



# The Selsdon — Gazette —

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September 2022

**ASHEN VALE**

# 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:** 'Self-seeded Hollyhock flourishes in our hot summer' taken by Wendy Mikiel.

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

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

Cllr Badsha Quadir Badsha.quadir@croydon.gov.uk

### ***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 back, after our annual month's break, to the September edition of the Gazette! And, what a summer weather-wise it has been. Who would have thought that we would be looking forward to a rainy day? Many of our public spaces and gardens are no longer green but Nature has a way of recovering as can be seen by our cover photo of a self-seeded hollyhock flowering when all around is dried up.

By the time this Gazette has reached your letter box, the Selsdon Wood Open Day and SRA BYO Picnic and Fun Afternoon on 4 September would have been and gone. I do hope you managed to attend and came along to have a chat with some of the SRA committee, joined in some of the walks and races, visited the stalls, eaten from the barbeque and won something on the Tombola!

This month it has been so good to receive letters, poems, photos and articles from new contributors as well as our regular ones. At long last I have the room to include an article from one resident about his experiences of buying an electric car. I am also glad to welcome back Su Yates, who used to regularly write for the Gazette, and this time she gives the history of the Selsdon Park Estate and more as she heads out of Selsdon along the Addington Road. We also have news from many clubs that operate in the Selsdon area.

In this edition we have a quiz testing your knowledge about Croydon and Ian Leggatt gives us the history of the now, boarded up Selsdon Garage on our High Street. We have our regular contributors: Ted Forsyth in his Nature Notes focussing on Phenology, Mary Gill with a poem celebrating World Heart Day and our friends from the Sanderstead Horticultural Society advise us about future planting for hot summers.

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

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

**Chris Jones**

🌀 SUBMISSIONS FOR THE OCTOBER 2022 EDITION  
SHOULD BE WITH THE EDITOR NO LATER THAN  
20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER - PREFERABLY BEFORE! 🌀

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

### **AGM**

We finally held our AGM which was attended by approximately 70 residents. A vote was taken for the post of Chair between me and Phil Roberts, a fellow committee member. The result was that you have me in the post for a further year and a thank-you to Phil for helping to promote a healthy and vibrant spirit within our committee. The present committee all agreed to stand again but our Secretary, Janet Sharp, stood down. However, we are very happy for our new committee member, Trevor Stotten, to be elected as our new Secretary. Chris Jones, the Gazette editor, was voted in to fill the vacancy on the committee.

### **Gazette URGENT**

Last month I mentioned that our Distribution Manager, Wendy, was stepping down but we have had no response from the plea for a new manager. The gazette cannot be delivered without this role being filled – you will see an advert in this month's gazette. Wendy, who has been volunteering in this role for at least 8 years, agreed to stand in for this September edition but failing a response this could be the last delivery to your doors. It will be available online but for 75 years this has been posted through letter boxes and we really don't want it to stop so PLEASE if you can help ring me (02086512285) or email me [sheilachilds@virginmedia.com](mailto:sheilachilds@virginmedia.com) for more information.

### **Flowers**

The scorching weather has proved to be a real problem for our flowers in the high street but our "waterers" rose to the challenge and kept them watered and we give a big thank you to them all. Perhaps it will have rained sufficiently by the time you read this and the manual watering will be unnecessary. Fingers crossed!

### ***Sheila Childs* Chair**

# **COUNCILLORS' NOTES**

## **PLANS TO REDEVELOP HEATHFIELD HOUSE AND GROUNDS REJECTED**

A planning application to turn Heathfield House and some of the surrounding grounds into an education facility for young people with special needs has been rejected by planning officers for the following reasons: -

*1 The proposed development would constitute inappropriate development in the Green Belt causing harm to the openness and visual amenities of the Green Belt. No very special circumstances exist to clearly outweigh the harm by reason of inappropriateness and other identified harm.*

*2 The proposed development by reason of its siting, scale and appearance would result in less than substantial harm to the setting of the Listed Building, known as Heathfield House as such the proposed development fails to meet the statutory test set out in Sections 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.*

As your local Councillors we are pleased that the application has been rejected. We had referred the application to the Planning Committee but this was not necessary as the application was rejected by officers. We thank the 285 local residents who took the time to write into the planning office to comment on this application. However, we all recognise that Heathfield House and grounds are a valuable local resource that is currently underutilised. We want to work with local residents, the ecology centre and other users of the site to make sure that the site can be open and enjoyed by more residents in the future.

## **POLICE WARD PANEL MEETING**

The Selsdon Ward Panel takes place every couple of months and brings together the Police, local Councillors and community representatives to set the policing priorities for the area and to discuss any local areas of concern.

At the last meeting one of the discussion points was the problem of

speeding cars using the Bird Estate as a cut through from Selsdon to Forestdale. As a result of the discussion the local safer neighbourhood team has agreed to do some additional training on using mobile speed guns. This will then allow them to do more spot checks around some of the hot spot areas around the estate and deter drivers from speeding.

## **SELSDON PARK HOTEL TO BE REDEVELOPED AS AN AWARD WINNING ‘BIRCH HOTEL’**

The new owners of the Selsdon Park Hotel have announced that they are currently refurbishing the hotel and grounds and will be opening a new ‘Birch Hotel’ on the site in 2023.

The first Birch Hotel was opened in 2020 in Hertfordshire and in the same year won the Sunday Times Hotel of the Year award. The new owners have already met with a number of residents and have expressed their desire to get local creative artists involved with the new project.

## **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

Badsha.quadir@croydon.gov.uk

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

22/03120/HSE – 46 Arkwright Road South Croydon CR2 0LL  
Alterations, single storey side extension.



22/03021/HSE - 35 Beech Way South Croydon CR2 8QR  
Erection of a double garage.

22/01960/HSE - 57 Chapel View South Croydon CR2 7LJ  
Demolition and erection of a two-storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

22/03279/LP – 2 Curlew Close South Croydon CR2 8QT  
Erection of single storey extension to rear of attached garage

22/03319/PDO - Telecommunications Mast at Water Tower Edgecombe, South Croydon CR2 8AA  
Installation of the following 4G electronic communications apparatus: addition of a cabinet on the existing foundation, removal of 3 MHA's to be replaced by 3 no. like for like MHA's and ancillary works.

22/03424/HSE – 19 Ingham Road South Croydon CR2 8LT  
Demolition of rear extension. Erection of single storey side/rear wrap around extension

22/02339/HSE - 35 Kingswood Way South Croydon CR2 8QL  
Erection of two-storey rear and side extension following demolition of rear conservatory. Erection of front porch following demolition of existing two storey front extension.

22/03185/HSE – 12B Ravenshead Close South Croydon CR2 8RL  
Alterations to include installation of roof lights to existing flat roof and internal layout

22/02645/HSE - 19 York Road South Croydon CR2 8NR  
Erection of single storey rear extension.

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

## RETIREMENT APARTMENTS FOR SALE



**“Since moving, I’ve saved money as my overall bills and costs have reduced”**

There are many ways downsizing can reduce your cost of living and save you money. From savings on maintenance to using your car less, you can enjoy a lifestyle that’s easy to budget for with a simple service charge and no hidden costs.

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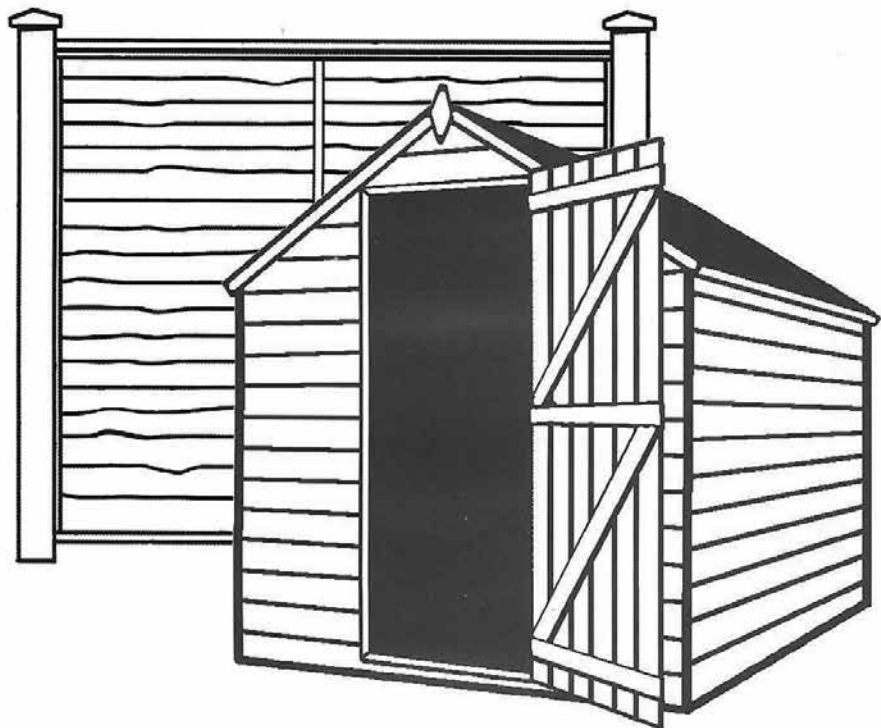
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\*Based on 'Sizing up the situation' report (Housing LIN, 2014) and our Service Charge data.

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

# **MP Chris Philp's Report**

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



### **More Good Planning News for Croydon!**

Since May's local elections in Croydon, the new Conservative administration has been delivering on their planning promises. The Supplementary Planning Document, SPD2, has been revoked and can no longer be used as material guidance for determining planning applications. Planning decisions are now being made after careful examination.

I strongly commend Mayor Jason Perry and the new Planning Committee Chair, Cllr Michael Neal, for their approach and I will keep working with them on this.

I have long campaigned to end the desecration of our neighbourhood by indiscriminate over-development (as have many individuals and local residents' associations), and I am so pleased that results are now being delivered. I think it is very important for democracy that when people standing for election promise something, they then deliver it and I am delighted that this is now happening.

For example, in July's Planning Committee meeting, Chair Cllr Michael Neal used his casting vote to refuse permission to a proposal to demolish two semi-detached houses in Purley and erect a building containing 22 flats with associated car parking. Elsewhere in the Borough, I am pleased that developers are already backing out of similar plans in the knowledge that the days of overdevelopment in Croydon is over.

Of course, we need new flats, but they should be built in town centre areas and on brownfield sites, not built by destroying much-needed family homes and by destroying the character of our neighbourhood.

Thanks to those of you who helped campaign for a Directly Elected Mayor and helped deliver this vital change.

### **Croydon Town Centre Regeneration**

As I am sure you are aware, I am continuing to work very closely with Mayor Jason Perry and his new administration to make sure that the

interests of the whole Borough are served. An immediate priority here is working with Westfield and Croydon Borough Councillors to get town centre regeneration going again.

To this end, I am supporting our Borough's bid for around £20 million of the Government's Levelling Up pot, which will fund vital improvements to the town centre. I was very disappointed to find out that the previous administration did not bid for this much-needed funding!

There are many challenges on the horizon, including for our long-neglected town centre, but by working together I believe that we can overcome them.

**Chris Philp**

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

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## Report from our Local Police Wards

### Statistics from Local Police Wards July 2022

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

Selsdon and Addington Village		Selsdon Vale and Forestdale	
Vandalism	9	Theft from a motor vehicle	13
Theft from a motor vehicle	8	Miscellaneous theft	11
Harassment	7	Vandalism	10

In comparison to the rest of Croydon and 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
Selsdon and Addington Village	5
Selsdon Vale and Forestdale	7
Croydon Borough	8
All London Boroughs	9

The Metropolitan Police advise protecting your home from crime by marking your property to deter burglars. A determined burglar can be difficult to discourage. Good-quality doors, windows and locks are excellent deterrents, but there's even more you can do to stop burglars in their tracks.

### **Mark it**

Make your valuables less attractive to thieves by using a property or police approved forensic marking solution only visible under Ultraviolet (UV) light. This can take the form of a special marker using ink or paint. Mark or etch your property with your postcode, house or flat number or the first three letters of your address. All of these measures help police identify stolen goods, making it harder for thieves to sell. So, make your mark.

And property marking isn't only for things like electrical items and bikes, you can also mark high value belongings like antiques. However, we recommend that you seek specialist advice.

Register your property for free on [immobilise.com](http://immobilise.com) – it helps the police identify the owners of recovered property. You can register anything that has a serial number with Immobilise.

### **Record it**

Register your valuables using an accredited property database. Take photographs and keep documents like receipts related to your property so you can prove ownership.

### **Register your bike**

If you value your bike, then register it with [bikeregister.com](http://bikeregister.com) . The prominent stamp acts as a great deterrent.

### **Flag it**

If you value it, then mark it as protected. Window stickers and signage are extremely effective and are proven to be a powerful deterrent against burglary.

### **Selsdon and Addington Village SNT Selsdon Vale and Forestdale SNT**

Tina Nash 7287SN PCSO

PC De Meneses 3255SN

Tel: 0208 721 2468

Tel: 020 8721 2464

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

[SNMailbox-SelsdonandAddingtonVillageSNT@met.police.uk](mailto:SNMailbox-SelsdonandAddingtonVillageSNT@met.police.uk)

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## A Good Time for Gardening – September

Somewhat ironic to be writing about plants to grow when the soil is dry as the thunder rumbles overhead and hefty raindrops explode upon impact with the sun-baked ground. Living in the south of the UK, we will probably need to think about how climate change will affect the plants we grow.

Changing the plants in our gardens may mean that the ‘feel’ of the garden alters, but dramatic effects can be achieved from plants that have very low moisture and maintenance demands. Gardens are likely to become more Mediterranean in appearance – rather than just parched and dishevelled, which describes ours at the moment!

Choose plants with grey-green or silver leaves as these will reflect the sun’s rays, helping to conserve moisture within the plant. Plant things when they are small. They will develop greater resilience as they adapt to conditions from a young age. Ideally, plant in the Autumn to give some growing time before dry weather arrives. However, if planting Mediterranean plants, do so in Spring when the soil is warming up. Before planting, thoroughly soak the plants in their pots and, when in the ground, water them in. After planting, mulch the bed with at least 5cm of compost or straw covered with gravel, to help retain moisture while the plants establish. Keep them watered during their first season to ensure they establish well. After this they will become far more drought tolerant.

You may decide to do without a lawn. If you can’t do without this feature, you’ll be pleased to know that lawns are amazingly drought resistant and usually recover well when the Autumn rains appear, even if they have been brown and parched earlier in the year. You might consider making a gravel garden. These are very low maintenance.

A few plants that are drought tolerant are: agapanthus, catmint, coreopsis, echinacea, grasses, lambs’ ears, lavender, penstemon, scabiosa, verbena and yarrow. This list is not exhaustive and there are many more suggestions on various websites – the RHS has a huge amount on theirs. ... and now back to the daily work-out that is carrying numerous cans of water around the garden to try to keep some of the plants going until it rains sufficiently to revive them.

**AUTUMN SHOW - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 2pm at  
All Saints Church Hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead**

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



## A Glimpse Back in Time??

In mid-July, along with several other Selsdon residents, I took a look around the auction lots at what used to be the Selsdon Park Hotel. For me it was also a trip down memory lane, as in years gone by, I had officiated at many Civil Ceremony weddings at the venue. Standing on the steps that led down to the lawn, the “photo perfect opportunity” was no more. The grass had been allowed to grow and the golf course was being rewilded. I could not help but wonder what its former historic owners



would make of this next stage in its distinguished history. Selsdon Manor was once an Anglo Saxon Hall. In fact, the area was named Selle Dun meaning Mansion on the Hill. In the time of Edward the Confessor, Selsdon Mansion was worth 100 shillings, about £5 today. As a Tudor Mansion, its guests are believed to have included Henry VIII during his secret courtship of Anne Boleyn, then, as an Elizabethan Mansion, Queen Elizabeth 1 is credited with planting a Cedar tree in the grounds which is still there today.

The royal connection continued through the Smith family, who are related to the late Queen Mother. Their family vault is on the northside of All Saints Church at Sanderstead where the Queen Mother’s grandmother, great grandparents and great, great grandfather are buried. The clock in the clock turret was given to the Church in 1844 by George Smith and the Queen Mother contributed towards the more recent restoration of the clock turret.



The Smith family set up one of the first banks in England and were originally part of the Goldsmith family. The family lived in the property throughout 1809 – 1877 after which the house and part of its grounds were leased to a member of the Church, Bishop Thorold. The bishop wrote that his guests were able to “enjoy the most bracing of air and everything to calm the eye”.

After the Bishop left Selsdon in 1890 to become Bishop of Winchester, the house and farmlands (679 acres) were sold by the Smith family to William Stevens, a wealthy publisher and printer who retired there for 9 years prior to his death when it was mortgaged to Wickham Noakes. William Noakes, a brewer, renowned for organising shooting parties, wanted to



continue his sporting activities and he entertained his friends with a grand shoot every year in November to mark his birthday. During his time there, he established a “pheasantry” and purchased a 13<sup>th</sup> century window arch, a rare and surviving example of the medieval Monastery of the Dominicans, or Black Friars, that had been located in London. The window arch still stands in the grounds today. After his death in 1923 the

original Smith estate was divided. A.E. Cresswell purchased the land that makes up most of the present Selsdon Wood; the Selsdon Garden Village Trust purchased 300 acres and Allan Doble Sanderson, a prominent businessman and famous motor-racing driver, purchased the house and 200 acres for which he paid £13,000. He set about converting the house into a 24-bedroom hotel, complete with one of the first lifts, which he opened for business in 1925. His son, Mr Basil Allan Sanderson, took over control of the family business in 1960 but at the beginning of 2000, Mr Basil Sanderson wished to retire. The hotel, by then had grown to a 175-bedroom property but had been trading at a loss for several years and his son was not interested in carrying on the family hotelier tradition so it was put on the market for offers over £20 million.

Remaining as a hotel but with a couple of further changes to ownership and name, and fast forward to the present day, De Vere Selsdon Estate is reportedly undergoing a £5 million transformation to become the second location for the Birch brand of lifestyle concept hotels. Birch is a trendy newcomer to the hotelier scene and are doing things differently. Their first hotel, in Cheshunt, Waltham Cross, was named the Sunday Times Hotel of the Year in 2020. It offers everything from pottery workshops to sourdough masterclasses taking in glass blowing, baking classes and bee keeping along the way. It’s aimed to attract all ages and interests in a “festival concept” offering something for everyone and an escape for the explorers.

The first phase of Selsdon Birch will include the refurbishment of 54 bedrooms and 6 meeting rooms (Smart Space meetings concept), the creation of a new restaurant, coffee shop, orangery, reception area and well-being centre. The second phase will add a further 96 bedrooms and the outdoor space will have farm animals, (I am told the cattle grids have already been installed), a pond and eventually an orchard. The 200-acre grounds will also display stunning sculptures by Emma Stothard constructed in willow and wire, inspired by nature. Emma is a very talented artist based in North Yorkshire; her sculptures grace the gardens of stately homes, galleries and private homes across the country, including

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that of Prince Charles. Will this be keeping Selsdon Park Hotel's royal connection?

As Birch aim to offer "A Place to Pause, Time to Think, Chances to Create and Scenes to Savour", I cannot help but think that these words echo back to Bishop Thorold, perhaps the property has come full circle?

***Su Yates***

## **CAN YOU HELP TO KEEP THE GAZETTE DELIVERY GOING?**

Do you have a garage (or other suitable sheltered space) that could receive the monthly delivery of Gazettes from the printer?

Is this somewhere you could sort and store the 33 boxes into about 12 smaller groups for pick-up by the Gazette distributors, ideally within a few days?

If so, then perhaps you are just the person to ensure the household delivery of the Gazette keeps happening, as it has done for around 75 years.

**PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION IF YOU THINK YOU CAN HELP – OTHERWISE DELIVERIES WILL HAVE TO STOP!**

Wendy Mikiel – retiring Distribution Manager – 020 8651 0470  
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or

Sheila Childs – SRA Chair – 020 8651 2285  
email: [mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com](mailto:mail2.selsdonresidents@gmail.com)

or via

Editor email: [selsdongazettesra@gmail.com](mailto:selsdongazettesra@gmail.com)

# MY FIRST ALL ELECTRIC CAR (EV)

Just over two years ago after my wife and I had been driving manual petrol cars for over 50 years, our last car needed replacing. Having decided we no longer wanted to drive long distances and would rather take the train, we decided to take the plunge and buy a Nissan Leaf series 2 100% EV. At the time government grants were more generous as was the Nissan scrappage scheme which made the on-the-road price more reasonable.



I thought some of the Gazette's readers may be interested in our experiences, particularly the performance of the Lion battery. My car has a 12V battery to turn on the ignition and power some of the features and the main 40kWh Lion battery's main function is to power the electric engine and some of the car's other features. Nissan quote a maximum range (available miles) of 168 miles, which equates to 4.2 miles for each kWh. It has two charging ports, one for Type 2 and the other for CHAdeMO charging cable connectors. Other car manufacturers may use different connector types. It has a maximum charge rate limited to 50kW.

## Warranty & tips to conserve Lion battery life

My understanding of the warranty is that up to 100,000 miles or 8 years, whichever comes first, the capacity of the battery will not reduce by more than 25%. After 2 years and 10,000 miles my car's battery capacity is not showing any reduction in capacity, which is just as well as the cheapest reconditioned battery I have found on the internet is £7K, a new one from a Nissan dealer most probably costs double that.

Part of owning an electric car is planning the charging in advance, based on anticipated mileage needed and charging accordingly. To conserve the battery's life, if possible, keep the charge to 80% (135 miles for my car), do not charge frequently to top up capacity by only a few miles. Calculate approximately how long to keep the battery on charge to reach the capacity you need. Adopt an economical driving style (engage Economy & E Pedal mode). Avoid rapid charging in quick succession especially on long journeys. Do not allow the battery to become fully depleted, if you do you will have to have it recovered to a dealer, who will have to reprogramme the car's software before charging the battery and invoice you £200, so I am told?

Explanation of E pedal mode - once selected it operates in forward and reverse drive. Press the accelerator pedal down to start the car in motion, raise the pedal and the car comes to a halt even on a hill, but you still have the foot brake in reserve.

## **Home Charging Options**

I am lucky to have an off-street parking area where I installed a home charger for convenience and competitive price per kWh. For the next two years I will pay 28p per kWh, the result of the energy crisis. A gauge in the car tells you the percentage charge left in the Lion battery and the available miles / range possible. My Podpoint charger is 7kW rated and for every hour of charging roughly adds 30 miles to the range up to 80% then takes a further 2 hours or more to reach 100%.

## **Public Charging Option**

I have only used a public charger a couple of times, this was the 50kW CHAdeMO charger with a charge rate of up to 80 miles per hour. Surprisingly on both occasions on a full charge it gave me 168 available miles. There are several network operators that can differ between areas of UK. Some supermarkets offer free charging but the majority range from 26p to 43p a kWh or more.

Normally to operate the charger and pay you need to download the operators App. Although, I think newly installed units have to be capable of being operated using a contactless card.

You can use Zap Map App to plan your journey and tell you which charging units are en-route. The other information given is location & network name/ no of units/ kW maximum charging rate/ connection types available/ if broken / if occupied / if it has been reported that the unit has been lced (occupied by a non-EV vehicle etc). You might also check there are no parking fees or time limits on use of the charging bay.

## **Maximum Available Mileage vs Actually Achieved**

Before you start a journey note down from the gauge the % battery capacity and available miles and also the car mileage. Throughout the journey the gauge constantly updates the capacity and range drop. At the end of the journey, you take the closing readings from which you can calculate by how much the reduction of available mileage exceeds the actual miles travelled.



Based on experience I have calculated the maximum length of journey I can undertake starting at home with a full charge of 150 miles and returning home with 20 available miles still left, without recharging en-route is 100 miles. This equates to about 3 miles per kWh, 25% less than the previously quoted 4.2 miles per kWh.

Various factors contribute to why reduction in available mileage exceeds actual mileage,  
cold winter driving conditions / vehicle load/ route taken / average speed/ length of time/ accessories operated.

For example, climate control and demisters are excellent but should only be used in short bursts, you see the available miles drop as you turn them on and increase when turned off. Tip if you have heated seats use them for warmth instead, they are powered by the 12-Volt battery.

### **What I particularly like about my car and current benefits**

- Quiet and smooth ride on roads in decent condition.
- Easy to drive using E pedal. The car has good torque rapid acceleration if required from a standing start. In my old car it was a struggle getting up Succomb's Hill particularly if you had to stop on the steep part and do a hill start. New car no problem, if you have to stop on the steep part the raised E pedal holds the car stationary on the hill and then depress the pedal and off it goes. Hill starts made simple!
- Using the Podpoint App on my mobile I get charging statistics split between home and public charging. Using the Nissan Connect App I particularly like on a frosty day, to instruct the car to defrost just before I am ready to use it, without leaving the house.
- High level of safety features and accessories
- Approximate electric cost per mile with home charger: 10p per mile, petrol 18p assuming 40 mpg
- Zero Emissions, Zero road tax
- Comes with a substantial hardcopy manual for small annual fee
- Exempt from congestion & low emission zone charges
- RAC recovery service included in service plan.
- My car has charging timer so can select times you want to charge.
- Nissan connect App allows you to monitor charging progress from your mobile.
- 90% discount on LBC car parking charges.



- In the last two years other manufacturers have brought out several EV models. Public charging networks, and high-speed charging hubs have expanded rapidly.

Would I like to trade up to a 300-mile range model? Yes of course I would, but the cost is prohibitive.

I would be very interested if any reader with a 100% EV car has had similar experiences or has tips to pass on. Also, if they know why on 100% charge, I get 18 more available miles from a 50kW CHAdeMO charger in comparison to my own home charger and my dealer's 7kW Podpoint charger.

**Patrick Dolling**

*All prices refer to May 2022 when the article was written.*

~~

## How Much Do You Know About Croydon?

1. What is the home of Crystal Palace Football Club in South Norwood?
2. What is the name of the famed performing arts and technology school with alumni including Adele, Amy Winehouse and Rizzle Kicks?
3. Which author of the Sherlock Holmes books lived at 12 Tennison Road, South Norwood from 1891 to 1894?
4. What is the name of the pop-up mall formed from 80 shipping containers offering a cosmopolitan choice of street food?
5. What are the names of the Concert Hall and the Playhouse at the Fairfield Halls?
6. What are the three constituencies in Croydon?
7. What is the name of the cinema based within the Croydon Clocktower arts complex?
8. Which former BBC newsreader is the voice of Croydon's Tram Network?
9. What is the name of the oldest surviving pub in Croydon dating back to 1431 and situated in Surrey Street?
10. What is the name of the old building founded in 1596 by the Archbishop of Canterbury at the corner of North End and George Street?



### Answers after Nature Notes



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

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

### *An inspiring tale from one of our residents*

Dear Editor,

#### **A DISABLED 80-YEAR OLD CAN DO ANYTHING!**

At least that was what I wanted to prove this week, when after waiting for ages for the DVLA to extend and return my driving licence and having to obtain the support of two consultants to do this, I decided to fly a plane. There is an airport that caters specifically for disabled people, so I booked a flying lesson for this morning. I was lifted on to the plane with a hoist, as it has no steps. As I am quite small, I had two cushions on the pilot's seat to enable me to see better. The pilot flew with me. He initially talked me through all the controls, then took the plane up, after which I flew it, making sure that I didn't go too high or too low or turn too much to the left or to the right. The pilot brought the plane down. I slid out of my seat on to the wing and jumped off. Flying certainly requires a lot more concentration than driving!

It was quite an experience and the weather was just right for it.

**Anne Giles**



### *Words of caution for dog walkers in Selsdon.*

Dear Editor,

Recently one of our neighbours was walking their small dog in Selsdon woods when an Alsatian broke loose from its collar and attacked the smaller dog, at the same time also attacking the dog owner, who had to get away quickly because of the danger. The small dog had to be left with the vet, while the owner went to A&E. So, there was no way he could identify the owner of the vicious Alsatian. This was reported to police, who

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hopefully will try to investigate.

In the meantime, until such time as the Police are able to locate the vicious Alsatian's owners, all we can do here is treat Selsdon woods as a dangerous place to walk dogs. We have also informed our usual dog walkers as well.

### ***Name and address supplied***



*A plea from one of our readers about the litter in the local area.*

Dear Editor,

I moved into Ashen Vale last year and am really sad to see so much litter around, in fact it is everywhere!! I have taken to doing litter- picks when I have the time, but unfortunately, I can't pick up every piece of litter, there is simply so much of it. I know it is the Council's responsibility to keep our streets clean and tidy (part of the reason we pay our council tax), but we all know they are bankrupt, so though there are council litter pickers, (who work very hard), the roads and grass verges are still strewn with litter. This has been made worse recently by the grass verge cutters, cutting the grass without clearing them of rubbish first, causing the litter to be shredded into smaller pieces which is almost impossible to pick up.

So, I would ask everyone to take some time to pick up litter around their home, along their road and where they walk. If you look, yes really look, you will see that our area is covered in litter. If we all pick up just a few pieces of litter and dispose of it properly, Selsdon and the surrounding area will be a much cleaner and nicer place to live, for all of us.

Please use gloves, wellies (if in grass to protect you from tics), a litter picker (I got mine from Alladin's Cave) and a plastic bag. If you put a note on the bag saying 'street collection' and place the bag on a main road by a bus stop or a rubbish bin the council will collect it.

Finally, please may I ask everyone NOT TO DROP LITTER, to take their litter home with them and dispose of it properly, that includes cigarette butts (they have plastic inside them so do not decompose), plastic bottles, fast food containers, tissues, lolly sticks, sweet wrappers etc.

Our environment is all of our responsibility.

***Sharon of Ashen Vale***

*Our regular contributor, Jessica Blake, recalls our long hot summer.*

Dear Editor,

## TRANQUILITY

It has been a beautifully warm and sunny summer. Just the sunshine we craved for in the cold, dreary winter months, although perhaps a trifle too warm at times for some. What 100F - never!! Yet here in the U.K., 90F - 100F is, astonishingly, just what we have been having this wonderful summer. Well at least, unlike more normal summers, we do not need to take a cardigan or "Pac a Mac" when we go out!

It is in these hot times we seek out shade, coolness and peace, and what better way of doing that than to find a beautiful wooded walk? Here in Selsdon and in Sanderstead, we are blessed with so many shady places to walk. Most of the walks will be great in all the seasons of the year. Kingswood is a wonderful example of this. There is a wide, almost flat, avenue right through the centre of the walk. Now shrouded with peaceful green foliage, in the autumn it is multi coloured, winter more bare branches and in the spring the entire wood is carpeted with bluebells. Such a joy to look at and the scent is beautiful too.

If you go to the seaside while the weather is so hot, your skin will definitely be scorched if sunbathing or while building sandcastles, and jumping in and out of the water, although bliss to swim for a while in the sea. Personally, I have never tried windsurfing but it looks such fun. Then the weather will feel uncomfortable after just a short time in the blazing sun. There are few places to shelter on a beach.

Of course it can be fun in the lighter evenings, and who knows what can emerge from the sea: not just crabs in rock pools but seals. They come ashore for a rest, however if you see a seal watching you - look away, you are disturbing it. If you look away a seal can relax. If it thinks you are not watching, it can doze in peace. However, if you stare it will waddle off and return to the sea. Some of them can be rather large so perhaps it is not a wise idea to make a seal feel threatened.

Mind you, there are some fantastic ice-cream parlours around, but I buy mini ice creams, so I will not regret eating too many when home again. Although the thought that it is possible to eat too many ice creams does seem impossible, and it really is necessary to try almost every flavour in the shop!



September is only two weeks away, as I write this, so let's continue to enjoy ourselves before the days shorten and make evenings too dark to go out and play in, the rains come to green our lawns, and we need to wonder what on Earth we can plant next year if so many plants wither and die even when carefully watered by a watering can.

~~

## Poetry Corner

*Mary Gill celebrates World Heart Day on 29 September 2022 with a poem reminding us that we ignore our emotional needs at our peril.*

Who will put your case  
sad little heart?  
who will be your advocate  
when you cry?  
You do not have the words  
to defend your stance  
to argue with the ruthless judge  
who holds you beneath contempt.

Why are you so cruel,  
cold heartless mind?  
You know our heart so well  
and understand its needs  
but still, you will not speak  
on its behalf.

You think it can be fobbed off  
for forever.  
You never will allow  
it space to breathe.  
In spite of all the wisdom you have gained  
you lack the courage  
to give our heart its due,  
to show compassion  
for one as blind and scared  
as our dark heart.



How long will it be,  
sad little heart,  
how long will it be until you burst  
the brutal chains of reason that  
subdue you?  
What punishment will you inflict on us then?

*I was so pleased to receive this amusing poem from another Selsdon resident.*

## MY MEDICATION

A row of bottles on my shelf  
Caused me to analyse myself.  
One yellow pill I have to pop  
Goes to my heart so it won't stop.

A little white one that I take  
Goes to my hands so they won't shake.  
The blue ones that I use a lot  
Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.

The purple pill goes to my brain  
And tells me that I have no pain.  
The capsules tell me not to wheeze  
Or cough or choke or even sneeze.

The red ones, smallest of them all  
Go to my blood so I won't fall.  
The orange ones, very big and bright  
Prevent my leg cramps in the night.

Such an array of brilliant pills  
Helping to cure all kinds of ills.  
But what I'd really like to know...  
Is what tells each one where to go!

**Judith Parsons**



## Nature Notes from Ted Forsyth – Phenology

Anyone who takes a regular bus ride through the local estates in spring must be aware that the flowering bushes and trees open their buds at different times. At one moment the dominant colour is the yellow of Forsythia, then your attention is taken by the bud burst of the white and pink of Magnolias, followed by Lilac and back to yellow again with the appearance of the golden chains of Laburnum. The next spring the sequence might be the same but the timing of when the buds open could be different, partly due to local weather conditions but possibly also affected by longer term changes such as climate change. By collecting sufficient data on the timing of repeated seasonal events the study of phenology can expose trends which might exist.

To survive during an Arctic winter Polar Bears usually rely on hunting Seals on frozen sea ice. In recent years the freezing of the sea has occurred at later and later dates, and melting in the spring has been earlier than usual. The result has been that the animals now have a longer period without ice, and without access to Seals, during which they have to scavenge or find smaller less nutritious food, or starve.

While we are not likely to find many Polar Bears in Selsdon Wood, we are not immune from the effects of phenological trends. Warmer springs encourage bud burst sometimes weeks earlier than would have been



expected fifty years ago. Birds decide to start nest building based on the effects of temperature, day length and hormones, but eggs have to hatch at a time when there is a glut of food for the young birds. If the peak appearance of caterpillars and other insects, which are to be fed to the young, occurs before nesting is sufficiently

advanced it is likely to have an adverse effect on nesting success. Local birds such as Blackbirds, Song Thrushes, Robins and the various Tits might be able to adjust to the changing conditions and succeed in raising their usual number of fledglings.

However, some of the birds we see in summer are migrants who go off to Africa for a winter holiday. Their decision to start on their return journey is affected by their hormones and the conditions where they are wintering, not by spring conditions in Europe. I do not currently have access to the phenology relating to arrival times of incoming migrants nor that of nesting dates once they have arrived but there is a possibility that some species will arrive too late to benefit from a glut of insects and as a result may have a poor breeding season. If this situation continues year after year

we may lose some species as breeding birds in the UK. Blackcaps are one of the species we expect to see in the summer but occasional individuals now manage to survive a winter in the UK, despite being mainly insect eaters. From records obtained by recovery of ringed birds it is believed that these birds originate from the continental breeding population while the British birds go off to Africa for the winter. The two populations will probably differ in their ability to respond to the effects of climate change.

While our website tries to record the first dates of sighting various flowers, birds, butterflies, etc, the length of time over which this has been done is too short to draw any local conclusions. Within the longer term effects of climate change we are still subject to other conditions which differ from one year to another – shifting position of the atmospheric jet stream, for example, and its effect in weather patterns.

With these and other possible changes ahead I find myself thinking of the old curse “May you live in interesting times!”

~~

## Answers to How Much Do You Know About Croydon Quiz

1. Selhurst Park
2. The BRIT School
3. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
4. Box Park
5. The Phoenix Concert Hall and the Ashcroft Playhouse
6. Croydon Central, Croydon North and Croydon South.
7. The David Lean Cinema
8. Nicholas Owen
9. The Dog and Bull
10. The Whitgift Almhouses

~~

## Walking together through grief



A group held at Selsdon Baptist Church, Addington Road. The next Bereavement Support Group will run from 1 October for 5 weeks until 2 November. It will be held in the coffee lounge at the Church and

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13 October 2022: Stephen Baron & Marguerite Duncan Sutherland - A Rare Meeting of Poetry and Art. A live music recital with singer and pianist.

13 November 2022: Nigel Bates - They Make No Noise - a lecture about conductors

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY Thursday 8 December 2022: Andrew Davies - Canaletto in England

Two one-hour lectures with lunch and coffee - extra charge

12 January 2023: Aliko Braine - The History of Western Art in 12 masterpieces

9 February 2023: Jacqueline Cockburn - Joaquin Sorolla, Painter of Light

8 March 2023: Ian Swankie - Pots and Frocks, The World of Grayson Perry

Membership of the Arts Society Croydon Area consists of an annual ten lecture programme with access to further online talks & the Arts Society triannual magazines. Visitor's fee is £5.00 Membership £47.00.

We meet from 10.00 - 12.00 on the second Thursday of the month at All Saints Church Hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead CR2 9AB <https://tascroydonarea.org.uk> Contact: [info@tascroydonarea.org.uk](mailto:info@tascroydonarea.org.uk). Find us too on Twitter @ArtsSocCroydon.



## Autumn Delights with Rotary Sanderstead & Selsdon

Our all-new **Music Quiz** will be held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October at St John's Church Hall, Selsdon. A fun evening which includes a fish & chip supper. So come along & have a great evening.

Our annual **Craft Fair** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

You can follow our club on Twitter, Instagram, via our Facebook page & website. If you are interested in putting something back into our community, then please get in touch 07774-186 792.

<https://www.facebook.com/rotarycroydonsouth>

<https://www.rotarysandersteadandselsdon.com/>

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## Shopping in Selsdon, part 6. Baileys Garage aka Selsdon Garage

In part 2 of our journey up and down the High Street we met the original Baileys Garage built of timber with pitched roof and asbestos panels. It was situated next to the second Broadway block and built sometime after 1929. It can be seen in the distance in the photo below.



Baileys original Garage next to the Broadway blocks. Photo attributed to very early 1930s



Ronald Bailey purchased a site at 230 Addington Road upon which sat a clubhouse and two properties associated with Selsdon Park Farm. Planning permission was granted in May 1937 to build a new garage.



1935 OS extract - new site outlined in dashed line.

The building process was evidently much quicker back in those days: tenders for the construction were sought and quickly the sum of £9,200 was accepted. The building was completed by the end of 1937 at a cost of £9,500. The building, now, sadly neglected, but Locally Listed, shares the decorative features of brick panels and horizontal windows with the Rosewood houses opposite which Costains built from 1932 onwards. The Rosewood houses were priced from around £600 each. The Garage building is of contemporary Art Deco style, the floors are of reinforced concrete some 10" (254mm) thick, and the ground floor showroom was glass fronted. The garage was equipped with pits and hydraulic hoists and at the rear were lock ups which stored cars and equipment. This was the home of the original Village Club. Six petrol pumps adorned the street frontage. Upstairs above the garage and workshop was a grand hall with stage and a sprung dance floor of Canadian maple. Sprung dance floors are generally 'floating floors' that are a separate layer above the structural floor and not fixed to it. Sprung dance floors, such as the one at the Tower Ballroom in Blackpool, have a good degree of shock absorption and can help maximise performance and reduce fatigue and chance of injury of the

dancer. Above the showroom was a 3-bedroom apartment for the Bailey family; Ronald, Valerie, and sons Geoffrey and Anthony (Tony).



Baileys Garage Petrol Forecourt, attributed to 1980

The Garage opened in March 1938. Petrol was priced at 19d a gallon (4.2d per litre). Various websites suggest that in 1938 £1 would buy you what costs £75 today. That puts the comparative price of a litre of petrol at £1.31.

The building was so robust that very soon it was certified as an air raid precaution shelter. The showroom was converted to aid the war effort. A memory taken from the Frith Collection remembers - *"I was sorry to see Bailey's Garage in its current state. I remember the showroom being full of capstan lathes with overhead shafting - and the workshop below too - producing parts for the war effort. I also remember the room above, being used post-war for showing cowboy films on Saturday mornings. We sat cross-legged on the floor"*.

With the impending war preparations in Selsdon being made, Air Raid Wardens were recruited and, in December 1938 a social evening was held at Baileys Hall where newly qualified Wardens received their badges. In October 1939 Drill Exercises commenced on Monday evenings in Baileys Hall for the newly formed 1<sup>st</sup> Cadet Battalion Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey).



The hall and stage, now in sad decline and home to flocks of pigeons.

The Hall continued to be used for socials either organised to help raise funds for the war effort, for the Wardens or, latterly, the Home Guard, No 9 Platoon and its successor, E Company, 59<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Addington), Surrey Home Guard. The Hall became a focal point of the Selsdon community when, in 1940, the only other hall in Selsdon at St John's Church, Upper Selsdon Road, was demolished in the blitz when the church suffered major damage.

In 1941 over 100 people attended the SRA Annual General Meeting in Baileys Hall and in September 1942 the Hall became the British Restaurant where 'Dinners' (lunch) were served from 12 noon to 2.15pm and afternoon tea from 3.15 to 5pm. Meat and two veg was priced at 9d, soup 3d, sweet 3d and a cup of tea 1 1/2d. The British Restaurant was premised on the idea that it was more economic to cook food en masse and serve to the population rather than have hundreds of households all firing up their ovens and hobs to cook individual meals - "Every meal taken at the Restaurant means a saving in house coal / gas / electricity to be released for War purposes". The British Restaurant closed on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1943 with a falling off of demand due, in no small part, to the fact that many of the housewives who were expected to make use of the facilities during the daytime were now not at home but employed during the day on 'War Work'. Baileys Hall continued to be a hub of social activity for the people of Selsdon throughout the war and thereafter.

Young Tony Bailey, after leaving Whitgift School and a training in accountancy joined his father Ron in the business. By the 1950s the

garage was selling the latest cars and the hall above was putting on weekly dances and entertainment. Tony Bailey had a band of 13 musicians comprising a full horn section of Sax, Trombones, Clarinets and Trumpets with Piano, Double Bass and Drums.

Sadly, in '55 / '56 the Hall closed and was occupied by a company called Plastic Industries and was known as The Button Factory. There is an interesting memory from the Frith Collection: *“Next came a button business, which provided both me and my Mum with a bit of pocket money. There were thousands of plastic moulded buttons – shirt buttons, coat buttons, dress buttons, large, small, different colours, etc. These all needed to be sorted and then sewn onto cards, six to a card. I helped my Mum (my pocket money!) to sort out her allocation of buttons, which she then sewed onto the cards.”*

The Village Club moved over the road to their current premises c1955. The Garage business thrived and, over the years, had a number of dealerships. Rover, British Leyland and BMC. A further memoir from the Frith Collection recalls the garage workshop *“In 1964 I started work as an apprentice mechanic at Selsdon garage. The main range of vehicles repaired was mostly BMC though we would work on all makes of cars, from Fords to Jaguars. There were about 6 mechanics, 1 foreman and 2 apprentices. The garage was owned by a Mr Bailey and his two sons Jeff and Tony ran it. It was a very happy time and we all got on well together. As apprentices we would have to go and get the cakes for tea breaks and I can remember going to Monty’s bakers about 3 shops up, they used to do lovely jam donuts - they were quite dark and greasy and full of jam about a thousand calories a bite!”*

Ronald passed in 1991 and Geoffrey was left in charge of the garage, Tony having left to try new business pursuits. After a few years Geoffrey decided to rent the garage to an Audi dealership but this did not come to fruition and, in July 1995, “The Selsdon Garage Ltd” was dissolved and the garage sold to Merrivale Limited, a property investment company. Geoffrey passed in 2006 and Tony in 2007.

Many planning applications for reuse of the site have been submitted in the intervening years. There is an extant planning application submitted by Merrivale Investments Limited which, after over a year, is still ‘Pending Decision’ by Croydon Council. The application ref is 21/04116/FUL, is for the *Demolition of existing garage, showroom and upper uses. Reuse of existing under croft level and erection of a stepped 6 storey building (inclusive of ground floor) comprising 37 flats (Class C3) and a ground floor commercial unit (Class E)*. The application and relevant documents can be viewed on the Council Planning website.



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Proposed Flats and Retail @ 230 Addington Road

Currently the grand old building, once the focal point and hub of Selsdon, sits forlornly behind crumbling hoarding while the wheels of commerce grind exceedingly slowly.

Would you rather see the old building restored to its former glory (something which I fear is financially unviable), left to rot behind the hoarding, or allowed to be redeveloped and provide much needed accommodation and retail space in Selsdon?



The once proud petrol station frontage.

***Ian Leggatt***

Thanks to the Francis Frith collection, Google, and the site of Croydon



Council planning applications where the details of the proposed new building can be found. Thanks also to Linda Morris for loan of the April 2008 back issue of the Selsdon Gazette which carried an excellent article in memoriam to Tony Bailey. Any errors in transcription are mine.

~~

## Contact

**Selsdon Community Centre**  
132 Addington Road  
South Croydon, CR2 8LA

**Tel: 020 8651 4944**

**Fax: 020 8657 2268**

**Email: [info@selsdoncontact.org.uk](mailto:info@selsdoncontact.org.uk)**



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

Selsdon is a great community with well-established local voluntary sector organisations. Next year Selsdon Contact will be celebrating 50 years offering neighbourly care to residents in need of support and advice.

These are just some of the services we have been offering –

**Transport:** Door to door transport to doctors, local clinics, hospitals, etc. for the less mobile.

**Information:** On a wide range of statutory and voluntary services and trusted traders.

**Shopping Bus:** A regular door to door shopping bus to Warlingham Sainsbury's. With escorts giving help where needed.

**Practical Help:** Dog walking, smoke alarms, 'one off' gardening jobs, wheelchair pushing, basic DIY.

**Loan Equipment:** An extensive supply of equipment for short term loan including wheelchairs, zimmer frames, walkers etc.

**Social Events:** Coffee mornings, outings and regular newsletters

Most valued of all by our clients are the regular phone calls keeping in touch

There are many practical ways you can help –

Local transport (using your own car)

Minibus driving

Shopping bus scheme

Befriending

Gardening

Working in the office

Computer work

Fitting smoke alarms

Dog walking

Basic DIY

Or perhaps making those highly valued regular phone calls.

Perhaps you can only manage an hour or so a month, volunteers can offer help regularly or occasionally depending on their available time. If you feel you could help with this valuable community support, please call Jasmine in the Contact Office on 8651 4944. Or if you prefer call into our office on the lower ground floor of the Selsdon Community Centre and we can provide you with more information.



## SELSDON FLOWER CLUB



**We have pleasure in announcing that our Flower Club is continuing this year with the following programme:**

We are a small friendly club who meet on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month at 2 pm at the rear of St. John the Divine Church, Selsdon. Subscription £25 per annum. We have demonstrations and practices. All abilities welcome.

September 14	Practice - Your choice of arrangement
October 12	Halloween or Autumnal
November 9	Demonstration - Chris Millburn
December 7	Christmas Social and Christmas arrangement of choice



## MHA News Events in September

DATE	EVENT NAME	TIME	PRICE
Monday 5th	Dementia Café	11am – 12.30pm	£2 suggested
Tuesday 6th	Games with Jo	2pm – 3pm	£2 suggested
Thursday 8th	Coffee and Conversation	10.30am – 12.30pm	£2 suggested
Monday 19th	Home-made Soup & Chat	12pm – 2pm	£2 suggested
Tuesday 20th	Pilates In Nature to be confirmed	11.30am – 12.30pm	£6
Thursday 22nd	Coffee and Conversation (bereavement support)	10.30am – 12.30pm	£2 suggested
Friday 23rd	Gardening for Wellbeing with Lynette	11am – 12.30pm	£5

All our activities take place at the Wilderness garden, in Shirley, Croydon. The Wilderness is at 17 Shirley Church Road, Croydon CR9 5 AL, tucked behind MHA Hall Grange Care Home.

Please get in contact with us to attend our activities. Contact our Communities Manager for more information and to reserve your place at: Email: [southlondon@mha.org.uk](mailto:southlondon@mha.org.uk) Phone: 07597135220

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## THE VILLAGE CLUB



The Village Club has been part of the Selsdon community for many years and every year the club raises a substantial sum for charity. This year the club are raising money for Alzheimer's Society and for the incredible work this charity does.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022 we are holding our annual charity fundraiser which will include a tombola and raffle and other activities and events. If anyone has any prizes they would like to donate please mark them "charity" and drop to the club. New items / vouchers only please.

If you have ever walked past the club and wanted to have a look to see what it is like, we are a lovely club we have entertainment, bingo, quizzes, race nights all included in your yearly subscription and at the moment we are welcoming new members and you can join for an introductory fee of £5 for the first month. Feel free to pop in and say hello.

***Karen Myring. Telephone: 07944 951467***



## Friends of Selsdon Wood 2022 Photo Competition

Unfortunately, the 2022 FSW Photo Competition (which was advertised in the July issue of the Gazette) has had to be cancelled. After a bumper entry in 2021 there were very few entries this year, so sadly there will be no competition this year.

However, next year when there will be a 2-year period for eligibility (20th August 2021 - 19th August 2023) so photos already taken this year will be acceptable and can be sent at any time.

**Heather Govier - Chair FSW**



## Good News – New Marks and Spencer Store on the Purley Way

In August, M&S confirmed that it is poised to move to the site vacated by John Lewis 'At Home' Store along the Purley Way, and they are now actively recruiting in preparation for the move.

"We're really excited to be opening a new M&S store on Purley Way which will offer local customers a range of M&S products across our Food, Clothing & Home departments," a spokesman said.

"It will make a great addition to our existing stores in the local area and we hope to open to the public in spring or summer 2023." So, this is good news for the existing shop in Croydon as they intend to keep this open for Croydon residents.



## Selsdon Centre for the Retired – Pleas and a couple of 'Thank You's



Our fantastic volunteers are doing an amazing job for us but we always need more help. If you would like to be an important part of the Centre team by volunteering, please pop in when we're open on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, between 10:00 and 14:00, to discuss further

and have a look round, meet the staff and clients.

The volunteer slots are just 2 hours each, so it's not a huge drain on your spare time and is very much needed. We just ask for a regular commitment of one 2-hour session per week. Currently, we are in desperate need of minibus drivers and escorts who accompany the driver and assist the clients on and off the minibus. These slots are either 10:00 - 11:30 or 14:00 - 15:30, so any help will be much appreciated. It is a very rewarding chance to join in with the community on a regular basis.

Also, at the Selsdon Centre we want to make sure everyone has every chance to be safe and remain safe from Covid-19, so we are investigating booking the NHS Covid bus to attend at the Centre. We are hoping it will be available for vaccinations and advice very soon. When we have more information, we will let you have the details. Look out for our publicity posters, then feel free to come along!

Finally, thanks once again to the Ros Harding Trust for funding our industrial dishwasher, which has now been plumbed in and is already working flat out! It's a wonderful piece of equipment which is making a huge difference to the lives of our kitchen volunteers with its very short cycles! Just another reason to come along and join in, now life in the kitchen has got a whole lot easier! Many of our volunteers have been coming for years and for this we are extremely grateful. We can't run without them!

Don't forget you can contact the Selsdon Centre for the Retired on 0208 651 1111 (or leave a message on our answerphone) or email [Selsdon\\_centre@btinternet.com](mailto:Selsdon_centre@btinternet.com) and we'll get back to you.



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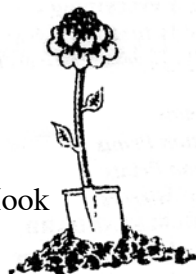
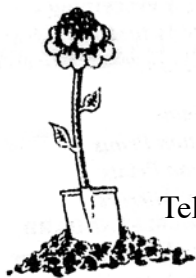
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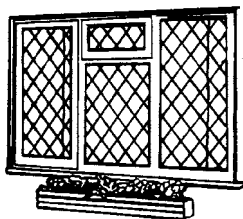
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## **A SELECTED LIST OF SELSDON ORGANISATIONS**

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

### **CHURCHES**

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

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

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

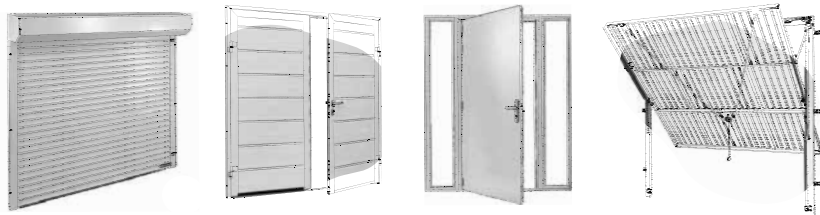
### **CLUBS, GROUPS & CHARITIES**

CONTACT (neighbourhood care)	Jasmine Singh	8651 4944
Selsdon Centre for the Retired	Craig Anderson	8651 1111
Croydon Hearing Resource Centre	Office	8686 0049
Bourne Society	Roger Packham	01883 349287
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: <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.1stelsdon.org.uk">www.1stelsdon.org.uk</a>	
Beaver Colony (6-8yrs)	Maddie Dunn	07703 531652
Cub Pack (8-10yrs)	Louise Baker	07737 404668
Scouts Troop (10-14yrs)	Douglas Gordon	07514 651711
Croham Valley Explorers	Anthony Woodin	020 8651 3780
2 <sup>nd</sup> Selsdon & Addington Scout Group:	Website: <a href="http://www.2ndSandAScoutGroup.org.uk">www.2ndSandAScoutGroup.org.uk</a>	
Selsdon Art Group	Mrs F Hooper	07973 412952
Selsdon Bridge Club	Tony Cherrett	01883 730304
Selsdon Community Hall	Tim Potter (Centre Manager)	8657 4300
Selsdon Afternoon Townswomen's Guild	Elizabeth Veasey	8657 1092
Selsdon Floral Club	Maureen Browning	8651 5821
Selsdon Social Club		
Selsdon Tennis Club	Geoff Littlewood	8651 4748
66 (Selsdon) Squadron Air Training Corps	Rob Cleeter	8651 5958



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