



We wish you all a very Happy New Year



Surbiton Business Community hosts 2011 Christmas Switch-On in Surbiton Town Centre!

Hundreds of excited children and others who love Santa gathered in Surbiton Town Centre to see the Christmas Lights Switch-On this year. They enjoyed a feast of entertainment which included local school choirs, excerpts from *The Little Shop of Horrors* at the Arthur Cotterell Theatre (Kingston), dancing and festive songs.

Santa arrived on his traditional sleigh to be greeted by an excited audience who helped him count down to the switch on. When asked how old Santa might be, a little boy announced with some certainty that he has now reached the grand old age of 58!

This was an extra special occasion for Surbiton as not only did the Surbiton Business Community host the event, but thanks to their contributions, the tree lights were significantly enhanced this year. Thanks also go to Surbiton Rotary (and Santa!), Kingstonfirst, the Safer Neighbourhood Police and Transport Teams, Kingston Cycling Campaign, London Fire Brigade, St John's Ambulance, Surbiton Schools (Maple Infants' School, Surbiton Boys' Preparatory School, Tolworth Infants' School, Tolworth Junior School, St. Matthew's C of E Primary School) and RBK for their contributions.



Surbiton Neighbourhood Manager

Christina Gardner

Surbiton Councillors

Alexandra Ward

Cllr Michael Burden

Cllr John Burgess

Cllr Richard Hudson

Berrylands Ward

Cllr Karen George

Cllr Frances Moseley

Cllr Bob Steed (Co-Chair)

St Mark's Ward

Cllr Liz Green

Cllr Mary Heathcote

Cllr Yogan Yoganathan
(Co-Chair)

Surbiton Hill Ward

Cllr Neil Houston

Cllr John Ayles

Surbiton Neighbourhood Community Plan – Get Involved!

Whether you live, work, study or simply enjoy your leisure time in Surbiton or Tolworth, have your say and make a difference to what happens in the area. A Steering Group of Neighbourhood Councillors and local people are looking at issues such as facilities for young people, community space and information, Surbiton Town Centre, planning, traffic, parking and transport to influence Council decisions and make real improvements to their area. We want to hear from anyone who would like to join this Group and either attend meetings or be part of a Community Panel which contributes online. To join the Group or to find out what the community are doing in the Neighbourhood, please see www.kingston.gov.uk/surbiton_community_plan or contact Christina Gardner on 020 8547 5000.

Surbiton Town Centre gets its own Business Community

Central Surbiton businesses have formed their own Surbiton Business Community (SBC) group, a new and exciting venture involving the collaboration of local businesses to bring new ideas and benefits to the town and its visitors. SBC held their first business breakfast in October at The Surbiton Flyer and this was a highly successful networking event which also provided an opportunity for businesses to share their experiences and ideas for the Town Centre. The picture on the left shows Ellen and Fran from M&Co, who gave a presentation on their recent successful charity fashion show.



If you are a Surbiton Town Centre business or know of a business in the town who would like to be involved, please contact Andrew Sherville on andrew.sherville@rbk.kingston.gov.uk or 020 8547 5000.

Neighbourhood Committee Meetings

All meetings start at 7:30pm at Dysart School, Ewell Road, Surbiton.

Special meeting with Surbiton Neighbourhood and South of the Borough Neighbourhood Committees

15 December 2011

Neighbourhood Committee with Planning

11 January 2012

Neighbourhood Committee with Planning

8 February 2012

Neighbourhood Committee with Planning

7 March 2012

Neighbourhood Committee with Planning

28 March 2012

Have your say on Surbiton Town Centre Improvements.....



If you would like to be involved in the public working group for the next phase of improvements to Surbiton Town Centre or would like to find out more about the project, please email christina.gardner@rbk.kingston.gov.uk or call 020 8547 5000.

The Stage 1 works have now been completed and included wider pavement in some sections, better access to bus stops, a new road surface and improved servicing for shops. Consultation on the next phase (the Medium Term Improvements Stage 2) will take place as funding becomes available and includes some widening of Brighton Road, environmental enhancements such as lighting, new pavements, decluttering of pavements and additional trees. For more information, also see www.kingston.gov.uk/surbiton_town_consultation

Go Kingston - London 2012 Celebrations Start Here!!

With the countdown to the London Olympic and Paralympic Games well underway, we are calling on anyone planning an event to celebrate this spectacle to get involved and be part of the celebrations in Kingston. Kingston's Cultural Olympiad are pulling together a whole host of events taking place across the borough between 2 June and 9 September and putting them into a Souvenir Brochure to engage the whole community in our celebrations, starting with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee through to the Closing Ceremony of the Paralympic Games. Whether you are a local Leisure Centre, Sports Club, Voluntary Group, organisation or charity and are thinking of holding an Olympic themed event, the Go Kingston Team want to know about it and you could be included in the Souvenir Brochure. Telling us about your event is easy - you can either request an Expression of Interest Form by emailing the Go Kingston Team on Go.kingston@rbk.kingston.gov.uk or download a form from the website: http://www.kingston.gov.uk/gk2012_cultural_olympiad

If you have any queries at all please email the Go Kingston Team, we will be happy to hear from you.

Deadline to receive completed Forms - Friday 27th January 2012



Customer Access Point Numbers

The 8 Customer Access Point numbers are set out below:

For all general enquiries:

Information Line
020 8547 5000

To speak to a service specialist:

Benefits 020 8547 5001

Environment 020 8547 5002

Housing 020 8547 5003

Children, Schools and Families 020 8547 5004

Adult Care 020 8547 5005

Culture, Leisure and Libraries 020 8547 5006

Income, Council Tax and Payments 020 8547 5007

Tolworth 'Greenway' project under starters orders



Special Committee Meeting – 15 December

A Special Meeting with Surbiton and South of the Borough Neighbourhood Committees will take place on 15 December at Dysart School from 7pm to consider The Greenway scheme, stretching along Tolworth Broadway from the junction with Ewell Road, across the A3 Roundabout to Kingston Road outside Charrington Bowl. This is a public meeting and everyone is welcome to attend. For more information about the scheme, see

www.kingston.gov.uk/tolworth_project,

email: tolworth.project@rbk.kingston.gov.uk or call 020 8547 5002.

Planning Application – Surbiton Filter Beds

A planning application has been submitted to the Council for the development of the Surbiton Filter Beds site on Portsmouth Road for 64 residential homes on a floating pontoon, a 92 berth marina and lock gate, restaurant, landscaping and car parking. This will be an enabling development to provide a publicly accessible nature reserve, riverside walk, heritage and education centre, flood storage and a river taxi stop.

The four week public consultation period ended on 14 November 2011 and the planning application and environmental statement will be considered by the Surbiton Neighbourhood Committee for comment on 11 January 2012 and then by the Council's Development Control Committee for determination (date to be advised), prior to Stage 2 referral to the Mayor of London who has the final say on this planning application.

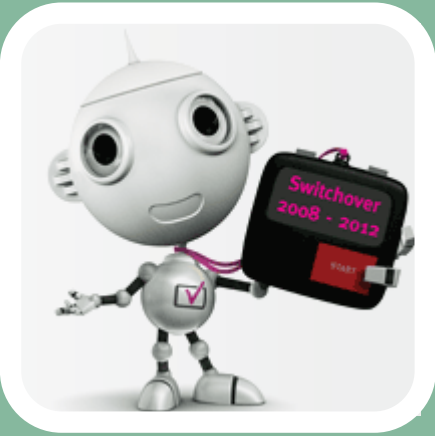
A copy of the planning application and supporting documents is available at Surbiton Library, at the Council's Information and Advice Centre in Guildhall 2, High Street, Kingston (between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday) or online. Please see www.kingston.gov.uk/surbiton_filterbeds.htm or call 020 8547 5000 for further information.

New Adopt a Tree scheme launched

Adopt a Tree is a positive new initiative to expand the borough's tree stock. The scheme involves residents paying for a tree from a species list supplied by the Council Tree Officer; the Council then source and plant the tree, and the resident is responsible for watering the tree for two years. After this, the tree will be included in the Council's maintenance programme (excluding watering). If the tree dies it will not be automatically replaced, as the reason for its death could be a result of environmental pressure which is outside the Council's or the resident's control.

Trees cost between £50 and £70, depending on species and size and the planting season runs from December to February as planting in the winter months increases survival rate. Residents are also responsible for the planting costs of the tree, which is £71 for planting in a grass verge or prepared tree pit, £195 for a new pit (60cm x 60cm) in a paved area, or £250 for a 90cm x 90cm new pit in a paved area. The Council Tree Officer will be available to attend site visits with residents to discuss suitable species for planting. For more information, please call 020 8547 5002 or email environment@rbk.kingston.gov.uk





Don't miss out on the Digital Switchover

Throughout April 2012, analogue television channels will be switched over to new, stronger digital signals. The 'Digital Switchover' is taking place so that Freeview services (digital TV through an aerial) can be extended to people who can't currently get them. The Switchover will happen in stages throughout the country, and for Kingston residents, the Switchover will take place on 4th and 18th April 2012. If you or someone you know needs help to switch their TVs over to digital, the Switchover Help Scheme can lend a hand.

The Help Scheme has helped thousands of people switch to digital and if you are eligible, approved installers will visit your home and install everything you need to switch one of your TV sets to digital. If you are eligible you should have already received an information pack in the post, however, if you haven't please contact the Council's Customer Contact Centre on 020 8547 5000. For further information, help or advice about the Digital Switchover, visit www.digitaluk.co.uk or call 08456 50 50 50.

facebook

Join our Facebook Group: **Surbiton Neighbourhood**

For more information and up to date information about what is happening in the local area. Members of the Group can add their own comments and events too!
www.facebook.com

New Police Contact Number:



Phone 101 to contact your local Police for non-emergency calls

Neighbourhood Link is a FREE messaging service that enables you to regularly receive information from the Metropolitan Police Service.

The information will be about crime and safety in the areas you work and live. To register please visit: www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk

Transition Town Kingston - Let's make Kingston a healthier, happier & better connected community!

Transition Town Kingston (TTK) is a voluntary community-led initiative addressing the twin challenges of diminishing oil and gas supplies and climate change. They seek to raise awareness of these issues and implement practical projects to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and our dependency on oil. They also aim to bring back traditional skills and ways of life in a fun and sharing way which helps the environment. Skills offered include sewing, insulating your home, cookery and growing your own.

The photos show Toni who runs cookery classes, as well as a proud participant showing off her new baking skills. The next cookery session, which will focus on chocolate, will take place on 11 February 2012.

For more information contact: skills@ttington.org or call Katie on 07754 387029
www.ttington.org/groups-and-projects/skill-up





Transition Town Kingston



From the Ground Up is Kingston's own organic vegetable and fruit box scheme, which brings affordable and fresh organic food to you locally. Members of Transition Town Kingston's food group have started a not-for-profit box scheme based on these principles:

- Provide a large variety of fresh produce from certified organic suppliers
- Sell food at or near wholesale prices - which is often cheaper than supermarket prices for non-organic goods
- Offer food that is seasonal and local when possible with preference given to UK suppliers (we also source from Spain, France and Italy)
- Support local producers of organic or natural food products when possible
- Engender a sense of community by having designated locations for meeting, working and collection of orders

From the Ground Up takes orders on the web through its new [online shop](#). You will be able to register straightaway. From the Ground Up also provides affordable organic fresh produce, breads, jams and cheese on a weekly basis. There are two collection venues; [The Lamb Pub](#) in Surbiton and the Kingston Environment Centre, which serve as pick up points for orders on alternating Saturdays. For more information, email fqu@ttkingston.org or see www.ttkingston.org/fqu



Discover variety and special offers on your doorstep this Christmas...

Shoppinglocal has now been going for some time in Surbiton and has been improved for this Christmas. Shoppinglocal is a website which helps you to browse your local high street from the comfort of your home and to print off vouchers to use at particular local businesses. The site has also now been expanded to cover Tolworth, Tolworth Parades and Chessington & Hook Parades.

The Shoppinglocal site has been developed in partnership between Kingston Council and Kingston Chamber of Commerce to encourage people to shop locally and to realise the variety on offer. The website divides business listings by area and category so that you can more easily find what you're looking for. Get online and start Shoppinglocal now! www.shoppinglocal.info



Why not be part of the Go Kingston Volunteer Team?

Will you have time on your hands in 2012? Do you want to be part of a Team that makes a difference? There are plenty of events happening in Kingston during 2012 that need an extra pair of hands or two!

Go Kingston Volunteer Team are now recruiting for Kingston's main events such as the International Youth Arts Festival, Kingston's River Festival and Thames Swim plus new events for 2012 including Kingston's Aviation Festival and Kingston's Alternative Games, to name but a few! There are exciting times ahead for our borough so let's make it a year to remember and be part of the force that helped these events happen!

You can do one of two things to get involved - you can either contact Hedley Featherstone by e.mailing GKV@gokingstonvolunteering.org.uk or come along to our informal and friendly Volunteer Conference on 8 March 2012 where you can meet and talk with event organisers to find out more about the fantastic events that you could be part of.

Full details about the Conference will be available on the RBK website nearer the time so please keep checking: www.kingston.gov.uk/gk2012_volunteering_and_legacy

TOXOCARIASIS!

Do **YOU** know the hazards!?!

Toxocariasis is a blinding disease which affects the eyesight of young infants and unborn babies.

It's found in dogs' mess that has been neglected. It's a that's eats away at the eye leaving bruises and blindness. Usually resorting in a glass eye being needed.

It's very important to keep your child safe and away from the mess. Make sure you make them wash their hands after going to the park.

The only way we can help to prevent it is to:

PICK UP YOUR DOGS MESS!

Other wise you, as a dog owner, could be responsible for the blindness of a poor innocent child!



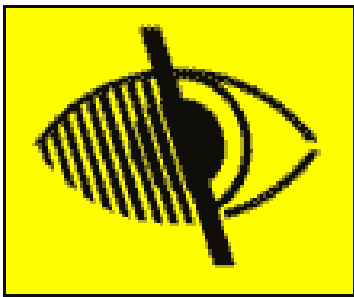
By:
Eco Students at Tolworth Girls School.

Toxocariasis –Do you know the hazards?

A special message from Year 10 students at Tolworth Girls' School. Chloe, Sammie and Georgia have designed a poster to raise awareness of Toxocariasis as part of their Citizens' course. Toxocariasis is a blinding disease affecting the eyesight of young infants and unborn babies; caused by the parasites found in neglected dog mess. Awareness is a huge part of this issue as people tend to think of the inconvenience caused by dog mess, rather than the physical implications of this little known disease. So clean up after your dog, prevent unnecessary suffering and

help ensure our parks and open spaces are pleasant areas for everyone to enjoy.

Look out for the poster in local parks and other areas where dog mess can be a problem.



Stay up to date with Talking Newspapers

Talking Newspapers are a free audio publication for blind people in the borough, available on tape and the internet.

Anyone who has a sight problem and would like to sign up to the distribution list should call Brian on 020 8287 4180 or the Kingston Association for the Blind office on 020 8605 0060. Audio content on the Talking Newspapers website is updated on Saturday afternoons. Visit www.snipurl.com/Kingston-tn

Talking Newspapers is funded by Kingston Association for the Blind, www.kingstonassociationforblind.org

Stay safe this festive season

'Tis the season to be jolly – but it is also the season when crime is at a high and people take less care as they get caught up in the Christmas excitement. This year, make sure you do not become a victim of crime.

Be careful where you put your Christmas presents; leaving them under the tree and in sight is an invitation to burglars.

Keep an eye on your valuables and never leave your Christmas shopping unattended in your car.

Stick with a friend when you go out at night and try not to drink too much. Keep unnecessary noise to a minimum and remember your neighbours.

With burglaries always a concern at Christmas, remember to follow these simple tips for preventing burglary to the rear of your home:

- Make sure all your garden tools are locked away in your shed or garage. Never leave them out to be used by a burglar!
- Close and lock your garden gate, don't just pull it to. If you haven't got a lock, invest in a padlock
- Put your wheelie bin out of the way to stop burglars using it to climb over your gate or fence
- Keep bicycles locked inside your garage or house if you can
- Before you leave your house, check to see who else is nearby. Is your house being watched for when it becomes empty? You can report suspicious activity at the time via 999.
- Close and lock all windows and doors and never leave keys in the door or on view
- If you hear any urban myths about burglary, please contact your local 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' who can give you the facts and put your mind at ease. www.met.police.uk/Borough/Kingston



New flexible training to become a cyclist instructor

If you or someone in your organisation is a keen cyclist and has a flair for teaching, Kingston Council is now offering a flexible training course for employees to become professionally qualified cyclist trainers.

The new flexible course consists of seven, two hour modules taken at a time to suit you. It is ideal for those wanting a professional qualification but need to fit the training in with work and family life. The course, which will result in an instructor qualification recognised by the Department of Transport, costs only £350.

For more details please call Eric on 020 8547 5002 or email eric.chasseray@rbk.kingston.gov.uk.

Residents' Associations

Kingston Council now has a corporate Residents' Association database. If you are the Chair or Secretary of a local RA and have not heard from the Council, get in touch with us to make sure your details are recorded so that we can share information with you.

Call Gemma Gallant on 020 8547 5000 or email gemma.gallant@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

Want to form a Residents' Association?

Residents' Associations can bring neighbours together to solve problems, bring about improvement and have fun! If you do not have an RA in your area but would like to form one, please contact Christina Gardner on 020 8547 5000 or email christina.gardner@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

What is happening at the libraries this Season?

Surbiton and Tolworth Libraries had Halloween fun this Autumn, with spooky stories from a friendly library witch and creepy Halloween crafts. The children had lots of fun joining in with the stories and then creating some spooky costumes and baskets to take trick or treating. The Libraries have also been busy visiting and being visited by every local nursery school in the area and Community Musician, Kim Perkins, regaled parents, babies and toddlers at Tolworth Library with a morning of music and song. The sessions were enjoyed by all, with babies and toddlers showing their dance moves and joining in.



Now that the festive season is upon us, there is much more wonderful Christmas fun to look forward to. There are special rhymetimes with Father Christmas, Christmas Stories, Christmas songs from round the world with Yo Baby, Story Storks pantos and Christmas Crafts and of course don't forget to come and write your letter to Santa and post it in the Christmas post-box.

Get down to the library this Christmas and enjoy reading some wonderful Christmas books, like 'Aliens love Panta Claus', 'The Jolly Christmas Postman', 'The Night Before Christmas' and 'Happy Christmas Boris'. Read on for more information in our Free Time pages.

Emergency Food for Local People in Crisis

Kingston Foodbank: Open Fridays 11am-2pm at Kingston United Reformed Church, Eden Street, Kingston, KT1 1HZ

Churches, schools and charities have united to help out local families that have no food on the table for Christmas. Four tonnes of non-perishable food were collected for Kingston Foodbank for its 2 December launch.

Vouchers are being issued by social workers and other front-line agencies and exchanged at the United Reformed Church in Kingston for three days worth of emergency supplies. Professionals will work with people to help them find long-term help. For more information on the project, see www.kingston.foodbank.org.uk, email info@kingston.foodbank.org.uk or call 020 8391 1100.



Stay Safe Indoors with Free Home Safety Visits



London Fire Brigade wants you to be safe and is carrying out free home fire safety visits for residents in the Royal Borough of Kingston and the other London boroughs.

London Fire Brigade personnel will arrange to visit you in your home and along with providing and fitting smoke alarms free of charge, they will discuss any home fire safety issues or questions you may have and go through planning an escape route for you and your family in the event of a fire.

If you would like a free home fire safety visit or would like to arrange one on behalf of a member of your family or friend (please check with them first), please contact the London Fire Brigade free on 08000 28 44 28, see www.london-fire.gov.uk or email smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk

Fires in the home are the main cause of fire deaths. Getting a smoke alarm, regularly testing and maintaining it, as well as planning your escape route in the event of a fire, can dramatically decrease the risk of death or serious injury.

Connaught Opera performs at Alfriston Day Centre

On 15 November, over 60 lucky visitors were treated to the exquisite voices of Connaught Opera with songs from South Pacific, Old London Town, Gilbert and Sullivan, and Joe Loss to name but a few. The performance, themed around the 2012 Olympics, also featured five changes of costume to represent the five continents participating in the games. The audience clapped and cheered enthusiastically, even joining in with the Opera singers at times – it was a real theatrical experience for everyone.

Alfriston Day Centre provides services, opportunities, advice and information to senior citizens, living within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. Anyone over the age of 60 may access the service. Transport is available to persons who live in the south of the borough (Surbiton, Tolworth, Chessington and Hook). Alfriston Day Centre has a lively, friendly atmosphere where one can make new friends and enjoy the company of others. There is the opportunity to take part in the various activities and entertainment that are provided each day.

For more information about Alfriston, please see www.alfristondaycentre.co.uk, email alfriston_day@yahoo.co.uk or call 020 8399 4289.



What's been happening in Surbiton?????????????

Surbiton Farmers' Market Celebrates 2nd Anniversary

Surbiton Farmers' Market is run by local residents and all surplus proceeds go to local charities and causes. Since it started two years ago, almost £20,000 has been raised for local charities and causes through stall fees, fundraising activities and collections at the market. The organisers celebrated their second anniversary in October and children from Kingston Carers Network attended as special guests to cut the birthday cake and receive their latest donation.

Lucinda Walsh – School of Dance

Earlier this year, students at the Lucinda Walsh School of Dance took part in a musical extravaganza staged at Kingston Grammar School's theatre. This was the dance school's first show, and both students and teachers worked extremely hard to prepare for the spectacular performance. Students will now begin working towards examinations to take place in 2012.



Following the dance school's success in children's classes, the school is now branching out to cater for adults and is offering Bokwa Fitness, but watch this space for an exciting and full adults programme coming in January. For more information on upcoming events and classes, see www.lwschoolofdance.webs.com or contact Lucinda on 07766 446353.

Kings Soup on Ski Sunday

Two hugely successful annual events organised by the Community Brain took place in Surbiton this October. Records were broken at the Ski Sunday event outside Surbiton Station and later, hundreds of people enjoyed home-made soup while being entertained with live music from the Surbiton Talcum Colliery Band, followed by the now familiar and famous folk tale of 'The Kings Soup'. The story's themes are those of greed and selflessness, the joy of making rather than owning, the benefits of locally produced food, and the value of community celebration and sharing. Read the story at www.seethingwells.org



COMMUNITY BRAIN
PROUDLY PRESENTS
Sunday 6th to Saturday 12 November at 7.30pm

SEETHING WELLS
and the defeat of
KING CHOLERA

PUPPETRY MUSIC & MUCH, MUCH MORE
A TALE OF HEROES SCIENTISTS ENGINEERS & NAVVIES
THROUGH DEATH COMES HOPE

A DRAMATIC THEATRICAL EVENT FOR YOUR PLEASURE
HISTORY MADE LARGE
LEARN OF THE MIRACLE CLEAN WATER

A SHORT 40 MINUTE PRESENTATION OF THE STORY OF HOW WATER FROM SEETHING WELLS HELPED TO PROVE THAT CHOLERA WAS WATERBORNE
AT SEETHING WELLS HALLS OF RESIDENCE PORTSMOUTH ROAD, KT6 5PG
PRESENTED FOR YOUR DELICIOUSITY BY DUMBSHOW & SMOKING APPLES

TO ATTEND RESERVE YOUR FREE TICKETS AT
WWW.SEETHINGWELLSWATER.ORG

Kingston University London | The National Lottery |

Seething Wells - Surbiton's Hidden Heritage

On 12 November, there was a unique opportunity to see a dramatic theatrical presentation of Seething Wells and its role in defeating King Cholera.

To find out how you can take part in the community project about how the Seething Wells Water Works in Portsmouth Road allowed Dr John Snow to prove Cholera was waterborne and put an end to the outbreaks of the disease, see www.seethingwellswater.org

Future events



Farmers Market, Maple Road

Next Markets are Saturday 17 December and Saturday 18 February (there is no market in January)

The Farmers Market is run by the community and takes place on the third Saturday of each month, from 9am–1pm. Each month, there are 26 stalls selling fresh produce, with new farmers and suppliers coming along to join the regular stallholders. Local restaurants, cafes and bars will give you a really warm welcome too, serving hot drinks, breakfast and lunch.

For more details call Sarah on 020 8390 5673 or email info@shoesatlast.com

The following are brought to you by the organisers of Ski Sunday, the Seething Festival and Sports Day and the legend of Lefi Ganderson, The Giant Mousetrap, Buckaroo, Hungry Hippos

Seething Festival and Procession

Sunday 26 February - 2.30pm with parade at 3.30pm, Jewson's Yard, Brighton Road

The Seething Festival and parade is a chance for the whole community to come together and celebrate the Legend of Lefi Ganderson - The Goat Boy of Mount Seething. Make sure it's in your diary and get your weird clothes ready!



The Seething Freshwater Sardine Festival

Sunday 22 April - 3.30pm from the Thames at Seething to St Andrew's Square

With the advent of locally farmed freshwater sardines, this is our chance to remember when Seething was famous for sardines and held its annual festival to celebrate the first catch of the season. Keep your eye on the website for more information as researchers uncover more of the ceremonies and traditions.

For more information on these and other events please see: www.seethingwells.org

Have Fun in Your Free-Time

Looking for something to do in your free time? Then why not join one of the many voluntary organisations in your area and have some fun! Please see the attached for just some of the opportunities in Surbiton. If you would like to promote your organisation or group please email christina.gardner@rbk.kingston.gov.uk



Come along to your local library

There are a wide range of regular children's and adults' activities happening at Surbiton and Tolworth libraries throughout the year such as rhyme and story times, adult reading group, homework club, Councillors advice sessions and back to work workshops. Both libraries will have special Christmas sessions for children including Christmas Story and Rhyme Time, and Christmas Crafts. For more information on seasonal and regular events, see www.kingston.gov.uk/branches or call 020 8547 5006.

League of Friends of Surbiton & Tolworth Hospitals

The League of Friends raises money to provide additional items for patient care as well as help with NHS services in the community, supporting both patients and staff in elderly care and mental health wards and providing assistance to Occupational, Physiotherapy, Speech & Language and Outpatients Departments in the two hospitals.

If you would like to support your local hospitals, find out how to become a member, know more about how to become involved in ongoing projects, or see how you can help, email secretary@friends-of-surbiton-tolworth-hospitals.org.uk



Surbiton & District Caledonian Society - Scottish Dancing

Surbiton and District Caledonian Society organise and promote Scottish Country Dancing on Thursday evenings between September and June, 8pm to 10:30pm, at St Matthew's School, Langley Road, Surbiton KT6 6LW. The group dance twelve Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys with a tea-break half-way through.

Membership costs £5 per year and members pay £3 for an evening or £4 for non-members.

This club is very friendly and informal, and newcomers are especially welcome. Not only is Scottish Country dancing good fun but it is a great way to get fit!

Contact David Horwill on 01932 784866 or email dmhorwill@aol.com For more information, see www.surbitoncaledonian.co.uk

Kingston Choral Society

One of the area's most established choirs, KCS usually performs three concerts a year with a professional orchestra and soloists.

New members are welcome. Rehearsals take place Thursday evenings from 8pm to 10pm during term-time in Hollyfield School, and performances are in Kingston or Central London.



For more information see website: www.kingstonchoralsociety.org.uk email info@kingstonchoralsociety.org.uk or phone 020 8949 4961.



The cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre, 116 Douglas Road

Are you interested in drama, dance, music, singing, poetry or the visual arts? Do you like to paint or take photographs? Or do you prefer to focus lights, operate a sound desk, make costumes, build sets or simply help out? Maybe you just want to sit back, relax, and let others entertain you?!

The cornerHOUSE is a busy, friendly, arts centre which has something for everyone to be involved in - whatever your age. It is run entirely by volunteers who provide support in many ways, including hosting public events, maintaining the premises, operating the auditorium and side studio, and even

Hinchley Manor Operatic Society (HMOS)

The HMOS performs two musical shows a year in local theatres and is seeking Performers and help backstage with lighting, make up, sound and other support. Rehearsals take place at Surbiton Methodist Church, Ewell Road.



For more details see web site www.hmos.org.uk or email lguerriero@sky.com

Kingston Gujarati School

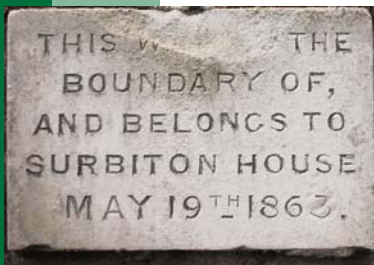
This language school has been running since 1987 and currently has over 65 students. It teaches the Gujarati language and culture to students whose origins are in Gujarat, India. The School is also open to students for whom Gujarati is a second language and everyone interested in learning the Gujarati language.

For more information and how to join, please contact Mr Raj Pandya on 07956 252 294 or email raj.pandya@bt.com

Surbiton and District Historical Society

Without societies such as these, how would people find out about our wonderful local history? This is an opportunity to attend lectures with exceptionally good speakers, attend outings and enjoy social events. An annual newsletter is also sent out. Annual membership is £15 and visitors pay £2 to attend the lectures. The society meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:45pm in the Library Annex, Ewell Road.

For more information, please call 020 8399 4473 or email lenandmarilyn@aol.com



Surbiton Croquet Club, Alexandra Recreation Ground

Have you ever tried croquet? New members are very welcome to this Club which has excellent facilities and a club house in the Park. Full details of the club including public events can be found at www.surbitoncroquet.org.uk, or call 020 8390 8685.





HotShots Linedancing Classes

If you have never been linedancing before, you don't know what you are missing! The group have monthly socials and club linedancing weekends away in addition to the weekly classes which cater for a wide range of abilities from beginners through to intermediates.

Classes in the Surbiton area are held at:

- Sunray Community Centre, Knollmead on Mondays
- Surbiton British Legion, Hollyfield Road on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays of every month

For details of these and other classes in the area, visit www.hotshotslinedanceclub.com, call Janice on 020 8949 3612 or email janicegolding@aol.com



Come and learn the magic of DANCE

Lucinda Walsh School of Dance runs a full range of dance classes from age three upwards at the Sunray Community Centre, Knollmead, Tolworth KT5 9QP. As well as the classes listed below, dance parties, school dance clubs, adult dance classes and wedding dances are also available.

Mondays

3.30 - 4.00pm Baby Ballet (3-4 years); 4.00 - 4.30pm Prep Ballet (4 - 6 years) 4.30 - 5.00pm Primary Ballet (6+ years) 5.00 - 5.40pm Freestyle Juniors (6- 11years) 5.40 - 6.20pm Freestyle Seniors (12+)

Thursdays

4.00 - 4.30pm Freestyle/Street Mini Movers (3-5 years); 4.30 - 5.00pm Cheerleading Juniors (6- 11years); 5.00 - 5.30pm; Gymnastics Juniors (6-11 years); 5.30 – 6.10pm Cheerleading Seniors (12+); 6.10 – 6.50pm Musical Theatre Squad (Mixed)

Fridays

4.00 – 4:30pm Baby Tap (3-4 years); 4.30 – 5.00pm Baby Hip Hop (3-4 years); 5.00 – 5.30pm Prep Tap (5-6 years); 5.30 – 6.15pm Hip Hop Juniors (5-11 years); 6.15 – 7.00pm Hip Hop Seniors (12+ years)

For more information, call Lucinda Walsh on 07766 446 353, email Lucinda.walsh@btconnect.com or see www.lwschoolofdance.webs.com



Body Control Pilates Courses

Courses are now being held at Grand Avenue School, Berrylands, and Surbiton Assembly Rooms on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

For more information, please see www.gardenpilates.co.uk email smzeqiri@yahoo.co.uk or phone Sharon on 07939 453951.

Why not try something a little different?

Aikido differs from most other Martial Arts as it teaches defense, not attack. Aikido is suitable for men and women of all ages as it does not rely on physical strength for its effectiveness. If attacked, the Aikido practitioner would not try to stop a punch by blocking it but would instead step aside and, by diverting the attacker's energy, lead them to the ground. Through regular training, students learn to harness their inner strength to overcome others who may be physically stronger.



The Kingston Aikido Club trains on Mondays between 8pm and 9:30pm at Piper Hall, Piper Road, KT1 3EX and Wednesdays from 8:15pm - 9.45 pm at The Fitness Centre, Kingston University, off Grove Crescent, KT1 2EE.

For more information see www.kingstonaikido.co.uk call 07852 916799 or email info@kingstonaikido.co.uk

Surbiton Arts Group



Surbiton Arts Group

The group meets once a month on Monday nights from November through until February, then twice a month from March until October - with a summer break during July and August. They meet at Surbiton Library Annex with a programme of lectures and demonstrations on a wide range of subjects and have two annual art exhibitions. All abilities and ages are very welcome.

For further information please contact Mrs Margaret Bannister on 020 8399 2999, Mr Alan Williams on 020 8397 1050 or www.surbiton-arts-group.org.uk

If you would like to promote any organisation or club that is open to the community on these pages, please contact Christina Gardner on 020 8547 5000 or email christina.gardner@rbk.kingston.gov.uk