

**July 2025**

(At the Old Farleigh Road entrance to Selsdon Woods)

Put the date in your diary and we hope to see you there!



# THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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**Front cover:** Notice about the Fair.



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mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com

## ***Committee 2025/2026***

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Committee: Yvonne Huber

Su Yates

Peter Underwood

Ian Leggatt

Janet Sharp

Chris Jones

Geoff Bailey

Kenneth Davis

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Jane Plowden

## ***Councillors for Selsdon & Addington Village Ward***

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

Cllr Joseph Lee Joseph.lee@croydon.gov.uk 07458 092567

## ***Councillors for Selsdon Vale & Forestdale Ward***

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

Cllr Fatima Zaman Fatima.zaman@croydon.gov.uk 07458 092567

## ***Councillors for Sanderstead Ward***

Cllr Lynne Hale Lynne.hale@croydon.gov.uk 0208 651 2229

Cllr Yvette Hopley Yvette.hopley@croydon.gov.uk 0208 640 7033

Cllr Helen Redfern Helen.redfern@croydon.gov.uk 07783 152334

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

As you may not receive your next Gazette after this one, remember no Gazette in August, before the Selsdon Community Day on Sunday 7 September from 12 - 4pm, I thought I would put a reminder on the cover of the July Gazette. This is the first year that the Selsdon Residents' Association has taken on its organisation so please try to pop by and make it a success.

This July edition of the Gazette has a 'hot' feel with an article about dehydration, a poem about the refreshing appeal of a good storm and a report about the litter pick on the hottest day of the year. Some of our competitions are coming to an end so do not forget to send in your photos of Selsdon before 31 August, and your photos of any bumper vegetables that you have grown by 30 September. Please also remember our heritage walks on Saturday 19 July at 10am, 11am and 2pm for all. If you have failed to book your free tickets on Eventbrite please just turn up at the Selsdon Triangle on the day. The walks will last about an hour covering 1.5 miles.

In this anniversary year for Selsdon Garden Village, Ian Leggatt starts his timeline for the development of Selsdon and another resident has put pen to paper to give her recollections of growing up in Selsdon in the 1940/50s. The Councillors and the local MP give their contrasting views about the prospect of Commissioners being brought in to oversee the Council's finances, while the local police detail their activities during June. There is also a warning from Croydon Trading Standards about cold calling at the door and on the phone. Our Gardening tips covers two months of jobs to be done in the garden and our quiz tests your knowledge about Canada as 1<sup>st</sup> July is the National Day of Canada. Ted, in his Nature Notes, considers how differently animals 'see' their environment, while we have some good news about The Golden Ark on our High Steet receiving a well-deserved award.

☞ SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2025 EDITION  
SHOULD BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN  
20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST - PREFERABLY BEFORE! ☞

One final plea, please pay your subscription by cash or cheque in an envelope, or bank transfer or by completing the standing order form on the back cover and passing it to your bank. Let's break the record for subscription numbers in our 100<sup>th</sup> year!

I am looking forward to my email box ([selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)) being full after the summer break with all your entries, letters, photos, etc.

Have a lovely summer.

**Chris Jones**

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## **SRA NEWS 'n' VIEWS**



### **New Committee Member**

I am pleased to announce that we have filled our vacancy on the SRA Committee. Jane Plowden has volunteered to be a committee member.

### **Grants**

The SRA would like to hear from local organisations in need of small grants of between £100 to £500 for their group to help fund any projects they have planned. Please contact the SRA through the email [mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com](mailto:mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com)

### **Centenary celebrations**

The SRA commissioned a new seat to mark our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary which was installed in the Selsdon Recreation Ground in June to enjoy the view over Selsdon Woods.

Do not forget to get free tickets from the Eventbrite site for the SRA Heritage Walks around Selsdon on Saturday 19 July happening at 10am (Heritage Walk 1), 11am (Heritage Walk 2) and 2pm (Heritage Walk 3). The walks will last about an hour and cover about 1.5 miles. All ages welcome.

### **Keeping Selsdon Clean and Tidy**

Thank you to all who joined Andrew on a very hot Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June for the Summertime litter pick around the centre of Selsdon. Look out in the coming months for the next date.

## Subscriptions

I am pleased to say that the envelopes have been keeping our treasurer busy. Keep them coming and thanks to all who pay online or by standing order, this makes it easier for us and you don't have to remember every year.

## Selsdon Community Fair

The SRA have taken this over from The Friends of Selsdon Wood who ran it so successfully for many years, so we look forward to seeing lots of you on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September from 12-4pm. Bring a picnic if the weather looks good.

Have a great summer

***Sheila Childs, Chair***

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## YOUR 2025 SRA SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE



**The subscription rate is still £5 per year per household, plus any extra donation for the Christmas Lights**

### Three ways to pay your subscription and any extra donations:

1. **Put your cash/cheque in an envelope** and post it to any of the addresses listed here. Please make sure you put your address on the front of the envelope.

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28 Upper Selsdon Road  
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Tudor Library, Burchells Chiropractic, Croydon Physio, Selsdon Contact or Selsdon Community Clubhouse.

2. **Pay by bank transfer** to the account - Selsdon Residents Association, sort code 20 24 61, account number 4033 6343. Please give the first line

of your address as the reference.

3. **Pay by completing the standing order form** that is printed on the back cover of this Gazette. This must be handed to your bank for processing. Again, use the first line of your address as the reference. Please don't delay.

*Thank you for your support from the SRA.*



## 100th Year of the Selsdon Residents' Association

### GROW THE LARGEST VEGETABLE COMPETITION

Selsdon was originally known as 'Selsdon Garden Village', so what better way to celebrate its centenary than to run a vegetable growing competition.

You have until the end of September to grow the vegetable of your choice. Once it has reached its maximum size, take a photo of it alongside a ruler and send its dimensions, weight and a photo to Chris Jones at [selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com) Do not forget to take those photos as your fruit or vegetable ripens - 'you've got to be in it, to win it!'



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# **COUNCILLORS' NOTES FROM JOSEPH LEE**

## **GOVERNMENT ACTION IN CROYDON UNDERMIMES LOCAL PROGRESS**

Despite hard work and painful local decisions to restore financial order in Croydon, the Government has announced plans to impose commissioners on our Council. We believe that this is a heavy-handed move—framed as necessary due to Croydon's legacy debt and service pressures—ignores the significant progress that has already been made by local leadership. It's deeply concerning that Westminster is choosing to centralise control just as we begin to turn a corner. Over the last four years, Croydon has delivered £167 million in savings, with another £50 million planned this year. More than £230 million in capital receipts have been raised—£130 million from asset sales alone—and a further £68 million in disposals is expected in the coming months.

We are halfway through a two-year transformation programme that is fundamentally changing how services are delivered, making them more cost-effective and sustainable. A robust financial management strategy is already in place. Yet, rather than support local efforts, the Government appears determined to undermine them through commissioner intervention.

## **SELSDON LOOKING BETTER THANKS TO FOCUS ON CLEANLINESS AND PRIDE**

Selsdon is seeing real, visible improvement in its green spaces thanks to Croydon Council's ongoing investment in grass cutting and open space maintenance.

Since the start of the season, 1.1 million square metres of highway verges and 850,000 square metres of housing land have been maintained, alongside 190 parks and open spaces. In Selsdon, the results are clear: cleaner, more inviting public areas and a renewed sense of community pride.

Grass cutting is now taking place every six weeks across highways, parks, and open spaces, and every five weeks on housing land. This improvement follows a much-needed £1.5 million investment in new equipment and extra contractor support—something we've long pushed for to raise standards.

Residents will continue to receive updates throughout the season, as we maintain a watchful eye on the performance of this programme.

## **CONCERNS ABOUT ROAD SAFETY ON SELSDON PARK ROAD**

Recently, there has been a noticeable increase in road traffic accidents and abandoned vehicles along Selsdon Park Road. This is a serious

concern for many residents, and rightly so. We will be working closely with local police and council officers to understand the root causes and ensure that action is taken to address safety and enforcement moving forward.

## **CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS**

Our monthly surgeries take place in the Jubilee café downstairs from Sainsburys. A private room is available should there be a matter which cannot be discussed in public. The timing is 10am until 11.15am on the first Saturday of the month, except January and August. 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:

### **Selsdon and Addington Village**

[Joseph.lee@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Joseph.lee@croydon.gov.uk)

[Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk)

### **Selsdon Vale and Forestdale**

[Andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk)

[Fatima.zaman@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Fatima.zaman@croydon.gov.uk)

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **130 Littleheath Road South Croydon CR2 7SE**

25/01811/LP - Erection of a single storey wrap-around extension.

### **22 Rylandes Road South Croydon CR2 8EA**

25/01547/HSE - Erection of single storey rear extension, Erection of first floor side extension above garage, Conversion of existing garage into habitable rooms.

*(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_table.html))*

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## **MP Natasha Irons' Report**

### **Member of Parliament for Croydon East**

Dear Selsdon,

You may have seen the news that Commissioners are being appointed by the government to support Croydon Council in its financial recovery. This decision follows a recent report from Croydon's Improvement and Assurance Panel, who were appointed by the previous government to monitor the council's activity. Their report highlights that, despite the hard work of staff and £136 million in exceptional financial support from central government this year,

the council's financial position has deteriorated. I encourage you to read the report which is available on the government's website.

We all want to see Croydon thrive and on a stable financial footing, so whilst this intervention is necessary, it is sad news for our community. I will continue to work with both the council and government to secure the prosperous and stable future that Croydon deserves.

My office has been continued to support residents with missed bin collections in the area. Residents from Ladygrove, Addington Road and Bowens Wood contacted me about repeated missed garden and household waste collections. One resident filed a missed bin report and was told to leave the bin out, only for it to be ignored for over a week. Another resident, who had a paid-for waste contract, also experienced missed collections. After I raised these cases, the council acknowledged the poor service, instructed Veolia to resolve the issue and extended residents' service periods to reflect the missed collections.

I also want to update you on what the government's recent Spending Review means for us here in Croydon East:

TfL will receive £2.2 billion over the next four years. This means, after months of campaigning for this, we will finally be getting **new trams**. Croydon will benefit from a £26 million energy efficiency fund, which will **upgrade low-income housing** with insulation, double glazing and solar panels to **reduce energy bills**.

£2.4 billion a year will go towards **fixing schools**, including Orchard Way Primary School and St Thomas Becket Primary School both in my Croydon East constituency.

In last month's update, I raised concerns about the council's plans to cut its Youth Engagement Team (YET). A new report has since confirmed that not only will the YET be closed, but universal youth services will also be cut, with delivery handed over to the Voluntary, Community and Faith sectors. The loss of the YET has raised serious concerns among local families. Over the years, the team built strong relationships with young people and a deep understanding of their areas. I worry that relying on volunteers from various organisations could lead to high turnover and create inconsistency that could be damaging to young people – some already vulnerable.

As ever, if you're facing issues or would like to share your priorities for Selsdon, please get in touch at [natasha.ironson@parliament.uk](mailto:natasha.ironson@parliament.uk) or call 020 8191 2482 (leave a voicemail and we'll get back to you).

## Update from our Local Police

Last month, June, has been another busy one for the team. We have been conducting patrols in minibuses in hot spots areas to tackle various crimes such as vehicle theft and the possession and the supply of drugs. This has resulted in 8 youths being arrested for possession of an offensive weapon, possession of class A and class B drugs as well as possession with intent to supply class A and class B drugs. This has also resulted in a large amount of drugs being seized as well as one knife, shown in the picture below.



This was a good result as it has taken a weapon off the streets and investigations are still ongoing. We have conducted a high amount of stop and searches within the Selsdon and Addington area with many leading to seizure of a personal amount of cannabis.

Our team has also responded to a call in Addington regarding a fight between two males. Upon arriving at the scene and getting initial details from the victim, the team were able to attend the suspect's house and arrested him for grievous bodily harm.

Our team has also recovered a stolen moped which was seen by officers speeding with males not wearing helmets. Upon seeing the police, the riders of the moped dumped the vehicle and made off on a red quad bike leaving the stolen moped behind. Inside the moped was what officers believed to be bleach and a screwdriver which were both seized.

We ran our tool forensic marking stall on 1st June to give out tool identification packs to local tradesmen and other tool owners. This was due to the high rates of theft from vehicle crimes. This was a successful event and enabled officers to engage with members of the community while being able to help them prevent crime to their valuables. The team



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also attended the Addington carnival which was a very engaging day for the officers and the members of the public, with community members being able to talk to officers and allow the children to see the police vehicle and uniform.

Our “Cuppa with a Copper” events are still happening monthly and we would love to meet you so please come along to these to meet your local policing team. We are hand delivering letters to individual streets but everyone is invited to attend these events. We hope these letters will make the invitation more personal to encourage residents to come along. Details of these events can be found on the Met Police website for each ward.

### ***PC Williams***

#### **Contacting the Police**

Please do not hesitate to contact your local police team if required:

**Emergencies – 999, Non-emergency crime - 101**

All phone numbers for each individual team are no longer used. Residents should use the following email addresses:

#### **Selsdon & Addington Village:**

[SelsdonandAddingtonVillage@met.police.uk](mailto:SelsdonandAddingtonVillage@met.police.uk)

#### **Selsdon Vale & Forestdale:**

[SelsdonandForestdale@met.police.uk](mailto:SelsdonandForestdale@met.police.uk)

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## **TRADING STANDARDS - COMMUNITY ALERT**

### **Leaflets & cold calling**



We have been made aware of leaflets that have been delivered in the Croydon area with persons intending to cold call people at home, offering to buy jewellery, medals, antiques and memorabilia etc.

We strongly advise that you do not let anyone into your home who cold calls, especially someone wanting to look at your valuable items. There is a risk you will be defrauded if you choose to do business with them, or even become the victim of a burglary or theft.

If someone attends your home and won't leave, please call 999.

If you have been the victim of a burglary or theft, please contact the police to report either via 999 if the incident has just occurred or 101 if the incident happened previously and the suspects are no longer in the area.

In general, we advise never to do business on your doorstep, or agree to having anyone, do any type of work for you if they have cold called. We get reports of 'traders' knocking at doors, pointing out alleged issues and encouraging home owners to employ them immediately to resolve apparent issues. Most of the time there are no issues and the 'trader' is making it up, or where work might need doing, they are not skilled or qualified to do it, and will grossly overcharge for substandard work.

If you require work doing at home, please consider using these Approved Trader Schemes below. There are many other commercial platform sites who offer ways to find traders, but they do not carry out sufficient checks on the traders or do no checks at all – that includes many schemes that advertise on television.

**Trust Mark** - [www.trustmark.org.uk/find-a-tradesman](http://www.trustmark.org.uk/find-a-tradesman) - 0333 555 1234

**Buy With Confidence** – [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) – 01392 383 430

**Which? Trusted Traders** - <http://trustedtraders.which.co.uk/> - 0117 405 4689

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## Good Time for Gardening – July/August

Phew! It's warm! The crystal ball was so right to get me to write about drought tolerant plants last time.



Try to water early in the morning or later in the evening to give the water 'after time' to be absorbed rather than evaporating in the heat of the day. If you are out in the garden during the day, remember to keep hydrated, wear a hat and some protection against sun burn ... it's very easy to get burnt on the tips of ears and the back of the neck!!

Moving to late July / August time now. Just a few jobs to keep us occupied, but it's very important to sit back and enjoy the garden.

- Water camellias and rhododendrons thoroughly as this will help the buds develop for next year's blooms.

- Keep patio containers well-watered and feed fortnightly.
- Dead head regularly to encourage a continuous supply of flowers.
- Cut back herbs, to encourage a new flush of leaves.
- Trim lavender plants after they've finished flowering to keep them compact.
- Water sweetcorn plants regularly and feed with tomato food to get the best cobs.
- Feed tomato plants and remove the lower leaves to encourage air circulation and prevent disease.
- Harvest potatoes as the leaves turn yellow and die back.
- Lift and dry onions, shallots and garlic once the foliage has flopped over and yellowed. Store in onion bags to prevent mould developing.
- Keep harvesting courgettes before they become too big.
- Don't worry if the lawn is looking brown. Any rain will soon turn it green again.
- Keep hedges in shape with a quick trim.
- Scoop floating weed and algae from ponds.
- Keep an eye out for scarlet lily beetles on any lilies – remove and crush any you find. Look for any sticky brown larvae on the underside of leaves.
- Use boiling water as a weed killer on paved areas. Weeds wilt and die within a few days.
- Start to think which bulbs you would like to see in your garden next Spring!!



***Frederick, Cedric and Sunflower Sid***  
**[www.sandersteadhs.org](http://www.sandersteadhs.org)**

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## **Success for our very own Microbrewery, The Golden Ark**

On Tuesday 10 June representatives from CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) presented Maria and Matt Emmett, the proprietors of The Golden Ark, with their Croydon Borough Pub of the Year award 2025.

The Golden Ark was set up in January 2019 by Maria and Matt to give more variety of ales to the local community and to share their interest, enthusiasm and enjoyment through beer in a relaxed environment. They have a range of rotating real ales, craft beers and ciders, as well as a spirits and wine bar. They support local breweries as well as providing

beers from around the world.



Here David Lands, the Chair of the Croydon and Sutton Branch of CAMRA presents the award to Matt, Maria and their two barmen, Ewan and Jonah.

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## **Friends of Selsdon Wood and the SRA Summer Flowers Walk**



On Sunday 22 June a group of 15 met at Selsdon Wood Car Park to be led through Selsdon Wood by volunteer, Michael Jennings. He showed the group many wild plants, including grasses and flowers. He gave both the official names and the comical alternative names. Who would have thought, that we had 'eggs and bacon' and granny's toes' growing in the field areas of the wood. As the fields have not been mown, many wild flowers have found a home there and have attracted many butterflies.

In the photo is a marbled white feeding on a field scabious.

I would recommend the next Friends of Selsdon Wood Walk on Saturday 12 July at 11am when Daniel Bound will be identifying the different butterflies flying about.

**CJ**



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## Triage System

The Selsdon Park Medical Practice has announced that it will be using a triage system for appointments from Tuesday 22 July. They believe that this system will improve their patients' access to their General Practice services. The new system will help them assess patients' requests quickly, allocate appointments based on clinical need, and improve continuity of care.

Hopefully, this will be the end of the 8 o'clock telephone lottery for appointments?

At the Selsdon Medical Park Practice, patients with medical queries and appointment requests are encouraged to use their website, then select appointments and finally select booking a GP appointment. This gives patients access to the online request forms. They promise to respond the same day, allowing those with urgent needs to get prompt appointments.

For those patients who do not have a smartphone or computer access, they can call the practice as normal or visit the surgery. The Reception Team will then help the patient to complete the online form.

All requests will be assessed as soon as possible and in the same way, regardless of how patients have contacted the surgery. The surgery will process all requests in the same way, so no route is quicker than another.

If an appointment is needed, patients will be contacted by phone or sent an SMS text message with a self-book link.

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## SELSDON AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD



We are a friendly group of over 70 members who enjoy meeting each month for talks from interesting speakers and activities. We meet usually on the third Friday of each month in the Community Hall, St. John's Church, Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon from 1.30- 4.00.

Our meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> August will be in the morning, when we will meet between 10.00-12.00 for a Coffee Morning. There will also be a Cake Stall.

During the month there are opportunities for you to join our literary group, drama group, to enjoy crafting or eat with the dining club. We are also able to go on Theatre trips and outing for the day.

Do come and join us!

**Christine Holland 02086574861**

## Local Guided Walks in Selsdon

- **Sunday 6 July at 11am – 100 Years of Selsdon Walk with Councillor Robert Ward**
- **Saturday 12th July at 11am - Butterflies - led by Daniel Bound**



Friends of Selsdon Wood, meet at the Old Farleigh Road Car Park

- **Saturday 19 July - Selsdon Heritage Walks 1, 2 & 3 (10am, 11am, 2pm)**

See the Selsdon Gazette & SRA website for times, meeting points and how to book via 'Eventbrite', but you are welcomed to just turn up on the day.

Selsdon Residents' Association Centenary

- **Wednesday 13th August at 2pm - Mini beast hunt - led by Roger Hawkins** (mainly for 4y+ children with guardians)

Friends of Selsdon Wood, meet at the Old Farleigh Road Car Park

- **Saturday 25th October at 10am - Fungus Hunt - led by the Friends**

Friends of Selsdon Wood, meet at the Old Farleigh Road Car Park

- **A Saturday in October - Autumn Fruits & Fungi – led by Jane McLauchlin**

Participants to be limited to 15 number. Attendance will be managed by 'Eventbrite'.

See FOLW website.

Friends of Littleheath Woods, meet at junction of Queenhill/Littleheath Roads

- **Saturday 15th November at 1pm - Autumn/Winter Tree Appreciation - led by the Friends**

Friends of Selsdon Wood, meet at the Old Farleigh Road Car Park

## Selsdon – A Brief Timeline - Part 1

Any look into the history of Selsdon will be obscured by its geographical situation and changing Governance.

Selsdon / Selesdune / Sellesdun has, for centuries, been overshadowed by its neighbours of Farleigh, Addington and Sanderstead. They can boast fine and ancient Churches which would have been supported by a large congregation. The 'Big House on the Hill', which was nothing more than a small farm for centuries, has been governed by Sanderstead Parish and Croydon. Selsdon was situated in an outlier of the Parish of Croydon (Croydon Crook) surrounded by Addington and Sanderstead Parishes and it was more recently under the control of Coulsdon and Purley Urban District Council before being subsumed by the Croydon Borough in 1928. Human occupation of the area has continued for thousands of years, indeed a local landmark, Croham Hurst, can boast a Bronze Age Barrow:



In the 20<sup>th</sup> century Selsdon was transformed with the explosion of housing in the 1920s. In 1901 the Census records the population of Selsdon at 149. Events shortly after this were facilitated by the two large estates of the area being sold. To the North and West, WW1 delayed the sale of Ballards and Heathfield Estates until 1919 after the death of Charles Goschen in 1915. Howard Houlder, the new owner was then declared bankrupt in 1924. To the South and East, the Selsdon Park Estate of Wickham Noakes comprising some 700 acres with 'mansion, home farm buildings and cottages, cottages on the western side of Addington Road, Selsdon Park Farm and cottages on the eastern side of Addington Road, various woodlands, Elm Farm and cottages in Farleigh and other fields and parcels of lands' were split into lots to be sold at auction, after his death in 1923.





Colorized by Photomagic

A photo attributed to 1908 taken from Addington Road, looking down Old Farleigh Road. The fingerpost on the right has now been replaced by a shiny new post as part of Selsdon's allocation of the Shared Prosperity Fund which was administered by Croydon Council with the help and assistance of your Residents' Association. The narrow lane leading to Farleigh yet to be widened.

In 1922 Richard Costains, a Liverpoolian building company, arrived in Kingswood near Tadworth and set about building detached houses on large plots. It is suggested that in 1924 William Costain was playing golf at Croham Hurst when he was advised that building land to the east was available for sale. Costain and The Walton Heath Land Company bought a large part of the Heathfield Estate for £44,000 in December 1924. In January 1925 Costains applied for planning permission for 146 new houses and new roads to be called Byron, Queenhill and Farley at the junction of Addington and Selsdon Roads. Permission was granted in March 1925. Also, in March 1925 permission was granted to build a road from the then end of Croham Road to the Addington Road. We now know this as Croham Valley / Farley Road. By September 1925 the first houses were completed and occupied. They cost from £450 to £650 and Costains received a Council subsidy of £75 per house. Costains saw opportunities to continue housebuilding in Selsdon. In July 1925, permission was granted for the next phase of Costains development for 208 houses and 4 new roads, Rylandes, Foxearth, Brent and Littleheath and on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1926, 50 owner / occupiers agreed to form the "Association of Owner-Occupiers of the Selsdon Garden Village (aka The Selsdon Residents' Association). On 24<sup>th</sup> July 1926, Selsdon Garden Village was officially opened with a cutting of a ribbon and a procession of dignitaries proceeding up the new and unmade Farley Road from the then end of Croham Road (adjacent to the Croham Hurst Golf Course) to Queenhill Road Playspace, via a perambulation around the new houses, where speeches were made and a birthday cake cut with a silver knife.

### ***Ian Leggatt***

*In Part 2 we will look at previous centuries of occupation of the area taking in Addington, Sanderstead and Farleigh.*

# Early Memories of Selsdon

Valerie Elizabeth Rowe (nee Maynard)

I was born in Birdhurst Nursing Home in 1943 and I lived in a three-bedroom semi-detached house at 15 Littleheath Road where I was brought up. My brother, Peter, was born in 1947. Originally my Aunt Winifred owned the house and my father rented it from her. He later went on to get a mortgage and buy it.

My parents told me that in 1944 my father turned the coal cupboard into a larder where I was put in a drawer on the outside of the house when the doodlebugs were around. In fact, in 1945, a stray doodlebug landed over the road. My mother ran out into the garden with me in her arms. When the doodlebug stopped making its noise, it landed on two semi-detached houses opposite ours and smashed all the glass in the front of our house. Fortunately, no-one was in at the time, as one family was on holiday and the other people were at work.

My mother often took me shopping to the Co-op in Selsdon (where the Wetherspoons now is). I was fascinated by the cashier putting the customer's money into a coin container and there it was taken all around the shop to the cashier's office where it was counted up. Then the container was sent back to the customer with the change.



Also, as a child, I remember Monty's Bakery (where Coughlan's Bakery is now). On Fridays, people would queue up for fresh bread. The queue would stretch up the hill beyond where Iceland now is.

In Selsdon we had an assortment of shops. There were two butchers, three greengrocers, two shoe shops, a fishmonger, two ladies' dress shops, Sainsbury's (where Chartwell Cancer Trust is now), the Tudor Library and three banks. There was Hubbard and Nash where you could buy anything and Buckingham post office up on the parade. Upstairs you could buy school uniform.

We also had Peggy Spencer's school of dancing above the petrol garage (which later moved to the Selsdon Hall). Three married couples that I got to know at the bowling club in Nottingham Road, South Croydon had originally met there.

There was no Ashen Vale, only pig farms there, while Selsdon Vale had dog kennels.

My Father loved to visit Croydon Market and on one occasion I had a



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lovely ride on a donkey through the Kennards arcade.

When I was 5 years old, I was climbing down from an Air-Raid shelter in my friend's back garden and I fell and put my shoulder out. I had to go to the Doctor's for him to put it back into place which was very painful.

Milk was delivered in glass bottles by the milk lorry. As we had no fridge, the milk had to be kept in a bowl of cold water in the summer to prevent it from curdling. In the winter the milk was icy. In the winter of 1950, there was a lot of snow making milk deliveries impossible.

My father told me to go and get the sledge. We walked from Littleheath Road up the Addington Road and along Limpsfield Road to the United Dairies where we were given a whole crate of milk (24 one pint bottles). We kept two pints and then called on our neighbours to give them a pint of milk for which they were very grateful. Afterwards my father helped me build an igloo in the garden as the snow was about 1ft deep.



I always wanted a cat or dog as many of my friends had a pet but I was only allowed a golden hamster which I called Jimmy. One day Jimmy, who was very mischievous, got out of his cage which was in the recess of the dining room. We looked everywhere and discovered that he had fallen behind the unit which my father had made. It had book shelves above and cupboards below. I was not very popular as my father had to take all the books off the shelves and pull the heavy unit out. Another time he disappeared again and after looking everywhere, we eventually found him in the back of the piano covered in dust. I got the blame again for not making sure the cage door was shut.

When I was around seven years old, I had great delight every Saturday morning of going to my Grandma's house in Outram Road, Croydon riding on the cross bar of my father's bicycle where he had attached a seat. I joined St John's girls' choir in 1957 and became friendly with Katherine Sanderson. She invited me to swim in her parents' outdoor pool in what later became the Selsdon Park Hotel but then was privately owned by the family.

I joined St John's Brownie pack in 1950 and then St John's Guide company in 1954. It was great fun going camping under canvas. In 1962 I became St John's Tawny Owl under May Tullet, the Brown Owl. In 1996,

I and 5 other adult helpers took 24 Brownies to Legoland when it first opened. The Brownies loved it and said it was quite an adventure to go by train as they usually went everywhere by car.

In 1959 I joined St John's Amateur Dramatic Society and loved it. I played Little John in Robin Hood and was in a harem in Aladdin.

We moved from Littleheath Road to 28 Langley Oaks which originally overlooked the strawberry fields until they built Ridge Langley in 1961. I went to Selsdon Primary school and then to Riddlesdown which was newly built. After school I went to work in the District Office of the Gas Board and after that I worked in Nestles in Park Lane.

When I got married at St John's in 1966, I had the Brownies as guard of honour and Brenda Webb and Karen Webb as helpers. Our vicar was then the Reverend John Wilmington. Two of my bridesmaids and I had our hair done for the wedding in the ladies' hairdressers in Selsdon called Peggy Doreen. After living in Beckenham for three years, my husband, Wesley, and I moved back to Selsdon and bought the Curate's house at number 91 Addington Road. The Selsdon Medical Practice bought the houses at 93, 95 and 97 and then wanted to buy our house to have the Lloyds pharmacy there. They did us a good turn as we were able to move off the busy main road and into Rawlins Close where we were very happy until my husband died in 2018.

As a carpenter-joiner my husband had been asked by Ann Hill, the founder of Contact, to fit out the original offices which were in a portacabin in the grounds of the Selsdon car park. He fitted units and shelves in the kitchen and also the lounge area where the clients would sit. As it had only just started the number of clients was very small. When the new Sainsburys was built in the carpark, the Contact offices were moved to where they are now.

~~

## **SRA Summer Litter Pick Around Selsdon 21 June**

On the hottest day of the year, a few brave volunteers met at the Selsdon Triangle to pick up litter along and around Selsdon High Street. Apart from the usual plethora of cigarette butts, the volunteers, worryingly, found several canisters of the gas nitrous oxide.

Nitrous oxide is a Class C drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, making possession and sale for recreational purposes a criminal offence. That is the same classification as anabolic steroids and some tranquilisers.

Nitrous oxide is a colourless gas that is inhaled and is commonly used



as a painkiller in medicine and dentistry. When mixed with oxygen, it is known as “gas and air”, which can help reduce pain during childbirth. It is also used in catering, for example, in the production of whipped cream. Many recreational users obtain the gas in small or large metal canisters, release it into a balloon and then inhale the contents. The gas can make people feel relaxed, light-headed or dizzy. Its use soared during the pandemic, becoming one of the most-abused substances, especially by 16 to 24-year-olds.



Nitrous oxide can cause headaches and make some users anxious; too much can cause fainting. Heavy use can lead to a vitamin B12 deficiency which can damage nerves in the spinal cord. The most common early symptoms of neurological damage are a tingling sensation and numbness in the hands or feet. Other symptoms which have been linked to its use include stiff muscles, weak limbs, bladder or bowel complaints and sexual dysfunction.

*Thanks to Andrew Baxter for organising this event.*

~~

## Dehydration



When did you last have a decent drink of water? We all know we should down more H<sub>2</sub>O, yet in the UK the average person sips less than half the recommended six to eight glasses a day. This doesn't just leave us feeling parched, it can put us at risk of dehydration and long-term health issues.

Water is essential for life and plays a vital role in nearly every body process. It helps regulate your temperature, transport nutrients, remove waste and lubricate your joints. Proper hydration aids digestion, supports kidney and heart health, and enhances physical performance. The human body is around 60 per cent water, but we constantly lose fluid – about 2 to 2.5 litres a day – through our sweat, urine, stools and

breath. Replacing that fluid regularly is crucial. In hot weather, dehydration can escalate quickly, potentially leading to collapse or even death. The risk rises if you're older, taking multiple medications or have sickness and diarrhoea. Dehydration is one of the most common reasons for A&E admissions in the elderly.

The six signs you're not drinking enough water

### **1. You're thirsty**

Feeling parched? You're already mildly dehydrated.

Once you've lost two per cent of your body weight in fluid (1.4 litres for a 70kg person), it triggers receptors in the brain which make you feel thirsty. Mild dehydration can happen easily if you're out in the sun or working in a warm office and not drinking much. You lose quite a lot of water through your sweat, especially if you're not acclimatised. At this point, dehydration is easily reversed by drinking fluids.

If you replace the water you've lost, you'll feel better immediately.

Our sense of thirst declines with age, so sipping water throughout the day is advisable.

### **2 Your urine is darker**

Check the colour of your urine. If it's honey coloured, you need to drink more. If it's darker brown, you may be seriously dehydrated. Once thirst occurs, your body starts holding on to water. Your kidneys send less water to the bladder, making your urine more concentrated" This is a major risk factor for kidney stones.

If you don't drink enough, your kidneys have to work really hard and this raises your risk of certain diseases, including urinary tract infections, especially if you're a woman. Kidney function declines with age, making dehydration more likely, so keeping an eye on your urine output is advisable, particularly for the elderly. Ideally, you'll be passing urine about seven times a day, and it should be transparent yellow.

### **3. You've got brain fog**

The brain is 73 per cent water so your brain cells can struggle to function once you're dehydrated. Even a low level of dehydration can reduce cognitive skills such as memory, attention and motor coordination. This may affect your performance whether you're working in an office, driving your car or deciding if it's safe to cross the road.

### **4. Headaches**

Dehydration is a common trigger for headaches. As fluid leaves your

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brain, it can put pressure on the pain receptors and nerves in the brain's lining. The pain can worsen when you bend and turn your head or move around. Most dehydration headaches improve within an hour or two, once you've rehydrated and rested. Stay out of the sun and try putting a cool compress on your forehead. A dehydration headache can turn into migraine, so the advice is to drink fluids even if you feel nauseous – small sips are best.



## 5. You're tired and listless

Dehydration is behind one in ten GP consultations for fatigue, according to a study of 300 GPs by the Natural Source Water Association. Regularly sipping water keeps your body and brain energised, especially if you're active. During hot weather, you can lose 1.5 to 2 litres of water an hour through sweat whether you're hiking or playing a round of golf. If you don't replace these fluids, your blood thickens, and your heart has to work harder to maintain your blood pressure and oxygen levels.

## 6. You feel dizzy and faint

Once you've lost four per cent of your bodyweight in fluid, sweating becomes difficult and your temperature rises, putting you at risk of overheating. Blood pressure drops, and you can become dizzy or faint. This is "moderate dehydration" and you should seek medical advice. Oral electrolyte solutions can help but sometimes an IV drip is needed. Without treatment, dehydration can progress to "severe" (a 7 per cent loss of bodyweight) within 24 hours. It's now a medical emergency. The body reduces blood flow to non-vital organs, like your kidneys. Cellular waste builds up, organ damage can occur and, without intervention, you may eventually suffer seizures or collapse. Multi-organ failure, coma and even death can follow. Hot weather can accelerate the process, so always carry water and seek shade if you feel tired or light-headed.

CJ

~~

## Quiz about Canada



*July 1<sup>st</sup> is the National Day of Canada celebrating the date in 1867 of the Constitution Act. How much do you know about Canada and famous Canadians?*

1. How many oceans border Canada?

2. How many provinces make up Canada ?
3. Name Canada's largest city.
4. How many Great Lakes are there ?
5. Name Canada's most western province.
6. Name Canada's highest mountain.
7. What do we call the people who inhabit Canada's far north?
8. Which animal is Canada's national emblem ?
9. Trudeau International Airport is in which city ?
10. How Many Points Does The Maple Leaf On The Flag Have?
11. Who is the Canadian singer known for hits like "My Heart Will Go On" and "All by Myself"?
12. Which Canadian actor famously played the role of Marty McFly in the Back to the Future trilogy?
13. What is the name of the Canadian rock band known for songs like "Sweet Child O' Mine" and "Walk This Way"?
14. Which Canadian musician is known for their distinctive voice and songs like "Hallelujah" and "Suzanne"?
15. Which Canadian actor is best known for his portrayal of James T. Kirk in the Star Trek franchise?

### Answers after the Nature Notes

~~



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.

~~

*Here Denis, a long term resident of Farley Road, responds to Ian Leggatt's article about the construction of the houses built by Costains along Farley Road.*

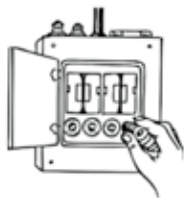
Dear Editor,

I read with interest the recent article about the construction of the houses in Farley Road. I thought you may like to add my recollections.



We moved into Farley Road in 1947 during one of the worst winter weathers experienced. My father had just remarried so we moved from very pleasant Lee in SE London, then with rose nurseries to the front and back of us, to Selsdon with all its surrounding woodland which I really appreciated.

The house in Farley Road still had its original kitchen cabinet, and a gas wash boiler in the kitchen together with a radiation cooker. Remnants of the gas boiler are still visible from a cemented flue outlet in the outside wall, and a bracket just above to secure the short vertical flue. Supplied with this were two clothes posts and an adjustable prop. Fitted as an option, was a Haliday gas heater to provide hot water; this unit was quite compact and fitted to the water pipes above the coke boiler. I believe Haliday were manufacturers in Croydon. The kitchen cabinet was later given to 'The Shop Museum' in Battle. Many garden fence posts had been cut from rail lines, part of the temporary builders' railway. Although we no longer live in that house, we still retain one clothes post and the adjustable prop. Admittedly, the prop has had a few repairs, solely to the rusted metal part, the wood parts have been machine grooved, still as the original.



Electrical wiring was vulcanised rubber, cotton covered, all in 3/4" steel conduit, with rewirable fuses alongside the meter. Adjacent to this was a low voltage transformer for supplying 6 volts to the front door bell push; our current house, again in Farley Road, still has this and, although the front door replacement company were doing their best to disconnect

it, I intervened in time. Mains sockets were scarce and not in all rooms, and were of the three round pin type, either 5 or 15 amp capacity. The 15 amp sockets dealt with a 3kW fire better than the later flat pins of today.

Unusual for 1929, the internal plumbing was all copper. Above the coke water heater, on the landing was the hot water tank, then above that in the loft was the cold water tank. The flues from the coke boiler and the adjacent back room ran together, which gave surplus heat to that part of the house, water freezing almost unknown.

#### *Ian Leggatt's response*

*The copper water pipes, referred to, was one of Costains' better ideas. Lead piping was the norm at the time but heavy and difficult to install, partly because of its weight and lack of rigidity. Joints and connections could be made almost anywhere that there was space to 'wipe a joint', which involved molten lead being used!*

*I think lead poisoning was not the real driver to go to copper pipe work, more its lightness and inherent strength. Also lead work was a very skilled operation whereas the installation of copper pipework was also skilled but arguably less so.*

~~

Here are two letters from residents highlighting the unexpected consequences of other people's well intentioned actions.

Dear Editor,

Unfortunately, there has been sightings of rats in the neighbourhood of Upper Selsdon Road. Croydon Council have been notified and they have been treating the areas where they have been seen. This is between the Langley Oaks Nursing home and downhill from there in various locations. The reason I am writing is to politely request that people desist from putting food out for wild life because this attracts the rats!

Rats generally carry around 22 viruses, some of which can be transferred to humans and pets. They can cause serious illness. Whilst the Council is doing everything, they can to combat this problem, they are concerned about people still putting out food in their gardens.

Most animals know to hunt for food they lose that ability if we feed them. I had the misfortune of seeing one of the rats on the loose it was the size of a cat!

Please can you support this polite request.

*Name and address supplied*

Dear Editor,

I live on Abbey Road and we are finding ourselves overrun by foxes. There is a person on this road who feeds the foxes fresh chicken, at least twice a day. The rest of us have to put up with foxes rooting around our gardens, destroying plants and beds, rifling through our bins, making mess, scenting and defecating everywhere. They get far too close to humans and show no fear. What can be done when a person will not listen to reason and it is affecting a whole neighbourhood?

*Name and address supplied*



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**Farleigh House Farm, Farleigh Common CR6 9PE**

This letter cheered me up when I received it.

Dear Editor,

I would like to give a big thank you to the very kind optician and receptionist at The Optician in Selsdon. A friend of mine recently became disorientated after getting off the bus from Croydon with her shopping. She was invited to sit in the shop until she felt better then they kindly organised and paid for a cab to take her the short distance to her home.



*Name and address supplied*

~~

Here our regular contributor, Jessica Blake, turns her attention to gardening and the sense of well-being it can engender.

### **Summer is here – Yippee!**

This beautiful Summer sunshine is shining on gardens, parks, green areas and through our windows, and it is lifting our spirits, after yet another bout of horrible news. Yes, we know evil things happen and bad news sells newspapers, but I haven't watched BBC News for several years, except for the memorials to celebrate the ending of WW2, the Trooping of the Colour and the Fireworks on New Year's Eve.

There is a wonderful sense of peace, which grows the longer one is outside. It can be hard work processing a garden, but even a plant growing on a window sill can distract the mind. Public parks here, are now kept in beautiful order, many by volunteers to whom we are all grateful.



Our garden is at present studded with pots of geraniums. They seem to thrive on being a little thirsty. The peonies are brilliant this year, but came out earlier than normal, as did the irises. We are on a notification list for when the peonies bloom each year at Penshurst Place. If you do visit, it is also possible to walk a six mile hike around the Estate, ending up in their highly recommended, cafeteria.

An elderly neighbour, always had a garden full of blooms. He had a list of plants that could grow well in dry conditions. I wish I could find my copy

of his list. I know irises were on it, but they do not seem to bloom for long, however they do come in some marvellous colour combinations and not just the famous purple/yellow. This year we spend more time watering than weeding, not by hosepipe but by good old fashioned watering cans as that way we only water the plants, and it does cost less too. The birds, foxes and squirrels seem very “at home” as they run around our garden. They even just accept that we are here too.

Well, I’ve looked up on the internet “plants which like a drier soil”. It is an enormously long list, so the following list is just a small selection from it. Agapanthus, Hardy Geranium, Aster, Lavender, Eryngium, Campanula, Astilbe Bressingham Beauty, Orange Azelia, Scottish Heather, Fuchsias, Petunias. These few plant names also have photos printed beside them. You can even order these plants on the internet, or by taking a lovely trip to your local gardening centre.

~~

## Poetry Corner

After all the hot weather that we have had this year, Mary Gill welcomes the effect of a good storm

### REFRESHED

Suddenly - rain falls - as the compassionate sky  
spills its tears onto the parched land.  
A shrivelled world feels its prayers finally answered -  
the cracked dirt can scarcely take it in.  
Wilted flowers flirt – aroused by the moisture.  
Dry, dying plants offer silent thanks.



Fawn lawns stretch out in anticipation  
as the long-promised rain finally arrives.  
Dusty drops of water trickle from the gutters.  
Rain drops - like silver coins -tumble from the slate grey sky while the sun  
hides behind the cloud-borne resurrection.

Dragon-flies dance above the small garden pond,  
mirroring the skipping splashes on its surface.

As the forecast forewarned - thunderous storms are brewing -  
flashes of lightning - torrential rain.  
Exhilarated by the excitement of the storm,  
we stand exultant at the window.



~~

Here Ted considers how different animals see.

## **Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Eyes**

You have probably seen a plate camera where the photographer peers under a cloth to see an image on a screen. Imagine a tree being photographed – light from the top of the tree passes in a straight line through the lens and hits the bottom of the screen, and similarly the base of the tree produces an image at the top of the screen. The image is upside down. This is exactly what happens in the human eye but the brain interprets the signal so that we see things the right way up. The brains of many other creatures do the same sort of manipulation of the optical signal. In the human eye the retina (the screen) is covered in cells of four types – rods which do not deal with colour but do respond in low light conditions, and three kinds of cones which respond to all colours of light but have a peak response to one of red, green or blue. The combination of these signals enables the brain to give us a picture of the scene we are examining. For other creatures the conditions can be quite different. For example, the Tawny Owl hunts at night when colour vision would not be helpful, so its retina has an abundance of rods which give it night vision which is many times better than that of a human.



For diurnal (day-flying) birds the retinas have in addition a fourth cone-type which has a maximum response in the ultraviolet so that they are able to see details which are invisible to humans. A male Blue Tit, for example, has a bright cap in ultraviolet which does not occur in the female, so they are easily able to distinguish between the sexes when they look identical to us.

Field Voles wandering through grass tend to mark their route by depositing urine at intervals and a Kestrel hovering above can see this trail since it reflects ultraviolet. In addition, the cones in birds' eyes contain an oil

drop which enhances their visual acuity and enables them to distinguish between two colours which are only slightly different. This probably helps them to detect illness or lack of condition in potential partners. Mammals do not have this vision enhancing facility.

On coral reefs' Mantis Shrimps have 12 types of colour vision cells, of which 4 cover ultraviolet signals while the remaining 8 cover the usual visible-light spectrum. Unlike human and bird vision which can see a huge range of colours, it is thought that each of the Mantis cells responds to a single colour, so it can see 12 distinct colours, but what its brain does with these 12 colour signals is not known.

Dragonflies have three “normal” eyes called ocelli which respond very quickly to detect motion of their prey. In addition, their remaining optics are provided by 30,000 lenses (ommatidia) spread over their main eyes which also have at least 11 types of colour cones. The acute vision enables them to detect and respond rapidly to even very small flying insects.



Most spiders have 8 eyes arranged in two rows. Their vision is relatively blurred with the exceptions of the jumping spiders and wolf spiders whose ability to focus on their target allows them to get close enough to pounce. There are plenty of other eyesight facts to find out about including the ability to perceive polarised light (such as light bouncing off a water surface), and some creatures employing a tapetum (light-reflecting layer in the eye) which sends light back through the eye to double the signal – as seen in the glowing eyes of a cat. Then there is the ability to sense magnetic fields, sometimes attributed to cytochrome in the eyes of migrating birds.

~~

## Answers to the Quiz about Canada

- 1        3 - Atlantic, Pacific and Arctic
- 2        10
- 3        Toronto
- 4        5
- 5        British Columbia
- 6        Mt. Logan
- 7        Inuit

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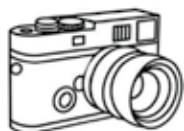
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- 8 Beaver
- 9 Montreal
- 10 Our flag has 11 points
- 11 Celine Dion
- 12 Michael J. Fox
- 13 Guns N' Roses
- 14 Leonard Cohen
- 15 William Shatner

~~

## SRA 100<sup>th</sup> Year Photo Competition

As part of the 100<sup>th</sup> year of the Selsdon Residents' Association celebrations, we are running a photo competition. We would like to receive your photos of 'Views of Selsdon'. These can be past or present photos of living in Selsdon.



So, get out your cameras or phones and get snapping or look through your old snaps taken in Selsdon. **The closing date is 31 August** so we get a range of photos in the different seasons.

Please send your photos, in electronic format to Chris Jones by email to [selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com) with your name, age if under 18, title of your photo and details of where and when it was taken.

~~

## The Selsdon Community Clubhouse

At the heart of Selsdon, we are more than just a day centre – we are a place of connection, care, and companionship. Our mission is to provide a welcoming, safe, and supportive environment where individuals can feel valued, engaged, and empowered.

We operate as a self-financing charity, with some support from the Lottery Foundation and are affiliated with numerous charities in the Croydon borough who provide advice and resources to help us deliver the best service possible to the community.



The Clubhouse offers a sense of community through shared meals, creative activities, friendly conversations or simply being present. We aim to make every moment meaningful. It is a space where people come together to laugh and support one another – it is a place where everyone belongs.

Please pop in anytime Monday to Friday and chat to Liz or Susan and see the bright, large and welcoming space that we offer to both our clients and individuals/organisations who want to make use of our facilities. Please feel free to call 0208 651 1111 or telephone 07375 840737 for further information.

## **Selsdon Tennis Club Brings Pickleball to the Community!**

**Free Trial Sessions Open to All Ages**

Selsdon Tennis Club (STC) is proud to become the first club in Selsdon to introduce the exciting and fast-growing sport of pickleball to its list of member activities.



Already booming in popularity across the UK and internationally, pickleball is a fun, sociable and easy-to-learn sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis. Played on a smaller court with a paddle and a plastic ball, it's perfect for players of all ages and

skill levels, from complete beginners to seasoned racquet sport enthusiasts. Sessions will be tailored to beginners of all ages, and equipment will be provided. Whether you are a junior, adult or senior, everyone is welcome to come along and give it a go. Further details and to sign up for the free trial session, please contact the club by [email info@selsdontenniscub.com](mailto:info@selsdontenniscub.com) or phone Hamid on 07958 069111 or Jeff on 07956 829842.

~~

## **Story Garden Adventures in Gardens and the Great Outdoors**

**When:** Saturday 5 July until Saturday 13 September 2025

**Audience:** Aimed at children aged 4+

Croydon Libraries, in partnership with The Reading Agency, is excited

to share the theme for the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge: Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors. This fun theme will inspire children to dive into a world of imagination through reading. The Summer Reading Challenge is free and will take place in all Croydon Libraries from Saturday 5 July. Children who join ‘Story Garden’ can read new books and take part in free activities, exploring the connection between storytelling and nature.

This year’s challenge features artwork by award-winning illustrator Dapo Adeola. His incredible illustrations bring the ‘Story Garden’ to life filled with magical creatures, plants, and flowers to spark children’s imaginations.

### How to Complete the Challenge

Children across the borough, aged 4+, are invited to visit their local Croydon library to sign up to Story Garden and complete the Challenge by reading six books.

All children who complete the challenge will receive a medal, certificate and be entered into the prize draw!

Prizes include:

- a tour of Selhurst Park
- family ticket to Godstone Farm
- a cinema voucher

~~

## Fancy a holiday without going away? Join us at ‘Holiday at Home’

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~~



**Sanderstead  
& Selsdon**

### **What's up Next ?**

**Hobby Fair** – 13<sup>th</sup> September - St John's Community Hall

Once again, we invite local groups & organisations to come along & promote what they do and to sign up new members. So don't miss out, come along on the day, have a cuppa, and meet new folks & new hobbies.

**Sanderstead Community Day** – 27<sup>th</sup> September 11am – 4.30pm –  
Sanderstead Recreation Ground

Fantastic variety of stalls, food & drink, entertainment. Don't miss out, come along & enjoy the day. To book a stall please email [sandersteadcommunityday2023@gmail.com](mailto:sandersteadcommunityday2023@gmail.com)

**Craft Fair** – 15<sup>th</sup> November - All Saints Church Hall, Sanderstead

Come along & enjoy the variety of stalls & crafts, & have a cuppa & a burger or some cake.

**Please get in touch – 07774 186792**

**Secretary@rotarysandersteadandselsdon.com**



# MEET THE TEAM



**Ian Hubbard**  
DIRECTOR

Ian prides himself in delivering exceptional customer service to his clients and is very hands on with the day-to-day activities within the office. As a local resident, Ian is both passionate and knowledgeable about the area and its surroundings.



**Elaine Torlot**  
DIRECTOR

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**Simon Amon**  
SALES MANAGER

Simon has over 30 years experience in the industry having managed numerous branches and has gained a wealth of experience, most of which is as a valuer although he can turn his hand to anything that presents itself within the moving process.



**Steve Smith**  
SALES CONSULTANT

Steve is a local resident and started his career in Estate Agency in the early 1980's and has extensive experience in residential and commercial sales and lettings.



**Kim Mitchell-Gears**  
DIRECTORS PA  
& OFFICE MANAGER

Kim has a passion for property and has a wealth of knowledge in the property market having worked in every aspect of property for in excess of 20 years.



**Patricia Realls**  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Pat has an abundance of experience and knowledge in estate agency having worked in the industry for over 30 years. Pat has worked for Hubbard Torlot since they opened their doors in 2011.



**Lucy Barretto**  
SALES PROGRESSOR

Lucy commenced her career in property 4 years ago with a keen interest in property. Lucy enjoys sale progression in trying to succeed with every challenge that may unfold throughout the moving process.



**Fiona Martin**  
NEGOTIATOR & HOME VIEWER

Fiona grew up locally and has a strong customer service background. In particular, in relocations and residential lettings.



**Amy Peto**  
JUNIOR SALES NEGOTIATOR

Amy has always had an interest in property and people. Amy brings with her immense enthusiasm, attention to detail, is methodical and always goes above and beyond whenever possible.



**Louis Lam**  
JUNIOR SALES  
NEGOTIATOR

Louis is our newest recruit and has joined Hubbard Torlot as a Junior Negotiator. Louis has a true passion for property and helping applicants find their new home.



**Aviniya Bloomfield**  
WEEKEND /  
PART TIME ASSISTANT

Aviniya is currently an undergraduate student at the university of Warwick. Aviniya has always had an interest in real estate which led her to completing her work experience and securing a position at Hubbard Torlot.

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## CHURCHES

|                                      |               |               |
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| St John the Divine (C of E)          | Parish Office | 020 8657 2343 |
| Selsdon Baptist Church               | Office        | 020 8651 4308 |
| St Columba's (Roman Catholic)        |               | 020 8657 3747 |
| St Francis (Church of England)       | Monks Hill    | 020 8657 7864 |
| Croydon Jubilee Church               | Office        | 020 8651 2807 |
| Forestdale Church, Forestdale School |               | 0777 255 9797 |
| Selsdon Christian Fellowship         |               | 020 8668 9779 |
| Church of Jesus Christ of LDS        |               | 020 8651 2211 |

## DOCTORS & EMERGENCY CARE

|                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Farley Road Medical Practice      | 020 8651 1222 |
| Queenhill Medical Practice        | 020 8651 1141 |
| Selsdon Park Medical Practice     | 020 8657 0067 |
| Croydon University Hospital       | 020 8401 3000 |
| New Addington Minor Injuries Unit | 020 8251 7225 |
| Purley War Memorial Hospital      | 020 8401 3515 |

## POLICE

Selsdon & Addington Village: [SelsdonandAddingtonVillage@met.police.uk](mailto:SelsdonandAddingtonVillage@met.police.uk)  
 Selsdon Vale & Forestdale: [SelsdonandForestdale@metpolice.uk](mailto:SelsdonandForestdale@metpolice.uk)

## CLUBS, GROUPS & CHARITIES

|                                                             |                   |                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CONTACT (Neighbourhood Care)                                | Jasmine Singh     | 020 8651 4944                                                                                        |
| The Selsdon Centre                                          | Liz O'Donoghue    | 020 8651 1111                                                                                        |
| Croydon Hearing Resource Centre                             | Office            | 020 8686 0049                                                                                        |
| Croydon Vision                                              |                   | 020 8668 2486                                                                                        |
| Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline                             |                   | 080 8808 1677                                                                                        |
| Friends of Littleheath Woods                                | Ian Leggatt       | via <a href="http://www.folw.co.uk">www.folw.co.uk</a>                                               |
| Friends of Selsdon Wood                                     |                   | <a href="http://www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk">www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk</a>                   |
| Sanderstead Plantation Partners                             |                   | <a href="mailto:michaellishmund@gmail.com">michaellishmund@gmail.com</a>                             |
| Friends of Kingswood                                        |                   | <a href="mailto:www.friendsofkingswood@hotmail.co.uk">www.friendsofkingswood@hotmail.co.uk</a>       |
| Girlguiding (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Section)   |                   | 0800 999 2016                                                                                        |
| 1st Selsdon & Addington Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts) |                   | <a href="http://https://girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved">https://girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved</a> |
|                                                             |                   | <a href="http://www.1stselsdonscouts.org.uk">www.1stselsdonscouts.org.uk</a>                         |
| 5th Selsdon & Addington Scout Group                         |                   | <a href="mailto:glv@5thsandascouts.org">glv@5thsandascouts.org</a>                                   |
| Croham Valley Explorer Scout Unit                           | Christopher Dean  | <a href="mailto:tinkerscorner@aol.com">tinkerscorner@aol.com</a>                                     |
| Arts Society Croydon Area                                   | Jean Aarons       | <a href="https://tascroydonarea.org.uk">https://tascroydonarea.org.uk</a>                            |
| Parkinson's UK Croydon & District Branch                    | Mike Bond         | 07704 413668                                                                                         |
| Rotary Sanderstead & Selsdon                                | Wendy Parr        | 07774 186792                                                                                         |
| RSPB Croydon Local Group                                    | John Davis        | 020 8640 4578                                                                                        |
| Selsdon Art Group                                           | Fiona Hooper      | 07973 412952                                                                                         |
| Selsdon Bridge Club                                         | Bob Steadman      | 07545 384899                                                                                         |
| Selsdon Centre Bridge Club                                  | Betty Borfiga     | 020 8656 4212                                                                                        |
| Selsdon Community Hall                                      | Cottie Campbell   | <a href="mailto:selsdonhall.info@gmail.com">selsdonhall.info@gmail.com</a>                           |
| Selsdon Flower Club                                         | Maureen Browning  | 020 8651 5821                                                                                        |
| Selsdon Townswomen's Guild(pm)                              | Christine Holland | 020 8657 4861                                                                                        |
| Sanderstead Horticultural Society                           |                   | <a href="http://www.sandersteadhs.org">www.sandersteadhs.org</a>                                     |
| Sanderstead Local History Group                             |                   | <a href="mailto:sandersteadlh@gmail.com">sandersteadlh@gmail.com</a>                                 |
| Selsdon Tennis Club                                         | Jeff Pullen       | 079568 29842                                                                                         |
| St John's Wives                                             | Jane Guglielmi    | 020 8657 6672                                                                                        |
| 66(Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps                     | Rob Cleeter       | 020 8651 5958                                                                                        |

# SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**STANDING ORDER (Annual Payment – repeat payments due on 1<sup>st</sup> June)**

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**Sort Code 20 - 24 - 61**

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**Branch Address .....**

**Your A/C Name .....**

**Your A/C Number ..... Sort Code .....**

**Reference: .....**

*Please use the first line of your address for the reference*

We need this so that we can record your subscription knowing that you are a Selsdon Resident and so entitled to be a member of this Residents' Association

## General Data Protect Regulation 2018

The SRA will electronically store the personal information obtained from this SO, so we have a record of your bona fide membership. We respect your right to privacy and will not share, sell or profile your personal data.

You may contact the SRA at [mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com](mailto:mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com) at any time to request a copy of your personal information that we hold electronically and, at your request, we will amend or delete that information. Deletion will mean that we will no longer contact

☐ you. **Please tick this box to give us your permission to retain your personal details for our records.**

**Please pay the Selsdon Residents' Association now and on 1st June annually until further notice from me, the sum of**

£ 5.00      Annual Subscription

£..... Optional additional annual donation for Christmas Lights

**£..... Total**

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