

KENT MESSENGER

Depression

08.01.09

Over the next year or so a large number of families in Gravesham are going to get into serious financial difficulties – redundancy, lack of jobs, repossession, eviction. I, for one pray that the Government's efforts to fight off a Depression are a success, and I would love to be proved wrong that borrowing gigantic amounts of money is going to prove a disastrous mistake. Our failure to practice thrift has been a large part of what has helped to bring about the current economic collapse: when I say "our" here, I mean not only the bankers but also our Governments and ourselves individually. Ultimately Government borrowing today is higher taxes for all of us in the future (and benefits payments are ultimately paid by everyone else through the taxes they pay). Borrowing is certainly not the way to get your self out of debt: thrift and hard work are. I know this may not be popular, but we have to help ourselves: many of us believe that we are somehow entitled to anything we want, without regard to whether or not we can afford it. Truth is we need to work harder, spend less, help ourselves and our neighbours. Many of the things that we consider to be "essentials" would stun most of the rest of the human race.

