

THE REVIEW



EAST COULSDON RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



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CONTENTS: WINTER 2024 ISSUE 233

Page 4: Editorial
Page 5: The Hive
Page 6: Local Elections- Photo ID
Page 7: Coulsdon Community Partnership
Page 8: What's Happening In and Around Coulsdon
Page 9: What's Happening (cont.)
Page 10: The Bourne – Croydon Parking Trial

Page 15: Gerry Cranham – Sports Photographer
Page 16: Coulsdon Art Trail
Page 17: Summer Travel Abroad
Page 19: The Business Interview – Hair & Beauty Salon
Page 20: The Business Interview (cont.)
Page 21: Public Transport Report
Page 22: What's On?

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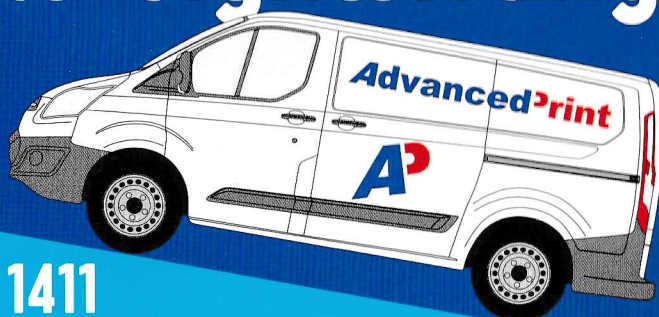
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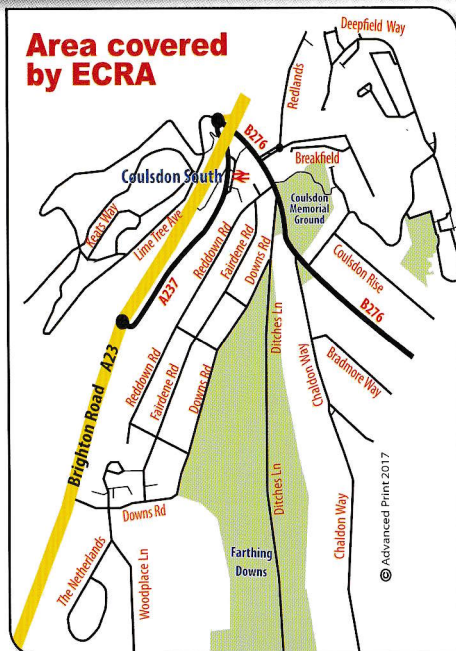
ECRA needs you!

We currently have vacancies for Road Stewards in the following Roads:

- Chaldon Way
- Fairdene Road
- Cane Hill Park

If you can help deliver The Review (quarterly) and collect subscriptions, please get in touch:

info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk



This is the last quarter in ECRA's financial year. If you have not paid your £5 subscription please could you do so. You can pay by Bank transfer or better still make out a Standing Order using the details:

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Please use your name and the first line of your address as a reference. Alternatively, you can email info@eastcoulson.co.uk and we can provide you with a reference. Thank you to those who have set up or modified their Standing Order for £5. Paying by Standing Order helps us and our Road Stewards, especially as there is no longer a bank in Coulsdon. You may continue to pay your Road Steward; if you are not sure of your Road Steward please email info@eastcoulson.co.uk.

We are pleased to say that increasing the subscription to £5 has enabled us to continue our work in Coulsdon on your behalf. This year we were able to make a donation to the Yuletide event and for a Christmas Hamper at the local Foodbank.

After a successful **Yuletide** Christmas event in 2023 with more Christmas lights, market stalls and stage acts, the next event will be this year's **Easter Egg hunt** which begins on 30th March. Hosted by **Cozy Glow** in collaboration with **Coulsdon Community Partnership**, this is a popular event and this year will include photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny in **The Hive** community garden. For more info, visit www.cozyglow.store/products/easter-egg-hunt-2024-ticket and see the article on page 8.

Recently Sold & By EweMove Coulsdon



£750,000 The Avenue, Coulsdon



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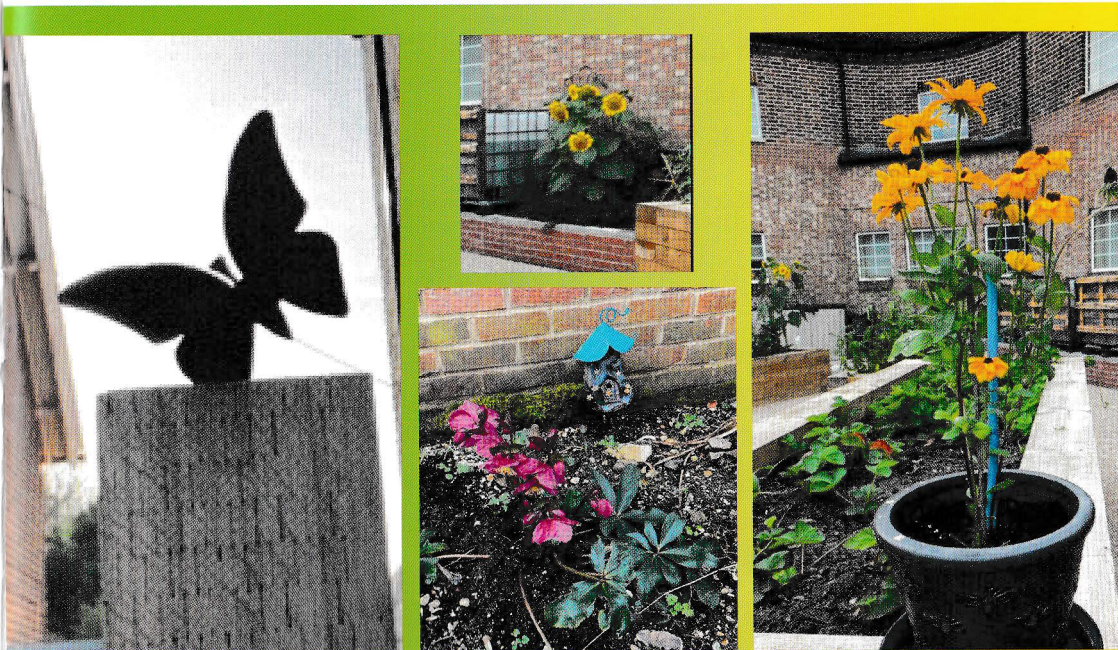
The Hive

by Gill Hickson

The Hive will be resuming their volunteer Saturdays from 24th February, weather permitting. This is to assess the weather conditions for sowing the clover on the mound and wild flowers near the pond, along with a tidy and weeding session and to prepare further bug houses and the bath planter with a herb garden. Visitors are always welcome on Saturdays between 10am and 12noon to see how it's looking and/or to volunteer. We are looking to organise a seed swap in March which we'll advertise on social media. We will be taking part in the Coulsdon Easter Egg hunt on Saturday 30th March from 10am till 5pm with a chance to meet the Easter Bunny, with photo opportunities at The Hive.

We'll open to the public in April on the same opening days as the Library is open; on Monday, Thursday and Saturdays to start with. Opening via the side gates in Railway Terrace which gives step free access for all. In the town centre we have adopted a couple of Coulsdon Town planters. We hope they will help towards putting Coulsdon in Bloom. In The Hive garden we now have bird houses and feeding tables along with nest boxes so we're hoping to attract birds. We hope that the wildlife pond will get established and come alive in the spring.

This is the year that the garden will truly come to life and be a haven of calm for the people of Coulsdon. All will be welcome to come and experience the calm atmosphere we have created behind the Library. Maybe grab a coffee and cake, a book, and lose yourselves among nature in the town centre.



Mayor of London and Greater London Assembly (GLA) Elections Thursday 2nd May 2024

by Charles King

The rules have changed for electing London and Regional Mayors; these will no longer be based on second preference but will be 'first past the post' in line with General Elections. The election of the GLA remains proportional.

This is the first election in London where you will need to have photographic ID in order to vote.

The government has listed the following as acceptable photo IDs:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

It must be the original document and not a photocopy. However, out of date documents will be acceptable (*for some reason Student photo ID cards are **not** acceptable*).

If you do not have one of these forms of ID you can apply for a Government Voter Authority Certificate:

www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

You will need a digital photo and your National Insurance number.

The other alternative is to apply for a postal vote. This can be obtained from Croydon Council:

www.croydon.gov.uk/council-and-elections/voting-and-elections/voting/how-vote/post



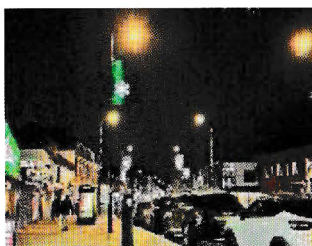
Coulsdon Community Partnership

by Eleanor Richardson



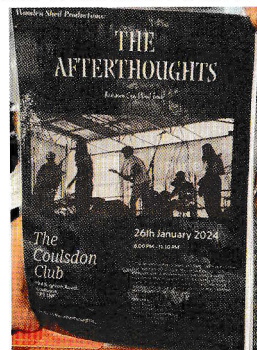
Coulsdon Community Partnership was formed in the Summer of 2022 to promote events in Coulsdon. It consists of businesses, residents' associations and likeminded individuals. Their first task was to arrange for Christmas lights in Coulsdon town centre. This was followed by sponsoring the Yuletide event with stalls, stage and funfair on the first Saturday in December.

Building on the success of Yuletide 2022 the Partnership registered as a charity during 2023. It has incorporated The Hive Library Garden, joined in with the existing Cozy Glow Easter Egg Hunt and included a small market followed by a successful Coronation Big Lunch in Marlpit Lane Memorial Park. They have also participated in Cozy Glow's Halloween event by adding a stop in The Hive Library Garden.



The 2023 Yuletide event was larger and additional Christmas light were purchased. There were more stalls and the stage had events from schools and volunteer organisations throughout the day.

The last group of the day was a young band **The After Thoughts** made up of local teenagers mainly attending Reigate College. They have since gone on to obtain a couple of local bookings and appeared at the Coulsdon Club in January (watch out for ongoing bookings!).



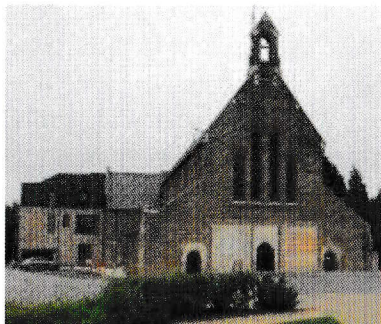
This year the Coulsdon Community Partnership is working with other community groups helping to provide equipment to the Tollers Estate Community Centre and providing a number of funded places in various classes to help the community at large in Coulsdon.

However, this cost a lot of time and money. So, if you would like to get involved, have an idea for a community event, some time to help, need more information about funded places or would just like to make a donation, please contact Eleanor Richardson 07958 291803 <https://coulsdonpartnership.org/> and on Facebook.

What's Happening In and Around Coulsdon

by Charles King

Cane Hill: We are pleased to say the **Water Tower** is now occupied as is the admin block Henry Howell House.



We now understand that Haxted and Barratts are now in discussion about the future of the **Chapel** when completed. **North Lodge** on the corner of Portnalls Road and Tickners Way has now received planning permission. There are still no plans for the site at the bottom between Marlpit Lane and Lion Green Road which has planning permission for commercial development. ECRA is continuing trying to get the foliage and ivy that is growing over the footpath between Marlpit Lane Roundabout and Lion Green

Road cut back properly as it is restricting the pavement.



Red Clover Gardens on Lion Green Road: Although we understand that the council has decided to no longer sell the site to Notting Hill Genesis housing association, two blocks of 71 units are proposed to go to Regen Capital who may sell or privately rent them. The other 3 blocks of 85 units will be sub leased to the Mears Group which calls itself "An Affordable Housing Management Company". These will be classed as affordable rented properties and tenants will come

via the Croydon council. ECRA has expressed concern that these flats have now been empty for 12 months and Shared Ownership flats would be lost as there are no other shared ownership opportunities in Coulsdon.

The first of the information boards commemorating the Surrey Iron Railway are now in place. The others should be in place when the London Loop is diverted via Lion Green car park and Iron Railway Close.



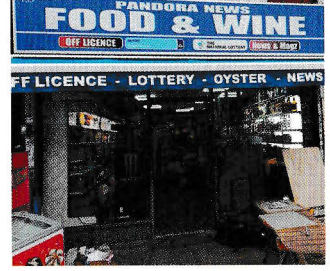
Coulsdon Town Centre: A number of changes have taken place in Coulsdon Town centre since the last Review. In Chipstead Valley new owner Mayup has opened **Fillings Delicatessen** (07404 025096) offering a range of foods from the Indian subcontinent and all meat is Halal. Work has now started by Natalia on reopening what was Bella café and soft play centre as **Abuela play and café** 07522 761469.

(continued on page 9)

What's Happening Around Coulsdon

(continued from page 8)

While in Brighton Road new owner Emanuele has refurbished **Nonna Rosa** (020 8660 9699), but is still offering your favourite Italian dishes, along with some new dishes. **Pandora Newsagents and Off-licence** has had a revamp, along with a new owner. Work has started on the **Barrington Dry Cleaners**. Sentinel House has now been renamed **Galago House** and is soon to open for business. The Pet shop has now closed and Coulsdon Hardware is offering a range of their products. Mirch Masala failed to reopen.



Marlpit Lane Memorial Park the tennis courts have now been refurbished and you can hire them through the Croydon council website.

www.croydon.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-culture/sports-and-physical-activity/a-to-z-activities/tennis



Marlpit Lane Bowling and Putting Green season is due to start at Easter. More help is needed with staffing the pavilion and maintenance of the Greens. If you can help please contact Maureen on 07761 926498.

ECRA is seeking further meetings with Parks department to improve the maintenance of the Park and Chaldon Way Gardens.

Around Coulsdon



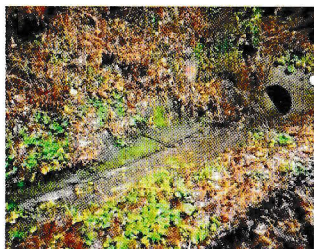
Croydon Council has published a proposal for **Libraries: Bradmore Green, Broad Green, Sanderstead and Shirley** are all under threat of closure under the current proposal. If you want to comment you have until Friday 19th April via the following web site:

<https://www.getinvolved.croydon.gov.uk/libraries-services-consultation>

Old Coulsdon Rectory: The Diocese has decided to sell the existing **Rectory** in Coulsdon Road and seek alternative accommodation for the incoming Reverend. The **Jack and Jill pub** at The Mount closed again just before Christmas.

The Bourne – Coulsdon's Underground River

by Charles King



What are the Bourne waters that can be seen behind Coulsdon South station that started to flow December 2024? Coulsdon town centre is located on the junction of several ancient dry riverbeds originating in the chalk North Downs which act like giant sponges.

Today the Coulsdon or Merstham Bourne is mainly underground part naturally and part in manmade culverts

to Purley where it is joined by the larger Caterham Bourne. It then continues all the way to Croydon by way of the balancing pond at Purley Oaks. It finally joins the source of the River Wandle near the Swan and Sugarloaf (now Tesco). It normally rises to the surface around every five to seven years. It is not uncommon to start flowing in two consecutive years as it did in 2020 and 2021. It started flow intermittently in December 2023 after heavy rainfall. It started flowing continuedly on Tuesday 16th January 2024 after only three years.



Croydon Parking Trial

During October Croydon issued a consultation on proposed changes to parking with some public meetings in Coulsdon Library. The main changes they propose are.

- Removal of all the parking meters, to be replaced with an app or phone call payment by bank card.
- Removal of the 1-hour free parking in Coulsdon and other district centres and replaced with 30 minutes free and pay for the second 30 minutes.
- Ban on all pavement parking.
- Change from emission-based parking charges.

ECRA's response to the original consultation can be found on the ECRA Website <https://www.eastcoulsdon.co.uk/ecra-news/>.

The council decided to introduce a trial of the system in Addiscombe, New Addington and Purley. From Tuesday 2nd January 2024, the 'pay and display' machines were switched off and unable to dispense tickets. Motorists had to use the RingGo cashless parking app or call RingGo on 0203 046 0010 to obtain a free 30 minute session. The alternative was a local PayPoint, being the Londis at the Shell Foxley Garage (Godstone Road) which is *not exactly near the town centre*.

There was an online survey during January. There is concern that the number of people using Purley was reduced during the trial. We await the results.

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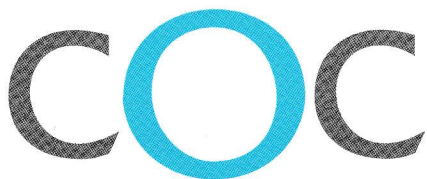


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Gerry Cranham – Sports Photographer

by Maxine Leyland

One of our articles on who lives or lived in Coulsdon. My neighbour, Gerry Cranham, died on 20 October 2023; he was 94. I met him when the wrong newspapers were delivered to us. I telephoned the newsagent and was asked to deliver them to a few doors down. From his choice of reading matter I deduced he was a bookmaker. I was wrong. Gerry Cranham has been described as the world's leading sports photographer.

Gerry was born in Hampshire and began his working career as an apprentice draughtsman. He was an excellent amateur athlete and became a coach to the Herne Hill Athletics Club when a foot injury prevented him from competitive running. When he coached he started photographing his pupils who bought the photographs, and that was the start of his new career.



Gerry developed new techniques which are now used by new generations of professional sports photographers. He became a professional freelance photographer in 1959 and by 1961 his photographs were published in the Observer and Sports Illustrated. Gerry photographed everyone in sport. Googling "Gerry Cranham" gives an indication of the range of his subjects across all sports. He saw the potential of including in the photographs the reactions of spectators which humanised the photographs.

In 1971 the Victoria and Albert museum invited him to have an exhibition of his work, the first photographer to have an exhibition since Henri-Cartier Bresson. In 1977 he was named Sports Photographer of the Year and in 2008 received the lifetime achievement award for his services to racing photography at the Horserace Writers and Photographers Derby awards.

Gerry was easy to chat to and a good neighbour. Gerry and his wife Nancy had five children, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

(With thanks to The Times, The Guardian and the Daily Telegraph)

You can see some of Gerry's photography on the Michael Hoppen Gallery website:

<https://www.michaelhoppengallery.com/artists/225-gerry-cranham/>



Coulsdon Art Trail

by Charles King



James Cooper the Highway man is the latest finial in the Coulsdon Art trail and was added over the Christmas Holiday. James Cooper, who operated along Smitham Bottom in the eighteenth century, was arrested, tried and executed at Smitham Bottom in August 1749.

Coulsdon Art Trail comprises a number of fingerpost finials, all celebrating an aspect of Coulsdon's rich history

- **Cuthræd:** The Saxon Warrior 648AD after whom the town is named after (Cuörædsdun). Outside Pizza Express.
- **Cricket Stumps:** The first Cricket Match on Lion Green played between Surrey and East Grinstead 1731. Opposite the Library.
- **Greater Yellow Rattle:** A rare wildflower that grows prolific on Farthing Downs and Happy Valley. Junction of Brighton Road & Lion Green Road.
- **Emmeline Pankhurst:** who spoke at Smitham Parish Hall (now the site of the Coulsdon Club) on 29th April 1911 on votes for Women. The audience was so big she had to speak three times. By footpath 52C between the former pet shop and the Coulsdon Club.
- **Surrey Iron Railway:** Croydon to Godstone Extension 1805-1838 Britain's first public Railway. This ran on the embankment at the rear of Lion Green Road car park and crossed Chipstead Valley Road on a Bridge.
- **Bareknuckle Boxers:** Commemorating John 'Gentleman' Jackson's first professional fight against Thomas Futtrell at Smitham Bottom in 1788. Outside Coulsdon Library.
- **Logie Baird:** TV broadcast across the Atlantic from Warwick Road Coulsdon to New York in 1928. Outside Teddies Nursery, Chipstead Valley Road.

For more information on the East Coulsdon Residents' Association website:
www.eastcoulsdon.co.uk/?s=coulsdon+art+trail

If you would like to make a donation towards the next finial, please contact East Coulsdon Residents' Association on info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk.

Don't Let Brexit Spoil Your Summer Holiday

by Charles King

Now Britain is no longer part of the European Union there are a number of restrictions on travel to Countries in the EU. A considerable number of people are refused entry at airports and ports every day. These rules apply to everybody including children.

There two important rules:

- You must not stay in the EU for more than 90 days in any rolling 6 months period. This applies to all of the EU so you can't spend 90 days in Spain and another 90 days in France. *If you want to stay longer you will need a visa.*
- Your Passport must have three months left on, but also be under 10 years old. If your passport is older than 9 years and 9 months old regardless of what period of time is left on it (*the period beyond 10 years is no longer accepted*) you will not be allowed to travel. You will need to renew your passport prior to leaving.

Note: some countries outside the Schengen area, such as Romania, require six months so in this case if your passport is older than 9 years and six months you will need to renew it.



To ensure that that you comply with these rules your passport will be checked on leaving the UK and again when entering Europe and it will be stamped both on entry and again on leaving.

If you failed to get your passport stamped on leaving you could have problems on a subsequent trip.

Future changes proposed from Autumn 2024 (*this has been delayed a number of times*): Non-EU citizens travelling to Europe will need to obtain an **European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS)**. This has to be obtained online prior to travel and is likely to cost around €7.00. It will be valid for three years (*one year longer than the ESTA for the USA*). At the entry point you may also be asked for your fingerprints.

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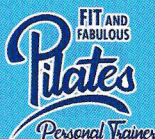
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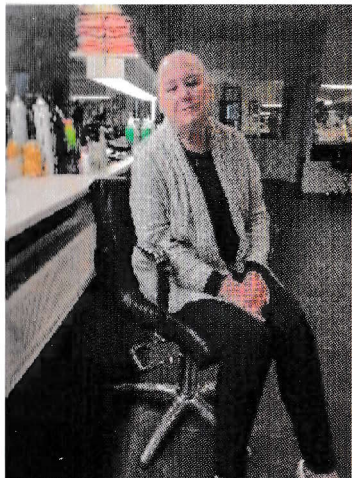
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"I am constantly learning something new and feel challenged at every class"

The Business Interview – Hair and Beauty (H&B Salon)

by Maxine Leyland

Jacqueline Field and Joseph Bentley are proprietors of the H&B hair salon in Brighton Road Coulsdon, taking over the business from Rodney Margot in the early 1980s. Rodney decided to retire when he developed MS; Jacqueline, one of his stylists, agreed to take over the business.



Jacqui has been in the business for many years. She left school at 15 beginning a three-year apprenticeship and intense training in hairdressing. At that time, even though you had completed your apprenticeship, you had to work for a further three years before you could say you were a fully qualified hairdresser. H&B have many long-standing customers, both male and female. The relationship between women and their hairdressers is very different to that between men and barbers. During the course of the pandemic they lost 15 regular customers who they considered to be friends and, in some cases, part of their extended family.

The 1960s were good years for good hairdressers. Jacqui was involved in fashion shows, competitions and photo shoots. These required good cutting skills and attention to detail. Hair colouring was becoming fashionable and accessible which required knowledge of chemicals and techniques.

Joseph was a manager and director of Harvey Nichols department store. He comes from a theatrical background. His father was the founder and manager of the Perth Theatre in Scotland and his mother, Valerie Lush, appeared in many films and plays which are screened regularly on many TV channels. Joseph was a child actor and appeared frequently in the theatre. He is heavily involved in raising money for local charities.

Although Jacqui and Joseph use local shops and restaurants. They agreed that Coulsdon has changed significantly in the years since Jacqui began working for Rodney Margot. They miss the small independent shops which prevailed at the time. They reminded me about Perrins, greengrocers on Brighton Road, the sisters who kept the greengrocers in Victoria Road, two butchers and a fishmonger, clothes and shoe shops.

(continued on page 20)

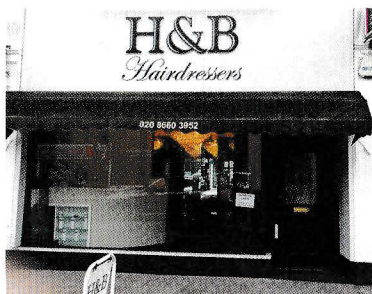
The Business Interview – The Photo Shop

(continued from page 19)

Shops in Coulsdon and Purley had an elite clientele when local residents included Des O'Connor (comedian and singer), David Nixon (magician), Peter Sarstedt (singer), Lionel Blair (dancer) and Jon Pertwee (Dr Who).

Jacqui and Joseph regret the opportunities missed to improve Coulsdon, particularly the lack of parking. Joseph pointed out that M&S had considered opening in the town and he had sought support for a creche for the children of local workers, however, these initiatives had been vetoed by the Coulsdon Chamber of Commerce.

Finally, just as Jacqui was preparing to take over the business in the early 1980s, she was asked to attend an interview to be the Queen's hairdresser. She had been recommended by staff at Buckingham Palace. Jacqui thought about it, but as the commitment would have been 24/7, 365 days a year she had to decline the offer. But what an offer!



***Hair and Beauty Salon, 111-113 Brighton Road
Coulsdon 020 8660 3952***

ECRA would like to thank Jacqui and Joseph for their time and wish them well for their business.



Local Public Transport Statistics

Rail Usage: The Office of Rail and Road Regulator (ORR) released the station usage stats for the year ending March 2023. These are compared to 2019/20 pre-Covid stats. Coulsdon South 1,555,754 (92%), Coulsdon Town 99,896 (40%), Reedham 97,464 (41%), Woodmansterne 115,096 (41%).

Source: <https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/statistics/usage/estimates-of-station-usage>

Bus Usage Stats from TfL: Coulsdon Routes for the year 2022/2023: **60:** 5,628,532; **466:** 3,458,891; **405:** 1,388,941; **463:** 1,021,321; **166:** 942,343; **434:** 218,127 **404:** 185,277; **N68:** 343,751 The busiest route in Croydon is the **109** (8,608,923). The 60 is 4th busiest route and one of only three that has exceeded its pre-Covid usage. Source:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/buses-performance-data#on-this-pa>

Public Transport Report

by Charles King

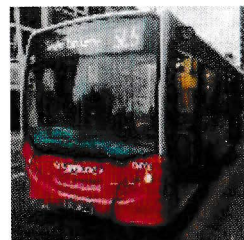
Trains: Unfortunately, the rail strikes are still ongoing – please check on National Rail Enquiries for dates www.nationalrail.co.uk. We are pleased that after extensive lobbying by East Surrey Transport Committee, the service on ASLEF overtime days has improved with two trains per hour all day at Coulsdon South and a through service all day hourly at Coulsdon Town. East Surrey Transport Committee are still lobbying for restoration of the Tattenham Corner to Victoria peak hour service and restoration of two trains per hour on Sundays. If you support this please write to GTR Public Affairs GTRPublicAffairs@gtrailway.com and Chris Philp MP chris.philp.mp@parliament.uk.

A secure Cycle cage has been installed at Coulsdon South. Access is via a key fob. To obtain a key you need to register at the Booking Office with some form of personal ID.

Fares: Rail fares will rise by 4.9% on 3rd March 2024. The Mayor of London has announced that for a three month experiment, due to reduced usage, Fridays should be considered an off-peak day alongside Saturday and Sunday. This would apply to TfL services, although the Mayor would like to apply this to National Rail services in the Zones. This is not clear at the time of writing as this requires agreement from the DfT. **TfL Bus fares** are frozen at £1.75.

Buses: Changes to bus stops in central Croydon took place at the beginning of February. The 60, 166 and 466 northbound now stop in St Georges Walk, while the N68 still stops in Park Lane. The 405 now terminates in Park Lane. Southbound the 60, 166, 405, 466 and N68 all leave from Park Street. **Superloop SL5 from Croydon to Bromley** via Shirley and Eden Park with single-deck buses started in February from St George's Walk. It is the first time there has been a bus direct from Croydon to Bethlem Hospital.

The postponed Sutton and Croydon changes: The main splitting of the 407 has been delayed until the existing tender runs out. It is believed that the other changes will happen on the 2nd March 2024: The 455t will be withdrawn. The 166 will be diverted via Pampisford Road, 312 will be extended to Old Lodge Lane, 434 will be extended to Caterham Valley via the top of Kenley and New route 439 will run from Whyteleafe South to Waddon Marsh via Northwood Avenue Purley Way and withdrawal of will now go ahead in March 2024. East Surrey Transport Committee are campaigning for 166 to continue to serve Purley Town Centre and Purley Hospital and for 439 to serve Pampisford Road.



What's On



Chipstead Players, The Courtyard Theatre

Hazlewood Lane, Chipstead CR5 3QU

Grimm Tales by Philip Pullman, directed by Debs Brooks with Charlie McCarthy.

Tuesday 9th to Saturday 13th April 2024.

Box Office **01737 555680** or visit www.chipsteadplayers.org

Coulsdon Theatre Workshop

Coulsdon Community Centre, Barrie Close, Coulsdon CR5 3BE

Bus 166, 434

Box office 07709 266728 boxoffice@twcoulsdon.org.uk <https://twcoulsdon.org.uk>

Reginald Rare – Rocketeer Extraordinaire by Sean Young

Saturday 16th, Sunday 17th, Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd March at 7.45pm, matinees Sunday 17th, Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th at 3pm.

ORCA by Matt Grinter

Saturday 20th, Sunday 21st, Wednesday 24th to Saturday 27th April at 7.45pm, matinees Sunday 21st and Saturday 27th at 3pm.

Downland Chorale – Handel's Messiah

Saturday 23rd March 2024

St. John the Evangelist Canon's Hill, Old Coulsdon, Surrey, CR5 1HA Bus 60, 404 & 466
enquiries@downlandchorale.org.uk for enquires and ticket sales: 07973 871951



RSPB Croydon Local Group Monthly Illustrated Wildlife Talks

Croham Road Baptist Church Hall, 52 Croham Road, South Croydon, CR2 7BA

Monday 8th April 7.30pm "The Role of a Council Ecologist" by Iain Boulton

For details visit: <https://group.rspb.org.uk/croydon/news-blogs/news/> or contact

John Davis on 020 8640 4578.

ECRA & FoFD & Happy Valley Spring Quiz Night with Quiz Master Mark Cooper

Saturday 18th May 2024 at 7pm for 7.30pm

Cameron Hall, Coulsdon Road, Old Coulsdon, CR5 1EH

Bus 60, 404, 466

Tickets £16 per player (teams of up to 8) Includes Fish, Chicken or Vegetarian supper.

Contact: paulinepayne@btinternet.com 01737 554449

Willow Dance and Fitness

Monday to Saturday – Dance and exercise classes. Various Coulsdon venues.

07936 564938 or WhatsApp.

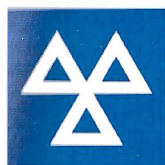
Steam Trains in Coulsdon: At present there are no planned steam trains through Coulsdon. Please check the following website nearer the date of trains. Note: These train times and routes can be altered or cancelled at short notice even on the day. Trains may also run up to 15 mins early or late. A useful website to check these and other steam trains is:

www.railadvent.co.uk/railtours

Contact us on info@eastcoulsdon.co.uk to let us know about your local events and societies.

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