visitors

The first stage of a phase of improvements to the way Croydon Council handles face-to-face meetings with the public has been implemented.

Staff at the council’s One-Stop reception desks and public enquiry counters have been issued with smart new uniforms, making it easier for visitors to differentiate between reception staff, other council workers and members of the public.

The main element of the uniform is a tailored black jacket that is matched, for female staff members, to a white blouse and a scarf coloured in the council’s corporate purple.

Men will wear a similarly coloured tie with a white shirt.

Each will also wear a distinctive name badge.

The final choice and style of garments was decided following consultation with the 50-plus members of staff who will be wearing the new kit.

Open to higher education?

An information day at the Central Library will set you up for home studying toward a degree qualification

Are you considering higher education? Looking to improve your career prospects? Or, perhaps, simply keen to gain new skills and confidence?

If you answered “Yes” to any – or all – of the above, Croydon Central Library is where you should be on Tuesday, 25 September.

The Open University will be holding its annual advice day on Level 2, between 10am and 3.30pm, and, in addition to course advisers, there will be display stands and literature on hand to help you make your decision.

The library, in Katharine Street, holds the reading material for most of The Open University’s undergraduate courses, so potential students can take a look to see what each course involves.

The Open University is Britain’s largest university (one of the top five UK universities – Sunday Times University Guide 2005), with more than 20,000 students in the London region alone.

Since its establishment in 1969 it has opened the door to higher education for more than two million people.

OU courses are designed for people who need to fit their study around their work and family commitments, studying in their homes or workplaces, in their own time.

A range of teaching media is used on the courses, and, with most offering tutorials in study centres throughout London, students study with the support of a local tutor.

Further information about the advice day can be obtained from Ray Wheeler at The Open University in London on 020 7556 6184.
Bringing learning to life

A change of name but still a tip-top service for those too old for school but still keen to learn

From September, the borough’s adult education provider will be changing its name from Croydon’s Continuing Education and Training Service (Cets) to Calat – Croydon Adult Learning and Training.

The name may be changing but the popular provider of more than 2,000 courses, enjoyed by more than 20,000 learners every year, remains the same.

Dinesh is now much more confident, intends to continue with his study and hopes eventually to get a job.

He said: “I needed to learn to read and write if I was to get a job, so I started a basic skills course in 2005 which enabled me to go on to do other courses.

“I like learning and meeting people. Attending Calat learning makes me feel good about myself.”

Rosemary Sloman, head of adult learning and skills in Croydon, explains why the service has changed its name.

“We already deliver our courses from more than 49 locations, reaching a wide variety of people, from business professionals to housewives, and teenagers to pensioners.

“However, we’re looking at how we can make our services even more accessible to everybody in the community.

“The change of name is more than just cosmetic. Calat is making a considerable investment in providing more courses, training and support services for businesses and individuals wanting to improve or change their life options, as well as maintaining services for those who wish to engage in learning on a social basis.

“We’re aiming to provide a service which will make it easier for individuals and businesses to access learning opportunities which will enhance the lives of people and businesses living and working in Croydon.”

Some of Calat’s learners share their experiences with Your Croydon:

Dinesh is a 73-year-old learner who attended the Calat power circuit training course.

A retired teacher, Kingsley spends part of his time involved in volunteer work ranging from driving a minibus, to supporting homeless individuals.

Kingsley Gregory is a 73-year-old learner who attended the Calat power circuit training course.

Kingsley has been engaged in various keep-fit and training courses for more than 10 years and believes that this commitment has made, and continues to make, a significant contribution to his quality of life.

Dinesh was unsuccessful because he could not read, write or speak English very well.

In addition Dinesh suffers from severe arthritis and is registered blind. He has received national recognition, winning an award from NAGG because of his sheer determination to become a learner.

Some of Calat’s learners share their experiences with Your Croydon:

Born in Kenya and leaving school at 14, Dinesh was unable to read or write in his native language, Gujarati.

As an adult, he came to England to work in the family business, which he did for 20 years. When the family business closed, Dinesh sought further employment but was unsuccessful because he could not read, write or speak English very well.

In addition Dinesh suffers from severe arthritis and is registered blind. He has received national recognition, winning an award from NAGG because of his sheer determination to become a learner.

David West is a successful businessman who had previously been a physiotherapist for leading athletes and footballers.

David’s first experience of adult learning with Calat was through a French course. He then went on to take a Pilates course, before attending a range of photography classes. It was in this area that he found a new interest and now runs a successful photography business.

David has recently exhibited his work at the successful Our House photography exhibition at the Croydon Clocktower, and another at the Hilton Hotel which focuses on the personalities of Surrey Street market.

You can also be a part of some of the many success stories that we experience at Calat.

For more information on the courses available, visit www.calat.ac.uk or phone 0870 556 1630.

We’re aiming to provide a service which will make it easier for individuals and businesses to access learning opportunities which will enhance the lives of people and businesses living and working in Croydon.
A healthy school
works at breakfast
clubs, after-school
clubs, lunchtime
queues and the
time given to eat to
create a pleasant
and friendly eating
environment.

The wealth of health
IS YOUR SCHOOL A HEALTHY SCHOOL?

We all know how important it is to have a
healthy diet and keep healthy with exercise –
but what about healthy emotions or
healthy relationships?
The Healthy Schools programme is working in Croydon
to help schools provide a place where children can
grow to become adults who can make healthy lifestyle
choices, both socially and academically.
Currently, 80% of Croydon’s schools have signed up
together with the Healthy Schools team and are working
with the Healthy Schools team and are working
Together with the school community, including staff,
parents and children, to improve four important areas
of school life.

Personal, social and health education
PSHE is different to traditional lessons like maths,
English and science in that it is learning for life.
In PSHE, pupils might learn about what makes a good
friendship and respecting different cultures. They might
receive sex and relationship education, or be told of
the dangers of drinking too much alcohol, and how
to stay safe.
Pupils learn to understand their own feelings and
respect the feeling of others. PSHE is taught in creative
and interactive ways that give pupils opportunities to
practise social skills safely and make informed choices.

Healthy eating
There can’t be many people nowadays who don’t know
that eating well helps you look and feel better, but
healthy eating in school considers more than just the
food at lunchtime.
A healthy school works at breakfast clubs, after-school
clubs, lunchtime queues and the time given to eat to
create a pleasant and friendly eating environment.
Within the curriculum it teaches skills to budget, shop
and prepare nutritious meals.

Physical activity
Physical activity doesn’t mean only sport. It covers all
activities that children and young people participate in.
For example, does your local school participate in
the Walk on Wednesdays scheme (WOW), or does it
promote cycling to school?
There are many ways that children can incorporate
physical activity into their normal everyday lives –
without the expense of joining a gym!

Emotional health and wellbeing
This element of healthy schools focuses on developing
children’s emotional and behavioural development.
It’s about creating a school environment where bullying
is not tolerated and where all pupils have a voice in
school decisions.
A healthy school has clear rewards to promote good
behaviour and raise self-esteem.

How can you help your school?
A healthy school will have met standards set by the
Government that consider each of these areas.
To find out what your child’s school is doing, or to offer
to help, ask at your school who its healthy schools
coordinator is.
Remember, all parents can help a school to become
“healthy”.
We all want the best for our children and healthy
schools will give them the start they need to succeed
at whatever they do, both in school and out.
If you’d like more information, contact the healthy
schools team on 020 8726 7396, or by email at
Joe.Adolphe@croydon.gov.uk or
Caroline Davies on 020 8726 7397, or by email
at Caroline.M.A.Davies@croydon.gov.uk

Taking the reins
New chief executive looks forward
to making a difference

Jon Rouse, 39, has become only the sixth chief
executive of Croydon Council in the past 70 years.
He arrives in the borough, after holding the same post
with the Housing Corporation, with priorities that include
improving customer service standards and ensuring
the council gets recognised as an efficient organisation,
providing value-for-money services.
Intending to build further on the established partnership
working practices with the business sector and bodies
such as the police, he is keen to give a new emphasis to
the training and development of staff so that they
can better perform their public duties.
Getting to grips with the emerging gangs culture, and
helping the town overcome a negative image problem
and become better known outside its boundaries are
also high on his agenda.
Additionally, he is keen to see an improvement
in performance in the borough’s schools, and in
the quality of basic services such as keeping the
streets clean.

He intends becoming a familiar figure around the
borough and will be attending lots of Neighbourhood
Partnership meetings.
He said: “If you want to know what’s happening
in Croydon these are the meetings to attend to find
out what is really on residents’ minds. “I intend to learn a lot about Croydon by walking
the patch.”
“Knowing how Croydon works at grass-roots level will
better help me understand what the members want to
achieve and how to turn their ambition into the kind of
actions that residents really want.”
Cooking for the big prize

Are you, or do you employ, a chef producing top-quality Asian or oriental food? If so, here’s your chance to shine

Croydon Curry Chef of the Year 2007

BATTLE OF THE BALTIS?

Croydon’s environmental health team is relaunching the prestigious Curry Chef of the Year Award.

The award celebrates the huge variety of curries safely cooked in Croydon, and praises the creation of an interesting and tasty menu of Asian food.

This year, top chefs from restaurants across the borough are to be invited to compete against each other for the hotly contested title.

The popular competition creates a real buzz among local Indian restaurateurs. Are you interested?

WHAT HAPPENS?

Those businesses that choose to take part and meet the standards, will cook three imaginative dishes: a starter, a main course and a rice, naan or noodle dish.

There will be two-phased judging with a cook-off for the finalists. Each dish will be judged on its flavour, texture, appearance and aroma by a panel.

Is your mouth watering yet?

AT THE COOK-OFF

Special guests are invited to our event with an opportunity for high-profile publicity throughout Croydon.

There will be exhibit stands for local businesses and residents to view new products and services available to them, and a multimedia centre for delegates to surf the net to review food websites.

There will be a tantalising display of the food cooked by the finalists, and lively demonstrations of Asian and oriental cooking, including noodle pulling and sugar-craft techniques.

THE COMPETITIONS

Do you own or manage a local food business?

Does it produce Asian, Bangladeshi, Malaysian, Sri Lankan, Pakistani, Indian, Chinese, Japanese or Thai food?

Is it a noodle bar, takeaway or café, producing tasty Asian- or oriental-style food, safely and hygienically?

Would you like the chance to win these prestigious awards, gain huge publicity and lots of first-class prizes for yourself and your business?

Would you like to get involved?

The events will be taking place in the autumn and chefs entering either competition must hold the minimum level of food-hygiene training, and the business must have a written statement of its food-safety management systems.

The team is also pleased to announce the launch of a new competition – the Oriental Chef of the Year.

It offers local oriental restaurants the first opportunity for their business to benefit – and for their chef to be recognised as the king of the king prawns.

The award covers all oriental-style food premises within Croydon, including Japanese, Chinese, Malaysian and Thai food restaurants, noodle bars, take-aways, bars and cafés.

Chefs entering either competition must hold the minimum level of food-hygiene training, and the business must have a written statement of its food-safety management systems.

See Croydon’s greener side with a little help from the experts

SuPERB SWEET AND SouR?

Croydon is blessed with many public green spaces – some ordered and neatly manicured, others retaining more of a natural feel.

All, however, have a couple of common traits: they are managed – most of them by Croydon Council – and they form a valuable leisure resource for the people who live and work in the borough.

To heighten the enjoyment obtainable from these green spaces – be they parkland, garden, heathland or woodland – the council hosts a free, year-round programme of guided walks and events.

The guided walks are conducted by knowledgeable staff who are able to talk about the history of the land they are covering, and can point out interesting facts about the plant and animal life that inhabit it.

A recent walk through Selsson’s Littleheath Woods on a bright, clear morning was attended by more than 20 people.

Ranging in age from three-year-old Oliver to several retired folk, the group was led by community partnership officer Melkie Weser who, over the course of 90 minutes, identified many varieties of woodland plants, described the antics of the woods’ animal population, and answered the questions that arose.

Littleheath Woods were not new to local resident Kaye Taylor but the walk took her to parts she had not previously visited.

She said: “My son and I often walk here on the way home from school. I saw a sign publicising this walk and thought it’d be nice to see what it had to offer.

“I’ve never been to this part of the wood before and the walk’s been very interesting. It’s nice to see all the plants coming through, and the guide’s been excellent.”

Mark Trompeteler admitted that, despite living in nearby Forestdale for 28 years, he’d never previously walked through Littleheath Woods.

“It’s been extremely enjoyable and very informative – Melkie’s been an expert guide and I’d recommend one of these walks to anyone.

“It’s exactly the sort of community provision that we expect from the council and it’s the sort of thing that should get more publicity.”

Details of the programme of guided walks can be found at www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/events. Alternatively, call the community partnership officer on 020 8726 6900 ext 64952.
Neighbourhood Partnership

Everything you ever wanted to know but were afraid to ask

You may have heard about Neighbourhood Partnership, or seen it mentioned in this magazine, but never really understood what it entails. If that’s the case, read on.

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Getting connected. Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) is for people with a local connection to get together with their ward councillors and people who provide the services we use.

To promote NP, Croydon has been divided into 10 areas, combining adjacent electoral wards.

WE MEET WHEN?

Three meetings a year take place in each area, at suitable local venues. Each NP area has an independent chairman, elected to serve for two years.

WE AIM TO:

• facilitate the exchange of information and provide opportunities for consultation on matters affecting local people;
• give participants a chance to contribute to the planning of services provided by Croydon Council and other agencies;
• encourage the development of local projects that could play a part in the regeneration of the area.

HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON?

We recently had the 200th NP meeting!

NP was introduced, with cross-party support, on a trial basis in three areas in autumn 2000 and extended to all parts of the borough in mid-2001.

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published regularly in Your Croydon.

IS SIZE IMPORTANT?

On average, about 70 people come to each meeting, although this does vary considerably.

Many of those involved belong to local groups and organisations – for example, members of more than 100 residents’ associations regularly take part.

The meetings are supported by a small dedicated team from the council’s democratic and legal services division.

WHO GOES THERE?

Overall, two-thirds of attendees are local residents. Anybody with a “local connection”, who lives, works, studies or has business interests in the area may participate.

NP has brought together members of the public and community groups, local councillors, council staff and representatives from partner agencies, such as the police and the primary care trust.

Kail Gunaratnam, chairman of South Norwood and Selhurst NP, said: “I’ve been the chairman of our group for just over a year but I’ve been very active in this area for quite some time, having lived here since 1964.

“I think NP’s very important because it’s made local people aware of the facilities provided by the council. It’s a problem-solving body and goes some way to resolving most of our issue.

“NP brings people from the community together, it’s a strong support group.

“Our councillors are fantastic, they attend our meetings and are so committed, and we need this sort of relationship with the council to get things done.”

Graham Lomas, chairman of Coulsdon East and Coulsdon West NP, said: “If Croydon’s Neighbourhood Partnership did not exist, it would surely have to be invented, because we no longer have units of government operating at the level of the meaningful local community.

“The meetings are a device for anyone interested to hear what is in the offing, and to challenge and cajole officers and councillors face to face – within the framework of each meeting agenda.

“The Coulsdon area is undergoing massive change currently, which leads to lively, well-attended meetings, with full agendas.”

WHEN AND WHERE?

Meetings are held on Wednesday evenings – except in Purley and Kenley where they’re held on Tuesdays – and start at 7.30pm, see page 22 for more details.

If you are interested but unable to come to a meeting, at least one meeting a year of each Neighbourhood Partnership is recorded for webcasting.

But don’t just sit in front of a computer monitor – go along to your local NP meeting, see at first hand what goes on, and play a part in the proceedings.

You never know, your involvement could be just what it takes to achieve something in your area. And we’re especially keen to see and hear from younger members of the community.

Details of recorded NP and Croydon Council meetings can be found in the archive at http://www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php

Everyone who attends a meeting is sent a copy of the minutes and is included on the relevant mailing list as a member of the partnership.

Agendas, minutes and reports are published on the Croydon Online website at www.croydononline.org/ neighbourhood_partnerships/

KEEPING LOCAL PEOPLE INFORMED

Neighbourhood Partnership has proved to be:

• a complementary medium for providing information – about boroughwide developments which have an impact locally;
• a facility that can be, and has been, used to consult about a wide range of issues, informing aspects of policy development and service delivery;
• an opportunity for people to raise and discuss local concerns.

IS SIZE IMPORTANT?

Although this does vary considerably.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published in Your Croydon magazine, but never really understood what it entails. If that’s the case, read on.

We recently had the 200th NP meeting!

NP was introduced, with cross-party support, on a trial basis in three areas in autumn 2000 and extended to all parts of the borough in mid-2001.

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published regularly in Your Croydon.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published in Your Croydon magazine, but never really understood what it entails. If that’s the case, read on.

We recently had the 200th NP meeting!

NP was introduced, with cross-party support, on a trial basis in three areas in autumn 2000 and extended to all parts of the borough in mid-2001.

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published regularly in Your Croydon.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published in Your Croydon magazine, but never really understood what it entails. If that’s the case, read on.

We recently had the 200th NP meeting!

NP was introduced, with cross-party support, on a trial basis in three areas in autumn 2000 and extended to all parts of the borough in mid-2001.

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published regularly in Your Croydon.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published in Your Croydon magazine, but never really understood what it entails. If that’s the case, read on.

We recently had the 200th NP meeting!

NP was introduced, with cross-party support, on a trial basis in three areas in autumn 2000 and extended to all parts of the borough in mid-2001.

Meetings are advertised on posters displayed locally – eg, in branch libraries – and details are published regularly in Your Croydon.
Green Guardian Awards 2007

How do you halve your fuel bills, teach children about climate change or make your business greener and more successful?

All of us have an impact on the environment, so we can all change our habits to reduce that effect.

Croydon is full of great people who are beginning to make that change, and the Green Guardian Awards scheme is finding out about them, so we can follow their good ideas, and at say “thank you” to these pioneers.

We want to hear from schools, individuals, groups and businesses that have made a noticeable change in their “green” habits since September 2006.

This includes those who are complete beginners, as well as those who have been actively carrying out good environmental practice for a long period of time.

You may be doing more to recycle, save energy or reduce your water use. Perhaps you buy Fairtrade products, or have had a solar panel put on the roof.

It’s your borough . . . it’s your world

Parish Church Infants

This year, pupils at Parish Church Infants have planted 30 trees in the playground, begun to recycle cardboard and paper (with a box in each classroom and in the staff room), fruit and vegetable waste and tea bags go into the compost bin to be used around the school, and inkjet cartridges and mobile phones are being sent to a charity.

The school, in central Croydon, now buys recycled copier paper whenever possible and has mouse mats made from recycled rubber.

It also reuses packaging like bubble wrap and, in the classroom, “reduce, reuse and recycle” initiatives are being taught.

The 2007 awards categories are:

- Green Household
- Green School-Primary
- Green School-Secondary
- Green Business
- Young Environmentalist
- Green Project or Group
- Green Champion

A & D Pink

Environmentally-friendly coffins and caskets made from sustainable materials such as bamboo and wicker consolidate Sanderstead funeral directors A & D Pink’s green credentials.

Adrian Pink runs the business with his wife Diane Danell-Pink from their premises in Limpsfield Road and decided to offer this service because they considered it important.

The environmentally-friendly coffins are produced in China using traditional skills and come from a sustainable resource of bamboo and annually harvested willow.

The emissions released by the bamboo and wicker when burned, or during cremation, are less harmful to the atmosphere than traditional wooden coffins.

Nomination form

Your name ...................................................... Your address .................................................................

Your daytime tel no. .................................... Your email address .................................................

Award category ........................................ Person/organisation you are nominating ...........

Address ........................................................ Email address ......................................................

Daytime tel no ............................................ Email address ......................................................

Why you think they deserve to win (to help the judges, please include as much detail as possible):

Why you think they deserve to win (to help the judges, please include as much detail as possible):

Send completed form in an envelope marked “Green Guardian Awards” to Liz Waters, Green Guardian, Unecol House, 19 London Road, North Cheam SM 9BN

Closing date is September 7, 2007

Alternatively, contact Liz Waters by calling 020 8329 9525 or emailing lwaters@london.newsquest.co.uk

The Green Guardian website can be visited at www.greenguardian.co.uk


It’s your borough . . . it’s your world
Croydon’s town centre in your hands

Your chance to have a say on the future of Croydon Metropolitan Town Centre

Croydon Council’s planning and transportation department has published a planning document for consultation which will influence the future of Croydon’s centre.

The Croydon Metropolitan Centre Area Action Plan (CMC AAP), both by council officers and others employed on the council’s behalf.

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Unattended hosepipe

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

A Guide to Drought Resistant Gardening

This may not have been the driest of summers, but Sutton and East Surrey Water says it’s still important to conserve water.

Water is a precious, life-preserving resource – but it has a limited natural supply.

The drought conditions of the past two years have clearly shown that existing water supplies can be significantly affected by certain weather patterns.

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that taking a bath can use three times the amount of water as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Water butts

Consider using water-efficient plants. Sutton and East Surrey Water produces A Guide to Drought Resistant Gardening, packed with advice on how to create a beautiful and healthy garden in the driest conditions.

Contact the company’s customer services team on 01737 772000 for a free copy.

Save-A-Flush sachets

Water butts can use as much water as a flush in just 20 minutes.

Cistern displacement

Save-A-Flush sachets and Hippo bags are provided free of charge to Sutton and East Surrey Water customers. Slipped into the toilet cistern, they reduce the volume needed to refill the cistern. Order them free online at www.waterplc.com or call 020 8407 1385.

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that taking a bath can use three times the amount of water as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Apply For School Places Online

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Children born between 1 September 1996 and 31 August 1997 can start secondary school in September 2008. You can apply for schools in Croydon between 1 September and midnight on 19 October 2007.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

All children born between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004 can start primary school in the school year beginning September 2008. You can apply for schools in Croydon between 1 September and midnight on 19 December 2007.

Croydon has made it easier for parents to apply for school places, by enabling people to search for school information and make applications for both primary and secondary school places via www.croydon.gov.uk/education

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Did you know that taking a bath can use three times the amount of water as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?

Did you know that an unattended hosepipe can use as much water in ONE HOUR as a shower?

Did you know that one-third of all domestic water is flushed down the toilet?

Are you saving for a non-rainy day?
A roof over their heads

Helping find tenants through the council’s landlord deposit scheme

Are you a private landlord with property to let? Croydon Council could help – it works with landlords and agents, and offers a range of incentive packages. All types of properties are required, including studios, bedsits, smaller registered houses of multiple occupancy, and all sizes of self-contained property.

The following services are available to landlords who are able to manage their own properties:

• Deposits and incentive payments paid to landlords and advice about securing the deposit through one of the Government-backed schemes.
• Tenants’ housing benefit paid directly to landlords.
• Long-term lets to tenants at current market rates.
• While the risks of letting privately are not completely removed, they are lower than renting in the open market as tenants with an adverse history are not nominated.
• A support service to assist with tenancy sustainment and housing benefit is offered to both tenant and landlord.
• The landlord selects a prospective tenant from applicants sent to view the property.
• Legal documentation associated with letting the property, such as tenancy agreements, notices and sample inventory are supplied free of charge.
• All tenancies are let on assured shorthold tenancies.
• A full, free survey of the property to ensure that it is fully compliant with the Housing Health and Safety Rating System as laid down in the Housing Act 2004.

Surrey Street Market is a thriving market with a charter that dates back to 1276 and is a wonderful place to pick up everything from fresh fruit and veg to a variety of foods from around the world.

• Households are matched to properties in order to ensure maximum income for the landlord, who is advised, in advance of letting his property, how much rent he is likely to receive. The tenant may be entitled to receive full or partial housing benefit, and advice is also given about tenants’ rental contributions in advance.

Certain properties are not eligible for either scheme.

These are:

• Properties that have been purchased from the council within the past five years under right-to-buy arrangements, even if the property was purchased by a previous owner.
• Properties that have been purchased from a housing association within the past five years under right-to-acquire arrangements, even if the property was purchased by a previous owner.

The minimum property requirements are:

• A current gas safety certificate if there is a gas connection to the property; the certificate must be issued by a Corgi-registered gas engineer.
• A current electrical safety certificate.
• Two working smoke alarms.

Further advice can be obtained from the council’s housing specialist team on 020 8726 6100 or email your nomination to surreystreetmarket@croydon.gov.uk or email your nomination to surreystreetmarket@croydon.gov.uk.

Forms are also available from the market inspector by post or email or online at awards@surreystreetmarket.com.
CR oYD oN C ou NCIL PRESENTS:
The Pride of Croydon
A competition for the young and the not so young – tell us, in essay or art form, who inspires you.
Win a trip to Barbados or the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago to see the artefacts of slavery – including plantation houses, sugar cane factories and more.
or
to The Door of No Return – Ghana Slaves’ final sight of Africa, before transportation by ship to the west
or
Become a guest feature writer with GV Media Group for either The Voice, Young Voices or The Weekly Gleaner.
other prizes include:
• A night for two, with meals, at Jurys Inn, Croydon
• Dining at The Spreadeagle pub and restaurant
• Books – a Barclays account
• Goodies packages from Nestlé
• and much more
for more information visit www.clavelrowepr.co.uk
and follow the links
YOUR CROYDON ISSUE 10 - AUGUST 2007

What’s On
JULY 07

www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure

DAVID LEAN – JULY

Molière – Digital
Fri 3 & Thur 9 August

Zodiac (15)
Fri 3 & Thur 9 August

Joe Strummer: The Future is Unwritten
Wed 8 & Thur 9 August

Flyboys (12)*
Fri 10 to Thu 16 August

Golden Door (PG)
Fri 10 to Thu 16 August

Away from Her (12A)*
Wed 16 & Thur 16 August

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
Fri 17 to Thurs 23 August

This is England – Digital
Fri 17 to Thur 23 August

Beyond Hatred
Wed 22 & Thur 23 August

Grow Your Own
Fri 24 to Thur 30 August

The Queen
Fri 24 to Thur 30 August

Sunshine (15)
Wed 29 & Thur 30 August

Children of Zyloflytane

Spider-Man 3 (12A)*
Sat 4 and Wed 8 August

Happy Feet (U)
Sat 11 and Wed 15 August

Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer
Sat 25 & Wed 29 August

TBC

Common Green Grasshopper

Pheasant

The Queen

Hartmans Missel

NATURE NOTES

At the beginning of July, I was walking in a meadow when a pheasant, which had been resting in the long grass, started flapping its wings and took off over my head.
I was very surprised, this was the first pheasant I’ve seen on Riddlesdown.
I did some research and found out that the pheasant spends most of its time on the ground but roosts in trees at night.
There have been lots of caterpillars with spikes and small red spots this month. They are the caterpillar of the peacock butterfly and they feed on nettles.
I noticed that as soon as they are touched, they fall to the ground – I think this must be a defence mechanism, so that they’re not eaten.
I’ve also found three types of grasshopper: the meadow, the common green and field; and two types of cricket: the Roessels bush and the oak bush.
Did you know that the different species of grasshoppers and crickets can be identified from the differences in their sounds?
It has been a good month for butterfly spotting – especially the holly blue and marbled white.
I noticed that the marbled white stayed in a small area close to the meadow.
The holly blue can be distinguished from the common blue as it has small black spots on its blue underwing, while the common blue has a blue underwing with brown and orange patterns at the edges.

CROYDON COUNCIL PRESENTS:
The Pride of Croydon
A competition for the young and the not so young – tell us, in essay or art form, who inspires you.
Win a trip to Barbados or the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago to see the artefacts of slavery – including plantation houses, sugar cane factories and more:
or
to The Door of No Return – Ghana Slaves’ final sight of Africa, before transportation by ship to the west
or
Become a guest feature writer with GV Media Group for either The Voice, Young Voices or The Weekly Gleaner.
other prizes include:
• A night for two, with meals, at Jurys Inn, Croydon
• Dining at The Spreadeagle pub and restaurant
• Books – a Barclays account
• Goodies packages from Nestlé
• and much more
for more information visit www.clavelrowepr.co.uk
and follow the links

SOUTH LONDON

Not sure what to do with your exams results?
Connexions Personal Advisers are on hand to point young people in the right direction.
Connexions South London will have a number of Personal Advisers available in the Croydon Connexions Centre and in some schools or colleges throughout Croydon to talk to students about their next move, whether it will be to go to college, into employment or training.
Young people, whether they have done better than expected and think that there may be more options open to them, or are disappointed with results and need to rethink their choices, will have Connexions Personal Advisers available to offer help and advice!
Young people can drop into the Croydon Connexions Centre to talk to a Personal Adviser who can access all the information needed and help to make the best-informed decision.
Your local centre is at: Connexions Croydon, 12 – 14 High Street, Croydon Tel 020 8401 0301
www.connexions-southlondon.org.uk
or, for course options, visit www.yourlondon.gov.uk/choice

Buy the bin that makes your garden more beautiful

Buy the bin that makes your garden more beautiful

CROYDON COUNCIL
www.croydon.gov.uk

AUGUST

This is the fifth instalment of Nature Notes. Over the past year, young naturalist Chris Toomey has guided us through Riddlesdown’s changing seasons, bringing its many forms of wildlife into our homes.

At the beginning of July, I was walking in a meadow when a pheasant, which had been resting in the long grass, started flapping its wings and took off over my head.
I was very surprised, this was the first pheasant I’ve seen on Riddlesdown.
I did some research and found out that the pheasant spends most of its time on the ground but roosts in trees at night.
There have been lots of caterpillars with spikes and small red spots this month. They are the caterpillar of the peacock butterfly and they feed on nettles.
I noticed that as soon as they are touched, they fall to the ground – I think this must be a defence mechanism, so that they’re not eaten.
I’ve also found three types of grasshopper: the meadow, the common green and field; and two types of cricket: the Roessels bush and the oak bush.
Did you know that the different species of grasshoppers and crickets can be identified from the differences in their sounds?
It has been a good month for butterfly spotting – especially the holly blue and marbled white.
I noticed that the marbled white stayed in a small area close to the meadow.
The holly blue can be distinguished from the common blue as it has small black spots on its blue underwing, while the common blue has a blue underwing with brown and orange patterns at the edges.

Not sure what to do with your exams results?
Connexions Personal Advisers are on hand to point young people in the right direction.
Connexions South London will have a number of Personal Advisers available in the Croydon Connexions Centre and in some schools or colleges throughout Croydon to talk to students about their next move, whether it will be to go to college, into employment or training.
Young people, whether they have done better than expected and think that there may be more options open to them, or are disappointed with results and need to rethink their choices, will have Connexions Personal Advisers available to offer help and advice!
Young people can drop into the Croydon Connexions Centre to talk to a Personal Adviser who can access all the information needed and help to make the best-informed decision.
Your local centre is at: Connexions Croydon, 12 – 14 High Street, Croydon Tel 020 8401 0301
www.connexions-southlondon.org.uk
or, for course options, visit www.yourlondon.gov.uk/choice
Scrutiny

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Cabinet Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 Sep</td>
<td>27 Aug</td>
<td>Cllr Gavin Barwell (resources and customer services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Sep</td>
<td>10 Sep</td>
<td>Cllr Chris Wright (planning)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To submit a question to a cabinet member at a scrutiny sub-committee Q&A session, email it to scrutiny.public.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to 020 8760 5657; post it to Scrutiny Public Questions, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3J5, or call 020 8726 6000 extn 62327.

Neighbourhood Partnership

Neighbourhood partnership meetings (all start at 7.30pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Sep</td>
<td>South Norwood and Selhurst</td>
<td>Players’ Lounge, Crystal Palace FC, Selhurst Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Sep</td>
<td>Purley and Kenley</td>
<td>Christ Church Hall, Brighton Road, Purley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Sep</td>
<td>Sanderstead, Croham and Selsdon &amp; Ballards</td>
<td>St John the Divine Church Hall, Upper Selsdon Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td>Addiscombe, Woodside and Ashburton</td>
<td>Ashburton Learning Village, Shirley Road</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For information on Neighbourhood Partnerships, visit the website at www.croydononline.org/neighbourhood_partnerships/, email neighbourhood.partnerships@croydon.gov.uk, write to Neighbourhood Partnerships, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3J5, or call 020 8726 6000 extn 62564 or 62396.

Croydon Community Police Consultative Group

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

Forthcoming meeting dates are: Wednesday, 19 September; Tuesday, 13 November

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

These meetings are to be transmitted using webcasting. They can be viewed at www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php

Council

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 17 Sep, 2007</td>
<td>Monday, 3 Sep, 2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To submit a question for consideration at a full council meeting, email it to council.questions@croydon.gov.uk; fax it to 020 8760 5657; print and complete the form at www.croydon.gov.uk/councilquestion and post it to Questions for the Council, Democratic and Legal Services, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3J5, or call 020 8726 6000 extn 62327.

Croydon Community Police Consultative Group

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

Forthcoming meeting dates are: Wednesday, 19 September; Tuesday, 13 November

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

These meetings are to be transmitted using webcasting. They can be viewed at www.croydon.ukcouncil.net/site/webcasts.php

Birkbeck — where you matter

Choose from over 1000 part-time certificates, diplomas and access courses in subjects ranging from counselling, English and law; management and media; and psychology and social policy.

Visit birkbeckmatters.com for a full A–Z of courses.

Enrol now for September courses

birkbeckmatters.com  0845 6010174

London’s ONLY specialist provider of face-to-face, evening higher education. Prestigious University of London qualifications. World-class research environment. Ranked number one by students*.

* according to the National Student Survey 2006. birkbeck.cityoflondon.ac.uk
Do you have an empty property?

Croydon Council is targeting long-term empty properties in the borough which are empty without good reason. To support this campaign, Croydon offers the following:

- Empty-property grant of up to £25k per property
- Private sector leasing with guaranteed rents
- Sponsored tenancy lettings
- Rent-in-advance schemes
- A grant for first-time buyers who are purchasing a long-term empty property with a view to renovating the property and living in it for five years.

Croydon is targeting long-term empty properties which have been empty without good reason, and taking legal action to bring them back into use using compulsory purchase powers (CPO) and empty dwelling management orders (EDMO).

Contact Croydon Council’s housing department for advice and assistance to get your property back into use.

Call 020 8726 6100