

DARTFORD LIVING

FREE

The Feel Good Magazine Serving Dartford And Surrounding Areas

Dartford • Greenhithe • Longfield • Darenth • Wilmington • Crayford • Bexley • Gravesend • Northfleet • Swanley

SEPTEMBER 2009

Issue 39

*Win Orchard
Theatre Tickets
See page 30*



*Meet your match
online in 2009
See page 29*



**SPECIAL
BOILER
SERVICE OFFER
FOR DARTFORD
LIVING
READERS**

See Page 11

PLUS:

*All your regular
features, puzzles,
events, information
and much, much
more!*



BIG BENN CHIMES IN TO DARTFORD!

See page 10

Exclusive Dartford Living interview with political legend Tony Benn

Delivered FREE each month to thousands of homes and businesses



Independent Financial Advisers

Advising individuals and companies on:

- Mortgages
- Equity Release
- Pensions
- Investments
- Savings / ISAs
- Life Assurance
- Financial Planning / Reviews

0845 293 7329

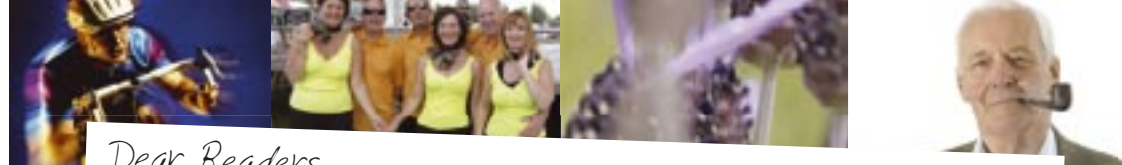
info@figleafs.co.uk

Fig Leaf Financial Services Ltd is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Services Authority

The Financial Services Authority does not regulate some forms of Mortgages

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.
For advising on mortgages, we can be paid by commission or a fee typically £295

Please mention Dartford Living when contacting our advertisers



Dear Readers,

A big September hello from the Dartford Living Team. Can you believe it is already September?!? I hope the September edition of Dartford Living finds all of you well. As you will have already seen from our front cover and page 10, this month we feature an exclusive interview with political legend Tony Benn. Also, read about Michael Palin and Nigella Lawson visiting Bluewater in September and our special online dating feature, both on page 29. There is also a readers' letters section on page 9. Would you like to more fully understand your rights if you have problems whilst on holiday? See page 19. Be carbon monoxide aware and follow the gas safety tips on page 11, as well as making use of the exclusive Dartford Living boiler service offer on the same page.

Dartford Living is also packed full of the usual favourites including music, travel, gardening, sports, cars, crossword, puzzles, charity, Orchard Theatre tickets competition and Sudoku! The 'Where to Go Locally' section on pages 6 and 7 also includes lots of new activities and events to get involved in. Also, don't forget the updated Useful Numbers section on page 28.

Please don't forget that we run the magazine alongside members of the community FOR the local community. Dartford Living is YOUR magazine, the only independent community magazine serving the Dartford area with fun, good news and positive local stories!

Feel free to continue to get in touch if you would like to write an article for the magazine. If writing is not for you perhaps you could volunteer to deliver 100 or so magazines to your local roads - you will guarantee your copy of the magazine and get a little exercise as well! We deliver to thousands of homes and businesses in the local area, however if you don't receive a copy directly through your door, you can pick up a copy from various drop off points across the local area. These include Dartford Football Club, local libraries (including Temple Hill, Northfleet, Dartford, Crayford, Swanley and Ashen Drive), Fairfield Pool, David Lloyd Health Club, Goals Soccer Centre and various Health Centres/GP surgeries!

Please remember to mention Dartford Living when contacting our advertisers featured in the magazine. If you run a local business and would like to discuss advertising, or own a restaurant or pub and would like to be featured, please contact us.

Sam is on hand to help with the design of adverts for our advertisers. Find our rates or on our website www.dartfordliving.com. The 'Previous Editions' section of the website also includes a monthly uploaded electronic version of Dartford Living. When you advertise in the paper copy of Dartford Living Magazine your advert is also seen online on our website and via search engines!

Until next time, Vijay

(and Sam, Abdel, Bhavesh, Dhiren, Jodie, Kelly and the rest of the Dartford Living team)

P.S. You can also find Dartford Living on Facebook. Simply visit www.facebook.com/DartfordLiving. Feel free to join the fan page, invite your friends to do the same and say hi!

For any information, please contact us at:

Dartford Living, PO Box 283, Dartford Kent DA1 9BW Office: 01322 507817

Advertising & Editorial - Contact Vijay: editor@dartfordliving.com

Sales & Design - Contact Sam: sales@dartfordliving.com

Website: www.dartfordliving.com Add us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/DartfordLiving) - www.facebook.com/DartfordLiving

Dartford Living and its owners cannot be held responsible for any errors, omissions or claims made by advertisers or endorse companies, products or services that appear in any Dartford Living publication.

AES

Advance Electrical Solutions Ltd.

Electricians

For all your domestic electrical requirements

- Breakdowns and faults.
- Extra lights and power points.
- Gardens, ponds, flood and security lighting.
- Fuse board replacements.
- Shower, cooker and heating circuits.
- Full rewires.
- Extra telephones.
- Fan installations.
- Computer network points.
- Just ask !

All works installed, inspected and tested by fully qualified and insured engineer

Telephone: 01322 221 737

Mobile: 07751 838 549

Email: AESolutionsLtd@gmail.com

Index of Advertisers and Information

Your quick guide to everyone and everything in your Dartford Living Magazine

ADVERTISERS

Accounts

Fig Leaf Financial Services 2

Builders, Decorators & Roofing

4k Building Services 20

A Baines & Son Roofing 21

Claremont Decorators 14

Craig Baker 27

C Paterson - Odd-Jobs 22

P Clark 11

Business Support & Networking

Thames Gateway 30

Car Showrooms

Bourne Road Garage - Mazda 32

Carpets & Flooring

Mayplace Carpets 18

Cleaning Services

Cleaning Doctor 25

Daisy Cleaning Services 26

Education

Greenwich/Bexley/North West Kent/

Orpington Colleges & Universities 16

Jean Taylor - Private Tutor 23

Kip McGrath 23

Kumon Centre 23

Electricians

AES Electricians 4

Florists

Broadway Flowers 21

Food Stores

Life Foods 4

Function Rooms/Entertainment

Amar Hall Over 30's night 24

Springfield Lodge 18

Garages & Vehicle Services

N Scott Mobile Repairs 18

Shenley Road Garage 26

Graphics/Websites

Samantha Ingram - Designer 29

Home Improvement

Value Doors 12

Ironing Services

Professional Ironing Service 27

Jewellers

Bradleys 9

Music, Dance & Theatre

DJ Darren Gilbert 5

Theatretrain 14

LeRoc Dance Classes 15

Opticians

Linklater Opticians 21

Pet & Garden

H & E Evergreen Tree Services 27

Pet & Garden Supplies 13

Picture Framing

Craft Frames 12

Plumbing

Liquid Plumbing 24

Solicitors

TG Baynes 17 & 19

Van Services & Removals

F.D Transport 13

Man & Van 26

ARTICLES & LOCAL INFORMATION

A Month in Music 27

Around the World in 80 Words 14

Automotive News 22

Book Signing at Waterstone's Feature 29

Carbon Monoxide Feature 11

Contact Dartford Living 3

Cover Story - Tony Benn 10

Cryptic Crossword 8

Sudoku Solution 30

Dartford FC 28

Editor's Letter 3

Gardening Tips 31

It's Your Letters 9

Online Dating Feature 29

Orchard Theatre Competition 30

Puzzle Cellar 12 & 31

TG Baynes Travel Tips 19

Sporting Comment 25

Sudoku 20

Useful Numbers 28

Where To Go Locally 6 & 7

* NEW LOCATION * NEW LOCATION * NEW LOCATION

life foods

Cash & Carry

Ebenezer Enterprises UK Ltd

68.Spital Street

Dartford

DA1 2DT Kent UK



Tel/Fax: (0044)01322220001

Mob : (0044)07931688219

Email : lifefoodsuk@gmail.com

We specialize in:

- Asian / African Groceries
- Fresh Vegetables
- Halal Meats
- Indian Sweets
- Frozen Seafoods
- Worldwide Money Transfer



DJDarrenGilbert

Professional Mobile and Club
DJ

Parties Weddings
Pubs Clubs

All music
genres

Availability &
prices online

All locations
covered

Full mobile disco set up, lighting,
and special effects. Public liability
insurance

www.djdarren gilbert.co.uk
darren.gilbert@hotmail.co.uk
07792734536

Where to go locally... ..local events, clubs & groups

Parent & Toddler Groups (Term Time)

Mondays

1:15pm - 2:30pm. Brent Methodist Church, St Vincents Road, Dartford.
1:15pm - 3:00pm. Christchurch, Crossroad, Dartford. Contact Christine on 01322 408799.

Mondays and Wednesdays

9:30am - 11:30am. Amar Hall, bottom of East Hill, Dartford. Contact Julie on 01322 291092.

Tuesdays

Little Fishes: 12 - 2pm, Emmanuel Church, East Hill, Dartford. £2 per family including all snacks and drinks.
Call Karen Ruby on 01322 272649.

Wednesdays

10-11.30am Springfield Lodge Day Nursery Swanscombe - Fun Playtime sessions, 0 - 3 years,
a chance to meet other families and make new friends, no need to book, just turn up! TEL: 01322 389181.
1pm-2:30pm. Lutonia Hall, Broomhill Road, DA1, contact Lynne on 01322 229637.

Thursdays

9:45 - 11:30am. The Vineyard Centre, 24 Market St, Dartford. Contact Suzanne on 07896 489803 or suzanne@createdin6.co.uk
9:30 - 11:30am. St Paulinus Church Hall, Manor Road, Crayford.
9:45 - 11:30am. The Meeting Hall, Broomhill Road, Dartford. £1 per family. Contact 01322 277661.
10-11.30am. Springfield Lodge Day Nursery DARTFORD Fun Playtime sessions, 0 - 3 years,
a chance to meet other families and make new friends, no need to book, just turn up! TEL: 01322 228154

Fridays

9:00 - 11:00am. St Alban's Church, St Albans Road, Dartford. Contact Maureen or Julie on 01322 221651.

Toddler Music & Rhyme Sessions

MONDAY Jo Jingles Music and Movement classes, Holy Trinity Church Hall, High Street, Dartford.
Booking needed - phone Gill on 01474 322123. Other days/venues available.

MONDAY 10:30am - 11:00am & Friday 2:15pm - 2:45pm at Dartford Library - Baby Bounce & Rhyme Time

TUESDAYS 2 sessions, from 9.30-10.30am and 10:45 - 11:45am in Fleetdown FC Hall;

Heath Lane, Dartford. Contact Judi: 07970 730736. **ALSO RUN SAME PLACE/TIME ON THURSDAYS**

TUESDAYS 10.30m - 11.00am (term time only) at Ashen Drive Library - Baby Bounce and Rhyme session. Tel: 08458 247 247.

THURSDAY mornings (term time) at Crayford Library at 9.50am and 11.00 am (2 sessions). Crayford Road, Crayford, DA1 4ER. Tel: 020 8303 7777. Also: Coffee and Chat sessions at Temple Hill Library on the First Tuesday of the month 10am - 12noon.

Scrappy Days! A new scrapbooking group is being held at Hawley Pavilion, Hawley Road, Dartford, DA2 7RB on the 2nd Sunday of the month between 2pm and 6:30pm. It costs £6 which includes refreshments, nibbles and the use of a cricut (cutting machine for those that don't know). Beginners are very welcome. Contact Michelle on 07910 488428 or email scrappydays@hotmail.co.uk

Christchurch 100th Birthday Flower Festival

Christchurch, Christchurch Road, Dartford is holding a three day Flower Festival to celebrate its 100th birthday. This will be held on Friday 11th September 10am-4pm, Saturday 12th September 10am-4pm and Sunday 13th September 1pm-5pm. Light refreshments will be available. Everybody is welcome.

Would you like to promote a local activity on the "Where to go locally..." page?
If so email your suggestions to editor@dartfordliving.com

Dartford Women's Institute
2nd Tuesday of every month. Dartford Girls' Grammar School, 7:30pm.
Contact Jean on 01322 274251

Crayford Women's Institute
1st Thursday of every month at 1.45pm. Baker Trust Hall. Maxm Road, Crayford (near Sainsburys).
Contact Jean 01322 557142 or Christina 01322 293102.

Dartford Floral Club

Demonstrations held the 3rd Friday of every month, 7:30pm in the Hawley Pavilion (opposite Papermaker's Arms), Hawley road, Hawley, Dartford. Contact Norma on 01322 402504. The entry fee for a lovely evening of beautiful flowers is £4.50. (Club not held in July)

Learn To Jive

Every Tuesday at 8.30pm at The Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane, Dartford, DA1 2JZ. £7 per session. Visit www.jiveafter5.co.uk for more information
*** 50% promotional discount if you mention Dartford Living ***

Dartford Beekeepers

During summer meetings are held on 2nd Saturday of each month for people interested in Beekeeping. Contact 01322 225887 or willmumbly8@tiscali.co.uk for information.

The Rotary Club of the North Downs

They meet at the Holiday Inn, Black Prince, Thursday evenings 7:30pm for 7:45pm for Dinner and fellowship. For details phone 07759 863836.

Local Libraries

Dartford Library Opening Hours:

Mon to Wed 8.30am - 6.00pm, Thurs 8.30am - 8.00pm, Fri 8.30am - 6.00pm, Sat 9:00am to 5:00pm

Ashen Drive Library Opening Hours:

Mon 2.00pm - 6.00pm, Tue 9.00am - 1.00pm, Thurs 2.00pm - 6.00pm, Fri 9.00am - 1.00pm, Sat 10.00am - 2.00pm

Temple Hill Library Opening Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri 9.00am - 6.00pm, closed Wed & open Sat 10.00am - 2.00pm

The West Kent Book Club meets once a month on Saturday mornings at a bar called "The Charlotte" near Crayford Station. For more information, please call 07815 817157 or find us at www.meetup.com/West-Kent-Book-Club/. Next meeting 22nd August at 10.30am.

LOCAL DOMAKACI JUDO CLUB

Based at Hextable Secondary School. Thursday Evenings 6-7pm for girls and boys aged 5 upwards.
Learn the art of self defence.
Just come along or contact Gavin for more details 07801 584901

The North West Kent Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association

meets at 8pm on the 4th Wednesday evening of each month in the Pop-In Parlour, Mill Road, Northumberland Heath, Erith. The meetings last about 2 hours and the group often have a speaker on a variety of subjects, followed by tea and biscuits and general chat. For more information contact Eileen on 01322 228169.

Local Sports Clubs

Bexley Rugby Club

01322 550142 or www.bexleyrfc.co.uk

Dartford Ladies Hockey Club

June Morris - 01322 226686.

Dartford Ju Jitsu Club

Mondays, Dartford Girls Grammar School, Shepherds Lane. 6.30-8.00 Juniors, 8.00-10.00 Seniors.
1st session free

www.dartfordjujitsu.co.uk

Dartford Sharks Basketball Club

Tim Dickson - 07855 692527.

Dartford Volleyball Club

Graham - 01322 275290 or 07984 106134.

Stone Lodge Indoor Bowling Club

01322 274111.

VCD Table Tennis Club

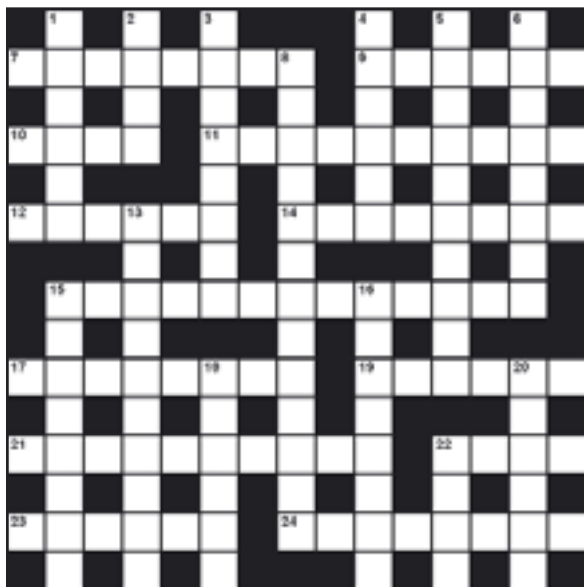
Eric Jenkins - 0208 3038312.

'Play & pay', 9 hole, par 3 golf course on Dartford Football Club's Princes Park site, managed by the Club. Members subscribing annually to play the course have formed themselves into a small golf club:- PRINCES PARK GOLF CLUB Contact: Mr. Pat Coleman, Secretary 01322 863730 pat.coleman@dartford.gov.uk

Looking For Adventure? Want to make a difference?

Scouting in Dartford is more popular than ever, but we have lots of young people on waiting lists desperate to join in but a lack of adult help is stopping them. As a leader, helper or instructor, you could help make a real difference to Dartford's youth. A first rate training programme and full support is given. You need only give as much time as you feel you can spare, and any time you do give will be appreciated. Remember, children don't lack imagination, only the opportunity. If you would like to get involved in any way, or would like your child to join, please contact Cavan Slingo on 0845 0944713 or dartscout.pr@virgin.net

*Can you work out the answers?
Fairly hard and a little bit cryptic!*



(c) 2004-2008 Geraint Tucker (Granite Crosswords)

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

ACROSS

- 7 The French remedy - taking time to initially recruit university worker (8)
- 9 Air-time returning without six unimportant details (6)
- 10 Spot - English secret agent? (4)
- 11 Astonished me with dog's back mutilation (10)
- 12 Part of a wheel - new, it's said (6)
- 14 Cheap, yet novel protection for the viewer? (3,5)
- 15 Vessel becomes rotten at side in half of Persia (6,7)
- 17 Make a million within an afternoon's refreshment? (5,3)

- 19 Push most of the corrosion (6)

- 21 First cook-book about pepper containing a decorative material (5,5)
- 22 Admonish Romeo in pale surroundings (4)
- 23 Indicate slang I misused (6)
- 24 Gift from party to country? (8)

DOWN

- 1 Spoil me with second drink (4,2)
- 2 Remain in East Ayrshire? (4)
- 3 Ailing, or poorly first (8)
- 4 Thwart my return - in street, that is (6)

- 5 Miracles I'd performed for renunciation (10)
- 6 Muffler - no noise, right? (8)
- 8 Polish and English tramps move into bed that is approved (6-7)
- 13 Abduction of sleeping child? (10)
- 15 Picture left artist with it (8)
- 16 Exalt Ron in the "nearly new" turn first (8)
- 18 Drink some Asti, p-please (6)
- 20 Grows, or perhaps not - good grief! (6)
- 22 Power unit with a non-drinker? (4)

*For your chance to win one of
two Goals/Umbro Footballs,
please send your name, address
and telephone number with
completed crossword to:*

September Crossword Competition,

Dartford Living, PO Box 283,
Dartford, Kent DA1 9BW
(Before 20th September)

Prizes to be collected in person
from Goals, Dartford Branch.

Congratulations to August's Winners:

Kenneth Abraham, Grove Park
Jack Kingwell, Blackheath

**It's Your
Letters!**

Got something to say
about a local issue?
Why not contact
us? See page 3 for
details of how to get
in touch.

Don't Forget Older Shoppers!

Bluewater is a lovely shopping centre but I find it is more geared up towards the young. As a pensioner I prefer to go to Lakeside where there is more of a variety of shops for the both young and the not so young!

I do go to Bluewater fairly regularly because it is easy to get to with the use of my bus pass BUT if it wasn't for Marks & Spencer (my favourite store) and the cinemas then I am afraid I would go even less.

In the present economic climate many shops seem to be closing down but it would be nice, if and when things do pick up, the planners think a little more of the older shopper, and there are many of us.

Mrs Sheila Daley - Miskin Road, Dartford

60 Hythe Street
Dartford
DA1 1BX

Tel: 01322 278535



148 Broadway
Bexleyheath
DA6 7DW

Tel: 020 8298 1710

**MAKE A DASH
FOR THE CASH
AT BRADLEYS!**

**We offer on all unwanted
gold, stone set jewellery
and quality watches**

- No obligation quotes
- Over 18's
I.D required

**• Stockists of the
fantastic range of
Fiorelli silver jewellery**

*****NEW IN STOCK*****

The beautiful range of
SILVER & CO collectable glass
bead & silver charm bracelets. Ideal
gifts for any occasion. Individually
made up to your own unique design!

**ALSO NOW STOCKING:
Levi watches & Aqua Master watches**

BIG BENN CHIMES IN TO DARTFORD!

Tony Benn is a prominent figure in British politics having won his first parliamentary seat in 1950 and served as Minister for Technology, Secretary of State for Industry and Secretary of State for Energy for the Labour Party before retiring in 2001. Benn served in World War II, appeared in Michael Moore's documentary Sicko, commenting on the NHS and boasts an appearance on Doctor Who. He will be appearing at The Orchard Theatre on September 14th presenting his show, 'An Evening with Tony Benn'. His latest book 'Letters to my Grandchildren' is released on 1st October, adding to an impressive collection of literary works released over the course of his career. Dartford Living's Abdel Khairoun catches up with him in Part 1 of his interview.

What can people expect from 'An Evening with Tony Benn'?

I talk about issues which concern people most: war, the economic crisis, democracy, religion. It's an open non-confrontational discussion with the audience about what we do about the biggest problems we face. People can ask questions but also give opinions - it's like a seminar!

What are your views on politics these days? Why is politics such a turn off for people?

The way politics is presented now is that you're expected to attack the other side and they're expected to attack you but why don't we just discuss with people with different opinions how you tackle the problem? It is possible to have a difference of opinion without having a punch up. You don't have to be an expert on every detail to ask why this problem isn't being tackled, or an expert on military strategy to ask why our boys are dying in Afghanistan. You can ask what's the war about? Why are we there? Are we succeeding? What else could we do? The media and political class underestimate people's intelligence but I believe people are far more intelligent than they're given credit for.

What about getting involved in local politics? Wouldn't that be a good start?

Well local government was completely strangled by Mrs Thatcher and it's not been liberated by New Labour. In the old days a local authority could do what it wanted if it could get local support. Now local authorities are only allowed to spend money the Treasury gives them on what the Treasury wants them to, so they've become local agents of the Treasury and are not democratically accountable to anybody. We talk about devolution to Scotland, what about local government?

Tell us your views on the Iraq war inquiry

The inquiry should be nothing other than an exploration of the truth in public. The questions it should answer should be why did we invade Iraq? Were we told the truth? When did Bush first decide to

invade Iraq? When did he tell Blair? And when did Blair agree that he would support an invasion of Iraq? These questions don't involve any secret information at all and this report should answer all those questions and come out before the election so people can take into account what the inquiry has reported on but they've deliberately pushed it beyond the election. Government is responsible for explaining what it has done and I don't think we were told the truth.

Will we see a change of power at the next election? And what do you think of New Labour?

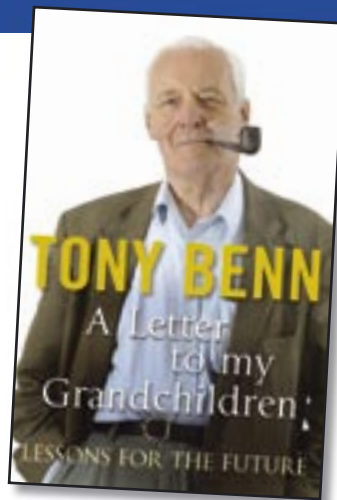
I'm not in the business of forecasting the future, my job is to try and influence the future. I've been a member of Labour for 70 odd years but never joined New Labour as Blair said it was a new political party. In effect it follows Mrs Thatcher's policies. She was asked her greatest achievement and she said New Labour!

Tell us more about your upcoming book, 'Letters to my Grandchildren'.

In the book I'm trying to deal with questions about the UN, Europe, nuclear power and more. At my age it's been rather interesting to go over the problems and lessons I've learned and see whether it's relevant to their experience. I tell them that they're the first generation in human history that have it within their power to destroy the human race, but they're also the first generation in human history that have the technology and know-how, and if the money is spent wisely, to solve the problems of the human race. My generation made a complete muck of the world.

Tony Benn will be appearing at The Orchard Theatre on September 14th. For more information, and to book tickets, visit www.celebrityproductions.info or www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

Part 2 of this interview is to be published next month in Dartford Living.



BE CARBON MONOXIDE AWARE - BE ALARMED!

Liquid Plumbing Solutions in partnership with the Carbon Monoxide Consumer Awareness Alliance (COCAA) are pleased to bring you this article to heighten the awareness to the potential dangers of Carbon Monoxide (CO) in your home.

Carbon Monoxide is a highly poisonous gas that has no colour, taste or smell. Any appliances burning gas, wood, oil or coal can produce it. Poisoning by CO can be fatal or cause lasting health damage. Recent research found that nearly one person in thirty surveyed believed that they had suffered from CO poisoning. Some 20 million households in the UK don't have an audible CO alarm or don't have their appliances checked regularly enough - leaving them under-protected and at risk of CO poisoning.

FIVE STEPS TO SAFETY:

1. Fit an audible alarm. These cost as little as £15 and are available from DIY stores or energy suppliers.
2. Have your appliances checked regularly. A registered and qualified engineer should check all fuel-burning appliances annually.
3. Don't block ventilation.
4. Know the signs around your appliances, soot or staining on or around the appliance, excessive condensation in the room where the appliance is installed or lazy yellow / orange coloured flames could indicate a potential hazard.
5. Learn to recognise the symptoms usually similar to flu symptoms and can include nausea, dizziness, tiredness, headaches, stomach pains & chest pains.

If you experience these symptoms but feel better when you are outside or away from the appliance, you could be suffering from CO poisoning.

Liquid Plumbing Solutions offer servicing on all natural gas & LPG appliances, as well as installation of the latest energy efficient boiler systems. We also specialise in full bathroom installations and renewable energy solutions.

To book your annual service or for a free no obligation quotation please call us on 01322 897897.

EXCLUSIVE DARTFORD LIVING READER OFFER

Liquid Plumbing Solutions are pleased to offer a fixed price boiler service, for only £40.00 (normally £60.00) until 30th September 2009.

CALL 01322 897897 TO BOOK YOUR SERVICE AND QUOTE DARTFORD LIVING



P. CLARK GENERAL BUILDERS (EST. 1976)

All enquiries contact Paul:

Tel: 01322 270951 Mob: 07985 457432

Email: paclark26@aol.com

- Bathrooms • Kitchens • Flat Felt Roofing
- Carpentry • Guttering • Decorating • Tiled Roofing
- Plumbing • Boiler Servicing • Fencing • Block Driveways
- Brickwork • Plastering • Electrical Installations
- Extensions & Loft Conversions Project Managed

**Fully Qualified Tradesmen
Electrical NICEIC Registered
Plumbing Corgi Registered**

THE Puzzle Cellar

RUN • SWIM • FLY

THESE 10 CREATURES ARE USUALLY FOUND EITHER RUNNING, SWIMMING OR FLYING. BUT WHICH ONE DOES WHAT?

1) ROBIN	_____
2) COD	_____
3) WOLF	_____
4) BEETLE	_____
5) ZEBRA	_____
6) DOVE	_____
7) HAWK	_____
8) MAGPIE	_____
9) DOLPHIN	_____
10) EAGLE	_____

ALL ABOUT PETS
BUD G. RIGAR

Answers: 1) FLY 2) SWIM 3) RUN 4) RUN 5) RUN 6) FLY 7) FLY 8) FLY 9) SWIM 10) FLY

©1999 ©Dell & Strachan

FREE DOG & CAT FOOD SAMPLES

PET & GARDEN SUPPLIES

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

148 Colney Road, Dartford

Tel & Fax: 01322 226330

Email: petandgardensupplies@o2.co.uk

www.petandgardensuppliesdartford.co.uk

Extensive Range of Accessories

STOCKISTS OF:

- Burns • Hills • Arden Grange
- Royal Canin • James Wellbeloved • Barking Heads
- Iams/Eukanuba • Nutro Choice • Almo Nature

All other makes of food supplied to order

OPENING TIMES:

Monday – Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm Wednesday 9.00am – 1.00pm

GREAT DOORS GREAT VALUE

NEED A NEW DOOR?

Does yours have:

- A Draughty rotten frame? • Peeling paint?
- Single glazed • Worn & un-secure locks?

We supply and fit made to measure uPVC, Composite & Rock Doors For Front Doors, Backs Doors, Patio Doors, French Doors, Utility Doors and Stable Doors. All uPVC doors come complete with:

- A 10 point multi locking system • One piece steel keep
- Double draught proofing gaskets • Insurance approved locks with 3 keys • Steel reinforced frames • Reinforced panels • Internal security beads • 10 year triple backed guarantee • Your fitters home number

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR:

- Internal trimming • Frosted glass • Furniture colour
- Pilkington "K" glass • 28mm Toughened double glazed units • Removal & disposal of your old door & Frame

www.valuedoorsuk.co.uk
enquiries@valuedoorsuk.co.uk

valuedoors

Telephone: Leigh 0203 1515156 or 01322 808801

Craft Frames



Quality Picture Framing



Free advice and estimates

Needlework & Card Making

Sequin Art

D.M.C. Stockist

Embroidery Day Classes

Well Worth a Visit!

01322 278703

21 West Hill Dartford DA1 2EL

Free parking at rear.

www.craftframes.co.uk

F.D. TRANSPORT

"FULWICH VILLA" 100 FULWICH ROAD, DARTFORD KENT

TEL: 01322 292323 MOBILE: 07831 448552

• FREE ESTIMATES

• ALL REMOVALS
UNDERTAKEN

• ALL GOODS
FULLY INSURED

• HAULAGE,
PARCEL SERVICE,
SINGLE ITEMS



CLAREMONT DECORATIVE SERVICES



- ALL TYPES OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DECORATING
- AROUND THE HOUSE MAINTENANCE JOBS
- FREE ESTIMATES
- REFERENCES AVAILABLE
- RELIABLE, INEXPENSIVE AND QUALITY WORK BY LOCAL TRADESMEN

CAN WE HELP YOU?

Please call Mike or John on: Tel 01322 406439 / 01322 525708

Mobile: 07742 085333 Email: mikeperry5001@ntlworld.com

Partners: Mike Perry and John Petherick

BEXLEY THEATRETRAIN

Be part of the excitement



DANCE ACT SING

Professional Training in the
Performing Arts for 6-18 years
Every Saturday 11-2pm
Blackfen School for Girls

01732 840856

www.theatretretrain.co.uk
bexley@theatretretrain.co.uk



Each month Abdel looks at a different part of the world and writes exactly 80 words.

This month he writes about...Malmö

Sweden's third largest city dates back to 1275 and is linked to Copenhagen by the impressive Oresund Bridge. Hosting a historic architecture influenced by both Swedish and Danish design, testament to it being a part of the Danish empire, it also has modern Swedish and Scandinavian influences. The city hosts numerous festivals all year round, a twisting skyscraper 620ft tall, The Turning Torso, a Modern Art Museum and a beautiful man-made shallow beach, 'Ribersborg', referred to as the 'Swedish Riviera'.



Evolution Dance presents

LeRoc Dance Classes

@ The Acacia Hall Ballroom

High Street, Dartford DA1 1TG

Every Thursday evening

New starters are welcome and may join anytime - no joining fee, booking or up front payment required, it's pay as you go

Dance to your favourite music including chart sounds, latin, swing, R&B and motown

FOR FUN.....

have a laugh, learn a new skill and meet new people

FOR FITNESS.....

excellent exercise and infinitely more interesting than going to the gym

FOR LIFE.....

a skill you can enjoy for life



Doors open at 7.45pm for an 8pm start. £7 pay as you go. Licensed bar. Free on site parking.

All abilities, all ages welcome. Come on your own, with a partner and/or friends. Class rotation operates.

LeRoc is French for rock n' roll and has EVOLVED from the simple chic French Jive style to incorporate many other styles including Salasa, Lambada, Dirty Dancing and the original Lindyhop.

Tel: 01322 273078

www.evolutiondance.co.uk info@evolutiondance.co.uk





Are you thinking about further study or returning to learning?



The University of Greenwich is on your doorstep and has a wide range of subjects on offer.

If you would like further information, please visit: <http://www.gre.ac.uk/study/open> or contact the Enquiry Unit on 0800 005 006



YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

We've a full range of courses to choose from, so there's bound to be something to suit you. To find out more phone us on 01689 899700 or visit our website: www.orpington.ac.uk



Orpington College, The Walnuts, Orpington BR6 0TE



Bexley College is an accredited training centre for a wide number of courses in Business, Secretarial, Accountancy and Management.

A wide range of industry focused programmes are available, and all of them are geared towards national qualifications

We also offer a bespoke range of commercial training courses delivered in the workplace under Train to Gain

If you or your business is struggling in the economic downturn act now to secure your future. Contact us to find out about courses and training opportunities.

01322 404000

Bexley College, Tower Road
Belvedere, DA17 6JA

www.bexley.ac.uk



Your Local Solicitor. Working for you, your family, your business.

T G Baynes has been working for people and their businesses for more than a century. We are one of the major providers of legal services in the South East.

We have specialist departments working in the following areas:-

Residential Property • Family and Matrimonial • Wills • Trusts
Probate • Personal Injury • Clinical Negligence • Employment
Civil Litigation • Debt Recovery • Commercial Property and Business Services

**To get us working for you, your family
or business call us free on**

0800 220 382

www.tgbaynes.com

Community
Legal Service



What next?



**North West
Kent College
has the answer.**

North West Kent College
offers an extensive range
of courses to suit all needs.

Call our friendly helpline
for a copy of our
Full-Time Course Guide.

Helpline 0800 074 1447
www.nwkccollege.ac.uk



GRAYSSEND CAMPUS
Coring Way, Grayswood, Kent, DA12 8AJ
DARTFORD CAMPUS
Oakfield Lane, Dartford, Kent, DA11 6TT



Powdermill Garden Suite

For weddings, christenings and all family functions. Large licensed hall holds 200 people. Set in wonderful gardens. Large car park. Marquee can be erected in the grounds if preferred. We have several weddings and family events under our belt and are now ready to launch the Powdermill Garden Suite for further use.

We will organise your catering, disco, licensed bar, hall decorations, child care - anything and everything! And the difference is we will work with you to keep costs as low as we can.

Pandemonium Parties

For your child's special Birthday Party

Let us take all the pain out of organising your child's party!

We turn our large hall into your front room - balloons and banners welcome the children and professional, CRB-checked, party hosts run the event for you! We provide invitations, food and drink, party games, themes - in fact everything to make the day special. All you do is bring the cake along!



For more details on all of the above please check our website: www.springfieldldn.co.uk

**Springfield Lodge,
Powdermill Lane, Dartford
email: functions@springfieldldn.co.uk**

**For details ring:
07790 212861**

THE HOLIDAY CLINIC



Consumer problems with holidays – Part 1

Advice to holidaymakers booking online

Please be careful when booking "do-it-yourself" holidays online. Due to the current economic conditions, most of us this summer will be tempted to surf the web and find cheap flights and accommodation and the majority of us will book our holiday online. However, before you do book your holiday online please ensure that you safeguard your interest. Ensure that the tour operator or travel company is a member of ATOL (Air Travel Organisers Licensing). That way, your holiday arrangements are protected.

The disadvantage of booking your flight and accommodation separately and not through a tour operator, means that this reduces the level of protection afforded to you. For example: if a consumer booked directly with an airline or hotel which then subsequently ceases to trade, that consumer may not receive a full refund and could find themselves stranded in a particular foreign country. If the consumer has a complaint about the quality of food, the cleanliness of the hotel or its represented facilities, the consumer will have to deal directly with the management.

One way of protecting yourself would be to always ensure that you take out travel insurance and pay at least the deposit by credit card when possible. Provided the cost is over £100, by using a credit card, the credit card company will normally be jointly liable in the event of any breach of contract.

There are no special ways of making a complaint against the holiday bought online. Try to get the supplier to put things right first and if that doesn't work then contact any trade association which the supplier belongs to. If you are still unhappy you can consider taking Court action in the small claims Court for amounts not more than £2,000 and for larger amounts speak to a solicitor.

Holidays do not always go as planned and holidaymakers do suffer unfortunate accidents. Tour operators are under a duty to ensure that their customers' accommodation is both safe and hygienic and that customers are not exposed to the risk of

injury, disease or infection. When in an unfamiliar country you may not be able to seek immediate legal advice, but you can as soon as you arrive home.

For further information, if you need legal advice, contact Nadeem Sarwar on 0208 301 7662.

Ten things to remember if you have an accident abroad

- Take photographs of either the defect or cause of the accident;
- Take photographs of the injury suffered;
- Ensure that the accident is reported to the tour operator and if necessary the hotel;
- Keep a copy of the Accident Report Form;
- Ensure that you note down names and addresses of witnesses;
- Seek immediate medical treatment if required;
- Make a note of the name and address of the hospital attended and the names of any doctors who treated you;
- If a travel insurance policy was taken out, inform the insurance company immediately of the accident, even if you can't do this until you get home;
- Seek legal advice as soon as you get home because the time limits in which you must make a claim differ from country to country;
- Don't throw away your travel documentation

Mayplace Carpets Limited

160 – 162 Mayplace Road East, Barnehurst, Kent, DA7 6EJ

Phone 01322 523936 Fax 01322 553681

Web: www.mayplacecarpets.co.uk Email: mayplacecarpets@btconnect.com

Established since 2000, with over 20 years of flooring experience.

- We are a family run firm
- Home selection service available as well as a large modern showroom
- We cover a full range of flooring, from budget to high end
- We also carry out contract work for various clients including schools, nursing homes, property developments, estate agents and lettings
- Flooring types that we can provide include: carpets, vinyl, laminate flooring, solid wood and luxury vinyl tiles.
- We also offer made to measure curtains & blinds, lots of fabrics, all sorts of accessories, including cushions and pelmet boards.

FREE QUOTATIONS



4K Building Services

...all types of building work undertaken



Specialists in:

Block-paved driveways

Patios and paving

Brickwork

Fencing

Decking

Drainage

Footings

Free estimates given

References available upon request

Pictures shown are genuine examples of customer projects

71 Carlisle Road Dartford Kent DA1 1XJ W www.4kbuildingservices.co.uk

T 01322 226169 M 07717 296421 E kieran.norman@4kbuildingservices.co.uk

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through to 9, with no repetition. That's all there is to it!

				9	7		5	
	2			5			7	4
7	5	8		4		6	9	
	4		6					1
		7					6	
6	9				4			
			2	3	8	1		
				1		3		
1	3		8		5			2

(Solution on page 30)

Sudoku provided by www.free-sudoku.net



Established for over 70 years

When did you last have your eyes checked?

Linklaters has an extensive range of over 400 styles of glasses to choose from. Bespoke spectacles at sensible prices.

Tel: 01322 223113

22 Lowfield Street (next to Barclays Bank), Dartford

BROADWAY FLOWERS PROFESSIONAL FLORISTS

Tel: 01322 619862



LOCAL AND
WORLDWIDE
DELIVERIES

BOUQUETS
FROM £20.00

Birthdays, Funeral Tributes, All occasions.

*Come direct to us and
get value for your money.*

We accept all debit and credit cards

**3 BROADWAY CROCKENHILL
SWANLEY KENT BR8 8JH**

Competitive
Rates!

A BAINES & SON ROOFING

- New Roofs • Repairs • Tiles • Slates
- Flat Roofs • All Lead Work
- UPVC Fascias & Soffits
- All Guttering

- All Work Guaranteed
- Insurance Work Undertaken

TEL: 01322 271693

MOBILE: 07971 792463

This month's article looks at the manufacturers more economical versions of the latest cars, as they attempt to reduce their carbon footprints.

Audi A3 69mpg – Audi has launched its most economical car ever: an A3 with an economical new diesel engine. The new A3 1.6 TDI hatchback emits 109g/km of carbon dioxide while averaging 68.9mpg. This engine will also be offered on the A3 Cabriolet. The fuel saving comes from Audi's decision to fit stop/start as standard, which cuts CO2 emissions by up to 5g/km alone. Prices kick off at £17,485 for the new 1.6 TDI, while an A3 Cabriolet with the same engine starts at £20,645.



for the new supermini range from £10,035 for the 1.2 litre five-door to £14,910 for the 1.6 litre diesel. A three-door model will be available in December. At launch there'll be a choice of five engines: three petrol and two diesels. The petrols are the 1.2 litre engines with 58bhp or 68bhp and a 1.4 litre 83bhp. The 1.6litre TDI units offered in the Polo come in 73bhp or 88bhp power outputs. A turbocharged engine is expected in early 2010.

Volkswagen Polo
– Volkswagen has announced prices for its fifth-generation Polo, now available to order in advance of its on-sale date of 16th October 2009. Prices



Nissan Leaf – Nissan has unveiled a new all-electric small family hatchback called the Leaf. At £20,000 Nissan believe the Leaf will be the world's first 'affordable' electric car when it goes on sale in the UK in 2011. The Leaf boasts a real-world range of more than 100 miles and under the bonnet there's a 108bhp electric motor that propels the Leaf from 0-62mph in less than 10 seconds and then on to a top speed of 90mph. It can be charged up to 80% of its full capacity in just 30 minutes with a quick charger.



C.PATERSON & SONS

Public Liability Insured.
C.I.S Registered.

- ✓ DRIVES, PATHS & PATIOS LAID
(BLOCK PAVING, CONCRETE AND SLABS)
 - ✓ BRICKWORK
 - ✓ FENCING
 - ✓ SHED REPAIRS & BASES LAID
 - ✓ GUTTERING & GUTTER CLEANING
 - ✓ UPVC FACIA & SOFFITS
 - ✓ CARPENTRY
 - ✓ DOOR HANGING
 - ✓ DECKING CARPET FITTING
 - ✓ PLASTERING
 - ✓ FLAT PACK FURNITURE
(KITCHENS & BEDROOMS)
 - ✓ LAMINATE FLOORING
- plus many other jobs undertaken...



ODD-JOBS

FOR A FREE QUOTE PHONE:

HOME - 01322 521641

MOBILE - 07715 719703

13 Ferndell Ave, Joydens Wood, Bexley, Kent DA5 2ED



Realise
your child's
potential

Maths and English After-School Programmes

Kumon can help your child progress with their maths and English studies, boost their confidence and help them shine.

Contact your local Instructor today.

Alison Harper
DARTFORD study centre

01732 760 231 **KUMON**
kumon.co.uk Every child can shine

Private Tutor and Counsellor Jean Taylor

B.A., Cert.Ed., Dip.D.Th.

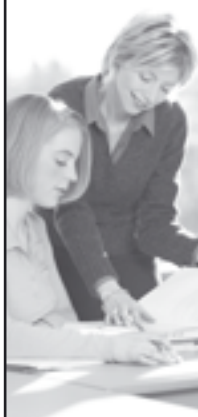
Offering tutoring and/or counselling to pupils and adults of all ages in English, Maths, and Science.

11+ and GCSEs and "A" Levels and Special Needs (dyslexia and autism).

We offer 1 to 1 teaching, with fully qualified and experienced tutors.

95% of our pupils taking 11+ get to schools of their choice.

FREE ASSESSMENTS.
COMPETITIVE PRICES.



Phone Jean

Tel: 01322 275456



Need help with school work?
Concerned about progress?
Preparing for an exam?

We can help.

Professional, affordable
after-school tuition for
6 - 16 year olds, by qualified,
experienced teachers.



105 Brent Lane
Dartford
DA1 1QT

For friendly advice,
and to book a **FREE**
assessment, please
call Jean or Andy on
01322 285685



- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Spelling
- ✓ English
- ✓ Maths


Give your child a brighter future


 BATHROOMS

 HEATING

 BOILERS

 SERVICE

 GAS

 LPG

 RENEWABLES

 PLUMBING

www.liquidplumbingsolutions.co.uk

LIQUID



PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

Plumbing & Heating Installation Engineers

*Bathroom & heating
installation specialists*

01322 897897

Liquid Plumbing Solutions Ltd
36 Knole Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3JW



304687



[Amar Hall.co.uk](http://AmarHall.co.uk)

Fully Licensed function hall for hire in
Central Dartford.

Available for:

18th & 21st Birthday Parties
Wedding Receptions
Charity Fundraisers (Large discounts available)
Fitness classes
CHRISTMAS PARTIES
Parties and corporate events of any kind
And any other idea you can come up with!

We provide the bar, bar staff, cleaning & door security all for
under £260. You can provide your own catering etc

Amar Hall 21 East Hill, Dartford, Kent DA1 1RX
Tel: 01322 220635, 07958 612083
www.amarhall.co.uk Email: info@amarhall.co.uk

Bav's Sporting Comment

No more cold sweats!

Fear not those of you that have been waking up with cold sweats of late, for the wait is over. The Premier League is back. All those arduous days without top flight football has seen grown men break down in IKEA and whimper at the prospect of another Saturday afternoon engaging in conversation, rather than chanting on the stands.

Will it be Chelsea and Man Utd fighting it out for the title again? Will it be the same four teams at the top of the league or will big spending Man City break-in? Who will be the first manager to get the boot (this one is likely to be answered before this article goes to print!)? Will any of the newly promoted teams stay up? Which teams will get the UEFA cup spots? Who will win the FA Cup and Carling Cup? So many unanswered

questions and so much excitement – whichever team you support. The beginning of the season brings with it hope with anything possible... until the first game where these hopes are either crushed and you're brought down to reality with a bang or confirmed, and then you're on cloud 9. The first day saw Arsenal make an unbelievable start to the season by trouncing Premier League fifth placed team and FA cup finalists, Everton, by 6 goals to 1 – away from home. We also saw Chelsea, Man Utd and Man City win over the first weekend. Our local team Dartford FC also managed a 3-2 win!

Upcoming events in September include: CRICKET: Second Twenty20, 1st – 7th ODI: England v Australia; FOOTBALL: 2 World Cup qualifiers and Friendly international: England v Slovenia; and MOTOR RACING: Singapore Grand Prix.



Look...
It's Dry
Already
and He
Only Left
30
Minutes
Ago!

BEST EVER™ Carpet, Curtain & Upholstery Cleaning With A 100% Risk-Free GUARENTEE!

"Hello, I'm John Lineham, Cleaning Doctor. I am dedicated to giving you the Best Ever carpet, curtain and upholstery cleaning and protection, all at sensible prices and backed up with my 100% Risk-Free Guarantee on every job."

- Carpets Dry, Stain Protected and Ready-to-walk-on in 30 Minutes with my DRY FUSION™ quick drying system.
- Spot, Stain, Odour, Chewing Gum and Dust Mite Removal.
- Upholstery Cleaning & Protection, including Leather.
- Curtains Cleaned On Site – No need to take them down.
- 100% Risk-Free Guaranteed Service On Every Job.

John Lineham
Cleaning Doctor®
Carpet, Curtain & Upholstery Services
Domestic and Commercial – DARTFORD & N.W. KENT
www.cleaningdoctor.co.uk

DISCOUNT VOUCHER: Mention this advert and get £20 Off Stain Protection on any carpet or fabric that I clean for you. (Minimum invoice value £60)

Tel: (01322) 290 600 FREE: 0800 695 0150



Call today for an 'no obligation' quote
Tel: 01322 287821
www.daisycleaning.com

DOES YOUR HOUSE NEED A CLEANING FAIRY?

- Weekly • Fortnightly • Monthly Cleans
- One-off Spring Cleans
- End of Tenancy/Builders Cleans

*For your peace of mind, friendly, hand picked staff,
all fully reference and police checked.*

Trial run to ensure you are happy with your cleaner.

HALF PRICE FIRST CLEAN WITH THIS ADVERT*



Shenley Road Garage
01322 229887

SAME DAY MOTs

(Booking not always necessary)

- Tyres • Exhausts • Clutches
- Timing Belt Changes • Petrol & Diesel Cars & Vans Welcome

the Good Garage Scheme

Garages you can trust. Be assured that every garage listed performs services to a strict standard and will always have your best interests at heart.

**We have a wide range of cars
for sale on our website:
www.shenleygarage.co.uk**



MAN & VAN

- HOUSE / FLAT REMOVALS
- RUBBISH CLEARANCE
- WASTE LICENCE CARRIER
- FREE ESTIMATES

Daytime: 07966 421705
Evening: 01474 853175

CB

Craig Baker

Plastering, Rendering & Screeding Specialist

- **FREE ESTIMATES**
- **22 YEARS EXPERIENCE**

Mobile: 07930 969 903

Home: 01322 220341

H & E EVERGREEN TREE SERVICES

Mark Haley & Mathew Everest



All aspects of tree work and hedge cutting undertaken.

24 Hour emergency call out service.

Local friendly service

NPTC Qualified

£5 million public liability insurance

Free quotations

12 years experience

Office 01732 810285 Mobile 07598 956458

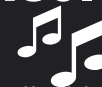
handeevergreen@sky.com

3 Shrubshall Meadow, Longmill Lane, Plaxtol,
Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0GR

A MONTH IN MUSIC

By Dartford Resident Don Johnson

The New Retro Revivals



Dance music has taken the summer like it's 1992 – although the faces are more aged than changed.

Tiesto ran amok in Victoria Park, setting a World Record as the first DJ to host a solo event in the London park, as he performed for the 25,000 revelers present.

Clapham Common featured a similar outcome as Orbital and 40 other acts performed for Get Loaded in the Park 2009 on August 30th with a truly eclectic mix of Dance, Festival, Hip Hop, Indie, RnB and alternative music.

We are also seeing a resurgence of Britpop on the music scene as Oasis' popularity grows from strength to strength bringing a surprisingly young new fan base alongside their older, loyal fans. Ian Brown, The Verve and The Stone Roses are all also due comebacks as new albums and tours are announced.

So what has changed in Dartford on the music front? Well sadly we have seen the demise of all the independent record stores. The Virgin store has now disappeared along with their remaining 6 loyal staff members. It seems we have been left with the one music store that Bluewater has to offer. We all know that the internet can provide us downloads but a visit to Camden will show all the soul and vibrancy that a record store has to offer. Fingers crossed the independent stores will see their own revival soon too.

Follow my views on twitter [The_flag_tour](https://twitter.com/The_flag_tour)

PROFESSIONAL IRONING SERVICE

01322 619862

- **24HR TURNAROUND**
- **SHIRT SERVICE AVAILABLE**
- **DELIVERY AND COLLECTION**
- **CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED**



**3 BROADWAY, CROCKENHILL,
SWANLEY KENT BR8 8JH**

Useful Numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous:
08457 697 555

Citizens Advice Bureau:
01322 224686

Crimestoppers:
0800 555111

Darent Valley Hospital:
01322 428100

Dartford Borough Council:
01322 343434

**Dartford Police Station (non
urgent crime):**
01474 369055

Dr Howard Stote MP:
01322 225200

**EDF Energy Networks
Emergencies/Powercuts Helpline:**
0800 028 0247

Gatwick Airport Enquiries:
08700 002468

Heathrow Airport Enquiries:
08700 000123

**Information About Drugs
- FRANK:**
0800 776600

**Kent Homophobic Incident
Reporting Line**
0800 328 9162

**Kent Racial Incident Reporting
Line**
0800 138 1624

**Local Breastfeeding Counsellors
Judianne/Paula:**
01322 287380/272490

**National Domestic Violence
Helpline (24 hour)**
0808 2000 247

National Gas Emergency Service:
0800 111 999

National Rail Enquiries:
08457 484950

NHS Direct:
0845 4647

**NSPCC
Child Protection Helpline:**
0808 800 5000

Report a non-urgent crime online
www.reportacrime.kent.police.uk

**RSPCA Kent -
North West Branch:**
01474 328515

Samaritans:
08457 909090

Thames Water Leak Line:
0800 714614

The National Pandemic Flu Service
0800 1 513 100

West Kent NHS Helpline:
0800 0 850850

MEET YOUR MATCH ONLINE IN 2009

By Dartford Living's Jodie Collins

So how many of you have done it? Signed up to an online dating site? Be honest.

If I had asked this question 5 years ago I doubt that many single people would answer Yes. Maybe 10% at most. Now it is 2009 and the stigma has gone hasn't it? Well I certainly think so.

I joined Match at the beginning of 2009. I had tried free sites before but generally the class of man attracted to these sites are somewhat...erm....'suspect'. Some were clearly married or with a girlfriend but going online to find someone gullible to meet when they are away on 'business' in another town. Some were just plain disgusting. Men who think that asking "What underwear are you wearing?" is a way to get into them. Sorry guys, not this girl, I require a little more attention to be bestowed to me first than that. At least buy me a drink!

On Match so far I have had a great experience. I have been on 17 dates so far this year via Match and OKCupid - a free site so lots to trawl through but also offering a wide choice. So I haven't found 'the one' yet. Who knows if THE ONE exists? Who knows if he even lives in Kent or London? But I am finding myself enjoying the actual dating more and more.

I have decided that the only way internet dating works is by

playing a numbers game. In one of my many previous sales jobs I learnt that you only get someone to say 'yes' by getting through lots of people who say 'no'. Dating is the same. You are less likely to meet THE ONE if you don't talk to enough people to narrow the odds. I am working by an old sales number...Speak to 100 people, 90 will say no straight away, 10 will listen to you and out of those 10 at least 1 will buy. OK so I don't want men to buy me but I do want them to say 'Yes'. Many of the men I have dated so far have said 'yes' but were not the guys for me - no spark etc, etc. But I am not giving up. There is a guy out there for me and I intend to find him. I also intend to enjoy every first date I have on the way!

If you want to read about the dates I have been on so far, visit www.jodieworld.com. You can email any comments to jodie@dartfordliving.com. Also if you have any questions about dating or want some advice please get in touch. Sign up for your own dating experience at www.match.com or for a free site try www.okcupid.com or www.plentyoffish.com

Stay safe with your dates - meet them in public places and try and have your first date in an afternoon rather than an evening - and enjoy every date! Remember that each 'no' is one step closer to a 'yes'!

BOOK SIGNINGS AT WATERSTONE'S BLUEWATER

Meet Nigella Lawson

The much-loved international bestselling food writer, broadcaster and journalist will be signing copies of her newly published paperback edition of Nigella Express at Waterstone's Bluewater on Thursday 10th September from 6pm. Please arrive early to avoid disappointment - access to the queue will be first come, first served.

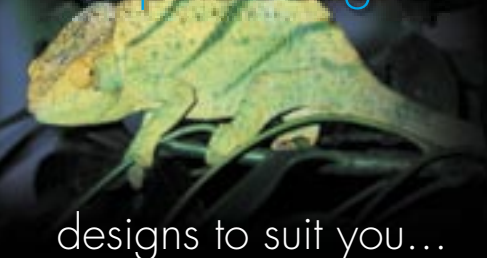
Meet Michael Palin

The enormously popular comedian, actor, travel writer and TV presenting legend will be signing copies of Halfway to Hollywood, the next instalment in his diaries, at Waterstone's Bluewater on Friday 18th September from 12.30pm.



Other authors signing copies of their books at Waterstone's at Bluewater in September include Michelle Paver and Robert Muchamore. For more information visit www.waterstones.com

Samantha Ingram
- Graphic Designer



DESIGN, PRINT & ADVERTISING

- Logos • Stationery • Letterheads • Compliment Slips • Business Cards • Corporate Literature • Presentation Folders • Brochures
- Window Cards • Newspaper Advertising • Estate Agent Boards
- Marketing Materials • Magazines • Mailers
- Posters • Flyers ...PLUS MUCH MORE

Tel: 01322 287821

Email: sam_ingram@sky.com

www.designstosuityou.co.uk

WELCOME TO DARTFORD FC

HOME GAMES FOR THIS MONTH:
DARTS VS HENDON
SATURDAY, 05 SEPTEMBER 2009
DARTS VS CARSHALTON ATHLETIC
SATURDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2009
DARTS VS SUTTON UNITED
TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2009

3G PITCH (ALL WEATHER TRAINING PITCH) FOR HIRE
Please contact us for more details

DARTFORD FOOTBALL CLUB
SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CLUB!
01322 299990 www.dartfordfc.co.uk

**MEMBERSHIP OF
THAMES GATEWAY
(KENT) CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE OPENS
DOORS FOR YOUR
BUSINESS**

We offer the best networking opportunities in North Kent. We can also help you build your business contacts and save you money at the same time.

Call 01634 311 411
enquiry@tgcoc.co.uk
www.tgcoc.co.uk

SUDOKU

September's Solution

4	6	1	3	9	7	2	5	8
3	2	9	8	5	6	1	7	4
7	5	8	1	4	2	6	9	3
8	4	3	6	7	5	9	2	1
2	1	7	9	3	8	4	6	5
6	9	5	2	1	4	3	8	7
9	7	4	5	2	3	8	1	6
5	8	2	4	6	1	7	3	9
1	3	6	7	8	9	5	4	2

CROSSWORD

August's Solution

G	B	G	S	F	S	U			
B	R	I	E	F	E	S	T	A	U
O	N	N	R	L	A	B			
C	O	N	D	I	T	I	O	N	S
V		L	K	E	V	E			
F	E	A	T	H	E	R	E	D	F
R	M	D	L	T	L				
S	P	E	A	K	E	R	S	I	M
R	D	N	W	S	O				
B	E	G	I	N	R	E	C	T	A
P	T	L	I	E					
T	A	X	I	O	R	G	A	N	I
R	O	A	H	E	H	E			
L	E	A	N	E	D	T	E	R	R
S	S	S	Y	S	P	Y			

DARTFORD LIVING



COMPETITION

Box Office
01322 220000

or www.orchardtheatre.co.uk



Blood Brothers

Their Lives Were Worlds Apart.. Their Destiny Joined Them Together...

THE ORCHARD THEATRE, DARTFORD

Monday 26th - Saturday 31st October 2009

Written by Willy Russell, the legendary *Blood Brothers* tells the captivating and moving tale of twins who, separated at birth, grow up on opposite sides of the tracks, only to meet again with tragic consequences. The incredible score includes *Bright New Day*, *Marilyn Monroe* and the emotionally charged hit *Tell Me It's Not True*.

You can win a pair of tickets for Monday 26th October 2009 (7.45pm) if you can answer the following:

What are the names of the two Mitchell brothers in the TV soap *Eastenders*?

A) Gary and Phil B) Barry and Paul C) Phil and Grant D) Ronnie and Reggie

Please send your answer, name and telephone number (by 20th Sept) to:

orchardcompetition@dartfordliving.com or September Orchard Theatre Competition, Dartford Living, PO Box 283, Dartford, Kent, DA1 9BW
AUGUST'S COMPETITION WINNER: KELLY MORRISS, BIRDWOOD AVENUE, THE BRIDGE DEVELOPMENT



Gardening Tips for September....

Ideas for your garden in September

Flowers

- Clear away faded summer bedding plants and plant out Pansies, Wallflowers and other spring bedding plants
- Sow hardy annuals outside to flower for next spring
- Deadhead Roses regularly
- Spray Roses to control black spot mildew and aphids
- Water Camellias regularly as they are now forming next year's flower buds
- Dead head annuals, perennials and Roses
- Continue spraying for mildew and other fungal diseases
- Towards the end of the month prepare to move evergreens and perennials that are growing in the wrong places
- Clear up any fallen leaves and other dead plant material to prevent diseases over wintering and remove shelter for vine Weevils

Vegetables

- Lift onions and dry them before storing them
- Harvest plants as soon as they are ready to get maximum flavour from them
- Cut and dry herbs for use in the winter
- Continue to take precautions against slugs and snails
- Regular hoeing will keep weeds down and prevent seeds being dropped on to the soil to create problems for the following year

Lawns

- Now is a good time to sow new lawns using either seed or turf
- Use autumn lawn-care products
- After the summer lawns often need a bit of pampering and September is the traditional month to do this.

- Start by removing unwanted weeds.
- Most lawns, depending on the soil type, also benefit from being aerated every year. Do this by making holes in the soil with a garden fork and then rake in a bit of autumn lawn feed. This is not as necessary with sandy free draining soils.
- Bad muddy patches should be re-turfed.

General Tasks

- Top canes with cane-caps to protect eyes
- Clean paving or slabs with an algicide
- Use a Residual Current Device (RCD) when using any electrical equipment in the garden
- Feed the garden using a granular fertiliser like Growmore or Rose Plus

Tips provided by
Dobbies Garden World.



A Local Dealer
with a difference



We have a lot to offer!

New and Used car Sales over 50 used cars in stock
from £5,995 to £19,995, Special Finance, Service
and Fuel Offers available. Service and MOT's
Tyres, Exhausts, Windscreen, parts, accessories,
Full body shop service

Bourne Road Garage Ltd

Bourne Road, Crayford, Kent, DA1 4BU

Tel: 0845 389 0545 (local rate number)

www.bourneroadgroup.co.uk

Your local Mazda Dealer for over 35 years

zoom-zoom