

Horsham Piazza Italia goes Veneziano!

Carnevale Di Venezia

The World's Best-Known Masked Extravaganza!

Easter Monday 25 April 2011

This year, we are celebrating Horsham Piazza Italia's 5th Birthday by going all Venetian! On Monday 25 April, we will be including all things Venetian as part of the event and what better way to celebrate than by creating Horsham's very own Carnevale Di Venezia! We are exploring ideas around mask-making, face painting with glamorous and mysterious mask inspiration, a Romeo & Juliet enactment from a town centre balcony, a wine-tasting tour of local bars, pubs and other outlets, a search for the perfect cup of coffee and much more!

Tiatro di Contrada

Street Theatre & Entertainments

Face painting (10am to 3pm) in Swan Walk by 'Busydays' with a Venetian Mask theme (also on 22 & 23 April).

Emile Epstein Circus Skills (10.30am to 3.30pm) – multi-skilled, street theatre entertainer, performing many skills, including mime, juggling, crystal ball-manipulation, unicycling and ball-spinning.

Gondola & Gondolier (11am to 4pm) – street theatre entertainer handing out flowers to the public as he makes his way by Gondola around the town centre.

Claudio Allodi (11am to 3pm) – charismatic Accordionist strolling through the town centre.

Shakespeare in Love (11am to 4pm)

From the romantic balcony above NatWest in The Carfax.

An interactive performance of the beloved balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet.

Lord Capulet, in fine hose and cloaked as befitting a man of his station invites the audience to draw near and give him their attention. In cod-Shakespearian terms, he will involve the audience in the story, set the scene, discuss the morality of young love versus arranged marriage, and draw parallels with modern day romances between celebrities such as Jordan and Peter Andre, and the Royal couple. He will tease fun from the crowd before the balcony scene unfolds.

Then, the young Montague and the young Capulet will declare their love for each other with the actual lines from the Bard's most famous romantic tragedies. A stunning performance from two talented performers will delight the crowd. Lord Capulet (a real crowd-pleaser with a sharp wit and skill) will then re-cap what we have seen and invite members of the audience to step up and play the roles in a 'Generation Game' style performance, acting opposite the professional and reading the lines from cue cards. The audience will be invited to shout out familiar lines from other cards.

Also as part of Horsham Piazza Italia V Entertainments...

Friday 22 April

Horsham Churches Together (11am to 12pm) – Service on the Carfax Bandstand

The Barbershop Quartet (12pm to 4pm) - entertaining visitors at various points in the town centre

The Not Pavarotti Duo (12.30pm to 3pm) – Opera Arias on the Prezzo balcony in the Carfax

Saturday 23 April

The Pepperonis (11am to 2pm) - Violin & Accordion Duo, roving the town centre

Italian Opera (1pm to 3pm) - on the Carfax Bandstand

Mafia Gangsters (11am to 4pm) - professional character actors; great at meeting, greeting and entertaining the public!

Maschera Veneziana

Create your own Venetian Mask!

We are encouraging primary schools across the Horsham District to get involved in Carnevale Di Venezia with classes creating their very own Venetian masks! They can be of any size, shape, colour and style – the more creative the better! Accompanying a letter to school Arts Coordinators is a Venice fact sheet, its carnival traditions, more detailed information on the different types of Venetian masks (including beautiful, inspiring images) and what they might need to create them. There is also a mask template.

We'd like to see just how creative schools have been by encouraging kids to wear their masks at Carnevale Di Venezia in Horsham on Monday 25 April. There will be prizes for the most creative masks which will feature as part of an exhibition at a high-profile town centre location.

This isn't just open to schools of course. Described as the world's best-known masked extravaganza, the carnival celebrations are open to everyone and participation from people of all ages is very much encouraged!

[Find out more about creating your own Venetian mask](#)

Contrada del Vino Italiana

Horsham's first Italian Wine Tasting Tour!

Horsham District Council is teaming up with town centre businesses to create a special 'wine-tasting tour' involving as many of Horsham's pubs, bars, restaurants and other outlets as possible. Visitors to the Festival will be able to pick up a 'tour passport' in the Carfax on Monday 25 April, which will allow them to start their journey of discovery, experiencing all those Italian fine wines. Every participant will be labelled as a different Italian city, which will ensure each business is literally put on the map! A small fee applicable for most tastings.

Horsham Museum

Masked Beauty and Renaissance Computers

Leading up to the three-day Easter Italian extravaganza in Horsham, the town's museum is holding a special display on Venetian Renaissance computers. On show will be the one item that altered the Renaissance world as much as the computer has done to ours- the printed book – the Renaissance Computer - from 1470 to 1550, with rare examples on show.

Horsham Museum is also linked with the mask-making element of the celebrations, inspired by the stunning sculpture **Sior Masherà by Philip Jackson** (Figure of a robed man with a gilded mask over his face) on loan from Worthing Museum.

Horsham Museum, 9 Causeway, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1HE.

Open Monday to Saturday 10am - 5pm. **Note:** Open Easter Saturday and Monday.
Closed Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Caffè Italia

In search of the Perfect Cup...

The heat is on as Horsham's cafés, coffee shops and restaurants - in fact pretty much anyone serving up coffee to their customers is getting their machines and makers at the ready, set to serve up their best cup to Horsham Visitors.

The Resident is organising something rather special, joining in with the celebrations for Horsham Piazza Italia's 5th Birthday. As part of this year's Italian extravaganza, they are launching 'Caffè Italia', putting the spotlight on local businesses, whilst giving people a new reason to visit the town's coffee-serving venues and putting an emphasis on product quality and customer service.

It's no secret that Horsham has a diverse abundance of outlets serving up a variety of coffees, but what is exactly is the preferred cup? A Latte, latte macchiato, espresso, cappuccino? Also, a really great cup of coffee is one thing, but whether you drink-in or take-away, the experience can be equally important in your choice.

Coffee is very important to the Italians (and to Horsham it appears!), with many traditions and customs, coffee types and coffee houses. There's a coffee practically to suit every time and mood and just like pasta, the Italian coffee is an art form.

So, how will Horsham measure up? Well, we're about to find out as we're inviting all businesses serving up a cup of coffee to participate in Caffè Italia in the lead up to the Piazza Italia Easter weekend.

Customers will have the opportunity to vote online for their:

- **Best Coffee Experience** (ambience, feel, customer service)
- **The Perfect Cup** (who serves the best cup in Horsham?)

And for pure interest...

- **Favourite Coffee** (latte, espresso, cappuccino etc.)

[Look out for voting options for YOUR perfect cup soon at www.the-resident.co.uk](http://www.the-resident.co.uk)

Cucina Veneziana

Horsham's restaurants, cafés and pubs are invited to create special dishes, add to their existing menus and create special offers to serve up some fine Italian cuisine. Typical Venetian dishes include Polenta, Fettuccine, Ravioli & Risotto.

HORSHAM PIAZZA ITALIA GOES VENEZINO

For one day only, Horsham will be adding various decorative elements to the town centre to ensure visitors feel completely absorbed in the Venetian atmosphere:

Barber Poles

Horsham will be creating its very own take on the 'Barber Pole' which originated in the days when bloodletting was one of the principal duties of the barber. The two spiral ribbons painted around the pole represent the two long bandages, one twisted around the arm before bleeding, and the other used to bind is afterward.