

THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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Councillors for Selsdon Vale & Forestdale Ward

Stuart Millson Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk 07783 152376 Andy Stranack Andy.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 2022 and the January edition of the Selsdon Gazette! As I write this, there is increasing concern about the steep rise in cases of the omicron variant and many people are restricting their number of contacts. So, what better time than now to settle down with your Gazette and a cuppa to find out what is happening in Selsdon.

With the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Selsdon Residents' Association in March we can read the annual report to see what they have been doing during 2021. They are always looking for more volunteers to join them so why not consider it? Ian Leggatt takes us for an historical view of the Selsdon Triangle, Mary Gill has composed a poem remembering 60 years of the Beatles and Ted Forsyth describes the life cycle of the insects, which are so important for our crops, flowers and trees.

To test your knowledge of the past 12 months we have a Quiz of the Year 2021 for you to try and a look forward to the Chinese New Year at the start of February. We have a look at herbs and spices in our gardening feature and words of advice from the police to protect against harassment online and by phone.

The pandemic has had a major impact on local businesses and many of our advertisers have been unable to renew their adverts this year in the Gazette. As the Gazette is funded by its advertisements, we are looking for new businesses to consider advertising in it and hope that our old customers will be able renew soon. Please contact Carlo Rappa, our Advertising Manager for more information (Selsdon.adverts@gmail.com).

Submissions for the February 2022 edition should be with the Editor no later than 20^{TH} [anuary - Preferably before!

Lastly, a plea from me for any contributions for the Gazette, whether it be a photo, letter, poem or article. How has the last two years affected you? Let us know. Tell us about your experiences at work, volunteering, caring, etc. Please email them to me at selsdongazettesra@gmail.com.

I hope that you enjoy your read.

Keep safe

Chris Jones

SRA NEWS 'n' VIEWS

Christmas is over and the first weeks of the New Year too by the time you get this Gazette through your letter-box – subject to having sufficient deliverers, of course! Thank you to the new ones who have come forward to help us out. What will 2022 bring us?

Well, there's the new Mayor for one thing. No-one knows really whether this is for good or ill and the SRA continues to maintain its neutral stance on the debate. We (and other local RAs) were given a note about its possible impact on the way the Council business will be conducted now we are past the point of no return and the result of the referendum is to be implemented. If you wish to read this, you can access the document at https://www.croydonconservatives.com/news/what-does-it-mean-have-directly-elected-mayor. Although on that particular website, we understand it was produced by a Council officer as a general 'briefing note' and so we hope it is, as claimed, purely factual and unbiased. We will continue to make any information on a miscellany of topics which we think could be important to you available - but with no comments, as the SRA is held by its constitution to being impartial and non-political. We believe this is the correct and fairest way to handle such things. We have already advertised the link via our social media.

Secondly, there is our AGM in March. The report for the past year is in this issue and the AGM agenda etc will be in the February Gazette in case not everyone gets their March one before the date of the meeting. Do please try to come to the meeting: it is the best chance we have to hear

directly from you about what you want of your RA and, maybe, to meet some potential new committee members.

Thirdly, 2022 is, of course, a Jubilee year and the SRA is already considering how to mark this. We are not sure if the council will be funding any decorations etc and our funds are limited, partly because we wish to have enough to be able to continue with the Christmas lights for a few more years at least. The SELSDON catenaries had a few 'off' nights after they had been up a while. We hope these did not indicate that they are wearing out. Although we hire the main catenaries (and so have no maintenance costs for them – but we do for the supporting wires and fixings), the SELSDON ones are all ours so we have to bear any repair or replacement costs when they do eventually wear out.

We continue to be grateful for all the donations the residents and traders give for the lights. Since the last Gazette went to press, we have received further trader donations from Selsdon Tandoori, Sun Lounger and Selsdon Nails. According to some of the others, their level of trade last year was not enough to enable them to donate. As always, we remind you to support your local shops so they can survive – and, in turn, support us!

In conclusion, instead of just a bland Happy New Year wish, can I please leave you with these thoughts: they seem to prove characteristics of life have not really changed that much over more than 2000 years! I must make it clear, though, that reading the thoughts of Cicero is not something I make a habit of – the piece was sent by someone much more erudite than me. Perhaps you have some favourite thoughts you would like to share through these pages?

The Six Mistakes of Man Marcus Tullius Cicero (106 - 43 BCE)

- 1. The illusion that personal gain is made up of crushing others.
- 2. The tendency to worry about things that cannot be changed or corrected.
- 3. Insisting that a thing is impossible because we cannot accomplish it.
- 4. Refusing to set aside trivial preferences.



- 5. Neglecting development and refinement of the mind, and not acquiring the habit of reading and study.
- 6. Attempting to compel others to believe and live as we do.

Yes, and now it is time for those wishes for a happy and healthy 2022 to you all from the SRA.

Linda Morris, Vice Chairman, SRA

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SRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING*

Wednesday 30th March 2022 Church hall, St John the Divine, Upper Selsdon Road Doors open 7.40pm, 8pm start.

*COVID RESTRICTIONS ALLOWING – SEE SRA WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE and NOTICEBOARDS FOR UPDATES NEARER THE TIME Selsdon residents are invited to attend this annual opportunity to meet the SRA Committee, Gazette Editor, local councillors and local Police to talk about your neighbourhood. We have one Committee vacancy to be filled this year.

The AGM lasts about an hour, with a chance for drinks and chat afterwards. Please arrive in good time for 8pm start. COVID Health and Safety Precautions will be in place.

We hope you can join us and perhaps bring a neighbour. We enjoy meeting you all ©



COUNCILLORS' NOTES

CHRISTMAS MARKET

Thank you to everyone who braved the cold weather and turned out to support the Selsdon Christmas Market - it was wonderful seeing so many people getting into the Christmas spirit. A huge thanks to those who put in hours of hard work to make the Christmas Market happen.

FAIRFIELD HALLS – A SECOND REPORT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST (RIPI)

Last year the Council's auditors issued a RIPI (Report in The Public Interest) shortly before it was announced that the Council was effectively bankrupt. At a recent meeting of the Council's General Purposes and Audit Committee it became clear that the Council's auditors, Grant Thornton, are about to issue a second RIPI. This time the RIPI relates to the redevelopment of Fairfield Halls – a project that was managed by the Council's wholly owned subsidiary company, Brick By Brick. The cost of the redevelopment was more than double the estimated £30m, with a final cost of around £70m. When the Labour-run Council gave the contract to Brick By Brick, the company (whose staff were mainly ex-civil servants) had only been in existence a matter of months, and had never built anything, let alone refurbished a major entertainment venue.

One Council having two RIPIs is virtually unheard of. The poor management of the Council's finances over the last few years is making Croydon notable for all the wrong reasons. And once again, the Croydon Council tax payer will be picking up the cost of this fiasco.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUS SHELTERS GONE?

Earlier this year JCDecaux removed its bus shelters in Croydon following the end of its contract with Croydon Council in March 2021. The Council was not adequately prepared for the end of the contract and did not have the necessary planning consents and other elements in place to replace the lost shelters.

The Council has appointed a new company to install replacement

bus shelters and street furniture. At this stage there are no specific timings as the deployment is dependent on gaining planning permission for Digital Advertising consent.

Cllr Pollard attended a Planning Committee Meeting in March 2021 where the Council presented outline plans for the new type of bus shelters. The Planning Committee commented on the proposals, and it was believed that planning applications would be submitted soon afterwards. Given that the contract ended in March, the initial planning presentation was already a bit late in the day, giving no time to get approvals for shelters before the end of the contract. It would therefore have been reasonable to expect that planning applications would be turned round quickly to ensure minimal disruption to the service to bus users. It's a shame this didn't happen.

In terms of benefits, the new concession contract will bring an annual income to the Council. In addition, the new bus shelter sites will embed 'Smart City' technology to:

- Upgrade the existing paper advertising with digital screens
- Provide real time bus countdown information

NATIONAL GRID COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

Your local councillors have been contacted by the National Grid Community Relations Team, to let us know about their Community Grants Programme. The Programme is aimed at community organisations and charities in areas where National Grid are impacting local people through essential works. They are in the latter stages of a project to replace and decommission the underground electricity cable between Rowdown substation and Beddington substation, and parts of the work have been taking place in Selsdon.

The Community Grants Programme funds projects run by charities and community groups that meet local community needs by providing a range of social, economic and environmental benefits. If projects meet the criteria, grants of up to £10,000 can be applied for.

Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis and the next window opens in January 2022.

You can find more details on National Grid's website: Community Grant Programme I National Grid Group



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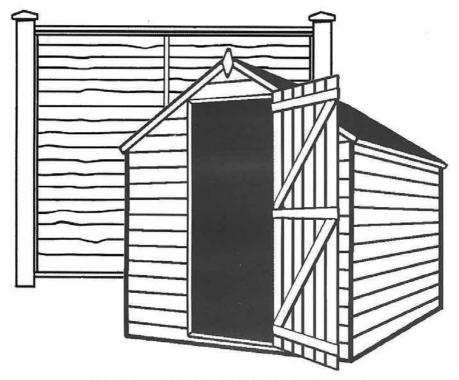
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CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

Councillor surgeries have been reinstated and are held on the first Saturday of the month 10am - 11.15am (no surgery in August) at The Selsdon Centre (next to Sainsbury's), 132 Addington Rd, South Croydon CR2 8LA.

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

21/05663/FUL - 155 Ballards Way, CR0 5RJ

Demolition of the existing front dormer, side conservatory and rear conservatory; Subdivision of the existing dwelling into two, 3-bedroom houses; erection of a side extension to the existing roof, addition of two rear dormers

21/05619/FUL - 34 Farley Road, CR2 8DA

Demolition of rear ground floor utility room and demolition of the side garages for the erection of an attached part one, part two storey dwellinghouse, including associated alterations

21/05914/HSE - 24 Kingswood Way CR2 8QP

Erection of a two-storey side extension to create a self-contained annex, first floor rear dormer window and front entrance porch.

21/05991/HSE – 37 Langley Oaks Avenue CR2 8DL Erection of single storey rear extension

21/06087/HSE – 6 Mountwood Close, CR2 8RJ Alterations and construction of a first-floor extension with roof above to provide a two-storey dwelling

21/05835/HSE – 157 Sundale Avenue, CR2 8RS Single storey rear extension

(Remember that you can use this website to view planning applications http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anupdate/planning_table.html

MP Chris Philp's Report Member of Parliament for Croydon South

COVID Booster Campaign

I am delighted by the Government's announcement that every adult over the age of 18 who has received a second dose of the vaccine at least



three months ago is now eligible for a booster jab. Omicron is more transmissible, and cases are rapidly rising, which risks our NHS becoming overwhelmed and unable to cope. Thousands of extra volunteers will be trained to deliver life-saving vaccines and clinic opening hours will be extended to get as many jabs into arms as possible. Please get your booster jab as soon as you are eligible, a number of walk-in centres can be found via: https://swlondonccg.nhs.uk/covid/where-can-you-get-vaccinated/vaccination-walk-in-clinics/

Council's Cash Crisis Continues

Last year the Labour-run Croydon Council had to effectively declare bankruptcy with debts of over £1.5 billion. This has resulted in cuts to public services, an increase in council tax and a £120 million government bailout. Despite calls for change, Croydon Council is still not listening to the concerns of residents, namely rubbish collections and Purley Pool, for which, shockingly, the council did not even bid for the Government money available to re-open it.

Dozens of residents trying to pay their council tax have been served court orders or received visits from bailiffs because, when they try to pay over the phone, they cannot get through. It is a sorry state of affairs when a local authority cannot even collect its own council tax. Residents are left with overgrown green spaces and now no team to clean up graffiti.

This year, in May, local and mayoral elections offer a chance for change. I will be working hard as we enter the elections to support the candidates who promise to deliver the much-needed change we deserve.

Council Continuing to Fail on Waste Collections

I am shocked by Croydon Council's continued failure to collect residents' waste on time. Across the borough, numerous calls from residents have not resulted in an improved standard of service. On Montana Close in South Croydon, for example, food waste bins remained uncollected for extended periods last year and represented a clear health hazard. Uncollected waste attracts vermin, is unhygienic and, apart from anything else, smells vile.

The council is clearly not listening to the serious concerns of residents. I am disappointed to read of countless people who have reported missed collections via their My Croydon account, only to be told that their bins were collected. It is a shame that Croydon Council has proven so inadequate in providing such an essential service. Everyone can agree that residents deserve better than this. I will continue to put pressure on Croydon's Labour council to restore frequent and timely waste collections. As ever, if you have been affected by this poor standard of service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Chris Philp

Member of Parliament, Croydon South: 020 7219 8026 chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk

Budget 2022/23 Councillor Hamida Ali, leader of the council

Croydon Council has been asking residents, businesses, community groups and partners to give their views on its initial budget proposals for 2022/23.

In the past year, the council has made significant progress in tackling its financial challenges and is on track to achieve a balanced budget next year.



As part of its budget-setting process, the council wanted to hear from local people on a range of proposals to offer quality core services and value for money while living within its means.

A survey was available at www.croydon.gov.uk/budget2022 until 12 January, and feedback will be shared with cabinet members ahead of a decision in February. The budget will be set by Full Council in March. Croydon Council is now in the second year of its renewal plan – a major transformation programme which will ensure the council becomes financially sustainable by 2024.

To stay on track, the council must find a further £38m savings. Despite this the council will continue to spend over £330m, providing essential services for local residents. Most of the council's money – 62% – goes on protecting vulnerable older people, and children and families, with the rest on a wide range of services from collecting bins and keeping streets clean, to leisure centres and libraries.

The budget proposals for next year include a range of savings to protect essential services, as well as investment to meet communities' changing needs. The proposals focus on transforming the way the council delivers services, to increase efficiency and ensure residents get full value from every penny spent.

Savings proposals include renting out space in council buildings and selling unused council properties, reviewing council contracts with providers to ensure best value, and digitalising services.

Plans for investment include support for carers, increasing spend on transport for children with special educational needs, and increasing reserves to ensure

the council can be there for residents when they need it the most.

Council resources will be targeted where they make the most difference, with a strong focus on tackling inequalities, particularly in the wake of the pandemic.

"Croydon Council provides essential services to more than 386,000 people, and I hope that as many of them as possible have shared their views on our budget proposals for next year.

We've made huge progress in tackling the unprecedented financial challenges we faced last year, and we're on track to balance our books, but like councils across the country, we still need to make savings. We have put forward proposals that protect the everyday services residents depend on, and invest in our community's future, while transforming our council to become more efficient and more responsive to the residents we are here to serve.

We wanted to hear from our residents before we make any decisions, so I hope that as many people as possible got involved and had their say."



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Reports from our Local Police Wards

Here are the crime statistics for November 2021 for the two police wards which cover the Selsdon area.

Selsdon and Addington Village Ward

Top reported crimes

- 13 Thefts from a vehicle
- 10 Harassment
- 6 Violence

Selsdon Vale and Forestdale Ward

- 8 Harassment
- 7 Thefts from a vehicle
- 6 Violence

Crime Rate Comparison (per 1000 residents)

Selsdon and Addington Village Ward	5
Selsdon and Forestdale Ward	4
Borough	8
London	8

Stalking or harassment is unpleasant and malicious behaviour that causes upset and distress – and it's something no one should put up with. Here is some advice found on the Met Police website to combat this crime.

Online

- restrict your social media posts to your friends and not public
- check privacy settings on social networking sites and limit the amount of information you supply
- Google yourself frequently to check your digital footprint
- don't use the same password for everything
- be aware of geolocation and tagging on social networking sites and ensure that it's disabled on your smartphone
- keep your antivirus software up to date
- report stalking to website administrators
- if you believe that your smartphone or computer has been hacked or compromised, stop using it immediately and take it to your mobile phone provider or computer repair experts for advice

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- if you're listed in any directories, you might want to give your initials and surname rather than your full name
- never show anger or fear over the phone: just remain calm, confident and if necessary, assertive

What you can do if you've been a victim You can report it online https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/af/how-to-report-a-crime/, or call 101

Jack Killian 7114SN

Police Community Support Officer

Telephone: 020 8721 2464

 $Email: \underline{SNMailbox-SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk}\\$

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

Tina Nash

Selsdon and Addington Village Neighbourhood Team

Telephone: 020 8721 2468

Email: Selsdonaddvill@gmail.com

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SRA ANNUAL REPORT 2021

The SRA was formed in 1926 and so is **95 years old!** The SRA's aim is to advance and protect the interests of the residents of Selsdon. It is run by volunteers on goodwill and funds raised by subscription and donations (no-one gets paid!). Our membership covers about 4,000 households.

The SRA Committee

The Committee are elected at the AGMs to represent Selsdon.

Sara Bashford stepped down from the Committee and so there is now one vacancy. If you may be interested, please contact <u>mail2</u>. <u>selsdonresidents@gmail.com</u> or speak to the Chair, Sheila Childs 0208 6512285.

The Committee act as a point of contact for external bodies, can add collective weight to any individual resident's concerns about the area and are a useful 'watching eye'. They meet once a month as a committee to discuss Selsdon issues and respond and take action where necessary. They also plan special events and community improvements. Individual representatives will also attend council, police, transport and other meetings throughout the year on our behalf. SRA news is passed to the community via public noticeboards (by the library and on the High Street), social media and the Gazette.

April AGM 2021 - Apologies for absence!

Due to the Covid 19 crisis the SRA public AGMs (2020 and 2021) were cancelled. Reports of our activities were placed in the Gazette and on our website. For 2022 we hope to meet for our AGM again face-to-face and have booked St John's Hall for 30th March. See website/noticeboards for more details and updates.

SRA 2021 Activities:

- a) Lamp posts and railings on the High Street were enhanced by floral baskets. To save costs these were planted and watered by members of the Committee. The large planters near Iceland were re-painted by Jeff Bayton and the plants refreshed by members of the Committee. Such jobs will be ongoing so volunteers to help with this when the weather improves are welcomed.
- b) The 'bring your own' SRA Community Picnic held with the FSW on their Selsdon Wood Open Day on Sunday 5th September had attractions such as fun games, refreshments, guided walks and stalls. The weather was glorious and there was a good turn-out. We were all a bit giddy to finally see people out together again!
- c) The Remembrance Poppies returned to the High Street lamp posts in November.
- d) The Selsdon Triangle (upper section yew trees, beds and the clock area) are (with Council permission) now being maintained by a group of Selsdon volunteers (following Council funding shortages). You may have noticed some work being undertaken to tidy and increase planting in the area. Furthermore, some temporary Christmas decorations were added to this area to increase the festive cheer.

- e) Subscriptions and donations are still collected in cash each year via a network of local drop-off 'letterboxes' thanks to all the volunteers and to our Treasurer, Iris Jones. However, the SRA now also supports online banking details available via the website.
- f) The SRA organise and fundraise for the eye catching and unique Selsdon Christmas Lights. We think these are the best in Croydon but they come at a price! The costs include not just the lights themselves but the storage, placement, the health and safety permissions, the electricity and the cost of the Community Event. This is funded by goodwill donations of residents, charitable groups and some traders. To aid this (and capitalise on all the lockdown online purchasing) the SRA are members of 'Easyfundraising' so that if residents choose to shop online, they can raise a donation with their usual retailers, at no cost to them, by using the well trusted 'Easyfundraising' app or site. Our cause name is 'SelsdonChristmaslights'. We have also made it possible for non-residents who love the lights to help by donating using online banking details available via our website.
- g) Community Christmas Event. This year, to lift our spirits following all the lockdown restrictions, the Committee thought it would be nice to have the lights shine for longer so they were switched on before the community night. The focus of the night moved to the singing and the welcoming of Father Christmas. Any feedback on this change would be welcome. Should we keep this or return to the usual 'switch on' night? We also decided to be more environmentally friendly and remove helium balloons and give the children sweets instead. It was great to see so many people turn up with special thanks to the Greenvale Primary School Choir, Rotary and all the volunteers (churches, schools and local groups) who helped with their time or with donations, and of course to Father Christmas who stayed in his grotto to meet the children! We also thank the Police who altered their shifts to be there for us.
- h) The SRA gave £200 towards the Selsdon Christmas Market.
- i) The Committee had to meet over Zoom during most of 2021 however from September returned to face-to-face monthly meetings at a new venue - Selsdon Baptist Church. They have waived the hire fee for which we are very grateful.
- j) During the year the SRA Committee stay in contact with the local Police teams attending meetings where possible. The SRA membership is now largely split over two Police wards - Selsdon and Addington Village (PCSO Tina Nash) and Selsdon Vale and Forestdale (PCSO Jack Killian). We are grateful to PCSO Killian for his regular reports. The main crimes during the year were thefts from

- vehicles, notably catalytic converters. We are still a low crime area.
- k) We are fortunate that even in lockdown we were allowed to get outside to walk/run for exercise. We have placed some ideas of local areas to go on our website www.selsdon-residents.co.uk/places-to-walk-and-visit; we hope you have been enjoying some of these!
- I) The SRA continues to pay for access to an online planning app designed to summarise the Council Planning site to aid our residents seeing for themselves in good time what relevant local planning applications have been made. Find the link from the 'About the SRA' page of our website or from http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anupdate/planningtable.html. Keep checking this and if you can see a problem with an application make your suggestions/ objections known in good time. Sensible changes to plans will save a lot of grief later! The SRA have a Planning Sub-Committee (Chaired by Ian Leggatt) to try and combat the increasing planning applications and understand the legislation and documentation. Email: selsdonplanning@gmail.com

The Selsdon Gazette and Social Media -

The Selsdon Gazette is a non-profit publication delivered to the door (thanks to all volunteers, particularly Wendy Mikiel and Mary Gill) to about 4000 households in Selsdon. Gazette printing costs are (almost) covered by the advertising (thanks to Advertising Manager Carlo Rappa). We would like to give thanks to our advertisers for sticking with us - we are always looking for more! In 2021 we welcomed Jenny Bradley as Gazette Treasurer. As well as doorstep deliveries Gazette editions are available online at our website www.selsdon-residents.co.uk (with thanks to our new Web administrator, Trevor Stotten). Our Editor, Chris Jones, welcomes your contributions of local stories or news. Email: selsdongazettesra@gmail.com

The SRA also has accounts on Twitter and Facebook (thanks to Ian Leggatt, Trevor Stotten and Peter Underwood) for 'breaking news' see https://www.facebook.com/selsdonresidentsassociation/ and '@ selsdonreassoc' Please 'like' and subscribe!

Accounts

A full balance sheet for 2021 will be presented at the next AGM which will be held on 30th March 2022 at St John's Hall, Upper Selsdon road. The continuation of the SRA depends on your voluntary annual subscriptions. Thanks to the Treasurers Iris Jones (SRA) and Jenny Bradley (The Gazette) and to Jeff Bayton who reviews the Accounts.

2021 Local news

- The Covid Pandemic and associated restrictions have caused a long and continuing period of worry and social isolation for many. We trust that you are continuing to watch out for, and help your neighbours in need.
- Local Development Plans The development plans for the derelict site at Bailey's/Selsdon Garage seem to continue with no clear end in sight! The Selsdon Hotel and golf course was sold in 2021 - keep your ears to the ground and let us know if anything occurs of concern with regard to development. The previously rejected Crematorium on our borders has returned to appeal – watch this space. Backgarden developments and intensification (with no provision for parking) is an ongoing issue for our Planning Sub Committee.
- Keeping our High Street alive Many local businesses, charities, churches, arts venues and clubs, and voluntary groups have struggled during 2021 with the covid restrictions and the effect on their membership and finances. We hope that you will continue to support them with your money, time and attention. We have listed some local groups on our website. Use them or lose them!

We hope you stay well and that we can see you in person at our AGM. If you have an idea or would like to volunteer to help the community in some way, we would be glad to hear from you. <a href="mailto:mail

Janet Sharp (SRA Secretary)

~~

Selsdon Christmas Market Saturday 27th November

Building on the success of 2019, and after a pandemic-imposed gap in 2020, the second Selsdon Christmas Market was held in late November.

Opened by the Deputy Mayor, the market this year attracted a wider variety of stallholders, including jams, Christmas decorations, cakes, pet stockings, Christmas gifts, children's clothes and a hamper raffle. Santa paid a call later in the afternoon and he, along with the choir, brought some early Christmas



cheer to the steady stream of customers that visited throughout the afternoon. The weather was again kind to us, although there was a little more wind than we might have wished for.



This was a tremendous effort, more challenging than in 2019 due to the continuing effects of the pandemic and the loss of local councillors' ward budgets following the Council's bankruptcy. Fortunately, the generosity of the Selsdon Residents Association, Churches Together in Selsdon and Addington, the Rotary Club

of Sanderstead and Selsdon, local High Street businesses and individual donations filled the financial gap. We are most grateful to them and the many others who helped organise the event, ensured smooth running on the day, and not least made sure everything was cleared up afterwards.

Councillor Robert Ward

~

Selsdon Triangle – a Short History

You may have noticed, dear reader, that the Triangle was decorated beautifully, Christmas just past, by the elves once again. You may also have spotted the odd bout of Guerrilla Gardening taking place and noticed the hedge looking neater and flowers appearing around the Clock. The Triangle Team composed of volunteers from the local community have banded together to keep the Triangle looking neat, tidy and an inviting welcome to Selsdon in response to a bankrupt Council who can no longer afford to do anything except basic maintenance and essential health and safety work. How easy it is to take a small patch of grass for granted, pass by it, walk through it and not register its presence.

What tales could it tell, how long has it sat at the crossroads, what is its future?

When William Coles was declared bankrupt in 1810 his property and grounds were put up for auction. Listed in the sale were, Selsdon House plus grounds, newly built farmhouse and a 'fine new road'. Selsdon House was

what we now know as Selsdon Park Hotel / DeVere Selsdon Estate (delete as appropriate). The 'fine new road' was what we know now as Old Farleigh Road. Selsdon was previously connected to Sanderstead and Addington via a lane we now call Addington Road and another lane from South Croydon which we now know as Upper Selsdon Road. Farley Road was not even a mote in the planner's eye at that stage. Selsdon was, almost, a one-horse village. The lane from South Croydon, believed to follow an iron age trackway to Titsev formed an offset crossroads at Addington Road with the trackway continuing past the front door of Selsdon House and on down the hill towards Farleigh and beyond. Coles, who had intended to greatly extend his big house presumably didn't want all and sundry traipsing past his front door and merely had a diversion built from roughly where Kingswood Way is up the hill to where the Addington Lane had a small dog leg offset. His grounds adjacent to the new lane were protected by a run of flint walling, much of which still remains and is locally listed. The Triangle appears to have been formed at the top of the new road to facilitate traffic wanting to turn south to Sanderstead rather than a simple crossroads which would have necessitated a very tight left turn.



Extract from OS Map of 1940s

A map by Thomas Bainbridge of 1800 clearly shows the original ancient trackway passing the buildings of then Selsdon Farm. Thus, we can date the Triangle to just before 1810. A Tithe map of 1847 shows the Triangle as wooded. Still no Farley Road until the coming of Costains to build Selsdon Garden Village aka Croham Heights in the late 1920s. As you may have read

in previous Gazettes, Farley Road was not built until 1926. The Triangle soon became the focal point in terms of access to Selsdon. In 1933 a fine bus shelter stood on the Addington Road, alongside a Police Call Box. At some stage a public call box (Remember 'Press Button B'?) adjoined it.





Early double decker and new Bus Shelter. Note the Tardis like police phone box and magnificent stand of trees

In 1938 underground toilets were constructed at the lower corner of the Triangle for the sum of £2,430. A subterranean Air Raid Shelter was added pre-WW2. Potentially both remain buried. Selsdon Gazettes of the post war years contained a gossip column entitled 'Terminus Tattle'. Briefly, in the 1980s (?) a coin operated public convenience could be found at the top, southern, corner where the Clock now sits.







Selsdon Clock and Railings by Jon Mills

The Clock was provided by Sainsburys as part of their Planning Approval, designed by Jon Mills, a Brighton based Blacksmith and Sculptor, and was installed in 2007. The clock remains on the somewhat worse for wear brick toilet plinth. At the top of Old Farleigh Road are also to be found numerous green and grey cabinets adjacent to the mobile phone mast with a galvanised sewer vent pipe rising majestically behind. Lamp standards and road signs abound.



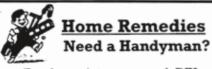
Mobile mast and cabinets plus sewer vent pipe. Big Belly bin can be seen in background

Planning Permission currently exists for a replacement 20m high phone mast and larger cabinets to service the mast. A 'Big Belly' waste bin and wooden bench completes the furniture on the Triangle. Litter continues to be a big feature of the Triangle, unfortunately. Any help in picking up a piece of rubbish and putting it in the bin would be most gratefully received.

lan Leggatt

I am grateful for the historical info from Ted Frith's Journals and Living History Local Guide No 6. Any errors are mine. Mobile mast photo from Google Maps. Bus shelter photo from London Transport Museum. Bus photo from Facebook. OS Map extract from National Library of Scotland.

If you are able to date the appearance of the coin operated public toilet, I would be grateful for any info.



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A Good Time for Gardening – January

Time to continue looking through the garden magazines and catalogues, as well as planning a few trips out once the weather warms up. Welford Park, where Bake Off is recorded, has a stunning display of snowdrops. Chartwell is always lovely for the views over the Kentish Weald and for its daffodils.

This is the time of year to try to keep healthy and fit, ready to tackle the gardening again. Some of the herbs and spices we use in cooking contribute to this. Unfortunately, only one of the following seven grows in our gardens in the UK.

GINGER is delicious and warming during crisp weather. It is well known for helping with any gastrointestinal discomfort. If you have a sore throat, ginger can soothe this. If anyone you know suffers from travel sickness, then ginger can ease the symptoms. Any feelings of nausea, it helps to reach for the ginger nut biscuits.

CINNAMON is used in many winter dishes. Just think about the gorgeous aroma of an apple and cinnamon pie. Is your imagination letting you taste it along with the custard? Cinnamon may help to balance out spikes in blood sugar levels (from eating apple pie!).



CARDAMOM is a smoky, flavourful spice that comes in two varieties – brown and green. Green cardamom is generally used in both sweet (cakes) and savoury (curry) foods. It is better to use the whole pod, as the ground version loses lots of flavour.

TURMERIC is used in much South Asian cooking, as well as in the popular golden milk recipes. Turmeric has been used for centuries to promote healing and to reduce inflammation. Turmeric may have a positive effect on the brain, possibly increasing serotonin and therefore helping you to keep upbeat throughout the dreary winter months.



ROSEMARY is fragrant and its scent alone may stimulate the brain to improve alertness. In some cultures, rosemary is thought to extend longevity and is known as the immortality spice. Don't eat too much rosemary though, as this could upset your stomach.

ALLSPICE is one of the most important spices in Caribbean jerk seasoning. It has stomach soothing and cold battling powers.

NUTMEG is able to boost mood, so get sprinkling it on to your morning porridge.

If it's a lovely crisp winter's day, when you've eaten your nutmeg sprinkled porridge and drunk your turmeric flavoured milk, take a turn around the garden. There are already signs of it coming back to life. Some buds are swelling and bulb shoots are beginning to push through the earth. Look out for those early snowdrops, crocuses and miniature irises as well as the hellebores.

Frederick, Cedric and Sunflower Sid www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

Chinese New Year 2022 — 1st February

Chinese New Year 2022 will fall on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022. As a public holiday, Chinese people will get 7 days off from work from 31 January until 6 February in 2022. Traditionally celebrations of Chinese New Year traditionally last for 16 days, starting from Chinese New Years Eve to the Lantern Festival. In 2022, that is from January 31st to February 15th.

The most notable dates of the Chinese Lunar New Year 2022 are these three days:

New Year's Eve on January 31st, 2022 New Year's Day on February 1st, 2022 The Lantern Festival on February 15th, 2022



The Chinese zodiac gives each year an animal sign and 2022 is a Year of the Tiger starting from February 1st, 2022, and lasting until January 21st, 2023.

People born in a year of the Tiger are predicted to be **brave**, **competitive**, **unpredictable**, **and confident**.

Recent/upcoming years of the Tiger are 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010, and 2022. Famous people born in the year of the tiger include Queen Elizabeth II, Marilyn Monroe, Fidel Castro, Lady Gaga, Usain Bolt, David Attenborough, Kofi Annan and Stevie Wonder.

Quiz of the 2021 Year

- 1. In January 2021, online retailer Boohoo acquired which brand and website for £55 million?
- 2. On 2 February 2021 Captain Sir Tom Moore sadly died. How many lengths of his garden did he walk in raising £32 million for NHS Charities Together?
- 3. In March 2021 a new £50 banknote entered circulation featuring whose face on the reverse side to the Queen?
- 4. In April 2021 Marks & Spencer goes to war with Aldi over what cake?
- 5. Italian band Måneskin achieved which musical accolade in May 2021?
- 6. How many countries jointly hosted the UEFA 2020 football tournament in June?



- 7. In July 2021 the 2020 Olympics were held in which city?
- 8. The Afghanistan war ended on the 30 August 2021. In which year did it start?
- 9. In September who was the female tennis star from South London who won the US Open?
- 10. In October who changed its company name to Meta?
- 11. In November which country became a republic on the 55th anniversary of its independence?
- 12. What was the name of the storm that hit the UK at the beginning of December?

Answers after Nature Notes

Contact Selsdon Community Centre 132 Addington Road South Croydon, CR2 8LA Tel: 020 8651 4944

Fax: 020 8657 2268

Email: info@selsdoncontact.org.uk



Those New Year resolutions.....

According to Wikipedia, a **New Year's resolution** is a tradition, most common in the Western Hemisphere but also found in the Eastern Hemisphere, in which a person resolves to change an undesired trait or behaviour, to accomplish a personal goal or otherwise improve their life.

As 2022 starts, many people around the world will be optimistically setting themselves **New Year's resolutions** or perhaps just hoping for a better year than the last two! 40% of us make New Year's Resolutions and 80% will fail in 30 days. With only an 8% success rate, it's time to try something different.

Selsdon Contact is setting some resolutions for 2022. We are still supporting about 300 clients with practical help and advice. How about setting yourself a goal to be a good neighbour to Contact's clients at least once a month?

We are always looking for drivers to take the elderly and less mobile to GP appointments etc, or maybe drive our splendid new shopping bus. Or perhaps you might be able to commit to being an escort on the shopping bus once a month.

Volunteering has many surprising benefits. The more we give, the happier we feel. Volunteering increases self-confidence. You are doing good for others and the community, which provides a natural sense of accomplishment. So why not give it a try in 2022.

If you feel you could help with this valuable community support, please call Jasmine in the Contact Office on 8651 4944. Or if you prefer call into our office on the lower ground floor of the Selsdon Community Centre and we can provide you with more information.

Contact: Selsdon Churches Neighbourhood Care Registered Charity 1124346 Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Registered in England No 6582829



Here Catriona Lumiste, A trustee of the Selsdon Centre for Retired, reflects on the benefits of volunteering.

Are you thinking of giving something back in 2022?

As I write this, COVID infection rates are at an all-time high, it's clear that we have challenges ahead before we get to the end of this awful pandemic.

I joined the board of the Selsdon Centre for Retired in February 2019 as a Trustee. At that time Croydon Council stopped our funding without any notice. This we had relied on for 40 years since the Centre opened. We quickly had to rethink our plans and source funding from charitable grants and foundations to make up the shortfall which we managed to do through some very generous individuals and charitable Trusts. Our resident nail cutter, Tina Hills has raised £700 for us by giving back all the money she has earned from the nail cutting service she provides at the Centre. The pandemic arrived in March 2020 and we regrettably closed our doors.

We reopened in October 2020 but after 2 weeks had to close when we were locked down again.

This year we reopened on 17th May and limited our opening hours to 3 days per week due to the extensive cleaning that was required to keep our clients safe and well looked after at the end of each day.

Our numbers have gone from strength to strength with so much positive feedback on how good our clients feel to be back, to socialise and have fun! Our events have proved really popular, bingo, singing and social, afternoon tea and music events have all sold out quickly. Our music events have been especially important for feel good benefits. Feeling the appreciation from clients using the Centre and attending our events makes my volunteering role so worthwhile.

In September I decided to volunteer on the days we have big events to help out, now my daughter also volunteers with me. It has given me a great appreciation of the day to day running of the Centre and the social aspects of getting to know the clients and seeing the valuable benefits the Centre offers for our clients and our volunteers.

A typical day at the Centre means the office team are in by 8.45am ready for a 9am opening. The minibus goes out at 10am for the morning pickups which involves a driver and an escort to help. We have volunteers who come in for kitchen duties at 10am and leave at 12pm when the lunch volunteers take over. Afternoon drop offs begin at 2pm or 2.30pm on the days we hold bigger events, the driver and escort ensure clients are dropped home safely. The kitchen volunteers are finished around this

time too. Our minibus service is really valuable as it ensures clients are collected and dropped home safely by our volunteers who they are all familiar with.

For me personally, volunteering is part of my working week and it allows me to give something back which I find hugely rewarding. I believe our wonderful office team and dedicated volunteers make the experience so positive for our clients. The social interaction, fun and feel good from the brilliant events at the Centre have all driven amazing feedback received in recent months. Despite today's challenging landscape we remain resilient; we are a strong team and we will continue to provide this vital service for all our clients.

Are you thinking of giving something back in 2022? Could you spare a few hours a week to be a kitchen volunteer, help with activities, drive the minibus or be an escort for the minibus? We have a fantastic team of staff and volunteers and would be happy to have a chat and show you around the Centre.

If you have any questions, or if you wish to consider a role as a trustee or a volunteer or both in 2022, please feel free to call Craig, Jane, Sarah or Susan at the office on 0208 651 1111.

Walking together through grief

A group held at Selsdon Baptist Church, Addington Road The next Bereavement Support Group will run from Wednesday 19 January 2022 for 5 weeks until 16 February. It will be held in the coffee lounge at Selsdon Baptist Church and runs from 2 - 3.30pm.

This group is open to all and is suitable for anyone who has suffered loss of any kind.

For more information or to book a place please call Dawn on 07718 189033 or Jane on 07561 869620 Or email - bereavement@selsdonbaptist.org.uk

We will follow Government Covid safety guidelines.



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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 <u>all</u> correspondence to the Editor. Anonymity can be granted on request, but anonymously sent letters/e-mails will not be published.

A warning from one of our readers

Dear Editor,

MOTORISTS BEWARE!

As a law-abiding citizen, I was horrified to receive a Penalty Charge Notice informing me I had entered a road illegally. The road was Haling Road, and motorists are now forbidden to enter it between the hours of 8.00 to 9.30 am and 2.00 to 4.00 pm, (as I did).

I was totally unaware of this. On receiving the PCN I went back to investigate. There is signage, but it doesn't stand out – there is a clear "No left turn" sign but no corresponding "No right turn" (and I was turning right).

I appealed the fine and my appeal was rejected. I was told the signage met the required standards and it was up to the motorist to see them and comply. I was given the choice of paying £65.00 within 14 days or going to adjudication – which would mean paying the full £130.00 if I failed. Not a happy choice for a pensioner.

One resident was so incensed that he has been positioning himself on the corner of Haling Road between 2.00 and 4.00, displaying a large placard and warning motorists. I have joined him a couple of times. The first day he turned back 50 motorists in the two hours. Every time the reaction was outrage, "I didn't know that," "How long has this been the case?" I wonder if the Council are glad that so many people have been prevented from (inadvertently) committing an offence – they surely wouldn't be so mean as to resent the loss of £3,250 in fines. Would they?

On that day a reporter from the Croydon Advertiser came along, and took copious notes and photos. So, with luck the message will spread, and lawabiding motorists won't get caught out. Let's hope.

Simon Euan-Smith

A reader has forwarded me a copy of a letter that she sent to her local Councillor, her MP, Environmental Services and the Local Government Ombudsman about her problems with refuse collection.

Dear Editor,

I am registering a complaint with the Local Government Ombudsman.

This situation has been carrying on for more than a year. I have phoned Croydon Council many times. Over the last three weeks, yet again, I have to complain about the lack of Waste Collection and now the recyclable collection; It has not been collected. It is almost four weeks since it was taken. I normally wait over twenty minutes for someone to answer the phone and once was greeted with "I'm sorry I can't hear you, you will have to call back". I find this attitude totally unsatisfactory and this is before I had a chance to report the lack of collection. Croydon Council is updating their phone network in the New Year, that is no good today.

I am registered for assisted collection, when the refuse is collected, the bins are infrequently returned to the front of my garage, I have to run them down my drive, which is fairly steep, at risk to myself. I can only assume that assisted collection includes me stumbling down the drive, with a bin, so that Veolia can claim for providing a non-existent service and reaping the rewards.

This is an abysmal service. In addition, I have been paying for a further service to take away garden waste which is NOT collected!! With a company I could take legal action for recovery of my costs and not supplying the service.

I have heard all the excuses from Covid-19 to the shortage of drivers however, my brother-in-law has none of these problems and he lives in the CR0 post code area.

When I look at Croydon's slow website, I see manufactured statements about collection.

I look forward to hearing from the Local Government Ombudsman.

Caroline Beechey

Caroline did forward me the response from Croydon Council

Thank you for your recent report. We are very sorry that on this occasion there was a problem with your collection. Unfortunately, our waste and recycling collections are being severely impacted by the HGV driver shortage.

We aim to resolve reports related to rubbish and recycling as follows:

- 1. Missed general waste, food waste, recycling, garden waste and clinical waste should be collected by our crews by the end of the following weekend at the very latest. If the missed collection is not resolved by then, please wait until your next collection date to present your bin. For residents recycling food waste, we appreciate the prolonged storage of food waste brings with it other environmental impacts, so please deposit food waste into your general waste bin if you feel it is appropriate.
- 2. Missed batteries and textiles should be collected by our crews on your next collection day.
- 3. Bins not returned correctly and other crew-related issues will be flagged in the system and resolved on your next collection day. We are attempting to resolve these service issues with our contractor, regional and national government stakeholders and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused. Thank you for your patience during this period of disruption.

Regards, Waste Services Management Team

Our regular contributor, Jessica Blake takes a look at New Year's Resolutions.

Dear Editor,

Every year at the end of December, most of us, when there is time enough to pause and think, decide we will do things differently in the coming year, and then we make New Year's Resolutions.

Yes, we will lose weight, it seems improbable but there are some who might wish to gain it! Then there are the keep fitters, the increase the muscles athletic types, the joggers perhaps with the Marathon in mind, the Sports Improvers or just sports getting started, etc. Well, when I went to a gym, I knew it was no use to go for the first two weeks in January, there were often mini queues for each piece of apparatus and there was not the time to stand

and wait, but by the first week in February the gym was back to normal.

Fancy learning a language or brushing up skills learnt in school in the recent past or years ago? Well evening classes, I call them that whatever the time of day they are held, appear to be online only at the present time, and that is not the same as learning face to face. Beside which, classes begin in September and not January. If you do decide to learn a language, I think the most important phrases are: "Please speak slowly", "Have you a room free for tonight?" "Is there a toilet near here?" "Where is the bank please?". Although two things I often find myself asking is, "How much? Have I misunderstood?". Although I believe spoken tapes are very useful, you do need someone to understand and answer your query so you can understand the answer too.

Computers are not my friend. They terrify me because of consequences that can happen if one makes a mistake. If I had computer lessons they would need to be taken with a tranquilliser and a large glass of gin.

Perhaps trying handicrafts would be good? Nothing occurs to me at present that I would like to make as a resolution for the New Year. If you find something then I hope you stick to it better than I can.

Happy New Year Everyone!

Jessica Blake

Poetry Corner

This month Mary Gill commemorates the first audition (1 January 1962) of the Beatles for Decca and are turned down!

BEATLEMANIA

Four Guys came out of Liverpool and set the world alight.
They set their sights on stardom and they set the music right.
John, Paul, George and Ringo said everything in song

and though they're long disbanded the legacy plays on.

John, he was the mean one had acid on his tongue, but still the kind of genius that way outshines the Sun. Can anyone imagine what drove that mad man on to take aim one dark New York day and rob the world of JOHN?

Oh Yeah, that was a hard day's night, how can we let it be?
They made a revolution and the songs they played pleased me. Now Sergeant Pepper's lonely cos no one's quite as cool as John, Paul, George and Ringo the Kings of Liverpool.

Paul, well he was pretty he had an angel face, but penned a whole array of hits to take his rightful place among this band of heroes who've sound-tracked most my days. Yesterday will last forever cos McCartney rules – OK!

Then George who was the one who took a mystic path to peace, a search that took him eastwards though his mind was always free. When superstition threatened, he recognized what gives, so George backed up the Pythons and 'Life of Brian' lives.

Ringo was the drummer and sometimes played the clown,



but made his contribution towards the Mersey sound. His drumming set the rhythm for each record busting song a music revolution that's still rolling decades on.

Four Guys came out of Liverpool and set the world alight.
They set their sights on stardom and they set the music right.
John, Paul, George and Ringo said everything in song but though they're long disbanded the Legacy plays on.



AUTHOR'S NOTE

The Beatles were fantastic but deep down in my bones, when it comes to rockin' music I prefer the Rolling Stones.

Friends of Selsdon Wood - News

As one of the founder members of the FSW, I was sad to learn of the death of David Malins in November. He had been a stalwart of the committee from the start in 2007. He had designed and produced all our posters and the notice boards in the wood and also wrote many project plans and proposals for us to action – including the 'muddy paths project' and the ill-fated request to the council for a new pond or renovation of the pool in Linden Glade (including a reliable water supply). He was also our 'seats and benches manager' logging locations of all those in the wood and keeping track of the ones that needed repair or replacement. We will do our best to keep up his standards and continue with his work. Above all, however, as well as his love of the pool at Linden Glade, he was a badger and bird lover. We have therefore decided, with his family's approval, to use the initial donations made to FSW by his mourners to set up 'David's memorial feeding station' by the Jubilee Pond in the wood. We will replenish the feeders regularly and hope the birds will soon find

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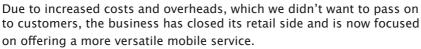
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them (especially those who benefitted from all the feeders in his garden adjacent to the wood) and give pleasure to all who pass by. We hope to add an information board in due course, as funds allow, to help you identify what you see. Do please send us any photos you take via our FB page or email selsdonwood@gmail.com

Linda Morris, Secretary, FSW

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Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth Insect Life and Death



In autumn a Bumblebee queen, which has spent most of the year laying fertilised eggs to populate the nest with worker bees, now changes and lays unfertilised eggs which result in fertile male drones. In addition, a change to the feeding of young grubs will produce fertile queens. After a mating flight the new young queens find their

individual places to spend the winter, while all the drones, workers and the old queen have reached the end of their lives.

As winter gives way to spring each new queen emerges and needs to find nutrition. At this time of the year Hazel and Goat Willow are covered in catkins and are obvious sources of high energy nectar and protein rich pollen. Once the queen has chosen a place to start a nest, she lays eggs together with pollen as a source of food for the grubs when they hatch. She continues her search for nectar and pollen until sufficient adult worker bees have appeared to take over this task while she settles down to the job of increasing her brood by continuing to lay eggs. The eventual population can be anything from a few dozen to many hundreds depending on weather and feeding conditions. As the new queens disperse widely as they leave the nest where they hatched, this tale will be repeated all over the wood.

Other insect species will also be active. Hornets and various wasp species scrape wood surfaces to make a papery pulp from which they create cells to hold their eggs and will gradually expand this to form quite a large nest which is built in a hollow tree or even in the loft of a house or in a garage. As these are predatory insects their food is often provided by the caterpillars produced by moths and other insects.

Amongst the new insect life appearing at this time there will be tiny wasps and flies which parasitise other species. They lay their eggs directly into the body of a caterpillar or grub, or into an adult, which appears to continue its behaviour as normal while the hatching parasite grubs eat its flesh while avoiding the essential organs. Having completed this stage of their life cycle the now adult wasps or flies emerge from the carcass of their host, ready to mate and begin the cycle all over again. The story does not end there as the parasites have their own parasites to contend with.

As Augustus de Morgan's version of Johnathan Swift's poem suggests –

Great fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite them And little fleas have lesser fleas, and so ad infinitum. And the great fleas themselves, in turn, have greater fleas to go on, While these again have greater still, and greater still, and so on.

Insects pollinate flowers, including food crops, help to dispose of decaying material, control each other to prevent population explosions, and provide food for birds. Without insects playing a part in our lives we would not be here.

.

Answers to the Quiz of the Year

- 1. Debenhams
- 2. 100 lengths
- 3. Alan Turing (WWII code-breaker)
- 4. Colin the Caterpillar cake
- 5. The Eurovision Song Contest winners
- 6. Eleven
- 7. Tokyo
- 8. 2001
- 9. Emma Raducanu
- 10. Facebook
- 11. Barbados
- 12. Storm Barra

Croydon Self-Guided Walks

Croydon's Old Town and Minster neighbourhoods. At this point they are testing the proposed walks through temporary floor stickers to mark the routes and provide information about Croydon's unique heritage locations. In addition to stickers, they are providing both physical and a digital map to help identify the routes. The stickers will hopefully be replaced with permanent markers, but in the meantime, they are seeking feedback ahead of making a decision for a more permanent installations of the walks at a later date. Once you have done a walk, they have asked people to give feedback on the questionnaire found here https://www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/heritage-walkfeedback/survey_tools/tell-us-what-you-think-of-our-heritage-walks

Market Town walk

In the 19th century, Croydon became a thriving market town. The town centre expanded after the opening of new railway stations, and boasted impressive shops, offices and pubs. The Victorian era was a time of rapid urban expansion and change with advances in public health, education and technology. The town received a charter of incorporation, a coat of arms, and a motto: Sanitate Crescimus ("May we grow in health").

This walk explores the impressive historic high streets civic buildings, infrastructure projects and public facilities from this era.

Distance: 1 mile Time: 45 minutes

Old Town Walk

Croydon began in the Saxon period as a small settlement near the source of the River Wandle. Throughout its history, the town had strong links with the Archbishops of Canterbury who had an estate here from the 9th century (which is when Croydon Minster was first established).

This walk explores some of the oldest surviving buildings in the old town, the grounds of Croydon Minster and the memorial garden. These provide an extraordinary connection with Croydon's early history, the Archbishops, and the people who once lived here.

Distance: 0.6 miles Time: 45 minutes

The walk includes one moderate hill

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sjohnson@eldonhousing.co.uk.

- domestic and laundry services
- social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)



(.....8...........

Information is also available from our website - www.eldonhousing.org

If you would like to make an enquiry please contact us on 020 8655 6724,

Words of the Year 2021

The Word of the Year 2021 announced by the Oxford English Dictionary was **Vax**. By September 2021 they found that it was 72 times more frequent that at the same time in the previous year.

It has generated numerous derivatives that are now being seen in a wide range of informal contexts, from vax sites and vax cards to getting vaxxed and being fully vaxxed. They concluded that no word better captured the atmosphere of the past year than vax.

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The Cambridge Dictionary have chosen a word that best represented the experiences of their learners of English and announced that their Word of the Year 2021 was... **perseverance!** *Perseverance* is defined as 'continued effort to do or achieve something, even when this is difficult or takes a long time'. In 2021, people all over the world have had to show perseverance in the face of challenges and disruption to their lives from COVID-19 and other problems.

The Collins Dictionary produced a list of ten Words of the Year.

- 1. Non fungible token (NFT) a unique digital certificate that is used to record ownership of an asset such as an artwork or a collectible
- 2. Climate anxiety a state of distress caused by concern about climate change
- 3. Double vaxxed having received two vaccinations against a disease
- 4. Pingdemic the large-scale notification of members of the public by a contact-tracing app
- 5. Hybrid working the practice of alternating between different working environments, such as from home and in an office
- Crypto Short for cryptocurrency, a digital currency for online purchases (crypto is added to adjectives and nouns to form other adjectives and nouns which refer to people who have hidden beliefs and principles).

- 7. Neopronium a recently coined pronoun, especially one designed to avoid gender distinctions
- 8. Metaverse a three-dimensional virtual world, especially in an online role-playing game
- 9. Cheugy no longer regarded as cool or fashionable
- 10. Regencycore a style of dress inspired by clothes worn in high society during the Regency period (1811-20)

I think that some of the words in the Collins list have missed me by this year! CJ

~~

Health - women aged between 45 and 55 (and other ages too)

October recently held 'Menopause awareness day'. There were many radio programmes dedicated to this but if you missed them it is worth a recap.

Menopause in women (or to be more accurate peri-menopause) usually starts around the age of 45 and symptoms can last up to 10 years! Because it was a taboo subject to discuss (hushed up as women's problems) many people have no idea that a large proportion of the population may be suffering in silence or placed on incorrect medication based on one symptom that perhaps has a wider cause. Of course, each person is different and some may feel no dramatic symptoms of 'the change' but it is worth knowing that symptoms of anxiety, joint pain, headaches, brain fog, sleep disturbance and many other ailments or changes to a person's usual nature can be linked to hormonal changes. Understanding what is happening and why and sharing experiences and knowledge with others is half the battle. Symptoms may be aided by natural remedies or life changes but for some it will be necessary to speak to a GP. There are also support groups via online forums. It is always worth asking for help when you need it.

More information can be found here: www.themenopausecharity.org



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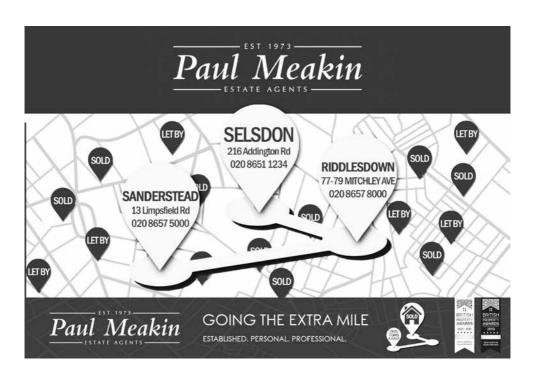
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A SELECTED LIST OF SELSDON ORGANISATIONS

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 0	1883 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	r) 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
Coulsdon Masonic Lodge	Colin Lynch	07801 453474
Croydon Natural History & Scientific Societ	v Brian Lancaster	8668 6909
Croydon Recorded Music Society	Liz Brereton	8656 7382
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Bline		8668 2486
Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline	•	8916 0855
Friends of Littleheath Woods	Ian Leggatt	8651 1140
	ee website: www.friendsofse	
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Sect		isdon wood.co.uk
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	
		1 stselsdon.org.uk
1st Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website: www. Maddie Dunn	07703 531652
Beaver Colony (6-8yrs)		
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.2ndSandAS	coulGroup.org.uk
Selsdon Art Group	Mrs F Hooper	07973 412952
Selsdon Bridge Club	Tony Cherrett	01883 730304
Selsdon Community Hall	Tim Potter (Centre Ma	nager) 865 / 4300
Selsdon Afternoon Townswomen's Guild		8657 1092
Selsdon Floral Club	Maureen Browning	8651 5821
Selsdon Social Club	C CCI : d	0.651 4540
Selsdon Tennis Club	Geoff Littlewood	8651 4748
66 (Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps	Rob Cleeter	8651 5958

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