



LEISURE LINK

SCAN ME TO



FIND OUT MORE

The Leisure Link magazine will share with you information about accessible and inclusive activities and events.

The Leisure Link group meet in different Croydon venues once a month.

The Leisure Linkers talk about arts and leisure: things we have done and things we look forward to.

Produced by



AUG / SEPT 2023



We hope you find it interesting and that you have the opportunities to take part in some of the things we have featured.

AUG / SEPT 2023

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

August

Aug-Sep Exhibition
@ Croydon Clocktower

10th Leisure Link social
@ Riff Ruffs

12th Croydon Music Heritage
Trail - Guided walk

12th Music @ The Oval Tavern
(Relaxed performance)

19th Pool + Disco @ Frames

Aug-Sep Film screenings @ Fairfield

Aug-Oct Croydon Stands Tall Trail
@ Croydon Town Centre

September

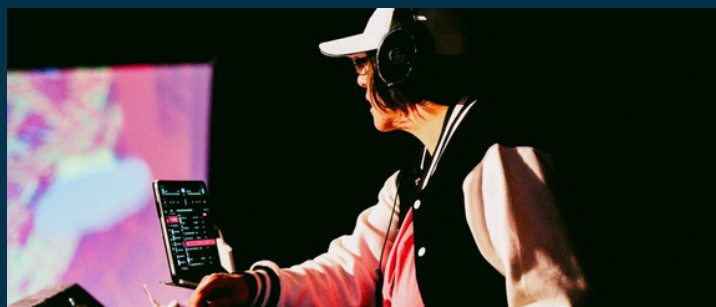
1st-3rd Liberty Festival
@ Queens Gardens

2nd Pool + Disco @ Frames

6-17th Open House Festival

14th Leisure Link social

28th The Pub Experience Group
@ The Bedford Tavern



DJ Soul Sista @ SoDaDa in Fairfield

SYMBOLS

These symbols are here to help you see how accessible venues, events and services are.



VENUE



ACTIVITIES
ONLINE



ON SITE
PARKING



OFF SITE
PARKING



CARD
PAYMENTS



CASH
PAYMENTS



DONATION



FREE EVENT



COMPANION /
CARER DISCOUNT



FRIENDLY
STAFF



SOCIAL



WELLBEING



FILM



DANCE



NATURE /
OUTDOORS



ARTS + CRAFTS



SPORT



THEATRE



MUSIC



WHEELCHAIR
ACCESS



LEVEL ACCESS AND
AUTOMATIC DOORS
(OR NO DOORS)



RAMPED/SLOPED
ACCESS, AND/OR
MANUAL DOORS



RAMPED/SLOPED ACCESS
THAT IS LONG/STEEP (MAY
HAVE MANUAL DOORS)



LIFTS



SEAT/S
AVAILABLE



SAFE / QUIET
SPACE AVAILABLE



DISABILITY
AWARENESS/EQUALITY
TRAINED STAFF



STAFF TRAINED IN
SIGN LANGUAGE



FACILITIES FOR
ASSISTANCE DOGS



BRAILLE



AUDIO DESCRIPTION
AVAILABLE



CAPTIONED



HEARING
LOOP



ACCESSIBLE
TOILET



GENDER NEUTRAL
TOILET



INFORMATION IN
LARGE PRINT



WIFI
AVAILABLE

THE MAP

Croydon Leisure Linkers recommend places where things are happening this month

1 **Turf Projects**
Creative art space
Whitgift Centre, 46-47 Trinity Court, Croydon, CR0 1UQ
020 3251 0108
turf-projects.com

2 **Porter & Sorter**
Pub with regular social events
Station Road East, Croydon, CR0 6BT
0208 688 4296
www.porterandsorterpub.co.uk

3 **Queen's Gardens**
Liberty Festival
Park Lane, Croydon, CR0 1YJ
culturecroydon.com/event/liberty-festival/

4 **Frames Sports bar**
Pool, snooker & events
202 Brighton Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2NF
020 8660 7660
framessportsbar.com

5 **Oval Tavern**
Pub with regular community events
131 Oval Road, Croydon, CR0 6BR
020 8686 6023
theovaltavern.co.uk

6 **Museum of Croydon**
Art, film & exhibitions
Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR9 1ET
museumofcroydon.com

7 **Stanley Arts**
Arts & performance venue
12 South Norwood Hill, SE25 6AB
020 8251 0184
stanleyarts.org

8 **Riff Ruffs**
Bar & coffee shop with DJ nights
28 George Street Croydon, CR0 1PB

9 **Boxpark**
Food & entertainment venue
99 George St, Croydon, CR0 1LD
www.boxpark.co.uk/croydon/

10 **Fairfield Halls**
Arts, events & conference venue
Park Lane, Croydon, CR9 1DG
www.fairfield.co.uk

Crystal Palace & Upper Norbury
Norbury Norwood
Thornton Heath
Broad Green & Selhurst
Addiscombe
Shirley
Waddon
South Croydon
Addington
Purley
Selsdon
Sanderstead
Coulsdon
Kenley & Old Coulsdon

INSPIRING OTHERS

BY WENDY MOTA



ENCOURAGING... POSITIVE ACTIVITIES

The Leisure Link project creates opportunities for people to connect and share experiences with others.

Wendy wanted to share with Leisure Link some of her great passions and all the things she enjoys. She hopes to encourage people to feel positive and try new things.



CREATIVE THINKING

This is a mosaic I made with the MOSS artists at TURF. I am interested in philosophy, doing mindful exercises and cooking healthy meals.



“ I hope to inspire people to fill their lives with positive activities in art and not spend their time feeling angry, anxious, low or lonely. ”



FUN WITH FRIENDS

I like to dance and enjoy nights out at Boxbark with my Gig Buddy. I have gone to lots of new places this year. Jo and I went to Chessington and the Frozen musical. I also went away on holiday abroad with my church.

If you would like to get involved in being part of Leisure Link, sharing your work and inspiring others, please email: rachael@clubsoda.org.uk

LIBERTY FESTIVAL

THIS YEAR IT IS TAKING PLACE IN CROYDON!

Liberty Festival is being organised by arts charity, Drunken Chorus, who also organise A Bit Of A Do festival.

Who will be performing at Liberty Festival?

At the festival you can see lots of different art, such as; theatre, comedy, dance, exhibitions, poetry and music.

This year the festival features artists such as:
Touretteshero // Nua Dance // Ellen Renton //
Candoco Dance Company

Comedians;

Francesca Martinez // Aaron Simmonds //
Steve Day // Variety D

FRIDAY 1ST – SUNDAY 3RD
SEPTEMBER 2023



We even have **an inclusive Hiit workout** session with trainers India Morse and Leroy Elevates, who you might recognise from their work with Joe Wicks the Body Coach!

We are also very pleased to welcome our wonderful artists from Croydon; **Club Soda, DISCO DISCO, Savvy Theatre Company and SLiDE!**

CELEBRATING DEAF, DISABLED & NEURODIVERGENT ARTISTS!



Access

All performances and events at Liberty Festival are relaxed meaning you can move around, make noise and tic as needed. There will be a Wellbeing Hub if you need a calm space away from the performances during the festival. There will also be people on hand to help with any access support you may need, such as BSL Interpretation and Audio Description.

A FREE FESTIVAL IN AND AROUND FAIRFIELD HALLS



Liberty Festival

1st - 3rd September

THEATRE, COMEDY, DANCE, EXHIBITIONS, POETRY AND MUSIC.

**We can't wait to welcome you to
Liberty Festival this September!**

Tickets?

Most events are free, but for some you will need to book tickets. Check our website to find out which events you need to book for:

<https://culturecroydon.com/event/liberty-festival/>

or email lila@drunkenchorus.co.uk with any questions

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO...

"I performed some poetry at **SoDaDa in Fairfield**. It was a brilliant event."

SEDLEY

"The **Croydon Mela in Wandle Park** was really good."

LEISURE LINKER

"We had fun at the **club night in Boxpark**."

TASHA & PHILLIP



YOUR PICS

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS & TELL US
WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN DOING

"I'm looking forward to the **Gypsy Hill Brewery** celebration on Saturday 19th August."

CHEZ

"I went to see the **Soda Jammers** perform at **CR Talent**. I wish they played for longer."

SEDLEY

"I hope to discover some new places to **walk with my family** this summer."

"**Croydon Stands Tall** looks interesting. It runs from 27th August - October."

RACHAEL

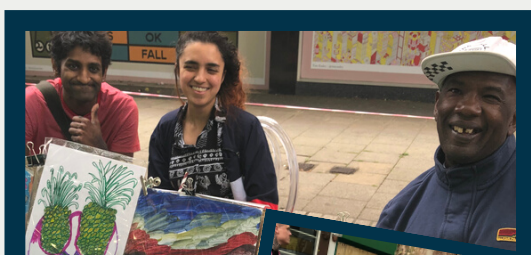


"I went to **Ruskin House Folk & Blues festival**. I loved the lyrics in a song I heard called - You can't judge a book by the cover."

**LEISURE
LINKER**

"I enjoyed an event with the **Rock Choir**.
We all dressed up like Dolly Parton."

TERRY

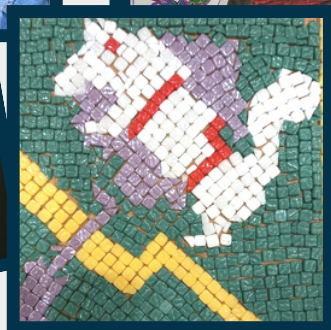


"I made this mosaic at **TURF**."

ROBERT

"**MOSS** artists had a
stall at the **Learning
Disability Carnival**."

BRIAN



"I liked DJing at
the carnival.
Everyone dancing,
it was a good
atmosphere.
I would like to do
it again"

TONY

**SHARE YOUR
VIEWS / PHOTOS / FEEDBACK**

**YOUR
PICS**

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO...



"I am interested in
these **canal boat
trips** for people
with disabilities."

EMMA

"I'd like to go to
**SLiDE's summer
picnic party**."

HOLLY

"I'm looking forward
to the summertime
Prom run by
Croydon Mencap."

SHANNEN

"I enjoy the Stay Up Late events at **Frames**."

FIIFI



Share with us by emailing rachael@clubsoda.org.uk

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LEISURE LINK SOCIAL

What: Leisure Link social

When: Thursday 10th
August, 3:30pm-5pm

Where: Riff Raffs,
28 George Street,
Croydon, CR0 1PB

Cost: Free

New members
are always welcome.



Leisure Link is a group for people with learning disabilities and supporters who meet once a month to talk about arts and leisure: things they have done and things they are looking forward to.

WHAT'S ON

Find out more: clubsoda.org.uk

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER EXHIBITION



*Evacustes
Phipson*

2 August - 30 Sept



MUSEUM OF
CROYDON



What: Artwork by the artist
Evacustes Phipson

When: 2nd August - 30th
September

Where: Museum of Croydon,
Croydon Clocktower, Atrium,
Katharine Street, CR9 1ET

Cost: Free

An art exhibition produced by the Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society. The exhibition will showcase the many watercolours by Evacustes Phipson, which he painted during his time in Croydon between 1914 and 1929. Come and see the new exhibition Mon-Sat in the Clocktower Atrium.





GUIDED WALK MUSIC HERITAGE TRAIL

What: A guided walk of the Croydon Music Heritage Trail

When: Saturday 12th August
12pm-1:30pm (arrive 10 mins early to join the group)

Where: Starts in Queen's Gardens, Park Lane, CR0 1YJ

Cost: Free but need to book
www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/666885671997



Find out more:
culturecroydon.com

WHAT'S ON

Starting at the mural in Queen's Gardens, join a tour of the Music Heritage Trail led by dedicated volunteers ready to take you on a storytelling adventure of Croydon's rich musical scene. The walk ends at West Croydon station.

Access needs? Please email
rochelle.white@croydon.gov.uk

LIVE MUSIC AT THE OVAL TAVERN



What to expect... some amazing tunes, taking breaks, chatting with the audience, trying out ideas and presenting a relaxed and informal look at some fascinating music.

What: Phil Dawson quartet

When: Saturday
12th August, 2pm

Where: The Oval Tavern,
131 Oval Road, CR0 6BR

Cost: Free

A special one-off **relaxed performance** by Phil and his band playing a blend of **jazz, West African and Brazilian rhythms**.

Sam Castell-Ward will also be performing a poem, 'You Kneel',



phildawsonmusic.co.uk/live/



FILMS AT FAIRFIELD

What: Wednesday Film screenings

When: 16th Aug, 30th Aug, 13th Sept, 27th Sept, 1.30pm

Where: Fairfield Ashcroft Theatre, Park Lane, Croydon, CR9 1DG

Cost: £3

Films: The King and I, Death on the Nile, Elvis (2022) & Seven Brides for Seven Brothers



Tickets for the Classic Movie Club include a 20% discount in The Cube Café on the day of the screening. The Café opens at 8.30am.

WHAT'S ON

Find out more:

www.fairfield.co.uk

POOL & DISCO AT FRAMES



What: Pool Knock Out, disco, bingo, food & more

When: Saturday 19th August, 6pm-12am

Where: Frames Sports bar, 202 Brighton Road, Coulsdon, CR5 2NF

Cost: £15

A night of fun and games including a pool tournament, some great food, buzzing music and atmosphere.

Find out more:

email Alannah.farr@achievetogether.co.uk Alannah or Fiifi **020 8651 9670**



SILENT DISCO AT LIBERTY FESTIVAL

What: Club Soda's Soda Crew DJs are at the Liberty Festival!

When: Sunday 3rd September

Where: The Queen's Gardens

Cost: Free

Expect Pop, Soul, Funk, Reggaeton, Club Classics and nothing but good vibes from our resident DJs

Find out more about the festival on **pages 6 and 7.**



The crew (made up of DJs with learning disabilities) are used to making lots of noise, **#PartyingInPlainSight** at Boxpark in Club Soda's long standing inclusive club nights. But this time let's turn the volume down, grab your headphones and join them for their first ever silent disco.

www.drunkenchorus.co.uk/liberty

WHAT'S ON

THE PUB EXPERIENCE GROUP



What: Croydon Autism Pub Experience Group

When: Last Thursday of the month, 31st Aug & 28th Sept, 6pm onwards

Where: Different pubs and cafes in Croydon

A group for people with autism who would like to explore Croydon's pub and cafes with other people.

Find out more: email maria.esteban@croydon.gov.uk

07742 405 348 020 8255 5473

WHAT REALLY MATTERS



Leisure Linkers are passionate about making Croydon a more accessible and inclusive place to be. We want to help guide positive change for people with learning disabilities in Croydon. We hope to empower people to go out more, make informed choices and share experiences with others.

HERE IS WHAT WE HAVE TO SAY:

When we review a venue or gig we look at any barriers that could cause access to be a challenge. These barriers might be physical, such as a flight of steps or unclear signage. We also look at social barriers, like if a place makes you feel safe, welcome and accepted. It is all part of what really matters to develop our community and build a more inclusive social scene for everyone.



PORTER & SORTER

**Station Road East,
Croydon, CR0 6BT**

It is a **good size venue**. It had a **quieter space** where you can sit outside. Unfortunately, the menu was in **small print** but when we asked, the **staff were very helpful** and said that they could read out the menu for us if we needed. They had table talkers (leaflets) printed with a few pictures of the food available which were useful when ordering.



“

**STAFF WERE
HELPFUL AND
I FELT SAFE.**

”

Leisure Linkers visit Croydon venues and share what really matters when it comes to going out.

PORTER & SORTER

- ★ ***** It is amazing
- ★ ***** It is really good
- ★ ***** It is good
- ★ ***** It is okay
- ★ ***** I did not like it

**LEISURE LINKERS RATED
THIS VENUE 4 STARS**



“

**...IT IS A SHAME THAT THERE IS NO RAMP
UP TO THE POOL TABLE AND TV AREA...
PEOPLE WITH WHEELCHAIRS AND
WALKERS CAN'T ENJOY THAT SPACE.**

”

WHAT'S NEXT?

We are super excited to be creating a list of the best venues in Croydon. We are on the lookout for the most accessible and inclusive venues, events and gigs in Croydon. If you know of somewhere you think we should review next or if you're a venue and would like to appear in a future issue, please get in touch.



To get in contact and find out more email rachael@clubsoda.org.uk or visit clubsoda.org.uk

OTHER STUFF...

OUR PODCAST

Join our mailing list to be the first to hear our next podcast episode.



#PartyingInPlainSight - A festival special

Visit our website to SIGN UP NOW!
clubsoda.org.uk

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT LEISURE LINK?

Email: loraine@clubsoda.org.uk

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CLUB SODA?

Email: olly@clubsoda.org.uk

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT GIG BUDDIES?

Email: cherilyn@gigbuddiescroydon.co.uk

We work hard to make sure that the information in this newsletter is correct. Please always check with venues and services before heading out.

"I love
Croydon Knights"
TOFI

"I love
Riff Riffs"
ROBERT

"I love Frames"
FIIFI

"I love
DiscoDisco"
BRYONY

"I love
Oval Tavern"
STEPH

"I love
The Ship"
ROBERT

"I love Enterprise"
SHANNEN

**CLUB
SODA**

**GIGBUDDIES
CRO**

We are grateful to National Lottery Community Fund and City Bridge Trust for funding Leisure Link.

