

SRA Annual report 2018

The SRA formed in 1926 to advance and protect the interests of the residents of Selsdon. Our membership covers about 4,000 households.

The SRA Committee

A Committee of up to 14 elected volunteers meet most months to discuss Selsdon issues and take action where necessary. They also attend council, police, transport and other meetings on our behalf and organise local events. There are vacancies on the Committee and volunteers who live in Selsdon would be very welcome to join. Contact selsdonresidents@yahoo.co.uk or speak to Chairman Sheila Childs 0208 6512285.

SRA Activities in 2018

To enhance our High Street, for a third year, the SRA arranged for floral arrangements in the high street with additional funding from Selsdon Funeral Service and Vintage 62 Hair Salon. The cost involves not only procurement and placement but also regular watering. Some businesses placed their own floral arrangements in addition which was great to see.

A free 'bring your own' Community picnic was held again in July in Selsdon Wood for all Selsdon residents. The SRA would like to thank the 2nd Selsdon & Addington Scouts for their help in organising refreshments and games. It was agreed that next year this event would merge with the Selsdon Woods Open Day on Sunday 8th September when there are also craft and charity stalls to view.

11th November 2018 was the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War 1. From August you will have seen some decorative Poppies on the High Street Lamp posts and around Selsdon as some individual homes also chose to join in the commemoration organised by the SRA in conjunction with the RBL.

Having noted the trend towards garden developments and 'intensification' in Croydon The SRA now pays annually for access to an online planning app designed to summarise the Council Planning site to aid our residents see for themselves in good time what relevant local planning applications have been made. Find the link from the 'About the SRA' page of our website or from www.localplanningapps.co.uk/croydon/sra/anupdate/planningtable.html Keep checking this and if you can see a problem with an application make your suggestions/objections known in good time. Sensible changes to plans will save a lot of grief later!

The Selsdon Gazette – Residents receive a paper copy through their door (with grateful thanks to all volunteers involved) and now The Selsdon Gazette also available online selsdon-residents.co.uk. Our Editor welcomes your contributions of local stories or news. Don't be shy - guidance on format and length is available. Paper copies of The Selsdon Gazette are available at Selsdon Library and an archive is also held by the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society (to which the SRA pays an annual subscription).

The eye catching Selsdon Christmas lights are paid for by the goodwill donations of residents and some traders and this year as last by a large donation from the 2018 Councillors Community fund. It was great to see so many people turn up for the switch on night with special thanks to the Selsdon Primary school choir and all the volunteers who helped with their time or with donations and of course to Father Christmas!

Accounts

A full balance sheet for 2018 will be presented at the next AGM which will be held on 13th March 2019 at St John's Hall, Upper Selsdon road. The continuation of the SRA depends on your voluntary annual subscriptions, the rate has not been increased with inflation for many years now and remains at a bargain £3 per household. Donations are also gratefully received. Thanks to the Treasurers Iris Jones (SRA) and Dick Adamson and Choi Kim (The Gazette) and to Angela Jones who reviews the Accounts.

Ward Boundaries

The Local Government Boundary Commission changed the Selsdon electoral ward boundaries from May 2018. See our new website selsdon-residents.co.uk for more information. In summary 'Selsdon' for the purposes of Council and election matters will be linked with an increased amount of neighbouring residential areas and then be split into two – north and south. The Police have chosen to follow this split with their nominated Police Officers which means that each side of the high street have different nominated officers to attend to matters! It also means that the SRA must attend two sets of Police meetings. Otherwise not a great deal seems to have changed so far by the division - the SRA continues to look out for Selsdon as a whole.

2018 Local news

As the end of 2018 we were extremely sorry to say goodbye to the longstanding and highly valued PSCO John Rosemeyer who has been moved elsewhere in the Borough. John has been the trusted, constant and friendly face of our local safer neighbourhood team. We will certainly miss him!

We all received large wheelie recycling bins this year to replace the previous boxes - whether we wanted them or not! Whether this is the right approach is up for debate but we can all agree that the protecting the environment has to be a priority for us all. Fortunately in Selsdon we are only a short walk away from the shops and other facilities and have all got access to good public transport routes. Perhaps if our health permits, both for air quality and our personal fitness, we can walk if for example, our journey is less than a mile maybe even purchase a wheeled shopping trolley to carry the load! We can also help the environment by putting plants in front gardens and window boxes – this benefits the air and the eye!

Janet Sharp, SRA Secretary