



The Selldon — Gazette —

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THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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The view expressed by contributors to the Selsdon Gazette are their own and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Selsdon Gazette or the Selsdon Residents' Association. All letters printed as received.

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Front cover image credit: 'Malcolm Cragg and his potato crop.'

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

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

Councillors for Selsdon Vale & Forestdale Ward

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

Councillors for Sanderstead Ward

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

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

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

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 November edition of the Gazette! The cover photo this month shows a very proud Malcolm with his potato crop grown at the bottom of his garden. He has been growing potatoes since 1986 and is now self-sufficient in spuds. He tells me that he puts them in during March and always uses the Desiree variety. His secret is plenty of feeding, compost and full sunlight. He added that the small field in Littleheath Woods opposite his house used to be called potato field.

You may have noticed that the Christmas lights have been put up along the High Street in readiness for the switch on by Father Christmas on 25 November at 5pm. Selsdon is renowned for its Christmas lights so please do try and come along to the event. November sees Remembrance Sunday on 13 November and in this gazette, Janet Sharp recalls the tragic death of one of our airmen in WWII when he had to bail out over Selsdon. The annual BBC Children in Need Appeal also happens in November and there is a quiz to test your knowledge about it.

In this edition Ian Leggatt focusses on the recent planning proposals put in by the Birch Community for the former Selsdon Park Hotel while Joyce Hoad, of the Sanderstead Local History Group, disputes some of the historical claims concerning its history. Even though it is November we still have a list of jobs to be done in our gardening feature and John Birkett of the Croydon local RSPB group would like us all to include plants in our gardens to feed the birds. Ted Forsyth in his regular Nature Notes, tells us about the flocks of birds we may see in the skies, while Su Yates, in the spirit of Halloween, takes us around three local church yards.

Next year Croydon becomes the London Borough of Culture and our Councillors are urging local groups to work together to plan an event in Selsdon celebrating its history or green spaces which could then receive funding from the pot of money available.

Finally, my usual plea to all ages for any photos, letters, articles or poems. Please email them to me (selsdongazettesra@gmail.com).

I hope that you enjoy your read and I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Jones

**❖ SUBMISSIONS FOR THE DECEMBER 2022 EDITION
SHOULD BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN
20TH NOVEMBER - PREFERABLY BEFORE! ❖**

SRA NEWS 'n' VIEWS

Police

We attended a Police Panel meeting this month with both wards taking part and met our new constables. Crime remains very low but they urge you to report any crime such as catalytic converter theft to them, because funding is decided on crime figures and reporting could secure the area more resources.

Gazette

The gazette really needs deliverers in the Arundel and Norfolk Avenue areas. Please consider offering about an hour a month, time to suit you, to help deliver the gazette and spread the load. Contact myself or Phil, phone numbers at the front of this issue, to discuss. We would love to hear from anyone who could help cover when our volunteers are on holiday or through sickness too.

Clock

You may have noticed pink and blue ribbons displayed around the clock recently, they were to raise awareness for Baby Loss Awareness Week organised by a local couple affected by this. They have also placed a bench in Selsdon Woods to commemorate their loss and for everyone to enjoy.

Our next decorations on the clock will be for Christmas and of course we hope to see you all on Friday 25th November 5pm to meet Father Christmas who will switch on the lights for us.

We will also be in Sainsburys' foyer on Saturday 26th November from 9am to 1pm if you have forgotten to post your subs envelopes or would like donate to the Christmas lights.

Sheila Childs

Chair

COUNCILLORS' NOTES

GRAFFITI TEAM REINSTATED

To fulfil a manifesto commitment the Mayor has recently reinstated the Borough wide Graffiti Team. As the Graffiti Team was abolished in 2020 there is now a backlog of graffiti across the borough. The team will initially target hot spot areas to clean up graffiti, but will also work with 'Friends of' and community groups to clean up graffiti in local areas. Any offensive graffiti will be cleaned within 24 hours and graffiti can be reported by any resident through the 'Love Clean Streets' App.

HELP AND ADVICE ON COST OF LIVING

We recognise that the cost of living is on the increase and is impacting on everyone in the local community. On the front page of Croydon Council's website there is a link to a 'get help with cost of living' page
<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/get-help-rising-cost-living>.

This page brings all the help and support for residents who are struggling with the cost of living into one place. The page takes you through the information and support in a logical way and includes tools such as a benefits calculator to make sure you are receiving all the support you are entitled to. The page also signposts residents to organisations who can provide additional help and support.

CROYDON – BOROUGH OF CULTURE 2023/24

From April next year Croydon will become the London Borough of Culture, the year of cultural celebration will run until March 2024. The Borough is already planning a series of flagship events which will be publicised and launched in the months leading up to April. But the year is not just about big cultural events we want every community in Croydon to take part in the year of celebration.

To enable this, we have set up the Ignite Fund which will assist community groups to put on community cultural events across the Borough.

Applications for medium grants from £3000 - £10000 are now open until 18 November. Later this year/ early next year funding will be available for community events up to £1,000. Applications have a better chance of winning funding if they address the following:

- a fairer society
- a greener cultural sector

- healthier communities
- more active communities and citizens
- young people get more support

For more information about 'This is Croydon' please visit

<https://www.croydon.gov.uk/croydon-london-borough-culture-2023>

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

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

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

Selsdon and Addington Village

Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk

Joseph.lee@croydon.gov.uk

Selsdon Vale and Forestdale

Andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

22/04096/PA8 - Addington Road Opposite Junction with Byron Road
South Croydon CR2 8LA

Installation of 15m high telecommunications Monopole and associated ancillary works.

22/04142/ADV - Bus Shelter O/S 137 Addington Road South Croydon
CR2 8LH

Advertising as part of a new bus shelter

22/03997/DISC - Vehicle Repair Workshop and Premises Garages Rear Of 156 To 180 Addington Road South Croydon CR2 8LB

Discharge of Condition 11 (Construction Logistics) attached to permission 18/04516/FUL for Demolition of the existing garages and erection of 8 two-storey terraced houses and 1no. live-work unit (B1 (b) or B1 (c)), together with cycle storage, amenity space, a refuse/recycling store and car parking.

22/04095/HSE - 263 Addington Road South Croydon CR2 8LR
Erection of part single part two-storey side/rear extension and roof extension with associated works.

22/03860/DISC, 22/04110/DISC, 22/04111/ DISC - Land to the Rear Of 62 - 66 Arundel Avenue South Croydon CR2 8BB
Discharge of condition 3 (Construction logistics plan), Discharge of Condition 4 (materials), Discharge of Conditions 5 (Landscaping) and 6 (Cycle and Refuse Storage) attached to the permission 21/04694/FUL dated 28.04.2022 for Erection of a detached house with off-street parking (Fronting Langley Oaks Avenue).

22/03996/LP - 39 Boxford Close South Croydon CR2 8SY
Conversion of garage to habitable room.

22/02991/LP - 224 Croham Valley Road South Croydon CR2 7RD
Erection of single-storey side return extension

22/04047/HSE - 19 Kingswood Way South Croydon CR2 8QL
Erection of single-storey rear and side extension following demolition of existing extension. Erection of two-storey front extension with roof alterations. Landscaping to the rear

22/03839/FUL - 35 Kingswood Way South Croydon CR2 8QL
Demolition of existing two-storey front extension, single-storey rear conservatory and erection of two-storey rear and side extensions and single-storey front extension to form a new dwelling.

22/03695/HSE - 110 Old Farleigh Road South Croydon CR2 8QE
Erection of granny annexe

22/03538/CONR - Former Site Of 119 Old Farleigh Road South Croydon CR2 8QD
Section 73A application for the variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 20/01470/FUL for the demolition of existing bungalow and erect a terrace of 3 x three-bedroom houses with shared access and drive way using the existing entrance from Old Farleigh Road and 2 x one bedroom house to the rear accessed via the existing entrance and via undercroft.

22/03977/DISC - 2 Ravenshead Close South Croydon CR2 8RL

Discharge of condition 3 (CLP) in relation to planning permission
21/02848/FUL for Erection of a four-bedroom detached dwelling with
associated parking, landscaping, cycle storage and refuse storage,
approved 21.07.2022

22/04265/GPDO - 46 The Gallop South Croydon CR2 7LP
Notification for prior approval under the GPDO 2015 under Class AA for an
upwards extension of one-storey to a dwellinghouse.

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

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



An End in Sight for ULEZ Expansion Plans?

Earlier this year, as the Member of Parliament for Croydon South, I wrote to Mayor of London Sadiq Khan to formally express my constituents' disappointment with, and opposition to, the plan to extend the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to Greater London – including most of our Borough.

My petition against the plans, which accepted signatures for just two weeks in July, was signed by over 5,200 people from Croydon South including almost 1,000 Selsdon residents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who signed my petition, shared it with friends and family and took the time to respond to Transport for London's consultation on the topic.

It did not come as a surprise to me that so many of you signalled your anger with what is, in effect, a swingeing new tax on residents of Croydon South. In fact, the ULEZ expansion will see those people driving older vehicles to get to work, for the school run, or to attend vital appointments charged £12.50 a day – and potentially over £4,500 a year – just for going about their daily business.

ULEZ is also a deeply regressive tax, and one which will impact those

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who can least afford the charge the most. For some residents who can afford it, the tax may push them to buy an electric vehicle. However, many others will be forced to pay the tax – because a more modern car is too expensive and public transport is unreliable following substantial cuts to local bus services.

I therefore was pleased to read reports that 66% of Londoners raised objections to the new tax in Transport for London's consultation, while around 7.6% of people argued that the ULEZ expansion should be delayed. Having previously stated that he will not press ahead with his plans if the public overwhelmingly rejected them, I hope that - once the final consultation response is published - Mayor Khan will not extend the ULEZ to Greater London.

It is right that we must all work together to reduce pollution levels and improve air quality around our Borough. But there are better ways to do this than expanding the ULEZ to virtually all of Greater London to penalise hard working people. The £250 million that has been set aside to fund the ULEZ expansion could, for example, be directed to accelerating the phasing out of diesel buses around Greater London or planting more trees in and around places like Selsdon to absorb polluted air.

Chris Philp

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

~~

The Selsdon Gazette's Future?



Firstly, I would like to place on record the SRA's thanks to Wendy Mikel who has been our fantastically efficient Distribution Manager for the past decade. Wendy has now stepped back from the role and I have stepped up as the new Manager.

However, if we are to continue the task of delivering 4000 hard copies to our residents, we need to expand our existing team of helpers, some of whom are not exactly in the full flush of youth!

Therefore, my initial task is to recruit more residents who are prepared to

give us as little as 30 minutes, once a month, for 11 months a year so we can keep your gazette coming to your door.

Ideally, we would like to see more people doing less.

We basically have two roles that we need help with:

Distributors, who collect by car their consignment from me and distribute them to their deliverers (my personal round has the most drops and takes me about an hour).

The Door Deliverers are the lifeblood of the effort. Ideally we would like each deliverer to have a round of 50 homes.

We aim to match Distributors and Deliverers to their local area.

The SRA does not often ask for help, but the printed Gazette is facing an uncertain future unless we can find more help.

If you are prepared to join the effort, please contact me on 07511 431 207 or email me, Phil Roberts on pjsroberts@hotmail.com

~~

Statistics from Local Police Wards September 2022

Here are the number of the top crimes most recently reported for our local police wards.

Crime	Selsdon and Addington Village	Selsdon Vale and Forestdale
Burglary	6	0
Theft from a motor vehicle	5	5
Theft of a motor vehicle	5	0
Violence against the person	13	15

In comparison to the rest of Croydon and the whole of London we are still a lower crime area, as can be seen by the following table.

Area	Number of Crimes per 1000 residents (Sept)
Selsdon and Addington Village	4
Selsdon Vale and Forestdale	5
Croydon Borough	8
All London Boroughs	8

Selsdon and Addington Village SNT Selsdon Vale and Forestdale SNT
Tina Nash 7287SN PCSO Altaf Hussain 7149SN PCSO
Tel: 0208 721 2468 Tel: 020 8721 2464
Address: Addington Police Station, Addington Village Road, CR0 5AQ
SNMailbox-SelsdonandAddingtonVillageSNT@met.police.uk
SNMailbox-SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk

~~

Details of Birch Proposals for Selsdon Park Hotel / DeVere Estate

We all know of the Selsdon Park Hotel, some may have visited to dine or play golf or, like myself, to merely walk the grounds during Lockdown. The website of the Selsdon Residents' Association contains much on the history of the estate and the building. Previously owned by the Sanderson family, latterly DeVere Estates, it has new owners now.

Birch have submitted a Planning Application to redevelop parts of the building and grounds. The application, ref 22/03422/FUL which was validated by Croydon Council on the 29th September, is due to be decided by Croydon Council by 24th November 2022. The period for comments expired on 22nd October 2022 and it was not possible to get any detailed information into the October Gazette. Among the many drawings and documents submitted with the application is a Planning Statement setting out the details of the proposals:

“4. Proposed Development

4.1 The Proposed Development seeks planning permission for the following small-scale works which would enable the Selsdon Park Hotel to open for business in early 2023.

4.2 The proposals seek to remove the existing entrance canopy (Port Cochere) which was erected in 1983 and replace it with a smaller, more refined, entrance canopy to reveal the historic façade.

4.3 In order to facilitate level access to the south-eastern corner of the main building it is proposed that the existing concrete steps are replaced by a new, Approved Document M compliant access ramp and associated handrail.



Plan of SPH with access points and areas of proposed work outlined.

4.4 To room 320 currently located in the south-facing turret above the main entrance at fourth floor level it is proposed to create a new outdoor roof terrace.

4.5 Whilst all the essential Lido infrastructure remains in place, it is currently in a poor state of repair.



Photo of enclosed and semi derelict pool



CHRISTMAS MARKET

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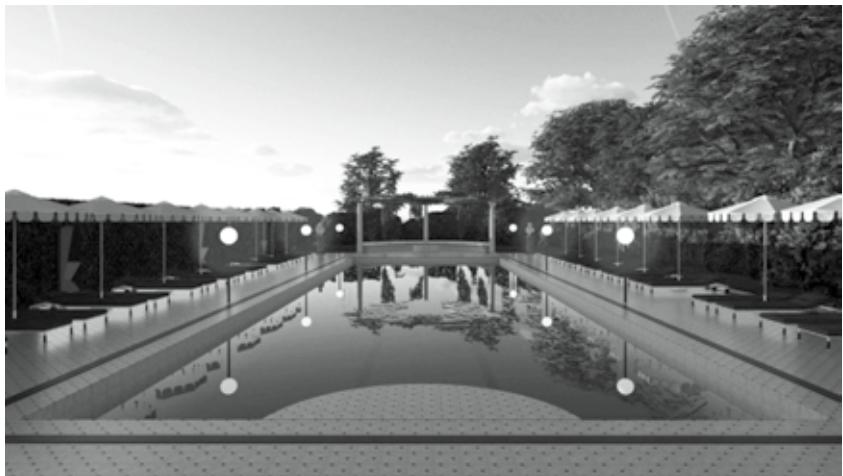
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4.6 As such, the existing pool would be refurbished to bring it back into use. This would comprise a new hard landscaped pool surround to ensure a safe, accessible, and hygienic place for guests to circulate, sit, and relax. Beyond the pool area, soft landscaping would be introduced to create a gradual transition to the woodland to the north.



CGI of completed poll

4.7 In addition to the pool surround, a circular, timber yoga deck is proposed to enable classes to take place outside of the pool opening times.

4.8 Set into the landscape on the western side of the lido, 4 timber seating booths are proposed.

4.9 The existing Lido entrance hut is proposed to be repaired and remodelled with an acrylic render finish to re-instate its former use as a snack and drinks bar.

4.10 The existing WC and changing block within the adjacent trees would be repaired and remodelled to provide accessible WC, changing and showering facilities.

4.11 The existing lido pool pump enclosure would be replaced with a proprietary enclosed pump unit.

4.12 The proposals for the Cambridge Wing seek to bring the 1988 extension back into use by creating a bespoke and standalone “Family

Wing". A number of ground floor windows are proposed to be turned into full-height glazed access doors to enable access to an outdoor space." The Planning documentation also includes a Heritage Statement and a Design and Access Statement both of which contain numerous photos of the SPH during its heydays together with photos of its current condition and images of how it will eventually look. The aims are ambitious and I am sure, when completed, that the revamped Selsdon Park Hotel will be an asset to the area.

Ian Leggatt

Images borrowed from the Design and Access Statement included within the Planning Application documents. Main body of text ("") taken and adapted from the Planning Statement

~~

CHRISTMAS COVER COMPETITION - 2022

for Selsdon's primary and nursery school children



Last time and date for entries to be received:
10am on Monday 14 November

All you have to do is make an A4 sized, suitably seasonal drawing or painting.

Put your name, address, school and date of birth on the back and then send it to the SRA via **any of the committee addresses listed in the Gazette** or via **KIBA, 119 Addington Road**.

~~

A Good Time for Gardening – November

It's getting colder and wetter as we draw into November. Trees are putting on their autumn displays and winter stems start to come into their own. As autumn turns to winter, the main jobs in the garden are mostly about protecting plants and structures from the wilder weather to come.



- Insulate your outdoor containers from frosts. Use hessian or bubble wrap held in place with garden twine.
- Protect roses from wind-rock by pruning them by one-third to half their height. This will stop them swaying in strong wind and prevent roots coming loose in the soil.
- Remove fallen leaves from around the base of any rose bushes which suffered from blackspot or rust this summer, to reduce the chance of reinfection next year.
- Tidy up your strawberry plants, cutting off any dead leaves and removing runners.
- Prune apple and pear trees anytime between now and February.
- Don't prune your plum trees now as they will be susceptible to the silver leaf fungus - wait until midsummer.
- Apply grease bands to the trunks of fruit trees to prevent wingless female winter moths climbing the trunks and laying their eggs in the branches.
- Remove the top netting from fruit cages as heavy snow in winter will make it sag.
- Aerate your lawn now before winter sets in. Either use a lawn aerator or simply insert a garden fork at regular intervals and lean it back slightly to let air in.
- Continue to clear fallen leaves off the lawn to keep it healthy using a light rake.
- Set your lawn mower to a higher cut-height for winter.
- Edge your lawn. This is easy to do in the winter months once beds are clear. Lawn edging creates a neat and tidy appearance and makes maintenance easier throughout the year.
- Reuse spent compost from annual container displays as a mulch on your garden beds and borders.
- Sweep up debris and fallen leaves from paths and beds to prevent fungal spores, slugs and snails from overwintering.
- Net ponds to prevent leaves falling into them. If you need to clear pond weed, lay it next to the pond for a day after removal, to allow wildlife to escape back to the water.

Frederick, Cedric and Sunflower Sid

www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk



WW2 – Airman Tragedy in Selsdon

The skies over Selsdon during WW2 were very active as it was in a geographical triangle between Croydon, Biggin Hill and Kenley aerodromes. Many of our residents have written to the Selsdon Gazette over the years with their memories of the War and the sight of the planes in the sky.

In September 1940 tragedy came to Littleheath Road. Moira Mogford, nee Holt, was eight years old. Years later she described to the BBC (Radio Norfolk) how an airman landed in her family's garden. She wrote in part:

'My father shouted "It's one of ours, but it's coming down too fast! ." ... 'Several neighbours joined us, all staring anxiously at the dishevelled figure fast descending towards us. He only had one shoe on and his flying jacket was hanging off one shoulder. Someone had the good sense to run and fetch a mattress, because the airman struck a telegraph pole on the way down and he was clearly badly injured. With the help of the neighbours my father and brother laid him on the mattress and called an ambulance.'



The airman, Glendon Booth was able to talk to those helping him, but was paralysed. Moira recalls that he was exhausted (after days of combat fighting) and unshaven. Moira Holt wrote to him regularly until his death a few months later. He was engaged to be married, to a girl called Joyce. He died of kidney failure as a result of his injuries on 7th February 1941 and was buried six days later in Crystal Palace Cemetery. He was 20 years old.

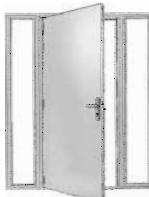
I found more information on: **Battle of Britain London Monument - Sgt. G B BOOTH (bbm.org.uk):**

Glendon Bulmar Booth, of Sydenham, was born in 1920. His father, Henry TB Booth, had served in the RNAS and RAF in the First World War and, in 1939, was employed as a gas fitter.

GB Booth joined the RAFVR in May 1939, as an airman u/t Pilot. He was called up on 1st September 1939 aged 19. With training completed, he joined 85 Squadron at Debden on 15th July 1940. He damaged a



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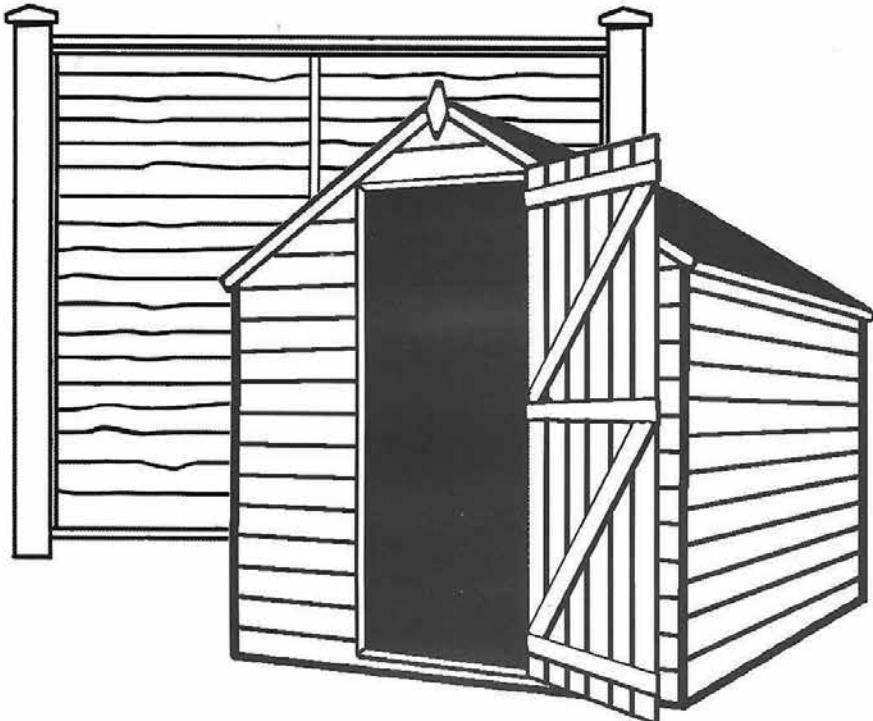
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Messerschmitt Me109 in combat over the Sussex coast on 29th August, the German pilot made a forced-landing near Pevensey and was captured. On the 30th Booth damaged a Me110 and on the 31st he probably destroyed another. On 1st September 1940 he was shot down by cannon shell from Me109s over Tunbridge Wells. He bailed out, with burns and his parachute alight and was further injured in a heavy landing. His Hurricane, L2071, crashed at Kingswood, Sanderstead.

The gravestone contains the words, "*In proud and loving memory of our dear only son Glen, Sgt. Pilot G. B. Booth, Fighter Command, RAF. Died in hospital after much pain courageously borne*".

Another memory of that incident comes from another Selsdon child, Andrew Harris who posted his memories on 3rd August 2005 (shown on the BBC Home Page) from the West Sussex Library archive.



"Once one plane chased another along our road, Queenhill Road, and afterwards I picked up a squashed bullet from the steps leading to Littleheath woods. Also, from the garden we watched someone come down by parachute. This incident is mentioned in "Croydon Airport and the Battle of Britain" and took place on the 1st September. A Hurricane pilot, Glendon Booth, fell into a rose arch in the garden of a house in Littleheath Road. Unfortunately, he had been badly hurt in the battle and dies nine months later. His plane crashed at Sanderstead and the machine gun I write about later may have come from his plane. I remember digging in a bomb crater in Selsdon Wood near Ashen Vale to find pieces of shrapnel which was highly prized among us boys and in Kingswood I found a machine gun from a crashed plane but decided it was too heavy to take home. My cousin in Herne Bay in Kent, which was in the thick of the fighting, sent me various souvenirs from shot down aircraft, including a works plate from a Dornier 17 bomber which I still possess."

Andrew also recalls bombs landing in Farley Road in 1944.



I hope that these two former Selsdon residents don't mind their memories being shared here. Does anyone else remember this incident? If so, perhaps you can add to the archive held by the BBC. Let us know.

Janet Sharp

SELDON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – IMPORTANT NOTICE

Father Christmas is driving through Selsdon's shopping area to switch on the Christmas Lights (just as he used to do pre-Covid) and then meeting the children at his usual grotto outside Iceland **at about 5pm on Friday 25 November**. The SRA are very grateful that his sleigh (and some of the stewards for the event) are once again being provided by the Sanderstead and Selsdon Rotary Club.



There will be songs and music outside The Village Club from about 4.30pm. See posters and Facebook etc. for further details.

Do please come along and join in!

You may not all know...

The Selsdon Residents' Association (SRA) funds the display and the whole event, supported by additional donations from those generous residents who wish to see the brilliant display continue. Like everyone this year, we have had to plan to cut back on our costs as much as we can but we still have significant 'hidden costs' such as the checking of the overhead wires (c.£800) the hiring of the safety barriers (probably up to about £500) and the PA system (c.£300) which cannot be avoided or reduced.

However, it is the electricity bill that is the major worry. We know how much power the lights use but we do not know the cost per kWh as we are classed as a business for this purpose and there is currently (excuse the pun!) no cap on our charges unlike our domestic electricity. We have been warned that the bill could possibly be £800-£1000. With this in mind, the SRA has taken the decision to reduce the illumination times so the lights are only on from 16.00-23.00 each day from 25 November until 2 January.

Yes, we do have reserves in the bank but they are finite so we will have to think even more carefully about what we do next year when we are due to renew the contract for the lights. We will have to consider if we can really afford to continue and on what scale – maybe reducing the number of the lights might help balance the books a little better – so let's make the most of this year's display and then hear what you think about the future!

Linda Morris, SRA Vice-Chair / Xmas lights organiser

How much do you know about the annual Children in Need Appeal?



Friday 18 November is the Big Day for the BBC's Children in Need television programme. This annual fundraising event has been running for a number of years but how much can you recall about it?

1. Children in Need has been raising money for years, through TV appeals and through people all over the UK fundraising, but when did it start?
2. In which year did the now famous mascot, Pudsey, first appear?
3. On which eye does Pudsey wear his famous eye patch?
4. There were three presenters for the first Telethon broadcast. Two of them were Sue Lawley and Esther Rantzen. Who was the third one?
5. In 1997 the official BBC Children in Need charity single reached number 1 with contributions from Lou Reed, Bono, David Bowie, Elton John, Boyzone, Tom Jones and many more. What was the name of the single?
6. 2009 saw the first BBC Children in Need Rocks concert featuring Take That, Robbie Williams and Leona Lewis. Where did it take place?
7. In 2011 the first One Show Rickshaw Challenge saw which presenter travel 484 miles from Edinburgh to London?
8. For the first time in 2015 which BBC programme asked people to take part in a ramble though our rural landscape over one weekend?
9. In 2014, who brought together a choir of untrained voices from the world of TV, Sport and Theatre to form the 'All Star Choir' who went on to claim the No. 1 spot with 'Wake me up'?
10. In 2021 there were 5 presenters. These included Ade Adepitan, Graham Norton, Chris Ramsey and Alex Scott. Who was the fifth presenter?



Answers after Nature Notes



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

Please remember to state your name, address, contact number and publication anonymity requirements in **all** correspondence to the Editor. Anonymity can be granted on request, but anonymously sent letters/e-mails will not be published.

I had this note from a reader frustrated by the indiscriminate use of technology in customer services.

Technology versus Service

I try to make it a rule to say three positive things before I have earned the right to say something negative. So, I would like to start by praising the sales person who sold me a sofa; he was charming, knowledgeable, informative, efficient, friendly and not at all pushy. I also commend the bank clerk manning the only counter which was open despite the ever-growing queue. He kept his cool, dealt with everyone efficiently and at the same time managed to treat everyone as an individual. Then there was the guard who, when he saw that we were running to catch a train, did not raise his flag until we had the extra thirty seconds we needed.



Now I can complain about companies which try to save money by having too few staff, using poorly trained staff and misusing technology. I am a pensioner but that does not mean I have the time to battle my way through an automated telephone reply system only to find I am waiting in a queue for the next available 'Customer service person'. However, do you manage if you have to work?

How many of you have managed to get through either on the phone or online to find yourself dealing with someone who is sitting in front of a computer screen with a predefined list of questions and answers and little knowledge?

I contacted one company about a device where the screen had gone blank and despite all my efforts, I could not revive it. The response was that I should go to 'settings; on the device.....What part of 'the screen is blank' did they not understand?

When my mobile phone and internet connection went down, I was told an engineer would come to fix the problem in a week to ten days. As that left me with no means of communication at home I asked if there was any way they could come sooner. The reply was that they would phone me (?) if the engineer could come sooner.

I have been battling with my energy supplier for three years as they told me they had to change the 'cut out box' as it contained asbestos before a smart meter could be fitted and that they would send an asbestos qualified engineer. I made another desperate phone call explaining the situation once again and I was told an engineer would come and have a look. I tried to explain that this had already been done and that I needed someone who deals with the asbestos problem and was told they would send a normal engineer to see what he could do. The engineer came and within thirty seconds he told me he could not do anything until the asbestos had been dealt with. I gave him tea and a biscuit as his next job was booked three hours later. He told me that two days before he sat in his van for four hours due to a similar problem. No surprise that energy costs are high!

Then there was the nurse who asked in a telephone consultation if I ate fat (?), and what size glass did I use if I had a glass of wine and whether I was suffering muscle loss? How would I know? I am a pensioner and don't expect to be as strong as I was. I hate to think what was keyed into her computer.

The answer is to have enough properly qualified staff and less predefined scripts. A basic rule of computing is that the computer should only record truth and, most importantly, personal contact with cheerful qualified staff beats anything else, hands down.

Name and address supplied



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Poetry Corner

This month Mary Gill reflects on the International Day of Tolerance on 16 November.

IN THE WORLD OF WOUNDED SOULS

In the world of wounded souls
we wear our armour,
our spiky armour,
to hide the cracks.

Our interactions
are agonising
as our defences
turn to attacks.

In the world of wounded souls
misunderstandings
are commonplace.
We dare not speak
what's on our mind
we fear a rebuff -
we hide our face.

In the world of wounded souls
there is no harbour,
there is no haven -
no refuge here.
Ever watchful,
ever suspicious,
our brother victims
fill us with fear.

In the world of wounded souls
we live in terror
that further heartache
must lie in store.
We circle round
our wary fellows,
avoiding conflict
by making war.





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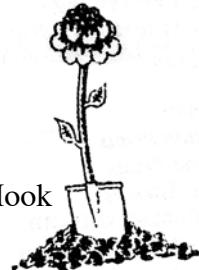
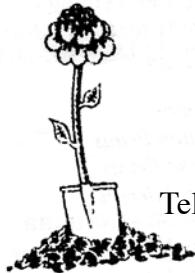
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When a person is sad,
they will sometimes act bad
then must live with the shame.
It's the heartaches to blame.

When a person is blue,
the things that they do
may seem, somehow insane.
Put it down to the pain.

Don't be too quick to make
a judgement. Just take
some time to reflect
and, if you suspect,

they are hurting so much
they've got out of touch
with their head
and instead

are falling apart -
a slave to their heart,
then, if you've strength to lend,
try to act like a friend.

It's a hard thing to do,
but remember when you
have broken the rules,
behaved like a fool.
When your life fell apart
and shattered your heart.



Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Flocks

Ring-necked Parakeets are seen in small numbers during the day but they have a habit of roosting communally, possibly gathering briefly in local trees before flying off to the main roost. At the southern end of Courtwood



Lane I have frequently seen up to 14 birds in early evening landing on the 60yr old Beech tree, but on a single occasion I counted 60 birds flying north up the lane in the direction of Mitcham Common where there is a roost. I believe there is a roost at Esher Rugby Club where up to 4000 birds roost in Poplar trees.

A pre-roosting flock of Starlings performs amazing aerobatics before dropping into the trees or reedbed where they roost. The formation of the flock is often disturbed by the attendance of a Peregrine or Marsh Harrier. Where Rooks and Jackdaws are common, they often form a mixed flock but their aerial movements are not as frenetic as those of starlings.

Many raptors, both from the uplands of Britain and from the continent, spend the winter months on coastal marshes where a concentration of waders, duck, geese and gamebirds provides a selection of prey. The presence of a Merlin will affect the smaller species but if a Marsh or Hen Harrier, or in particular a Peregrine, flies over the marsh panic sets in and the sky fills with birds as everything takes off. A flock of Teal will fly at speed at one height while the larger Wigeon will be at another height and possibly flying in a different direction. A tight group of hundreds of Golden Plover will hurtle across the sky. Lapwings, even in panic, seem to have a more leisurely mode of flight as they try to escape the possible threat.

Birds which breed in northern areas might need to escape harsh winter conditions by migrating to Africa but this tends to be true of species which need to feed upon insects. Other species which happily feed upon seeds, nuts and berries can still find these in winter but could still move if their local crops fail. One species which does this is the Brambling. Last winter we had a group of six in Selsdon Wood, which is not much of a flock. The largest relatively local flock appeared a few years ago in a bare field near Banstead when a thousand Bramblings were joined by an equal number of Chaffinches, covering the ground in a moving carpet as birds fluttered from the back to investigate the feeding possibilities at the front of the flock. Even this number is insignificant in comparison with the 5,000,000 which roosted in Slovenia, and estimates of up to 20,000,000 in roosts elsewhere.

Long-eared Owls are probably the least encountered of the British owls but their numbers are boosted during winter by the arrival of continental birds and small groups can be found roosting, for example, on the small

islands in the Lea Valley though to see them will require a lot of searching. If you insist on getting good views then travel in winter to Kikinda in Serbia where a regular flock gathers around the village square and in 2009 totalled 734 birds. In the whole country it is reckoned that 30,000 birds roost mainly in urban areas.

Cold weather movements occur when adverse conditions suddenly drive birds to search for better weather and feeding conditions. Hundreds of Skylarks, flocks of Lapwings, or amazing numbers of Fieldfares are typically involved. One such flock of Fieldfares flew over Selsdon Wood when we had very cold weather (1992?) but what surprised me was that they did not fly one behind another, instead the whole flock extended for at least one mile as they flew side by side in a westerly direction, perhaps making for the warmer conditions on the west coast of Ireland. The flock must have contained several thousand birds.

Whatever the situation, seeing vast numbers of birds is always a magical experience whether it is Pink-footed Geese contentedly munching left over potatoes in a Norfolk field, scores of Ring Ouzels feeding on the cliff edge above Dover while waiting for night to fall, watching huge migrating flocks of Hobby falcons hawking for dragonflies over Stodmarsh near Canterbury, or the myriad other spectacles that could be mentioned. Memories are made of this!

~~

Answers to How much do you know about the annual Children in Need Appeal?

1. 1980
2. 1985
3. Right
4. Terry Wogan
5. Perfect Day
6. Royal Albert Hall
7. Matt Baker
8. Countryfile
9. Gareth Malone
10. Mel Giedroyc

Trick or Treat?

As you read this, the festivities surrounding Halloween are behind us but I thought it might be a good time to examine Halloween a little closer, and by association, take a look at some of the interesting churchyards in walking distance of Selsdon.

It would be easy to think that Halloween is an American creation, but it originated in Europe and is believed to have first been celebrated in the USA in the 1840s with the Irish immigrants who had fled the potato famine. Halloween originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in). Celts lived 2,000 years ago, mostly in the area that is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and Northern France. They celebrated November 1st as their New Year – the day between the end of harvest and summer and the start of darkness and winter. They also believed the night before the New Year was when the boundaries of both worlds, that of the living and the dead, became blurred and the ghosts of the dead returned to earth. People celebrating Samhain would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off the ghosts.



Halloween, or All Hallows Eve, is observed on 31st October and is the day before All Saints Day also known as All Hallows Day. In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1st as a time to honour all saint and martyrs.



Along the road at All Saints Church, Warlingham, the oldest grave stone dates to 1658. This well-maintained graveyard covers 4 acres, contains 23 war graves with approximately 200 trees of many varieties including several ancient English Yew and one thought to be 2,400 years old. Graves include Richard Ward who established Methodism in Warlingham and Sir Joseph Wilson Swan (1828-1914) inventor of the incandescent light bulb, fairy lights, photographic paper, synthetic silk, a miner's flameless safety light and the dry photographic plate. Swan's house in Underhill was the first house in the world to be wired for domestic electric lighting and in 1881 his lighting was used to light the stage at the Savoy Theatre.

Apart from All Saints Church Sanderstead's royal connection, it is the last resting place of Sir Francis Bond Head, known as "Galloping Head" and one time Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada. Several places in Canada are named after him.

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There is evidence of a church standing on the site of St Mary the Blessed Virgin in Addington since at least 1080 and it is the oldest public building still in use in Croydon. The Crypt holds the remains of the Leigh family, Lords of the Manor who lived at Addington Place from around 1661 till the early 18th century. After the last member of the family, Sir John Leigh, died without issue in 1737, his estate went to distant relatives and was eventually purchased by the Church as a replacement summer residence for the Archbishops of Canterbury; later the name changed to Addington Palace. Apart from the numerous tombs to the Leigh family there are two sets of brasses, one to the family and the other to Thomas Hatteclyff, master of the household to Henry VIII and a son-in-law to the Leigh family. St Mary's Church is a closed churchyard with 5 Archbishops of Canterbury buried in the church and over one thousand memorials. It also has a war memorial and 13 war graves from both World Wars.

Su Yates

~~



Bird's Eye View

By John Birkett, RSPB Croydon Local Group

As I look out of my kitchen window, I can see a couple of shrubs heaving with berries, just in time for the winter thrushes returning here for the winter. I hope to enjoy the spectacle of redwings, blackbirds, song thrushes, blackcaps, greenfinches and goldfinches munching their way through them. Perhaps this will be a waxwing winter and we may even get a few of these Bohemians adding to the spectacle. That, however, could be academic if our local woodpigeons find them first and strip the berries. Planting a couple of berry-bearing shrubs is something most of us can do. In spring and summer, we can enjoy the blossom, which also provides a source of food for pollinators such as bees and hoverflies. Then come the berries providing a splash of colour in the autumn, before the birds find this vital food source. I have heard people complain that they are fed up with the birds, because they eat the berries! Why not simply delight in the ever-changing panoply of wildlife? They add their own colour. And don't forget that ivy can be beneficial. The flowers may look rather unimpressive, but they form later in the year providing an autumn food source for pollinators. And their berries are around later in winter and early spring to fill the hunger gap for birds.

We would love to know what you see in and around Croydon by email - johnbirkett@hotmail.co.uk or Twitter - @JohnBirkett18 (CroydonRSPB). To find out more about some of the birds seen in Croydon have a look at the Croydon Birders website - http://croydon-birders.wikia.com/wiki/Latest_News

The RSPB Croydon Local Group holds monthly illustrated wildlife talks at Whitgift Sports Club, Croham Manor Road CR2 7BG on the second month Monday of each month at 7.30pm. Admission £5 with everyone welcome, not just RSPB members. The full programme of events can be found on our website: <https://group.rspb.org.uk/croydon/>

~~



Sanderstead
& Selsdon
Your local Rotary Club

Our annual **Craft Fair** Saturday 12th November at All Saints Church Hall, Sanderstead. We will have children's entertainment, tray bakes, pictures, paintings, chutneys, jams & so much more. So, don't miss out, come along & purchase those last-minute Christmas gifts.

Father Christmas is coming to switch on the lights & will then visit our local areas as follows:- (All with associated areas)

Mon 5/12 – Farmfields
Tues 6/12 – Norfolk Ave
Wed 7/12 – Ewhurst Ave
Thurs 8/12 – Benchfield Road
Fri 9/12 – Courtlands Close
Mon 12/12 – Kersey Drive
Tues 13/12 – Sundale Ave
Wed 14/12 – Chapel View
Thurs 15/12 – Bird Sanctuary
Fri 16/12 – Huntingfield
Mon 19/12 – Shaw Crescent
Tues 20/12 – Byron Road
Wed 21/12 – Hamsey Green
Sat 24/12 – Elmfield Way (outside the shops)

Come & help us to deliver the Xmas Cards or collecting with Santa.

Details of the routes, shout-outs & gift aid will be through your door in late November. Watch this space & our website
<https://www.rotarysandersteadandselsdon.com/christmas>
or our facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/rotarycroydonsouth/>
Contact our Secretary on 07774 186 792

~~

Charity Weekend at the Selsdon Village Club

The Selsdon Village Club held its annual charity weekend on the 1st and 2nd of October; it had to be moved from its original date due to the passing of the Queen. Various fundraising events were held and a magnificent £1038 was raised for the Alzheimer's Society.

The Village Club would like to say a big thank you to their local business supporters for the generous prizes. They could not have raised such a sum without donations from the following:

Addington Palace Golf Club, McDermotts, Royal Tandoori, Selsdon Spice, El Patio tapas restaurant, Vintage 62 , RAZ barbers, AS Grooming, Gem Nails and Capone's Pizza Parlour.

Lastly, a big thanks to Dean Davenport, the manager of Crystal Palace Ladies, who donated a signed football shirt which raised £100 at the auction.

Please remember the club is open to all residents, just pop in and fill in a membership form and you can enjoy our events, sport, tv matches and live entertainment. Try us for £5 for the month.



Join us at St John's Selsdon this Christmas

Saturday 24th December Crib Service 4.00 pm

A great service for the little ones to enjoy the nativity story.



Saturday 24th December - Midnight Mass 11.30 pm

Our Midnight Mass service including carols.

Sunday 25th December - 10.00am - Christmas Day Eucharist Service.

Join us Christmas morning for our Eucharist service. We ask the children to bring a small gift they have opened to show the congregation.

Check out our website for more information on our services and events:
www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk

A few Myths concerning Selsdon Park Hotel

Beside a wide variety of talks presented to Sanderstead Local History Group were two which were relevant to Selsdon local history. First a presentation in 2021 'The history of Selsdon Farm 871-1800', followed in 2022 with 'Selsdon House 1800-1923'. The final part in 2023 will be 'Selsdon Hotel 1924-2022' when the presenter, Joyce Hoad, will trace the life of hotel owner Allan Doble Sanderson.

Continuing her Selsdon theme Joyce presented a reworked version in Sept 2022 to the Bourne Society entitled '*Myth Busting - The De Vere brochure [aka Selsdon Farm- Hotel]*'

Each page of their Glossy brochure was examined for historical accuracy and alarmingly all the early statements proved to be totally fanciful and inaccurate.

De Vere had taken at face value and then revamped a brochure of 1985 produced by the then owner Basil Sanderson, who had continually mixed up the history of Selsdon, which was a detached part of Croydon from early times, with that of Sanderstead. Basil's incorrect version can be found via the SRA website - The Rowsell Chronicles - History of Selsdon.

A few examples of the many errors in both:

Selsdon means 'SELI'S HILL' not '*mansion on the hill*' and probably was the name of an original settler.

Though no '*Anglo Saxon Hall*' was mentioned in an extant will of Duke Alfred dated c871AD held in the British Library, Duke Alfred did will to his wife and daughter 32 hides in "Selesdune & Sanderstede", c3840 acres which was close to the total acreage of both places.

Another glaring error was '*in 1539 Henry VIII gave Selsdon to Sir John Gresham*', when the actual property given was the manor of Sanderstead, followed by the nonsensical statement '*that it was suggested that King Henry often stayed with Sir John [at Selsdon] when courting Anne Boleyn who lived nearby*', the brochure author being unaware the courtship began in 1526 with Anne being beheaded in 1536.

Although not in the either brochure the romantic story of the courting of Anne Boleyn is also associated with Addington and Wickham Court. On the OS map of Addington, close to Spout Hill, is incorrectly marked '*hunting lodge of Henry VIII*', which was actually the dwelling of the armigerous Leigh family, but a legend arose that King Henry supposedly

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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:



- ❖ 1-bedroom self-contained flats with the benefit of alarm pull cords in all rooms
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- ❖ laundry facilities

Our Extra Care schemes offer:

- ❖ 1-bedroom or studio self-contained flats with the benefit of alarm pull cords in all rooms
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- ❖ 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)



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sjohnson@eldonhousing.co.uk.

Information is also available from our website – **www.eldonhousing.org**

resided there in order to court Anne who resided nearby at Wickham Court. Good story- wrong period and people - Henry Heydon of Wickham Court, who died in 1503, did marry Anne Boleyn (1447-1510) but she was not 'Queen Anne' but her aunt of the same name. 'Queen Anne' had resided at distant Hever castle before her marriage.



Yet a further myth in the brochures is that in 1591 '*Queen Elizabeth 1 once rode to Selsdon which was an Elizabethan mansion and planted a still extant tree in front of the house*'. Records exist which show that Henry Ownstead, a yeoman, resided in a simple hall house dwelling with 1 hearth. So why would she plant a tree there?

What can be deduced about any possible unrecorded visit?

Whilst it is proven that Queen Elizabeth stayed with the Archbishop at Old Palace in Croydon, from whence she could have ridden to visit John Ownstead, her Sgt of the Carriage, at Sanderstead Court whose large mansion boasted 20 fire hearths but they have no tree planting legend. Or could she have arranged to have a tree carried along the narrow and often muddy and well wooded track leading to Addington Place where Sir Olyph Leigh another royal courtier lived in a large house with 18 hearths intending to plant it there - though no legend exists either?

Having debunked previous myths I would like to add my own new version which is just as farfetched -

When the Queen reached his humble dwelling in Selsdon, a loyal yeoman named Henry Ownstead appeared at his door, bowing and then he greeted her. Wishing to return to Croydon for her meal Elizabeth spoke - "My loyal servants - we have carried this tree too far –we can't make Addington Place before nightfall - just plant it here!"

Perhaps the myths had been inspired and enlarged by Basil from his father Allan Doble Sanderson who in a few 1920's newspapers adverts referred to his newly opened hotel as an 'Elizabethan mansion'. Allan shortly after admitted to this phrase which was not revived until Basil produced his brochure in 1985, having a vivid imagination but with little knowledge of historical research. This was copied by the marketing author of the De Vere brochure into a 'glossy history'. Will posterity accept the correct version or remain faithful to the 'errors'?

Joyce P M Hoad

Walking together through grief

The next Bereavement Support Group will run from 18th January 2023 for 5 weeks until 15th February. It will be held in the coffee lounge at the Church and runs from 2 - 3.30pm.



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

We meet at Selsdon Baptist Church, Addington Road.

For more information and to book a place please call Dawn on 07718 189033 or Jane on 07561 869620

Or email - bereavement@selsdonbaptist.org.uk

Or pop into the Stepping Stones Café held at the Church every 2nd Wednesday of the month open from 10am.

Friends of Selsdon Wood

Working to conserve our wood



2023 Calendar

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or email govierh@gmail.com

~~

The 'B Ark' Dog Show



Maria awarding
Bonnie a rosette

On the 22nd October, a very wet Sunday morning, the Golden Ark micropub in our High Street held its first Dog Show. There was a panel of six judges to decide on the dog donning the best fancy dress and the dog doing the best tricks. For the owners there was a dog breed

quiz for them to get their teeth into. The Head Judge, Karen a dog trainer, led a question-and-answer session at the end of the competition.

Jack, a pugglepoo, won the Best Tricks category performing a high 5, a fistbump, a kiss and a rollover. Poppy W, a retriever, won the Best Fancy Dress category donning a golden ark made from cardboard. Poppy B, a black labrador, with his owner won the most 'sit downs' performed by a dog and owner in a minute, achieving a magnificent 17!



Poppy B with owner

There were rosettes for the dogs awarded first, second and third places in each category and all entrants got a 'doggy' bag! All participants enjoyed the event and thanks to Maria, the landlady, for organising it. Another dog show is being planned before Christmas so look out for details.

~~

St Andrew's Day 30 November

St Andrew was officially named the patron saint of Scotland in 1320. Each year we celebrate St Andrew's Day on the 30 November, the supposed anniversary of his martyrdom. He is also the patron saint of Romania, Greece, Russia, Ukraine and Poland.

Who was St Andrew?

Andrew's home was Capernaum in Galilee, and like his brother Simon Peter, he was a fisherman. Andrew, along with Peter, James and John formed the inner circle of Jesus' 12 apostles. Andrew was however a disciple of St. John the Baptist prior to becoming a follower of Christ.

Not a great deal is known about his early life other than he is mentioned in the Bible as taking part in the 'Feeding of the Five Thousand'. It is not absolutely certain where he preached the Gospel, or where he is buried, but Patras in Western Greece claims to be the place where he was martyred and crucified on a cross.

Whilst it is not certain where Andrew actually preached, it appears he travelled great distances in order to spread the word, and it may be this



which links him with Scotland.

Two versions of events claim this link.

One legend builds upon Andrew's extensive travels, claiming that he actually came to Scotland and built a church in Fife. This town is now called St Andrews, and the church became a centre for evangelism, and pilgrims came from all over Britain to pray there.

Another ancient legend recalls how it was after the death of Andrew, sometime in the 4th century, that several of his relics were brought to Fife by Rule, a native of Patras.

Whichever legend is closer to the truth we are unlikely to ever unravel, however it is these links that explain why Andrew is now the Patron Saint of Scotland.

St. Andrew has also been remembered down through the ages for the way he met his terrible death in A.D. 60. It is said that he believed himself unworthy to be crucified on a cross like that of Christ, and so he met his end on a 'saltire', or X-shaped cross (*St Andrew's cross*) which became his symbol. His cross, in white on a blue background, remains the proud symbol of Scotland today and forms a central component of the Flag of the Union of Great Britain.



The St Andrew's cross (left) and the Union Jack

~~

Arts Society Croydon Area

Offering stimulating and informed lectures across the arts, delivered by experts, we meet 10.00 - 12.00 on the second Thursday of the month at All Saints Church Hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead CR2 9AB. £5 or £47 for 10 talks

For more details about our lecture programme see our website <https://tascroydonarea.org.uk>



St John's Presents
**A Christmas
Concert**

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER
7.30PM



Come and join the Norwood Wind Ensemble and Songsations
for a Musical Celebration for the Festive Season.

Concert starts at 7.30pm Tickets £10 on the door, with funds
raised being donated to the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity
The evening will include a raffle and refreshments



St John's Church, Upper Selsdon Road, South Croydon,
CR2 8DD



www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Non recycling packaging is now found in the ground, in rivers and oceans and in our garden soil. What can we do about this worrying problem?

REDUCE. Avoid buying things that are over packaged. Consider buying loose fruit and vegetables in supermarkets. Go to a greengrocer who uses paper bags. Use butchers and fishmongers who allow you to bring your own containers. A few shops are now allowing customers to fill up their own containers but, they can be a bit pricier so choose what works best for you.

REUSE. Save small bags and take them with you to put items into if they need weighing. Sainsbury sell small string bags for veg you can use time and again. The frozen pea packs and similar items with plastic zips can be re-used for freezing small amounts of other foods, as can ice cream cartons and butter-spread cartons for smaller amounts.

RECYCLE. Read the labels on the back of items before you buy as to whether you can recycle the packaging. Take care as some items marked as being able to be recycled cannot go in domestic recycling bins. Instead, a number of the larger supermarkets will allow you to recycle these plastics in bins at their stores.



Special schemes particularly for crisp packets, blister packets for pills and so on can be found near you via the internet and many charities are collecting these items.

Finally look up <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB> who have various recycling drop off point for items that your local council may not take. It's free and their website tells you what they can recycle near you. If we all try to reduce, reuse and recycle where we can the environmental damage will be minimised. Let me know ways you have dealt with packaging problems.

CJ Many thanks to an article from the WI Green Team.

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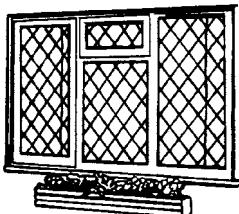
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A SELECTED LIST OF SELSDON ORGANISATIONS

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

CHURCHES

Forestdale & Selsdon Community Church	8657 0078
St John the Divine (Church of England)	8657 2343
Selsdon Baptist	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

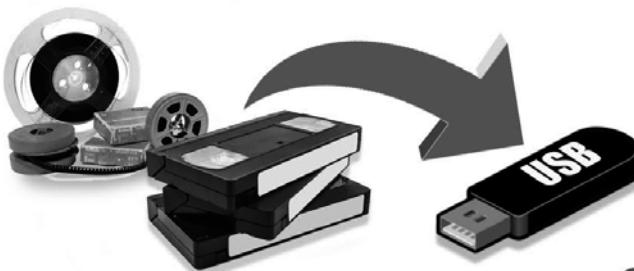
Farley Road Medical Practice	8651 1222
Queenhill Medical Practice	8651 1141
Selsdon Park Medical Practice	8657 0067
Croydon University Hospital (formerly Mayday Hospital, 24/7)	8401 3000
New Addington Minor Injuries Unit (Mon-Fri 14:00-22:00/Sat-Sun 12:00-22:00)	8251 7225
Purley War Memorial Hospital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

CLUBS, GROUPS & CHARITIES

Arts Society Croydon Area	Jean Aarons	Website: https://tascroydonarea.org.uk
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
Crest Badminton Club (Fri pm)	Sue Fairchild	020 8657 3761
Coulsdon Masonic Lodge	Colin Lynch	07801 453474
Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society	Brian Lancaster	8668 6909
Croydon Recorded Music Society	Liz Brereton	8656 7382
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind		8668 2486
Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline		8916 0855
Friends of Littleheath Woods	Ian Leggatt	8651 1140
Friends of Selsdon Wood	see website: www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk	
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Section		
Girlguiding UK: http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved.aspx		0800 169 5901
Parkinson's UK Croydon & District	Jacky Green	01737 355487
Police (Selsdon & Ballards SNT)	Beat Officer:	8721 2464
RSPB, Croydon Local Group	John Davis	8640 4578
Rotary Sanderstead and Selsdon	Wendy A Parr	07774 186792
Probus Club of Croydon South	John Barker	8657 2093
St John's Dramatic Society	Caryl Rapps	8651 1326
St John's Wives	Jane Guglielmi	8657 6672
Sanderstead Local History Group		www.sandersteadlhg.co.uk
Sanderstead Plantation Partners	Michael Lishmund	020 8651 2760
1 st Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website:	www.1stselsdon.org.uk
Beaver Colony (6-8yrs)	beavers.1stselsdon@gmail.com	
Cub Pack (8-10yrs)	cubs.1stselsdon@gmail.com	
Scouts Troop (10-14yrs)	scouts.1stselsdon@gmail.com	
Croham Valley Explorers	Anthony Woodin	020 8651 3780
2 nd Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website: www.2ndSandAScoutGroup.org.uk	
Selsdon Art Group	Mrs F Hooper	07973 412952
Selsdon Bridge Club	Tony Cherrett	01883 730304
Selsdon Community Hall	Tim Potter (Centre Manager)	8657 4300
Selsdon Afternoon Townswomen's Guild	Elizabeth Veasey	8657 1092
Selsdon Floral Club	Maureen Browning	8651 5821
Selsdon Social Club	Geoff Littlewood	8651 4748
Selsdon Tennis Club	Rob Cleeter	8651 5958
66 (Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps		

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