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We hope to have our refurbishment finished soon and want to thank all our neighbours and customers for their support.



1989-2011

# Addiscombe & Shirley Park Residents' Association

[www.thespra.org.uk](http://www.thespra.org.uk)

Newsletter — June 2011



Not 10 flats but 1 Archdeacon's home  
Building work starts on Sefton Road

## Road Representatives

Addiscombe Road (275-393)	Paul Pinder	28 Sefton Road
Annandale Road	Patricia West	5 Annandale Road
Ashburton Avenue	Jacquie Farrow	51 Ashburton Avenue
Ashling Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Ashurst Walk	Shirley Vine	11 Ashurst Walk
Baring Road	Helen Tilbury	27 Baring Road
Bingham Road (W) (1-94)	Jenny Crook	29 Bingham Road
Bingham Road (E) (93-186)	Beverley & Peter Dunne	45 Bingham Road
Birch Tree Way	Val Chang	8 Birch Tree Way
Brockenhurst Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Carlyle Road	Chris Facey	19 Carlyle Road
Cheyne Walk	Tony Wood	81 Selwood Road
Claremont Road	Fred Demay	6 Claremont Road
Colworth Road	Sheila Newbold	3 Baring Road
Compton Road	Kathy Gray	30 Compton Road
Craigen Avenue	Trevor Bowden	37 Craigen Avenue
Craven Road	Sarah & Julian Bishop	13 Craven Road
Elmgrove Road	Nicola Salisbury	36 Kingscote Road
Fernhurst Road	Amy Simmons	36 Fernhurst Road
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
Northampton Road	Paul Pinder	28 Sefton Road
Parkview Road	Peter Tunnell	39 Parkview Road
Sefton Road	Sharon Rees	7 Sefton Road
Selwood Road	Christine Kempton	23 Greencourt Gardens
Sherwood Road	Martine Edwards	11 Sherwood Road
Shirley Road (N) (1-52)	Margaret Grimsley	22 Shirley Road
Shirley Road (S) (57-196)	Ann & Bill Jameson	138 Shirely Road
Shirley Park Road	Mike Savage	45 Shirley Park Road
Whitethorn Gardens	Vince Hemment	23 Whitethorn Gardens

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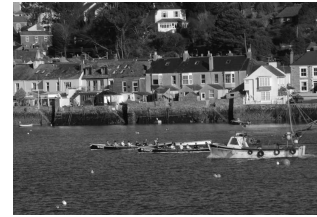
## **In this issue:**

Chairman's Letter

Recipe

Cornwall vs Croydon

(Reflections of student life in Cornwall from a  
Croydon Resident)



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Addiscombe

(The story of when the president of Botswana  
lived in Addiscombe)



Croydon Symphony Orchestra



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020 8405 3338

Email: [chairman@thespra.org.uk](mailto:chairman@thespra.org.uk)

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Vacant

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Or contact us at  
[newsfeed@thespra.org.uk](mailto:newsfeed@thespra.org.uk)

Views published in this magazine are not necessarily those of the association. To advertise with us please contact the Secretary. Rates start from £12.50 per quarter page with discounts for annual bookings.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lanfranc Boys' Disaster

On 9<sup>th</sup> August 1961, a school trip from Lanfranc Boys' School to Stavanger in Norway ended in tragedy when their Viking plane crashed into Holtacheia mountain as they were approaching their destination. There were no survivors. Thirty four boys (most aged 14 years), two teachers and three aircrew were killed.

The news stunned the whole Borough. There were over 700 mourners at the funeral and 1,750 wreaths lined the paths of the cemetery. By 25<sup>th</sup> August 1961, 100,000 people had visited the grave.

To mark this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary there will be a service at the Memorial in Thornton Road Cemetery on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August and on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August there will be a Civic Service in the Parish Church, followed by a reception hosted by the Mayor for the families and close friends.

Rosalind Jones, a sister of one of the boys, has written a book called 'The Lanfranc Boys' which will be launched with a book signing at Waterstones's bookshop in the Whitgift Centre, Croydon on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, between 11am and 3.00pm. Any profits will go to the Red Cross which brought the bodies down from the mountain.

For further information please go to [www.lanfranc-holtaheia.co.uk](http://www.lanfranc-holtaheia.co.uk) or contact Joan Matlock at [joanmatlock@btinternet.com](mailto:joanmatlock@btinternet.com) or on 020 8656 0926.



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## Chairman's Letter

Dear neighbours

Following our campaigns, building work has now begun on both Fryston Avenue and Sefton Road. On the former two family homes are being erected where originally an application for six was planned; on the latter a new home for St Mildred's Archdeacon instead of 10 flats.

There is potentially good news for Ashurst Walk as the Council has consented to the upgraded sub power station being sited in Addiscombe Recreation Ground although there are still some hurdles to jump.

The Association has been approached by someone offering to help our senior residents with their gardening. If you know of an elderly neighbour who needs a hand then please let us know.

At our last Committee meeting, it was agreed that we would look into forming a Friends of Addiscombe Recreation Ground group. If you can help support this activity, again please let us know. There is a space free in the park for a memorial bench at a cost of approximately £1,100.

We urgently require help in getting our new website up and running. If you are familiar with uploading website content please contact us. The website could be a very valuable asset to us but only if it is kept up to date.

The Association is attending regular meetings being held by Gavin Barwell, MP for residents' associations in his constituency. It is proving a useful way of keeping in touch with the concerns of Associations near us and helping to build the pan-Croydon group we discussed at our last AGM.

The May Bank Holiday Addiscombe Carnival proved to be another successful one with young and old alike having a wonderful time.

The Association offers warm congratulations to Cllr Avril Slipper who has completed her term as mayor.

With new businesses continuing to arrive in Addiscombe—there is a new vet's surgery and gardening shop on Lower Addiscombe Road—spare a smile and a thank you in appreciation to the council workers who sweep up after us.

*James Maloney*

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## Croydon Symphony Orchestra

The Croydon Symphony Orchestra is proud to host the biannual finale to the Croydon Concerto Competition. We celebrate the talent of five young soloists who will each perform a movement from a concerto in the concert. The winner will be decided by the audience, a panel of judges and the orchestra. This year also marks the 90<sup>th</sup> season of the Croydon Symphony Orchestra. To celebrate, we will play works by Samuel Coleridge Taylor, Croydon's own composer and Elgar, who was a great friend of our founder W H Reed.

### ***Croydon Concerto Competition Finale***

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Solo Piano - Peter Foggitt

Shostakovich Cello Concerto no. 1, 1st Movt

Solo Cello - Joel Sandelson

Poulenc arr. Berkeley Flute Sonata

1st & 3rd Movts.

Solo Flute - Mizuki Shindo

Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, Finale

Solo Violin - Yuka Ishizuka

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto no.1 ,1st Movt

Solo Piano - Jessica Zhu

Coleridge-Taylor Petit Suite de Concert, Caprice

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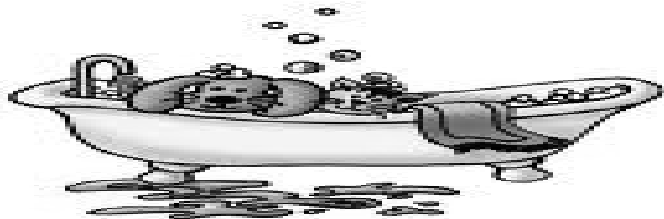


1989-2011

# 21st Annual General Meeting

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## **Spicy Grilled Mackerel with Spring Onion Potato and Salad**

### ***Ingredients***

4 large mackerel  
4 tablespoons flour  
2 teaspoons hot paprika  
4 chopped spring onions  
potatoes  
salad

### ***Method***

1. First prepare a salad of your choice.
2. Peel and cook the potatoes.
3. While the potatoes are cooking, add a teaspoon of paprika and some salt and pepper to the flour. Lay the mackerel fillets in the flour mixture so they are coated on each side.
4. Lay the floured fillets on a baking tray and grill for about 3 minutes on each side under a hot grill until they are golden in colour. ( The oils in the fish will make the coating a tasty crust.)
5. Mash the potatoes and mix in the spring onions.
6. Serve!

This meal will serve four hungry people. Enjoy!

In 1956, the couple were finally given permission to leave London and return to Botswana. Current President Ian Khama, now 58, remembers: "I think I was about three and a half, years old when I left the country. The one thing that always stands out clearly is the party that was given for my farewell party by the nursery school that I attended at the time and I think they made a cake in the shape of an aeroplane because I was going to be flying over."

Exile had given Khama far more political celebrity than he had had before. Back home, Khama set up the Bechuanaland Democratic Party and campaigned for independence. He became the first President of the Republic of Botswana in 1966, saying, "We stand virtually alone in our belief that a non-racial society can work now". Under their first democratic government, Botswana became the fastest developing economy in the world and newly discovered diamond deposits paid for a new social infrastructure. Khama also upheld democracy in a corrupt region, damaged by civil war.

Despite his family's experience, President Ian Khama, who is half-British by blood, said that his father didn't want him and his brothers and sisters to grow up "bearing any grudges at what had happened" in Britain and that he had never heard his father "express any kind of bitterness". This forgiving and far seeing attitude clearly helped Seretse to guide Botswana to a more prosperous and happy time, to be re-elected twice before his premature death in 1980. Lady Ruth Khama became President of the Botswanan Red Cross and continued to work for charity until her death in 2002. Their friend, Julius Nyerere, the late president of Tanzania, said "The romance of Seretse and Ruth was one of the great love stories of the world."

**African President Exiled to Addiscombe for Love**



If you have read or watched Alexander McCall's 'Lady Detective' series, set in Botswana, you may remember Mma Ramotswe's adoration of Seretse Khama, the first President of Botswana. You probably don't know that Khama, a hugely important figure for African democracy, used to live in Addiscombe, banished from his homeland due to the woman he loved. His eldest son Ian, who is the current President of Botswana, also spent his early childhood here.

Seretse Khama (1921-1980) was born to be Kgosi (chief) of the Bama-Ngwato tribe in Botswana, in southern Africa, which was then known as Bechuanaland, a British Protectorate. He studied Law at Balliol College, Oxford, in 1945 and then The Inner Temple, London. However, despite this English education, his position changed when he married Ruth William, a young English woman, in 1948. They were forced to marry in a civil ceremony at Kensington registry office, as no church would accept them. Ruth experienced abuse from strangers on the streets of London and Oxford. The British government, were worried that the marriage would disrupt trading with South Africa, who had banned all inter-racial marriages under the system of apartheid and could even lead to South Africa invading Bechuanaland. He and his wife also faced fierce opposition from his tribe.

Despite an investigation which declared Khama "eminently fit to rule", he was exiled to England in 1950. He moved to Croydon and lived in Mapledale Avenue with Ruth and his eldest son, Ian, who is the current President of Botswana. Although inter-racial marriages were extremely uncommon, especially in such a suburban area, it is reported that the couple didn't experience any obvious problems. David Davis, a reporter for 'the Croydon Times', remembers being invited round for cups of tea.



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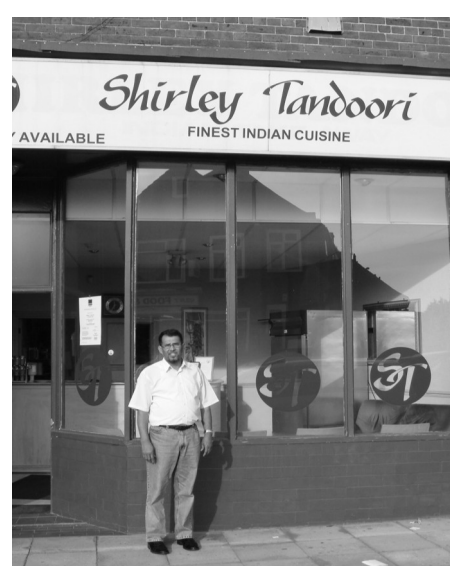
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## **CAN YOU HELP SAVE ADDISCOMBE UNITY CLUB?**

The Unity Club for senior citizens is held in the church hall at Our Lady of the Annunciation, Bingham Road every Friday afternoon and recently celebrated its 50th birthday.

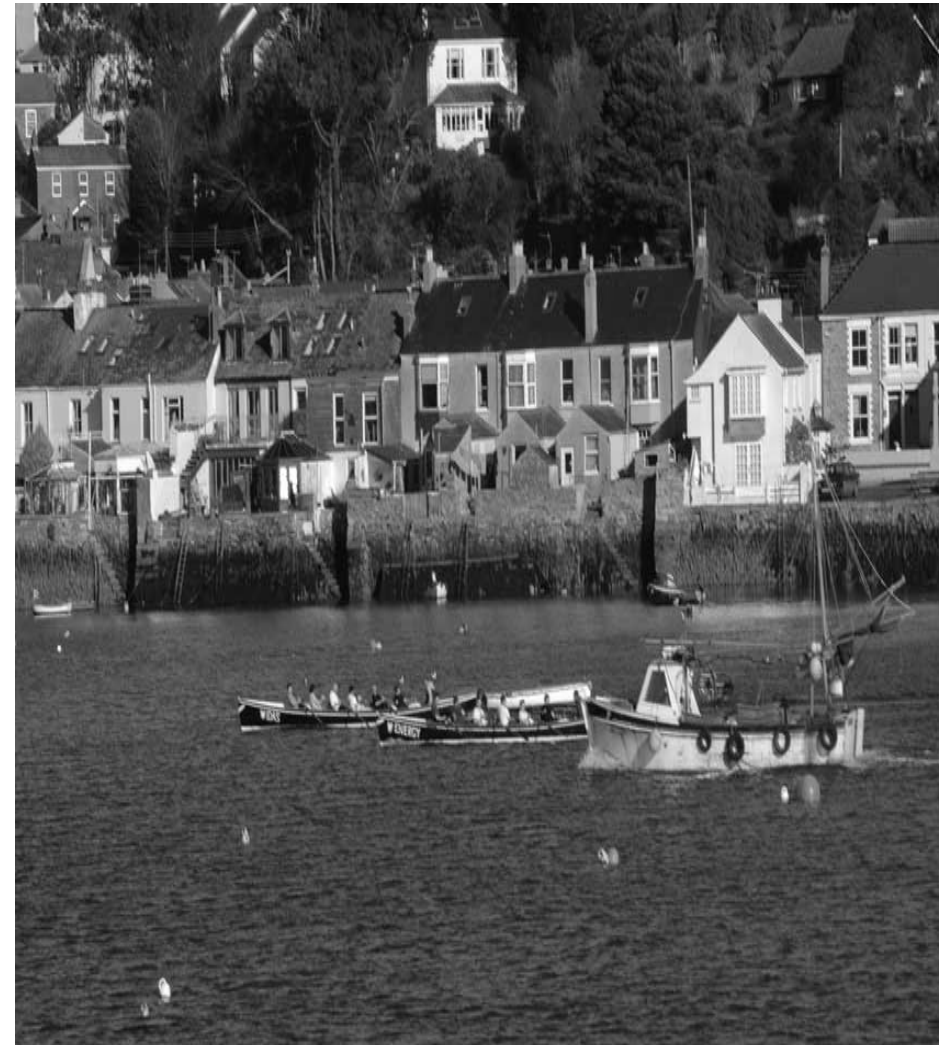
We currently have 70 members, but unless we can recruit new committee members we will find it increasingly difficult to carry on as the current committee are all over 80 and wish to stand down and take a well earned break. It really would be a very sad day if the club had to cease. For many of our members it is their only social meeting of the week and they would be devastated if the club had to close.

Please do give serious consideration to this appeal for help. The club provides a great service to the local community and is open to people of all faiths or none. Officers for the committee cover treasurer, secretary, steward etc.

Please contact Marguerite Warner on: 0208 654 5918 for any further information.

6. Politeness. Everybody thanks the bus drivers.

A small act of courtesy which shows a big difference is attitude. After a (one off) terrible journey with bad service, my friend, a west country native, decided that the driver didn't need his gratitude and yet sure enough, as he left the bus, a respectful "thank you" passed his lips. "I couldn't do it." He said miserably, "but I tried to say it less politely."



## Cornwall vs. Croydon

As a lifelong resident of Croydon, and a hardened city dweller, I found the move to the small Cornish town of Falmouth for university, a shock to the system. These are a few differences, good and bad, that I've noticed in my time here.

1. They walk so slowly. The laid back pace of life here means that rather than rushing about their business to the extent that they knock each other down, the Cornish like to amble and saunter. This makes the atmosphere very pleasant, but it does mean that standing in Falmouth High Street is akin to watching a replay of 'Dawn of the Dead'.
2. Never try to go anywhere on a Sunday. Public transport? Forget it. Just don't put yourself through the strain.
3. There are only three, small nightclubs. This may not seem important if you have absolutely no interest in going clubbing, or are over the age of thirty. But this is a town of 5000 students, with only one tacky club, one tiny basement and something that looks like it came out of Benidorm in the 1970s, complete with purple, patterned carpet and the smell of the 1000 beers that have been spilled on it.
4. On the other hand, if you ever come down here on holiday, try out the pubs. There are enough to satisfy even the most hardened ale drinker. Traditional pubs, student dives, cocktail bars, boating inns, a bar especially devoted to rum... the list goes on.
5. It's true what they say, you do seem to be able to trust the folk down here more. After a lifetime following the three simple rules: no belongings on show, no dawdling and no eye contact, it's an unusual feeling to know that I could stand in the middle of the High Street, with my wallet around in one hand, my i-phone flashing in the other and shout "I've got £50!", without needing to be too worried. Of course, even in Cornwall I wouldn't try this in many other places and of course, being a Croydoner, I still trust nobody.

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