

# The Selsdon Gazette

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September 2020



# THE SELSDON GAZETTE

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There is no August Gazette.

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# **SELSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

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Arthur Wilson

### **One Committee Vacancy**

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

Cllr Helen Pollard Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk 0207 617 7310

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## Editor's Note

Welcome to the September edition of the Selsdon Gazette and at last it is available on-line and in print! For those readers who were not aware that the Gazette was still being produced from April through to July but was only available on-line, please use the link 'Selsdon Gazette' at the top of our website at <http://selsdonresidents.co.uk/> where you will be able to access all these editions .

With lockdown regulations easing it has been great to see people supporting our local shops - especially with the 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme! However it's more important than ever that we remain vigilant by keeping to the social distancing rules, wearing face coverings and getting tested if we have any coronavirus symptoms.

Although the pandemic has brought uncertainty and anxiety into our lives, I feel that communities and families have been drawn closer together. We have many more challenges ahead of us but we will pull through together. This is a unique time in all our lives and on this note please can I encourage you to share your experiences by contributing an article, however short, to the Gazette. This could be describing how you have kept in contact with families and friends, how you have coped with working from home, local places you have discovered or new pastimes you have taken up. I would like to hear from all ages, from the most vulnerable self-isolating, to students receiving A level/ BTech/GCSE grades without taking any examinations. Experiences of any key workers during this time would also be very much appreciated. Any contribution whether it is a recollection, poem or activity to try can be sent to me by email to ([selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)).

Our cover for the Gazette this month is a photo of a beautifully carved sign I came across down Farley Road in tribute to those in the

✿ SUBMISSIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 2020 EDITION  
SHOULD BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN  
20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER - PREFERABLY BEFORE! ✿



NHS who have worked so hard during this pandemic. Well done to Steve Holland for creating this. If you know of other tributes please take a photo and send it to me.

In this issue we have useful articles about gardening jobs for September, foods in season, details of a booklet about scams and local heritage walks. We take a look back to the year 1950 and the railway line that ran to Selsdon 94 years ago. I hope that you enjoy your read.

Best wishes and I do look forward to hearing from you!

**Chris Jones**

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

### **GLAD TO BE BACK!!**

It's been 5 months since we delivered a paper copy of the Gazette and we are so pleased to be able to deliver to you again due to the support of all our volunteers. Some of you may have followed us online at our SRA website but I know that for many that was not possible. You did all receive our subscription envelopes (again thanks to our volunteers and committee) which has had an excellent response and we thank you all. (Never too late to contribute).

The committee has been kept busy with various Zoom meetings for planning, transport and community throughout lockdown. Planning will be our main focus in the coming months as the Government intend to change how all planning is managed by councils. There is an online consultation you can access and give your views at

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/MHCLG-Planning-for-the-Future>

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Sadly, the usual switch-on by Father Christmas on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November has had to be cancelled. Planning starts early for this event and a decision

was made based on current restrictions. The lights will still be twinkling for the festive season and new brighter “Selsdon” signs have been ordered, made possible by donations from all our Councillors’ Ward Community Fund.

## **OPEN DAY AND PICNIC SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER**

This also had to be cancelled. Another victim of Covid-19!!

## **SHOPS**

The Chalk Café has an application for change of use to a bakery and rumour has it that it might be Coughlans.

The old post office has an application for a “financial outlet” though it is not clear what that will be.

By the time to read this we should have a new Pizza restaurant and a dental surgery.

Sadly, we hear that Las Fuentes will not be reopening and we have not heard of any plans for the site. It will be a loss to Selsdon High Street.

Keep well in these strange times.

***Sheila Childs, SRA Chair***

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## **COUNCILLORS’ NOTES**

### **SUPPORTING SELSDON BUSINESS**

In July Selsdon Councillors met with a Council Officer and Selsdon community leaders to discuss how best to move forward towards the production of the Selsdon Community Plan. The meeting, which was held via Zoom, looked at developing a vision for Selsdon. Looking at the results of the consultation exercises that have been carried out in the last year, we were able to focus on the areas that residents feel are important features for Selsdon. Here are some extracts from the research:

# Priorities for improving Selsdon

## Culture, restaurants and local entertainment



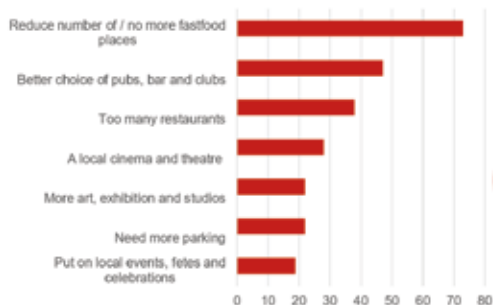
Q7. What do you think are the priorities for improving culture, restaurants and local entertainment?

Culture, restaurants and local entertainment issues were the third priority identified during the engagement, with 15% (119) of responses.

### Key issues

#### Number of responses

#### Culture, restaurants and local entertainment



### Comments

'A Christmas community fair, a community Remembrance Day event, restore the annual country show in Selsdon woods, less fast food and more nice places to eat in (if you could park) or nice bars. Make it a destination and not a pass through'

'Amateur dramatics societies, classical music societies, popular music societies, plus facilities for use by them. Adult evening classes. More of the various proper restaurants and less fast food outlets'

'A boutique Cinema like an Everyman would be good'

'Along the high street I believe that we have a lot of restaurants, maybe too many.'

Other issues raised were diversity of restaurants, more activities in Selsdon Hall, Film nights, use library for activities, too many nail and tanning shops

# Priorities for improving Selsdon

## Transport and streetscape



Q6. What do you think are the priorities for improving transport and streetscape?

Transport and streetscape issues were the second priority identified during the engagement, with 21% (166) of responses.

### Key issues

#### Number of responses

#### Transport and Streetscape



### Comments

'A clean and green high street - it would improve enormously the sense of well-being of shoppers. The ability to force businesses to pay for rubbish and properly sorted recycling material to be removed, to reduce fly-tipping'

'Demolishing the art deco garage which has been neglected to the point of being dangerous'

'A good bus service and trees and grass verges kept well'

'Addressing parking issues. Double parking etc.'

Other issues raised: Better cycling routes, maintain the village feel about Selsdon, extend local tram to Selsdon, provide electric car charging points, there is too much traffic congestions and reduce car speeds.





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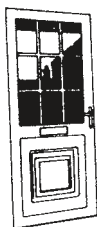
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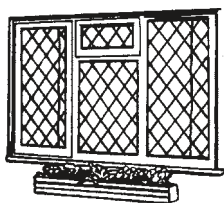
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# Priorities for improving Selsdon

## Greening and open spaces



Q5. What do you think are the priorities for improving Greening and open spaces?

Greening and open space issues were the top priority identified during the engagement, with 29% (237) of responses to this question.

### Key issues

#### Number of responses



### Comments

'100% keeping all the green & open spaces & not building properties on e.g. Gravel Hill & area between Addington Village Interchange & Forestdale'

'Better maintenance of the parks. Upgrade the play equipment in Selsdon Rec. Stop the threat from Brick By Brick which is building on green spaces. Better signposting'

'Better kept local parks for sports and children to play in. Better sport facilities in parks. Kids community centre'

Other issues raised were: provide a café and toilets at Selsdon rec, disabled access and signage to green spaces, develop historic walks for Selsdon, put on events and activities in green space and dog friendly spaces.

Work will continue and we hope to have the Community plan completed soon.

In the process of looking into the history of the area, a press cutting emerged from 1926 which showed that Selsdon had been referred to a Selsdon Garden Village (retyped below).

*'A vigorous tree-planting campaign is being undertaken by the residents of Selsdon Garden Village, the new suburb on the summit of Croham Heights, with the object not only of conserving, but of extending the beauties of Surrey Downs. The new suburb has been built on open hill country, fringed by several well-known woods, all of which have remained untouched. The roads are to be lined with trees – limes, mountain ash, beech, etc. – and gardens are being made shady and sequestered by the planting of silver birches, 800 of which have been presented by the housing contractors. The residents are also actively supporting a movement to acquire Selsdon Wood as a bird sanctuary, and they hope by continuing the practice of communal tree-planting to encourage the songsters to migrate to the village.'*

## **RATS IN SELSDON**

We have received reports of rats in the area around Selsdon. This was reported to the Council and we received this response:

*'Just to confirm that following a site meeting last week between myself, Sainsburys, and Croydon's pest control contractor, we have had bait boxes installed on the triangle and have back filled some of the rat holes. Hopefully we will see the results within a couple of weeks. We are also looking to have the undergrowth cut back.*

*The bin has also been fixed.*

*If you do have any queries from members of the public please feel free to direct them to myself.'*

We will keep an eye on things, but if you see any rats please get in touch and we will follow up with the Council.

## **11 CHAPEL VIEW PLANNING APPLICATION**

An application for a large and insensitive development at 11 Chapel View was submitted to the Council in July (ref 20/02146/HSE). The plan was to build a huge rear extension and put in balconies that overlooked neighbouring properties.

Cllr Helen Pollard sent in a formal objection and we are pleased to report that the Council has decided to refuse permission for the development.

This is a rare victory in the constant battle to protect the character of Selsdon.

## **HAWTHORN CRESCENT**

The planning application for the housing development on the green space at Hawthorn Crescent was due to be decided at a Planning Committee meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> July. At the last minute it was mysteriously removed from the agenda without a reason being given. Whilst we would like to think the whole project has been shelved, we regret this is unlikely to be the case. It will probably be referred to a future Planning Committee meeting. When it does, Cllr Stranack and Cllr Millson will make sure they put forward the objections of the local community.

## **LEISURE CENTRES AND LIBRARIES REOPENING**

The process of reopening Council facilities after lockdown has now started but unfortunately, Croydon seems to be falling behind other Councils. Croydon libraries only started reopening on 20<sup>th</sup> July and yet many other councils started reopening in early July. Despite being asked, the Cabinet Member responsible Cllr Oliver Lewis could not explain why Croydon was so slow.

The same applies to the reopening of leisure centres. Some leisure centres in the north of Croydon have reopened but those in the South of the borough including Monks Hill, remain closed. Again, no clear explanation as to why this is. We hope it is not because they are only opening those that are in Labour areas of Croydon!

As your local councillors, we will continue to challenge the Council to make sure all council services are reopened as soon as safely possible.

## **MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS**

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

If you have any issues you wish to discuss with your councillor please get in touch by email:

[Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk)

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

[Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk)

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

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS JULY / AUGUST 2020**

20/03130/FUL – 164 Addington Road, South Croydon CR2 8LB  
Installation of shopfront

20/03064/NMA – 170 Addington Road, South Croydon CR2 8LB  
Alterations to rear elevation to provide refuse bin storage area and access door aperture.

20/02494/HSE – 1 Chapel View, South Croydon, CR2 7LG  
Alterations, erection of a hip-to-gable rear roof extension, rear dormer and three roof lights along front roof slope.

20/02407/HSE – 69 Chapel View, South Croydon, CR2 7LJ  
Erection of a garage in the front garden with alteration to land level.

20/02885/HSE – 142 Croham Valley Road, South Croydon, CR2 7RA  
Erection of a single storey side/rear infill extension.

20/01953/FUL – 219 Farley Road, South Croydon, CR2 7NQ  
Demolition of existing dwellinghouse and the construction of a part-single and part-four-storey building comprising 9 flats, with associated vehicle and cycle parking, refuse store, hard and soft landscaping.

20/02624/HSE – 1 Ingham Close, South Croydon, CR2 8LS  
Erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and raised timber deck to rear.

20/03342/HSE – La Brisa, Lynne Close, South Croydon CR2 8QA  
Alterations including erection of a part single part two storey rear extension, front porch and loft conversion including four rooflights to the front elevation.

20/02193/LP – 29 The Ruffetts, South Croydon, CR2 7LS  
Erection of a rear dormer and gable end roof extension to facilitate a loft conversion.

20/03555/HSE - 26 Rylandes Road South Croydon CR2 8EA  
Erection of a first-floor side extension and a single storey front extension.

20/03065/HSE - 115 Sundale Avenue South Croydon CR2 8RR  
Alterations, erection of a single storey rear extension and rear raised platform

20/03108/PA8 - Highways Verge, Junction of Addington Road and Old Farleigh Road South Croydon

The installation of a new 20.0m column supporting 6 no antennas, together with ground-based equipment cabinets and ancillary development thereto.

*(Remember that you can use this website to view planning applications [http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anuupdate/planning\\_table.html](http://www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anuupdate/planning_table.html))*



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# MP Chris Philp's Report

## Member of Parliament for Croydon South

### Croydon's Planning Applications

I am afraid that I have some terrible news on the Purley Skyscraper. After a four-year battle and following the second public inquiry last December, the Planning Inspector has recommended that the application be approved. Having spent four years fighting this – starting with the Labour council's initial grant of planning in 2016, through two public inquiries and a High Court battle, I am absolutely gutted by this outcome. I am so angry and upset that this has happened. The skyscraper is 17 floors high and, in my opinion, totally out of keeping with Purley town centre. It also only has 30 or so parking places for 220 flats.



Croydon Council's Labour run administration has been continuing to push forward its agenda to knockdown family homes and replace them with blocks of flats despite the lockdown. I recently opposed two large blocks of flats that have applied for planning permission - which given the council's past record, they are likely to get. Neither application suits the character of the area, and yet another family home is set to be replaced with flats. You can read my formal objections here - <https://www.chrisphilp.com/opposing-two-blocks-of-flats/>

Brick by Brick (BxB) is a company that was created and is owned by the council for the purpose of building homes in the borough. All of London, including Croydon, has to build more homes and I support building homes in the borough - provided they are appropriate to the area in which they are built. This is one of the reasons why I'm supporting the resident led campaign for a Directly Elected Mayor of Croydon (DEMOC). With a directly elected - and therefore accountable - mayor in charge of the council, Brick by Brick's actions would also be much more accountable. The council would no longer be able to use Brick by Brick to destroy green spaces and knockdown family homes for flats.

You can read more about the DEMOC campaign here - <https://www.chrisphilp.com/a-directly-elected-mayor-for-croydon/> - and I hope that you will take the time to download the petition and sign it.

## Work on the Brighton Mainline

The Brighton Mainline runs from London to Brighton and goes through our neighbourhood. It is one of the busiest train lines in the country carrying over 300,000 passengers each day. This means the line is running at 99% capacity. As a result, any small problem creates wider disruption and rush-hour trains are over-crowded. This is why Brighton Mainline passengers experience 60 percent more knock-on delays than passengers on the South West Mainline. The line is also historically underfunded, and its track-bed, points and signals are in need of maintenance or repair.

Some time ago, I led a delegation of MPs to see the then Prime Minister, Theresa May. This meeting led to a £300m programme of works to upgrade the infrastructure (for example, fixing points and signals). This work is now happening, and should ensure there are fewer delays and cancellations once completed. Over 2018/19 Network Rail used £67m to upgrade infrastructure and tackle congestion hotspots - this initial spending is expected to reduce delays by up to 15 percent.

Another solution is to create more capacity. Passenger numbers have more than doubled since the year 2000. The biggest bottleneck on the network is around East Croydon station – Network Rail describe it as “the most challenging bottleneck on Britain’s railway network.” Services converge from across Surrey, Sussex and parts of Hampshire through East Croydon, before diverging to Victoria, London Bridge and Blackfriars. Unless we solve the bottleneck at East Croydon, delays and overcrowding will continue to get worse.

I have been campaigning for the Government to provide around £2 billion to fix this bottleneck. This project would mean expanding East Croydon from 6 to 8 platforms and widening other areas of track in the vicinity. It would also involve grade separating Windmill junction - another bottleneck on the line. Not only would this prevent a lot of delays, but it would allow for more services to run, increasing capacity by 30 percent.

Network Rail launched a consultation on 1 June, which will be open until 20 September. As well as East Croydon, the consultation will include Selhurst Triangle, Windmill junction and Norwood Junction. You can find out more details and have your say here:

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-routes/south-east/croydon-area-remodelling-scheme/>

### **Chris Philp**

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

## **Message from Jack Killian, Police Community Support Officer**

Hello Residents,

The team has been quite busy in recent weeks.

You may have heard that the team executed a warrant on Albatross Gardens on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July. Over 30 cannabis plants were found at the property. A male was arrested and charged to court with production of cannabis, possession of a class A controlled drug and possession of a class B controlled drug. Another good result for the team and hopefully more to follow in the near future.

The team also helped out on another ANPR traffic operation on Lodge Lane and Fieldway in New Addington. 105 vehicles were stopped in the space of 4 hours. Two arrests were made for drug driving and possession of an offensive weapon, as well as 3 fines for cannabis and 2 vehicles seized for having no insurance.

Please ensure that you park your cars in safe locations and that they are secure as we continue to have a few stolen cars and thefts from cars. Be vigilant spotting any catalytic converter thefts taking place.

Hope you all continue to enjoy the lovely weather we've been having recently and of course stay safe! As always if you need our assistance or advice just contact the ward team with the below details.

PCSO Jack Killian 7114SN

Selsdon and Forestdale Safer Neighbourhood Team

Telephone number – 020 8721 2464

Ward Email - [SNMailbox-SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk](mailto:SNMailbox-SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk)

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

## **The Railway Comes to Selsdon**

You may be familiar with my old friend (Farley Road) who recently celebrated a 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. I visited with and suffered travelling with my friend twice almost every weekday, and often at weekends, for many, many years. You may also be unwitting friends but did you know of its

history?

On 24<sup>th</sup> July 1926, Farley Road was officially opened by our then local MP cutting a ribbon at the Croham Road end and a procession of dignitaries then drove up Farley Road toward Selsdon where the chairman of the newly formed Residents Association gave a welcome speech. A tour of the fledgling village, then comprising only Byron, the top of Upper Selsdon and the south end of Queenhill Road, was conducted. The party then set up in the new sports ground, now known as Queenhill Playspace, with speeches and a large birthday cake to be cut with a silver knife. A band played and tea and refreshments were provided. Farley Road and Croham Valley Heights, aka Selsdon Garden Village, was born.

The first 146 houses in Byron, Upper Selsdon and Queenhill Roads received planning permission from the Coulsdon and Purley Urban District Council on March 5<sup>th</sup> 1925. At that time Selsdon was a tiny village with a grand house, Selsdon Park, a farm down the road, Selsdon Park Farm, now the site of Aldi, and a dozen or so cottages on the Addington Lane housing farm workers and staff serving the big house. Croham Lane (now Croham Road) then terminated at the current entrance to Croham Hurst Golf Club and diverted northwards up Conduit Lane to meet Coombe Road. The builders, Messrs Richard Costain and Sons, needed to get their Liverpool men and building materials to the landlocked hamlet of Selsdon and a narrow-gauge steam railway was constructed up the hill creating the route we now know as Farley Road. It is not known why Upper Selsdon



Road was not chosen as the route. Perhaps the owner of the big house, Selsdon Park, did not want to be bothered by such mundane and noisy things as builders and a steam locomotive trundling past the entrance to



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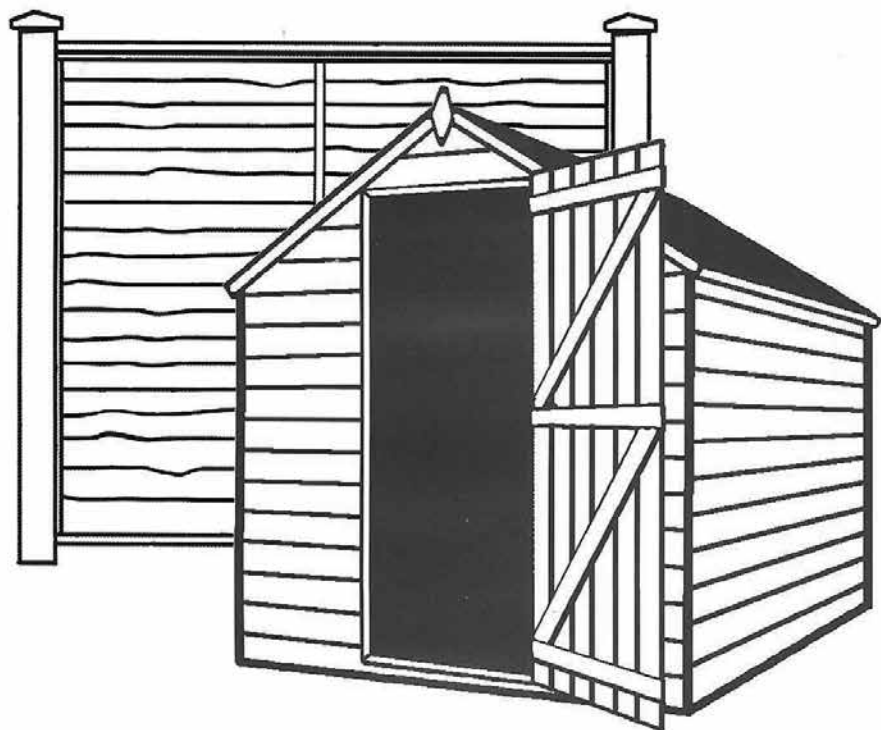
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his property? It is also not clear where on the London Bridge and South Coast Railway the equipment and materials would have been offloaded for eventual transfer onto the narrow gauge. South Croydon, Selsdon Road, Coombe Lane and Sanderstead Stations were local but none seem to offer an easy route to the end of Croham Lane / Road.

Costains were quick to begin construction and the new houses began to be occupied by September 1925, selling for £650 with Costains receiving a £75 subsidy per house from the Council. No 1 Queenhill was the 'Estate Office' and one can still see the difference in this house and all the others in the locality.

The photograph below appears to have been taken with Croham Hurst in the background and the long slow curve of Farley Road can be seen snaking back down the hill.

***Ian Leggatt***

*I am indebted to the late Ted Frith, author of 'Honeymoon Village or Nowhere Town? The Story of Selsdon, an Outer London Suburb', for the details in this article which was inspired by chance sight of a random post on Facebook and which sparked my research into the Farley Road Railway.*

*The post card photo is mine, as are any errors.*

~~

## **Autumn Equinox – 22 September 2020**

The autumnal equinox occurs in September each year and, in the northern hemisphere, the date marks the end of summer and the beginning of autumn.

An equinox happens when the amount of daytime is pretty much equal to the amount of night-time. It marks a transition between seasons so the spring equinox marks the start of spring and the autumn equinox marks the start of autumn.

Each of the two-equinox occurring in a year take place when the Sun is positioned exactly above the equator – one around 20/21 March and the other around 22/23 September. The word equinox comes from two Latin words – 'equi' which means equal and 'nox' meaning night. From the day of the spring equinox, the day is longer than the night, while from the day



of the autumn equinox the night becomes longer than the day. Astronomical seasons are based on this position of the earth in relation to the sun and has been used to mark time for thousands of years due to observable natural and celestial occurrences. So astronomically the first day of autumn this year falls this year on 22 September, and autumn ends on 21 December.

Meteorological seasons on the other hand are calculated by meteorologists and climatologists by using the annual temperature cycle. On the meteorological calendar, autumn always begins on 1 September and ends on 30 November. The seasons break down into four blocks of three months with Spring (March, April, May), Summer (June, July, August), Autumn (September, October, November) Winter (December, January, February).

When the duration of daylight becomes noticeably shorter, the temperature cools considerably. In temperate climates (such as the UK) this leads to the shedding of leaves from deciduous trees. Hence autumn is often referred to as the 'fall'. Squirrels, mice and beavers stock up on food during the fall. They collect food such as nuts and leaves to store and eat later. Birds that arrived in the spring from the south to breed, will return with their new young in autumn as the insects that they feed on become scarce in the winter. These birds include swallows, martins, warblers, nightingales, yellow wagtails, cuckoos, swifts, turtle doves, ospreys and terns.

**CJ**

## Explore Croydon

Two short walks in the Selsdon area are the first to be featured in Croydon's Neighbourhood Walks. Illustrated folding maps can be printed at home or the document can read be online as you walk. The web page on the Croydon Council web site is [www.croydon.gov.uk/neighbourhoodwalks](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/neighbourhoodwalks).

### 1. Addington Village Heritage Walk

0.6 miles (15 minutes) with one steep hill

This walk guides you through the historic village using key buildings, such as the Flint cottages, the Forge and the Lion Lodges, to explain the area's history.

## 2. Explore Selsdon Heritage Walk

1.5 miles (60 minutes) with one steep hill

This walk explores the tranquil woodland of Littleheath Woods and takes in historic architecture, telling the story of Selsdon's transformation from hillside to high street.



## A Good Time for Gardening – September 2020



Well ... how has your garden fared this year? Extremes of heat some days, very windy on others, all contributing to drying everything out really rapidly. In a few weeks' time the garden will start to shut down for Winter, but showing a beautiful array of colour as the leaves change for Autumn.

## A few jobs for September:

- ~ net ponds to reduce the amount of debris entering the water
- ~ clean out cold frames and greenhouses
- ~ continue to feed and deadhead hanging baskets and containers to lengthen their flowering season
- ~ keep deadheading dahlias and roses to keep the flowers blooming
- ~ keep watering camellias and rhododendrons to ensure next year's flower buds develop well
- ~ keep harvesting the veg that you've grown this season; sweetcorns are ready when the kernels give out a milky sap when pinched. If the liquid is watery, they need a little longer.
- ~ spread newly harvested potatoes out to dry for a few hours before storing them in a cool, dark place
- ~ help pumpkins to ripen by removing any leaves that shadow the fruits
- ~ cut bean and pea plants at ground level to allow the roots to slowly release nitrogen back into the soil as they break up
- ~ pick blackberries as they ripen and freeze if not using straight away
- ~ water greenhouse plants in the morning so everything has dried by the cooler evening and close the door overnight to keep any daytime heat in as long as possible
- ~ raise the height of mower blades as the grass growth slows down
- ~ blitz perennial weeds as they are more vulnerable to weed killer in the Autumn

..... and when the weather isn't good enough to be outside in the garden, take time to reflect on what worked well this year and begin to plan next year's garden. Make sure you order plenty of Spring flowering bulbs to plant over the next few weeks to ensure a riot of colour early next year.

### **Top 10 Spring flowering bulbs:**

Snowdrop, iris reticula, crocus, daffodil, tulip, hyacinth, winter aconite, snakes head fritillary, bluebell, lily of the valley.

If lockdown restrictions allow, why not take a trip out to visit some of the glorious gardens in the south east as they will be resplendent in their Autumn foliage. Please check the opening times and booking requirements prior to visiting. A few suggestions are:

**Arundel Castle Gardens**, Arundel, BN18 9AB

**Doddington Place Gardens**, Church Lane, Sittingbourne, ME9 0BB

**Hever Castle**, Hever Road, Hever, Edenbridge, Kent, TN8 7NG

**Ightham Mote**, Mote Road, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 0NT (NT)

**Leonardslee Lakes & Gdns**, Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, Horsham, RH13 6PP

**Lullingstone Castle and The World Gardens**, Dartford, DA4 0JA

**Osterley Park & House**, Jersey Road, Isleworth, Middx, TW7 4RD (NT)

**Penshurst Place**, Penshurst, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 8DG

**St Mary's House and Gardens**, Steyning, BN44 3WU

**Sheffield Park & Gardens**, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 3QX (National Trust)

**Woolbeding Gardens**, Brambling Lane, Wooldbeding, Midhurst, GU29 9RR (NT)

Bill, Ben and Little Weed

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

~~

## **1950 The Birth of a Princess**

In 1950 George VI was still on the throne and on August 15 HRH The Princess Royal, generally recognised as the hardest working of the present Royal Family, was born. The princess does not appear in the headlines very often but as she celebrates her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, it is a good time to review other events of that year. The scars of the Second World War were still to be seen with bomb sites (making





great adventure playgrounds for children). Ration books were found in every household.

Here is a selection of events in 1950:

- Close to home, Sainsbury's, who had traded since 1869, opened their first self-service supermarket in Croydon.
- As football returns to the television, you might remember that in 1950 the English Football team competed in the world cup in Brazil after having withdrawn from FIFA in 1920 on the grounds that they refused to play against teams from countries they had been at war with. In cricket West Indies won their first Test Series in the UK.
- Staying with sport, the first World Championship Formula One race was held at Silverstone and was won by Giuseppe Farina in an Alpha Romeo, his teammate Luigi Fagioli was second and a Brit, Reg Parnell, finished third.
- Talking of cars, fuel rationing came to an end. As people tore up their ration books and queued for fuel, the Minister for Fuel and Power, Philip Noel-Baker was negotiating to buy American Oil in return for them buying British goods. Soap rationing also ended in 1950!
- If the relaxation of lockdown is making you think of holidays, you may be interested that Horizon Holidays organised the first package holiday air charter overseas. This was a camping holiday to Corsica.
- If the radio has been your refuge during lockdown you may be interested that programmes like Educating Archie, featuring Max Bygraves and Peter Bough with his dummy Archie Andrews, and the Archers (an everyday story of country folk) were first broadcast in 1950.
- I was too young for those programmes and I also missed out on the start of Listen with Mother and the TV programme Andy Pandy. I did catch up with Andy Pandy and his pals, Teddy and Looby Loo, a bit later.
- The comic, The Eagle, came out in 1950 featuring strips like Dan Dare and Captain Pugwash. The Eagle was re-launched in 1982.
- Richard Dimbleby introduced the first BBC live broadcast from Europe which included pictures from the Hotel de Ville in Calais.
- We cannot ignore politics; Clement Attlee won the General Election taking the Labour Party into government. Labour did lose many seats, including one to a young conservative candidate, Edward Heath, who of course would later become Prime Minister himself.
- Scottish Nationalism was around in 1950 as four Scottish students stole the Stone of Scone from Westminster Abbey.
- Film making has been put on hold at the moment but you may remember

Marie Winter

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The Blue Lamp with Jack Warner as George Dixon, or Treasure Island with Robert Newton which were both released in 1950.

- Have you been cooking during lockdown? As you get your food mixer out of the cupboard, you may think about the Kenwood Food Mixer which first appeared in 1950.
- The Cunard liner Aquitania was scrapped after 36 years of service
- As you may have started having days out you may not know that in 1950 a proposal to make the Peak District the first National Park in the UK was submitted.

It seems to me that there is a certain similarity between events of 1950 and those of today. Anyway, I hope HRH Princess Anne had a very Happy Birthday.

### *Marie Fuggle*

~~~

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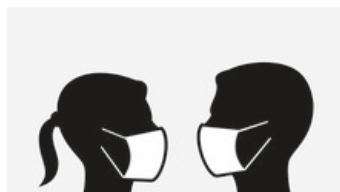
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# Coronavirus Vocabulary

In the last six months we have added many new words and their meanings to our vocabulary. Do you know the difference between WFH and PPE? Take this simple matching quiz to see how you have kept up with the new jargon.



Word/Phrase	Meaning
1. Pandemic	A. The average number of people who will catch the disease from a single infected person
2. Herd Immunity	B. The first part of the UK's strategy to combat coronavirus, which involved trying to identify infected people early and trace anyone who had been in close contact with them
3. Delay Phase	C. Restrictions on movement and everyday life where people are told to stay at home and public buildings are closed.
4. Social distancing	D. A treatment that causes the body to produce antibodies, which fight off a disease, and gives immunity against further infection
5. Lockdown	E. Supports firms hit by coronavirus by temporarily helping pay the wages of some staff.
6. Containment Phase	F. Keeping away from other people, with the aim of slowing down the transmission of the disease
7. 'Miley Cyrus'	G. The third part of the UK's strategy to deal with coronavirus, which will attempt to lessen the effect of a high number of cases on public services e.g. NHS halting all non-critical care
8. R0 factor	H. Health workers use a line on a graph to show the rate of rise of new infections. If measures are taken to slow this rate this happens to the graph and it is more likely that the NHS will cope.
9. Asymptomatic	I. Cockney rhyming slang for coronavirus
10. Furlough	J. An epidemic of serious disease spreading rapidly in many countries simultaneously
11. PPE	K. Someone who ignores public health advice
12. Flatten the curve	L. The second part of the UK's strategy to deal with coronavirus, in which measures like social distancing are used to slow the spread.

13. Mitigation Phase	M. How the spread of a disease slows after a significantly large proportion of the population has been exposed to it.
14. Covidiot	N. Someone who has a disease but does not have any of the symptoms it causes.
15. Vaccine	O Clothing and kit such as masks, gloves, goggles and aprons worn by medical staff, care workers and others to protect them from coronavirus patients who might be carrying the disease.

Answers after Nature Notes

~~

## Seasonal Food in September

### Fruits in Season

Apples, blackberries, blueberries, damsons, figs, grapes, greengages, loganberries, melons, peaches, pears, plums, raspberries, tayberries.



Ideas for blackberries

- Try adding a handful to an apple crumble for a beautiful Autumnal pudding.
- Try warming some blackberries with a little brandy and sugar.
- Delicious served with ice cream and sprinkled with toasted flaked almonds or toasted hazelnuts.

### Vegetables in Season

Aubergines, autumn cabbage (green, red), beetroot, broccoli (calabrese, autumn sprouting), brussels sprouts, cardoon, celeriac, celery, chillies, chicory, courgettes, cucumbers, endive, fennel, globe artichokes, green beans (French, runner), kohlrabi, lettuce and other salad leaves, leeks, marrows, okra, pak choi, parsnips, peppers, pumpkins and winter squashes, radishes (summer, winter), spinach, spring onions, swedes, sweetcorn, summer squash, tomatoes, turnips, watercress.





### Idea for Runner Beans

- Great stir fried with a little oil, chopped red chilli, garlic, a splash of sherry, rice vinegar and a sprinkling of sugar.

### Ideas for Courgettes

- Try finely slicing raw courgette with a mandolin and dressing with the zest and juice of a lemon, some good olive oil and salt and pepper. Scatter over some finely chopped chilli or some mint.
- Delicious served in an omelette with basil or mint and some feta cheese.

~~

## The Little Book of Big Scams



Having recently received an email supposedly from British Telecom about a payment that had not gone through and requiring me to act immediately by pressing a link to their website, I was glad that I had taken the time to work my way through the Little Book of Big Scams so I was aware of this scam and could report the email.

The Metropolitan Police has now produced the fifth edition of its 'Little Book of Big Scams' to raise

awareness of some of the ever-evolving ways criminals use to scam the public out of their hard-earned money. The information and advice in this booklet help you to identify potential frauds and prevent the loss of valuable personal data to those so intent on stealing it. Also, if you are a victim of fraud this booklet provides advice on the best course of action to report and remedy the unfortunate situation you find yourself in. I cannot recommend reading this booklet enough to all ages. It highlights the most common frauds people are falling victim to. Whether you are on a dating site, buying something on line or even just using free Wi-Fi at a café, there is valuable insight to help you stay safe and confidently carry out daily activities as you should be able to. Knowing a fraud is occurring, stops you being a victim!

The overall mantra is **Take Five** (minutes) to stop fraud.

**Stop** – Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

**Challenge** – Could it be fake? It's ok to refuse, reject or ignore any

requests. Only criminals will rush and panic you.

**Protect** - Contact your bank immediately if you think you have fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

**JUST REMEMBER: IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS.**

You can download the booklet on

<https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/central/advice/fraud/met/the-little-book-of-big-scams.pdf>

CJ

~~

## A Thank You to our Rubbish Heroes



Littleheath Woods has enjoyed an exponential growth in visitor numbers during our period of Lockdown. I have met (maintaining social distance) locals who have not visited the woods for years, people who did not know the woods existed and people who have travelled from across the Borough to enjoy our green and open spaces. Unfortunately, that increase in visitor numbers, coupled with spells of warm and dry weather, has resulted in an increase in litter being deposited in the woods. The fields in particular have been gathering points for picnics, barbeques, and social gatherings. We want people to come and enjoy Littleheath Woods - it is a public area and to be enjoyed by all. But a plea – please take your litter: bottles, takeaway containers, can, wrappers, bags etc. home with you. If you brought it with you take it home - ‘Leave nothing but footprints’.

When you visit Littleheath Woods you may think there is no problem with litter. It is very clean and tidy and generally little litter to be found. This is because of a number of unsung heroes who regularly go out into the woods and pick up other people’s rubbish so, to all those community minded individuals, can I just say a big ‘Thank You’ for all your hard work and dedication to keeping Littleheath Woods a clean and pleasant place to visit.

***Ian Leggatt***

*Chair, Friends of Littleheath Woods*

~~



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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. Publication dates may mean a delay between receipt of your letters and when they appear.

Dear Editor,

*(A further instalment from Jessica about 'life under lockdown'.)*

## **THE BLESSING 2020**

What a wonderful summer we are having. Later in our lives, we shall look back at the peculiar year of 2020 and how the marvellously hot and sunny weather made the whole situation bearable. It has been great to spend so much time out of doors; as the rules decreed by the Government for our safety, are gradually eased. For people without a garden it must have been particularly difficult in the Spring before the rules became more relaxed. Now however, we can sit in small groups with family and friends outdoors, but indoors appears to be debatable. Although it feels odd, we can meet and sit quietly drinking what food and drink we have bought with us. At first, we had to take our own crockery too, but that also seems not to apply now. It is so good to see friends and sit and chat in a garden or public space.

The children of future generations will probably have to study, 'The strange twenty first century plague' and little faces will turn up to our children and grandchildren and say in disbelief, "Did you really not go out to discos, dances, parties, the theatre or cinema, restaurants, clubs and pubs etc.?", or by then whatever has replaced these things as there may be new forms of entertainment we cannot imagine yet, and the incredible answer will be, "No, we did none of it." Then those yet to arrive generations will turn up their little faces and say in disbelief. "You really didn't go out at all?"

The reply, "But we found it very peaceful and relaxing to be so quiet". The rushing around had ceased, because we couldn't go out except for one walk a day or for vital food shopping. It could be added that

once 'Lockdown' was eased and people could do more, we could all go outside and mix with other people, as long as we didn't get too close to anyone who didn't live with us. Then the sun shone almost every day for five months. There was just enough rain to keep plants growing. We could then go for picnics and have BBQs to our hearts' content, chat at a distance, have coffee with friends in open places, or just listen to the bees buzzing and the birds singing. We even celebrated birthdays and other events by taking picnics out into the countryside, sometimes with mini bottles of wine to toast the special event. We chatted at a social distance to complete strangers too.

Those little upturned faces, previously mentioned, will then begin to laugh. "Piling on the agony Granddad?", "You sure it was as bad as you are making out Granny?"

Wasn't that what we said to our parents and grandparents regarding the first and second world wars? They will not have experienced it, so will react as people do now. "Were those times really exactly as you say or has time altered your memory slightly?"

But in those future times, those who can remember, will remember illness and death, sadness, working from home or being furloughed or being made redundant, home schooling and gardening. Every trip, be it to a show or to go abroad; flying, cruising, train journeys etc., were all cancelled. There were scarcely any airplanes in the sky and very few cars on the road. Because many people were furloughed from work and money was short, people were helped with food parcels, as were the sick and the elderly. People may remember going on a once a day walk and zig zagging across roads to avoid other people walking along the road. It was also easy to step into a road safely too, if people came too close, for there was so little traffic. We frequently heard the sirens of emergency vehicles but very little else. But most of all will be the ten weeks of clapping hands on Thursday nights at 8.00 pm, as a thank you to the NHS doctors and nurses who were willing to risk their lives to save those who were sick; and many lost their lives fighting the deadly virus: and all the ancillary workers who risked theirs, including the Police, Fire Brigade, Refuse Collectors and everyone else who took the risk, so that normal services could be kept going.

Everywhere children drew rainbows with 'Thank You NHS Workers', on or beside the drawings. Windows, doors, hedges, pavements, were all

festooned with the 'Thank You' signs. But most of all, we will remember the sunshine, freshly mown lawns, until they became too dry to mow, and masses of bright, colourful flowers, which eventually flowered late because everywhere was shut and it took a while to obtain flower plugs and seeds.

The upturned little faces will probably have turned down and trotted off yawning widely by then, to allow them to do some interesting stuff!

As is always said on Armistice Day, "We will remember them." Only this year 2020, it will have additional meaning.

Let us make happy memories while the sun shines, what a blessing it has been.

***Jessica Blake***

### **A plea for budding footballers from Selsdon Little League**

Selsdon Little League runs on Saturday mornings at Sanderstead Recreation Ground for school years 2 – 9 (from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020) so for children born between 1st September 2006 - 31st August 2014. Kick-off times are 9.30, 10.30 & 11.30 and Little League runs from September through to March.  
COST PER SEASON £50 PER CHILD (FAMILY DISCOUNTS APPLY).

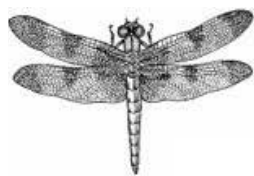


We are always on the lookout for players in all of the age groups. Anyone interested are welcome to turn up at any time on a Saturday morning, but it is best to e-mail me the secretary, Mik Simmonds ([selsdonlittleleague@outlook.com](mailto:selsdonlittleleague@outlook.com)), home number 020 8651 3095, mobile number 07507 558 099) first. I can find a team that needs a player and so there is less standing around. We do have girls playing in the league as we play mixed gender teams.

***Mik Simmonds***



# Meet London's emperors and hawkers



At the end of June (unfortunately too late for the July edition) I was sent this information about a new guide available for download.

Following four years of extensive surveys carried out by staff and trained volunteers, the first guide to the dragonflies of London has now been published by London Wildlife Trust, launched during National Insect Week 2020. *'Today I saw a demoiselle... Dragonflies and damselflies of London'* celebrates and marks the completion of Water for Wildlife, a project which improved several important sites for dragonflies and damselflies.

The guide introduces these magnificent but under-appreciated insects, providing the reader with fascinating information on their life cycle and ecology, and exploring 23 species of damselflies and dragonflies (or Odonata as they are called collectively) known to be present in London. These include willow emerald damselfly, beautiful demoiselle, emperor dragonfly, and migrant hawker. While many can be found in parks and gardens across the city, the guide highlights some of the best sites in London to spot dragonflies, such as Wanstead Flats, Woodberry Wetlands, Keston Common and Richmond Park.

The data collected for the guide includes that held by Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL, the environmental records centre for London) and that provided by local experts, landowners and the general public.

Dragonfly identification courses, delivered by the London Wildlife Trust, attracted more than 300 participants, and over 160 volunteers carried out surveys on their local patches, covering more than 130 sites. Together with Dragonfly Detectives, the Trust's online public survey portal, this resulted in over 8000 new records, significantly bolstering our knowledge of how these insects are using London's wetlands and rivers.

Due to extensive conservation work carried out over the last few decades – including that delivered by London Wildlife Trust as part of the Water for Wildlife project – London's rivers are now cleaner than they once were.

The new guide will also highlight the dragonflies which are likely to move into the capital soon. Furthermore, the climate is changing, allowing such insects better suited to warmer climate to establish themselves in our local green spaces.

Petra Sovic Davies, Water for Wildlife Project Manager says:

"We are very excited to introduce this guide illustrating a fantastic variety

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of freshwater habitats that the capital has to offer, as well as surprising diversity of dragonfly species that can be found in urban setting. We hope that getting to know these large colourful insects will encourage readers to get involved in helping capital's wild spaces. The guide provides useful tips on how to do just that, from collecting data, joining volunteer workdays, to building a dragonfly-friendly pond."

*'Today I saw a demoiselle... Dragonflies and damselflies of London'* is available for download (<http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-06/Dragonfly%20Atlas%20%20for%20web.pdf>) and a limited number of hard copies available (<http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/dragonfly-guide-order>).

The new guide, surveys and other Water for Wildlife projects were supported by generous funding from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Thames Water.

Find out more about the Water for Wildlife project at: <http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/water-for-wildlife>

~~

## Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Slime Moulds

Your body is composed of trillions of individual cells, each with its own task in keeping you alive. Now imagine a single cell which can change shape and move about, keeping itself alive by engulfing bacteria, yeasts and other minute particles of organic matter. This is the microscopic Myxamoeba stage in the life of a Myxomycetes slime mould. After feasting on a plentiful supply of nutrients this haploid cell, which contains only half the genetic information needed for sexual reproduction, might split into two identical clones (mitosis), and, so long as conditions are suitable, the process can continue to produce more and more haploid cells. In mammals the haploid cells are either egg or sperm but in slime moulds there can be many mating types which can come together in appropriate combinations to form a diploid zygote containing full genetic information. When food begins to run out or other conditions change, the zygotes congregate together to form a plasmodium, which is now visible to the naked eye, and in turn this results in the appearance of stalked sporangia which contain the spores. The released spores divide by meiosis which gives half the genetic information to each of the resulting haploid Myxamoeba cells, and the cycle is complete.

The above is a **'simplified'** description of the life of a slime mould.



A casual naturalist, which most of us are, will occasionally come across the plasmodial stage of a slime mould on vegetation, logs, stumps and trunks of trees so which species are we likely to see? I have to start with the world-wide, bright yellow, *Fuligo septica* – also known colloquially as Dog Vomit slime mould,

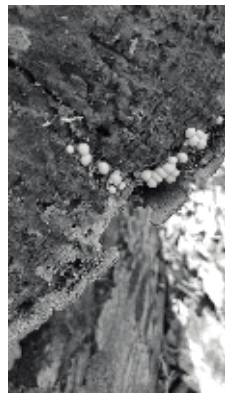
Caca de Luna, demon droppings, snake poo or, by more polite authors, Flowers of Tan (this last name appears to come from the slime mould turning up on the piles of Oak bark used in the tanning process). As the spores begin to develop the bright yellow is broken up by patches of black and eventually the whole thing disappears. *Mucilago crustacea* is a yellowish mould which looks rather like porridge spread over vegetation and, as with the *Fuligo septica*, will develop black patches when sporulating. *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa* in close-up is a pretty arrangement of white starry shapes when seen on the surface of a log.



A white hemi-spherical blob like a piece of expanded polystyrene on the trunk of a tree is probably *Reticularia* (or *Enteridium*) *lycopodium* – False Puffball.

*Lycogala* species are small spherical blobs, salmon pink in the case of *L. terrestre* – Wolf's Milk, and bright red for *L. epidendrum* – Toothpaste slime, both species will rapidly become a greyish colour. Photographs of these and others can be seen at the end of the Fungi section on the Friends of Selsdon Wood website.

A more enthusiastic slime mould detector will need to do much more work to find and identify many other species. Many are very small, perhaps 2 or 3mm high, and are hidden under piles of moist leaves, in the moist patches under logs, or as dry resting microcysts



(haploid) or sclerotia (diploid). One suggested technique is to cut a piece of bark from a living tree or from a log and to keep it in moist conditions to watch what species develop.

A delightful little book by Sarah Lloyd "Where the slime mould creeps" covers her discoveries near her home in Tasmania. There are many photographs including several taken of the same slime mould at intervals to show the changes that take place over a relatively short time. In the UK the best book is "The Myxomycetes of Britain and Ireland" by Bruce Ing. It has been out-of-print but has been re-printed in 2020 as an enlarged edition with the addition of 54 colour pictures. Apart from detailed descriptions of hundreds of slime moulds there is good advice on where to find specimens, how to culture them and how to examine them to get an identification using a hand lens and a microscope. October is possibly the best month to find slime moulds.

~~

#### Answers to Coronavirus Vocabulary Quiz

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
J	M	L	F	C	B	I	A	N	E	O	H	G	K	D

## Poetry Corner

*Another poem penned by Mary Gill to ease us into Autumn.*

### EARLY AUTUMN LANDSCAPE

Unmoving as a painted backcloth,  
no hint of breeze disturbs the air.  
Unruffled meadows 'neath a tranquil sky -  
a blue unclouded sky – like summer wore.  
Through this passive scene, the river winds,  
curling softly by the bank on which I stand;  
whispering and chinking over its polished stones.

Cutting through the downs that swell and fold, a road winds grey and silent,  
marked out by red-gold-trees  
whose leaves are slowly loosening their grip,  
but still await the wind to set them free.  
And on, beside the river's ragged fringe,  
fallow fields relax, untouched by man.

Beyond a gently sloping rise,  
 where harvest has been gathered and brought home,  
 a ploughman carves his furrow-  
 prepares the ground for planting in the Spring.  
 The distant lowing of the cattle joins  
 the music of the river's flowing song,  
 while wheeling rooks review the land below -  
 their shaggy nests still hid by dying leaves.



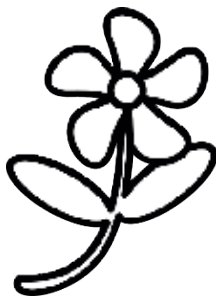
An autumn day when Earth prepares to face  
 the callous storms of winter's grim patrols-  
 rain and snow and harsh uncaring gales  
 that test the staying power of her soil.  
 But now, the remnants of her summer robes  
 still gladden any eye that stops to see.

**Mary Gill**

*I came across this parody of the famous William Wordsworth poem which made me smile at this difficult time.*

### **Wordsworth on Lockdown**

I wandered lonely as a cloud,  
 Two metres from the madding crowd,  
 When all at once my name was called  
 To enter Waitrose hallowed halls.  
 This was the pensioners' special hour,  
 I'd gone to buy a bag of flour.  
 But I forgot when I got through the door  
 What I had gone to Waitrose for.  
 The Waitrose staff were extra kind  
 I told them it had slipped my mind.  
 They asked what else I had forgot -  
 They clearly thought I'd lost the plot.  
 I phoned my wife again to ask  
 She reminded me of this task.  
 "I need some flour to bake a cake  
 With all that cream you made me take!"  
 "Ah yes, I of course," I had to lie,  
 I dare not ask what flower to buy  
 But then I saw them at the tills  
 A bunch of golden daffodils!







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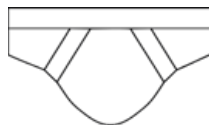
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*Another bit of nonsense!*

## **Treat your Facemask like your Underwear**

- Do not touch or adjust (especially in public)
- Do not borrow or lend
- Make sure fit is tight but comfortable
- Make sure it is clean (at least daily!)
- Wear the right side out
- If stained throw it away
- If it is damp change it
- Do not go commando!



~~

## **Could you write for the Gazette?**



Do you have a hobby, interest or story to share with our readers? Don't be shy. We are looking for more voices to contribute articles to the Selsdon Gazette. No long-term commitment necessary. Would you be interested? All ages welcome. For a full breakdown on terms and guidance please contact the Editor at **[selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)**

In summary ideal contributions would be:

From a Selsdon resident, your own words (copyright free!), no more than 650 words, clearly written and suitable for a family/community audience. Topics to write about should be interesting, useful, educating or entertaining to read but ideally contain some local angle or way for readers to engage with your words.

We can't guarantee submissions will be published as the Editor will decide based on edition theme, if there is space and if an article is suitable.

~~

## **Useful Information about Local Services (updated 20/8)**

**Mandatory face coverings** In accordance with the recent government announcements, the 24th July, it is mandatory for all customers (with certain exceptions) shopping in stores to wear a face covering for the duration of their visit. Please co-operate.

### **GROCERIES**

#### **SAINSBURY'S**

Monday to Saturday: 07.30 - 22:00

Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday shopping is prioritised for elderly customers, disabled customers and carers from 08.00 to 09.00.

NHS and social care workers with NHS ID will be prioritised during 7.30 to 8.00 from Monday to Saturday.

#### **ALDI**

Monday to Saturday: 08:00 - 22:00

Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

All day, every day, key workers in the NHS, Police and Fire Service will take priority ahead of queues upon showing a valid ID/Blue Light card shopping. This is in addition to early access on a Sunday, where they can enter stores 30 minutes prior to opening for browsing.

Open 30 minutes early Monday - Saturday for the Elderly (over 70) and vulnerable for browsing only.

#### **ICELAND**

Monday to Saturday: 9:00 - 19:00

Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

#### **CO-OP** in Forestdale

Monday to Sunday: 07:00 - 20:00

New limit on contactless card payments: increased to £45, making it easier to use this service in all stores and helps to protect customers and staff.

## PHARMACIES

**Lloyds Pharmacies** in Selsdon can deliver prescriptions.

Tel: 020 8657 1292

**Goldmantle Chemist** in Forestdale will deliver prescriptions.

Tel: 020 8651 1270

**Day Lewis** in Selsdon can also deliver.

Tel: 020 8657 6172

## TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING

Croydon Neighbourhood Care Association offers anyone over the age of 80 the opportunity to have telephone befriending during these difficult times. Email: [info@cnca.org.uk](mailto:info@cnca.org.uk)

Tel: 07926 525472

If you have any concerns about an older or vulnerable person, you or they can contact CVA on 020 8253 7076 or 07540 720102 Monday to Friday 10 - 4pm or email [connectwellcroydon@cvalive.org.uk](mailto:connectwellcroydon@cvalive.org.uk)

## DENTISTS

The government has allowed dentists to open from 8 June, but each dentist surgery has adopted different approaches so phone the surgery to find out what services they are providing and the precautions that they are taking.

~~

## Can you help keep the Selsdon Christmas lights shining brightly?

Without increasing our income we do not know for how any more years we can keep our fantastic Christmas lights. To help raise funds the SRA have joined Easyfundraising under the name 'SelsdonChristmaslights'.



If you ever **shop online** you can raise a donation for us, at no cost to you, by using the well trusted 'Easyfundraising' app or site, as your starting point, over 4,000 retailers and other websites (most of your usual shops and websites!) will donate to us when you buy.

Whether you do your weekly supermarket shop online or just the occasional 'special' purchase –to coin a supermarket phrase, 'every little helps' if you use Easyfundraising and support us.

Please tell as many people as possible about this easy and financially painless way to support our local worthy cause. The more people you can pass the link to, hopefully, the more we will raise.

**<https://www.easyfunding.org.uk/causes/selsdonchristmaslights>**

### **WHAT TO DO**

1. Use the link above to go to the correct easyfunding webpage
2. Make a free account and if you request that the automatic reminder link is added to your tool bar then it will appear on your screen whenever you go to a participating seller's website.
3. Search for a retailer and select.
4. Now on the retailers site make your purchases as usual.
5. A donation is made by the retailer to Selsdon Lights when you pay for your goods.

***Thank you, in advance, for your support – from the SRA Committee***

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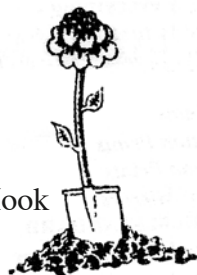
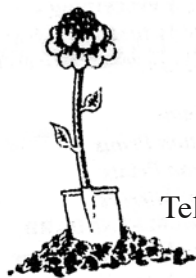
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## Are you, or someone you know, considering Sheltered Housing?

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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- regular visits from our Welfare & Support Officer
- a Premises Officer on site Monday-Friday
- 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 chords in all rooms
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- domestic and laundry services
- social spaces for activities (lounge and garden)

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

# **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)	Andy Stranack	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	Beryl Gascoigne	8660 2611
Selsdon Tennis Club	Geoff Littlewood	8651 4748
66 (Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps	Rob Cleeter	8651 5958



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