

Canning & Clyde Monthly Update – August 2026

www.canningandclyde.org

Hi. Hope our warm sunny weather suits you. For those of us who like it, we've certainly had a summer!

Information from TfL

Tram works in August

TfL will be carrying out maintenance on two sections of tracks on Tamworth Road & Wellesley Road.

These works will take place 24 hours a day from **23:00 on Wednesday 5th August to 04:00 on Monday 31st August 2026**. To maximise the closure, TfL will also be undertaking maintenance works at other locations around Croydon Town Centre.

During the works trams will only operate between:

- Wimbledon and Reeves Corner
- East Croydon and New Addington/Beckenham Junction

During the works Centrale, Church Street, George Street, Wellesley Road and West Croydon tram stops will be closed in Croydon town centre.

No tram service will operate to or from Elmers End. Customers can instead use Birkbeck tram stop which is about 650m away or use bus route 289 between Arena and Elmers End tram stops.

London Trams services will return to normal on Monday 31 August.

Bus and tram Hopper Fare – unlimited timing at weekends during August

Customers can make unlimited bus and tram journeys on Saturdays and Sundays for the price of a single fare each day, as part of the Weekend [Hopper fare](#), up to and including the Monday 31 August Bank Holiday. Customers can still benefit from the Weekend Hopper by using the tram services that will continue to operate on the east and west of the London Trams network and using any bus services as needed to complete their journeys.

Whitgift Centre – significant change of ownership

As we all know, the Whitgift Centre has few remaining shops.

In a brief and very simplified history – The Whitgift Centre was owned by the Whitgift Foundation. The [Whitgift Foundation](#) are Croydon's biggest landowner and run Whitgift School and Trinity School as well as care homes and some sheltered housing.

In 2011 the then Croydon Central MP, Gavin Barwell, who was a governor of the Whitgift Foundation, facilitated a deal between the Whitgift Foundation and Australian developer, Westfield. The Whitgift Foundation remained as freeholders. The theory was that Westfield would redevelop the Whitgift Foundation to give Croydon an exciting, updated Town Centre.

It hasn't happened. Westfield already had form with the [Bradford Hole](#) although this was eventually developed. 15 years on from 2011 and we in Croydon are still waiting.

In the meantime there have been company mergers and changes of ownership. Westfield today trades as Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield.

Now – Westfield have bought the freehold of the Whitgift Centre from the Whitgift Foundation. It has also bought up some surrounding land. This means a large, very

important site in central Croydon is wholly owned by a property company to develop or sell, as they choose, according to their company priorities.

Let's see what happens!

For more information see [Inside Croydon](#). This site publishes fact checked articles, albeit with a particular political perspective. To be fair to the current Executive Mayor of Croydon, Jason Perry, the previous administration also tried to keep on the right side of Westfield.

Free Family Fun

From 4 August 2026

Craft & Sew • DIY Squishy * Nature Art • Drama • Dance * Comics & Manga • Den Building

CALAT Family Learning is warmly inviting families to join us between Tuesday 4th - Thursday 13th August for a range of exciting FREE Family Learning workshops - [link](#).

Taking place at our [Croydon Clocktower centre](#) or the [MHA Wilderness Garden in Shirley](#), these workshops are suitable for parents, carers and their children, and are an amazing opportunity to get creative whilst learning in a nurturing and encouraging setting! Our popular workshops are free, fun and inclusive – just let us know how we can help you.

All materials are provided. A space will be available to eat a packed lunch.

BOOKING PLACES:

1. Book online to avoid disappointment at: <https://www.calat.ac.uk/free-summer-fun/>
2. Have a question or would like help? Email us at familylearning3@croydon.gov.uk.

Please Note: All children and young people must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Age restrictions apply and we reserve the right to alter any enrolments.

See attached flier

Creative Health Takeover Day

Saturday 8 August 2026

13:00 16:00

Croydon Central Library

[Free activities for children and families](#)

Backpackers at St Mary Magdalene

Dates 9 – 21 August 2026

10.00 am. – 12.30 pm. each day

St Mary Magdalene Church, Canning Road, CR0 6QD

For children aged 4 starting school in September 2026 and those currently in School Years Reception - Year 6.

Cost: £3 a day per child

Poster and registration form attached

Croydon Pride

Saturday 15 August 2026

11 am – 11.30 pm

Box Park

Click here for [information and tickets](#)

Don Pasquale

Thursday 27 August, 7.30 pm

Saturday 29 August, 3.00 pm

St Mary Magdalene Church, Canning Road

For reasons totally outside their control, Surrey Opera are no longer performing Lakme. Instead they are presenting again Don Pasquale. This will be a little different from last year's performance.

Flier is attached.

Click here for [more information](#)

Outside in the month of August

Partial (90%) solar eclipse

During the early evening on Wednesday 12 August 2026 we will experience a 90% solar eclipse.

This will be when the moon gradually passes between Earth and the Sun, blocking out the light.

The eclipse will start at 6.17 pm and end at 8.06 pm. The maximum extent of the eclipse will be at 7.16 pm.

For much more information and to watch the eclipse live-streamed, go to the [Royal Greenwich Museums](#) site. This includes the Royal Greenwich Observatory. Live-streaming is the safest way to view the eclipse, although of course we'll see the light levels drop outside.

'When is the next total solar eclipse in the UK?

You'll have to wait until 2090 for the next total solar eclipse visible from the UK! The 12 August 2026 eclipse is the closest to total that the British Isles will see for quite some time.

The only eclipse that comes close to total for the British Isles will be on 3 September 2081, where up to 99% of the Sun will be obscured by the Moon. Cornwall and the south coast will again be the best place to observe from.

Other significant partial eclipses will occur in 2030 (~50%), 2053 (~40%), 2066 (~60%), 2075 (~70%), 2082 (~70%) and 2088 (~40%), with a handful of more minor eclipses taking place.'