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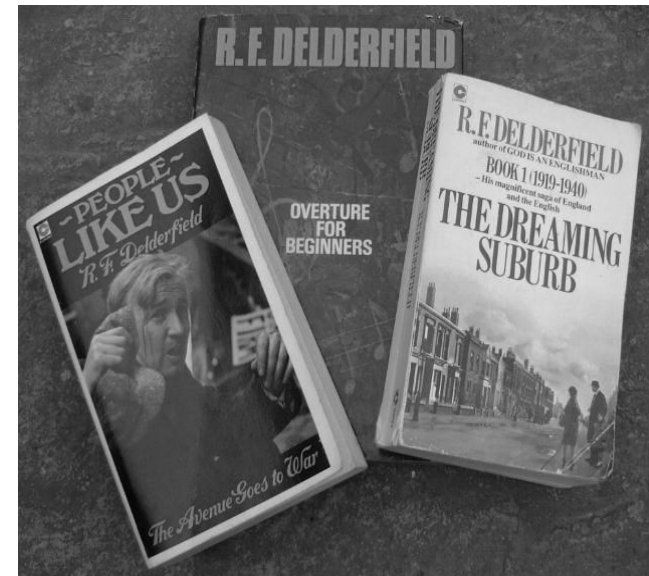


1989-2014

Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents' Association

www.theaspra.org.uk

Newsletter
Spring 2014



An independent, non politically aligned organisation
run for and by the residents of Addiscombe

Road Representatives

Addiscombe Road (275-393)	Paul Pinder	28 Sefton Road
Annandale Road	Patricia West	5 Annandale Road
Ashburton Avenue	Kiff Paddon	49 Ashburton Avenue
Ashling Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Ashurst Walk	Shirley Vine	11 Ashurst Walk
Baring Road	Helen Tilbury	27 Baring Road
Bingham Comer	Jenny Crook	29 Bingham Road
Bingham Road (1-94) Bingham Road (93-186)	Jenny Crook Jenny Tighe	29 Bingham Road 139 Bingham Road
Birch Tree Way	Sheena D'Souza	6 Birch Tree Way
Brockenhurst Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Carlyle Road	Chris Facey	19 Carlyle Road
Cheyne Walk	Ruth Rassou	26 Cheyne Walk
Claremont Road	Fred Demay	6 Claremont Road
Colworth Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Compton Road	Shila & Shashi Kotecha	21 Compton Road
Craigen Avenue	Volunteer needed	
Craven Road	Julian Bishop	Contact us for details
Elmgrove Road	Nicola Salisbury	36 Kingscote Road
Fernhurst Road	Amy Simmons	Contact us for details
Fryston Avenue	Sharon Rees	7 Sefton Road
Glenthorne Avenue	Crys & Mike Rothern	33 Glenthorne Avenue
Greencourt Avenue	Paul Pinder	28 Sefton Road
Greencourt Gardens	Christine Kempton	23 Greencourt Gardens
Harriet Gardens	Bill Callow	3 Harriet Gardens
Kingscote Road	Nicola Salisbury	36 Kingscote Road
Lower Addiscombe Road (194-362)	Volunteer needed	
Northampton Road	Bob Sleeman	50 Northampton Road
Parkview Road	Volunteer needed	
Sefton Road	Sharon Rees	7 Sefton Road
Selwood Road (1-44) Selwood Road (45-87)	Hilary Chelminski Jan Rutter	75 Ashburton Avenue 73 Selwood Road
Sherwood Road	Volunteer needed	
Shirley Road (1-52) Shirley Road (57-196)	Margaret Grimsley Ann & Bill Jameson	22 Shirley Road 138 Shirley Road
Shirley Park Road	Volunteer needed	
Whitethorn Gardens	Contact us for details	

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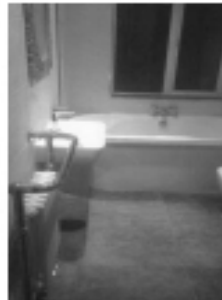
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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Residents

The last few months have been very busy. As Chairman I have attended Meetings concerning the Plans for the Regeneration of Croydon Town Centre, liaised with the Planning Department and other local Residents Associations in consultation over the Croydon Local Plan, which specifically includes the Addiscombe area. I was present to see the Westfield/Hammerson Application for Outline Planning Permission for their scheme for the Whitgift Centre voted through, which erupted in a spontaneous applause from the Public Gallery as this decision was passed; representing as it did the central platform around which other plans and investment can now be made and perhaps indicative that this is the first real breakthrough in many years which promises to reverse the recent decline in Croydon's fortunes. Although there is obviously much work still left to do, I believe that there are now greater grounds for optimism for the area than at any time over the past few years and our Representatives are to be congratulated on what has so far been achieved.

I attended the splendid Eid Celebration at the Ismaili Centre and St Mildred's Church Open Day. Changes in local law enforcement were discussed at the Ward Panel Meeting with our new Ashburton Neighbourhood Policing Team and we continue to cooperate with Croydon Neighbourhood Watch. We have also liaised with other "local issue" groups in the area, such as the Friends of Ashburton Park, over the future of the Old Library Building and helping local Residents over planning, conservation, drainage, lighting and other concerns.

As well as expressing particular thanks to James & Lee for all their work for ASPRA over the years, I would also like to acknowledge the debt owed to Vince Hemment, Postmaster who has served ASPRA in a number of roles over 24 years and who with Bob Sleeman currently maintains our wonderful website. Also to Liz Brereton, who produces and edits this exceptional Magazine so ably three times each year and to all those others who lend their time.

Hilary Chelminski



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CHILDREN'S KNOWLEDGE found by Bob Sleeman

Geography

The closest town to France is Dover. You can get to France on a train or you can go on the fairy.

In Scandinavia, the Danish people come from Denmark, the Norwegians come from Norway and the Lap dancers come from Lapland.

In geography we learned that countries with sea around them are islands and the ones without are incontinents.

History

Sir Walter Raleigh circumcised the world with a big clipper.

Sometimes in the war they take presners and keep them ostriges until the war is over. Some prisoners end up in constipation camps.

Then Joan of Ark met her end. She was burned as a steak.

Maths

I would like to be an accountant but you have to know a lot about moths.

If it is less than 90 degrees it is a cute angle.

The total is when you add up all the numbers and a remainder is an animal that pulls Santa on his slay.

Religious Studies

A mosque is a sort of church. The main Difference is that its roof is doomed.

I asked my mum why we said old men at the end of prayers at skool. I don't know any old men apart from grandpa.

If you marry two people you are a Pigamist, but morons are allowed to do this.

Holidays

On an activity holiday dad wanted to ride the hores, but mum said they were too expensive.

Natural History

Crabs and creatures like them all belong to a family of crushed Asians.

The Arts

... and at the end of the show we all sing away in a manger.

In last year's Christmas concert, linzi played the main prat. I played one of the smaller prats and I would like to have a bigger prat this year.

Science

Helicopters are cleverer than planes. Not only can they fly through the air they can also Hoover.

Ashburton Park Bowling Club
(Access Tenterden Road, Croydon CR0 7DN)

The club opens for this years summer season on Saturday 26th April. It is open every day, weather permitting from 2.00p.m. There is usually a public rink available for a small fee and all equipment can be provided. If you take part in our open sessions there will be no fee to pay.

Why not arrange an introductory session with our coaches or attend our open sessions as follow:

**Saturday 26th April
at 10.00am or 2.00pm**

**Sunday 27th April
at 10.00am**

Alternatively, join our coaching sessions at 5.00pm. on Tuesday evenings in May. Dress is informal for these sessions, but there is a dress code for members in inter club matches. There are no age restrictions other than children must be at least 10 years old and be accompanied by a parent. Some players start young; many when they find football and golf becoming too strenuous. Many members play on into their eighties and later.

We are two clubs and have male and female coaches. The bowling green is behind the petanque court and house as you enter the park from Tenterden Road, which is the car park area. There are also 3 other indoor clubs in our area so that you can continue playing throughout the year.

If you have any questions or would like to book an introductory or coaching session please contact:

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Croydon East Rotary Club

Secretary: Chris Rutter

www.RotaryCroydonEast.org.uk

08448 849743

Croydon East Rotary Club would like to thank all the kind people of Addiscombe who opened their doors and gave so generously to our Christmas collection for local charities. The total raised on the doorstep and with some individual donations was in the excess of £4,000. With the new HMRC Gift Aid Scheme this will increase to more than £5,000. Thank you all very much!

The local Rotary Club has meetings as follows:

**The Chateau, Coombe Lane
Monday Evenings
7.30pm**

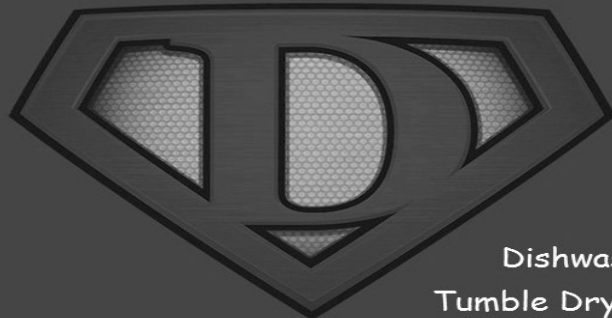
We are part of Rotary International, a worldwide organisation of men and women who volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities at home and overseas. We focus on local community projects, helping the young, elderly and disadvantaged. We have made donations to local projects like Croydon Churches Floating Shelter, Shirley Neighbourhood Care, Kick London (Croydon), Demelza Hospice and St Christopher's Hospice. We also raise money to help in overseas projects through Shelterbox and polio eradication.

At our meetings, as well as fellowship we have a lot of fun! If you are interested in the work of Rotary and would like to know more, please see our website and contact details above. You will be most welcome!

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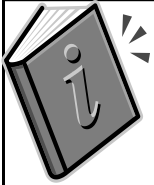
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The Musical Museum - Brentford

Bob Sleeman

I recently found in the loft an old reel-to-reel tape from around 1960. The Ferguson tape deck was coaxed into life again and now I have a copy on CD. Family members on holiday in West Somerset sing and play fiddle and piano. That is how we used to entertain ourselves before television. We also had the valve radio with atmospheric hiss and crackle before the days of FM, DAB or internet.

Now step back to the turn of the 20th century and we find music boxes, street organs, pianolas wind-up gramophones. Then a bit later juke boxes and the mighty Wurlitzer. Some of these machines were in pubs and coined phrases like "the penny dropped" and "put a sock in it".



Frank W Holland founded the Musical Museum as a private collection in the 1950s, then as a Public Museum and Trust in the early 60s using the redundant Church of St George, Brentford. The museum is now in a purpose built site close to Kew Bridge station (about an hour journey from Addiscombe by train). It is a living museum and I heard several of the restored exhibits in full voice. There is a small cinema/dance hall which houses the Mighty Wurlitzer recovered from the Regal in Kingston-upon-Thames.

A dedicated band of volunteers (led by a resident of Addington) maintain and restore this wonderful collection. There is no grant available for support, so visitors through the door are essential to keep this museum viable. There is a programme of silent films, historic movies mainly on Sundays at 15:00, plus "Waltzing to the Wurlitzer" at 14:30 on the first Saturday of the month.

The Museum is open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 to 16:00 with a small café on site. www.musicalmuseum.co.uk

Next door is the Kew Bridge Steam Museum which specialises in pumping engines which is open daily from late March 2014. www.kbsm.org

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Climbing Kilimanjaro Frederic Demay

Karibu (welcome in Swahili)!

In early January 2013, I found out that Oliver, a friend's seven year old son whom I happened to see at Croydon Mayday Children's Outpatients on Christmas Eve 2012 had been diagnosed on that very same day with Leukaemia. After spending some time at Mayday, he was subsequently admitted to the Royal Marsden Cancer Hospital in Sutton, where he started chemotherapy treatments for the next 3 years. This inspired some friends and I to do something amazing as a fundraising challenge for both Oliver and the Royal Marsden Hospital.

This is where it led me on Wednesday 2nd October 2013, when I set off on a 10 day journey to reach the summit of Kilimanjaro, as part of a group of 18 people, including our Guide and Doctor. We went through the Lemosho route, which begins at the Kilimanjaro National Park Londorossi Gate, with an altitude of 2,300m. We spent the next 7 days trekking to reach the Summit at a height of 5,896m.

Day 1

Temperatures were around 28c and humid, so we were glad when we reached Mt Mkubwa camp at 2800m, where it was cooler. There we set up camp and organised our tent, with 2 people in each.

Day 2

We set off for on an estimated 12 hour trek, through some more forest and then across the Shira plateau. We noticed as we gained altitude that the vegetation was diminishing and what used to be dense vegetation with tall trees, progressively became more like shrubs and bushes. We finally arrived just after dusk at Shira Camp at 3,850m. I was already feeling shattered and it was only the 2nd day.

Day 3

Breakfast with the same diet of millet, bread and omelette. After we had packed our things and got ready we went on for another 8 hour trip. Today's trail took us through the Lava Tower at a height of 4,600m, to then descend back to Barranco camp at 4,000m.

Day 4

We were heading for Karanga Camp but first we needed to get through the Barranco Wall, a 300m almost vertical climb before trekking down the Karanga Valley, where it is rocks and Giant Dendrosenecio dominating the scenery, with lovely views of Mount Meru.

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Day 5

Another 5am wakeup call and after our morning routine we headed off to Barafu Camp at 4,650m, our last stop before the Summit. After a nap at Barafu Camp, some dinner, a last debrief, the moment we have been waiting for was upon us. At 11:30pm we set off in the middle of the night, in a temperature of -15c and trekked for 9 hours before reaching Uhuru Peak at 5,896m. Wow, we've made it! Then what follows is 1.5 days of downhill trekking to the Millennium Camp and the National Park Mweka Gate thereafter.

So where does this lead us. Well I made some very good friends on the mountain and we shared an intense experience. Looking back, I realised that great companionship helps you to keep going. For one self, it does not matter how big the task at hand is, but if you set your mind to it and put it in smaller steps, believe that what you do is right and keep going, you will definitely accomplish your dream.

I wish to thank my family, especially my wife and children for supporting me in achieving this life rewarding experience and also to all my sponsors. Together we raised £2,740 for the Royal Marsden which will go a long way to continuing the treatment for children like Oliver who are affected by Leukaemia. See the following links for additional photos and details of my trek:

<http://www.tinyurl.com/Fred-Kili-Photos>

<http://www.justgiving.com/ClimbKilimanjaro4Oliver>

<http://www.theaspra.org.uk/news.php#news006>



**Council Response to
Bingham Road – Speeding Traffic**

Eddy Arram

(Editors Note: See also letters page)

The speed limit for Bingham Road is 30mph, however, far too many drivers feel that they do not need to comply with the legal maximum speed limit and drive in an irresponsible way along this road. The problem is not a new one. It has been around for many years.

In the early 1990's SPRA (as it then was) and your ward councillors worked with the then Conservative Croydon Council to try and resolve the problem. Bingham Road was seen as part of a bigger traffic management problem. The Residents' Association and the Council agreed a 3 stage approach. The first stage was the installation of one way streets for the roads between Bingham Road and Lower Addiscombe Road.

On completion of that scheme the Council intended to consult and work with the Residents' Association to develop and implement the next two stages. The first phase came into being in 1993 and has worked very well. Unfortunately the Council changed administration in 1994 and the then Labour Council, despite many requests by the Residents' Association and ward Councillors, abandoned and refused to implement the next two stages of the Traffic Management Scheme.

Your ward Councillors have not given up hope on this matter. Avril Slipper has been very active in getting the sight lines to all the junctions intersecting Bingham Road. The Council has either implemented double yellow lines and/or built sight lines so that vehicles crossing Bingham Road at these junctions have a clear line of sight for oncoming traffic. This has led to a reduction in incidents at these junctions. It has not, however, stopped irresponsible drivers from exceeding the speed limit. Eddy Arram, Adam Kellett and Avril Slipper have all attended site meetings with the Council's traffic officers to try and resolve the problem.

EDITORIAL

Letters/articles are welcomed which should be emailed as an attachment in word/publisher and pictures as jpeg, but we cannot accept pdfs. We cannot accept more than 2 A5 pages. You are welcome to send us feedback on the magazine as well as letters/responses to articles featured. Sometimes we are unable to publish some content or it may become out of date before publishing which is out of our control. Articles may sometimes need to be edited due to space restrictions and article length; if this is a problem for you please let us know.

There are vacancies in some roads for road reps and there are also other opportunities for getting involved in the organisation. Please contact us if you are interested.

Please visit our website for news/updates about the association and the local area and use the reload/refresh button to get the latest version.

THE EDITOR

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LETTERS FROM RESIDENTS

BINGHAM ROAD SPEEDING

Cameras to photograph fast drivers are not speed cameras. They are only installed for safety reasons, never for speeding, which is the story that is always used when the subject comes up. We should not expect Bingham Road to be treated any differently.
Dave Lee

A set of traffic lights at Parkview/Compton would make Bingham, Parkview/Compton rat runs less attractive. and improve safety; a set at the Shirley/Bingham Road junction is well overdue and the timing should favour the main road. Restyling the Lower Addiscombe/Shirley Road junction at the park to create a right turn lane off Lower Addiscombe road would make it more attractive to those heading for Shirley and A232. and would reduce tailbacks through Addiscombe. There seems to be a wide pavement area at that corner but this does not stop cars and bikes doing 40 mph+, Getting off your drive or pulling out into the street is a gamble every day. Would a speed bump before each bend cure this?
Nick Mabbs

28TH CROYDON SCOUT GROUP

It was unfortunately necessary to compress the article in the last edition regarding the 28th Croydon Scout Group. We would like to apologise to the author and Scout Group for any upset caused. When the article was submitted it was 4 pages of A4 which unfortunately was too long as we can only accept 2 pages of A5. We can always put longer articles on the website if they cannot be included. Therefore we have uploaded the full version of the article on our website under "More details and history":
<http://www.theaspra.org.uk/localgroups.php#06>
Editor

GRATITUDE FOR GIFTS

We would like to thank you and our neighbours and friends in ASPRA for the lovely and thoughtful gift of inscribed crystal candlestick holders. They are beautiful and look amazing in flickering candlelight which reflects off the stems. We are touched to receive such a wonderful present to remind us of our time on the Committee and we look forward to being able to thank you in person at the next Committee meeting.

Lee Chester and James Maloney

The following suggestions have been made:

1. **Road humps:** It is not the Council's policy to install new Pedestrian Crossings because it would take out all the on street parking for most of Bingham Road on either side of the crossing. A crossing was suggested near the entrance to the recreation ground which would prohibit all on street parking from the junction of Ashling to Baring Road. A survey showed that this would not be accepted by over 90% of residents.
2. **Road pinching at junctions:** Again the problem of prohibiting on street parking would cause major problems to the vast majority of residents.
3. **Rumble strips:** A series of raised strips could be placed at various points along Bingham Road. If vehicles travel over the legal speed limit the vehicle ride vibrates. Officers have advised against this as in their experience such systems cause a lot of noise and vibration to properties.
4. **Speed visors:** These are already installed on Bingham Road. They flash up the speed of the vehicle if it exceeds the legal limit. This has had some effect but to the driver who could not care less they are ineffective.
5. **Speed monitoring exercise by the Police:** Such exercises have been carried out in the past but they are limited to the resources available to the Police and cannot be carried out 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
6. **Speed cameras:** Eddy Arram has raised the issue with Steve O'Connell, Croydon GLA member, who are responsible for installing them. Once it becomes known that Bingham Road has a speed camera, vehicles would obey the speed limits and the road should become safer, which will relieve the need for the Police to monitor the road. On Street parking will remain. The GLA will have to evaluate Bingham Road and see if it comes within the criteria which are laid down in their policy to install speed cameras. The policy and regulations may have reasons laid down as to why the GLA may not install them.

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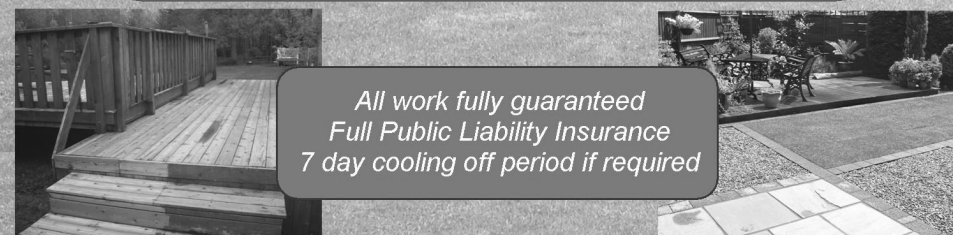
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