The ADDINGTON

Quarterly Magazine 2025 - Issue 1



Visit: www.addington-residents.co.uk

Email: addingtonresidents@gmail.com

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Peter Bolingbroke Mike Bond

Treasurer Malcolm Graveling

Ian Drake Keith James

Magazine/Website Sheila Kemble

Salli Ransom Julian Shakespeare

Advertising Ian Turner

Puneet Udasi

To contact any member of the committee by email please send your message to addingtonresidents@gmail.com stating 'For the attention of....'

Our COUNCILLORS & New MP

Member of Parliament

Natasha Irons natasha.irons.mp@parliament.uk

Councillors - Selsdon and Addington Village

Robert Ward robert.ward@croydon.gov.uk

Joseph Lee joseph.lee@croydon.gov.uk

Councillors - Selsdon Vale and Forestdale

Andy Stranack andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk andy.stranack@croydon.gov.uk fatima.zaman@croydon.gov.uk

Addington Residents' Association

Object of the Association:

To ascertain the opinions of the residents and to lay them before appropriate authorities when desirable, and to encourage social activities among its members



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Chairman's Report

Welcome to yet another brand-new year and I hope it is safe and peaceful for you and your family. I would like to remind all residents of the objectives of the ARA as set out in the Rules of Membership:

- To ascertain the opinions of the residents and to lay them before appropriate authorities when desirable.
- To encourage social activities among its members.

We are all about you – the residents, so if there are any topics that you would like to raise or feel that the Committee can assist with, please do contact us via the email address at the end on this Report. We may be able to assist directly or, if not, point you in the right direction. For example, I have started to use the 'Love Clean Street' mobile phone app as I find it so easy to report an issue immediately to Croydon Council.

If you don't have the app, please download it so next time you have an issue, take a picture of it, choose the complaint category, write a few words and just press send. The issue is logged immediately and, although the council can't promise to resolve everything (as indeed the Committee cannot), I have been told of numerous issues that have been resolved very speedily from overhanging trees to serious potholes.

2024 was another active year for the Committee and we were fortunate enough to be joined by some new members: Peter Bolingbroke (now the ARA Secretary), Sheila Kemble and Ian Turner. I would like to personally thank them all for their participation and contributions to date. Wiktor Molleskog and Alan Chitty stood down as a long-time active members and I, along with the whole Committee thank them for their dedication and valuable contributions through the years. Some of the Committee highlights of 2024 were:

• The corner of Huntingfield/Falconwood Road. The Committee will continue to monitor this issue, but for now, things have settled and some of the illegal gravel has been removed, and we hope more will be taken away soon. If you or anyone you know would like some free gravel – please help yourself. It is anticipated that the bollards will remain in place to block the use of land by unauthorised vehicles, but they will be given a make-over so that they are less oppressive! The Committee will keep residents informed as this matter progresses. The owners remain committed to some form of development but there has been no progress on this matter and the council, currently, do not appear minded to approve any significant development on this land.

- The Committee has repeatedly requested that the Council re-instate the bus shelters that have been missed by so many residents, but we have now been informed that, as they belong to TFL, the Council has no influence over this matter.
- The ARA Magazine continues to grow in popularity, and we are fortunate to have more local advertisers to help with the finances to fund more content. To continue this growth in 2025, I would like to encourage three things: Firstly, if you live in the local area and run your business, please consider placing an advert in the magazine so we can help support you. Secondly, if you need a particular product or service, please do flick through the magazine and support the local advertisers using local businesses helps the local economy. Finally, please do send in an article for the magazine as local content is so much more valuable. Whether it's a story on your hobby, an historic event, a club event, a crossword or puzzle or even a picture that you have taken locally, we would like to continue to provide local information.
- Following on from feedback, the ARA will again organise the "BootFair Trails" though probably only one or two this year to prevent clashing with other events. Everyone agrees that these were great events to bring the community together as well as grab a bargain! Watch this space!
- The Prize Draw introduced by the Committee for 2024 produced some very happy winners and so I am pleased to announce that the Committee have decided to extend this to 2025. All residents that pay their annual subscription are placed into a prize draw and this is drawn every 3 months. Three winners will be picked at random every quarter.
- The local pub The Forestdale Arms, changed hands last year and is in partnership with a Church group and is now The Kingsmen. The building now opens in the morning for community activities, and I encourage everyone to take a look at their activities and support them where possible.
- Finally, the Treasurer lan Drake has produced monthly reports to the Committee, and the ARA has a healthy bank balance thanks to the efforts of the Committee members and local residents. It's vital that the ARA maintain this to ensure that it can continue to serve the needs of the local residents. If you are curious as to what the Committee discuss every month, please feel free to visit one of the meetings. We meet at 8pm on the first Tuesday of every month at the Methodist Church in Huntingfield Road. Please do let us know in advance of possible see contact details below.

If you wish to send in an article or advert, or have a query, please email: addingtonresidents@gmail.com.

Shabbir Halai, Chair

Congratulations

The ARA Committee introduced a Prize Draw for 2024, and every household that pays their annual subscription (currently £5), is entered into that draw. Why have we introduced this Prize Draw? We want to encourage more local residents to pay the subscription and we want to re-vitalise the quarterly magazine so it has more local information, more local content and becomes the 'go-to' information booklet for residents!

On Tuesday the 3rd December 2024, at the monthly ARA Committee meeting, three households were randomly selected by an electronic number generator, and we are very pleased to announce the next last Prize Draw winners for 2024 as:

1st Prize £50: Susan Weller

2nd Prize £30: Marc and Carmel Sellier

3rd Prize £20: Valerie Keane

The next Prize Draw takes place in March when 3 more lucky winners will be drawn. You may still pay your subscription using the following information:

Account Name: Addington Residents Association

Sort Code: 40-35-40

Account Number 81491253.

Please include your abbreviated address within the Reference of your payment, ie 2 PG for 2 Palace Green.

Shabbir Halai, Chair

Below: Susan's husband collects her prize, Marc and Carmel, and an early birthday present for Valerie







The ADDINGTON / 7



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You can speak to me Anne-Marie on 020 8650 7264 or email hello@capablecare.co.uk



The Winter Garden

December outside can be depressing. The Met Office calls it 'anticyclonic gloom'. Looking out of the window at the thick grey clouds, the damp ground, a light drizzle and a temperature of 6C, doesn't tempt me to put on the old trousers and gardening gloves. Maybe flicking through the December 'Garden' magazine from the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) will encourage and inspire. Indeed, pictures of winter flowering clematis and an article about the tulip varieties most likely to come back year after year bring a ray of hope for next year. There are even pictures of the gardening gifts one could buy a loved one or oneself. However, I have been sitting long enough and need to move.

I decide to take the kitchen waste up the garden to the capacious hot composting bin and look at what is going on in this supposedly 'dead month'. It is chilly does not feel as cold and bleak once outside. In fact, I hear the rasp of a robin's call and then he hops down quite fearless to perch nearby in the hopes that I'll do some weeding and dig up a few tasty bugs and worms. He always arrives in a companionable, but obviously self-interested way. He is unlucky this time.

Before going even a few steps, I see fat buds on the bare Magnolia Stellata branches and pink flower buds on the Daphne, tightly nestled in the glossy green leaves waiting for some warm sunshine to delight us with its heavenly scent. There are flowers on some Polyanthus plants and gorgeous red berries on the Nandina. The last flower on our Gertrude Jekyll Rose is still sweetly scented, a reminder of summer but when I press my nose into its pink heart to breathe in the perfume, the last petals fall off!! (Well, next year will bring more delight). I walk further up and enjoy the purple heather and am so pleased that I did a bit of clearing earlier, on a more clement day, and spread a warm layer of organic mulch to keep weeds at bay and protect delicate perennial roots from hard frosts. The Oriental Poppy has fresh feathery leaves and looks hopeful for some big red flamboyant flowers next year. No sign of snowdrops they were overwhelmed by the blue perennial Geranium that has won the survival of the fittest and will give its own colourful show. There is a surprise that the Cerinthe (Honeywort) has reappeared and is a fine show with blue green leaves and purple flowers. Of course, it will melt to mush if there is a frost, but for now it has self-seeded despite no sign of it since last year and I thought that it had lost its battle for survival against more prolific foliage. The nectar will be very welcome, normally it is a summer flower loved by bees. Another unseasonal surprise, a marigold flower.

We planted an evergreen spring scented Clematis which has buds and large healthy leaves spreading over the trellis separating the lower flower garden from the productive food producing upper part. The Chard is looking very good and keeps going wonderfully well as

does the Kale, both dark green Cavolo Nero and the pretty Red Kale, which has green and blending into decorative pink and white rosettes. A delicious winter salad ingredient and when we have picked the leaves it produces little baby florets along the stem for another meal. The snails also find this tasty and the large outside leaves are full of holes but are much enjoyed by our neighbours' chickens.

The Savoy Cabbages went in very late after harvesting broad beans and despite being planted after the summer growth period are still miraculously fattening up. The red cabbages in that bed were not a success. That said, we will have some braised cabbage tonight with our dinner. We are eating our stored onions and garlic and a good crop of squash, though only three parsnips - its win some!! The potatoes were not prolific but the beans did marvellously and we have a freezer full. Similarly good raspberries and blackberries. Some plants like the wet weather as do the slugs.

Our compost bins are the very top of the garden, so on my way I can check on everything. I tip in the veggie and fruit peelings and feel the warmth and rotting smell noting plenty of busy worms.

We have a couple of fruit trees, bare branches hung with big rain drops, glistening like jewels. They look beautiful as does the garden spread below, and over the rooftops the misty trees on the hilltop of the Falconwood golf course. Pete has put sticky protective bands round the tree trunks to catch wintering fruit eating bugs. There are buds ready to burst into Spring blossom. We gardeners are optimists, looking forward hopefully and realistically.

I return to warmth and my comfy chair to read a bit more RHS wisdom, 'How to go green with your Christmas tree. It will be 'next year' by the time this magazine is published but the five ways to be more planet friendly are

- 1. Keep your artificial one going and reuse for as long as possible.
- 2. Rent a tree Try to find a company that's local to you.
- 3. Recycle after use. I've heard zoos give some animals donated trees for stimulation.
- 4. Buy a locally grown tree preferably one that doesn't use chemicals.
- 5. Pick a potted tree to plant in the garden or leave in the pot to grow till next year. We have opted for suggestion 1. As our tree must now be about 20 years old and is packed up carefully in its box each year and goes up in the loft with all the other decorations of similar and much older vintage.



January Quiz

- 1. Which astrological sign is between January 21st and February 20th?
- 2. In Roman mythology, January is named after which god of beginnings and transitions?
- 3. On the 15th of January 1559 who was crowned monarch of England?
- 4. What is January's birthstone, the name comes from early English for dark red?
- 5. Which date in January is the traditional date for the feast of Epiphany?
- 6. January replaced which month as the first month of the Roman year?
- 7. Margaret Thatcher Day is the 10th of January in which part of the world?
- 8. Sometimes known as a gilliflower which flower is a January birth flower?
- 9. Which British musician, born in 1947, shares his January the 8th birthday with Elvis, Stephen Hawking and dictator Kim Jong-Un?
- 10. A Burns supper is normally held on the poet's birthday on which date in January?
- 11. Which world city's name means "River of January"?
- 12. On the 17th of January in which year did Captain Robert Falcon Scott reach the South Pole?
- 13. Who, in January 1649, did the courts deem a "tyrant, traitor, murderer and enemy of the people"?
- 14. Up Helly Aa is a festival held to mark the end of the yule season on the last Tuesday in January in which Scottish town?



Quiz answers are on page 16

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My word we had such a busy month which began with Santa switching on the Christmas Lights in Selsdon & Sanderstead. Fantastic events with lots of Santa's little chums in attendance. Santa visited so many of his little chums, delivering Shout Outs across Sanderstead, Selsdon & Hamsey Green. We are so very grateful for your kind donations. This year we have raised over £14,500 which we will put to good use.



Santa with President Paul

THANK YOU SO MUCH for making this amazing total possible.

On Christmas morning we delivered food parcels to local elderly residents. It is super to meet folks on the Big Day, very enjoyable visits.

What is next?

Our Annual Quiz is on Saturday 8th March – book now to ensure seats for your team.

The Annual Sponsored Walk will be held on Saturday 24th May. For more info please contact our Secretary directly.

We have been delighted to welcome more Business Partners to our club. It is great to be involved with the local community and work alongside our Business Partners.

If you are interested in working alongside Rotary in your local community, please get in touch – phone 07774-186 792 or email Wendparr@gmail.com.

Visit our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/rotarycroydonsouth/

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Look for:BladderHeartLiverPancreasStomachBrainHipLungsSkeletonTongueEarIntestinesMusclesSkin

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Parkinson's UK Croydon & District Support Group run exercise sessions (followed by group chats over tea/coffee and biscuits) every Monday and Friday.

They also have a monthly afternoon meeting with interesting guest speakers.

More details are available from Graham Kellas 07510-296822, or email membership.parkinsons.uk.croydon@gmail.com

Note: Additional volunteer committee members always welcome

Quiz

1.3 King Charles 1 Lerwick

2 January 6th 6 March 7 Falkland Islands 8 Carnation

9 David Bowie 10 25th January 11 Rio de Janeiro 12 1912

9 David Bowie 10 Z5th January 12 Rio de Janeiro 12 1912

Answers

Councillor's Corner

Former Selsdon garage site

It is very pleasing to be able to report progress on the former Selsdon garage site, which has been derelict for more than a quarter of a century. Planning permission was granted in February 2024. More details are available in the Planning Register on the Council website under application number 21/04116/FUL.



Planning approval was a big step forward, but there still needs to be an economic case before building can commence. This is being taken forward by a proposal for the Council to take on long leases of various development sites across Croydon, including the former Selsdon garage site, to support housing needs through increasing affordable housing supply. The development will be delivered by Inspired Structured Solutions who will provide all funding and carry the development risk. Whilst there are still hurdles to cross before we see the new building taking shape, this is significant progress.

Winter preparedness

We are now well into the winter period when we can expect snow and ice, so please be prepared. Please be aware that although the council grits the main roads, side roads are not routinely treated. You can find more details on the council website on the page "Road Gritting and Salting".

For residents use the council has 578 salt bins that are all repaired and filled at the start of each winter. You can find where they are on the council website on the same page as mentioned above. If the salt bin is low or empty, please report this on LoveCleanStreets.

Selsdon library

The library is now on the new arrangements where it is open six days a week including Saturday. Current opening hours are 10am to 6pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9am to 5 pm on Saturday and self-service from 9am to 7pm on Tuesday and Thursday. Last entry is 30 minutes before closing. Do please take advantage of this valuable community facility.

Bus shelters

The removal of bus shelters and appointment of a contractor by the previous administration who failed to deliver replacements has taken longer to rectify than hoped, despite strenuous efforts by the Council. In common with the vast majority of other London boroughs the shelters are now being provided by tfl. It is hoped that 99 shelters will be installed by the end of March. A list should appear on the council website shortly, including which of these shelters will have the countdown feature showing the estimated time till the arrival of the next bus.

Waste collection contract

A new street cleaning contract will come into place by the summer. Whilst it's the same contractor, Veolia, it is under a very different contract with improved street cleaning, a new night-time waste and cleansing service, and an enhanced waste collection service for flats above shops. The council will also be actively managing the contract to ensure service delivery to residents. These new focuses are going to make a big difference to how our borough looks and feels.

Robert Ward

Councillor, Selsdon and Addington Village

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Geoff does it again



In 2022 after suffering two strokes, 4 heart attacks and very poor health, local resident Geoff Jordan, and his faithful rescue greyhound Flo, started doing annual sponsored walks for various charities. Geoff, having been a resident of Addington for over 40 years, naturally approached the Residents Association members for donations and they were happy to help, giving generously toward his first walk which raised £1,000 for the Stroke Association who had supported him through his illness.

The second walk in August 2023 managed to double the amount raised on the first walk to £2,000 which this time was for the Alzeimer's Association.

The third walk this year managed to raise a further £1,753,

this time for MNDA, the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The total amount raised for charity in the last two years was £4,753 for three worthy causes. Geoff, now 83, and once more feeling the pressures of continuing poor health, and his dog Flo not getting any younger either, has decided to call it a day on powered walks for charity but not without thanking all the residents of Addington for their valued support in helping him raise this substantial amount for Charity.

He also would like to thank the Hayes (Kent) Lodge who have also donated to his walk and also given further donations of over £10,000 to other local charities.

Well done Geoff, a tremendous effort.





The ADDINGTON / 19

Who to contact if.....

This section contains useful contacts for those moments when you need to contact someone about something. If you have a useful number that you would like included, please either email it to: addingtonresidents@gmail.com or post it to: FAO ARA Chair, c/o 2 Palace Green Croydon CRO 9AG.

Criminal Activity

If you see any crime taking place, or are aware that a serious crime has been committed: call 999 immediately.

If you see suspicious activity: call 101 immediately.

Note: The police will only focus their resources to an area based on the number and nature of crimes reported to them in that area.

Antisocial Behaviour

If to see or encounter any antisocial behaviour: call 999 if there is *immediate* danger to anyone, or call the Police on 101 to report any non-emergency incident.

You can also report antisocial behaviour on the police website: www.police.uk.

Streets, pavements & public areas

Anything relating to the streets, pavements or public areas which causes a danger, a hazard, or a public nuisance should be reported to 'Love Clean Streets'. You can do this on their free mobile phone app or via their website: www.lovecleanstreets.com. You can also submit photos in support of your Report and track the progress.

Example matters you want to report in this way include (but are not restricted to):

road potholes	abandoned cars	dead animals
fallen trees or branches	obstructed pavements	fly-tipping
failed or inadequate lighting	defaced public property	graffiti

Illegal or obstructive parking

Illegal or obstructive parking should be reported to the Police on 101. This may include parked vehicles not allowing Emergency Service Vehicles (i.e. fire engines) sufficient room to get past in the event of an emergency in the area.

Excessive speeds or dangerous driving

Places of repeated driving at excess speed and / or dangerous driving should be reported to the Police on 101. The intention of this is to pressure the authorities to apply speed restrictions or additional signage where appropriate – to avoid future serious accidents.

Refuse Collection

Any problems associated with Refuse Collections or Rubbish Bins should be reported to Croydon Council using their website www.croydon.gov.uk or by phoning them on 020 8726 6000 and press 3.

20 / The ADDINGTON

Noise Pollution

Excessive noise causing a public nuisance should be reported to Croydon Council using their website www.croydon.gov.uk. Search for "Noise" and read the information. The council do not operate an out of hours service for noise pollution but you can email them on: pollution@croydon.gov.uk. During the day you can call the council 020 8726 6000 and stay on the line until for the operator (all of the options are read out twice before being transferred to a person)

Injured, distressed or missing animals

Any sighting of an injured or distressed wild animal (e.g. fox, badger, deer) should be reported to the RSPCA for further advice: 0300 1234 999.

Any sighting of a cat or dog on the loose causing a potential hazard to traffic or potential danger to the public should be reported to the Police on 101.

There are a number of voluntary organisations on the Internet which deal with missing domestic pets. Signage on trees and lampposts in your immediate vicinity will alert your local community, as will alerts notified to your local WhatsApp Group.

Local Planning Applications

Information regarding local Planning Applications can be found on the Croydon Council Website www.croydon.gov.uk or call the council 020 8726 6000 and press 8.

Or sign up for automatics alerts by visiting the Residents' Association webpage, www.addington-residents.co.uk and click on the Planning App tab.

Croydon Council

Croydon Council Website www.croydon.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8726 6000. The various department options are as follows:

Press 1 if you know you extension. Press 2 for housing or housing repairs. Press 3 for waste and parking services. Press 4 for council tax, business rates and benefits, Press 5 for children special care. Press 6 for adults special care. Press 7 for educational services. Press 8 for planning, building control or dangerous structures. Press 9 for electoral or registrar services. Or hold on the line to speak with the operator.

Next Issue - The next issue will be produced in April 2025. 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.

Local Organisation Telephone Numbers

CHURCHES

Huntingfield Methodist Church (bookings) 020 8657 1882 St John the Divine (C of E) Parish Office 020 8657 2343 Selsdon Baptist Church Office 020 8651 4308 St Columba's (Roman Catholic) 020 8657 3747

St Francis (Church of England) Monks Hill 020 8657 7864 Office 020 8651 2807 Crovdon Jubilee Church

The Forestdale Church, Forestdale Primary School 07772 559 797 hello@forestdalechurch.co.uk Selsdon Christian Fellowship 020 8668 9779

Church of Jesus Christ of LDS 020 8651 2211

DOCTORS & EMERGENCY CARE

Ambulance 999; Non-emergency NHS helpline 111 Farley Road Medical Practice 020 8651 1222 Selsdon Park Medical Practice 020 8657 0067

New Addington Minor Injuries Unit 020 8251 7225

Oueenhill Medical Practice 020 8651 1222 Croydon University Hospital 020 8401 3000 Purley War Memorial Hospital 020 8401 3515

POLICE

Emergency (or if a crime is in action) 999; Non-emergency 101

Selsdon & Addington Village: SelsdonandAddingtonVillageSNT@met.police.uk Selsdon Vale & Forestdale: SelsdonandForestdaleSNT@met.police.uk

CLUBS. GROUPS & CHARITIES

CONTACT (Neighbourhood Care) Jasmine Singh 020 8651 4944 Selsdon Centre for the Retired Craig Anderson 020 8651 1111

Croydon Hearing Resource Centre Office 020 8686 0049 Croydon Vision 020 8668 2486 Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline 080 8808 1677

Friends of Littleheath Woods Ian Leggatt 020 8651 1140 Friends of Selsdon Wood www.friendsofselsdonwood.co.uk Sanderstead Plantation Partners michaellishmund@gmail.com friendsofkingswood@hotmail.co.uk Friends of Kingswood

Girlguiding (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Section) 0800 999 2016

https://girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved

1st Selsdon & Addington Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts)

www.1stselsdon.org.uk

2nd Selsdon & Addington Scout Group www.2ndSandAScoutGroup.org.uk Arts Society Croydon Area Jean Aarons www.tascroydonarea.org.uk

Rotary Sanderstead & Selsdon Wendy Parr 07774 186792 **RSPB Croydon Local Group** John Davis 020 8640 4578 Selsdon Art Group Fiona Hooper 07973 412952

Selsdon Community Hall Cottie Campbell selsdonhall.info@gmail.com Sanderstead Horticultural Society www.sandersteadhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

Selsdon Tennis Club Geoff Littlewood 020 8651 4748

Please note: If any of the above information is incorrect, please do let us know.

22 / The ADDINGTON



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