## The ADDINGTON

### ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**Quarterly Magazine** 

2020 Issue 3



The view from my office today

I am back in France - hooray. The prospect looked fairly bleak for 14 weeks. Like others, during that time, I was supposed to have taken a few trips; South Africa in May, Kenya in July and several week long trips to France. Instead I sewed scrubs, shopped for the community, and volunteered at the Food Hub which delivered a record breaking amount of food to its clients, nearly twice as much as last year. Let's hope you all manage to get somewhere this summer, even if you can't get away there is some beautiful countryside just waiting for you. *Editor*.



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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, CRO 9BA

Chairman: Wiktor Molleskog ) All correspondence should now

) be addressed to Hon Secretary: Mike Bond

Hon Treasurer: Alan Chitty ) addingtonresidents@gmail.com

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Gina Stoneman myladypilot@gmail.com

### Getting in touch with our Councillors

Selsdon and Addington Village: Helen Pollard helen.pollard@croydon.gov.uk

> Robert Ward robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk

Selsdon Vale and Forestdale: andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk Andy Stranack

Stuart Milsom stuart.milsom@croydon.gov.uk

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### **Chairman's Report**

Since the last Chairman's report we have unfortunately been caught in the grip of Covid-19 with the lockdown restricting everything we want to do.

The committee have tried to remain active with Zoom meetings every month. We have set up a group to help with shopping and collecting medication that functions well and I wish to thank the members that take part in this. (see below if you need anything)

We have recently been made aware of the way Croydon Council are handling planning applications during lockdown, where it seems that anything goes, and have sent a letter of protest to the leader of the council, with copies to the 3 Croydon MPs, Sarah Jones, Chris Philp and Steve Reed, as well as the Minister for Housing. This letter was printed in Inside Croydon we were also contacted by a lady from the scrutiny group at London Assembly as they have been made aware of our concerns.

With regard to Pioneer Place, the Coronavirus had halted negotiations, but it looks like it may have been sold now, but the purchasers remain unknown.

We will not be collecting subscriptions until the magazine is back in print.

I would ask all of you to follow guidelines, look after yourselves and 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.

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.

Many of the Covid help groups are coming to a close as people return to work but if you need anything please call me on the number above. Wiktor



The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) is still very concerned about fraud related to Coronavirus, or COVID-19.

### 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 ticket fraud, charity fraud and lender loan fraud.

### **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:

- Number one at the moment are emails purporting to be from British Gas. Links in these emails trigger phishing software so please do not open them.
- 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 help and advice and financial support because of coronavirus. The emails often display the HMRC logo making it look reasonably genuine and convincing.

As more and more people are using the internet/emails/online outlets so the scammers have more and more targets. Please be very vigilant and keep antivurus software up to date.

### Normal? What is 'Normal'?

What seemed like 'another lifetime' ago, I wrote about the prospect of having to face yet another general election! Well, THAT election passed as did all the joys of political debates and broadcasts; what seemed like endless rounds of accusations and counteraccusations (both real and fake) made by members of one party against another. We wondered if life would ever get back to being normal?

What is normal, you may well ask? Since THAT election life (and the world) has been turned on its head – all because of 'the dreaded VIRUS and LOCKDOWN! There's no going back now is there? Not life as we knew it when we were children, or life as we knew it just 20 years or even just 10 years ago let alone 12 weeks ago!!

I wrote these words for an article published in our churches magazines in December 2019 -What are the criteria for determining normal? Surely the evolving nature of life in our country, communities, cultures and even churches continually challenges what can be described and considered as being normal. Correct. And since 'Lockdown and Social Distancing' has become a way of life you can be sure that 'normal or being normal' will most certainly have evolved into something far different than anyone of us can imagine at this point in life.

### So .... What will the 'NEW NORMAL be?

Sixteen years ago, I completed training as a Teacher / Trainer of The Change Cycle <sup>™</sup> Course. It was an intensive period of study concluding with a final exam. The Change Cycle <sup>™</sup> is a training programme designed to help individuals and organisations to deal resourcefully, pragmatically and effectively with 'change'. In each stage of change we experience thoughts, feelings and behaviour associated with that change which either help or hinder our acceptance of and movement towards the change we're facing.

As we approach the end (maybe) of 'Lockdown' – with its tumultuous, terrifying, taunting experiences and face the frightfully, staggering, exciting possibilities of *shaping the New Normal* let us .......

<u>Look Back to the past</u> – to what it was or wasn't; to what we may have been encouraged to do or discouraged from doing; at our fears (both real and imagined); as well as our successes and failures;

<u>Look Forward to the Future</u> – have our dreams and aspirations changed; what are our doubts and expectations; where or what will the greatest change come from or be?

<u>Look Now at the Present</u> – take stock of the feelings, thoughts and behaviours that challenge us now; what has worked for or marred this *present experience*; has it been real and simply imagined and might it make or break the *future*; where are we now; what has changed from where we've come from and where do we hope / desire / desperately want to be or go in the future?

Scripture promises us that God will never leave us, is always the same and will never let us face that which we cannot handle. With these promises in mind I trust that as we look at **what the 'NEW NORMAL'** will be, we will come to the end of this experience praising God for what he has done and taught us.

"Now, to Him who is able to immeasurably more than all we ask or can imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen" (Ephesians 3 vs 20,21)

God bless you, Bennie Harms, Lay Pastor

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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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Mobile Chiropodist Katie Elliott

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Oven Sparkle lan Dawes, 01342 604841, 07917 154426

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Telephone 020 8651 2461

Paul SInden Paul Sinden, Hillside House, Glossop Road Tree Surgery 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 Darren Snow

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RGC Decorators Roy Chaffey

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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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