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# The ADDINGTON

## ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Magazine

2019 Issue 2

### PIONEER PLACE

Pioneer Place is opposite the golf clubhouse on Featherbed Lane. Since 1987, it has been owned and operated by the Jehovah's Witnesses, who have now decided to close their worship halls and sell the site. The plot comprises various halls, outbuildings in various states of disrepair, a large car park area, and 5 cottages.

The site is on Metropolitan Green Belt land and is currently classified for educational and religious use only. We understand that any new buyer might seek to have this classification changed to permit residential building. Addington Residents' Association wish to prevent **inappropriate** development within our designated Green Belt area, and we are anxious that Croydon Council are aware of residents' opinions. Do you support us?

We would like to hear your views.

Our AGM is 28th May 2019 at 8pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Huntingfield. Doors open at 7.30pm.

Please come along and/or email us at [addingtonresidents@gmail.com](mailto:addingtonresidents@gmail.com)

### Subscriptions for 2019 - 2020

Little Brown Envelopes for subscriptions are enclosed with this magazine. Subscriptions remain at £2 per household. The income enables us to seek professional help with issues, such as Pioneer Place, should we need to. The Association successfully objected to the development of the Forestdale Arms and the that of the field opposite Huntingfield.

To keep you informed we request an email address. This is only used to contact you should we feel that the gap between the magazines is too great and there are community issues we feel you should know about, like Pioneer Place.

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## The Addington Residents' Association

**Objects of the Association:** To ascertain the opinions of the residents and to lay them before appropriate authorities when desirable.

**Please see our website** - [www.addington-residents.co.uk](http://www.addington-residents.co.uk)

Please send any articles of local interest that you would like to see published to [addingtonresidents@gmail.com](mailto:addingtonresidents@gmail.com) as well as any opinions you may have. Correspondence for the Association should be addressed to ARA, 12 Huntingfield, CR0 9BA

|                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Chairman:                | Wiktor Molleskog   | ) All correspondence should now  |
| Hon Secretary:           | Mike Bond  | ) be addressed to  |
| Hon Treasurer:           | Alan Chitty  | ) <a href="mailto:addingtonresidents@gmail.com">addingtonresidents@gmail.com</a>   |
| Magazine/Website Editor: | Salli Ransom   | ) stating 'For attention of...'  |
| Advertising:             | Geoff Jordan   | )  |
| Magazine Distributer:    | Salli Ransom/<br>Valerie Molleskog   | <a href="mailto:salliran@gmail.com">salliran@gmail.com</a><br>01689 843404   |
| Committee Members:       | Aline Antoine<br>Paul Bearman<br>Terry Belsey<br>Malcolm Graveling<br>Geoff Hopper<br>Keith James<br>Gina Stoneman | <a href="mailto:alineantoine@msn.com">alineantoine@msn.com</a><br><a href="mailto:pgbpgb123@gmail.com">pgbpgb123@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:spiff@clara.co.uk">spiff@clara.co.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:malcolm@graveling.co.uk">malcolm@graveling.co.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:geoff.hopper@icloud.com">geoff.hopper@icloud.com</a><br><a href="mailto:krj88@btinternet.com">krj88@btinternet.com</a><br><a href="mailto:myladypilot@gmail.com">myladypilot@gmail.com</a> |

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### Getting in touch with our Councillors

Due to the restructuring of the Croydon Wards the area covered by the Residents' Association has been split. Our new councillors are as follows:

|                                |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Selsdon and Addington Village: | Helen Pollard<br>Robert Ward   | <a href="mailto:helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk">helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk">robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk</a>     |
| Selsdon Vale and Forestdale:   | Andy Stranack<br>Stuart Milsom | <a href="mailto:andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk">andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk</a><br><a href="mailto:stuart.milsom@croydon.gov.uk">stuart.milsom@croydon.gov.uk</a> |

## Recommended Tradespersons

We are delighted to share with you our good experience with the following local tradesmen. Please feel free to let us know your experiences.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Amalgamated Security  | J Hatcher, Master Locksmith<br>Telephone 0208 405 3828, Mobile 07774 675395  |
| Cornell & Varley<br>Garden Machinery  | Godstone Road, Purley, CR8 2DB<br>Telephone 0208 660 9377  |
| Oven Sparkle  | Ian Dawes, 01342 604841, 07917 154426  |
| Panoramic Windows   | 11 Hamsey Green, Sanderstead, Surrey CR2 9BX<br>Telephone 020 8651 2461  |
| Paul Sinden<br>Tree Surgery   | Paul Sinden, Hillside House, Glossop Road<br>South Croydon, CR2 CR2 0PW (Mail Only)<br>Telephone 0208 686 9207 (24 hours)<br>This contractor is on Croydon Council's 'approved'<br>list' |
| PCTECH<br>Computer sales & repairs  | 169 Selsdon Park Road, Selsdon<br>Telephone: 020 8651 1151   |
| RGC Decorators  | Roy Chaffey<br>07956 132439 or 020 8651 9047   |
| Savannah SV Solutions<br>Gas Safe registered, Plumber, Boiler<br>Installation, Repairs,<br>Refurbishment, Fencing | Steve<br>07947 381087  |
| Surrey Accident Repair Centre<br>Crash repair specialists   | 93 Canterbury Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 3HH<br>Telephone 0208 684 2291 (Free estimates)  |
| Surrey Decorating<br>20 years experience  | Paul Crossin 07892 814 556<br><a href="http://www.surrey-decorating.co.uk">www.surrey-decorating.co.uk</a>   |

The information above is provided in good faith from recommendations received by us. We cannot however, take any responsibility for any of the traders listed and you should always be prepared to ask for references from the traders themselves.

Should you come across a tradesperson you could recommend please email the editor.

# Popchoir

If you are looking to join a Choir and meet new people I thought it would be good to tell you about the Choir I am a member of.

I was working full time in a very stressful job, but loved my work and the environment I was working in.

My daughter told me about a choir that she had just joined and so I went along to try it out. The numbers were small but it was so good to sing and it helped to reduce my stress levels. Over the next few months the choir grew and alongside members of the Dulwich choir, which was the first to be formed, we started to perform publicly. It felt so good to sing for others and the response really gave us the confidence to aim even higher.

Over the 10 years that I have belonged to Popchoir we have performed in so many venues, including Supermarkets, Summer Fairs, and the forecourts of many train stations; also concerts at Fairfield Hall and Westminster Hall. We perform to support so many Charities, which is very rewarding, but the highlight of the year for me is when we sing in Trafalgar Square by the Christmas Tree, this year raising money for the Air Ambulance; the atmosphere is amazing.

I retired two years after joining and continue to enjoy Monday evenings singing and socializing with a really friendly group of people. It doesn't matter how I feel going in, I always come out feeling happy and smiling and humming our latest song. It has made me realize how singing can be so beneficial to our lives.

We meet on a Monday evening 8 – 9.30 pm at St. Mildred's Centre, 30 Bingham Road, Addiscombe, Croydon CR07EB. If you think this is something you might like to try you just need to look at the Popchoir website and book a taster session, or if you don't have access to a computer phone Helen Hampton; the details are as follows:

Website: [info@popchoir.com](mailto:info@popchoir.com)

Telephone: 0845 5190 890

The Choir is open to all adults and ability, there is no audition – just turn up and sing; there is always a member to help guide you through. The day I joined Popchoir was a turning point for me and has made me more confident and I have met new friends.

I hope this article has made an interesting read.

Joan Chitty (Addington Resident)

## AGM

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of the Addington Residents Association will be held in the Addington Methodist Church Hall, Huntingfield on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 8.00pm.

## AGENDA

1: Apologies for absence

2: To adopt the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018

3: Matters arising:

- A letter has been received from Cllr Tony Newman stating that it may be possible that the backfield at Greenfields Pioneer Place will be taken back into public ownership. The ARA have undertaken to maintain the field should this happen.
- Greenfields Pioneer Place, Waterworks Cottages, Silverwood Place and Farleigh Dean Crescent fall into Selsdon Vale & Forestdale ward after the boundary changes. We have had good co-operation with the Councillors for this ward.
- No other action concerning the Forestdale Arms.
- Possibilities of creating facilities for Park & Ride.
- Croydon Council's approach to repair of Potholes.
- Parking in Falconwood Road

4: Chairman's Report

5: Treasurer's Report

6: Resignation and Election of Committee Members

7: Any other Business

- Greenfields Pioneer Place current status.
- Field next to Scout Camp current status.
- Residents have received letters from developer wanting to buy part of their gardens.
- Parking outside Addington Methodist Church.
- Upgrade Addington Park.

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## Chairman's Report

We have been involved with some different issues since the last Magazine.

**Council protest:** On 1 April we took part in a protest outside Croydon Town Hall and afterwards witnessed the full council meeting from the public gallery. It became clear from this meeting that the majority of the Council is very much in favour of building more and more flats and most planning applications will be passed.

We attended the meeting of the London Green Belt Council where we enlisted their support for matters concerning Greenfields Pioneer Place.

**Whitgift Centre:** The latest is that the development will begin in March 2020.

**Fairfield Hall:** The opening is scheduled to be September 2019.

**Greenfields Pioneer Place:** The congregation worshipping at Pioneer Place have been given notice to vacate the site by the last weekend of August 2019 after which the site will be sold. There has been conflicting messages from the planning department of Croydon Council, some saying that they have had no discussion with Jehovah Witnesses Kingdom Hall and some saying that they are in discussions with Jehovah Witnesses Kingdom Hall. We have enlisted the support of the London Green Belt Council and will be launching a campaign later in the year to try to stop a major development on the site.

We are trying to sort out the parking situation outside Addington Methodist Church and hope for some development soon.

We are aware that some residents have received offers from developers to buy part of their gardens. If you have received such a letter and have any questions please contact Addington Residents Association.

---

### Activities at Addington Methodist Church

#### Tuesday Group – 2.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month

|           |                             |             |   |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| 14th May  | AGM and Pointless Quiz      | 9th July    | The Old Palace, its buildings and bishops |
| 28th May  | The story behind your cuppa | 23rd July   | Musical afternoon with sing-along         |
| 11th June | Kent Ambulance Service      | 13th August | Tea afternoon                             |
| 25th June | Lunch at Oscar's            | 27th August | Anyone for Tea?                           |

#### Thursday Group - 7.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month except January

|          |                                    |           |                  |
|----------|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2nd May  | AGM with finger buffet             | 20th June | Janet's Readings |
| 16th May | Places I have worked - Jenny Harms | 4th July  | Paul's G&S music |
| 6th June | Meal out, venue to be decided      | 19th July | Summer Social    |

#### Coffee Morning - 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month 10.00am – 12 noon Room 4

|                         |  |                           |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 4th May - Mini May Fair | 1st June - Charity International Needs | 6th July - One Bread Club |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|

AM:PM Messy Church



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21st May, 18th June, 16th July

Addington Methodist Church

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Letters to the Editor.....

### **Pioneer Place**

I strongly object to any development taking place on Pioneer Place, Featherbed Lane.

Considering the amount of residential building, including the building of a number of tower blocks, and the refurbishment of residential/ office buildings taking place in Central Croydon one would have thought that the Council would have reached their building targets without having to encroach on green belt land.

There are also a number of issues with building companies at the present time because of their shoddy workmanship Persimmon is a case in point where the Government is currently considering withdrawing the help to buy scheme from their new build construction because of their poor workmanship. A number of other building companies have an appalling record of dissatisfied customers because of poor workmanship.

If the Addington Residents' Association can arrange for a tree preservation order on any of the trees on the site then this may discourage any future developer.

It is surprising that a religious organisation is looking for manna from heaven. Their judgement day cometh.

And another...

### **Pioneer Place**

I object to the further development of the above site. I am particularly concerned that there may be rare orchids, flower species and wildlife that have been flourishing undisturbed for many years and that this could all be destroyed by developing the site!

This is green belt land and should be left as such.

I have no objection to the existing buildings being used as an amenity for the local community maybe to hold classes such as crafts, yoga, art, children's dance classes etc. There is a large car park already in place. I think it could be a popular venue.

The land surrounding the site must be protected and kept natural as it has been for many years. There is so much development taking place in Croydon we need to protect our green belt for future generations!



*Rare orchids at Pioneer Place*

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**Next Issue** - The next issue will be produced in July 2019. Articles should reach the editor by 5th of the month for inclusion in the issue.

**Disclaimer** - The Addington Residents' Association (ARA) take all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information provided both verbally and in articles and advertisements in this Magazine is accurate. If the need arises, readers should carefully check the information provided to ensure it is satisfactory for their purpose as the ARA will not accept any responsibility for such information which is provided in good faith.

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