

Press Gang

The newsheet of

Volunteer Centre Swanley & District

Areas covered: Ash, Crockenhill, Farningham, Fawkham, Eynsford, Hextable, Horton Kirby, New AshGreen, South Darent, Swanley, Swanley Village and West Kingsdown



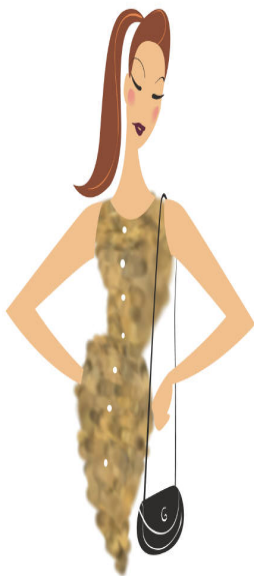
Swanley Park 1812 Concert



What a great evening. Swanley Town Council excelled themselves again with yet another spectacular event.

Eynsford Concert band played old favourites as well as new; Marco the Clown entertained the younger people and the fireworks were the best I've seen in along time.

As The Volunteer Centre is one of the Mayor's Charities this year we were invited to join him in the Marquee and I must confess even though I have lived in Swanley for 17 years this was the first time I had ever attended and I thoroughly enjoyed myself.



Swanley Mayors 'Charity Shop' Fashion Show 1st October 2009 - Alexander Suite

We have got together several charity shops from Swanley and Dartford to help us put on this show. At half time we will be entertained by Angus Morton, a local lad with a beautiful voice. All Charities shop will be selling their wares on the night and that profit will go to their own charity Refreshments are available and the usual raffles.

The Mayor's Charities this year are: Darent Valley Heart Unit and Swanley Volunteer Centre.

Tickets are £6 advance or £8 at the door
for a great night out

Please phone 01322 669292 for your tickets

To advertise your events
in our Newsletter

Contact: Pauline or Della

01322 669292 or 0845 241 2180

Email: info@swanleyvolunteers.com



United House
sponsor
'Press Gang'

Swanley & District Churches Together

Party In the Park



What a lovely day it was this year, for those who can remember years pasts 'He' was not always so kind, fortunately this year He smiled and the day was glorious. It felt like the whole of Swanley and possibly Hextable had decided to go out for the day and thankfully they did not have to travel far.

Musicians and singers were playing to the crowd all afternoon, a bouncy castle and games for the children plus tea, coffee and cakes were all free or you could contribute to the refreshment stall and put in a small donation. Have to say my dad couldn't believe his luck when they said it was free but unfortunately for him I made him put in a donation.

All age groups had a really good time and thanks must go the those who helped to put on such a big event. Well done you - Good luck for next year.

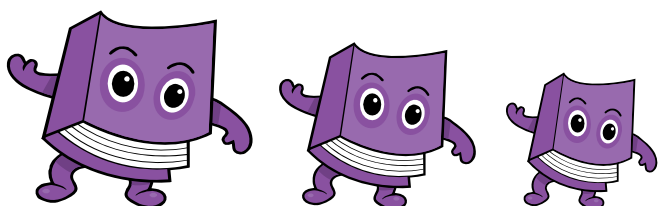
LOOK FOR US AT THE CROCKENHILL VILLAGE OPEN DAY

Saturday 26th September
2.00pm - 4.00pm

We are attending a Village open Day organised by Crockenhill Parish Council to bring together groups within the village.

This enables the village residents to find out what is available in their village and surrounding area.

Not only will we be there with our usual leaflets and advice but we are selling some books to help towards our funds.



Volunteer Drivers Needed

Our Transport scheme is becoming more and more popular, not only for medical appointments but also social, visiting relatives and even some shopping trips.

If you can spare a few hours per week Then let your car earn you satisfaction by helping others to keep their independence

Contact us on
01322 669292

or

Pop-in to see us in our office situated in the Swanley Library building 1st floor or

New Ash Green Library 1st Tuesday of every month 0915am—11.15am

Hartley Library 3rd Tuesday of every month 09.15am—11.15am

West Kingsdown Library 3rd Friday of every month 09.00am—11.00am



*Recycled
Jazz*

*An afternoon of
Jazz, Relaxation
and Fun*

Once again Gill and Mark Fittock opened their garden to host a Jazz afternoon. They had already entertained a crowd for the Swanley Evening WI and on Sunday 26th July they did it all again for us.

The weather behaved, so people sat back and enjoyed the jazz with a glass of wine and cakes, being served by Gill and Marks grandchildren.

The afternoon was a great success and they raised £235 on behalf of the Centre.

A huge thank you goes to Gill, Mark, the other members of the band and of course the grandchildren, I'm sure they were a great help.

Events that we have put on this year



Spring Bulbs 21st March:

Sir Vivian and Lady Barbara Ramsey once again opened their garden with a magnificent display of daffodils. £476.20 went to the Volunteer Centre.

Hextable Open Gardens 20th June

Several Gardens including Honeyfields Residential Home opened for visitors to view. Hextable PC had given permission to open the Heritage Centre where we sold books. A BIG thank you to all those who helped on the day. We raised £276.00



Annual General Meeting 2nd June

This was the first time we had held our AGM in the early evening enabling those who work to be able to attend. We had a very good turn out and the evening went very well.

We gained three new Trustees one from Crockenhill Parish Council and two volunteers, we also made an excellent contact with the newly re-launched Chamber of Commerce.



Working In Partnership To Enable People To Plan For Their Futures

Volunteers Wanted

We are looking for volunteers to support Adults with Learning Disabilities.

This opportunity will be very rewarding and challenging.

What is needed are volunteers who are willing to take an active interest in their social lives, to take them out and about by either going ten-pin bowling, to football or just visiting the local pub, cinema or theatre. One of our ladies would like to learn another language (anyone speak Italian)

Or perhaps you are an organisation that could help us to make their lives more exciting. At the moment all clients live in Swanley and surrounding villages and look forward to enjoying life to the full.

For more information please contact:- Pauline Annetts
01322 669292 or info@swanleyvolunteers.com



A local club are in need of new members. An independent club for people who are partially sighted was started at the end of last year, they meet every other Friday at the Northview Lounge 2.00pm — 4.00pm and are affiliated with Kent Association for the Blind. Like all social clubs they have a variety of entertainment — speakers, quizzes, raffles are all part of the fun. They go out for meals and the occasional trip.

If you know of anybody who would be interested in joining this active club or helping with the organisation of events please contact Pauline on 01322 669292 for more information. We look forward to hearing from you



Free book for blue badge holders:-
<http://www.accessibleguide.co.uk/>

The new Rough Guide to Accessible Britain (Edition 2) is out now. Even better than last year, and available for order now on the above website (not available in shops), the 2009 Guide contains:

- ◆ Over 175 inspiring ideas for great days out across the UK
- ◆ A wide range of reviews all by disabled visitors
- ◆ Something for everyone from parks, museums to scenic journeys and more
- ◆ Detailed information on accessibility



Snowdonia Marathon October 25th 2009.

Yes I know I said that I wouldn't do any more marathons but I lie. Back in April I went to Kenya for a lovely holiday. During my time there, the children asked to visit an orphanage. It was a wonderful experience for the whole family. We had a walk around and met some of the children and were shown where they ate, slept (this was usually 10 children to a room sleeping on mattresses on the floor) and no electricity. All the children go to school, I some to the local state school that have 70 children to a class and some attend private schools which are more in line with our state schools 30 to a class. These children are usually sponsored. When they leave primary school only a few then go on to secondary school. These children have to be sponsored as the orphanage hasn't the money to send them. Unless these children go on to secondary education they do not have a chance to improve their status in life. We were all so moved by the situation that I decided that I needed to do something to raise some money for them. Hence another marathon and if I am going to do another one then why not pick a hard one going up a mountain! Both my children intend to take part in the 2km race on the same day (which doesn't go up the mountain) and my husband will be taking photos!!!

As I work for the Volunteer Centre I thought that I would divide the money raised between the two causes—the Kenyan orphanage and the transport/ befriending schemes that we run for the elderly throughout our area. Please find inside our newsletter a gift aid and sponsorship forms in the hope that you will help me with these worthy causes.



Many Thanks Della