



Summer 2026 Newsletter

Your GCHA Summer Update

Summer is here, and we've packed this shorter edition with useful reminders, local events and a little bit of fun too!

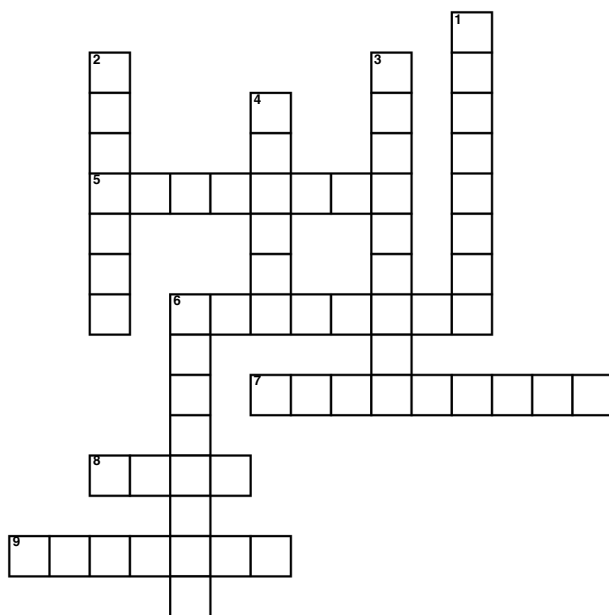
Inside, you'll find summer safety tips, ways to stay connected with GCHA, things to do locally and a couple of puzzles to put your brain to the test.

There's even more online, scan the QR code to catch up on the latest GCHA news, resident information and updates.



Can You Crack the Crossword?

- A** [5] A cold, sweet treat that's perfect on a hot day.
C [6] What shines brightly in the sky on a warm summer's day?
R [7] Putting waste into the correct bin so it can be used again.
O [8] A great place to enjoy a picnic, walk or play outside.
S [9] Make sure you do this by drinking plenty of water in hot weather.
S
- D** [1] Cooking outdoors on a grill with family and friends.
O [2] Time away from work or school to relax and have fun.
W [3] The people who live and work together in your local area.
N [4] A place where flowers, plants and vegetables can grow.
S [6] Helps protect your skin from the sun's rays.



Turn to page 4 to see the answers



Things to do in your local area



Dartford Health Walks

Free, friendly and accessible 30–90 minute walks around Dartford and the surrounding area. A great way to get active, enjoy some fresh air and meet new people. Runs weekly with various timings available.
www.dartford.gov.uk/health-wellbeing/health-walks



Hops ‘n’ Harvest Family Festival

Live music, rides, entertainment, food and family fun at Kent Life, 12 - 13 September.



Children’s Book Festival

Storytelling, crafts, characters and activities for children aged 2–11 in Dartford, 19 September.



Community Fair

A free community event at Acacia Sports Hall, with activities for the local community, 3 October.



Halloween Train Rides

Miniature train rides and a spooky Halloween Ghost Train at Cascades Leisure Centre, 25 October.

More Ways to Get Involved!

Our Resident Engagement Panel has been busy looking at new ways to bring residents together, have some fun and help people feel more connected.

Over 50s Broadstairs Day Trip: 10 September

A day by the sea for residents aged 50+.

Halloween Get-Together

We’re exploring a fun Halloween event for residents and families, with fancy dress, treats and activities.

More events are coming, shaped by the ideas and positive input of our Resident Engagement Panel. Scan the QR code to find out more and get involved!



Y B D M B P Y I M E N M E N D
P L A Y G R O U N D M U R A R
Z L E I L Y A O O A N D U L B
C V S E S S A L G N U S T E L
I S W I M M I N G O C D A R M
N N R L Y A B D G M F C N E O
C A D V E N T U R E H R L W O
I I U U E F I L D L I W S E L
P S F I O D A R N D S S E E B
E U A A C R F S A S S I H Z G
L N M D U G C A G S S G S E M
D N I O D S I S G S M L A E M
D Y L F E D B W B S I L L R M
A E Y O B I N A U L P R P B R
P D A I S Y L B N P L D S L E

Find the Summer Words!

BUTTERFLY
PICNIC
LEMONADE
WILDLIFE
SWIMMING
PLAYGROUND
ADVENTURE
SUNGLASSES
BEACH

BREEZE
SPLASH
DAISY
BEES
SUNNY
FAMILY
NATURE
PADDLE
BLOOM

Turn to page 4 to see the answers





Enjoy Summer, Stay Safe!

We've had some very hot, dry weather, and while we hope everyone is enjoying the summer, there are a few simple things we can all do to stay safe and look out for one another.



Help Prevent Fires

Hot, dry conditions mean grass, plants and outdoor areas can catch fire much more easily.

Please do not use BBQs on GCHA grounds or communal areas, and never leave anything burning or smouldering outdoors.

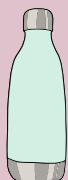
Take extra care when disposing of cigarettes and matches, and keep communal areas, balconies and escape routes clear.



Stay Hydrated

It's easy to become dehydrated during hot weather.

Drink water regularly, even if you don't feel thirsty.



Take water with you when heading out and avoid long periods in direct sun during the hottest part of the day.

Keep Your Home Cooler



Close curtains or blinds where the sun is coming in



Keep windows closed when it is hotter outside than inside



Open windows when the air outside becomes cooler.



Turn off unnecessary lights and electrical equipment that generate heat

Look Out For Each Other

Hot weather can be particularly difficult for older people, young children and anyone who may need a little extra support.



If you have a neighbour, friend or relative who might struggle in the heat, a quick check-in can make a real difference.

Enjoy The Sun Safely

Heading outside? Remember the basics:



Wear sun cream

Seek shade when out and about



Wear a hat

Drink plenty of water



Keep Children Safe

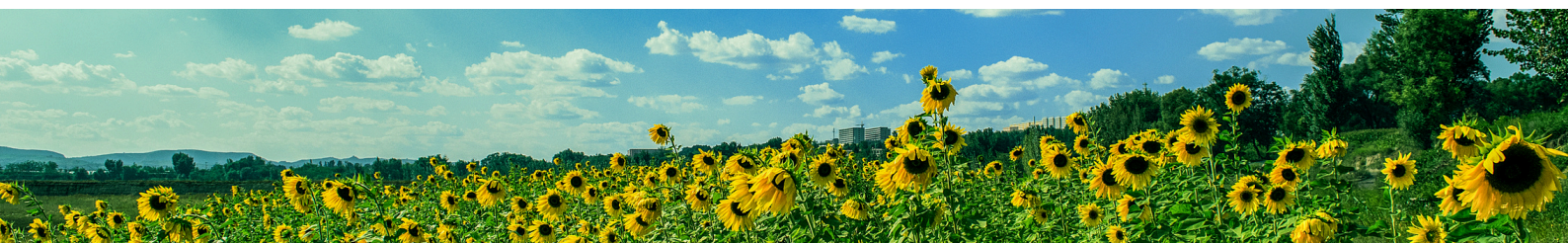
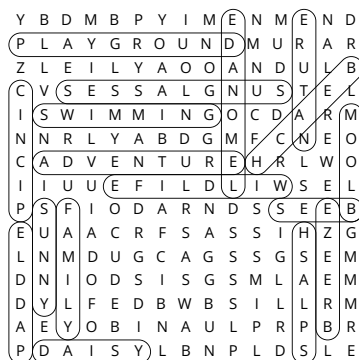
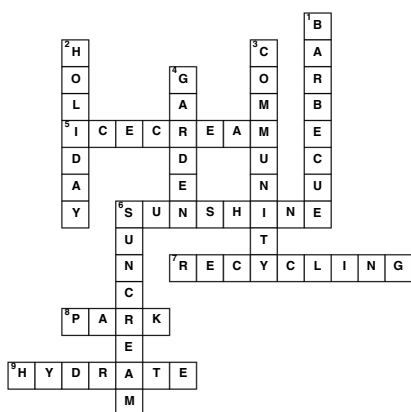
Please supervise children carefully around balconies, open windows and communal outdoor areas, particularly during the summer when windows and doors may be open more often.

There's More Online!

Scan the QR code for more information on how to stay safe this summer and much more!



Puzzle Answers



Stay Connected with GCHA

Keep up to date with the latest GCHA news, important updates, events and resident information by signing up for our email and SMS updates.

You can also follow us on social media to see what's happening across GCHA and our communities. Find us on Facebook and LinkedIn by searching **GCHA/Gravesend Churches Housing Association**.

Have Your Say

Your feedback helps us understand what we're doing well and where we can improve. We welcome your comments, suggestions and feedback about GCHA and the services you receive.

If you're dissatisfied with our service, you can make a formal complaint by calling, emailing or visiting the complaints section of our website. **Your feedback matters and helps us improve our services for residents.**

Contact Us

Call: 01474 369830

Email: general@gcha.org.uk

Website: www.gcha.org.uk

Resident Portal: Access GCHA services online

You can use these details to sign up for email and SMS updates, give us feedback, make a complaint or get in touch with our team.

Contact us
Gravesend Churches Housing Association Ltd
14 London Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 9JQ

Follow us on:



gcha
opening doors

