

CROHAM VALLEY

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Autumn 2017



Croham Valley Residents' Association Committee

President	<i>His Honour William Barnett QC</i>
Vice President	<i>Angela Shaw</i>
Chairman	<i>Edward Glynn</i>
Hon. Secretary	<i>Vacancy</i>
Hon. Treasurer	<i>Wendy Love</i>
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Planning area B	<i>David Rutherford</i>
Planning area C	<i>Linda Oram</i>
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Member	<i>Jashbbhai Patel</i>
Member	<i>Shahid Shaikh</i>
Hon. Auditor	<i>Mrs K. M. Lynn</i>

Contact us

Edward Glynn, Chairman

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CVRA newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to all members of the Association.

Cover: Summer annuals by Sara Pevsner

Your views and comments for publication in the newsletter are most welcome and should be sent to the Chairman or the Editor. Copy should reach the Editor by the 1st of February, 1st of May, 1st of August, 1st of November. Views expressed by the contributors to the CVRA newsletter are their own and are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Residents Association. Publication of advertisements does not imply endorsement by the Association.

Letter from the Editor



As the evenings grow longer and the days shorter we are heading to the most important date in the Croham Valley Residents Association year, The Annual General Meeting to which all members and residents are invited is to be held on Wednesday 18th of October. Once again we have Chris Philp, MP for Croydon South, attending, who will address the audience at 8pm before the meeting commences.

The AGM is a good way to find out what the Committee have been doing over the past year, to meet the members and talk to us about what we can do for you, share thoughts and ideas. It is also where new Committee members can be nominated for posts, bringing fresh thoughts to the Committee. You will find a list of vacancies we hope to fill in the centre pages of this issue, along with the invitation to the AGM and nomination slips. I do hope you will consider joining our Committee.

You may notice one of the vacancies is for the role of Editor. When I took on the role my promise was to give the CVRA four editions of a new look newsletter. This is my penultimate edition and I hope you have enjoyed my offerings. I came to it with no experience at all other than the desire to produce a publication of interest and visual appeal. I hope I have delivered that to you. I hope that with my final edition, the Winter issue, I will be able to let you know who my successor will be.

Talking of winter and the colder days ahead it brings to mind the more vulnerable members of our community and how important it is to have a neighbour looking out for them. Maybe you would benefit from having a friendly face popping in to make sure you are ok, doing some shopping for you, clearing icy or leaf strewn paths so you don't slip. It can be as little as 5 minutes of time to help brighten someone's day.

Finally, we are always interested in your thoughts and welcome ideas or comments that you would like to make. We can be contacted via our email address, editor.cvra@gmx.com or by writing to The Chairman, 13 Chapel View, South Croydon, CR2 7LG.

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Letter from the Chairman



I express my thanks to those of the Committee who keep us informed of the latest manoeuvres on the Planning front. Whilst changes are inevitable, the Association attempts to curb the worst excesses through their efforts and by whatever support the CVRA can provide.

The biggest current proposed development within the area covered by the Association is the possible building of a comprehensive secondary school on Coombe Road Playing Fields. Whilst this is not a foregone conclusion, it is, nevertheless, one of three sites within the Borough which have been considered for such a development.

The following procedure will lead to a number of up-to-date Council reports on sites for a possible comprehensive secondary school.

[Www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk)

Click on: Croydon Council Planning

In top right-hand corner labelled 'What would you like to do?' enter: 'Coombe Road Playing Fields'

The first five headings on the resulting page, all of which are of interest, refer to the site
Click on: the fifth heading down ('LBC-PR-049...').

The Committee is always pleased to hear from Members for we are always keen to publish ideas and to foster the Community spirit. You are invited to send letters of news and views to either the Editor at editor.cvra@gmx.com or to the Chairman at 13 Chapel View, South Croydon, CR2 7LG.

As you will see from our 'Can You Help' advertisement, we are still looking for someone to fill the post of Minutes Secretary.

Finally, I am sorry to tell you that Angela Shaw, our Vice-President, has had a bad fall. On behalf of the Association, I wish her a speedy recovery.



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Planning



Area A

21 Melville Avenue

Planning permission for two major redevelopments adjacent to each other in Melville Avenue have recently been approved. At 21 Melville Avenue, a proposal to demolish the existing bungalow and erect a three-storey building, plus a lower ground floor level comprising a total of 5 flats, was opposed by more than 20 residents, the CVRA and the local ward Councillor on the grounds that it was an over-development, out of keeping with the area and detrimental to the neighbours. Nevertheless, the full Planning Committee approved the proposal by a 6-4 majority. Late news: The developer has recently submitted a new application increasing the number of flats from 5 to 6.

23 Melville Avenue

Planning permission had been granted

last year to convert and extend the existing house into 5 flats. In May this year, the developers submitted a new application to demolish the existing house entirely and erect a new three storey building comprising 7 flats. Despite the increase in the number of flats, the new proposal was within the footprint of the previous application and the design (as initially submitted) fitted in reasonably well with the overall street scene. As planning permission had previously been granted, the CVRA did not submit an objection, although a number of local residents did so. Long after the deadline for comments had passed, the developer submitted amended plans, making major changes to the appearance of the proposed building. The recycling bins, previously against a side boundary, were moved to the front of the building, thereby replacing the front windows of a ground

floor flat. Just two days after the amended plans were submitted, the Planning Department granted planning permission under its delegated powers, thus denying local residents any opportunity to comment on the amendments. A formal complaint was lodged with the Council whose response was that, in their opinion, the changes were only minor and did not need to be re-notified.

Area B

There are no new planning applications to report.

Area C

29 The Ruffetts

This proposed planning application is for a large single / two storey extension to the front, side and rear of this semi-detached house which your Residents Association objected to based upon among other reasons its scale and size, as did other Residents. This planning application went before the Planning Sub-Committee on the 17th August 2017 however; the Sub-Committee voted to approve the application but added a condition as regards flood risk which is vulnerability in this area.

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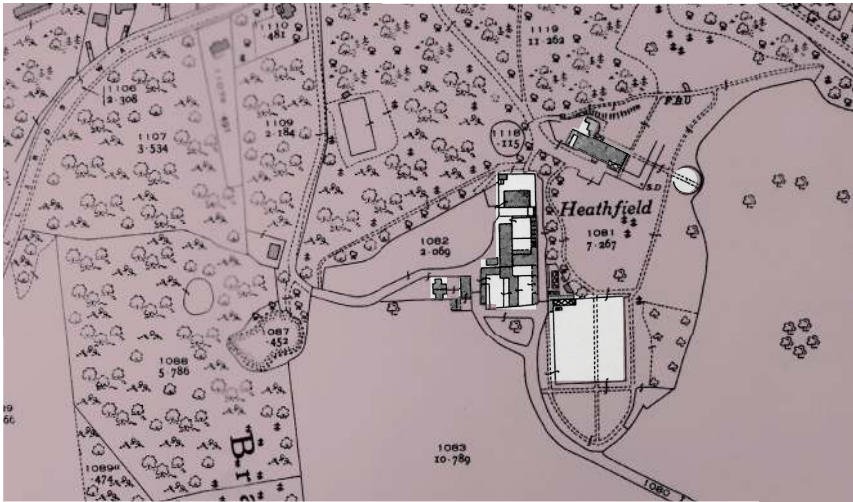


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Heathfield and the Riesco Estate

By Paul Sowan



Ramon Francesco Alfredo Riesco, who came to England from Chile and anglicised his forenames to Raymond Francis Alfred, was the last private owner of Heathfield House and its surrounding estate.

The house, its garden, and some other land, are now owned by Croydon Council, the former used as a Council staff training centre, while the garden is now managed as a park open to the public. The Croydon Ecology Centre is also based there. One further part of the estate, Bramley Bank, is also a public open space, owned by Croydon Council and managed by The London Wildlife Trust as a nature reserve. Part of the estate is still farmland, and part was

covered during and after the last war in prefabs, now replaced by the Monks Hill Estate.

When Croydon's Tramlink was planned it was first intended to make a tunnel for the trams from Coombe Lane to Gravel Hill to avoid the need for trams powerful enough to climb to the top of the hill. The Addington end of the tunnel would have been in Heathfield gardens, but fortunately the plans were changed and the gardens survive unscathed.

Riesco made his fortune as an insurance broker, and by the 1920's was living in a house (now replaced by a modern one) on the corner of Melville Avenue and Coombe Road. In or about 1926 he

purchased the Heathfield Estate, where he lived in the mansion until his death in 1964. The house accommodated, apart from the Riesco family, his magnificent collection of antique oriental ceramics, and a number of other works of art.

By 1959 Riesco was in discussion with Croydon Council about the future of the house, estate, and ceramics collection. The Council resolved to agree to purchase the house and land (106 acres) for £37,800, and Riesco donated the ceramics to the Council on his death (they were a gift, not a bequest), to form the nucleus of an Arts Centre for Croydon. No such Arts Centre ever materialised. A charitable trust, registered as a charity (216135), was established by the Council 'to enhance the cultural provision' in the Borough, finance the care of the ceramics, and to make provisions for the purchase of additional pieces. The Trust was removed from the register of charities in 1995 as it had 'ceased to exist'. Attempts to find out any more about this Trust have proved unsuccessful.

Nor is the fate of the oriental ceramics a happy story. Of the 650 pieces of rare and valuable porcelain and the like received by Croydon in 1964, there are now 206 left in public ownership, some or all of which can be seen on display in the museum of Croydon's Riesco

Gallery on the ground floor at the central library. Figure provided by Coun. Mike Fisher, when he was the leader of the Council, revealed that 180 pieces were sold in 1970, another 112 in 1984, and a further 24 in 2013 in spite of widespread public protest.

Thirty-nine pieces were known to have been 'stolen' but neither Croydon Council nor the Metropolitan Police could throw any light on when the theft occurred, or the results of any investigations. Coun. Fisher's information lacked any account of the other 89 pieces. Thus, some millions of pounds worth of public property had been dispersed, with no Arts Centre to show it in, or indeed to show for it! Instead we have Boxpark, a temporary venue for those who like eating and drinking in a draughty and noisy environment with flashing lights, supported by a hefty loan from the Council!

Paul Sowan has lived in Croham Valley, on and off, since childhood in the first years of World War II. He has been an active member and officer of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society for over 50 years, and currently serves as the society's archivist and librarian. Reports on the archaeology and botany of the Hurst have been published in the proceedings of the society.

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Nature Notes: Hedgehogs and the fungal rainbow

Words and Images by Ted Forsyth

Beatrix Potter made hedgehogs famous as Mrs Tiggywinkle and the name has stuck. Hedgehogs' main activity takes place at night possibly because their favourite prey is available at the same time. They feed on slugs, earthworms, beetles, etc and do a useful job when their territory includes a garden. Unfortunately many gardens are enclosed with no way to enter and might be too tidy or too small to sustain a hedgehog which needs to roam over a larger area in its search for sustenance. If there is a possibility to move from one garden to another there is a better chance for survival.

There are many hazards to be avoided. Vehicular traffic is an obvious problem and where hedgehogs are abundant it is not unusual to find deceased individuals. In addition, use of slug pellets in the past has led to sickly and dead animals. There are more natural predators such as foxes and badgers which will eat hedgehogs, particularly when they find a nest of hoglets. In any area where badgers are common there are likely to be very few hedgehogs and since many of the local woodlands have good populations of badgers this must have a negative effect on hedgehog numbers.

In addition, a stressed hedgehog can eat its own youngsters.

While all of these factors can lead to a reduction in sightings of these animals the main cause is probably a lack of suitable interlinked habitats which allow longer nocturnal excursions in search of food or mates, and will also provide more, potentially safe, nesting and hibernating places. I have had a single hedgehog in my garden (on the edge of Selsdon Wood) in the last 47 years and on the few occasions when I have been in the wood in the evening there has been no sign of hog activity. When a male follows a female he emits a curious "chuffing" sound so that he sounds like a miniature steam engine (or perhaps he is just out of breath!).

I would be very interested to hear of any records of sightings, dead or alive, in the local area.

When hedgehogs are thinking of entering hibernation autumn fungi are at the peak of their reproduction cycle. An amazing variety of mushrooms sprout from soil and from dead trees, while bracket and jelly fungi can be found on trees and twigs. The colours of fungi cover a wide range of hue and the selection which follows indicates just a



few of the possibilities. Red (Fly Agaric), Orange (Wrinkled Crust), Yellow (Chicken of the Woods), Green (Green Elfcup), Blue (Cobalt Crust), Purple (Purple Jellydisc), White (White Saddle), Black (Dead Man's Fingers),

Brown (Jelly Ear), Pink (Pink Waxcap). As you can see from this limited list fungi can be quite colourful. The shapes are equally varied. Get out to woodland and short grassland and see what you can find!

Annual General Meeting

You Are Invited To Attend The Croham Valley Residents' Association 49th Annual General Meeting

St Paul's United Reformed Church, Small Hall
(Corner of Croham Rd & Croham Park Ave.)

Wednesday 18th October at 8pm

Chris Philp MP will address the meeting at 8pm
His Honour William Barnett QC will chair the meeting

*All members and residents of
The Croham Valley Residents' Association
are welcome.*

Anyone wanting to be a member of the committee must be nominated. Nomination forms are included in this edition of the Newsletter and must be handed to the chairman before the meeting commences. Nominations can also be posted to:

The Chairman 13 Chapel View Cr2 7LG

Agenda

*18th October, commencing at 8pm. St Paul's United Reformed Church, Croham Road.
The formal meeting will be preceded by an address from Chris Philp MP at 8pm*

1. To confirm the minutes of the 48th AGM held on 20th October 2016
2. To consider any matters arising
3. Treasurers report and Annual Statement of Accounts for 2016/2017
4. To elect Honorary Auditor for 2017/2018
5. Chairman's report for 2016/2017
6. To elect the President and up to 4 Vice-presidents for 2017/2018
7. To elect the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary for 2017/2018
8. To elect not more than 9 members of the Association to serve on the Executive Committee for 2017/2018
9. Amendment to Rules (see below) as proposed by the Executive Committee *
10. Any other business

Proposed rule changes

Rule 17. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(1)The executive committee has proposed that there should be rule changes to Rule17(b) and rule 17 (c)

Rule 17(b) should read as follows: In addition to the Association Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, who shall be officer members of the Executive Committee (see Rule 11), not more than nine other members of this Committee shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting (see Rule 15) for a period of twelve months.

Rule 17 (c) should read as follows: Nominations for membership of the Executive Committee, duly proposed and seconded, and with the consent of the nominee, shall be in writing and shall be given to the Honorary Secretary or failing him/her to the Chairman before the start of the Annual General Meeting. The resolution to be put to the Meeting is to add the words 'or failing him/her to the Chairman'.

Note

*Nominations for the officers of the Association shall be in writing with the written consent of the nominee. In the case of nominations for the Executive Committee the nominations should be proposed and seconded in writing with the written consent of the nominee. In these instances the completed written nominations must be delivered to the Chairperson in the absence of an Honorary Secretary before the start of the Annual General Meeting .
Chairman: E. Glynn 13, Chapel View CR2 7LG*

Can you help?

We are in need of the following volunteers to help in the efficient running of the Association.

Minutes Secretary

To take the Minutes of Committee meetings (6 per year) and at the Annual General Meeting.

This post will become vacant immediately after the AGM in October.

Vice Chair

To deputize as necessary and to assist the Chairman in the running of the Committee.

Honorary Secretary

To be responsible for papers relating to Committee business. To act as a contact between the Committee and outside agencies.

Newsletter Distribution Manager

To be responsible for the distribution of the four editions each year. To manage

the deliverers of the Association's Newsletter, including collection of annual subscriptions

Newsletter Deliverers

To deliver four editions of the Association's Newsletter each year in the following areas: part of Croham Road, Spencer Road, part of Campden Road, and part of The Ruffetts.

Newsletter Editor

Vacancy to start in time for the Spring edition March 2018

To compile the quarterly editions of the CVRA Newsletter. Working with the members of the Committee and local organisations to compile an interesting and informative publication.

Honorary Auditor

An Honorary Auditor or independent examiner to verify the Annual accounts of the Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 2017/2018 • NOMINATION FORM

Nominee (capital letters) _____

Address and Contact details _____

Nominated for position of (capital letters) _____

Proposed by (capital letters) _____

Signature _____

Seconded by (capital letters) _____

Signature _____

Signature of Nominee (agreeing to the proposal) _____

Date _____



ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 2017/2018 • NOMINATION FORM

Nominee (capital letters) _____

Address and Contact details _____

Nominated for position of (capital letters) _____

Proposed by (capital letters) _____

Signature _____

Seconded by (capital letters) _____

Signature _____

Signature of Nominee (agreeing to the proposal) _____

Date _____



**Please note: Nomination forms should be delivered by post or hand to
Edward Glynn Chairman, 13 Chapel View CR27LG Or before the start of the AGM**

Autumn. The Friends of Littleheath Woods

By Ian Leggatt



This page, Juniper Berries . Next page, Sweet Chestnut

As the chill of Winter approaches the leaves on our deciduous trees change colour and drop to the ground after treating us to a firework display of reds and orange. The paths are soon covered with the fallen leaves, a few acorns, some beech mast and possibly sweet chestnuts and hazelnuts. That is, if the local squirrels have not gorged themselves in readiness for the oncoming time of famine. Early Autumn is also time to look for the wild blackberries and crab apples to make into a delicious crumble, pie or tart. Perhaps collect some sweet chestnuts and roast them to eat fresh or prepare them for the freezer to stuff the turkey with at Christmas. Fungi

appear in the grass and path edges, on and under trees, and are a valuable late food source for our woodmice, snails and slugs plus birds, which do not seem to suffer any ill effects.

Two dates for your diary:

Saturday 23rd September - Autumn Fruits and Leaves in Littleheath Woods. Join the Friends for a 1.5 hour stroll through the woods looking at the changes which occur as trees prepare for their winter rest.

Saturday October 21st - Fungus Foray in

Littleheath Woods. Join the Friends and our mycological expert for a 2 hour stroll around Littleheath Woods in search of fungi.

Both walks commence at 10am. Please meet at the junction of Littleheath and Queenhill

roads. 64 and 433 buses stop at Queenhill Road, roadside parking freely available. For more details, and much more information about Littleheath Woods please take a visit to our website www.folw.co.uk.



LISTINGS & EVENTS

St. Paul's Guild

St. Paul's Guild invites you to join our local community group who meet on Tuesday mornings from 10.15-11.30. We have speakers lined up on various topics, including: The Making of a Monarch; Mindfulness and Meditation; Rutherford's hook; Gut Instinct and Kafir; Silk painting; The Knights of St James-A Spanish Odyssey; and more.

St. Paul's URC, Croham Park Ave, CR2 7HF

Tuesdays 10.15-11.30

Tuesday 26th September-welcome meeting



British Food Fortnight: Fruit Tree

Storytime

Come along to Storytime and pick some fabulous fruit for your tree

Admission: Free. No Booking Required
Selsdon Library. Under 5s

Tuesday 26th September 10:30-11:00

Croydon Ecology Centre

Heathfield Apple Day

Pippin tea rooms will be serving teas, coffees,

juice and delicious apple strudel and other apple fancies. Your chance to buy some of our superb organic, old varieties' apples
Heathfield House

Sunday October 1st 11:00-16:00

Storytime: Tom's tree with tree print craft



Come along and have fun creating your very own autumn tree.

Admission Free. No booking required.

Under 5s

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 3rd October 10:30-11:00

KSS Air Ambulance Talk

The Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust is a registered charity dating back to 1989. When necessary, their medical crews can provide highly specialist care at the scene. Come along and learn about the life-saving work they do.

Admission free. Advance booking required
Selsdon Library

Friday 6th October 14:00-15:00

Ziptales Storytime

Ziptales was created with the aim of making reading a pleasure. Discover the interactive side of libraries, available from the comfort of your own home.

Admission free. No booking required. Under 5s

Selsdon Library

Monday 9th October 11:45

📖 denotes activities for or suitable for children.

Storytime and craft session: Handa's surprise 📖

Join us for a special storytime to celebrate Black History Month, and fill your basket with African tropical fruits.

Admission: Free No booking required.

Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 10 October 10.30 – 11.00am

One Man and his (Guide) Dog

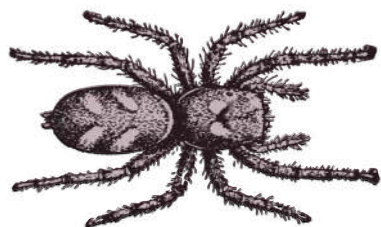
A talk at Selsdon Library by Paul Harman about the work of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, and how his life has changed since he had his dog Spencer.

Admission Free. Advance booking required.

Adults.

Selsdon Library

Thursday 12 October 2.00 – 3.00pm



Storytime and craft session: Anansi and the talking melon 📖

Anansi the spider is up to his old tricks, but will the other animals fall for it? Find out what happens at storytime.

Admission Free. No booking required.

Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 17 October 10.30 – 11.00am

CVRA Annual General Meeting

Open to all Croham Valley Residents.

Guest Speaker Chris Philp

Election of Executive Committee members followed by AGM

St Paul's Church (small hall)

Wednesday 18th October 20:00

Croydon and District National Trust Centre: Westminster Abbey: by Robert Fromow

Join us at one of our varied winter talks.

Admission £4.00 per person on the door

Shirley Parish Hall,

81 Wickham Rd

CR08TB

Wednesday 18th October 14:00

Diwali Craft 📖

Celebrate the festival of light in this Diwali themed craft.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Ages 6+.

Selsdon Library

Thursday 19 October 4.00 – 5.00pm

'Impact of African Music on Classical' a talk by Gillian Spragg

Do you want to know about African music's impact on Classical? Find out in this insightful talk by Gillian Spragg.

Admission Free: Advance booking required.

Adults

Selsdon Library

Friday 20 October 2.00 – 3.00pm

Croydon Ecology Centre: Autumn Tints Woodland Walk

join us on this beautiful woodland walk to see the glorious colours of autumn

Meet outside Heathfield House

Heathfield House

Saturday 21 October 11:00

African Arts & Crafts 📖

Make your very own Ndebele house, Maasai necklace and weave an African mat at our special one-off arts and craft session.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Ages 8+.

Selsdon Library

Monday 23 October 9.15 – 10.15am

storytime and craft session: Create your own monster 📖

Romping monsters, stomping Monsters. Come join us for a monstrous storytime, and have a go at creating a monster of your own.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 24 October 10.30 – 11.00am

Cat Protection Talk and crafts

The Cats Protection charity will be leading this fun and informative event, where you can find out how to care for your cats and make a cat themed craft to take home.

Admission: Free. Advanced booking required. Ages 4+.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 24 October 11.15am – 12.00

Tours of Croydon Palace: A former residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury

Visitors may see 15th Century Great Hall, Guard Room, Chapel, Long Gallery, Bedroom used by Queen Elizabeth 1.

Tours organised by The Friends of The Old Palace

Admission £7.00. 60+£6.00. Children under 16 £3.00

Old Palace Road CR0 1AX

24, 25, 26 & 27th October 13:45

Black history month puppet theatre: Why the tortoise has no hair 📖

Find out how the tortoise lost his hair in this traditional West African tale, and make a puppet to take home.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Ages 5-11.

Selsdon Library

Thursday 26 October 10.00 – 11.00am

Rastamouse 📖

Join Michael De Souza creator of Rastamouse (as seen on Cbeebies) for a special half-term performance.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required. Families.

Selsdon Library

Friday 27 October 3.30pm



Storytime and craft time: Grandma's Saturday Soup 📖

Mimi misses her grandma. Every day something reminds her of grandma's special Saturday Soup and the tales her grandma tells of Jamaica and the wonderful soup. You are all welcome to help Mimi make this special Saturday soup.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Families.

Selsdon Library

Saturday 28 October 2.30 – 3.00pm

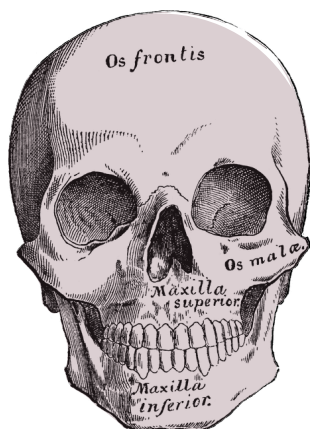
Spooky Halloween crafty time 👤

This year you are all invited to celebrate Halloween at Selsdon Library. You may come dressed in your own costume. Our spooky mask will make you the scariest thing around this October.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Ages 6+.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 31 October 4.00 – 5.00pm



Dia de los Muertos 👤

Create your own mask and join us in celebrating Dia de los Muertos.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required. Ages 7+.

Selsdon Library

Thursday 2 November 4.00 – 5.00pm

Bonfire Night Craft Table 👤

Join in our Bonfire Night celebrations, and make your own firework craft to brighten up the night.

Admission: Free. No Booking Required. Ages 4+.

Selsdon Library

Saturday 4 November 3.00 – 4.00pm

“World War 2 Heroes” a talk by David Talbot

Drawing upon 16 years of interviews from a national archive on World War Two, join David Talbot for a remembrance themed talk at Selsdon Library.

Admission Free: Advance booking required. Adults

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 7 November 2.00 – 3.00pm

Croydon Ecology Centre: The History of Croham Hurst - Site of Special Scientific Interest

Join us for our Friday night talk by Heathfield Ecologist and local Historian from Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society's Paul Sowan

Heathfield House

Friday 10th November 19:30

Croydon and District National Trust Centre: An Auctioneers Lot by Clive Emson

Admission £4.00 per person on the door
Shirley Parish Hall,
81 Wickham Rd
CR08TB

Wednesday 15th November 14:00

Roman Paper Mosaic Craft

Bring the past to life in this historical, Roman themed craft. Relax with a cup of tea, and see what you can create.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required. Adults

Selsdon Library

Friday 17 November 5.00 – 6.45pm

The Nutcracker: Talk by Matthew Scrivener, Leader of the English National

Ballet Philharmonic Orchestra

Get into the Christmas spirit, and join us for a talk on Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet. Delivered by violinist Matthew Scrivener – leader of the English National Ballet Philharmonic Orchestra – with musical interludes throughout.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required. Adults.

Selsdon Library

Saturday 18 November 1.00 - 2.00pm

Christmas Card Making 📄

Get ready for Christmas in our festive card making and pine cone craft session. Create your own personalized Christmas cards for friends and family. Also suitable for adults under 25 with learning difficulties.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required. Ages 6+.

Selsdon Library

Monday 20 November 4.00 – 5.00pm

Local Author Talk: The Battle of Little Big Horn

In 1876, General Custer and members of several Plains Indian tribes, including Crazy Horse and Chief Gall, battled in eastern Montana in what would become known as Custer's Last Stand. Join Michael Round for this fascinating historical talk.

Admission: Free. Advance Booking Required. Adults.

Selsdon Library

Thursday 23 November 2.00 – 3.00pm

Crafternoon: Native American Dream-catcher 📄

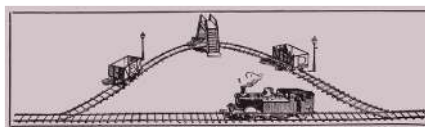
Make your own Native American dream-catcher craft this crafternoon.

Admission: Free. Advance booking required.

Ages 7+

Selsdon Library

Thursday 23 November 4.00 – 5.30pm



Model Railway Demonstration

Enjoy the experience of operating and solving the shunting puzzle on our '00' gauge layout 'Avon Sidings'. You take direct control with supervision if you need it. Let us know if you would like to come and have a go.

Admission: Free. No booking required. Adults.

Selsdon Library

Saturday 25 November 1.00 – 3.00pm

Croydon Ecology Centre: Heathfield Grand Christmas Bazaar

With plenty to choose from on our stalls, this bazaar comes at just the right time to help with your Christmas shopping. Our Pantry Cafe will be open for homemade soups and buttered rolls at lunchtime, followed by traditional English cream teas in the afternoon.

All proceeds from our stalls and in the Pantry Cafe, benefits our Animal Welfare & Wildlife Rescue Fund

Heathfield House

Sunday 3rd December 12:00-16:30

Carol Singing at Selsdon Library 📄

Join in the festive fun at Selsdon Library. Choirs from local primary schools will be performing in the library to get everybody in the mood for the Christmas season. Put a smile on your face with a mixture of carols



and Christmas songs both traditional and modern.

Admission: Free. No Booking Required.

Families

Croydon High

Monday 4 December - 1.30 - 2.15pm

Forestdale Primary

Thursday 7 December - 10.00 - 11.00am

Redgates School

Friday 8 December 2.00 - 2.45pm

Courtwood Primary

Monday 11 December - 1.30-2.15pm

Storytime: 'One Christmas Night' with Pinecone craft 📖

Christmas is near - but little Hedgehog has forgotten to get presents for his friends, so he sets off into the forest to find gifts, but the night is cold and the woods are growing dark...

Find out what happens to Hedgehog in our Storytime.

Admission: Free. No Booking Required.

Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 5 December 10.30 - 11.00am

Skating Ring 📖

Get your skating boots on and join us at Selsdon Library to create your very own ice ring just in time for Christmas.

Admission: Free. Advance booking Required. Ages 6+

Selsdon Library

Monday 11 December 4.00 - 5.00pm

Storytime: 'Ferdie's Christmas' with snowflake craft 📖

It's Christmas Eve and Ferdie has had a terrible thought- what if Father Christmas can't find the rabbits new burrow, so come on down and help him at Selsdon library with our special Christmas craft and story time.

Admission: Free. No booking required.

Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Tuesday 12 December 10.30 - 11.00am

Christmas Paper Chain Craft 📖

Deck the halls this Christmas season. Drop by Selsdon library and make your own Christmas paper chain to decorate your home.

Admission: Free. No Booking Required.

Families

Selsdon Library

Thursday 14 December 4.00 - 5.30pm

Storytime: 'I've seen Santa!' with Santa hat craft 📖

Join us for our Christmas storytime at Selsdon library with little bear as he can't wait for Santa to deliver his presents.

Admission: Free. No booking required.

Under 5s.

Selsdon Library

Saturday 16 December 2.30 - 3.00pm

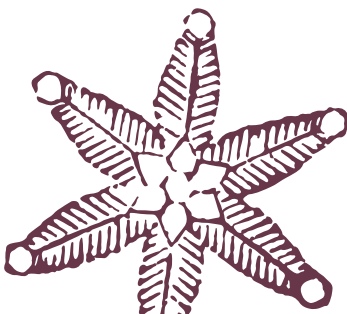
Storytime: 'Dave's Christmas Cracker' with Christmas cracker craft 📖

Have fun at Selsdon Library listening to our exciting story and make a Christmas cracker which will make your Christmas extra special.

Admission: Free. No booking required.

Under 5s.

📖 denotes activities for or suitable for children.



Selsdon Library
Tuesday 19 December 10.30 – 11.00am

**Croydon and District National Trust
Centre: Working for The Churchills by
Nonie Chapman**

Admission £4.00 per person on the door
Shirley Parish Hall,
81 Wickham Rd
CR08TB
Wednesday 20th December 14:00

Christmas Coffee Morning

Come along to our festive Christmas coffee morning, where you'll have a chance to chat over some coffee, cake and biscuits.
Admission: Free. No booking required.
Adults.
Selsdon Library
Thursday 21 December 10.30am – 12.00pm

Christmas Rhymetime and Wiggle & Jiggle

Join us in singing all your Rhymetime favourites with a Christmas twist.
Admission: Free. No Booking Required.
Under 5s
Selsdon Library
Friday 22 December 10.30 – 11.00am

Storytime: 'Something Magic in the Night' with Christmas tree craft

The cookies are baked, the shopping done. The tree is up, the balls are hung, everything's ready for Christmas so come down to Selsdon library and enjoy our storytime and tree making craft and get your hands on some candy cane treats!
Admission: Free. No booking required.
Under 5s
Selsdon Library

Tuesday 23 December 11.30am – 12.00pm

Christmas Rhymetime and Wiggle & Jiggle

Join us in singing all your Rhymetime favourites with a Christmas twist.
Admission: Free. No booking required.
Under 5s
Selsdon Library
Saturday 23 December 10.30 – 11.00am

Croydon Ecology Centre: Workdays

*Every Tuesday and Friday and on the first and third Sunday of every month
Sundays 10:30-15:30*

Littleheath Woods: Workdays

Every Tuesday morning throughout the year.
Contact folw.co.uk for more information.



Woodlands Children's Centre

We provide a whole range of services for Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and their children. We run varied services and are sure that you will find something that appeals to you. Here are just some of the things that we run: Stay & play sessions, Cooking lessons for children and adults (£5 charge), Parenting Courses, Baby Clinic, Baby Massage (£5 charge). All our services are available to anyone with a child aged 0-5 years.
Woodlands Children's Centre Farnborough Ave. CR2 8HD
www.woodlandscscc.info

Surrey Sharpeners



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To book a home visit contact Adam on:

Phone: 07469 942 841

Email info@surreysharpeners.co.uk

Or visit

www.surreysharpeners.co.uk

Spanishtastic

Are you interested in your children learning a language from a young age? British people are traditionally viewed as not being very good at foreign languages but Joanna, local Croydon Mum, is trying to change that! Formerly a management consultant, Joanna is fluent in Spanish and when she had her daughter in 2015, decided to bring her up bilingually, speaking to her only in Spanish. “I was so surprised when I looked for Spanish clubs and classes for little ones, to find that there weren’t any around at all. I am passionate about speaking Spanish, it’s one of the greatest pleasures of my life and enabled me to live and work in South America. I really want to share that. It’s such a good thing for children to start a language young, they pick it up so easily”

Going back to a job where she was away from home five days a week wasn’t feasible with a small child, so Joanna started up Spanishtastic to provide Spanish classes for children. Adopting a totally new approach to teaching Spanish to children, from birth to 11 years. The programme is a focussed around ‘multi-sensory’ learning and encourages children to learn Spanish through songs, games, actions, rhymes, music, drama, handling objects and materials and story-telling.

Studies have shown that learning an

additional language at a young age has multiple short & long term benefits for children including boosting brainpower. Studies also suggest that speaking two or more languages from a very young age helps a child’s development into adults with more highly refined cognitive skills.

Joanna was reviewed by another local mum -blogger Claire from Totson.co.uk, who declared: “Joanna’s approach is a real hit... We loved our taster session and would highly recommend to anyone who’s curious about learning a language with their child. It’s fun and relaxed, so you and the little ones are absorbing the language as you play.”

Joanna currently runs classes in Purley and Croydon offering class in venues as well as in local nurseries and schools. If you were thinking of starting your little one with a language, Joanna offers a free taster class to all new customers.

For more information contact:
Joanna Jayarajan
joannaj@spanishtastic.co.uk

Kidslingo is the only UK language franchise which has a Gold accreditation from the Children’s Activities Association

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or call Christelle on 07941 890797

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Beginners consolidation class 9.00 pm

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Social dancing 9.30 - 11.00pm

every tuesday at

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South Croydon,

CR2 7BG.

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Useful Information

Police

Reporting An Emergency

Call 999 if you are reporting a crime in progress or if someone is in immediate danger

Reporting Non Emergencies

Call 101 to report crimes that are not an emergency or to give information to the police or make an enquiry

Croydon University Hospital

530 London Road
CR7 7YE
020 8401 3000

New Addington Minor Injuries

Parkway Health Centre
Parkway
New Addington
CR0 0JA

Croydon Council

Bernard Weatherill House, 8 Mint Walk, Croydon CR0 1EA

General enquiries: 020 8726 6000
Lines are open: Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm.

www.croydon.gov.uk

Councillors for Selsdon and Ballards Ward

Cllr. Sara Bashford, Cllr. Dudley Mead, Cllr. Phil Thomas

Councillors for Croham Ward

Cllr. Maria Gatland, Cllr. Michael Neal, Cllr. Jason Perry

All the Councillors can be contacted either on the web (My Councillor Croydon) or by post: c/o Town Hall, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR0 1NX.

Refuse Information

Black caddy all food waste, cooked or raw. Collection weekly

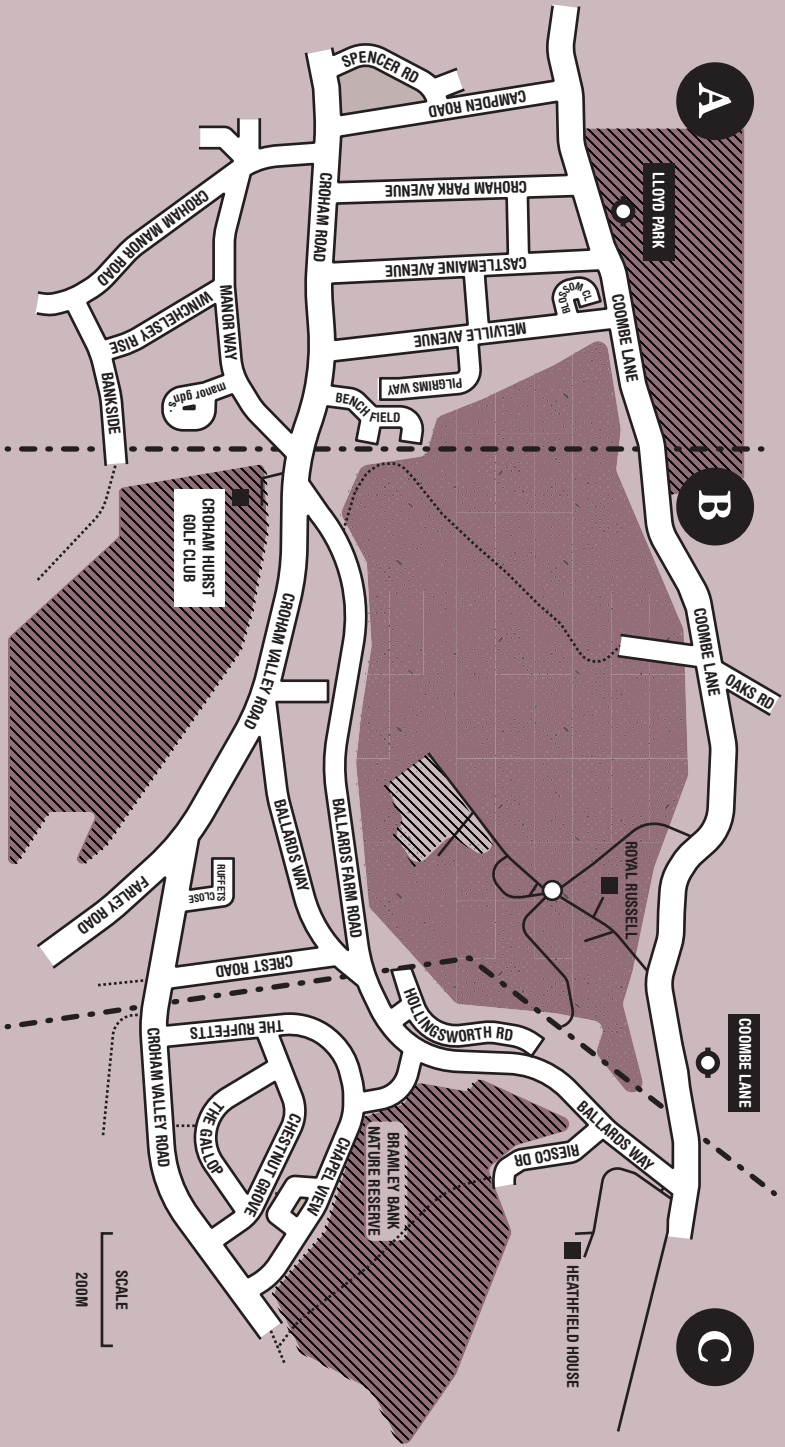
Blue recycling box: paper. Collection fortnightly

Green recycling box: plastic, glass, metal. Collection fortnightly

Large wheelie bins: landfill. Collection fortnightly

Textiles should be bagged and left out for collection weekly

www.croydon.gov.uk/environment



The above map indicates the areas that are covered by each association's representatives in respect of planning application or any other matters of concern. The phone numbers to contact for each area are as follows:

A. 020 8688 9558 / B. 020 8657 8787 / C. 020 8657 6585