
Imagine Croydon July Newsletter

Tom reports on the Imagine Trip to Eastbourne

Five pounds! That's all it costs to experience Eastbourne. Throw in a free lunch and some nice weather and you have the perfect formula. About 20 of us decamped from Purley station to this pretty town on the South Coast. It's called the geriatric centre of the South. But do not be fooled. Some of those gentle folk are pretty intimidating in their turbo-charged zimmers.



(Billy enjoying his lunch)

There was plenty to see including the infamous Beachy Head, gardens and museums. The front is dominated by Victorian buildings all of which are now hotels or guest houses.

At midday we all gathered at the front for a lunch of 'healthy' food. Nice as it was, somehow fish and chips always seem mandatory by the sea. However never knock a free lunch. After lunch a 10 mile walk on the rickety pier to sample the fare of the local hostelry with a pint or two. Finishing off with exploring the local shops it was soon time to return.

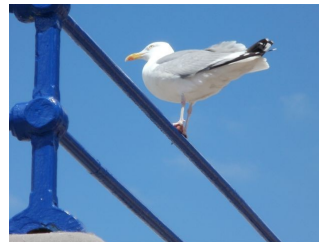
Kato must be mentioned in despatches for having the nerve to order £100 worth of sandwiches, fruit and drinks from the corner shops. The locals in the queue were not amused.



Left: (Richard, Matteo, Elliott, Kato and Janice)

Would you like to learn sign language?

Some members and staff are keen to start a sign language course. Please let your group leader know if you are interested. It is not an easy task it will take a good deal of commitment.



(a local)

Are you joking?

On Monday 14th June night we had a right laugh. Kato organized a comedy night to The Fairfield Halls. It was a good turn out and a great night's entertainment with five comedians finishing off with a great performance by comedy legend Jo Brand.

(outside the Fairfield Halls)



(Katrina and Michael)

Sports fortnight coming soon.

Sports activities are coming up in September and we need to know who is interested and which group you want to represent, eg, Addiscombe, Healthy Living Centre, Purley, CVA, Kingfishers, Parchmore or Shirley. Games indoors and outdoors, with scrabble, dominos, chess, ten-pin bowling, pool, indoor crazy golf, trivial pursuit, cricket, black jack, back gammon, 5 a side football are planned. Please sign the flyer David has prepared if you want to join in and which games you would like to play.

Visit to Beautiful Harmony

I was lucky enough to receive a free massage at the Thornton Heath Imagine Healthy Living Group in the leisure centre.

Being escorted by Marjorie there I usually find the area a bit daunting but after a refreshing and relaxing massage I felt cool and returned home by train without a hitch. I even received a free gift in the way of an alarm clock and a money off voucher for the future. Thank you Imagine for organizing this it did me a world of good and I'm sure other people who received similar treatment feel the same.

Marjorie - An Inspiration to us all. On a personal note I would like to add that Marj was initially a volunteer and that she has been an inspiration to the rest of us beginning on the volunteering ladder. Andy.

Gaining Volunteering through Imagine

Aaron completed a 2 year Diploma in Bricklaying in June 2010.

Aaron wanted to gain an opportunity to do volunteer bricklaying. In the pictures Aaron is on a scaffold working on an extension for a house with a local building company. This volunteering opportunity was difficult to gain because of the slowdown in the building trade.

Aaron says; 'that volunteering gives him experience so that he may be able to gain work in the future'. He enjoys being occupied and having a chance to build on what he has learned at college. Aaron says that he finds it difficult to get out of bed when he has nothing to do.



Farewell to Marjorie

Marjorie joined the Inclusion team in October last year, she made a very positive impact on our development as a user-led project. She was known for her kindness and generosity, she will be remembered as a lovely and hard working person who developed very close supportive relationships with everyone. We are sure that the fantastic work that Marj started will not end with her departure due to ill health and personal circumstances.



(Aaron Laying a brick)

Walkies on Farthing Downs, Coulsdon

Chris and Vic joined me for a walk over the Farthing Downs at Coulsdon. At 11am from Purley Imagine we caught the 60 bus to the bottom of the Downs and walked up over, through Devilsden Woods and Happy Valley finishing up at The Fox pub for refreshment, about 3 miles in all. We caught a 466 bus back to Purley from there.

We enjoyed it, it was a bit more strenuous than the active lifestyle walks but a beautiful day with super views and good company. I will organize another walk soon on a similar route and hope to see a few more of you along. Andy.

(Happy Valley)



Beddington Park

Here is Mark swinging over a stream after a visit around Beddington Park with the Thursday ex Lantern Hall mob.

