

# SCENE



PARK LIFE: Greenwich girls enjoy Maryon Wilson Park.

## Green Chain of events

RESIDENTS are being invited to join in on a series of outdoor walks and activities in some of the borough's most popular open spaces, including Avery Hill Park and Maryon Wilson Park.

Activities include bike rides in Greenwich and long walks in the parks that link the south east London Green Chain. There will also be farmers' markets, bird watching on a guided tour around Woodlands Community Farm, and a nostalgic railway ride from Falconwood.

Mark Budd, the project officer, said: "There are loads of fantastic things to do this autumn with Green Chain. It's a wonderful opportunity to get out and about and enjoy our open spaces. The walks are very good, and get people out in the fresh air."

The Green Chain organisation has also teamed up with Keep Britain Tidy and arranged for some park clean-up days. It wants to encourage residents to give something back to the community and help clean up the parks, while having a great time in the process in beautiful natural surroundings.

Clr Harry Singh, the royal borough's cabinet member for Greener Greenwich, said: "With its changing colours the autumn is the perfect time of year to get out and about and to explore the beautiful surroundings and history we have here in the region."

**For more information about events in your area and more about Green Chain, visit [www.greenchain.com](http://www.greenchain.com) or for more information about Keep Britain Tidy visit [www.keepbritaintidy.org.uk](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org.uk)**

# WHAT'S ON

To enter a listing email [journ.simonbanks@gmail.com](mailto:journ.simonbanks@gmail.com)

**CLOCKHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
Woolwich Singers Community Choir.  
Every Wed.  
Join a choir singing a mixture of popular songs.  
6.30pm - 8, £2 inc refreshments.  
07812 477 775

**MORDEN ARMS, GREENWICH**  
Open Mic Night. Thurs Oct 3.  
Live music to be enjoyed at open mic night.  
9pm-11pm. FREE. 020 8858 2189

**OXLEAS WOOD CAFE, SHOOTERS HILL**  
Orienteering Event. Sat Oct 5.  
A straight-forward, friendly orienteering event. 1:30am - 12:15. £4 Adults £1 Juniors  
chairman@dfok.co.uk

**THE LORD HOOD PUB, GREENWICH**  
English Folk night. Thurs Oct 8.  
Live music from local English Folk bands.  
8:30pm - 11:45pm. FREE. 020 8858 1836

**MARYON WILSON PARK**  
Park Clear Up. Sat Oct 5.  
Join in and help clear up the park in Charlton.  
10am-11:30am. FREE. 07599299934

**MYCENAE HOUSE, BLACKHEATH**  
Cinema Club. Every Weds.  
Screenings of classic films with special entertainer.  
8pm-10:30pm. FREE (raffle contribution).  
020 8858 1749

# The front

THE WAIT is over. The eagerly anticipated line-up to this year's Greenwich Comedy Festival, part of the Royal Greenwich Festivals, has finally been announced.

It has been confirmed that some of the UK's biggest names in comedy will be performing at some of the borough's best-loved venues next month, including Greenwich Theatre, Up The Creek Comedy Club and in town centres such as Eltham.

Edinburgh Comedy Festival Award Winner, David O'Doherty (pictured) and the likes of Mark Watson, Aisling Bea and Richard Herring are set to perform at the weekend festival that promises to be bursting with laughs.

Cass Briggs, the festival organiser, said: "We're so pleased to be presenting these shows as we really missed not having the festival earlier in the year. This weekender is a great way of continuing to bring amazing comedy to the borough as we work towards bringing an even bigger festival back next summer."

The bite-sized festival kicks off at the Greenwich Theatre and Woolwich Tramshed, as the theatre for young people co-hosts Comedy 4 Kids, a 'comedy show without the rude bits', on Saturday November 2.

Next up, the Greenwich Theatre will host a night of stand-up at the gala Saturday night show where comedy legend Richard Herring and Irish joker O'Doherty headline along with the utterly charming Bea and acclaimed comedian and magician Pete Firman.

The award-winning Sunday Special night at Greenwich's legendary Up The Creek Comedy Club will follow, hosting a very special 'all day' comedy event.

Tel: 020 3617 1662  
07939 528 678  
Web: [www.alphachildcare.com](http://www.alphachildcare.com)  
Email: [info@alphachildcare.com](mailto:info@alphachildcare.com)

**the alpha club**  
Your first choice in child care

**Play worker / Supervisor**  
NVQ Level 2 / 3 in playwork/childcare, 3pm - 6.30pm (variable)  
Start date: As soon as possible  
Salary: Dependent upon experience

The Alpha Club is a young and energetic extended childcare chain, and is looking for an After school club Supervisor. You will be responsible for supporting the manager in the day to day running of the club and to facilitate and help lead a team of staff.

Duties include, planning, running and supervising a wide variety of stimulating activities, complying with health and safety requirements and ensuring the implementation of the club's policy, in particular the Equal Opportunities policy. Writing up observation of EYF5. To consult with children and parents on a regular basis to ensure that the club is meeting their requirements. To take all suggestions into consideration and respond in an appropriate manner.

You will have NVQ 2 or 3 with minimum 1 year experience in early years, play work or equivalent- if Level 2 willing to train for Level 3 immediately, You must also be good with children of all ages and ready for an active role.

To apply email your CV or an Application form which is available upon request.

**This post is subject to an Enhanced CRB check.**

**Closing Date: 14th October 2013**

**Eglinton**

# Open Day

Eglinton Primary School  
& Early Years Centre  
Paget Rise, SE18 3PY  
Friday 18th October 2013  
From 8.30am to 11.00am

If your child was born between 1st September 2009 and 31st August 2010, you will need to apply to Greenwich Council for a place in Reception class for September 2014 by 15th January 2014.

You will have the opportunity to:

- Visit our school and meet the staff and children
- Take a tour around the school and visit our Reception & Primary classes
- See activities and displays
- View our superb outdoor facilities
- See our up to date mobile computing facilities in use
- Have a look at children's work in the classrooms

Take a look at our website to see the superb range of extra-curricular clubs on offer, and to gain more information about our Breakfast and After school facility.

Tel: 020 8854 6917 [www.eglinton-royalgreenwich.co.uk](http://www.eglinton-royalgreenwich.co.uk)

# funny -line

The likes of Mark Watson, Tony Law, Andrew Maxwell and Sara Pascoe plus many more, including some very special guests, will be taking to the stage at this exclusive comedy marathon. Alexie Sayle, one of British Comedy's biggest names, will be rounding up the comedy goodness at the Greenwich Theatre on Sunday with his acerbic social commentary.

The witty weekend will also host a fringe programme with free shows spread across the borough. Comedian, actor and television presenter, Arthur Smith will be in town as he embarks on a humorous tour of some of Greenwich's most iconic sights in his much anticipated 'Alternative Greenwich Tour'.

There'll even be the chance for local aspiring comedians to get in on the action at The Comedy Academy, in partnership with Royal Greenwich and GLYPT; this project will see a group of young people develop their comedy skills and perform them as part of the festival.

Cllr Peter Kotz, the royal borough's cabinet member for culture and creative industries, said: "The hugely popular Royal Greenwich Festivals are all about bringing people together for a brilliant time whether that's in the audiences watching the fantastic range of performances, or taking part themselves. This is a great opportunity for people to develop their comedy skills and I can't wait to be entertained by the people who take part in these workshops. It's one of many highlights in this year's comedy festival and is not to be missed."

*Simon Banks*

For more information, full listings and to book your tickets visit [www.greenwichcomedyfestival.co.uk](http://www.greenwichcomedyfestival.co.uk)



*The highly anticipated Comedy Festival line-up has been announced..*



COMEDY KINGS AND QUEENS: Aisling Bea, top, and Mark Watson, above, are on the bill.



ROYAL GREENWICH FESTIVALS

**MEETING IN GREENWICH**  
Greenwich & Bexley Community Fundraising Cycle Ride.  
Sun Oct 6. Cyclists start from either Cutty Sark, Woolwich Fire Power Museum or Erith. 12 or 27 mile cycle.  
£10 Adults, £5 Child. [www.coummunityhospice.org.uk](http://www.coummunityhospice.org.uk)

**MYCENAE HOUSE, BLACKHEATH**  
Jazz night: Saxophonist Derek Nash.  
Fri Oct 11.  
Night of wonderful jazz hosted by Dave Silk.  
Doors open at 8pm. £10. 020 8858 1749

**CHARLTON HOUSE**  
Wedding Fair. Sun Oct 6.  
Come along and get inspiration for your special day.  
10:30am-3:30pm. FREE. [www.charlton-house.org](http://www.charlton-house.org)

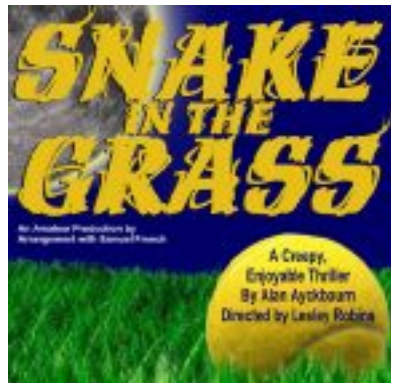
**GREENWICH THEATRE**  
Advice For The Young At Heart. Tues Oct 1.  
A new play by Roy Williams confronts gang culture head on, aimed at young people.  
7:30pm. £10. 020 8858 7755



**THE PROGRESS HALL, ELTHAM**  
Accrington Pals – Production By The Priority Players  
Thurs Oct 10 – Sat 12  
7:30pm  
The Great War, later known as World War 1, changed the lives of so many all over the world in what were testing times across the world and on our very doorsteps.  
The Accrington Pals is a new production by Peter Whelan, brought to you from The Priority Players that invites audiences into the homes of families during 1916 in a moving and compassionate play that celebrates humanity through its

characters whilst reminding us of the futile loss of life suffered at the time of the battle of the Somme.  
With a good mix of characters in a changing background that travels through a wide range of emotions, The Accrington Pals is a heart-warming success. The production comes to The Progress Hall, Eltham from Thursday October 10 through to Saturday 12.

Tickets are £7 or £6 concessions.  
For more information and bookings call 07502 450 983 or email [tickets@thepriorityplayers.com](mailto:tickets@thepriorityplayers.com)



## Acting catches eye in the grass

WE all have our dark sides and Alan Ayckbourn's no different, his Snakes in the Grass especially black. A little known piece, it sits snug in a trilogy, which he ghoulishly labelled, "Thingsthatgobump".

The setting, at the Bob Hope Theatre, Eltham, intrigues from the opening curtain; an old disused well in a ramshackle garden, a tumbledown house and a chicken wire fence; more sinister still are the rocking chair and tennis court, malevolent relics of a calamitous past.

It's beautifully crafted (Peter Basley) and with the lighting as good, a powerful atmosphere soon builds. Ayckbourn was clear what he wanted to do; "a thriller that starts in the sunlight" ... and ends "as the darkness arrives."

Two middle-aged sisters are reunited at last. Annabel Chester, (Ann Ashenden) abrasive and loud, and her junior, Miriam (Rachel de Silva), downtrodden and sour.

The reason is simple their father is dead, and his nurse (Fiona McGhaeren) says it wasn't by chance. As the story unfolds, all is not what it seems and there are twists, there are turns and surprises.

But if the doyen of the social comedy goes missing in action, his compassion for womankind returns; from the suicide prone Eva in Absurd Person Singular to the sanity-sacrificing Susan in Woman in Mind, his empathy for victims knows no bounds. But Ayckbourn's great talent is he knows when to stop and the tension is cut by his humour. The audience relaxes and then laughs with relief, but the message has clearly been made.

The production is good and the direction (Lesley Robins) first rate, but it's the acting that catches the eye. Ashenden is compelling after a diffident start and she soon eases into her role. From haughty elder sibling to emotional wreck, her sensitive transition is seamless. McGhaeren is competent in a limited role but de Silva is the pick of the bunch.

Now touching – "I've neither loved nor been loved" – now demented in the tennis court scene, now funny in the scene with the well. It's a challenging role, but she is compelling to watch and she is certainly a talent to watch.

There's no end to the talent in our local community and this must be one of the best. The theatre is comfortable and the welcome is warm and we all should come and try to support it.

Amateur dramatics at its finest. 8/10  
[www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/](http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/)  
Richard Morgan, September 2013

Follow Royal Greenwich on twitter @Royal\_Greenwich

