

The Selsdon — Gazette —



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April 2021

THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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Cllr Robert Ward Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk 07783 152363

Councillors for Selsdon Vale & Forestdale Ward

Stuart Millson Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk 07783 152376

Andy Stranack Andrew.stranack@croydon.gov.uk 07816 123204

Councillors for Sanderstead Ward

Cllr Lyn Hale Lynne.hale@croydon.gov.uk 0208 405 6721

Cllr Yvette Hopley Yvette.hopley@croydon.gov.uk 0208 404 3462

Cllr Tim Pollard councillor@timpollard.co.uk 0208 251 8500

Full details of the roads falling within each of the Selsdon wards can be found on the home page of the SRA website <http://selsdon-residents.co.uk>



Editor's Note

Welcome to the April edition of the Selsdon Gazette. We have all experienced a 'roller coaster ride' with our emotions during this past year but is there at last, a real sense of hope? As I write this, we have entered astronomical Spring so the days are now becoming longer than the nights. Over half the adult population of the UK has received the first vaccine dose and the rates of infection, hospitalisation and deaths from covid-19 have all decreased.

To help this lifting of our spirits, I have included some upbeat items for you to enjoy. We have an article about orienteering and a detailed local walk from one of our regular contributors, Des Donohoe, for you to try in the spring sunshine. Ian Leggatt gives us a look behind the hoarding around the Selsdon Garage site. We have practical advice for gardening in April and how to display streamed programmes from your PC to your TV screen. As usual we have our regular Nature Notes, this month looking at spores, a poem for World Book Night and this month's quiz tests your knowledge of the Oscar Awards.

Following the SRA report for 2020 in last month's gazette we have the SRA financial report this month, as we are unable to hold our Annual General Meeting. Even though the SRA is a non-political organisation we still believe that we should keep our readers informed. To do this in a balanced manner, we have included views about the repercussions from Croydon Council's financial problems from our local elected Councillors and MP, and the Labour Leader of the Council. Finally, we remind you about the SRA Scarecrow Competition to brighten Selsdon streets in May/June - please do take part!

I hope that you enjoy your read, keep safe and I do look forward to hearing from you! Any contribution, however short, can be sent to me by email to (selsdongazettesra@gmail.com).

Chris Jones

✎ SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MAY 2021 EDITION SHOULD
BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN
20TH APRIL - PREFERABLY BEFORE! ✎

SRA NEWS ‘n’ VIEWS

Street Champions

Many of the communities across Croydon have come together to work with Council Street Champions to help clean up their local areas. Any volunteers can contact Tracey via email to bellamy@croydon.gov.uk to arrange a litter pick or gardening session and the rubbish will be collected by the council. This is a really good service and a good way for us to keep our areas tidy.

The Love Clean Streets app is the best way to report fly tipping or rubbish when you see it.

On the subject of litter, myself and the committee would like to say a big thank you to all our own “Secret Litter Pickers” in Selsdon. A lot goes on all around our area and we are very grateful to you all, especially now as I suspect street cleaning will be one of the services cut back in April.

Covid

Lateral flow tests are being carried out in Selsdon Library for anyone, you do not have to have symptoms. You will have to register first to have the test but can ask for help at the Library.

Police

Catalytic Converter thefts are still causing a problem and the Police urge you to report this crime (and of course all crimes) to them. The crime figures for Selsdon remain low.

Scarecrow Competition

Hoping lots of you will be planning your scarecrows in your front gardens for judging in May. (Entry form in this gazette). A good chance to use all your old clothes!!

Sheila Childs, SRA Chair

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2021 SRA AGM Documents

Due to the lockdown restrictions we had to cancel the 2021 SRA AGM due to be held on 1 April. The 2020 Annual Report appeared in the March edition of the Selsdon Gazette and can also be found on the SRA website. One eagle-eyed reader found a mistake in this report. The last

section which concerned Covid 19 should have reported that the ‘Selsdon COVID-19 Support Group’ provided in excess of 5000 ‘befriending’ telephone calls to elderly and vulnerable Selsdon residents. The reviewed accounts for 2020-2021 now follow. If you have any questions please use the SRA mailbox (mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com)

Janet Sharp, Secretary

SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION/GAZETTE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS				
Income and Expenditure Accounts for the Years Ended 31 December				
SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION	2020	2019	2018	2017
INCOME	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	3,962	2,415	2,352	2,568
Christmas Lights:	4,574	3,106	2,848	3,306
Residents' Donations	915	1,028	830	926
Traders' Donations	76	199	286	343
Collections	2,000	4,500	5,500	7,200
Croydon Council	0	0	424	0
90th Party Contributions	0	0	388	818
Sponsors for Hanging Baskets	0	0	37	37
Nationwide Building Society Interest	37	37		
Total Income	11,564	11,284	12,665	15,198
EXPENDITURE				
Insurance	370	370	370	392
Hire of Halls	60	483	395	330
Printing & Stationery	0	96	139	61
Sundries	156	42	68	144
Christmas Lights	9,184	10,041	7,057	7,307
Hanging Baskets	198	0	1,200	1,440
Council Barriers	0	0	0	0
90th Party	0	0	503	0
Donations	500	0	90	500
Subscriptions	18	128	58	21
Total Expenditure	10,486	11,160	9,880	10,195
Surplus of Income Over Expenditure	1,078	125	2,785	5,003
SELSDON GAZETTE ACCOUNTS				
Income	£	£	£	£
Advertising Income	13,267	14,403		
Bank Account Interest	67	114		
Subscriptions	110	179		
Total Income	13,444	14,696		
Expenditure				
Gazette Printing	11,644	17,813		
Postage and other costs	270	120		
Total Expenditure	11,914	17,933		
(Deficit)/Surplus of Income Over Expenditure	1,530	(3,236)		

SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION/GAZETTE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Balance Sheets as at 31st December

	SRA 2020	GAZ 2020	TOTAL 2020	SRA 2019	GAZ 2019	TOTAL 2019	SRA 2018	GAZ 2018	TOTAL 2018	TOTAL 2017
Assets:	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Account at Nationwide Building Society	36,793		36,793	36,756		36,756	36,720		36,720	36,683
Gazette Account at Yorkshire Building Society		22,034	22,034		20,056	20,056		25,369	25,369	22,782
Cash at Bank - General Account	11,658		11,658	10,672		10,672	10,491		10,491	7,740
Petty Cash - General Account	34		34	39		39	31		31	25
	48,485	22,034	70,519	47,467	20,056	67,523	47,242	25,369	72,611	67,230
Liabilities:										
Contractors (estimated)	0		0	0		0	0		0	(3,500)
Electricity for Christmas Lights (estimated)	(290)	(6,565)	(290)	(350)	(6,117)	(350)	(250)	(6,629)	(250)	(240)
Gazette advertising paid in advance			(6,565)			(6,117)			(6,629)	(4,874)
Gazette printing/postage owing	0	0	0	0	0	0	(250)	(1,563)	(1,563)	0
	(290)	(6,565)	(6,855)	(350)	(6,117)	(6,467)		(8,192)	(8,442)	(8,614)
NET ASSETS/LESS LIABILITIES	48,195	15,469	63,664	47,117	13,939	61,056	46,992	17,177	64,169	58,616
Accumulated Fund brought forward	47,117	13,939	61,056	46,992	17,177	64,169	40,708	17,908	58,616	53,382
Prior Year Adjustment - Christmas Lights (expired)	0	0	0	0	(3,238)	0	3,500	0	3,500	(19)
Add Surplus/Less (Deficit) - Gazette Account	1,078	1,530	1,530	125		125	0	(731)	0	5,253
Add Surplus/Less (Deficit) - General Account			1,078				2,784		2,784	
	48,195	15,469	63,664	47,117	13,939	61,056	46,992	17,177	64,169	58,616

I confirm that the above Income & Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheets are a true and fair representation of the transactions of the Selsdon Residents' Association and the Selsdon Gazette for the years ended 31 December and of their respective assets and liabilities as at those dates.

Jeff Baydon - Hon. Accounts Reviewer

09 February 2021

Accounts Reviewer's Note:

The Annual Accounts for 2019 previously approved included provisions for anticipated costs totalling £1,805 but in the unique circumstances of 2020, did not materialise. This being the case, the officers agreed to remove those provisions from the SRA Accounts in retrospect and replace them with the 2019 values shown above indicating a small surplus for that year. It has also been agreed not to make any substantial commitment for activities in the current year beyond the usual provision for the electricity bill paid after 31 December 2020.



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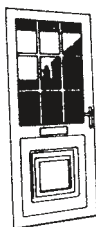
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COUNCILLOR'S NOTES

SELSDON COMMUNITY PLAN – WE NEED YOUR HELP

We need your help to make the area around Selsdon an even better place to live.

More than a thousand people gave their input on how to improve the Selsdon area, which includes not just Selsdon, but Monks Hill, Addington Village, and Forestdale. There were lots of great ideas which were compiled into the Selsdon Community Plan (<https://new.croydon.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/regeneration/places-croydon/selsdon>).

We now need to take the next step to bring some of the ideas into reality. That is not going to be easy. We have been delayed by the pandemic, and the financial difficulties of the Council have not made things easier, but with the help of the community we will succeed.

We have already started to set up groups to bring our projects to fruition but to move to the next level we need to get ourselves properly constituted as the Selsdon Community Plan Steering Group. This will enable us to take important steps like setting up a bank account and applying for funding.

If you are interested in joining us, please get in touch by 15th April 2021 by emailing us at SelsdonCommunityPlan@croydon.gov.uk. Alternatively get in touch with one of the four Selsdon area Councillors whose contact details follow.

TWO COUNCILLORS STAND DOWN FOLLOWING CROYDON COUNCIL BANKRUPTCY

In March two Croydon Labour Councillors, Tony Newman and Simon Hall, announced they will be standing down from their wards with immediate effect. This comes only a few months after Labour-run Croydon Council had to effectively declare bankruptcy, with debts of over £1.5 billion - the highest of any Council anywhere in the country.

A series of damning reports have been published in recent months, including one stating the Council's Labour administration suffered

from 'corporate blindness'. On the condition of anonymity, Labour councillors have told local press of a 'culture of bullying' in the Council. The resignations (of former Council Leader, Cllr Newman, and Cllr Hall who was the Cabinet Member for Finance) are clearly timed to avoid potential sanction by formal processes investigating their conduct.

This is not what Croydon residents need from our Council. And whilst Cllrs Newman and Hall are among the key instigators of the culture of bullying and the policies that bankrupted Croydon - they did not do it alone. They were supported by every Labour councillor including the current Leader of the Council Cllr Hamida Ali. This calls into question whether last year's reshuffle of responsibilities will make any difference to the way the Council is run.

Of course, the people who will be paying for the mistakes that were made, are Croydon's residents. Council Tax has already gone up by 28% since 2014, and the Council now has to borrow £150 million over the next 3 years just to fill the gap in their revenue expenditure. Normally one would expect the Council to borrow money to invest in and improve our public services; but in this case the Council is doing so simply to plug the black hole in the budget.

Of the £150 million debt, £70 million will be borrowed in the current financial year (2020-21). The remaining £80m is needed to balance the next three years' budgets as the necessary cuts have not yet been worked out.

The £150 million in borrowing will come at a huge cost to Croydon residents. The interest repayments alone on this borrowing will come to approximately £58 million over a 20-year period. Overall, the Council will have to pay around £11 million a year in debt repayments over the foreseeable future. This is money that could have instead gone to improving our public services.

On top of the extra costs that residents will have to pay, the Council is seriously considering the following cuts to public services:

- Closing 5 branch libraries
- Closing the new library building in South Norwood
- Closing Purley Pool
- Cutting planned maintenance to our parks
- Stopping the free bulky waste collection

- Closing Recycling Centres as is being planned
- Increasing parking charges

The legacy of debt in Croydon Council will be with us for many years to come. This is a great shame at a time when we need investment in our borough to help recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, and to revitalise our town centre.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS, COUNCILLOR SURGERIES ARE SUSPENDED.

We are happy to 'meet' residents online so if you have any issues you wish to discuss with your councillor please get in touch by email:

Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk	07941 573727
Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk	07783 152363
Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk	07783 152376
Andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk	07816 123204

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/01126/HSE – 304 Addington Road, CR2 8LF
Erection of ground floor rear extension

21/01044/HSE – 36 Arkwright Road, South Croydon R2 0LL
Proposed demolition of garage and rear annex accommodation, part demolition of roof, new first floor extension and raised roof ridge with roof space accommodation and rear dormer. Ground floor side and rear wrap around extensions and rooflights.

21/00963/HSE – 35 Benhurst Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8NT
Alterations; erection of two storey side and single storey rear extension

21/00828/HSE – 8 Endsleigh Gardens, South Croydon CR2 8RT
Alterations, erection of a proposed single storey rear extension with a front porch

21/00642/CONR – 32 Kingswood Way, South Croydon CR2 8QP
Variation of condition 1 (approved drawings) attached to application 19/02090/FUL for Alterations and erection of front porch, erection of dormer extension on front roof slope, erection of single/two storey rear extension at lower ground floor/ground floor levels and conversion to form 3 two bedrooms and 2 three bedroom flats with associated parking for 6 cars, cycle and refuse storage and amenity area

21/01025/HSE – La Brisa, Lynne Close, South Croydon CR2 8QP
Alterations including the erection of single storey rear extensions at ground and lower ground floor level, front porch and loft conversion including a rear dormer and four rooflights to the front roofslope.

21/00978/HSE – 9 Martin Close, South Croydon, CR2 8QS
Alterations including the enlargement of the existing garage and conversion to a habitable room.

20/05258/HSE – 2A Sandpiper Road, South Croydon CR2 8PR
Alterations, erection of a single storey front extension

21/00886/HSE – 14 Selsdon Crescent, CR2 8NA
Proposed two storey side extension

21/00614/PA8 – Footpath, O/S 2-4 Selsdon Park Road, CR2 8JB
Street Pole with Built-In Cabinet, 3no. Separate Cabinets and Ancillary Works

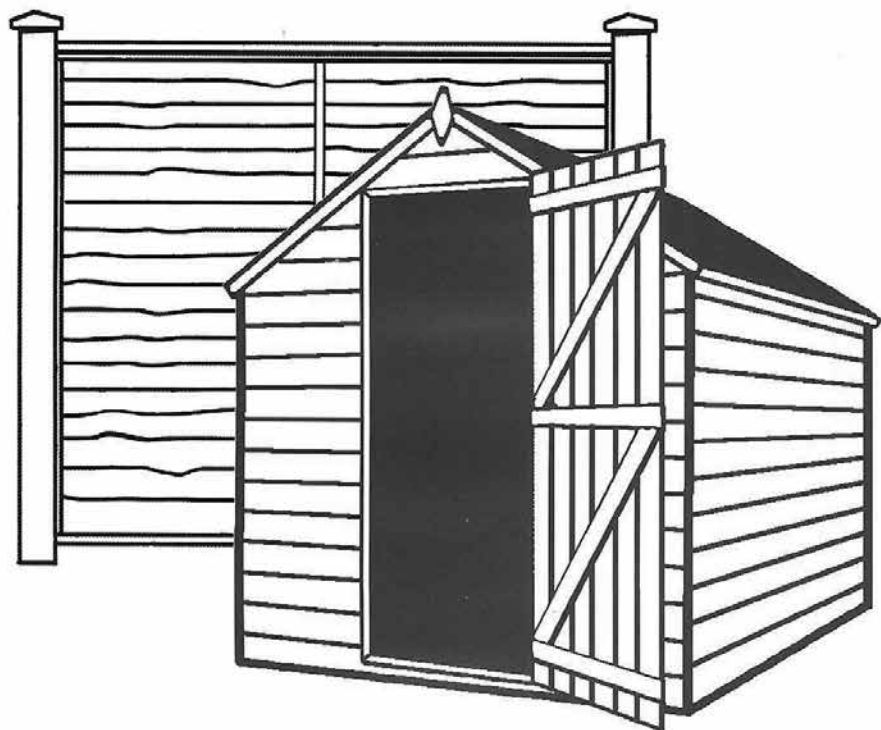
21/00856/HSE – 28 The Ruffetts, CR2 7LQ
Proposed conversion of existing detached garage into 1bed self-contained granny annexe

21/00568/HSE – 28 The Ruffetts, CR2 7JS
Proposed side/rear ground floor extension

(Remember that you can use this website to view planning applications [http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anupdate/planning table.html](http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anupdate/planning%20table.html))

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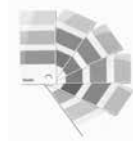
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MP Chris Philp's Report

Member of Parliament for Croydon South



Record Bailout for Croydon Council

The Government has agreed a £120m bailout for Croydon Council - the largest bailout for any local authority in British history.

At the end of last year Croydon Council's Director of Finance officially declared the Council bankrupt. Years of over spending mean that the Council is £1.5 billion in debt. This debt costs £43m a year and we are now seeing the impact that this is having on services. Croydon is the only one of London's 32 Boroughs in this situation. The over spending that caused this predates Covid.

Some of the decisions that led to the Council's bankruptcy include a quarter of a billion pounds on its loss-making developer, Brick by Brick, £30 million on Croydon Park Hotel (which went bankrupt), and £50 million on the Colonnades retail park, which crashed in value.

The record-breaking bailout will go a long way to helping Croydon's residents from experiencing the worst fallout of the bankruptcy, but there will still need to be serious reforms and cuts to how the Council spends. I will continue to keep you updated on this and other further developments resulting from the Council's bankruptcy.

Croydon Libraries Facing Closure

At least five libraries across the borough could be shut down due to the Council's bankruptcy. These closures would mean the loss of around half our local libraries. The five libraries at risk are Bradmore Green (in Coulsdon), Broad Green, Sanderstead, Shirley and South Norwood. The Council will need to make tough decisions, but cutting important services like the libraries is not the answer to the Council's financial problems. Last year the Council was forced to scrap secret plans to close Coulsdon, Sanderstead, Purley and Shirley libraries. These plans were not originally going to be released to the public, and the Council later denied any intention to close the libraries.

Our local libraries are incredibly important for our community, especially

for families with young children, and I know how much they mean to residents. I have set up a petition for residents to sign so that we can show the Council just how important they are for people living in our area. You can sign it here - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/savecroydonlibraries>

The cost of keeping the libraries open is £0.5 million, a drop in the ocean compared to some of the Council's spending, such as the £250 million on Brick by Brick.

Chris Philp

Member of Parliament, Croydon South: [020 7219 8026](tel:02072198026) chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk

~~

**Extract from 'Your Croydon'
from Councillor Hamida Ali, Leader of the Council**

On Monday 8 March, Croydon Council agreed its budget for 2021/22 following our acceptance of a government offer for a capitalisation direction.

Now the budget is set, as leader of the council my absolute focus is ensuring we deliver it. This means continuing to improve how this council is run, living within our means yet providing the best services we can. Our budget will give priority to supporting adults and children in need, keeping the borough's streets clean and safe, and addressing gaps in our funding caused by the demands of tackling Covid-19, which has already cost Croydon over £46m.

It also means finding further savings, improving our financial discipline and doing everything we can to put our finances on a sustainable footing. While setting this budget lifts the section 114 notice, our top priorities remain improving the council's financial rigour through tight budget controls and focusing on supporting local people who need us most.

Next year's approved budget includes a 1.99% council tax rise for Croydon services, and a 3% precept to look after the borough's older and most vulnerable residents, which is what government is expecting in local authorities' spending calculations. Along with the proposed Greater London Authority contribution, this means an overall increase of 5.83%,

with an 'average' Band D property's household paying an extra £2 per week. We did not take this decision to raise council tax lightly, but it means we can protect core council services and address funding gaps caused by the demands of our Covid-19 response. It also means there is around £84m extra to support our vulnerable adults.

~~

Mayor of London and London Assembly Elections

Thursday 6 May 2021

A guide to voting in the London elections.

The London elections will take place on Thursday 6th of May. Unlike other elections you will have three different voting papers: one for the Mayor of London and two others for the London Assembly – the body of 25 people who hold the Mayor to account.



Voting paper 1 (pink) – the Mayor of London

On this voting paper you can vote for a first and second choice for Mayor. If no one gets more than 50% of first choice votes, then all of the candidates are eliminated apart from the top two. All of the ballot papers that had first choice votes for the other candidates are then checked and if the voter gave one of the top two candidates their second-choice vote then that is added to the totals and the winner is the one who gets the highest total of first and second choice votes.

In practice this means that you can choose whoever you want as your first choice for Mayor. If you think your first choice might not make it into the top two then you can also pick a second choice out of those you think might finish in the top two.

Voting paper 2 (yellow) – London Assembly constituency

For the London Assembly we live in a constituency that covers the whole of Croydon and Sutton. This election is just like at a general election – you vote for the candidate you support and the candidate with the most votes gets elected.

Voting paper 3 (orange) – London Assembly London-wide

On this paper you just pick the political party that you support. This is used to help make sure that the London Assembly better reflects the votes that each party gets across the whole of London. As long as your party gets at least 5% of the vote then the more votes they get on this paper, the more London Assembly members they will get.

The combined results of the constituency and London-wide votes at the

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Message from Jack Killian/ Police Community Support Officer

Hello Residents,

Over the last couple of months, the team for the Selsdon and Forestdale police ward has still been out trying to hunt for catalytic converter thieves. During a recent operation on Forestdale in which we had traffic police officers come down and help us, we managed to stop a car with false number plates, unfortunately the occupants decamped and managed to get away from the team.

In the last two months, the numbers of burglaries and thefts from cars have both increased so please ensure that your homes and cars are securely locked.

Sadly, our sergeant, PS Jon Whitehead, will be leaving the team to join the Croydon town centre team. However, we will be getting a replacement straight away in the form of A/PS Robert Straker. We also have the better news of a new police officer joining the team at the start of May. This will mean that after over a year, we will be at full strength once again on Selsdon and Forestdale SNT.

Hope you all stay safe and if you would like to contact us please use the details below. Thank you.

Jack Killian 7114SN

Police Community Support Officer

Telephone: 020 8721 2464

Email: SNMailbox-SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk

Address: Addington Police Station, Addington Village Road, CR0 5AQ

~~

Free Fun for the Kids!

With sunny days and the school holidays ahead, how do you keep your children happy but without spending a fortune on days out? I learnt a lot about what kids enjoy, both boys and girls, when I was a Cub and Scout Leader, because each week we had 20+ hyperactive kids to keep occupied! So, to start this month, let me tell you about something on your doorstep and it's free – Orienteering!

Well almost. Orienteering is not just great fun; you and the kids will be

learning a very useful skill – map reading!



Whilst you can get the map free, you do need a compass to find the marked locations in the park, woods, or countryside. The type shown here is best because it is a proper Hiking compass and not only will your children get hooked on this great, fun activity, but you, also! Try Hewitts in Crown Hill, Croydon who supply school, Cub and Scout uniforms, etc <https://www.hewittsof.croydon.com/>

Our Cubs did it at Oak Park, 2 miles from Purley up the road towards Banstead. The free map has locations marked which, with the help of the compass, the kids had to find. They were posts with an identifying number and letter like this.



But another place is Croydon's Lloyd Park, and there are lots of other venues not too far away.

To save me the time of explaining what Orienteering for Kids is all about, and as a bonus - Geocoaching, see this <https://www.getoutwiththekids.co.uk/activities/playing-things/orienteering/>

For the map and instructions for the kids orienteering course at Lloyds Park, see www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/articles/downloads/orienteering-notes.pdf

Or for older children and adults check out the medium and advanced orienteering courses at <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/leisure/sports/a-z-of-activities/orienteering>

In my days there was only a kids' orienteering course at Oaks Park, the course map for which can be emailed to you via this web page and asking for the one for Oaks Park see http://www.mvoc.org/POCs/poc_map_form.php?map=9

Next month some ideas for Kids on bikes!

Des Donohoe (des.oldselsdon@gmail.com).

Selsdon Garage – Baileys

What lies behind the foreboding black hoarding at 230 Addington Road between Aldi and the Royal Tandoori? What function did the decrepit white building fulfil before it became home to buddleia, rubbish and weeds? Opened in March 1938 the building was a car showroom and workshop with the New Selsdon Hall above, complete with a sprung floor of Canadian maple. The facade takes its decoration from the 'Rosewood' houses opposite going down Addington Road. They were built after 1932 in the 'International' style featuring brick panels between the windows and presenting strong horizontal lines with the roofs either flat or set back from the building frontage. Ron Bailey had a garage up the road and this was dismantled and re-erected at the rear of the new garage. The grand opening was celebrated with a Gala Evening organised by the Chamber of Commerce and featured live music and dancing plus entertainment from a comedian, accordion soloist and a singer. The new building cost some £9,500 and was built of reinforced concrete with, it is believed, 10" (25.4cm) thick floors. The building was so robust that very soon it was certified for air raid precaution shelter.

With the impending war preparations in Selsdon being made, Air Raid Wardens were recruited and, in December 1938 a social evening was held at Baileys Hall where newly qualified Wardens received their badges. In



The Selsdon Garage C 1985

October 1939 Drill Exercises commenced on Monday evenings in Baileys Hall for the newly formed 1st Cadet Battalion, Queens Royal Regiment (West Surrey). The Hall continued to be used for socials either organised to help raise funds for the war effort, for the Wardens or, latterly, the Home Guard, No 9 Platoon and its successor, E Company, 59th Battalion, (Addington), Surrey Home Guard. In 1941 over 100 people attended the SRA Annual General Meeting in Baileys Hall and in September 1942 the Hall became the British Restaurant where 'Dinners' (lunch) were served from 12 noon to 2.15pm and afternoon tea from 3.15 to 5pm. Meat and two veg was priced at 9d, soup 3d and a cup of tea 1 1/2d.

The Garage, in the 60s was staffed by 6 mechanics, 1 foreman and two apprentices, servicing most makes but predominantly BMC models. In the mid-90s it was run by Autotecnic a BMW dealership. At that time the hall above the garage was recorded as being in a very poor state.

The Garage has been empty and boarded up for a considerable number of years, suffering a slow decline. Recently the SRA were made aware of an online video which appears to be a recent, presumably illegal, tour of the building. In the interests of sharing knowledge of this historic Selsdon landmark with residents, we reproduce here some views from the video.





Ian Leggatt, for the SRA.
 With thanks to the journals of Ted Frith for the wartime details.

~~

Your Streamed TV Programmes

Do you view (e.g., local church services, school streams etc etc) that come to you on your computer – on the small computer screen?

Or do you view on your TV's much larger screen – picture and sound? If not read on

Because all you need is a connecting cable, available cheaply in Selsdon.

But how do I know what cable to buy? Well, there are two kinds, so examine your laptop, and the back of your TV for the connection sockets available.



MOST newish laptops and TV's will take the modern '**HDMI**' cable (see socket left) – this calls for a lightweight cable with small plugs each end. This is the optimum.



A few older computers and TVs may only accept cables with the 15-pin '**VGA**' plugs, needing slightly heavier cable. (see left)

The cables are usually *either* **VGA** both ends or **HDMI** both ends. So, choose a cable by whichever socket-type is on both computer and TV! (It is possible to obtain a cable that adapts one to another, but that is more complex!) Dependent upon your TV, the cable will give you a full-sized picture on the TV plus the sound. A cable 2-3 metres long should suffice.

Both kinds of connecting cable that you buy, have a 'male' plug both ends and can be used either way round. There may be two or three such connections on the rear of the TV but usually only one on the laptop.

Computer shops will usually, on request, supply the cable and send someone to fit it for you, but they do charge for a house-call. Or a 'computerate' teenager may do the job for you for free, but don't let him/her open anything up!

How to do it yourself – very easy!

Plug one end of the cable to the computer's socket marked HDMI (VGA) and the other end to the same marked input on the TV; it's usually at the back of the set, but a few have a front connection too.

On the computer find the streamed programme you want – picture and sound.

On the TV controller (handset/remote) there should be a button marked 'AV' or 'Input' or 'source'. Press this and a list of the TV's input sockets will appear. Press on HDMI; if there are several e.g., HDMI -1, HDMI – 2etc

click on the one to which you have connected to the cable. If you are using a VGA cable, select VGA or TV.

Whatever is coming into the laptop's screen and the sound will now appear full-size on the TV screen, with enhanced sound from the TV set – adjust the sound volume on the TV control.

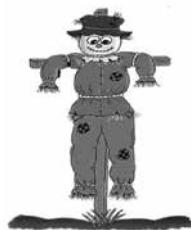
After streaming you can remove the cable from your laptop and store it behind the TV until the next use. Remember to return the Source to its usual setting on the remote/handset.

David Huntley (Rev Dr – St Francis Church, Monks Hill)

~~



**LET'S MAKE SELSDON SMILE
with a
CHEERFUL SCARECROW
COMPETITION
May 2021**



Closing date for entry receipt is 17th May

A message from the SRA Committee

We hope that by the time you read this, Lockdown will be at (or nearing) its end and we will all be looking forward to happier times. To help with this, the SRA is running a Cheerful Scarecrow Competition. We invite you to design and make a figure to make us all smile as we walk past your porch or front garden. The figure can be a traditional styled model or perhaps a 'depiction' of a celebrity/film or book character/animal. You can make one, a pair or a family if you feel really creative! The only rule is that the scarecrow(s) have to be completely home-made from items you have at hand or have foraged elsewhere – no ready-made ones allowed! Purchases of some items of clothing and accessories are permitted if made locally from our traders and charity shops, if needed to complete your figure of cheerfulness.

The scarecrows will be judged from the pavement or your driveway (to maintain social distance, if that is still needed) between 24th – 31st May. It

would be nice if the scarecrows could be left in place for some time after then to carry on bringing more smiles to Selsdon.

There is no entry fee but we will need an entry form to be submitted to SRAscarecrow@gmail.com, so we know where to find the entries, their name and who made them. A prize will be given to the best of the entries.

The entry form, below, will also be downloadable from our website www.selsdon-residents.co.uk.

Alternatively, please deliver to any of the committee addresses or c/o the Selsdon Co-Operative Funeralcare, 178 Addington Road, CR2 8LB if you do not have access to the internet or email.

Please show us your support by joining in the creative fun!

Closing date 17th May to be in time for judging 24th-31st May	
Resident's name:	
Address:	
Telephone number:	
Email address:	
Scarecrow's name (if it has one!)	
<p>If not printing it, please copy this form layout to help us sort the entries for the judges' route.</p> <p>Please send it, duly completed, by email to SRAscarecrow@gmail.com</p> <p>If you do not have email, please deliver to a SRA committee member or to the SRA c/o Selsdon Co-Operative Funeralcare, 178 Addington Road, CR2 8LB.</p>	

A Good Time for Gardening – April 2021

Made it through the winter, the days are definitely longer and warmer and hopefully the very blustery weather is now behind us.



If nothing else, try to achieve the following three tasks:

- Give the greenhouse a thorough scrub with hot soapy water to get rid of any pests and diseases and to let more light in
- Dig a 5cm or more layer of compost or well-rotted manure into the beds. Working in a general-purpose fertiliser such as pelleted chicken manure or fish, blood and bone is also beneficial.
- With the warmer weather, check that patio pots aren't drying out.

A few extra jobs specific to **flowers**:

- ~ Pinch out the tops of fuchsia plants and sweet pea shoots, to encourage bushy growth.
- ~ Divide primroses, as they have finished flowering.
- ~ Feed roses with a slow-release fertiliser.
- ~ Prune forsythia as soon as it has finished flowering, cutting back to strong young shoots.
- ~ Trim winter flowering heathers as the flowers disappear, to prevent the plants becoming leggy.
- ~ Deadhead daffodils and tulips as the flowers finish but leave the foliage intact so the leaves can put nutrients back into the bulbs.

If you have space for **vegetables**:

- ~ Ensure that all weeds are removed from the seed beds.
- ~ Cover the prepared soil with sheets of black plastic so it becomes warmer in preparation for planting.
- ~ Support pea and bean plants.
- ~ If you have carrots growing, thin the seedlings now to achieve good sized produce – do this in the evening when fewer carrot flies are around.

Moving on to **fruit trees and bushes**:

- ~ Perk the soil quality up with some fresh compost and slow-release fertiliser.

.... and then **the lawn:**

- ~ Aerate the compacted soil by spiking it with a fork.

- ~ Recut lawn edges to neaten them up.
- ~ Brush away any worm casts on dry days.
- ~ Depending on the condition of your lawn either:
Repair any bare patches with lawn repair grass seed, or
Apply a high nitrogen fertiliser as a boost for the growing season, or
Apply specialist lawn weed killer where moss and weeds are a problem.

Other jobs **around the garden**:

- ~ Replace the top 5 cm of soil in containers with fresh compost.
- ~ Apply a weed killer to paving and patios.

When dodging the April showers:

- ~ Give houseplants some TLC, a bit of fresh compost, some food, a general tidy up and possibly extra water if the weather has turned warm.
- ~ Start to plan your scarecrow for the Selsdon Residents' Association competition in May. Don't forget to send in the entry form.



Frederick, Cedric and Sunflower Sid

www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

~~

The 93rd Oscar Ceremony will happen on 26 April 2021 at 1.00am BST but how much do you know about Oscars? Take our quiz to find out.

Do You Know Your Oscars?

1. What is Oscar's full official name?
2. John Wayne won a Best Actor Oscar for his role in which film?
3. Which 2008 film won director Danny Boyle an Oscar?
4. Who won the Oscar for Best Actor for playing Hannibal Lecter?
5. Since 2002, what is the site from which the Oscars have been broadcast?
6. In which film did Tom Hank's win his first Academy Award for Best Actor?
7. Julie Andrews picked up the Oscar for Best Actress after her first film performance. Which film did she win the award for?
8. The Oscar for Best Picture at the 54th Academy Awards held on March 29, 1982 went to which British offering centred around the 1924 Paris Olympics?



9. Who was the first actress to be nominated two times for playing English queens?
10. Who won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for “Les Miserables”?

Answers after Nature Notes

~~

St George's Day, 23 April

England celebrates its patron saint, St George, on 23 April each year, but who was he?

St. George was a cavalryman in the Roman army at Lydda, now in modern-day Israel. He was a Christian at a time when Rome was ruled by the emperor Diocletian, who was anti-Christian. He refused to make sacrifices to the Roman gods. As a result, he was tortured over several years and eventually suffered a martyr's death, when he was beheaded in 303 AD. He began to be venerated around the fifth century when a monastery was built and dedicated to him in Jerusalem.



However, it's not George's martyrdom that propelled him to popularity, rather the tales of his heroism in slaying dragons and rescuing maidens. These stories started to appear sometime in the 11th Century and become famous across all of Europe and parts of Asia.

One version of the tale describes a dragon that would come from the sea to terrorise a nearby town. The locals offered animals each day to keep the monster from attacking further. When they ran out of animals, they became more desperate and started sacrificing humans. One day a princess was selected and about to be taken by the Dragon. Just as it was looking like the princess's fate was about to be sealed, St. George rode in on a white horse, and drove a lance down the throat of the beast. These dragon killer legends have been said to symbolize the victory of Christianity over paganism.

George was chosen as England's patron Saint in 1350, by King Edward III, who introduced the battle cry “St. George for England” and later founded the Order of the Garter, with St. George as its patron.



We welcome your letters so do **please get in touch** if you have something to share with Selsdon residents.

Please remember to state your name, address, contact number and publication anonymity requirements in **all** correspondence to the Editor. Anonymity can be granted on request, but anonymously sent letters/e-mails will not be published. Publication dates may mean a delay between receipt of your letters and when they appear.

Dear Editor,

In response to the letter in the March issue, can I please explain that, whilst it is true that we have had no direct financial support from the Council for the Christmas lights for many years - virtually since they ensured the extra strong lamp posts to hold the catenaries were erected - we have been given finance from the councillors' ward budgets. They were allowed to decide how to spend these funds and we are grateful that, even as the amount available decreased over the years, they managed to find some money to help us with this annual expense. Sadly, this year, even that seems unlikely as the ward budgets are probably history now in the present financial circumstances. Nevertheless, we are committed to the lights by a 4-year contract and so, rest assured, they will be switched on again in November. What we will need, though, is as magnificent response as last year to the request for donations to be included with your SRA subs when the envelope / Standing Order form pops through your letter box again in the summer!

Thank you Selsdon for your support, Linda Morris pp. SRA Committee

Can you help this reader?

Dear Editor,

Yesterday I witnessed a male Pheasant fly onto the rooftop of one of the houses in Greville Avenue. I don't really consider this to be a natural habitat for this species, could somebody shine a light on where this bird could have come from. It is the first time in over 30 years I have seen a Pheasant in Selsdon.

Regards Alan Cook

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Roy Brady MCiphe

Another query from a reader which Ian Leggat managed to answer.

Dear Editor,

My wife and I are very curious as to the purpose of the tall, artificial, tree-like structure next to the water tower in Littleheath Woods.

What is it for?

Perplexed,

Name supplied

The editor of the Selsdon Gazette has passed to me your query re the fake tree in the Water Tower compound.

It is popularly known as 'The Orange Tree' and believed to be a mobile phone mast. It's certainly a more attractive mast than many others!

Kind Regards,

Ian (Chair, Friends of Littleheath Woods)

Dear Editor,

(Another episode from Jessica about life under lockdown)

Spring has sprung, the clocks have gone forward and things look much brighter, so I decided the time had come to plan my summer garden. I duly stomped up to my storage hut at the end of the garden to look at the pot situation before I start to sow some of the seeds I have stored.

What a shock! When I looked inside the hut, mice had somehow squeezed themselves into it and had amazingly had themselves a party with our hanging baskets. To be precise they had ripped or perhaps nibbled a very large hole through my hanging baskets, stored upside down, and nested inside. Then because the baskets were stored one on top of the other, another mouse family took a leaf from the local humans, and actually balanced a pile of leaves on top of the upper basket. So, we now have a mouse block of flats!

Well I swiftly closed the door and ran back towards the house as fast as I could. Yes, I know it's daft, but I am just wary of mice. It might just be a tiny little creature, but I must be a sort of human elephant and fear the mice darting about. Nothing followed me, in fact the leaf nest looked very empty and I suspect the mice are now in the woods for the summer.

However, when I go to buy some fresh potting compost, I will now have to add two hanging baskets to my requirements list. Still looking on the bright side, I saw some quite pretty ones last time 'him indoors' and myself escaped from home, and arrived at a gardening centre. We are so looking forward to returning there. I seem to remember some quite pretty woven baskets in their special section, and until next Autumn I will not have to wonder how to store them safely.

Jessica Blake

Can you help reconnect this reader to former friends? If so please reply through the Gazette email (selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)

Dear Editor,

I don't know whether you can help me or if you have any suggestions of anyone in Selsdon who could.

I grew up in Selsdon and lived in Dulverton Road; my Nana lived at 195 Addington Road.

I am trying to trace a family by the name of Winkworth who lived in Hawthorn Crescent at the top of Old Farleigh Road. I got married in 1962 (my maiden name was Jennifer Hubble) and moved away but kept in touch with them for some time. They eventually moved away to Middlesex and in time we lost touch.

Do any of your readers have contact details for them?

Kind regards

Jennifer Peyton



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Six Word Story Challenge

In the January Gazette I set the challenge of writing a complete story in just six words.

I am pleased to have received four from Val Hughes

Tree blocks road to maternity wing!

Rival cheers me over finish line!

Didn't realise it was fancy dress.

End of road, beginning of journey.

~~

Poetry Corner

World Book Night is on the 23rd April so Mary Gill thought this appropriate

BETWEEN THE COVERS

Back then, all it took
Was to open a book
And I'd find myself far from the drab world outside.
I passed through that door,
Where I could explore
Places and ages a universe wide.

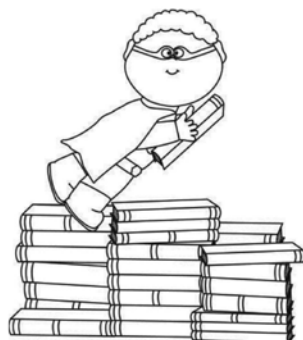
And time after time,
I'd read the first line,
Then break free and fly from my cosy arm chair.
My nerves tingling tight
With fear or delight,
No mere observer - because I was there.

There in the highlands;
Lost Treasure Islands;
Jungles and deserts, cities and hills
Magical places,
Like outer space is,
Tasting the terror and feeling the thrills.

Ruthless assassins,
Beautiful heroines,
Witches and wizards, fairies and elves,
Bandits and brigands,
Cowboys and orphans,
Bizarre and exotic, with startling lives.

Adventurous; daring;
Brave and unsparing,
Rip-roaring characters, quite unlike me.
Adventure; sensation,
Despair and elation;
Worlds to inhabit vicariously.

My Mum said to me,
As she shouted out "Tea!"
"I do swear, if our house was burned down,
Your nose in a book,
No way would you look,
Or notice a thing till the pages turned brown."



But grown up's unfair,
You have to be there.
You cannot escape from the adult regime.
I can open the book
But now, when I look,
I'm reading the words, but not living the dream.

~~

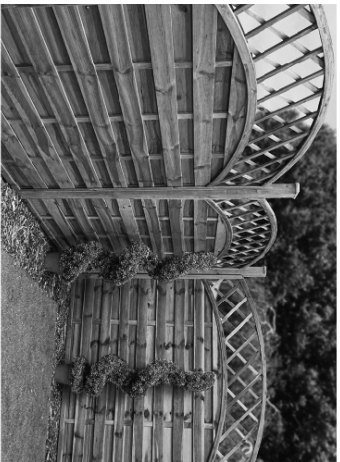
Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Spores

To produce the next generation trees and herbaceous plants generally develop seeds, nuts, berries in various forms but once they get into suitable soil conditions, they all sprout roots, stems and leaves and begin to capture the energy of the sun through photosynthesis. Other organisms deviate from this plan and can produce spores which individually contain only some of the information necessary to define and reproduce the complete organism. After the spore starts to grow there will have to be a merging of information from more than one spore.



4SEASONS

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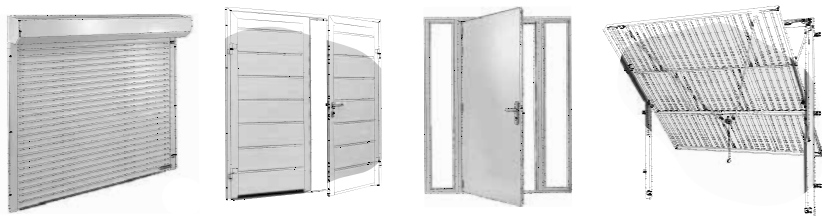
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Hart's Tongue Fern

Hart's Tongue Fern Is a woodland plant found in moist areas, but is also a useful evergreen addition to many gardens. This is a plant which propagates by producing spores which are held in this plant in a series of ridges on the underside of each leaf.

Adder's Tongue Fern is a small plant in which the spores are held on the "tongue" which rises from the centre of the leaves.

Bracken is another spore bearing plant. The spores appear along the edges of the leaves.

Sphagnum Moss also produces spores.

Turning over an Oak leaf in autumn will often reveal rows of what look like spore bearing cases but they are not. They are galls. So how do galls propagate? The

perhaps surprising answer is that they do not propagate at all. There are many types of gall – Bedegaur Gall (robin's Pin Cushion) on wild rose, Needle or Nail Galls on leaves of Lime and Maple, and on Oaks there are Spangle Galls and Silk Button Galls on the leaves, Knopper Galls which cause distorted acorns, Marble Galls and Oak Apples around the flower buds. In every case the gall is produced by a tiny fly or wasp laying its eggs in the tissues of the plant and causing an irritation which forces the tissues to respond by forming the gall. What is propagated is the insect which emerges from the egg (and from the gall).



Spangle Galls and Silk Button Galls

Perhaps the most obvious spore producing organisms are the fungi. They are not plants and are probably more closely related to humans than they are to plants. Once growth of the spore begins the new cells which form appear on a long thread (a hypha – plural hyphae) which is thinner than a human hair. Occasionally the hypha will branch so that multiple hyphae appear and some will merge again to bring together all the information necessary to define the complete fungus. Multiple hyphae come together to form a thicker material (mycelium) which now has dimensions big enough for the material to be seen by the human eye.

Human digestion occurs mainly in the gut where complex organic material (food!) is broken down into simpler chemicals which are used to sustain the growth of the human involved. When hyphae or mycelium pass

through an area containing organic material digestion also occurs but not internally. The hyphal cells exude enzymes and organic acids which break down the external organic matter and the resulting simpler compounds are absorbed back into the cells. The mycelium is like a hollow tube allowing these compounds and useful bacteria to pass along to other destinations such as a plant or tree from which other chemicals, produced by photosynthesis, can be exchanged for some of the material which has been passing along the mycelial tube. Under the soil surface in a woodland this involves a vast network of mycelium, now often called the Wood Wide Web, which conducts the transfer of food, bacteria and even information to and from the plants and trees in the area.

In an ancient woodland this mycelial network is well established. In a newly planted woodland this is not so, nor will it be in a new garden. Packets of fungal material are now available for sprinkling around the roots when planting a new sapling in the hope of creating an early relationship between the new tree and the fungi which might help it to grow successfully. Some trees form relationships with particular fungal species so this practice might not always produce the desired effect. However, we have sometimes tried this in the wood when planting tree whips. It is too early to say what effect it has had.

~~

Answers to Do You Know Your Oscars Quiz

1. Academy Award of Merit
2. True Grit
3. Slumdog Millionaire
4. Anthony Hopkins
5. Dolby theatre formerly known as the Kodak Theatre
6. Philadelphia
7. Mary Poppins
8. Chariots of Fire
9. Judi Dench
10. Anne Hathaway

Exploring Selsdon Wood & Riddlesdown Common



Here are a couple of options for a short walk or a longer one which includes Riddlesdown Common. I have used it as a map reading practice walk with a local Cub pack. It is also a nice walk, so why not give it a try.

It is not only Wolf Cubs of my era who would immediately recognise Baloo the bear, seen here

guarding the entrance to my childhood world, Selsdon's Bird Sanctuary. However, Baloo was not there then, being a comparatively recent addition to Selsdon Wood. Instead of Baloo this spot was occupied by a haystack from the autumn harvest. The grassy meadow then being used for crops to feed us locals, and of course the hay to feed horses and livestock. In those far off days, horses were still being used to pull tractors and carts. In more recent times I became an Assistant Cub and Scout Leader. It was then that my boyhood skills and early explorations of the countryside around Selsdon, came to the fore.

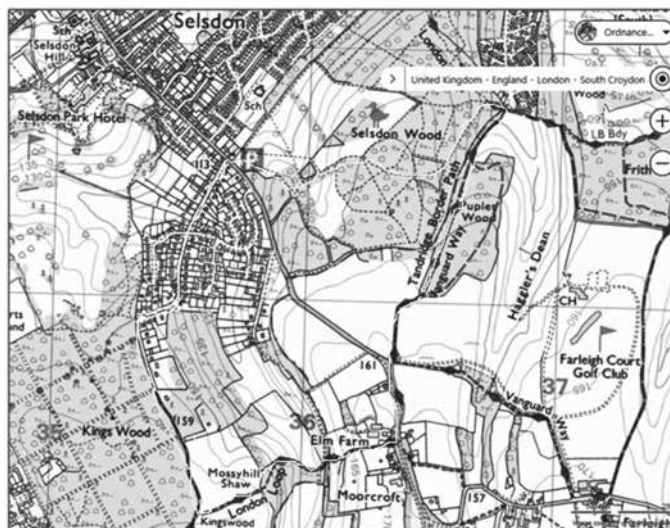
The most exciting event of the year for our Cub pack was the annual, winter night hike. All kids love jumping in puddles, especially muddy puddles! This was part of their enjoyment on a night hike, always held on the first Saturday of December, followed by a sleep over in the church hall, breakfast, and to finish, the Sunday Church Parade.

My expertise from my childhood explorations, was leading the group through the "haunted" Selsdon Wood in the darkness of night, to come out near Bears Wood. From there we followed the ancient track way known as Baker's Boy Lane (now part of the Vanguard Way) to arrive at Old Farleigh Rd and then went right towards Farleigh Common.

Shortly we came to a pond and opposite and to the left of this house shown in the photo, is a footpath which eventually leads to Kingswood Way. Here there are two options. The short option – is to follow Kingswood Way to go back to the car park at the Bird Sanctuary/Selsdon Wood.



With the Cubs we continued along the path, which brought us out at Limpsfield Rd beside the pond at Hamsey Green. Again, two options: go right and walk or take 403 bus to Sanderstead pond and walk back to Selsdon or as the Cubs did – cross over Limpsfield Rd into Tithe Pit Shaw Lane. Where it does a 90-degree left turn, go straight ahead onto Riddlesdown Common, and here unless you know your way around, you might need your map reading skills! It is not quite so easy to find the best route to the main car park at the top end of Riddlesdown Rd. Then go on to Mitchley Ave from where you can get the 412 bus to Selsdon. These are lovely walks in daylight, so if you are into walking, give one a try.



It is not difficult to follow this walk route, mainly along designated footpaths and bridleways and you can trace it out easily on an O.S Explorer map No.146, a section of which is shown above.

Back to my Cubs! Somewhere along the route, at a particularly dark spot, we would stop for a light snack and tell them a ghost story. Or perhaps say, pointing to an old, gnarled tree, "That's the old hanging tree where they used to hang highway robbers!" and make up a suitable frightening story. They loved the story telling and every year would keep asking for a stop so that we could tell them another story.

I do not live in Selsdon now but nearby, so we went by bus to Selsdon with our Cubs.

Arriving at the bus stop in Addington Rd we walked through the grounds of Selsdon Park Hotel (a bit scary in the dark!), then down the steep hill of Old Farleigh Rd to arrive at the gates of Selsdon Wood. Then the problem arose! Gates! And they were locked. In my young days few people had cars, so no

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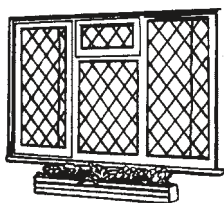
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car park and no gates. We all had to climb over, that was another adventure for many of the children. I expect that in future years they will be saying "Do you remember the time we did that night hike in Selsdon Wood?"

Des Donohoe (des.oldselsdon@gmail.com)

~~

SCAMS! Be Aware!

Please be aware of scams making the rounds at the moment:

- BT threatening disconnection of your landline and internet service.
- HMRC/Amazon threatening legal action.
- To verify if you have made a bank transaction press 1/2
- NHS vaccination application (it asks for bank details)
- Your washing machine insurance has expired.

The above are SCAMS and are very realistic (especially the NHS one) they can be telephone calls or emails. DO NOT click on any links or press 1 for further details. Never disclose your bank details. Hang up/delete and if at all concerned ask for advice from a trusted person/source.



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Local viewpoints

Here are a few local viewpoints worth checking out during each season:



Addington Hills – at 140m above sea level, the heathland opens to wide views of London, Parliament Hill and Docklands. No climbing necessary as there is a car-park at the top.

Croham Hurst – at 145m above sea level, biological Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation also a Regionally Important Geological Site. And has a great view south of Croydon but it is a steep but satisfying walk to get to the view!

Littleheath Woods – at 161m above sea level, the edges of this wood have views across to Croham Hurst and Croydon whilst the middle open field has a view towards the Royal Russell clocktower.

Sanderstead Plantation – hidden in this small woodland is the highest point in Croydon at 175m above sea level. Did you know that there are a group of people called 'hill-baggers' who like to visit and tick-off British Hills of which this is one? The high point is in middle of the wood (not a view there) but at the edge of the wood where the land falls away, the trees have been cleared to give a nice view across Sanderstead towards Croydon in the distance.

Botley Hill – Just over the border in Tandridge - 267m above sea level! - a favourite with cyclists - on the many footpaths there are great long, wide views towards London but also across valleys and woodland, with the added benefit if you are a bird watcher of the skylarks and birds of prey flying above. Walks around Botley Hill Farmhouse, Titsey Estate and North Downs Way (botleyhill-farmhouse.co.uk)
Slightly further afield Box Hill, Leith Hill, Redhill and Farthings Downs and Happy Valley are also well worth a visit!

Janet Sharp

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Writing Competitions



How good are your short story writing or poetry skills? Have a look at the website <https://creativewritingink.co.uk/writing-competitions/> which lists various competitions available to enter. Please check the closing dates, which ones are free to enter and if there is an age stipulation. I found the following:

Creative Writing Ink Competition – Poem (40 lines maximum)

#FlashFiction101 – Story in 101 words

Write on Art for 15–18-year-olds – Write a story based on a piece of art

Writing Prompts Competition – write a story inspired by a given illustration or photo

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Interesting Facts

Glass takes one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times!

Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end.

If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

Zero is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals.

Kites were used in the American Civil War to deliver letters and newspapers.

The roar that we hear when we place a seashell next to our ear is not the ocean, but rather the sound of blood surging through the veins in the ear.

Airports at higher altitudes require a longer airstrip due to lower air density.

The University of Alaska spans four time zones.

The tooth is the only part of the human body that cannot heal itself.

A comet's tail always points away from the sun.

Caffeine increases the power of aspirin and other painkillers; that is why it is found in some medicines.

The military salute is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armour raised their visors to reveal their identity.

When a person dies, hearing is the last sense to go. The first sense lost is sight.

In ancient times strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed.

The Earth gets 100 tons heavier every day due to falling space dust.



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A SELECTED LIST OF SELSDON ORGANISATIONS

The information provided is, we hope, accurate, but we cannot take any responsibility for any mistakes. Any alterations should be sent to the Editor.

CHURCHES

Forestdale & Selsdon Community Church		8657 0078
St John the Divine (Church of England)	Parish Office	8657 2343
Selsdon Baptist	Office	8651 4308
St Columba's (Roman Catholic)		8657 3747
St Francis (Church of England)	Monks Hill	8657 7864
Croydon Jubilee Church	Office	8651 2807
Upper Selsdon Road Hall (Christian meeting place)		8657 2417
Church of Jesus Christ of LDS	Bishop Hawkins	01883 349914

DOCTORS, DENTISTS & EMERGENCY CARE

Farley Road Medical Practice	8651 1222
Queenhill Medical Practice	8651 1141
Selsdon Park Medical Practice	8657 0067
Croydon University Hospital (formerly Mayday Hospital, 24/7)	8401 3000
New Addington Minor Injuries Unit (Mon-Fri 14:00-22:00/Sat-Sun 12:00-22:00)	8251 7225
Purley War Memorial Hospital (Urgent Care Centre, 08:00-20:00, 365 days/year)	8401 3238

CLUBS, GROUPS & CHARITIES

CONTACT (neighbourhood care)	Jasmine Singh	8651 4944
Selsdon Centre for the Retired	Craig Anderson	8651 1111
Croydon Hearing Resource Centre	Office	8686 0049
Bourne Society	Roger Packham	01883 349287
Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society	Brian Lancaster	8668 6909
Croydon Recorded Music Society	Liz Brereton	8656 7382
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind		8668 2486
Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline		8916 0855
Friends of Littleheath Woods	Ian Leggatt	8651 1140
Friends of Selsdon Wood	see website: www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk	
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Section		
Girlguiding UK: http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved.aspx		0800 169 5901
Parkinson's UK Croydon & District	Jacky Green	01737 355487
Police (Selsdon & Ballards SNT)	Beat Officer:	8721 2464
RSPB, Croydon Local Group	John Davis	8640 4578
Rotary Sanderstead and Selsdon	Wendy A Parr	07774 186792
Probus Club of Croydon South	John Barker	8657 2093
St John's Dramatic Society	Caryl Rapps	8651 1326
St John's Wives	Jane Guglielmi	8657 6672
Sanderstead Plantation Partners	Michael Lishmund	020 8651 2760
1 st Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website: www.1stselsdon.org.uk	
Beaver Colony (6-8yrs)	Maddie Dunn	07703 531652
Cub Pack (8-10yrs)	Louise Baker	07737 404668
Scouts Troop (10-14yrs)	Douglas Gordon	07514 651711
Croham Valley Explorers	Anthony Woodin	020 8651 3780
2 nd Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website: www.2ndSandAScoutGroup.org.uk	
Selsdon Art Group	Mrs F Hooper	07973 412952
Selsdon Bridge Club	Tony Cherrett	01883 730304
Selsdon Community Hall	Tim Potter (Centre Manager)	8657 4300
Selsdon Afternoon Townswomen's Guild	Elizabeth Veasey	8657 1092
Selsdon Floral Club	Maureen Browning	8651 5821
Selsdon Social Club		
Selsdon Tennis Club	Geoff Littlewood	8651 4748
66 (Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps	Rob Cleeter	8651 5958

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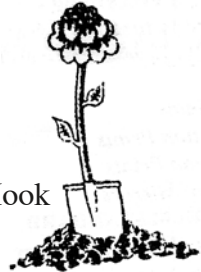
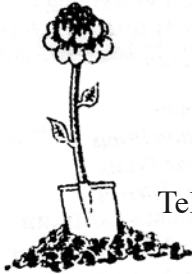
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