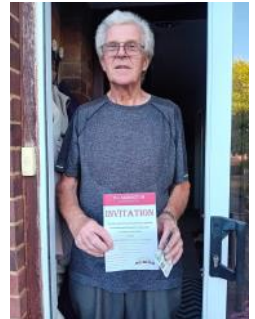


The ADDINGTON

Quarterly Magazine 2026 - Issue 1



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in
2025

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Ian Drake

Magazine/Website

Salli Ransom

Advertising

Puneet Udasi

Committee Members

Mike Bond

Marianna Cherry

Malcolm Graveling

Keith James

Sheila Kemble

Julian Shakespeare

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

Our COUNCILLORS & MP

Member of Parliament

Natasha Irons natasha.ironson@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

Fatima Zaman 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

Chair's Report – January 2026

Welcome to a brand-new year, and I hope 2026 begins safely and peacefully for you and your family. January is always a good moment to reset, reflect, and look ahead—and to remind everyone of the objectives of the Addington Residents' Association (ARA), as set out in our Rules of Membership:

- To represent the views and concerns of the residents and present them to relevant authorities when necessary.
- To encourage social activities and community connection among residents.

At our core, we are about you—the residents. If there is an issue you would like raised, a concern you would like guidance on, or an idea that could help the community, please contact us using the details at the end of this report. We may be able to assist directly, or we can often point you in the right direction.

A practical reminder as we head into a new year: if you haven't already done so, consider downloading the **Love Clean Streets** app. It remains one of the easiest ways to report local issues quickly - potholes, fly-tipping, damaged street furniture, overhanging vegetation, and more. A clear photo and a short description can make all the difference.

Looking back on 2025 – a year of community action.

2025 was a busy and active year for the Committee and our wider community. Highlights included:

Continued engagement with local police, including more regular attendance at our meetings, and improved information-sharing—particularly helpful given concerns around car-related thefts.

Fire service engagement, giving residents the opportunity to raise practical safety questions and learn more about prevention.

Successful community events, including the much-loved **Boot Fair Trail**, which once again helped neighbours meet one another and created a real sense of local spirit.

Prize draws continued through 2025, supported by the voluntary £5 household donation—thank you to everyone who contributed and helped keep the Association active and financially healthy. And a big WELL DONE to our many local winners!

Important community milestones, including the 75th anniversary celebrations at Addington Methodist Church, and updates on local facilities such as plans connected to the former Shirley Library building. In addition, modern Selsdon celebrated its 100th birthday in 2025. The builders, Costain's, came to sleepy Selsdon in 1925 and began a massive house building programme that transformed a village that then consisted of a grand house with a farm and a dozen or so workers cottages.

Looking ahead to 2026 – practical priorities and positive plans

As we enter 2026, our focus remains on practical issues that affect daily life, while continuing to encourage community connection. We expect to:

Continue our work with local partners on **community safety and crime prevention**.

Continue the **quarterly prize draw** and the voluntary £5 donation scheme.

Plan further **community events** (including an Easter event and the Boot Fair Trail in some form), and encourage more resident involvement—whether that’s helping on the day, promoting events, or suggesting new ideas.

Keep supporting and growing the magazine with local advertisers and local content—your articles, photos, puzzles, and stories are what make it truly “ours”.

Magazine support - local advertisers A quick reminder that local advertising helps fund the magazine and its content. If you run a local business, please consider placing an advert. And if you need a service, please do support the local advertisers—using local businesses strengthens the local economy.

Neighbourhood vigilance. Please remain vigilant, particularly around vehicle and home security. If a crime is in progress, call 999. If you have a concern you’d rather raise quietly, you can contact the Committee.

If you’ve ever wondered what the Committee discusses, please come along—no obligation, just good local conversation. We welcome residents who want to listen, ask questions, or suggest ideas.

We meet at **8pm on the first Tuesday of every month** at the **Methodist Church in Huntingfield Road**. (We don’t meet in August).

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

If you wish to contact me directly as Chair, please send a
Text or WhatsApp to: 0777 614 0913.

With very best wishes for 2026,
Shabbir Halai, Chair
Addington Residents’ Association

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From the Treasurer

ARA - Fighting Funds Reserves

Over ten years ago the ARA established a Fighting Fund to provide financial support to resist unwelcome development plans in our area on the Horses Field.

A similar Fighting Fund was subsequently established over three years ago in respect of the Back Field. These Funds were generated from contributions from Residents.

These Funds form part of our ARA Reserves – but have been reported as separate values in our Annual Accounts ever since.

With the active threat of these particular development plans having now receded, it is our intention to amalgamate these Funds into our General Reserves in our Accounts at the end of the current Financial Year to 31st March 2026.

If anyone has any questions or concerns on this matter – could they please email me at 1palace@blueyonder.co.uk

We Urgently Need More Volunteer Collection Agents

The ARA receives around half of its income from the Annual Subscriptions from residents – much of which is in the form of cash in those ‘little brown envelopes’ that are distributed with the April and July editions of the quarterly Magazine.

The envelope label directs residents to deliver their envelope to a (hopefully) nearby address – being a resident who has volunteered to act as a Collection Agent to collect the envelopes – before passing them on to me as Treasurer.

The key word here is ‘nearby’. We are far more successful in residents paying their Annual Subscriptions if they have a volunteer Agent nearby. The further a resident has to walk to deliver their envelope – the less likely they are to do so. And we currently have gaps within the ARA area that we need to fill.

The duties are minimal. Simply to allow your address to be used as a post-box for those ‘little brown envelopes’ before passing them on to me (or I am willing to come and collect them from you). This occurs twice a year – after the April and July Magazines. That’s it. There is no requirement for any direct contact with any of the residents – and I am not asking you to actively chase residents for their subscriptions.

So I am asking for volunteer Collection Agents for next year in the following key areas please : **Gravel Hill – odd-numbers side of the road, Kerr Close, Lomond Gardens, Waterworks Cottages and Selsdon Park Road.**

If you are willing to volunteer as a Collection Agent - or to ask any questions - please email me at 1palace@blueyonder.co.uk

And we would also warmly welcome anyone from these areas who would be willing to join the Committee.

Ian Drake, Treasurer, 1palace@blueyonder.co.uk

How to Spot a Thief

The following advice is given by the Met Police

Protect yourself and your property by looking at how thieves target their victims. Take steps to make it harder for them. And in an emergency always dial 999.

STAY ALERT IN CROWDED PLACES

Pickpockets operate in crowded places often using something such as a newspaper, coat or bag to conceal their actions.

- Look out for people who get too close to you in a crowded area.
- Never keep your phone, wallet or purse in an open pocket.
- Never leave your bag or rucksack unzipped and carry your bag in front, preferably diagonally across your body.

DON'T BE DISTRACTED

Thieves will often target those who seem more vulnerable and sometimes work in teams to try and distract and steal.

Table surfing is where a thief will use a newspaper or map to approach a customer at a café or restaurant and use the paper or map as a distraction to cover a phone, purse or wallet on a table and steal it.

Cash machines. Stay aware of your surroundings and don't become distracted. Ensure that any money you withdraw is safely secured.

Street performers and street gamblers. If you are jostled, bumped, hugged or crowded by anyone, consider that a pickpocket may be in action.

DON'T BE AN EASY TARGET

Thieves will look for easy ways to steal your belongings, don't make it easy for them.

- Don't leave your phone, iPad, tablet or other valuables unattended or out of your sight. It takes seconds for a thief to grab these.
- Don't leave bags unattended or open on tables or the backs of prams and chairs.

WATCH OUT FOR SNATCHES

Thieves are increasingly stealing phones from people as they use them. Often thieves may be on a bike or moped.

- When using your phone in the street be aware of your surroundings. When you've finished using it, put it away.
- If you have to use your phone on the street, step back from the kerb and if possible stand with your back to a wall or building so that thieves can't approach from behind.

DON'T STEREOTYPE WHAT A THIEF LOOKS LIKE

Often they will dress smartly to avoid being detected.

Thieves will use a number of ways, sometimes more elaborate, to steal your possessions, especially easy items such as phones and bags.

For more crime prevention advice visit www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention

For other police related enquiries or to report crime visit www.met.police.uk or call 101.

Police Report

PC Summer Ross is part of the Selsdon Vale and Forestdale Safer Neighbourhood Team

During the past month, your local policing team has been actively supporting the community while continuing to focus on keeping our neighbourhood safe. Officers attended the Christmas Light switch-on events in Addington and Selsdon, engaging with residents and supporting these well attended community celebrations. We were also pleased to be invited and to attend the Selsdon



Christmas dinner, where officers helped serve the food and were able to spend time with members of the local community. Alongside community events officers have continued to tackle crime locally. A number of arrest enquiries were carried out resulting in the arrest of several wanted offenders. Officers have also continued to take part in a Live Facial Recognition operation, which supported the identification and arrest of individuals wanted for various

offences.

We are continuing to actively use Met Engage to share policing updates, crime prevention advice and information about upcoming events we are holding. Residents are encouraged to sign up via the Met Engage website to stay informed and receive updates directly from their local police team.

Finally, officers have continued to deliver and carry out crime prevention stalls and out “Cuppa with a Copper” events, providing opportunities for residents to speak with officers, raise concerns, and receive advice in an informal setting. Officers will continue to hand deliver letters to certain streets in our wards regarding upcoming Cuppa with a Copper meeting as well as this other residents from other streets can also attend.

We look forward to continuing our work with the community over the coming month and to keep meeting yourselves.

Stay informed and connected with your local police – **Met Engage** www.metengage.co.uk



Spring Quiz

1. What astronomical event marks the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere?
2. The USA began celebrating Earth Day on what day in 1970?
3. In Japan, Spring is celebrated by festivals surrounding which flower?
4. Which meal is often served on St Patrick's Day despite not being traditional Irish Food?
5. Which poisonous flower is the official flower for May?
6. Which purple flower is one of the earliest to bloom, signalling the end of winter?
7. Spring blooms bring which insect out of its underground hideaway?
8. Which flower can be found in the Netherlands in spring—there are over 7 million of them?
9. Hamantasch is a tradition pastry served on which Jewish holiday?
10. What spring festival is celebrated with colourful parades in New Orleans?



*Quiz answers are
on page 16*

The River Wandle



Until quite recently I had not thought about Croydon as having a river but indeed we have, the source of a rare thing – a chalk stream. There are only about 200 chalk streams on planet earth and the majority are in the south of England. This is because rain falls on the chalk Downs then filters through to clay, where springs emerge and come together to form a sparkling stream full of life, a habitat for fish and birds. That is how it should be. The geology is complex, and so nowadays in Croydon the Wandle is mostly culverted, and the springs and Bournes flowing roughly east west from Purley and Caterham are generally remembered by name only. The waterways around “old town” like Pitlake and Scarbrook are no longer visible, although once the Wandle ran alongside the Parish Church. [The maps of the Wandle Trail miss out Croydon, although there is a plaque at East Croydon Station saying that the River Wandle started there - Ed.]

The Old Palace had fallen out of use by the Archbishops mainly because the water was contaminated, however there was a mill and the site was used as a laundry and bleaching ground until the 19thC. There is another source at Carshalton but this is not as strong as the Croydon branch and the two merge near Beddington. There is a third small tributary, The Norbury Brook, which had its source in Addiscombe and joins the main river in Mitcham.

Within the last few centuries the Wandle has been famous as a trout stream that gave the world the idea of fly fishing. It was power source for numerous mills making products as diverse as snuff, gunpowder, calico and cannonballs. The water was used as a water feature in the gardens of the industrialists' mansions, made wealthy by those same mills.

Gradually the river's advantage of pure water with a swift flow became its downfall. The dyes from Liberty's and William Morris's textile workshops poisoned the water along with effluent from the other industries, plus sewage, and so the Wandle became just a storm drain and open sewer until the late 1960's when the London Boroughs of Sutton, Merton and Wandsworth proposed environmental improvements and the creation of a riverside footpath. In 1974 the Wandle Group, formed with various local voluntary societies, produced a guide handbook.

Real progress on rehabilitating the river began in the 1980's with cash from the Manpower Services Commission creating jobs and using volunteers, enabling Wilderness Island Nature Reserve in Carshalton to be opened up to the public, managed by the London Wildlife Trust. There were plans for creating a regional park along the Wandle Valley, partly for recreational purposes but also to reduce flood risk with lakes on the Beddington Sewage Farm cleaning up the water before returning it to the river. The area, now owned by Thames Water, currently has no public access.

It was in this period that Sainsbury's developed the huge SavaCentre and new road over the remains of the ancient Merton Priory. The derelict buildings on the Liberty's site were also threatened with demolition but fortunately restored and now a thriving "arty" venue with a theatre and several places to eat and drink coffee, or beer! The Wheelhouse has been preserved with a gift shop and information. At this time the riverside walkway was opened up to the south all the way to the lovely National Trust owned Morden Hall Park. There is a wetland nature reserve and some history of the industrial past plus a garden centre and café. The water here is clear and a lovely place to wander. It is easily accessible from Phipps Bridge Tram stop.



Closer to home we have Wandless Park which was established in 1890 to provide recreation with an artificial lake fed by the river and local springs until the water table fell and the park became rather forlorn. There was another renaissance in 2009 when the park won £400K award in the Mayor of London "Help a local park scheme" to bring the river back to the surface and restore the Victorian drinking fountain and bandstand. Sadly the water here is not the clear chalk stream one would wish, but it is not far to Waddon Ponds and Beddington Park where the environment is delightful.

The entire trail is about 15 miles, possible to walk in a day, although pleasanter if tackled over a couple of trips. It is full of history and despite the tragic recent spills of diesel, it has largely recovered to provide a habitat for birds and water creatures and also a welcome green artery through residential and industrial areas of south London. Pictured below, Beddington Park, a cormorant, the Wandle joining the Thames at Wandsworth, and a beer in the sunshine.

Sheila Kemble



Congratulations

The Committee introduced the Prize Draw in 2024, and every household that pays their annual subscription (currently £5), is entered into that draw. We decided to continue the draw for 2025 and 2026, and the final draw for 2025 was made at the Committee meeting in December.

1st Prize £50: AS & JS Clark

2nd Prize £30: Premjit Marwah

3rd Prize £20: Esther

The next Prize Draw takes place in the new year when the next three 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.

Address Please - one of you has won a prize

S Holman - membership paid in May, **Lovel & Gutter** - June, **Lorena Jesus** - June, and **M A Colman** - August. You will notice there are empty spaces on the front cover - one of them could be YOU! Please contact Ian at 1palace@blueyonder.co.uk





London Fire Brigade - Emollient & Skin Creams

This month Firefighters in Croydon have been spreading information around fire risks involving some **emollient and skin creams**.

It's important to be aware of the fire safety risks if you or a person you care for needs to use emollient and skin creams— here's how to reduce potential fire risks.

What do we mean by emollient and skin creams?

Emollient and skin creams are an important and effective treatment used to prevent or treat dry skin conditions like:

Eczema, Bed sores, Ulcers, Psoriasis



They come in a variety of forms: creams, lotions, ointments, gels or sprays. They can also include soap alternatives. They may be water-based, contain paraffin or natural oils. All cover the skin with a protective film to reduce water loss.

Emollient/skin cream residue on fabrics such as bedding, clothing and dressings can increase flammability, even from just one application.

Emollients and skin creams are especially a fire safety concern when used by people who spend extended periods in a bed or armchair due to illness or impaired mobility. There is a risk of self-heating if clothes/bedding containing emollient creams are tumble dried – if you can, dry these items naturally and never overload your tumble dryer!

How can you use emollient and skin creams more safely?

If you care for someone who needs emollient and skin creams, lotions or gels, or if you use these

products yourself, you can help to keep them and yourself safe by understanding and reducing the related risks.

Understand the risks

Anyone using emollients or skin creams regularly should keep well away from fire, naked flames or heat sources. A build up of residue on bedding, clothing and dressings can increase flammability.

Don't smoke

Loose clothing can easily catch fire – take care not to lean over a hot hob and roll up your sleeves if possible when cooking.

Keep candles away from your clothing, including when lighting them.

Sit at least one metre away from a heater; sitting too close could easily set light to your clothes or chair.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions

Further info on Emollient and skin creams - <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/>

[carers-and-support-workers/emollient-and-skin-creams/](https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/carers-and-support-workers/emollient-and-skin-creams/)

Are you a carer?

You can get further advice here: [https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/ carers-and-support-workers/](https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/carers-and-support-workers/)

If you are concerned about anyone you know or care for please visit our risk checker to see if they need a visit!

<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/home-fire-safety-checker/>

Stay safe and well,

Chris Davidson
Fire Borough
Commander for
Croydon



A Big thank you from Santa who had such a fantastic time visiting Sanderstead, Selsdon & Hamsey Green throughout December to see his little chums. Your donations will make all the difference to those who benefit from what we do both locally and abroad.

From 26th December we again featured the twelve days of Christmas featuring the ways we spend the funds you so kindly donate – follow our Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/rotarycroydonsouth/?locale=en_GB

What's Next – Quiz Night Saturday 28th March 2026, St Antony's Church Hall, Hamsey Green. Do put in a team and come along for a fun evening. Don't miss out.

If you would like to join Rotary and put something back into the local community please contact our secretary on 07774-186 792.

Rotary Rocks.....



Rotary Sanderstead & Selsdon
QUIZ NIGHT
Saturday 7th March 2026 - 19.00 for 19.30
St Antony's Church Hall, Wotton Way, Hamsey Green.

Team name: _____

TEAM MEMBERS		Please indicate total choice points			
1 (Capt)	2	3	4	5	6
NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME

Contact name: _____
Contact telephone no: _____
Contact email address: _____

Please receive _____ tickets at £15.00 per person, including supper.
Cash Bar available, all donations are welcome.

I enclose a cheque, made payable to Rotary Club of Sanderstead & Selsdon for £.....
Paid by bank transfer - BSB01 2500 0000, Account No. 1127742

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Call: Wendy & Pam: 07774 186792

Approved by Rotary Sanderstead & Selsdon
Registration No. 1021041



No Cold Callers

A complimentary 'No Cold Callers' front door sticker for you

In this issue of the ARA magazine, you will find a complimentary front door sticker that may assist in putting off cold callers.

Whilst nothing is guaranteed, we hope this sticker will at least deter the myriad of callers that many of us prefer not to receive!

It's your choice whether to use the sticker of course, but if you decide not to use it, please feel free to pass it onto a friend, colleague or family member.

PS If there was no sticker inside your issue, or you would like a spare one, please either:

Email: addingtonresidents@gmail.com. Text 0777 614 0913 or WhatsApp: 0777 614 0913 to request one free of charge compliments of the Addington Residents' Association.

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

Answers to Quiz

1 Vernal Equinox 2 April 22nd 3 Cherry Blossom 4 Corned Beef & Cabbage
5 Lily of the Valley 6 Crocus 7 Bees 8 Tulips 9 Purim 10 Mardi Gras

From Natasha Irons MP

In October's column, I informed you that **Lloyds Bank** had announced the closure of its New Addington branch on 14 January 2026. Thank you to everyone who signed my petition urging Lloyds Bank to reconsider this decision. Since then, I have taken further steps to challenge the closure and support residents who rely on face-to-face banking. I met with LINK – the organisation responsible for assessing cash access – to highlight the serious impact this closure will have on vulnerable residents, especially the elderly and those with accessibility needs. I also submitted a formal appeal, highlighting Addington's higher proportion of older residents and concerns about the impact on local businesses.

Additionally, I joined fifteen parliamentary colleagues in writing directly to the Chief Executive of Lloyds Bank to challenge the lack of meaningful consultation with affected communities. And wrote personally to the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to urge a review of their regulations to better reflects the needs of community like ours. The FCA has confirmed they will conduct a formal evaluation of the access to cash regime in the second half of 2026, with a report due in spring 2027. This review will specifically examine the effectiveness of the cash access assessment process – the very issue I raised on behalf of our community. This shows our concerns are being taken seriously at the highest level.

I have been contacted by a number of residents about the current use of **Birch Selsdon** as well as its uncertain future. I understand that the former hotel holds a special place in Croydon's history and was once considered one of the country's finest hotels. It's important that this asset is protected. I'm pleased to share that I've received a formal statement from **Moorfields Advisory**, the administrators managing the property, confirming that Birch Selsdon is being actively marketed for sale. Moorfields has clarified that no proposals, agreements or arrangements are in place with the Home Office. Any suggestions to the contrary are unfounded. I will continue to keep you updated on the progress of this important local landmark.

In other news, Croydon has been awarded £1.5 million Pride in Place Impact Funding to invest in our local high streets. This is in addition to the £20 million Pride in Place funding I have secured for New Addington.

Croydon Council must work with the local community to decide how the funding is spent. I've written to Mayor Perry requesting that the money be targeted where it can have the greatest impact, such as Selsdon High Street, where funding would make a real difference for local businesses and residents.

If you are facing any local issues or simply want to speak with me about your priorities for Addington, please get in touch at natasha.irons.mp@parliament.uk

Councillor's Corner

Environmental enforcement

Flytips and antisocial behaviour are a blight across the borough. The previous administration removed the Neighbourhood Safety Officers whose job it was to tackle these issues. There were also inefficiencies, for example one team for cars, another for waste, another for highways. That patchwork approach failed.

The Executive Mayor has now approved super enforcement officers to deal with the full range of environmental crimes. One officer can now inspect, report, fine, and escalate - ensuring problems are fixed rather than passed around the system. Fly-tipping fines have been raised from £400 to £1000.

A proactive approach will be taken ranging from warnings to Fixed Penalty Notices and Community Protection Notices. When necessary, cases will be taken to prosecution.

Appointment of commissioners

A new team of Commissioners was appointed to the council over the summer. Mayor Perry made clear that in his view the commissioners were wrong for Croydon and its residents, given the progress made in rebuilding the Council. Moreover it is inconsistent with lower levels of intervention in other councils. He committed to engage with the commissioners constructively and welcomed their advice, challenge, and support but would not support any proposals that would destroy vital local services or impose Council Tax increases above the Government cap.

These commissioners recently started work and in a joint email with the Chief Executive and Executive Mayor, they confirmed that in the first few weeks they will review progress to date to inform their guidance and actions thereafter. They confirmed that so far they have been well supported and all requests for information have been responded to and that the aspiration to work collaboratively has been much in evidence.

Selsdon garage

Earlier in the year there was optimism about the redevelopment of the Selsdon garage site going ahead this year. The proposal was for the Council to take on long leases of this and other development sites across Croydon to support housing needs through increasing affordable housing supply. The development would be delivered by a company who would provide all funding and carry the development risk.

There were several agreements needing to be concluded for this to go ahead. Despite strenuous efforts by the council, these agreements are yet to be signed and the outlook is not positive. The Council continues to work on options for the site.

Town Centre

As part of Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield's programme of improvements in Croydon's town centre, 'Alders Parade' a new retail precinct has opened. The first four shops are already open for business: Miniso, a global lifestyle and design-led household and cosmetic retailer; national digital media provider, Sky; Abaci, the women's clothing brand, Isle of Flowers; local independent café Coco & Nut and ice cream shop Meltin' Moments are opening soon.



Live In Care

**Did you know we can provide
a carer to live at home with you?**

Our carers provide the peace of mind of knowing someone is around. They support people to stay in a house they love, in the middle of the community they belong in.

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



Stay Connected

Stay Connected: Why Every Resident Should Join Our WhatsApp Channel

In today's fast-moving world, staying updated with reliable, local news is more important than ever. Whether it's a traffic disruption on Main Street, a change in garbage collection schedules, or an upcoming community event, timely information helps us stay organized, safe, and connected.

The Power of Local Communication

For years, residents have relied on word-of-mouth, posters, or community meetings for updates. But in our digital era, we have a faster, more direct tool at our fingertips: **WhatsApp Channels**. Unlike personal group chats, WhatsApp Channels are one-way broadcasts—designed to deliver concise updates from trusted sources without the noise of replies or unnecessary chatter.

What Makes WhatsApp Channels Ideal for Our Community?

- ◇ **Real-Time Alerts:** Get instant notifications about emergencies, weather warnings, or road closures.
- ◇ **Event Updates:** Never miss out on local festivals, clean-up drives, or residents' meetings again.
- ◇ **Privacy-Protected:** Your number isn't visible to other subscribers, and there's no risk of spam.
- ◇ **No Clutter:** It's a one-way communication platform—only admins can post, so the messages are always relevant and to the point.

United by Information

By joining our community's WhatsApp Channel, you become part of a network that looks out for each other. Whether you're a senior citizen living alone, a parent trying to keep up with school events, or a new resident unfamiliar with local systems—this channel is your go-to source for trusted and verified information.

Join Today!

Joining is simple and takes less than 30 seconds. Just **scan the QR code** with your phone camera, and you will be automatically subscribed. No forms, no fuss—just instant access to essential updates from your residents' association.

Let's keep our community informed, prepared, and united.

Scan. Join. Stay Informed.



Methodist Church diary

SUNDAY	10.30am	Morning worship with Junior Church Holy communion - 3rd Sunday of the month
TUESDAY	2pm	Stitch & Craft Club - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month
	2.30pm	Tuesday afternoon Club - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month
	3.30pm	AM:PM Messy Church - 3rd Tuesday of the month
	6pm	Brownies
WEDNESDAY	5.30pm	Beavers
	7.30pm	Bible Study Group - 3rd Wednesday of the month
	7.30pm	Scouts
THURSDAY	6.45pm	Cubs
FRIDAY	7.30pm	Guides
SATURDAY	9-11am	Prayer Breakfast - 3rd Saturday of the month
	10am	Coffee Morning - 1st Saturday of the month
		Collection of food items for The Vine Foodbank

St Mary's Church diary

SUNDAY	8am	Eucharist
	10am	Parish Eucharist
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month)
MONDAY	7-8pm	Bell Ringing (new members welcome)
TUESDAY	11am-5pm	A Place of Welcome Hot drinks, board games, crafts. Charging points and space to work or do homework.
	1pm	Light lunch
	3pm	Singing for Everyone
WEDNESDAY	10am	Walks on a Wednesday - come rain or shine!
	10-11.30am	Baby & Toddler group
THURSDAY	7-8pm	Choir practice (new members welcome)
FRIDAY	2pm	Luncheon Club (2nd Friday of the month)
SATURDAY	2.30pm	Messy Church

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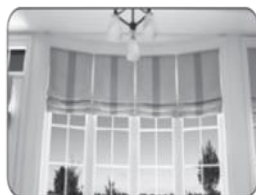
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Who to contact if.....

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 CR0 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.

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 automatic 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 2026. 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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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
Croydon Jubilee Church	Office 020 8651 2807
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	Queenhill Medical Practice 020 8651 1222
Selsdon Park Medical Practice 020 8657 0067	Croydon University Hospital 020 8401 3000
New Addington Minor Injuries Unit 020 8251 7225	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
Friends of Kingswood	friendsofkingswood@hotmail.co.uk
Girlguiding (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Senior Section) 0800 999 2016	https://girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved
5th Selsdon & Addington Scouting Group	5thsanda@gmail.com
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

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