

The ADDINGTON

ADDINGTON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Magazine

2021 Issue 4



Subscriptions and the little brown envelopes

As is highlighted in Alan Chitty's Treasurers Report our income has been severely reduced by Covid over the last 20 months. With this issue of The Addington is a little brown envelope for subscriptions for the year 2022. This remains at a modest £2 per household. Attempts to collect the subscriptions by bank transfer have not really worked out as we hoped. Also requests for help in certain roads didn't produce much response so you may find the return address on your little brown envelope is not quite as local as it could be. Many thanks to those who have offered to be 'letter boxes', your help is much appreciated.

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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:	Vacant) be addressed to
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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	andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk
	Stuart Milsom	stuart.milsom@croydon.gov.uk

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AGM

**Notice is hereby given that the AGM of the Addington Residents' Association
will be held in the hall at Addington Methodist Church
on Tuesday 26th of October 2021 at 8.00pm**

AGENDA

- 1: Apologies for absence
- 2: To adopt the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held by Zoom on Tuesday the 1st of December 2020
- 3: Matters arising:
 - a: **Green Corridor**
The existing green corridor from The White Bear pub to Lloyd Park has been broken as the backfield is no more
 - b: **Greenfields Pioneer Place**
All the top soil of the back field has been removed, all the wild flowers and orchids have been dug up. The backfield is now a field of chalk. No planning application for any part of Pioneer Place has been submitted as far as we know
 - c: **Frylands wood Scout Camp site**
Nothing to report
 - d: **Yellow Lines**
Completion of the parking restrictions in Huntingfield and Featherbed Lane outside the Church. Helen Pollard to report
 - e: **Addington Park facilities**
The improvement of the children's Play Ground, what news? Helen Pollard to report
 - f: **Thames Water**
We have been in touch with Thames Water, they are awaiting any formal planning application for Pioneer Place
 - g: **Festival Addington Park**
A music festival was held in Addington Park in August. There were some complaints of noise and some evidence of drug dealing and drug use
 - h: **Fly-tipping Featherbed Lane**
Any update of the state of fly-tipping along Featherbed Lane
 - i: **Theft from cars**
Any update of catalytic-converter theft and other thefts from cars
- 4: Chairman's Report
- 5: Treasurer's Report
- 6: Report from Sarah Jones, MP
- 7: Resignation and Election of Committee Members
- 8: Any other Business



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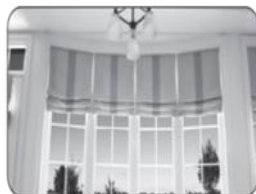
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OPENING HOURS

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Saturday 9am - 5.30pm

Chairman's report for AGM 2021

For the last 18 months we have not been able to meet face to face and we have only been able to deliver one printed copy of our Magazine, The Addington. It has not been easy to keep on top of things.

On Tuesday the 7th September this year the committee was finally able to meet face to face again and we are now aiming to produce a regular hard copy of the Magazine, so things should slowly be getting back to normal. But this pandemic is far from over and we have all to be resilient and take the proper precautions.

As you know the Croydon Council is bankrupt and one of the things that has been scrapped is the refurbishment of Addington Park children's playground, so our children are suffering again.

Work has started at Pioneer Place. The backfield has been dug up and flattened. It is now a field of chalk and all the Orchids and wild flowers are gone. We do not at present know exactly what is happening as no formal planning application has been submitted to the Council.

Over the weekend 14/15th August a Music Festival was held in Addington Park. There was some noise pollution and incidents of drug dealing and drug use were reported. There are some rumours that this Music Festival may be held twice a year at the park. If so we will protest.

During the year we have attended Zoom meetings with the London Green Belt Council, Sanderstead and Selsdon Rotary Community Forum and the Selsdon Community Plan Steering Group.

We hope that we will slowly get back to normal again, but it is not going to be easy to get the Council involved in anything as there is no money. The Councillors Community Budget has been cut and it is not known when, if ever, it will be restored.

We hope that you have weathered the pandemic in good health and are enjoying some freedom.

Wiktor Molleskog, Chairman

Treasurers Report 2021

This has been a difficult year for everyone with the Covid 19 restrictions impacting on all our lives, in many ways, and the Association has not been immune to this. We offered a collection service to those who needed to self-isolate and joined with Huntingfield Methodist Church and the Rotary Club with Food Bank collections.

To minimise the possible spread of the pandemic it was decided to put the magazine online and we sent out the quarterly reports to those residents who had provided their internet details. We were sorry that it was not possible to keep more people informed but we could only work with the details we had been given.

As a result of these restrictions, we decided that it would be unfair to continue to charge our Advertisers for a service we could not fully provide, and we decided to give our long-term supporters a twelve-month holiday. Also, it was not possible to send out our annual request for the resident's subscription. The result of these measures meant that income for last year was severely reduced and resulted in a loss for the period as shown on the attached audited accounts.

It is important that we reverse this trend as without a sustainable reserve of funds we will be unable to fight on behalf of you to protect our local environment in the future. With the Government already showing signs of breaking their promises to maintain the Metropolitan Green Belt because of the *acute housing shortage* our local green spaces could disappear, and we would become part of the urban sprawl unless we resist.

Unfortunately, when we contacted our Advertisers with a view to continuing their participation in the magazine some of them have not responded, this could be because of the effect the pandemic has had on their businesses, and it looks like our income *will* be affected again next year. Therefore it is most important that we return to previous levels reached in our request for subscriptions. *I would ask all of you where possible to make payment of your subscriptions by either a Standing Order with your bank or an annual one-off payment through your bank.* Otherwise please use the little brown envelope.

Remember an organisation is only as good as its participants if they all pull together in the common will. The coming years are likely to throw up several challenges and we must be ready to meet them. If you are able to join the Committee and become a part of your community working for everyone's benefit you will be most welcome.

Alan Chitty, Hon. Treasurer

Minutes of Virtual Annual General Meeting held 1st December 2020 at 8.00pm using Video Conferencing

Present :

ARA Committee: Wiktor Molleskog, Mike Bond, Malcolm Graveling, Salli Ransom, Paul Bearman, Keith James, Terry Belsey, Alan Chitty, Aline Antoine

MP : Sarah Jones (Croydon Central)

Local Residents: Phil Barber, Alice Hicks, Paul Ransom, Geoff Hopper, Jim Nayyar, Joy Ellery, John & Genevieve Glen, Winston Leeks, Dr Kemal

1) Apologies were received from Gina Stoneman and Cllr Helen Pollard.

2) Minutes of the previous year's AGM were approved and adopted (proposed by Keith James, seconded by Malcolm Graveling).

3) Matters arising

The Green Corridor and Pioneer Place issues will be addressed later in the meeting
New unsolicited approaches have been made to some residents in Featherbed Lane and Falconwood Road, this time by CDR Evolution, to buy up back gardens to build more houses. We are not aware that any residents have responded

Still no progress on completing the yellow lines in Huntingfield and Featherbed Lane on the church corner (Cllr Helen Pollard to be asked to follow-up)

The Council's improvement plans for the Addington Park childrens' playground area are unlikely to be completed due to the Council's worsening financial state

4) Chairman's Annual report

We are not able to hold our AGM face to face as we normally do so we are now doing it via ZOOM. From May 2019 until February 2020 all was normal and we carried out the concerns of our Residents. From February things have been very different with Covid19 and all the restrictions so we had to hold Committee meetings by Zoom. I hope that you are all well and that you have been able to stay safe during the pandemic.

During the pandemic we have taken part in the London Green Belt AGM and observed a Planning Committee Meeting at Croydon Council, both via Zoom. From the London Green Belt, we learned that they have made a strong objection to the Government Housing White Paper. We did not learn much from the Planning Committee meeting.

We have also objected to the Government Housing White Paper, and to the new increased Parking Charges for Croydon which are planned to take place from January 2021.

We objected to the Liquor License for Addington Park. This Application has since been withdrawn but a new Application may be launched. We will monitor the situation.

The planned upgrade of the play area in Addington Park has been cancelled due to the Council being bankrupt.

Pioneer Place has been bought by the Shia Muslims. They said they intend to use the existing buildings for worship and were not going to develop the site. The back field will be used for relaxation and meditation by their members. Their intention is to make Pioneer Place a hub for community activity.

Since our first contact with the Shia Muslim group we have learned that they are planning a major development on the site. This development is out of character with the area and cannot be accepted. We will call for the BACKFIELD to get SINC status with some form of limited public access, and a sensible development on the rest of the site in character with surrounding area.

We are very sorry to hear that during the lock-down there were people in our area who were unable to get the basic necessities and had to press the emergency button to get help. We do not want anything like this to happen again. We are here to help and we are able to arrange shopping and pick up of medicines etc. It is therefore very important that we get to know of people that may need help. If you are in the group needing help or know of anyone needing help please contact me at wiktor.molleskog@sky.com or phone 07704797673/01689843404 or Salli at editor@addingtonresidents.com so that we can build a data base to work from. I ask all residents in our area to give us their email addresses so we can more easily get in touch with important information. We will not use these addresses to bombard you with all kinds of rubbish. Please be assured that your e-mail addresses will not be misused, given to anybody or sold on. I ask for volunteers to help with shopping and pickup of medicines for housebound residents should it be needed.

Also there are 2 vacant places on the committee and we ask for volunteers as well.

I urge you to keep to government guidelines, stay safe and look after yourselves.

5) Treasurer's Report

Once again, we are pleased to report to the members that our finances are in good order. With your support and that of our advertisers we can show a healthy balance sheet.

Our reserves have increased over the year as our expenditure for the year decreased whilst there has been a small increase in our income. Subscriptions increased by £75, Advertising reduced by £220 and Sundries increased by £60, whilst printing costs were reduced by £241, Donations fell by £250, resulting in an overall difference of £376 for the year. This increase in our reserves may come in handy if the need ever arises that we must seek the use of professional services to protect our environment. With the current proposals before Parliament to change the way Planning decisions are to be made, and with our knowledge of how the local authority have recently had a cavalier approach to the current planning regulations, these funds may prove to be crucial in our efforts to resist any detrimental changes.

The problems arising from the Covid -19 pandemic mean that the results for the current year are likely to be very different as we are unable to send out our invoices for advertising due to not being able to publish our magazine. Also, we are not able to ask you for your annual subscription in the usual way so we asked those able to pay directly to our account by means of a Bank transfer. It is important that we maintain our ability to protect our community assets, so we need your continued support by way of subscriptions and advertising revenue. Without your help we cannot continue our efforts. We have some 270 email contacts for residents, out of a possible 750+ households; so that we can communicate more effectively, please let us have your email address.

Note our thanks to Winston Leeks for auditing the Annual Accounts again. Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Keith James and seconded by Mike Bond.

6) Report from Sarah Jones, MP Croydon Central

I have dealt with around 8000 cases of people asking for help or offering their views since the beginning of covid. With only a small support team that is a lot, but I do my best to answer everyone as quickly as possible. If anyone would like to get in touch my email is sarah.jones.mp@parliament.uk and my phoneline is 0208 191 7064. Surgeries are possible on the phone or on zoom – I am not doing face-to-face at the moment.

Covid has taken up most of my time this year as you can imagine – with hundreds of people in Croydon losing their lives. At the start of the pandemic, we were helping people travel home from countries around the world, and I was working with care homes to try and get them enough PPE. We worked with the voluntary sector and the mutual aid groups to ensure people got food and the shielding were able to eat. I had to work with businesses in Croydon to try and get government support schemes in place to enable them to pay their rent and survive. With the arrival of the Dominic Cummings scandal and Black Lives Matter, people suddenly started contacting me with their views again and I received around 2000 emails on those two issues alone. We then moved into the summer when restrictions lifted a bit. Clearly the last few months have been devastating as covid has inevitably risen again, and I have been trying to support businesses who are not getting the same support they had in March. Many self-employment people have not received any support at all and they are now in real trouble in Croydon.

I am Shadow Policing Minister which means I spend a lot of time talking to the police and supporting them through this difficult time. Crime fell dramatically in the first lockdown but rose back fast and is now at pre-covid levels. This means the police are enforcing covid restrictions and having to deal with high crime levels and they need our support.

Clearly everyone will have seen the financial situation of Croydon Council. I am meeting regularly with the new leadership in the Council to discuss changes to processes and decision-making – as well as the decisions themselves – and I can reassure you that fundamental reform is underway. There will be difficult choices ahead which I do not relish and we have to get those decisions right. There are huge lessons to learn, but it is also the case that there are massive financial pressures on the council with 60% cuts since 2010, and Croydon has a particular issue with the cost of unaccompanied asylum seekers which is not reimbursed by government. My priority is to ensure services for our most vulnerable are protected, but that the Council also continue to get the basics right in terms of universal services like the public realm and bin collections.

7) Resignation & Election of Committee Members

All committee members resigned as required by the constitution. Apart from Paul Bearman who has moved away, and Geoff Hopper who stepped down during the year, the remaining committee members all made themselves available and were re-elected.

There remain two vacancies.

8) Any Other Business

- i) Alice Hicks enquired whether Thames Water had been notified of the possible Pioneer Place redevelopment adjacent to their waterworks; they have, but are awaiting any formal planning application
- ii) Paul Bearman requested the Pioneer Place 'BackField' be 'haycut' to preserve the wild orchid environment; this will be addressed by either this Association or via our MP's office
- iii) Joy Ellery enquired about the Council's liquor license application in support of potential large-scale events in Addington Park; this has been withdrawn presently, but a new application may be resubmitted, and we will object again
- iv) Fly-tipping on Featherbed Lane has become a problem and the Council will be made aware
- v) There has been a spate of catalytic-converter thefts from cars on Falconwood Road and more widely across the borough. The Metropolitan Police have set-up a task force, so please report any incidents to Opbasswood@met.police.uk

9) The AGM closed at 9.08pm

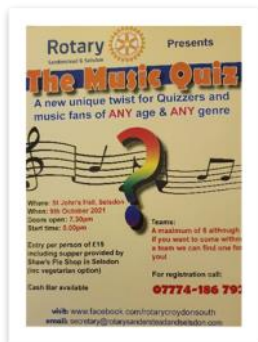


Many of us have a neighbour that we like to check in on, whether that's picking up some shopping for them or taking their bins out. Now there's a new way you can help, and this could make the biggest difference of all. London Fire Brigade has created a new tool - the Home Fire Safety Checker - and it's designed to help people spot fire risks in their own home, or the home of anyone who they feel may be at risk. The free tool asks a few simple questions about the household, and then guides the user around each room in the home pointing out which fire hazards to look out for. They're then provided with tailored advice and practical tips, which you can email to yourself or the homeowner to refer back to. So please, check your own home, and then help a neighbour check theirs - you may well be surprised at what risks you've been overlooking for years. Go to www.london-fire.gov.uk click on Safety and The Home to find out more.

Next Issue - The next issue will be produced in January 2022. 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.

We are so excited we managed to hold our long awaited Hobby Fair in Selsdon, Covid safe & well attended, loads of fun, tea & cakes – oohhh lovely.....



Coming Up

We have so much coming-up over the next few months. Firstly, our Music Quiz at St John's Church Hall in Selsdon on Saturday 9th October. We would love to see you there, teams of 6, £15.00 per head which includes supper.

On Saturday 13th November there is a Craft Fair at All Saint's Church Hall, Sanderstead. You can still book a table. We have excellent refreshments, bacon roll, beef or veggie burger, uuummmm lovely. Our famous chef Big Rog will as ever be in the kitchen. We have so many stalls which are fantastic, so don't miss out, come along & have a super time.



Stop Press:- Santa will be visiting from 1st to 24th December - watch this space for more details. This year again Santa will receive our young visitors in his Virtual Grotto. Rotary Rocks.

If you would like to know more about Rotary please visit facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/rotarycroydonsouth/> Website - <https://www.rotarysandersteadandselsdon.com/> or ring 07774-186 792

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Stories

I just love to hear people tell the story of their lives. The other day I drove an elderly lady home from the 'lunch club' at the church. It wasn't very far and as we talked, she told me a little bit of her story. She's 98 years of age! I found that so incredible. She certainly didn't look 98. Then she told me of how during the war, the factory where she worked was bombed whilst they were working. Before long, it had been rehoused in another building and they carried on working. One afternoon, at another lunch club I was visiting, one of the ladies at the table spoke of how she used to fly Spitfire Aeroplanes from the factory to the airfield where they would be used as fighter planes. She wasn't bragging or saying how good she was – it was simply a fact of life and something she had done.

I was quite taken with the story told during the TV show, 'Countryfile', about the hop pickers in Britain during the early 1900's. The presenter went to visit a lady who had been a child at the time and she spoke of the 'holiday atmosphere' on the farms at the time; also, how her mother stuck a big, black umbrella into the ground and she had to fill it with hops before she could go and play with the other children and finally, how she bought her first bicycle with the money she had earned picking hops. Yet, there was another side to it all and sometimes the living conditions of the pickers were quite squalid and unhygienic. That side of the picture was not shown at all and I'm sure there are just as many stories of pain and injustice to the pickers.

I must admit that there are times when I listen to the stories of others that I'm quite ashamed of myself for the times I thought I was hard done by or ill-treated in my life and I'm extremely thankful for the way my life has turned out. That's where our stories become 'restored' by the Grace of God and the new life we receive through Jesus Christ. I sat enthralled as I listened to a Minister's wife tell us of some of their story. How the only work she could get was to wash dishes through the night. She spoke of how her faith grew by listening to recorded services on a tape recorder whilst washing the dishes. She worked nights, whilst her husband looked after their young family, and she returned home at 5am so that her husband could go to work during the day. She said she was never happier, despite the hard times they were facing.

So, what about your story? Have you ever shared it with anybody? Has your story been restored by God and how has this been for you and others around you? I can tell you as I've shared my story with others, I am reminded of God's grace and the His power in restoring my life. Not just being restored in Him, but Him re-writing the story of my life and His goodness and part in doing it all. You can listen to my story, entitled "Falling out of the tree", by going to this link - <https://soundcloud.com/londonmethodist/falling-out-of-the-tree-bennie-harms-31-october-2020-for-gods-story-your-story-every-story>

If you want to write and share your story with me (I will treat it with the utmost of confidence) please feel free to do so by sending an email to bennieharms@croydonmeth.org. I will be honoured to read it and respond to you. You can also share it with a close friend or members of your family. I'm sure they'll be blessed and encouraged.

If you want to know more about the way, God can restore your life then just send me an email or write to – Bennie Harms, The Manse, Huntingfield, Croydon, CR0 9BA.

May God bless you and your story.

Bennie Harms, Lay Pastor

Notices for Addington Methodist Church

Sunday services – held at 10:30am every Sunday - can be watched on Zoom – please send an email to addmethzoom@gmail.com and a 'link' will be sent to you for the service.

Food Collections – The Vine Food Bank – the first Saturday morning of the month at 10am. In front of the church. Join us for a 'cuppa' when you bring your donation.

Messy Church Services - 3rd Tuesday of the month at 3:30pm in the church hall. Everyone is welcome! One parent to accompany their child/ren please.

Christ Services

Sunday 5th December – Gift Service

Sunday 19th December – Community Carol Service at 3.30 p.m.

Friday 24th December – Christmas Eve “Christingle Service”

Christmas Day Family Service – 25th December – 10.30am

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An AED (Defibrillator) is coming to Palace Green

An **A**utomatic **E**mergency **D**efibrillator is designed to be used easily by anyone wanting to help a heart attack victim in the vital first minutes. The AED provides an electric shock that will stun the heart muscle so it returns to its normal rhythm. Using an AED within 3 minutes of a cardiac arrest can improve a person's chance of survival by as much as **70%**.

1 in 10 people survive a heart attack, but with a nearby AED, that can rise to 8 in 10. Heart and circulatory diseases cause around 160,000 deaths each year – an average of 460 deaths each day or one every three minutes in the UK.

Shabbir and Richard, at No 2 Palace Green, are installing an AED outside their home, so it is available to all local residents, visitors and church users. Shabbir runs a health and safety company (Safety is the Key Ltd) so is well aware of the importance of a quick first aid response. Safety is the Key Ltd will be part-funding the new AED, along with family and friends that have generously donated to Shabbir's recent birthday fund.

Why install an AED at 2 Palace Green?

To be effective, AEDs need to be outside in a heated cabinet in a safe, central location.

2 Palace Green is well placed between Palace Green, Huntingfield, Falconwood and users of Addington Methodist Church.

Who can use it?

Anyone in the local vicinity! And, as AEDs are 'automated', they speak their instructions so are really easy to use.

Samantha Jones, (a paramedic from First Aid 4 Staff CIC), has very generously agreed to carry out free AED training for all the local residents. The Church has generously offered free training space and local electricians J&L Electrical Ltd have kindly agreed to install the cabling and power for the kerbside heated cabinet free of charge. Many thanks to all!

It's hoped that the AED is never needed but it's better to be safe than sorry!

Have some questions or want to donate to a second local AED?

Please contact

Shabbir: shabbir@safetyisthekey.co.uk | 0777 614 0913



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 Chiroprapist	Katie Elliott 07718 090560
Oven Sparkle	Ian 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 0PW (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.

The Panahar

Bangladeshi & Indian Cuisine

Opening Hours

12noon - 2.30pm and

6pm - 11pm

Seven days a week
including bank holidays

SUNDAY BUFFET LUNCH

12noon - 5pm

EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE

from our wide selection of dishes

Adults: **£9.95** Children: **£5.95** (under 12)



316 Limpsfield Road, Hamsey Green, CR2 9BX

Tel: 020 8651 9662 / 9663

www.thepanahar.co.uk / jalalspanahar@gmail.com



54 Central Parade – New Addington – CR0 0JD Tel: 01689 846545

Opening Hours:

Mon – Thurs 8.30am-5.30pm Weds & Sat 8.00am-5.00pm

Sun 9.30am-1.00pm



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Hardens

McDermott's is open Tuesday - Saturday for lunch - 12-2pm, and dinner 5-9.30pm (9.00pm on Sat)

No need to book



The Forestdale Shopping Centre, Featherbed Lane, Croydon, Surrey CR0 9AS
Tel: 0208 651 1440