# The **ADDINGTON**

## ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### **Quarterly Magazine**

2020 Issue 2



I have seen lots of these lovely drawings on my daily walk. The applause on Thursday for what the NHS are doing in these challenging times has been uplifting. We have spoken to neighbours, keeping our distance, and waved to others further away. We must do all we can for our community whilst keeping ourselves safe.





ADDINGTON, SELSDON and SANDERSTEAD 175 Selsdon Park Road South Croydon CR2 8JJ Tel: 020 8657 3616 Own Chapel of Rest



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#### 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

Please send any articles of local interest that you would like to see published, as well as any opinions you may have, to addingtonresidents@gmail.com 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	) addingtonresidents@gmail.com
Magazine/Website Editor: Salli Ransom		) stating 'For attention of'
Advertising:	Geoff Jordan	)
Magazine Distributer:	Salli Ransom/	salliran@gmail.com
	Valerie Molleskog	01689 843404
Committee Members:	Aline Antoine Paul Bearman Terry Belsey Malcolm Graveling Geoff Hopper Keith James Gina Stoneman	alineantoine@msn.com pgbpgb123@gmail.com spiff@clara.co.uk malcolm@graveling.co.uk geoff.hopper@icloud.com krj88@btinternet.com myladypilot@gmail.com

#### Getting in touch with our Councillors

Selsdon and Addington Village:	Helen Pollard Robert Ward	helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk
Selsdon Vale and Forestdale:	Andy Stranack Stuart Milsom	andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk stuart.milsom@croydon.gov.uk

## **Chairman's Report**

Dear residents. Since I last wrote to you events have somewhat overtaken us and Britain is probably facing the biggest crisis since the Second World War.

We all have to try to pull through this in the best way possible but adhering to the government guidelines for social distancing. Stay at home and only do essential trips for shopping and medication.

If you are over 70 stay in and try to get the shopping done for you.

The message is **STAY HOME STAY SAFE.** 

## Where can you get help?

We, as part of the Residents' Association, are able to shop, collect prescriptions or advise people on where to get help.

We are setting up a network to help out elderly and vulnerable residents by doing their shopping, picking up medication and alike.

If you should need help or know someone in your neighbourhood that needs help please phone me, Wiktor Molleskog on 01689 843404/07704 797673. Please pass this message on to your neighbours.

If you are able to offer help and would like to take part in this service please call me on the number above.

## From the Editor

Everything in this digital magazine relies on you having internet access and me having your email address. Do YOU have any contact information for your vulnerable neighbours.

I am a NHS Responder and my first call was to a resident in our catchment area. I was rather surprised that she had to call the emergency services as I assumed we were all good neighbours and were keeping an eye out for those who needed help.

Please make yourselves aware of the people in your street. So much relies on technology these days and there are some elderly people who do not use WhatsApp or Messenger and do not know who to contact for help.

Several roads have set up WhatsApp or Facebook groups which are great for getting shopping or prescriptions should you not be able to go out, so please use them.

#### Home schooling? School work challenges? Test preparation?

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I'm a qualified teacher and tutor with 23 years of experience and I'm here in Palace Green, Addington, to help your children with English, Maths and Science. In this difficult year, it is really essential to keep up with the curriculum, prepare for tests and maintain routines.

Although I love 1:1, face-to-face tuition, I am adapting my teaching to deliver online lessons. These can be regular, or one-off lessons and can include postal marking / work delivery too.

Call, text or email me:

#### 0775 777 1302

#### richard@ teachingisthekey.co.uk

#### Exercise

Exercise is important at the moment. Everyday things that we used to do while rushing around have diminished, so finding time for a walk/run is really important.

- Exercise controls weight
- Exercise combats health conditions especially mental health problems
- Exercise improves mood
- Exercise boosts energy

• Exercise promotes better sleep Spring is here, the hours of daylight are increasing, so make time to get out. There are beautiful woodland areas very close to where we live, and according to the news, wild animals are enjoying this quieter time and are seen more frequently.

(Bluebells in Selsdon Wood)





Recently the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) <u>reported</u> a new trend in fraud related to Coronavirus, or COVID-19. Updated figures show there have been 105 reports to <u>Action Fraud</u> since 1 February 2020, with total losses reaching nearly £970,000.

#### What scams are we seeing?

The majority of reports are related to <u>online shopping</u> scams where people have ordered protective face masks, hand sanitiser, and other products, which have never arrived. Other frauds being reported include <u>ticket fraud</u>, <u>charity fraud</u> and <u>lender loan fraud</u>.

#### **Phishing emails**

We have also received over 200 reports of coronavirus-themed phishing emails. These attempt to trick people into opening malicious attachments which could lead to fraudsters stealing people's personal information, email logins and passwords, and banking details. Some of the tactics being used in phishing emails include:

• Fraudsters purporting to be from a research group that mimic the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organisation (WHO). They claim to provide the victim with a list of active infections in their area but to access this information the victim needs to either: click on a link which redirects them to a credential-stealing page; or make a donation of support in the form of a payment into a Bitcoin account.

• Fraudsters providing articles about the virus outbreak with a link to a fake company website where victims are encouraged to click to subscribe to a daily newsletter for further updates.

• Fraudsters sending investment scheme and trading advice encouraging people to take advantage of the coronavirus downturn.

• Fraudsters purporting to be from HMRC offering a tax refund and directing victims to a fake website to harvest their personal and financial details. The emails often display the HMRC logo making it look reasonably genuine and convincing.

#### Superintendent Sanjay Andersen, Head of the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau, said:

"Fraudsters will use any opportunity they can to take money from innocent people. This includes exploiting tragedies and global emergencies.

"The majority of scams we are seeing relate to the online sale of protective items, and items that are in short supply across the country, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. We're advising people not to panic and to think about the purchase they are making. When you're online shopping it's important to do your research and look at reviews of the site you are buying from."

#### Graeme Biggar, Director General of the National Economic Crime Centre, said:

"We have already seen fraudsters using the COVID-19 pandemic to scam people looking to buy medical supplies online, sending emails offering fake medical support and targeting people who may be vulnerable or increasingly isolated at home.

"These frauds try to lure you in with offers that look too good to be true, such as high return investments and 'healthcare opportunities', or appeals for you to support those who are ill or bogus charities.

"The advice is simple, think very carefully before you hand over your money, and don't give out your personal details unless you are sure who you are dealing with.

"We are working together across law enforcement, government and the private sector to combat this criminal activity and protect the public. If you think you have been a victim please report to Action Fraud."

#### **Protect yourself**

1) Watch out for scam messages

Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to unsolicited messages and calls that ask for your personal or financial details.

2) Shopping online:

If you're making a purchase from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, and ask a friend or family member for advice before completing the purchase. If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one, as most major credit card providers insure online purchases.

For more information on how to shop online safely, please visit: <u>https://</u> www.actionfraud.police.uk/shoponlinesafely

3) Protect your devices from the latest threats:

Always install the latest software and app updates to protect your devices from the latest threats.

For information on how to update your devices, please visit: <u>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/</u> guidance/securing-your-devices

For the latest health information and advice about COVID-19 please visit the NHS website.

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#### **Council update from Helen Pollard**

#### ADDINGTON PARK PLAYGROUND

In January 2019 the Council allocated funding of £280k to refurbish three playgrounds - Addington Park, Grangewood Park and Northwood Playspace. Since then Cllr Helen Pollard has been chasing the Council to find out why nothing has been done to move the project forward.

In a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Cllr Pollard was given assurances that the work had been put out to tender with responses expected by 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The plan was to award the contract by mid May and the work would be completed by the end of September. Given the recent Coronavirus crisis, the timings might now be revised.

#### SELSDON COMMUNITY PLAN AND THE 'GARAGE' SITE

We are continuing to work to move forward with the Selsdon Community Plan. The aim is to have a plan based on the views of residents and businesses in the area. This will help to attract funding for local projects in the Selsdon area in future.

There has been some movement in relation to the Garage site next to Aldi in Selsdon. In February the site owners met councillors to discuss a new planning application they are proposing. The proposals are similar to previous applications and the developer seemed confident that they were viable. The next step was to put in a planning application. Unfortunately, the Coronavirus has intervened and we are not sure whether this will affect the development. We will have a better idea of this once the lockdown is over.

#### CORONAVIRUS

We have continued to support residents during the Coronavirus crisis. Council services are still being delivered and we are happy to help if there are any issues.

There was a virtual meeting between Conservative Councillors and senior Council Officers where we discussed how the Council is responding during the crisis. There has been some redeployment of resource as the Council puts in place measures to support residents and businesses during these uncertain times. We fully support the Council's efforts to support vulnerable residents and the NHS as the full impact of the virus is felt in Croydon.

#### FORESTDALE RECYCLING CENTRE

There are ongoing issues at the Forestdale Recycling Centre. We often find the Council is not keeping up with emptying the bins, particularly around bank holidays. This results in people leaving piles of recyclables, and rubbish, next to the containers. We report this to the Council and they do eventually come and clear it up.

The Council has now agreed to put up CCTV to monitor activity in the area. We welcome this as it should deter the people who flytip in the area. However, we will keep up the pressure on the Council to ensure they empty the bins regularly.

#### **COUNCILLOR BUDGETS**

Each Councillor in Croydon has a 'Councillor Budget' of £8,000 each, to spend on projects that will benefit residents in their ward. This can include borough-wide initiatives, or very local projects. Here are details of some the projects the local Selsdon councillors have supported in the last year.

High street related projects include support for the Selsdon Christmas Lights, the Selsdon Community Plan initiative and the first ever Selsdon Christmas Market.

On the sporting front, we have help with funding for Palace for Life Walking Football at the Monks Hill Sports Centre and Foundation 47 which runs basketball, fitness and mentoring sessions for young people on Monks Hill.

We have supported the Friends of Littleheath Woods with funding for pathways and tools to help the volunteers maintain the woods. Support has also been provided for the Scouts mobile climbing wall that goes to many events in the borough.

There are many other projects, but this should give an idea of how we support local events and community groups. If you know of any groups that would like support in the future please get in touch.

#### **MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS**

The Selsdon Team of Councillors usually holds surgeries in the Selsdon Centre (next to Sainsbury's) on the first Saturday of the month from 10am - 11.15am (except August). As a result of the Coronavirus crisis the surgeries have been suspended. If you wish to speak to a councillor please get in touch and we can arrange a virtual meeting using Zoom or similar.

Helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk	Robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk
Stuart.millson@croydon.gov.uk	Andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk

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**Next Issue -** The next issue will be produced in October 2020. 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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### Tel: 020 8651 6062

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm Saturday 9am - 5.30pm

#### **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 Telephone 020 8405 3828, Mobile 07774 675395
Mobile Chiropodist	Katie Elliott 07718 090560
Oven Sparkle	lan Dawes, 01342 604841, 07917 154426
Panoramic Windows	11 Hamsey Green, Sanderstead, Surrey CR2 9BX Telephone 020 8651 2461
Paul SInden Tree Surgery	Paul Sinden, Hillside House, Glossop Road South Croydon, CR2 CR2 OPW (Mail Only) Telephone 020 8686 9207 (24 hours) This contractor is on Croydon Council's 'approved' list'
Plumbright Installations Ltd Plumbing, Heating, Boiler service	Darren Snow 020 8651 4151, 07970 684215
RGC Decorators	Roy Chaffey 07956 132439 or 020 8651 9047
Savannah SV Solutions Gas Safe registered, Plumber, Boiler Installation, Repairs, Refurbishment, Fencing	Steve 07947 381087
Steve Isted Garden Help	Telephone 07982 942891 sisted@hotmail.co.uk
Surrey Accident Repair Centre Crash repair specialists	93 Canterbury Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 3HH Telephone 020 8684 2291 (Free estimates)
Surrey Decorating 20 years experience	Paul Crossin 07892 814 556 www.surrey-decorating.co.uk

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.



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**Timeout Magazine** 

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