



# The Selsdon — Gazette —

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July 2021

# THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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**Front cover image credit:** 'Professor Chris Whitty', the Quail Gardens winner of the SRA Cheerful Scarecrow Competition.

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

Cllr Helen Pollard Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk 07941 573727

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Editor's Note

Welcome to the July edition of the Selsdon Gazette which includes lots of features about getting involved with our environment, whether it is planting trees or making the most of our gardens, both front and back. If gardening is not your forte there are several calls for more much needed volunteers to help in the community from Selsdon Contact, the Girl Guides and the Selsdon Centre for the Retired. Finally, some pupils from Selsdon Primary School outline some ways we can all follow to combat climate change.

Our front cover shows the winner of our Cheerful Scarecrow Competition, Professor Whitty of Quail Gardens. Details and photos of all the entries are to be found in this gazette but I am sure that you have already spotted some of them around Selsdon.

As there is no edition of the Gazette in August, we have the most up to date news of the Community Day in Selsdon Woods at the beginning of September. Please put the date of 5 September in your diaries and hope for good weather! With the postponed Olympics, Tokyo 2020, beginning in July you can test your knowledge of this event with our easy quiz this month to celebrate the competition (23 July - 8 August). Des O'Donohoe finishes his bike ride along the Viking Trail, Mary Gill gives us a poem for World Chocolate Day and Ted's Nature Notes looks at Bush Crickets.

I hope that you enjoy your read, keep safe and I do look forward to hearing from you! (email at [selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)) .

Have a good summer!

**Chris Jones**

✎ SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION  
SHOULD BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN  
20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST - PREFERABLY BEFORE! ✎



## **SRA NEWS ‘n’ VIEWS**

### **Police Report**

The crime figures make for very good reading for the last quarter to June but the police still urge you to report any crime.

### **Scarecrows in Selsdon**

A big ‘thank you’ to all who took part and to the winner on the front cover. Maybe we can have even more entries next year for the Queen’s special year??

### **Croydon Libraries Public Consultation**

The good news that all Croydon libraries would remain open was very welcome. The Council is now beginning a second phase of consultation on proposed changes to the service. They want to hear your views on how they make the £500,000 savings target which was agreed at the last council’s cabinet meeting.

- Reduce service hours by 21% across the borough
- Outsource all libraries
- Hybrid-reduce service hours (by two days a week) to 8 libraries and 5 community run libraries.

More details plus the survey can be found at <https://getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/project/695> .

A paper copy can be requested from your library. The online survey ends at midnight 26<sup>th</sup> July and paper copies must be returned by 21<sup>st</sup> July. We urge you take part in this to help shape our library service of the future.

### **Subscription envelopes**

A quick reminder to say it is never too late to fill in the envelope that was in last month’s Gazette or return the bank form or pay online.

Wishing you all a good summer!

***Sheila Childs, SRA Chair***

## **COUNCILLOR'S NOTES**

### **HOW DID CROYDON COUNCIL BUILD UP A DEBT OF OVER £1.5BILLION?**

Here's a report from Cllr Robert Ward on his attempts to get information about how the Council has arrived at a position where it is effectively bankrupt.

*It may come as a surprise to residents, but as an opposition councillor, even one who sits on the Scrutiny and Overview committee, I have little access to information beyond what I had as a resident. It is not for the lack of trying. Freedom of Information requests are routinely denied or given a limited answer. Information requests were routinely ignored. What is now disturbing is that little has changed in the last year. I could even argue that it has got worse.*

*Two recent examples are the Access to Information protocol recently put before the Ethics Committee, and the response to the call-in of a decision related to Brick-by-Brick.*

*I have requested an access to information process for some time. Yet instead of a process to facilitate access, this proposal was designed to prevent it. It placed demands on councillors to justify their 'need to know' but put no demand on officers to deliver. The former regime, under the Labour Council Leader, Tony Newman, could not have written a document more suited to the secrecy agenda. Mercifully, the Ethics Committee has asked officers to think again, but that such a document could be put forward in the first place is concerning.*

*The call-in for scrutiny of a Brick-by-Brick decision included a list of documents to be provided. The requested documents were indirectly and directly connected to Brick-by-Brick's activities in general and the Fairfield Halls in particular. None were provided. Worse, no written reason was given for this refusal, in contravention of the Statutory Guidance for Scrutiny, Clause 42. I requested that a written justification for this refusal, and for any documents refused from a subsequently submitted list, be provided to the Scrutiny and Overview committee on 15th June 2021.*

*Is it right that the public cannot see these documents? Is it right*

*that I, as an elected representative cannot, or that as a member of a committee whose job it is to scrutinise the Council's activities cannot either? Against the background of the biggest failure of a local authority in more than a century, I do not think it is.*

Cllr Ward, on behalf of Selsdon residents and all Croydon residents, will continue to seek information to get a better understanding of the reasons for the Council's disastrous financial situation. It is only by having a transparent and open approach that the Council can hope to avoid a repeat of the poor decisions that led to the Council tax payer being saddled with huge debts for years to come.

## **TREE PLANTING IN THE SELSDON AREA**

It is 95 years since there was a "vigorous tree planting campaign being undertaken by the residents of Selsdon Garden Village" as Selsdon was then known. We benefit today from the efforts of our predecessors. Now it is our turn.

Trees, especially roadside trees have a limited life. They need to be maintained and some have to be felled when they become dangerous. In normal circumstances they would be replaced, but the Council's financial difficulties mean the five-year tree planting programme for 2018 to 2023 has been postponed indefinitely.

The first three years had concentrated on those wards in the north of the borough, where the level of pollution is high and tree canopy cover is lower than here in the south of the Borough. The plan for years four and five was to concentrate on wards located in the south of the Borough, including the Selsdon area. This will now not happen.

There are some external grant opportunities so it is possible some tree planting can still be carried out in the Borough but not on such a large scale as in previous years. There is a risk that what money is sourced will again be spent elsewhere in the borough.

Right now, the only expenditure allowed on trees is on safety grounds. Any that are dangerous will be cut down, but that is about it. Even a tree that has been cut down may not be removed if it is safe and does not cause an obstruction. One piece of work that it is hoped will take place is to survey the 'tree pits',



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the roadside locations where trees have been planted. This will identify how many are empty and need replacement. It may be some time before that happens if we rely on the Council.

It would be great if we could create new tree pits, but these are even more expensive than replacing lost trees in current tree pits. It is very unlikely that the Council will do this in any circumstances, even if we lose tree pits due to the roots of the removed tree being too expensive to remove.

Here is our opportunity to be worthy of our predecessors, whose legacy is the environment that we live in today. If we can raise money, we can get trees planted sooner. The Council has a contract with a provider who will plant the trees for us. But what variety of tree, and where, and how do we raise the money?

There are options: Government bodies like the Mayor of London and others, like the National Lottery or local businesses. Developers contribute to the Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 funds. The Selsdon Community Plan shows what our residents value most highly and is a key supporting document for any application.

This is where we need your help. We will get more trees planted if we have a community group who understand the area, who can gather the information we need, who can identify opportunities to raise money, places to plant trees and enlist the residents themselves, perhaps just to water the fledgling trees so they have a better chance of survival. We may need to fill out applications for funding and gather supporting documents.

Without your help there may be no more trees planted in the Selsdon area for quite a while.

If you would like to help, get more street trees in Selsdon please get in touch via email to [SelsdonCommunityPlan@gmail.com](mailto:SelsdonCommunityPlan@gmail.com).

## **EVENT IN ADDINGTON PARK**

Report from Cllr Helen Pollard.

We have been advised by the Council's licensing team about an event that is planned in Addington Park on 14th and 15th August from 12:00 to 22:00. The Garage Nation event will involve 'Supply of Alcohol, Provision of Films, Live Music, Recorded Music, Performance of

Dance, and Provision of anything of similar description to live music, recorded music or performance of dance.’ The Council is currently deciding whether to provide a licence for this event.

Local residents are understandably concerned about this, so I have raised some questions with the Council. Here are the questions with the Council responses:

- What policing is in place?

*This question would need to be directed to the police. Whilst this has been discussed, the details would need to be disclosed by the Metropolitan Police.*

- What measures have been put in place to prevent criminal activity, and to keep ticket holders and local residents safe?

*There are a number of measures built into the event safety management plan, including the amount of security (both people and physical structures), also searches and other forms of detection. The plan has been reviewed by the Metropolitan Police and the Council’s safety partners.*

- What is the profile of the expected audience? What particular issues are presented by this type of audience?

*The organisers expect a 50/50 gender split with ages ranging from 18 up to 50. The event will operate a strict over 18s policy. The event safety management plan, security plans and other documents have risks and controls identified.*

- How will the organisers prevent people from parking in the local area in places that are not permitted?

*Due to the nature of the event it is expected attendees will make use of public transport. The organisers will ensure that communication to the public clearly states there is no parking available on site or in the immediate area.*

- What measures are in place to ‘make good’ the park after the event?

*Council officers undertake site visits take place before and after the event. The organisers pay a grounds maintenance deposit before the event and should any “repairs” be required this is taken from the deposit.*

- How will local park users be advised of this event?

*Signage will be prominently displayed in the park prior to the event.*

- How will you prevent anti-social behaviour from spilling over into the local area, much of which is a conservation area?

*A post event plan is expected to be in place.*

- What contribution are the organisers making to the Council in return for the use of the park? How much of that will be spent on the park, and making good?

*The organisers pay a hire fee for the use of the park, for this larger scale event we will charge per ticket sold. For this event we are anticipating an income of £16,000.*

*Additionally, as mentioned above there is a grounds maintenance deposit paid and should any “repairs” be required this is taken from the deposit.*

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June the Council is making a decision about whether to grant a licence for this event. If the licence is granted, we hope there is no adverse impact on Selsdon residents.

## **CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS**

We hope to reinstate in-person councillor surgeries soon. In the meantime, 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**

21/02761/HSE – 60 Arkwright Road South Croydon CR2 0LL  
Alterations including erection of a single storey rear extension, two storey side extension and loft conversion including the erection of a rear roof extension and two rooflights to the front roof slope.

21/02932/DISC – 22 Lynne Close, South Croydon CR2 8QA  
Discharge of conditions 3 (materials), 5 (landscaping, SUDS, retaining walls), 7 (lighting, boundary wall, cycle store, EVCP and landing area) and 11 (playspace equipment) attached to planning permission 19/04191/FUL for the demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a three storey building with accommodation in the roofspace, comprising of 9 units with associated landscaping, parking, accesses as well as cycle and refuse storage.

21/02848/FUL – 2 Ravenshead Close, South Croydon CR2 8RL  
Erection of a four-bedroom detached dwelling with associated parking and landscaping

21/02614/LP – 105 Selsdon Park Road, CR2 8JJ  
Alterations, erection of a hip-to-gable roof extension and rear dormer  
(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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*This month we asked Chris Philp to describe his work in Government.*

## **MP Chris Philp's Report**

### **Member of Parliament for Croydon South**



As you may be aware, as well as being the local Member of Parliament, I am also a Justice Minister for the Government. I work closely with Priti Patel in her role as Home Secretary. We have recently been working on important new legislation to protect the public and to ensure that criminals get the sentences they deserve. One recently passed law that I was a part of was the Counter Terrorism and Sentencing Act. In February last year we passed a law that stopped the early release of terrorists, and meant that they would serve at least two-thirds of their sentences. This new legislation goes further. There is now a 14-year minimum sentence for terrorist offences – this means 14 years jail time in all circumstances.

Meanwhile, we are also introducing the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill. This will back our police, introduce tougher sentences, and increase efficiency in our courts. For sentencing, which is my remit as Minister, there will be tougher sentences for violent offenders, rapists and child rapists – all of which will spend at least two-thirds of their sentence in prison. This is instead of the half their sentence as often happens now. Another area that we are tackling is domestic abuse. Non-molestation orders are an important part of stopping domestic abuse, and stopping abusers from being able to contact or threaten their targets. However, previously, non-molestation orders had to be served in person, making it possible for the abuser to hide. We are proposing to change this, so that papers can be served electronically through email, text or Whatsapp.



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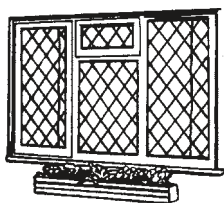
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These are just some of the areas I am currently working on as part of the Government. It is vital we continue to protect the public and ensure that criminals are rightly punished.

**Chris Philp**

Member of Parliament, Croydon South: 020 7219 8026

[chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk)

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**Message from Jack Killian  
(Selsdon and Forestdale Police Ward)  
and Tina Nash  
(Selsdon and Addington Village Police Ward)**

Good News for both police wards as they appear in the top 5 for the lowest crime wards of 2021 in Croydon according to the monthly average of crimes reported to the police.

1. Park Hill and Whitgift – 14
2. Selsdon and Forestdale – 29
3. Old Coulsdon - 33
4. Kenley - 34
5. Selsdon and Addington Village – 37

The ward priorities going forward are:

To reduce violent crime (drug related) across the ward.

To reduce theft from motor vehicle crime across the ward.

To reduce burglaries across the ward.

**News so far for 2021**

In February, UK border force intercepted 4 kilograms of cannabis sent from America to an address in Kingswood Way. A male was arrested for importation of cannabis.

Two bait car operations took place in Selsdon, one in March and one in April. This was to combat catalytic converter theft. No one was arrested for catalytic converter theft during the two operations but we are always looking to target catalytic converter thieves.

In April, a male was arrested for exposure on Selsdon Park Road outside Selsdon Primary School.

As we work closely with our sister wards, Addington North and Addington South, we are a part of Operation Friction. This is mainly to target drug supply entering the New Addington Estate by the means of vehicles. On operation days we have ANPR set up and a stop site on Lodge Lane and we look towards pulling over vehicles that are of interest to police. This can be an array of things such as drugs, no insurance or other criminal matters. The team have been very proactive for the past month with speed gun patrols, focusing on Featherbed Lane and Courtwood Lane. Any suggestions of other roads that we should target are always welcome.

The team have also been trying to patrol roads around schools at pick up and drop off time. At the moment we have been focusing on Courtwood Lane Primary School's parking and speeding issues but will be looking at visiting other primary schools in the future as we're aware that the issues aren't specifically just in Courtwood Lane.

We are now more active on social media and we post what we are up to on a weekly basis. It's a great way of keeping in touch with your local policing team. We use Twitter and Nextdoor. We post when we are on different operations in the area, specific patrols that we complete or warrants that take place on the ward.

During this time of glorious weather please remember to lock all of your doors and windows before you leave your home. Even if you are leaving for a few minutes; it only takes a burglar a few minutes to get in and take your valuables. Ensure car keys are well hidden as burglars like expensive nice cars. **DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM!!**

Stay safe everyone!

***Jack Killian 7114SN***

Police Community Support Officer

Telephone: 020 8721 2464

Email: [SNMailbox-Selsdonand ForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk](mailto:SNMailbox-Selsdonand ForestdaleSNT@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](mailto:Selsdonaddvill@gmail.com)

## Selsdon Cheerful Scarecrow Competition – June 2021

The SRA was delighted that some residents did their bit to help us all smile in June with their scarecrow creations. It was really difficult for us to separate the winners; they were so varied which made it hard to compare them when all the entries had obviously had such an incredible amount of work and creativity put into them.

Professor Whitty's photo is on the front cover as he was the winner.

In joint second place were Mrs Wendy Weedsalot of Old Farleigh Road and Humpty Dumpty of Elm Park Gardens.

For their prize, these three were presented with a pot fuchsia - each generously provided to us at a special rate by Gardencraft.



Sadly, we couldn't give prizes to everyone but we felt that we really still had to give a highly commended grade to Gardener's Rest of Farley Road, Rita the Reluctant Gardener of Cowley Close and Rainbow Ruth of Endsleigh Close.



To the rest of you who took part - please accept a large pat on the back!

Last, but not least, we are grateful for the early appearance of Lola (created by Sanderstead Horticultural Society) on the Triangle to encourage more participation from the residents. There is no room for her photo here – but you will already have seen her on the cover last month if you missed seeing her ‘in the flesh’!

Clockwise from the far left these scarecrows are James from Quail Gardens, Ms Anon from Kersey Drive, SandyPiper from the Greenvale after school Club, Sparkle from Addington Road and Miss Pink (later named Mis Shapen) from Ravenshead Close.



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**Sunday 5 September from 12pm**  
**Friends of Selsdon Wood Open Day**  
**c/w SRA Community BYO Picnic and Fun & Games Afternoon**

The delayed ‘Covid Freedom Day’, we hope, will have no effect on this local event – except to make everyone keener than ever to join it. To date, we have confirmation of the attendance of the RNLI, RSPB and a local greetings card maker so you should get a good choice of cards and gifts from them. There will also be goods for sale from the Woodturners (and others who still have to book their place), quality White Elephant, Book and Tombola stalls to assist you to shop locally and help good causes at the same time. The Guides and Brownies and Friends of Littleheath Woods will also have stalls.



We are hoping hot drinks and snacks will be provided as usual by the Scouts (depending on the Covid rules at the time) to augment your BYO picnic.



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M: +44 7944 7800 34**

There is room for those of you who would like a space for a table or two to sell your own items. We make no charge for the 'pitches' but simply ask for a donation to FSW funds to enable us to repair seats, paths and buy tools needed to do the work the Council relies on us to do to maintain the wood as a pleasant environment for all to enjoy. Please contact FSW to enquire or book your place by sending an email to [selsdonwood@gmail.com](mailto:selsdonwood@gmail.com) or text to 07979 00 2547 and we will then reply to you with more detail of our procedures for a Covid safe pitch.

Please come along to judge the FSW Annual Photo competition – and remember to send your entries to [govierh@gmail.com](mailto:govierh@gmail.com) by 20<sup>th</sup> August. Winners will receive cash prizes of **£50 first, £20 second and £10 third**.

**FSW will offer a short-guided walk (12.15 -13.15pm) and a nature-themed Story time session for the children (14.00-14.30) before the afternoon fun activities (for all ages!) organised by the Selsdon and Sanderstead Rotarians.**

There may be other entertainment too. It might be that the start times of the walk and Storytime will have to change if there are additional events arranged so, please watch the notice boards and social media for details of the programme for the day nearer the time. Additional stall holders will also be advertised in this way.

We hope for good weather - and a good attendance regardless of the colour of the skies and the temperature! Do come along to show the Selsdon community spirit is still thriving!

***Linda Morris pp FSW and SRA***

~~

## **Library Consultation (2<sup>nd</sup> Phase)**

Croydon residents are being urged to have their say on three detailed options put forward by the council to adapt the borough's library service.

The council is consulting on three options around reducing opening hours or working with another organisation so it can continue its borough-wide service while making necessary budget savings.

In response to public feedback from an initial consultation phase, the council has already confirmed it will keep all 13 of its libraries open after rejecting options that would have involved branch closures.



Now the council is asking for local people to have their say on the three remaining options.

Option one would mean all libraries remain in council control and be open two fewer days per week, except the central library that would open five days per week.

Under option two the council would work with an organisation to run all 13 libraries, which could include a charity or social enterprise.

Option three would keep eight libraries in council control and open two fewer days a week. The other five would be leased to community groups, with the council providing some staff two days a week, as well as books and IT support.

To take part in the consultation, [visit the council website \(https://getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/project/695\)](https://getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/project/695) by 26 July.

The first consultation phase from January to March had included proposals to close five of Croydon's libraries with the highest maintenance costs and lowest visitor numbers, but this has now been ruled out. Since this initial consultation, the council has identified external funding to meet these five libraries' repair costs.

"I want to say thank you to everyone who took part in the first consultation phase about our libraries service – we have made some big changes in response to this feedback, and now we want to hear what people think of the remaining three options.

"Whether you took part in the first consultation phase or not, between now and 26 July we want to hear from as many people as we can on these detailed options ahead of a final decision in late summer at Full Council."

***Councillor Oliver Lewis, cabinet member for culture and regeneration***

# NHS Health Check



Did you know that every 5 years people between 40-74, without a pre-existing health condition, can get a free 'Health check' with their GP or local pharmacy? If you are registered with a GP, you should be sent an



invitation. It is a voluntary standardised assessment that takes about 20-30 minutes. As we get older our risk of developing certain conditions increases and this check aims to prevent premature death. Note this is not an in-depth comprehensive check-up.

## How does it work?

You will speak to a Nurse who will ask you questions about your lifestyle and family health history. Your height, weight and blood pressure will be checked and some blood taken. The blood sample will check for signs of heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease and likelihood of stroke. Over 65's will be told about signs and symptoms of dementia. You will be given advice about diet, exercise and offered help to lose weight or stop smoking if appropriate.

## Why should I bother?

It could save your life. You may be unaware that you are at risk. High blood pressure and cholesterol are 'silent' in that they give you no warning signs/symptoms. For example, for every 6-10 people that attend 1 person will be found to be at high risk of cardiovascular disease. For every 30-40 people that attend 1 person will be found to have high blood pressure. For every 80-200 people 1 person will be found to have type 2 diabetes.

## What else do I need to know?

Preparing in advance for the lifestyle questions by actively noticing what you eat, drink and how you exercise will enable you to give a truer reflection. As this is a 'standardised' assessment it will not be an opportunity to discuss other specific health problems that you may have been ignoring or worried about for some time. The health check is designed only to find out what is obvious or what you choose to tell. If you do have health concerns it is better to meet with your GP sooner rather than later.

## Keeping healthy

This free health check is only offered every 5 years but your health

and well-being are your concern every day. There is lots of advice and guidance on health matters on the NHS 'Live well' website. People with learning difficulties can get an annual health check-up.

Also note NHS screening – see their website for more details

- Breast screening - Women in England who are aged from 50 to their 71st birthday and registered with a GP are automatically invited every 3 years. Women over 70 can self-refer.
- Cervical screening - All women and people with a cervix between the ages of 25 and 64 should go for regular cervical screening. You'll get a letter in the post inviting you to make an appointment. Every 3 years for those aged 26 to 49, and every 5 years from the ages of 50 to 64.
- Bowel cancer screening - Everyone aged 60 to 74 is offered a home test kit every 2 years. If you're 75 or over, you can ask for a kit every 2 years by phoning the free bowel cancer screening helpline on 0800 707 60 60.
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) screening - AAA screening is offered to men in their 65th year to detect abdominal aortic aneurysms (a dangerous swelling in the aorta). Men over 65 can self-refer.

**Janet Sharp**

~~

## A Good Time for Gardening – July 2021

This is the month to focus on watering, sowing and flower care. Some specifics to concentrate on ...



Dahlias – these are very thirsty plants. They also need feeding regularly and staking to keep the flower heads upright.

If you've planted new trees, shrubs or perennials this Spring then they will need regular watering to the base of the plant.

Water in the evening as this slows the evaporation process. Keep an eye on hanging baskets as these dry out incredibly quickly, particularly if it's windy.



Fruit trees may be carrying an excessive number of fruits. To get the best at harvest time, remove excess small or damaged fruits to enable the light to get onto the remaining crop. This helps the ripening process and concentrates the trees efforts into the fruits left.



Take cutting from tender perennials, for example fuchsias.

Sow the seeds of foxgloves, sweet William, wallflowers, honesty and forget-me-nots for the plants to bloom next year.

Prune wisteria now it has finished blooming, cutting back the whippy side shoots.

Divide clumps of bearded iris. This gives them time to develop roots before the winter.

Dead head regularly to encourage further blooms rather than the plant putting its efforts into creating seeds.

Capture the seed heads from dandelions etc and carefully dispose of these to prevent them spreading all over your garden.



Pinch out the side shoots of tomatoes each week Cut off any leaves below the lowest ripening truss to aid air circulation.

Feed the plants each week and more frequently if the leaves look pale and yellow.

Cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes and sunflowers will appreciate a high-potash fertiliser.

Feed all citrus trees with a specialist fertiliser.

Peg down the runners on strawberry plants to create more plants for next year, If they're not required cut them off.

Raspberries are shallow rooted so especially welcome being watered in hot, dry weather.



Lawns ... personal choice whether to water or not – grass is incredibly resilient to drought conditions. To cut or not, again personal choice. The sparrows seem to love it when the grass is slightly longer. This also gives the buttercups and clover a chance which the bees adore.



Keep bird baths topped up so the birds can hydrate and keep cool.

Take time to enjoy the beauty of your garden and listen to the birdsong, particularly as dusk falls.

***Frederick, Cedric and Sunflower Sid***

[www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk)

# eldon housing

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## Are you, or someone you know, considering Sheltered Housing?

Eldon Housing Association specialises in the provision of sheltered housing. We welcome enquiries from anyone currently living in the London Borough of Croydon (or with a Croydon connection). Applicants must be over 60 years and in need of sheltered housing (younger applicants who are registered disabled will be considered)

### Our Ordinary Sheltered schemes offer:



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- ❖ social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)
- ❖ laundry facilities

### Our Extra Care schemes offer:

- ❖ 1-bedroom or studio self-contained flats with the benefit of alarm pull cords in all rooms
- ❖ dedicated on-site staff team including House Manager
- ❖ freshly cooked midday meals 7 days a week
- ❖ on-site Carers 24 hours a day
- ❖ domestic and laundry services
- ❖ social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)



If you would like to make an enquiry please contact us on 020 8655 6724, [sjohnson@eldonhousing.co.uk](mailto:sjohnson@eldonhousing.co.uk).

Information is also available from our website – [www.eldonhousing.org](http://www.eldonhousing.org)

## Front gardens – planting, paving and striking a balance

Front gardens help turn our towns and cities into green and pleasant places to be. Yet many are being paved over to provide parking for the millions of cars we own in Great Britain as well as those oversize Council bins! RHS research found that almost a quarter of the front gardens are now completely paved.



Here is a 2021 challenge - Can you add some greenery to your front garden, fences, porch or window sills?

For some ideas and guidance on how you can strike a balance in even the most awkward spaces see [www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?PID=879](http://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?PID=879) for some ideas. In summary:

- Get creative. It is possible to park and garden
- Keep paving to a minimum
- Use permeable paving materials
- Grow plants where you can't park; any dead space
- Provide a home for wildlife with your plants
- Keep dust and pollution on the street with a hedge

Why bother - are green spaces so important?

- Tackling pollution - plants can improve air quality, even reduce noise pollution.
- Dealing with flooding and drought – plants can absorb and store water. Permeable surfaces can also help to soak up water or run it into storm drains/soakaways.
- Managing temperature – plants can provide shade and release water from their leaves
- Help our wildlife
- Help our own health and wellbeing – seeing nature is good for you!
- Improve the 'kerb appeal' of your property

*If you have some success in greening your space, perhaps send in photos to our Editor of your 'before and after' as inspiration to others!*

### **Janet Sharp**

I have found a great website which provides a lot of inspiration and information for people thinking of greening their front garden

<https://frontgardens.nationalparkcity.org/inspiration>

**Contact**  
**Selsdon Community Centre**  
**132 Addington Road**  
**South Croydon, CR2 8LA**  
**Tel: 020 8651 4944**  
**Fax: 020 8657 2268**  
**Email: [info@selsdoncontact.org.uk](mailto:info@selsdoncontact.org.uk)**



## **Volunteer Bus Escorts Required**



For many years, CONTACT has been operating a shopping bus scheme to allow our clients to choose their own shopping at the supermarket, whom otherwise would be dependent on family/friends or neighbours, to shop for them. Following a difficult year of Lockdowns, we have now re-commenced this much needed service.

We accepted delivery of our new bus and this gave an opportunity to re-structure the scheme. A few of the new changes are days/times of the shopping bus trips. In addition, we have put safety measures into place i.e. social distancing, hand sanitisers, antibacterial wipes and disposable face masks on board. We have also introduced a thorough cleaning regime.

To ensure the smooth running of these trips, we would like to add to our fantastic team of Bus Escorts.

Our new days are Tuesdays am & Thursdays pm. The am trip leaves from our office at 9.30am and the pm trips depart at 1pm. The round trip takes approx. 3 hours, as we take the scenic route to Sainsbury's Warlingham!

Duties of the bus escorts include, assisting clients on/off the bus and help around the supermarket, packing at the checkout. Often pushing a client around in a wheelchair. If you prefer, you can meet the Shopping Bus at the store in Warlingham on arrival. The escort duties are carried out on a rota-basis.

So, if you would like to give something back to your community and have a few hours to spare, we would love to meet you.

Either call us on the above number or come and see us. We are based on the lower ground floor of the Selsdon Community Centre, Mondays -Fridays 10am to 3pm.

*Contact: Selsdon Churches Neighbourhood Care      Registered Charity 1124346*  
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## 2020 SUMMER OLYMPICS



The 2020 Summer Olympics, officially the Games of the XXXII Olympiad and also known as Tokyo 2020, is an upcoming international multi-sport event scheduled to be held from 23 July to 8 August 2021

in Tokyo, Japan. Formerly scheduled to take place from 24 July to 9 August 2020, the event was postponed in March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will not allow international spectators. This is the first time that the Olympic Games have been postponed and rescheduled, rather than cancelled.



1. An Olympic gold medal is made mostly of what metal?  
A. Nickel      B. Gold      C. Silver      D. Copper
2. Approximately how many countries compete in the Olympics?  
A. 50      B. 100      C. 200      D. 400
3. Which of these colours is not a colour of one of the rings on the Olympic flag?  
A. Yellow      B. Orange      C. Green      D. Black
4. What organisation serves as the governing body of the Olympics?  
A. IOC      B. CIO      C. OCI      D. OIC
5. How many laps around a standard outdoor athletics track are there for the 10 000m race?  
A. 10      B. 15      C. 20      D. 25
6. What is the opening event in the women's heptathlon?  
A. 200m      B. Long jump      C. High jump      D. 100m hurdles
7. Why is the marathon 26 miles 385 yards long?  
A. The Greek messenger Pheidippides died after running that distance.  
B. It is the distance between Athens and Olympia.  
C. A British queen demanded that the race ended beneath the royal box.  
D. It is the height of Mount Olympus.

8. What is the Olympic motto?

- A. Man's reach exceeds his grasp.
- B. Faster, higher, stronger.
- C. Refuse to lose.
- D. Dare to be great.

9. Which of these sports will be included in the Tokyo Games 2020 for the first time?

- A. Golf    B. Karate    C. Rugby    D. BMX Cycling Freestyle

10. Which country will host the 2024 Summer Olympics?

- A. Paris    B. Berlin    C. Los Angeles    D. Dubai

~~

## The Viking Trail and Shipwrecks

In last month's episode I related the story of the smuggler, Joss Snelling, and how his activities resulted in the naming of Joss and Botany Bays. In between these two bays is Kingsgate Bay, with a magnificent building on its headland. Like Joss whose infamy resulted in him being introduced to the future Queen Victoria, Kingsgate Bay also has a connection between Royalty and villainy.



King Charles II, when on-route by sea from London to the cross-channel port of Ramsgate, was forced to land here during a violent storm. To mark his life saving escape from drowning, he named the bay as the King's Gateway.

In later years, the mock castle that now adorns its headland was financed by grand theft by Henry Fox, or to give him his title, Lord Holland, of whom



you probably know nothing. However, you will have heard of Holland Park in west London, a suburb where Henry Fox had a grand park and grand mansion. But desirous of having a seaside “cottage” he bought a seaside plot and built Kingsgate Castle! Fox by name and sly fox by nature, his position as the King’s Paymaster General allowed an estimated £50 million (at year 1760 values) to disappear into his back pocket and reappear as his grandiose mansions!



Continuing along the cliff top road we soon came to the North Foreland Light House. A beacon to aid ships has been here from at least the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

It guides ships into the Thames Estuary, or heading in the opposite direction, warns that they are approaching the dangerous

Goodwin Sands. It is estimated that over 2,000 ships have met a watery grave here, the skeletons of which often rise up from the sands following stormy weather.

The worst disaster, recorded by a painting, was during the Great Storm of 1703. On one night, HMS Stirling Castle leading 12 other Royal Navy ships together with 14 merchant ships, were wrecked on the Goodwins, with the loss of 2,168 lives.



On a lighter note, in 1824, the Harbour Master from Ramsgate organised a cricket match on the Goodwins during a summer neap tide, when the sands appear above sea level. An annual match was then held until 2003. In 2006 the BBC organised a re-creation of these historic matches for a documentary. Unfortunately, due to inexperience of these tidal waters, they had to be rescued by the Ramsgate lifeboat!

A mile or so further on we arrived at the lovely resort of Broadstairs with its wide sandy bay and old Victorian charm. And I don’t need to tell you who lived below. The most famous of Broadstairs residents!



Our next stop was for lunch at the only port in England to have been honoured with the title of "Royal," given by King George IV in 1821. But I have already provided some information about the Royal Port of Ramsgate in the first part of this series. So, I hope that I have inspired some of you readers to visit and explore this historic coast of Great Britain!

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

~~

## **Selsdon Centre for the Retired**

132 Addington Road, Selsdon, CR2 8LA

Tel No: 020 8651 1111 Email: [selsdon.centre@btinternet.com](mailto:selsdon.centre@btinternet.com)

**NB: Currently open on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays**

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**We are looking for volunteers to help in our kitchen or as a driver or escort on the minibus**

We have a happy team of staff and volunteers and would be happy to have a chat and show you around the Centre.

If you are interested, please call or email us or just pop in!

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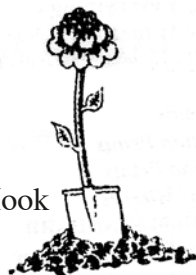
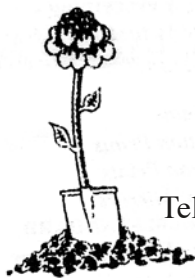
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## Love Clean Streets (LCS)

LCS is supported by Keep Britain Tidy and all local Councils. As the name suggests, it is all about the streets, and everything that is on them including empty properties. Each area has different categories and sub-categories depending on the local Council. Luckily, Croydon has a very substantive set of choices, which amounts to over 50 issues that can be reported. You can report anything from dog fouling, dead animals, fly-tipping, graffiti, drug related litter, overflowing street litter bins and numerous issues relating to the roads. We will focus on potholes for this article, however the principle of creating any report is the same.

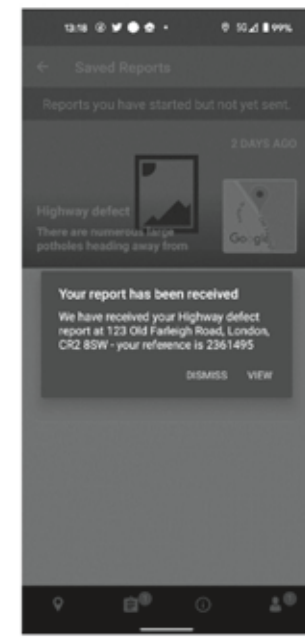
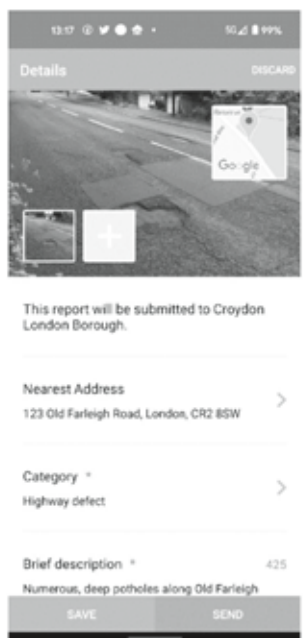
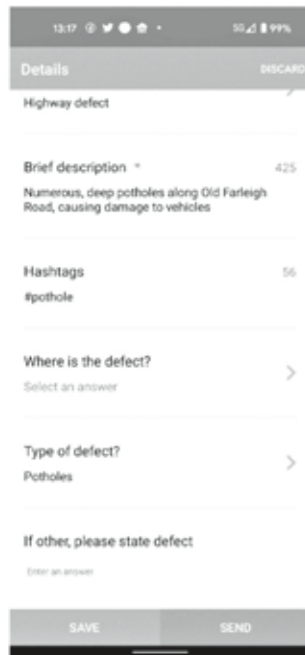
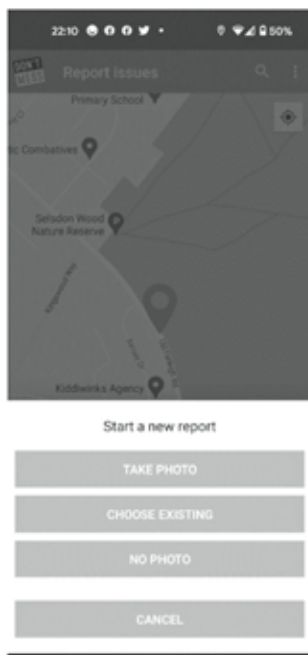
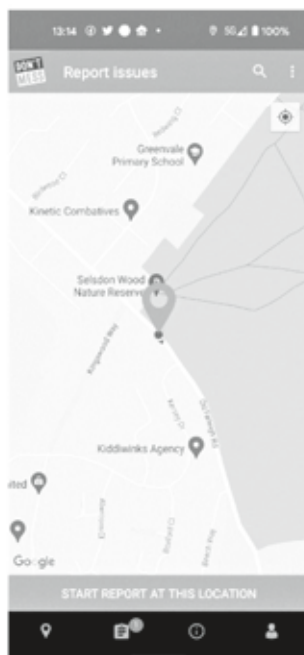
The mobile app can be downloaded for both the Android and Apple operating system. If you do not have a mobile phone, then you can use a computer with an internet connection and use the website, which can be found at <https://lovecleanstreets.info>

In this example, we will use the mobile app on an Android phone and will be reporting potholes on Old Farleigh Road, near Selsdon Woods (The Bird Sanctuary).

Open the app, and move the map so that the green pin is in the correct location, then click on “START REPORT AT THIS LOCATION”. You then get the option to take a photograph. As you will be using your mobile phone, I strongly advise you to take a photo, because the old adage is true - a picture is worth a thousand words.

If you are at the location using your phone where you wish to report the issue, then the GPS will automatically use your current location. It will also fill in the nearest address for you. If, however you are reporting an issue and you are not at the location, you can move the map to the required location manually.

Once you have taken the photograph (you can take multiple photos), click on Save. This will take you to the next screen where you can fill in all the information about the issue. You will then need to click on Complete and Send. This will send the report directly to the Council and you will receive a notification with a report number. The app will automatically save all reports you have made.



# Our Environment

Humans impact the physical environment in many ways: overpopulation, pollution, burning fossil fuels, and deforestation. Changes like these have triggered climate change, soil erosion, poor air quality, and undrinkable water.

The pupils at Selsdon Primary School have been thinking about ways that we could use to protect our environment. Here are some of their thoughts.

## To Save the Environment

We need to **recycle**,  
Instead of driving you could ride on your bicycle.

We need to **reuse**,  
Before the mourning doves coo.

We need to **reduce**,  
Before all cats and dogs have a truce.

We all need to say no to single use plastic items and **refuse**,  
Before you hear the news.

We all need to turn off our lights and taps when we don't need them to **recover**,  
Before you tell your mother.

We all need to **plant a tree**,  
Before your parents make their tea.

We all need to **shop wisely**,  
Before your pet catches a flea.

*Davinna (10)*





## How Can We Help?



That's the big question, isn't it? You know the phrase "one step at a time", well that can help us with helping the world. See, it's the little things we could do to protect the world.

Like switching off un-needed lights when not in use.

Recycle our plastic, paper, glass and metal.

It's those little things we could do that can drastically help the world in a good way.

Even if one out of every twenty people in the whole world participated, that would mean that 1, 460, 000, 000 are helping and becoming allies in saving the world.

It does not cost you a penny to save the world. All it takes is a kind heart and it is so easy to switch off those lights!

*Rayan (11)*

~~

## A Guide smiles and sings in all difficulties



If you were a Guide pre-1994, you may remember learning the Guide laws, one of them being "A Guide sings and smiles in all difficulties". And if you were a Guide more recently, then you would have learned that "A Guide faces challenge and learns from her experiences".

Over the past year, which has been full of difficulties and challenge, the Guide unit that usually meets at Selsdon Baptist church hall has learned to adapt and still carry on with guiding activities. Since last April until very recently, we have met once a fortnight on Zoom and enjoyed games such as scavenger hunt and task master; crafts such as origami and decorated

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rocks; trying out different communication skills and using innovation to create junk towers, teddy ziplines and emoji art.

This term we have been able to meet face to face in the hall but, due to social distancing requirements, we've had to split the unit into two smaller groups and find activities that mean we stay apart from each other. Not the kind of guiding activities we used to do, but we're hopeful that it won't be long before we'll be able to do them again, as well as meeting all together. Looking ahead, we really hope that we'll be back to weekly meetings from September and the freedom of not having to keep our distance from each other. However, the challenges won't be over as we have realised that we'll need another volunteer to join our team in order to guarantee we have enough volunteers each week. We are therefore looking for an enthusiastic female volunteer aged 18+ who is willing to undertake the leadership training and join our team. Could that be you? Or someone you know? We'd love to hear from you.

~~



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.

Dear Editor,

I had a letter published in the September 2017 issue of The Selsdon Gazette, and regret having to bring this matter once again to neighbouring residents. On the morning of 18th June, I had the very unpleasant task to remove the contents of a torn to pieces nappy bag from my lawn.

I realise that the foxes are the culprits but would kindly remind all residents in the area of Selsdon Recreation Ground to ensure that their child's nappy refuse is securely BINNED. I can assure everyone that to remove the scattered contents of nappy bags together with wipes - this particular nappy was one "marked 3" - is a disgusting procedure and one which I abhor. My garden backs on to the Rec so it must be residents in the very near vicinity. Foxes do look appealing but they cause a great deal of

nuisance. Once again, please be neighbourly and dispose of this particular refuse with great care and attention.

*A resident of Benhurst Close.*



Dear Editor,

I can relate to the frustration experienced by Pat Staples in her letter to you in the June edition of the Gazette, concerning the invasion of larger birds invading her feed containers.

We were able to get a result by purchasing protective cages (guardian cages); they are the answer. No longer can crows, magpies etc have any chance in interfering with the seed holders. The wood pigeons hang around the ground area waiting for possible dropped seeds from the smaller birds.

Kind regards

*Christine Struthers*



Dear Editor,

*(We have another episode from Jessica about why we should read the information given on food labels.)*

### **BAMBOO FIBRE**

As my husband complains if he can smell garlic in his dinner, which upsets his stomach, I avoid cooking with it. So, to prove to him that his dinner was garlic free, I gathered up the package it had come in, and read the ingredients list. Food is listed by how much of it is in the meal, so if chicken is the highest listed ingredient and garlic right at the bottom, you know the items listed at the bottom are very low amounts indeed. But, as I read through this particular dish, half way down, was **Polpa** tomato, and also in bold type was **bamboo fibre**. So, I went to Google and began reading. **Polpa** tomato is grown from high quality special seed, in special earth and with special care. Well, I would continue to be happy with normal tomatoes and just scrape out the seeds and liquidise, whenever I have time to do this. This Polpa tomato is just too special for me, but it was tasty.

Then I turned my attention to the bamboo fibre. My knowledge of fibre is of the ispaghula husk variety, which is taken as a form of treatment for either constipation, or even the opposite. It is made from Plantago Ovata seeds, which has been used by Indian herbalists for generations.

But bamboo fibre is used as a binding agent of a different type, and appears instead of eggs, which perform the same task in meat loaves, rissoles and burgers, but eggs are of course more expensive! Without a binder in cooking the meat would disintegrate and the food, although just as nutritious and tasty, would look an off-putting mess. Bamboo is also used as an alternative to eggs because so many people now suffer from egg and other allergies. Was it because in the past we had no idea what food allergies were? So many people no longer eat gluten either and many gluten-free meals now contain bamboo fibre for that allergic reason.

So, if we are eating bamboo in one form or another, how are the pandas getting on when they eat bamboo only?

Apparently, according to the Chinese, around 5,000 years ago, pandas ate a varied plant diet, and now the Chinese are trying to reintroduce variety to their diet. You bet they are! There was a charming photo online of a panda looking delightedly at two apples laid out to tempt him or her. Hope the photographer wasn't waving a bunch of bamboo stalks behind his back, and the hungry panda was being teased!

Of course, there is bamboo scaffolding and apparently many other uses for application in the building trade, bamboo clothing (viscose rayon), socks - loved for their softness - and moisture wicking qualities! There are so many uses for bamboo and it is now grown in Australia as well as China. Interestingly an Australian farmer says, you can only use the thin new shoots, you have to then remove the outside and I think something from the inside too. Then she boils it for ten minutes, and throws the water away. The reason for this and in fact for her to rinse it in cold water and reboil for further ten minutes is that bamboo contains **cyanide**. Once the boiling is complete the product is safe to use.

("Dear Miss Marple do try one of my new bamboo scones," says the villain. Such a delightful almond flavour, don't you know?")

My notes from Google add that bamboo is used in bakery, dairy, meat, fish, beverages, sauces and dressings. We can buy toilet rolls, plates and



other crockery, even furniture.

Is there a plant here in the British Isles that can be used in so many various ways? My belief is that acorns are poisonous, but the Native American black oak is ground into flour. I thought we were told it would be poisonous to us but not to them, the Red Indians (the indigenous peoples who are used to eating it).

I do wonder what else we are eating unbeknown to us. So now I keep reading the labels and feeling sorry for pandas.

*Jessica Blake*



Dear Editor,

### **CHARCOAL MAKING**

Come and see how charcoal is produced. A charcoal burn is planned for 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September in Littleheath Woods. See website for further details, [www.folw.co.uk](http://www.folw.co.uk)

*Chris Hyde*  
*Friends of Littleheath Woods*



*I received this thank you for some members of the Friends of Littleheath Woods from the SRA.*

Many thanks to a couple of Friends of Littleheath Wood who were seen kindly planting some spare seedlings from their garden in the Triangle recently in the hope the blooms would add some colour to the area. We are grateful for their efforts in brightening the path to Sainsbury's. It just proves again that, if you want a volunteer, ask a volunteer!





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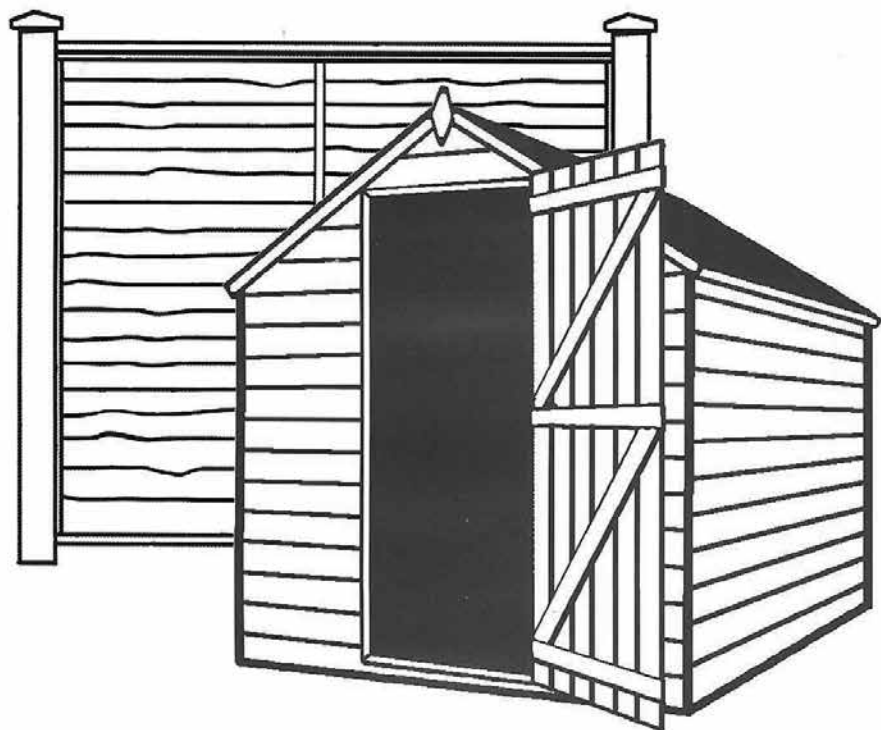
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## Poetry Corner

7th July is World Chocolate Day so Mary Gill has composed a couple of poems on a subject dear to her heart.

### CHOCOLATE

Darkly dangerous,  
mysteriously magic,  
softly melting on my tongue.  
My taste-buds luxuriate  
in its heavenly flavour,  
filling my whole awareness  
with sublime pleasure.  
Like liquid satin  
sliding sensuously down my throat.  
Irresistible,  
irreplaceable  
irrefutably irresponsible.  
Deliciously decadent,  
delightfully desirable,  
criminally calorific,  
climactically cathartic,  
perfectly palatable,  
purely pleasurable.  
Blissfully bad blocks of glorious gratification.  
Forget Google  
and Apple and Amazon,  
forget even cowboys  
Hollywood  
and Rock 'n 'Roll -  
this is the best thing  
that ever came out of the Americas.



### SWEET DREAM

Imagine a world  
where 100 grammes of greens  
had 500 killer calories,  
while chocolate had three.  
Well, if I was God,  
that's how it would be.



## Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Bush Crickets

When a butterfly's egg hatches what emerges is not a butterfly but a soft-bodied caterpillar which grows by going through four or more changes (instars) involving splitting of the outer skin to release a bigger caterpillar. Eventually the caterpillar pupates and a new butterfly emerges from the pupa. Bush-crickets lay eggs either in the ground or within a slit made in vegetation. Growth involves several instars but there the similarity with butterflies stops. The egg does not produce a caterpillar but instead releases a tiny version of the adult cricket – a nymph. Up to a dozen instars can be involved in some species, until the nymph reaches adult size. Where grasshoppers have short antennae, bush-crickets have long antennae, often much longer than the body.

Some species are rare or are restricted to particular habitats such as bogs or coastal areas but several species can be found by careful searching, mainly on bushes or low vegetation.



Roesel's Bush-cricket is easily recognised by the u-shaped yellowish mark on that part near the head which is called the pronotum.

Speckled Bush-cricket is usually greenish in colour and to me the shape suggests that the insect is hunched up. The female has a curved flat ovipositor at the rear

end which she uses to make a slit in vegetation into which she will lay her eggs.

Dark Brown Bush-cricket is, as the name suggests, brown in colour but brown and green are the two colours which provide some camouflage to a



stationary insect so it is no surprise to find that many species can be found in either of these colours.

Other species include the common Oak Bush-cricket, the rare Wartbiter, Bog Cricket, Coneheads, etc, many of which are common

in the right habitat. Apart from those species which occur regularly around the coast there is always the possibility of unusual immigrants.

Like grasshoppers, bush-crickets stridulate by rubbing their wings together but to hear them it might be necessary to use a bat detector. The insects tend to rest during the day and become more active after dark.



## Answers 2020 Summer Olympics Quiz

1. C   2. C   3. B   4. A   5. D   6. D   7. C   8. B   9. B   10. C

~~

### The Queen's Green Canopy: Plant a Tree for the Jubilee



Celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 by being part of the Queen's Green Canopy. The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Everyone across the UK is being invited to plant trees from October 2021, when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.

The Queen's Green Canopy will create a network of individual trees, avenues, copses and whole woodlands in honour of The Queen's service and the legacy she has built.

This will create a green legacy of its own, with every tree planted bringing benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and for the future.

#### Get involved

Whether you're joining neighbours or a community group, or planting as a school or organisation, every tree makes a difference.

Any trees planted from October 2021 to the end of the jubilee year in 2022 can be part of the QGC. Tree planting season is October to March – this is when roots are dormant and new trees will have the best chance of flourishing. Why not use the summer months to plan your planting and arrange a day of celebration?

~~

### Time for a Pun or Two?

1. Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.
2. What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.
3. Writing my name in cursive is my signature move.

4. Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? *Swarm.*
5. If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying the price.
6. Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.
7. A commander walks into a bar and orders everyone around.
8. I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.
9. Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.
10. I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.



*Please forward any of your own puns to the editor to be included in the next Gazette!*

~~

## School Examinations

*June and July are the usual months for school examinations and tests. Here are a few answers to test questions which did not receive any marks. Do you agree with the marking?*

1. In which battle did Napoleon die? *His last battle*
2. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed? *At the bottom of the page*
3. River Ravi flows in which state? *Liquid*
4. What is the main reason for divorce? *Marriage*
5. What is the main reason for failure? *Exams*
6. What can you never eat for breakfast? *Lunch & dinner*
7. What looks like half an apple? *The other half*
8. If you throw a red stone into the blue sea, what will it become? *Wet*
9. How can a man go eight days without sleeping? *No problem, he sleeps at night.*
10. How can you lift an elephant with one hand? *You will never find an elephant that has one hand.*
11. If you had three apples and four oranges in one hand and four apples and three oranges in the other hand, what would you have? *Very large hands*
12. If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it? *No time at all, the wall is already built.*
13. How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it? *Any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.*



EST. 1973

# Paul Meakin

ESTATE AGENTS

A map of the Selston and Riddlesdown area with several property status markers. The markers are as follows:

- SELSDON**: 216 Addington Rd, 020 8651 1234
- RIDDLESDOWN**: 77-79 MITCHLEY AVE, 020 8657 8000
- SANDERSTEAD**: 13 Limpsfield Rd, 020 8657 5000

Other markers include 'SOLD' and 'LET BY' in various locations on the map.

EST. 1973

## Paul Meakin

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# **A SELECTED LIST OF SELSDON ORGANISATIONS**

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

## **CHURCHES**

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

## **DOCTORS, DENTISTS & EMERGENCY CARE**

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

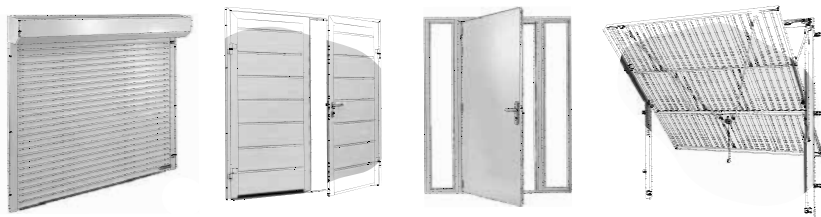
## **CLUBS, GROUPS & CHARITIES**

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



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