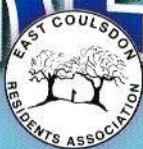
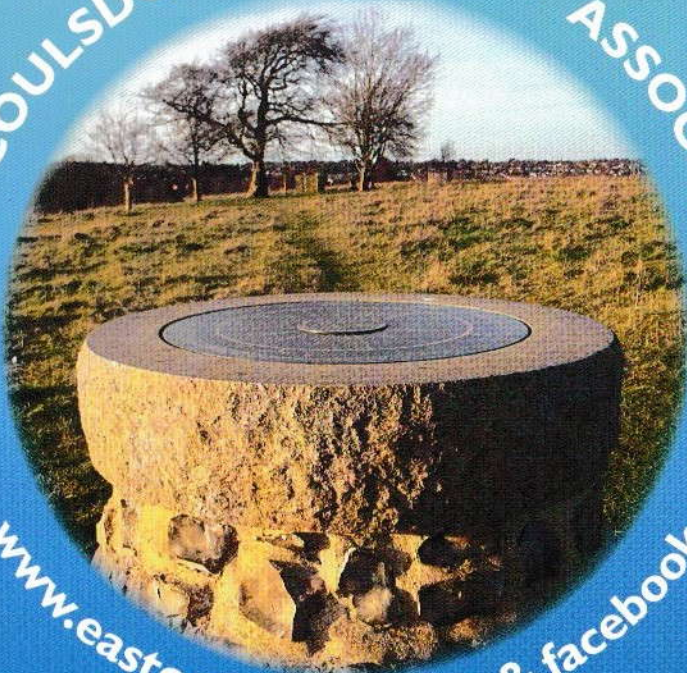


# THE REVIEW



EAST COULSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



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<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs Maureen Levy 22 Fairdene Road, CR5 1RA mcb.l@btinternet.com Tel: 01737 555231
<b>Website</b>	Ms Emma Gawen mikeryan2143@gmail.com
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### Ward Councillors, GLA member & MP

<b>Old Coulsdon</b>	Margaret Bird steve.hollands@croydon.gov.uk
<b>Coulsdon Town</b>	Steve Hollands luke.clancy@croydon.gov.uk
	Mario Creatura mario.creatura@croydon.gov.uk
	Ian Parker ian.parker@croydon.gov.uk
<b>GLA Member</b>	Neil Garratt neil.garratt@london.gov.uk
<b>MP</b>	Chris Philp chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk

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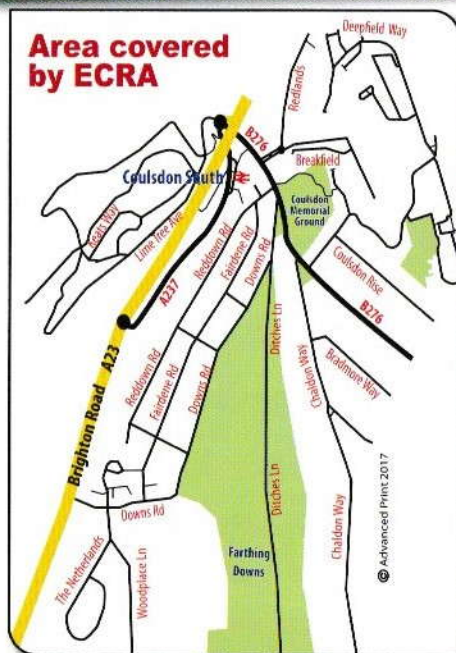
We are looking for volunteers to act as road stewards – delivering The Review four times a year and collecting subscriptions.

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## Editorial

There seems to be a certain buzz in Coulsdon town centre lately – new businesses are opening up and old businesses are offering new and exciting services. Please do support our local shops, cafes and restaurants as they find their feet again. There's plenty of choice for a great evening out in Coulsdon, whether you are looking for somewhere to enjoy a drink with friends, or a meal to celebrate a special occasion (or simply Friday night!). See 'What's Happening In and Around Coulsdon' on pages 8 and 9 for a rundown of what's new on the high street.

The referendum for Directly Elected Mayor took place on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The result was an overwhelming vote in favour of changing the council from the strong leader model to one led by a Directly Elected Mayor. The voting was as follows:

Leader and Cabinet model 11,519 Directly Elected Mayor model 47,165.

However, the turnout was quite low at 58,897 (21%). The next step is for the council to agree the new constitution as the role of the directly elected Mayor, how the Mayor will be able to select their cabinet members and what happens to the existing ceremonial Mayor. It is clear the new Mayor will automatically become the leader of the Council after the next local elections in May 2021. The 70 ordinary councillors will still represent their wards; their other main role will be scrutiny of the Mayor and the budget. To date the Conservatives have selected their candidate and Labour, Lib Dems and Greens are in the process of doing so.

**Marlpit Lane Bowling Green** has now closed for the end of the season, but maintenance of the green continues during the winter. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Maureen (Chair of Friends of Marlpit Lane Bowling Green) on 01737 555231.

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# Four-in-Hand to Brighton and Back

## The Story of James Selby's Attempt to Establish a Speed Record for London To Brighton and Return by Horse Drawn Carriage

by Eric Jenkinson



hand driving as it was also known, became a pastime of rich gentry.

Few people possessed the skills and strength to control four horses in harness. Carriage Clubs grew up in and around London usually organised around wealthy titled aristocrats for whom owning and driving their own coach and four became a status symbol. Among the most notable driving clubs were the Richmond Driving Club, the President of which was Lord William Lennox, Earl of Chesterfield and the Four-in-Hand Driving Club under its President, the Marquis of Stafford. The Clubs used to meet regularly in Hyde Park or Greenwich Park and parade annually along routes which ended with a sumptuous meal at a convenient hostelry. These occasions often received Royal patronage from the Prince and Princess of Wales and drew large crowds to watch the colourful spectacle. Lord William Lennox, for example, is recorded as having driven a blue and red coach with four bay horses while Lord Alfred Paget was driving a yellow and blue coach with a mixed team.



James W Selby was altogether a more professional coachman or "Whip" as four-in-hand coach drivers were known. Selby was born in 1844. His father owned a hotel which had a livery stable. James worked in an auctioneer's office, but he spent his free time in the hotel stables. By 1870, aged 26, Selby was driving four-in-hand regularly and soon had his own coach, the "Old Times". In the mid-1880s he was the pre-eminent "Whip" of his time. He was a well-known figure on the Brighton Road for over 20 years. In addition to his reputation as a highly professional coachman, Selby became a partner in a coach building firm. Selby was reputed to have "taught more men to drive in England than any man", according to one newspaper.

*Left: James 'Jem' Selby Photo: HW Macdonald from The Brighton Road by C G Harper, 1906*

In the 1800s, many well-to-do gentlemen were members of sporting clubs such as a London-based club called the Pelicans. Gatherings of such clubs were usually occasions for informal wagers on sporting events. As interest in four-in-hand carriage driving gained in popularity, many club members invested in their own four-in-hand team or bought a part share in a carriage. They would then pay significant sums for the privilege of a drive on a route for the fun and thrill. At Ascot in 1888, James Selby was with some of his Pelican Club friends when a newspaper issued a challenge of a thousand guineas that a coach could not be driven to Brighton and back in under eight hours. In those days, the usual time for the one-way journey was four hours 21 minutes. Egged on by six of his Pelican friends, who also funded him, James Selby accepted.

*(continued on page 6)*

## Four-in-Hand to Brighton and Back

*(continued from page 5)*

So it was that at 10 am on 13th July, James Selby's own coach, "Old Times", departed the White Horse Cellars outside Hatchett's Hotel in Piccadilly with Selby on the driver's box. On board were 6 of his fellow "Pelicans" as passengers, plus a guard. The race was officially started at 10.00am precisely by Mr. Percy Edwards, a watchmaker of Piccadilly, with the order "Let go". The coach was seen off by a crowd of coaching enthusiasts. Police in London and all along the route had been positioned at key junctions to ensure a smooth passage. Ostlers were at identified Coaching Inns along the way with teams of replacement horses. There were 13 such changes during the whole journey. Some changes were completed in record times as low as 40 seconds. James Selby himself never left his seat the whole journey to Brighton and back.

From Piccadilly he crossed the Thames via the Chelsea suspension bridge then on to the Horse and Groom Inn at Streatham at 10.28am where the first change of horses took place in a time of only 40 seconds. The Old Times raced through West Croydon at 10.45am and maintained a speed of 13 mph to the Windsor Castle, Purley Bottom, for the second change. After Merstham, despite heavy ground when he left Redhill, Selby was able to increase his speed to 20mph through Earlswood until he reached Horley at 11.51am. The coach lost 2 minutes on the run to Crawley when it was held up at a railway level crossing.



*Above: J W Selby outside the White Horse Cellar c1888 by Alfred S Bishop © Museum of London*

Fresh horses were harnessed at Peas Pottage at 12.23am. After which Selby's route took him through Handcross and Cuckfield to Friars Oak which he reached at 1.17pm for another change of horses. The Pelicans raced on to Patcham for the final change of the outward journey. The Old Times pulled to a halt at the Old Ship Inn in Brighton at 1.56pm, making a time of 3 hours 56 minutes for the outward leg.

At the Old Ship, the horses were merely turned around and Selby began the return journey after a matter of minutes. A large crowd cheered the Old Times off and at various points along the return route bouquets of flowers were tossed at the speeding coach by well-wishers. Taking the same route home, and with fresh horses at the same Inns, Selby was back in Piccadilly and pulled up outside Hatchett's Hotel at 5.50pm. Selby was received with tremendous enthusiasm by a large crowd reported to number "half of London". He had achieved the return journey of 108 miles with 10 minutes to spare, winning the wager for his backers who promptly rewarded him with the 1000 guineas prize.

Sadly, James Selby did not have long to enjoy his winnings. He died of chronic bronchitis only 5 months later in December 1888 at the age of 44. The demands of his sensational run, combined with those of his lifestyle in general - driving his coach day after day to a relentless schedule in all conditions (sometimes his top hat froze on his head and had to be eased off with hot water) – and overseeing his business ventures until late at night, undoubtedly contributed to Selby's premature death.

*(continued on page 7)*

## Four-in-Hand to Brighton and Back

(continued from page 6)

His funeral was spectacular. Starting from his home on the Edgeware Road, the cortège was said to be nearly a mile long. He was buried in Highgate Cemetery. Selby's memorial is decorated with a coachman's horn and whip while on the surrounding posts are 16 inverted horseshoes to signify that his luck had run out. Selby's iconic carriage, the Old Times, was sold to Bertram Mills, of circus fame. At the time of Selby's death, Bertram Mills was working for his father's funeral and coachbuilding company and had developed a passion for driving four-in-hand. After Bertram's army service during the Great War, he founded the Bertram Mills Circus for which he became famous.

An ironic postscript to James Selby's celebrated feat on the London-Brighton road. Neither on his outward journey (3 hrs. 56 mins.), nor on the return (3 hrs. 54 mins.), did the Old Times equal the all-time record for a one-way run established by the coach "Criterion" 65 years earlier. On 4 February 1834, "Criterion", driven by coachman Charles Harbour, carried the speech King William IV was to deliver on the State Opening of Parliament down from London to The King in Brighton in 3 hrs. 40 mins. That record for a one-way journey by coach and four has never been beaten.

Right: The grave of James William Selby Highgate Cemetery ©Nick Garrod Flickr.com



## Bird's Eye View

By John Birkett, RSPB Croydon Local Group

Summer is over and Autumn is with us. And birds are on the move. Some of our summer visitors have already left; swifts vanish back to Africa around the end of July and August has seen blackcaps and willow warblers on the move. The first birds of prey have been passing over, including a honey buzzard that one observer had over his garden to which he was alerted by a crow alarm calling. There is still a chance of an osprey or marsh harrier heading south and, a few days before writing this, flocks of common buzzards had been seen. September saw more departures and is the main month when chiffchaffs turn up in gardens. Some swallows and house martins may still be raising young, but they too will be going before long, so keep your eyes open for small flocks passing overhead or feeding up over bodies of water. Before you know it, the winter visitors will be arriving. Signs of winter have already been seen in the form of teal, shoveler and water rail at South Norwood Country Park.

We would love to know what you see in and around Croydon by email - [johnbirkett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnbirkett@hotmail.co.uk) or Twitter - @JohnBirkett3 (The Croydon Birder). To find out more about some of the birds seen in Croydon have a look at the Croydon Birders website:

[http://croydon-birders.wikia.com/wiki/Latest\\_News](http://croydon-birders.wikia.com/wiki/Latest_News)



Left: Chiffchaff by Alan Pearson

# What's Happening in and Around Coulsdon

by Charles King

**Coulsdon Town Centre:** Certainly, a lot has been going on in the town centre since the last Review. There are a number of new outlets that have opened their doors in Coulsdon. Those in the Brighton Road include: *Get Fired Ceramic and Craft Café* ([www.getfired.co.uk](http://www.getfired.co.uk) 020 8660 3188), *Mazu Mediterranean Restaurant* (020 8660 5467) and *Admiral Minicabs* (020 8668 8888).



While new in Chipstead Valley Road are *Puzzle Kitchens* ([www.puzzlekitchens.co.uk](http://www.puzzlekitchens.co.uk) 020 3441 1448) and *SaladMaster* healthy cooking and eating (020 8703 1561). *Bella's Coffee* now has evening entertainment ([www.facebook.com/Bellasteastorex](http://www.facebook.com/Bellasteastorex) 07584 353693)



*Barrington Cleaners* reopened in October as a cleaners and for the sale of bric-a-brac and vintage items. *Rowe Radcliffe Solicitors* have moved to Caterham Valley (new phone number. 01883 347823). *Bombay Delicious* is turning into a restaurant. *Marble Marble* tile shop will become *Bliss Caffé*, a dessert cafe.

**Lion Green car park:** the additional short-term bays have now been marked out.

**The NHS** are in the process of completing the design of the new Medical Centre behind the Nursery in Chipstead Valley Road. The council has now given permission for the rest of the former CALAT site to become a NHS Kidney Dialysis Centre. If this goes ahead the existing Community Centre would remain at Barrie Close.

(continued on page 9)



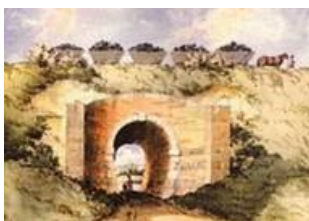
# What's Happening in and Around Coulsdon

(continued from page 8)

**Coulsdon Art Trail:** Earlier in the year we were able to put the first three finials on top of the fingerposts in Coulsdon town centre: **Cuthered**, whom the town was named after, the **first SCC cricket match** on Lion Green and the **Greater Yellow Rattle** that grows prolific on Farthing Downs and Happy Valley. Thanks to a number of generous donations we have now been able to add two more: **Emmeline Pankhurst** (right), who spoke on Votes for Women three times at Smitham Parish Hall (on the site of the Comrades club) on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 1911 and the Godstone extension of the **Surrey Iron Railway** (1805-1838), Britain's first public Railway, which crossed



Chipstead Valley Road on a bridge. The embankment can still be seen at the rear of Lion Green car park. The Finial (far left) is based on the Painting of the of the Bridge Over Chipstead Valley Road, from the National Railway Museum (left).



There are seven more fingerposts to do, and other finials will commemorate the Red Lion pub, the first TV broadcast across the Atlantic. These will be done as soon as can raise the money. If you would like to make a donation, please contact us on [info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk](mailto:info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk) or 01737 553841.

**Cane Hill Park:** Henry Hall House (the admin block) is nearing completion, with the northern wing and centre section complete. The landscaping of the frontage and replacing the steps is now in progress.

Barratts have now finished all the houses. The second block in Iron Railway Close is still being updated. Still no decisions on the bottom site.



**In and around Coulsdon:** Yulefest is not likely to take place again this year due to Covid restrictions. However, the Christmas Lights turn on in Old Coulsdon will go ahead on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021 from 4pm. The lights have to be renewed every five years and the Lights Committee are now collecting again. If you wish to make a donation you can do so at **Danny's Fish and Chip Shop**.



**Hydro Hounds** ([www.hydrohounds.co.uk](http://www.hydrohounds.co.uk) 020 8763 2020) have now moved from Coulsdon to the Tudor Parade in Old Coulsdon.

Sadly, the **Jack and Jill** pub (The Mount) has finally closed its doors.

# Looking Back and Looking Forward on the Coulsdon Commons

*by Tom Oliver, City of London Corporation*



As the days draw in, the wildflowers have nearly all set seed and the birds have stocked up on the bounty of autumn berries we look towards an exciting period of winter work on the four Coulsdon Commons – an ideal time to carry out practical work outside of the bird-nesting season. As the Commons move into

their dormant state, work begins with volunteers helping the Rangers to carry out vital conservation projects and management tasks such as laying our old traditional hedgerows, coppicing hazel trees, and clearing scrub to maintain our pockets of rare chalk grassland habitat.

Projects and tasks are planned as part of a package to manage these greenspaces for the present and for the future. Most tasks this winter will be to restore and maintain the ideal habitat conditions needed for our rarest and often ficklest species of wildflowers, butterflies and birds. Much of these projects have been part of our 10-year management plans for each site for which we have almost finished writing up the plans for 2021-2031.

For us, considering a long view is in fact nothing new and since 1873 these greenspaces have preserved our local downland and woodland landscape from the ever-encroaching loom of development. Whilst the landscape around the local area has changed, often dramatically, the four Coulsdon Commons have remained and thrived, providing a home for rare and threatened plants and animals as well as an oasis of calm for local residents. Owned and managed by the City of London, these four sites have the highest level of protection from their own act of parliament and are further safeguarded by the National Nature Reserve status when they formed the South London Downs NNR meaning they cannot be built on which was remarkable foresight even for 1873 considering London's rapid expansion. The idea to save these sites predates the establishment of the National Trust (1895), the Wildlife Trust (1912) and well before our first National Parks were designated in 1951.



The start of autumn was also marked by the results of the Green Heritage Award for 2021. This has been a bumper year and, for the first time ever, we have received both the Green Flag Award and Green Heritage Award for Coulsdon Common, Farthing Downs, Riddlesdown and Kenley Common. Hosted by the charity Keep Britain Tidy, these awards are a marker of

high-quality green spaces and achieving them has been thanks to the hard work of the Rangers and volunteers.

If you are interested about volunteering, wildlife and what we've been up to lately across the four Coulsdon Commons, we post a regular monthly e-newsletter. To subscribe, please visit <https://bit.ly/3nppZ15> or find us on Facebook at @citycommonsofficial.



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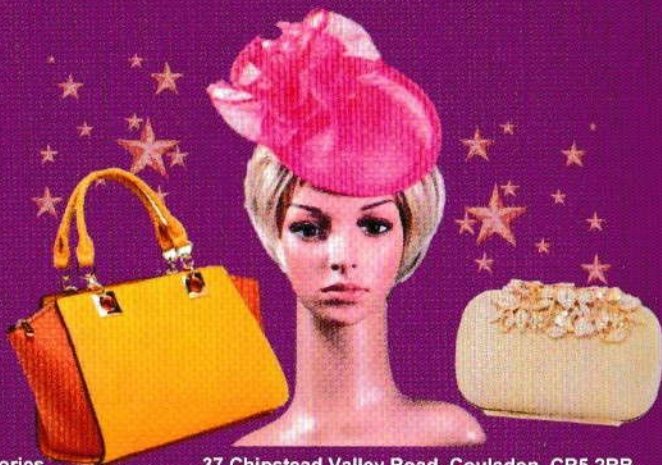
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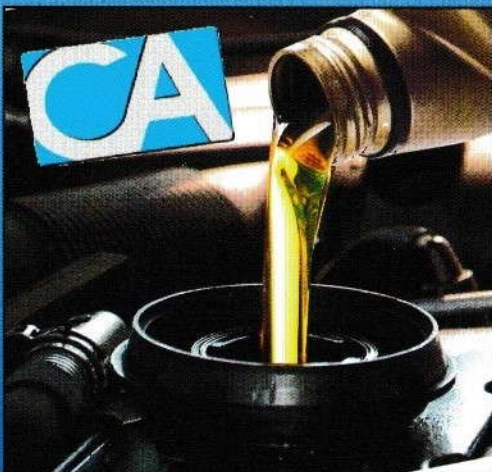
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## Business in Coulsdon

*by Maxine Leyland*

I moved to Coulsdon in 1988, attracted by the station and bus stops. I used local shops, particularly Perrins (greengrocer) and Martin James (butcher). They are missed.

Last year ECRA Committee agreed that we should thank those local businesses who remained open during Lockdown 1. We put a note on our Facebook page, belatedly realising that some traders were unlikely to see the message. I offered to deliver copies of the letter to individual traders. Thinking that there would be about 25 to 30, how complicated could it be?

We were wrong. 70 local businesses were offering services to customers; the service may have been delivered differently but it was still there. There was queuing and waiting but we managed. We concentrated initially on the town centre and Old Coulsdon but realised that Lacey Green, Taunton Lane, Rickman Hill and Stoats Nest should also know that they were appreciated for their efforts. We were grateful that they were there.

After the first lockdown I did a survey/census of local businesses. If there had been 70 businesses trading during lockdown, how many are there normally? The answer is 276. The Ullswater estate alone has 52 businesses.

Coulsdon has almost everything it needs – supermarkets, convenience stores, cafes, bars, hardware, hairdressers, barbers, solicitors, chemists, opticians, GP surgeries, dentists, nail bars and beauticians, car accessories, a photographer, fashion accessories and restaurants. We have a pub and two social clubs

If we want these businesses to be successful, we need to use them. ECRA is campaigning to have more reasonable parking provision in the town centre suggesting 1 hour free and 1 hour paid for town centre parking. We have looked at other towns which appear to be thriving and they encourage visitors with an interesting range of shops and facilities and adequate parking.

## Farthing Downs Nature Trail

In September the **Friends of Farthing Downs and Happy Valley** along with Croydon Council and the City of London launched the foreign language version of their nature trail using QR codes app on your mobile phone.

The QR code will provide information about the location of any of the 29 posts in English, French, Hindi or Polish. For more information visit: [www.friendsoffarthingdowns.co.uk](http://www.friendsoffarthingdowns.co.uk)



# Foreign Travel: Brexit and COVID

*by Charles King*

Now that we have returned to some form of normality, or the “new normal”, many of the restrictions on foreign travel have been lifted or changed. However, there are number of conditions applying to travel to some countries resulting from both Brexit and Covid. It is a constantly changing situation and can change between booking a holiday, a flight, a ferry or Eurostar train and actually travelling, so it is important that you check the Government web site [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice) before booking, and again before travelling.

These are some of the things that have changed:

- The UK Government no longer operates the Red, Amber and Green list for foreign travel, but says it is only suspended and could still be reintroduced if the Covid situation worsens in any particular country.
- Covid testing: you need to check if the country you are visiting requires a Covid test prior to flying and if so, which test you need. Also check when you need to do it; some countries are basing the time frame on arrival time not departure time.
- Most countries require evidence of being double jabbed. A vaccine passport can be obtained from the NHS web site or App [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/get-digital-covid-pass](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/get-digital-covid-pass) If you can't download the app you can phone 119. The NHS covid pass has a time limit of 30 days and can be refreshed by logging in again.
- On returning to the UK, if you are double vaccinated you will not have to self-isolate. You will need to have a covid lateral flow test within two days and this must be booked prior to travel. You will also have to fill in a locator form 48 hours prior to arrival <https://www.gov.uk/provide-journey-contact-details-before-travel-uk>
- Since Brexit, you will need at least three months left on your passport after the day of travel. However, the original advice was six months and the passport office is still recommending this. Some airlines also still require six months.
- A further complication is the ten-year rule, which states that your passport must be less than ten years old on the day after you travel. Some UK passports can be valid for ten years and six months. If you have passed the nine years and nine months date, you may not be able to travel: [www.gov.uk/guidance/passport-rules-for-travel-to-europe](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/passport-rules-for-travel-to-europe)
- Remember you can only visit the EU for 90 days in 180 days and that applies to the whole EU, not individual countries.
- If you need to renew your passport you can do this electronically at Coulsdon Post Office.
- Driving in the EU has also changed your photo driving licence is valid, but if you only have a paper licence you will need an international one for that country. If you are driving through France to Spain, you will need two different ones. These can be obtained from Coulsdon Post Office. You also need to check if you require a Green Insurance Card.
- From 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 GB stickers are not valid and you now have to have a UK sticker in its place. [www.gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-the-eu](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-the-eu)
- Your existing UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) will remain valid until it expires. If it has already expired, you can now obtain a new UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). However, it is not valid in Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Switzerland. <https://www.ghic.org.uk/Internet/startApplication.do>



## ECRA AGM Highlights

by Charles King

After some 18 months we were able to hold an AGM in person at the Old Coulsdon Congregational church on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021. It was nice to see that it was well attended, although due to social distancing rules we were not able to offer refreshments this time.

The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer all gave their annual reports and explained how we had been and were still operating during the Covid pandemic, working on behalf of our residents. We continued to communicate with residents through The Review, website, eblast and Facebook.

Neil Marshall, who had been responsible for setting up the ECRA Facebook page, retired from the committee after 10 years. Scott Freeman retired from the committee earlier in the year because of increased evening commitments at Chelsea Football Club. Both were thanked for their work. The officers and the rest of the committee were re-elected, unopposed.

Chris Philp MP gave a report on what was happening in Parliament and the issues he had taken up locally, including the referendum for a directly elected Mayor. Cllr Ian Parker gave an update on what was happening in Croydon council and issues that regularly come up at their surgery. Both took questions from the floor. The local Police report was circulated.

The main Guest speaker was Amish Patel from **Valley Pharmacy** who had set up the St Aidan's Vaccination Centre as part of the national vaccination programme. He explained how his pharmacy had responded to the Government's requests for additional pharmacy-led centres. He explained that the centre could not run without the help of St Aidan's church and the magnificent help of the local volunteers, who help with the administration, and many of them had now been trained up to give vaccine injections as well.

He was accompanied by Victoria Burrows and Sue Carr, two of his volunteers, who explained their desire to help the local community, how they got involved and the roles they took on, which included reassuring and looking after vulnerable people and those with reservations about the vaccine. You would be surprised that the most unlikely people can be frightened of needles.

Amish explained importance of being vaccinated in managing the pandemic. To date they had completed over 48,000 vaccine injections (now over 50,000) and on their busiest day (due in part to a computer glitch which allowed over-booking) they had stayed late and completed 760 vaccine injections. Amish, Victoria and Sue were thanked for all they have been doing on our behalf. See **Valley Pharmacy's** advert on page 18.

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# Business Interview – Get Fired Ceramic and Craft Café

by Charles King



For this Review I went to one of Coulsdon's bright and exciting new businesses - ***Get Fired Ceramic and Craft Café*** and interviewed Kirsten the owner and long-time Coulsdon resident. Kirsten grew up in Coulsdon and attended Woodcote school and now lives in Old Coulsdon with her husband and daughter.

Get Fired started some 18 years ago in Purley. Kirsten enjoyed working there for 13 years as the manager. What she liked was

sharing her skills with the local community and providing the opportunity for both adults and children to learn about pottery and try their painting skills and more importantly to go away with a lasting memory, a visual reminder of their work which they can keep or pass on to a close relative or friend.

Recently the lease of the Purley shop was due to expire and the existing owner decided it was time to retire. After some thought Kirsten decided the business was too important and beneficial to the local people to lose. She decided that if she could find a more suitable local premises, she would take over the business. Lucky for us she found and was able to secure a new shop in Brighton Road, Coulsdon. Starting a business adventure during covid pandemic proved a little difficult to start. However, since the end of lockdown in the summer business has started to take off in Coulsdon for Kirsten and her team who run the shop.



The idea is simple: pottery painting which you can choose from one of over 200 Bisque pieces that range from animals, cars, clocks, mugs, plates, vases and more. You create your own artistic style either direct or using stencils stamps and sponges. Kirsten or one of her team will help and guide you. When you have finished, they will get fired on site in the kiln and you collect it in two weeks. All their colours are

non-toxic and washable which can safely be removed from children's hands, faces and clothes.

Get Fired not only caters for individuals; they can host parties both for children and adults. During the course of the year, many groups visit including scouts, guides and the local WI. There are special event evenings suitable for all ages. Christmas time is very popular, including workshops and baby prints.

You can book online at [www.getfired.co.uk/bookings](http://www.getfired.co.uk/bookings) or contact them on 020 8660 3188.

Although plates, homeware and animals are popular, one of the most popular is baby prints of hands or feet of toddlers fired on a plate for grandparents or for children in later life. ECRA would like to thank Kirsten for her time and wish her well in this fantastic addition to Coulsdon town.



# Public Transport Report

*by Charles King*

**Trains:** A number of additional trains were added to the timetable in September to coincide with the numbers returning to work and the new school term. At present, around 75% of passengers have returned to using the trains. However, this varies from line to line locally. Coulsdon South is almost back at pre-covid levels, while the Tattenham Corner line is well below pre-covid levels. The next timetable increase will happen in December 2021. This will restore the full service at Coulsdon South with the additional peak hour Thameslink trains stopping, while there will be no change at Coulsdon Town and Woodmansterne. East Surrey Transport Committee have expressed concern about the failure to restore the peak Tattenham Corner Victoria services. GTR said they will continue to review usage on the line and if it increases the earliest for their reinstatement would be May 2022.

**Defibrillators:** GTR have announced that they will now install a defibrillator at all their stations. Both Coulsdon South and Coulsdon Town have been installed.

**Buses:** TfL has now published the results of their consultation on proposed bus services in Croydon and Sutton. Despite opposition from nearly everybody they still intend to go ahead with the changes, which actually make local bus services worse.

The main changes will be the 166 will be diverted via Pampisford Road and will not serve Purley town centre or Purley Hospital front Entrance. They do say that they could divert the 166 via the town centre and Christchurch Road, but that is subject to Croydon making some alterations to the junction of Christchurch Road and Pampisford Road. As Croydon has no money, this is unlikely to happen. The 434 would be extended from Whyteleafe to Caterham Valley, which is a good idea, but it would be diverted via the top of Kenley.

The other changes are:

- The 455 would be withdrawn from Old Lodge Lane and replaced with an extension of the 312 from South Croydon. However, it won't serve the Purley Gyratory making passengers for Purley station have to cross 10 lanes of traffic on the A22 and A23.
- The 407 from Caterham would be replaced with a new route 443, but it would not serve central Croydon where everybody wants to go.

East Surrey Transport Committee are urging people to object by emailing:

- TFL [consultations@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:consultations@tfl.gov.uk)
- London Travelwatch [enquiries@londontravelwatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@londontravelwatch.org.uk)
- Councillor Neil Garratt GLA member [neil.garratt@london.gov.uk](mailto:neil.garratt@london.gov.uk)
- Caroline Pidgeon Chair of GLA Transport Committee [caroline.pidgeon@london.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.pidgeon@london.gov.uk)

*(continued on page 21)*



# Public Transport

(continued from page 20)

**Croydon Sustainable Travel:** There is a consultation on sustainable travel in Croydon which covers walking and cycling, low neighbourhood traffic areas, 20MPH limits and more. Buried in the middle are changes to the bus stops and stands in Central Croydon. It would seem that they intend to make the western end of Katharine Street and the High Street to the Flyover one way to southbound, diverting all the northbound buses via the slip road to the flyover. The Katharine Street bus stop opposite the town hall will be removed. The existing northbound bus stop for the 60, 166 and 468 and N68 bus stop will be moved south to the other stops prior to the Flyover. This clearly stops the double run around the Fairfield Halls roundabout and reinstates the southbound flyover bus stops which is an improvement.

Covid-19 is still with us so please wear a facemask to protect both you and others unless you are exempt.



Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) was extended to the North and South Circular roads from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021. If your vehicle does not comply with the Low emission standards you will have to pay the charge of £12.50 which applies everyday, all day except Christmas day.

Remember also that the existing London wide Low Emission Zone (LEZ) applies to commercial vehicles and buses across all of London including Coulsdon. Although a number of local roads are exempt to avoid large vehicle having to U turn. These are: Coulsdon Road from the borough boundary to Marlpit Lane, Marlpit Lane, Brighton Road from the southern roundabout to Lion Green Road, Lion Green Road and Chipstead Valley Road. For more information check on TfL's web site: <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>



To check your vehicle, you can put in its registration into the TfL web site

For Low Emission Zone (LEZ) <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/low-emission-zone>

For Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>

**Steam Trains:** A number of steam trains have returned to the network on the Brighton line. The following are provisional and not confirmed: Sussex Belle Victoria to Hastings on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 approximate time 11am at Coulsdon South. The Orient Express on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December approximate time 3.30pm at Coulsdon South. However, this can be cancelled at short notice.

The following web site provides information of steam services:

[www.railadvent.co.uk/steam-locomotives-on-the-mainline](http://www.railadvent.co.uk/steam-locomotives-on-the-mainline)

On the day timings can be checked on the Real Time Trains website:

[www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/detailed/gb-nr:CDS/2021-11-25/1100](http://www.realtimetrains.co.uk/search/detailed/gb-nr:CDS/2021-11-25/1100)

## What's On

**Coulsdon Theatre Workshop, Coulsdon Community Centre  
Barrie Close, Off Chipstead Valley Road, CR5 3BE**

***The Adventures of Jason and the Argonauts***

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> at 8pm and December 12<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm

Box Office: 07709 266728 [boxoffice@twcoulsdon.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@twcoulsdon.org.uk)

<https://twcoulsdon.org.uk>



COURTYARD THEATRE  
CHIPSTEAD PLAYERS

**Chipstead Players, The Courtyard Theatre  
Hazlewood Lane, Chipstead CR5 3QU**

***Goodnight, Mr Tom*** by Michelle Magorian,

Directed by Ian Brown and adapted for the stage by David Wood

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January Evenings at 8pm, Matinees Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January at 2.15pm**



giving  
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a home



**RSPB Croydon Local Group – Monthly Illustrated Wildlife Talks in South Croydon,**

Whitgift Sports Club, Croham Manor Road, off Croham Road, South Croydon, CR2 7BG

Second Monday of each month, 2pm and again at 8pm. Admission £5. Everyone is welcome, not just RSPB members. Free refreshments. A selection of RSPB goods, nuts & seeds are on sale. Parking limited on site but free in adjacent roads.

64 & 433 buses stop nearby in Croham Road.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** “Birds of Kent”, Brian Knobbs

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January:** “Belarusian Wildlife”, Andrew Cleave MBE

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February:** “Unknown Antarctica”, Chris Collins

For information contact John Davis on 020 8640 4578 or email:

[johndaviswine1@gmail.com](mailto: johndaviswine1@gmail.com)

[www.rspb.org.uk/groups/croydon](http://www.rspb.org.uk/groups/croydon)

**Croydon Neighbourhood Care Association (CNCA)**

Do you run a group or any activities for the over 65's in your area?

CNCA has a large membership of groups across the borough, all providing services to the over 65s. We are keen to find out about other groups to join our free membership as well as details of activities for older people.

For further information our contact details are [info@cnca.org.uk](mailto:info@cnca.org.uk) Tel: 020 8662 1000



*Contact us on [info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk](mailto:info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk) to let us know about your local events and societies.*



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