

# The H.O.M.E. Residents' Association

[www.home.addiscombe.net](http://www.home.addiscombe.net) Spring 2011

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It has been quite a while since I last edited the HOME Newsletter, so I hope this one will meet with your approval! Our hardworking Chairperson, Mira Armour, gently twisted my arm and so I have agreed to help her out by relieving her of at least one of her numerous tasks.

A lot has been happening and is due to happen, so here we go!

## **SUMMER GARDEN PARTY 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> July**

It is hoped we can hold our annual summer party either on 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> July, but we need a venue! Is there anybody who would like to host this year's party and offer their home for the event? The use of your garden and one or two rooms, in case of bad weather, is all that is required. Everything else is looked after by the Committee. We supply food and drinks and arrange to assemble items for a plant stall (swap your plants), a book stall and bric-a-brac stall. If you feel inclined to host this year's party, please contact Mira.

If you have not been to one of our parties before, why not come along? It is a chance to meet your neighbours and also your local elected representatives, who will be invited, as well as the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

## **PLANNING MATTERS – read more on our web [www.home.addiscombe.net](http://www.home.addiscombe.net)**

A lot of activity is taking place at both corners of Mulberry Lane and Outram Road, with developers trying to maximise their profit.

**No 69-71 Outram Rd**, on the north corner, once a hotel then a home for children in care and latterly a school for such children; a developer has bought these properties and has already built two semi-detached houses where the garages once stood at the bottom of the original gardens. These houses are in Mulberry Lane and have just been released for sale.



We need you to comment on the the proposed application ASAP please.

By email to [planning.control@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.control@croydon.gov.uk) or writing to

Planning Officer Dean Gibson, Planning,  
Regeneration & Conservation Dept,  
TabernerHouse, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1JT.

Reference: 11/01011/P 69-71 Outram Road  
Addiscombe Croydon

The developer now wishes to extend the existing houses, demolish old extensions and double them in size, and worse, increase the height of the new extension. This is the second planning application, the first having been refused. The developer appealed, then withdrew his appeal.

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**Havelock Road, Outram Road, Mulberry Lane & Elgin Road**

Looking after the concerns of local residents

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Contact details:

Tel: 020 8654 6437 Fax: 020 8654 3540

Email: **[ATHOME@addiscombe.net](mailto:ATHOME@addiscombe.net)**

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The new application is certainly a great improvement, using timber windows and enhancing the original features as well as reinstating the front to be a garden.

However, HOME still has serious reservations and objects for the following reasons

- It would still result in an overdevelopment of an original plot of land.
- The size, height and depth of the extensions would result in a visual obtrusion for the neighbours to both sides of the site and viewed from the Havelock end of Mulberry Lane.
- The south elevation with the depth of the extension and its height
- Overlooking and loss of sunlight to no. 73. Outram Rd. Their garden is already seriously overlooked by the two new houses just built.
- The proposed conversion to accommodate 8 flats is excessive.
- There would be insufficient amenity space in relation to the proposed 8 flats. They have already used the bottom of the garden to build 2 houses!
- More family housing is needed in Addiscombe.

## **Garages adjoining 59 Outram Road 11/00562/P**

For the south corner, with its garages and "bramble patch" adjoining no. 59 Outram Road, Brymore has put in an application to build a house with 3 flats and have asked for our feedback to the proposal before making their planning application. They have taken into account our comments but did not reduce the size of the proposed development nor have they really addressed our concern that the original garden of no. 59 has been totally severed from the house. The proposal to restore it as amenity space to the original house has not been detailed enough. Some residents in Mulberry Lane also feel that the proposed building is too big; moreover, the proposed semi-basement flat is not something that is encouraged in new properties. We have objected and are now awaiting the decision from the Council.

## **Garage adjacent to 46 Elgin Road - Application just been refused**

Details of application: demolition of garage; erection of a two-storey two-bedroom house at the side. Well done to all who objected.

## **MENTA – with a 53 storeys high residential building**

The MENTA saga continues. As you probably know, this company own various sites at the southern end of Cherry Orchard Road which they are seeking to develop. Their original proposals included four tall tower blocks with profiles like a series of squashed tin cans. Local opposition to the proposal was considerable and, in the light of that, and following discussions with Croydon Council, a revised planning application has now been made. This now comprises 2 residential buildings, one of which would be 53 storeys high – twice as high as any other building in the area, a hotel, office accommodation, various community amenities and a public square enabling access to the proposed new bridge from Cherry Orchard Road across the railway.

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We are broadly in favour of the overall project but with one important exception, namely the 53-storey tower, to which we object very strongly. We consider such a structure to be totally out of place anywhere in Croydon, let alone in what is a residential area with low-rise housing. It is our firm view that any proposed building should be no higher than existing buildings in the area. Croydon is a London suburb, it is not Hong Kong, Singapore or Manhattan. Such a building would be clearly visible from the HOME area and would, in our opinion, be an ugly blot on the landscape; for the residents under its shadow it would be totally overwhelming!

Details of the new planning application can be seen online at the Council's website – [www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk) and select Planning Services; the reference number is 11/00981/P.

If you agree with H.O.M.E. or have views on this matter please make your feelings known to the Council either online or by writing to Planning Control, Croydon Council, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon, CR9 1JT, quoting reference number 11/00981/P.

Alternatively you can write to: Simon Albrecht, Planning, Regeneration & Conservation Dept, Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 1JT.

Or email [planning.control@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.control@croydon.gov.uk) quoting ref 11/00981/P

To sum up, great things are proposed and the new developments (apart from the "Vertical Tower") would be such an improvement on the current mediocre state of Cherry Orchard Road. On a personal note, I think the demolition of the Porter & Sorter is very sad! The pub has been there for such a long time and I am sure it is a popular "watering hole", especially for weary rail travellers on their way home.

## **WILDLIFE AT H.O.M.E.**

A small deer has been spotted crossing Canning Rd. This was seen by someone who we know does not normally drink or hallucinate!!!

In Havelock Road, west side, there is a "Mrs Fox" with three baby cubs. We also have a badger crossing from east side to west side. Have you got a photo you can share? If so send it to Mira or Ann.

## **RSPCA wildlife scientist, Sophie Adwick said:**

Spring can be a magical time for wildlife and the keen eye can spot all kinds of wonders, from badger and fox cubs taking their first daring steps above ground, to fledglings peeping out from the undergrowth.

We would ask the public to do all they can to help animals during this time. This includes leaving baby animals alone. Our advice is that if you see a lone baby animal, unless it is obviously injured, monitor the situation from afar; the likelihood is that it does not need rescuing. Young animals have a much greater chance of survival if they remain with their parents.

Read RSPCA advice to find out what to do with orphaned wild animals.

<http://www.rspca.org.uk/allaboutanimals/wildlife/orphanedanimals>

Lots of young animals are handed in to us as orphans, but many of them actually haven't been abandoned at all! If you're worried about a baby animal that seems to be alone read our advice below. If after that you're sure the animal has been abandoned, either call us on 0300 1234 999 or find your nearest wildlife rehabilitator.

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## NEW TREES

Following a request from H.O.M.E, the Council replaced some trees last year and this winter. As they are newly planted, they will need watering in dry and/or hot weather. If anyone would be willing to do this, could you kindly contact Mira or Ellen.

## LOCAL EVENTS

**Addiscombe Carnival.** Sunday 29 May. 11am to 4pm. Ashburton Park.

Croydon Lions are again organising the carnival. There will be a procession going past the end of our roads between 10am and 11am and there will be a whole variety of stalls and entertainment in Ashburton Park. Money raised will go to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution Thames River Rescue Service. Volunteers are required to help at the event. If you could give up just 2 hours of your time, please contact Anne of Canning & Clyde R.A. Tel. 020 8656 6707 or [anne.bridge@addiscombe.net](mailto:anne.bridge@addiscombe.net)

**South Norwood Arts Festival.** 13 - 19 June. Organised by the Portland Road Residents Association. There will be a wide variety of events at different venues. Details are yet to be finalised but there will be a Fair on Sunday 19 June on Woodside Green. For more information look in Libraries and [www.peopleforportlandroad.org.uk](http://www.peopleforportlandroad.org.uk)

## STREET LIGHTING

We understand that, at last, our street lighting is to be replaced. We have been pressing for this for as long as H.O.M.E. has been in existence - 7 years! Ann Bowden will try and find out when it is our turn!

## TRANSPORT FOR LONDON LIBERTIES

Residents in Outram and Havelock Roads were recently treated to no less than 4 separate Bus Routes hurtling up and down their roads during the recent tram works near Cherry Orchard Road. Although Stan Goron tried to get some sort of explanation from Transport For London as to why they considered this necessary and why they had not properly informed us about it, the response was far from satisfactory and so all he could do was wave to the bus passengers, no doubt enjoying the new scenic route, as they were driven along Outram Road at far too regular intervals.

## MATTERS GREEN!

Croydon Council has re-started Green Waste collection. The first collection was on Wednesday 4 May (which in our view was too late in the season) and the last collection will be on Wednesday 5 October. The Council delivered 2 clear plastic sacks per garden a few weeks ago. Extra sacks can be bought at £1 each from any Library. You must use the Council Sacks as collectors can see inside them. Please leave them in front of your home within an arm's length of the pavement. The Council will collect up to 6 sacks at a time.

## Addiscombe Railway Park.

This runs from the end of East India Way (opposite the bottom of Canning Road) to Black Horse Tram Stop and bridge crossing Dalmally Passage. Our Councillors are setting up a Friends of Addiscombe Railway Park to give local residents the chance to participate in what happens in the Park. Before doing this, they will produce a questionnaire Please let us know if you would like a copy of the questionnaire, when it is available.

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## Contacts for H.O.M.E.

Chairperson: Mrs Mira Armour. 020 8654 6437 [athome@addiscombe.net](mailto:athome@addiscombe.net)

Vice Chairperson: Ellen Forrester 020 8655 2497

Secretary: Stan Goron. [s.goron@blueyounder.co.uk](mailto:s.goron@blueyounder.co.uk)

Hon.Treasurer: Melanie DeVilliers 020 86550824 [devilliers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:devilliers@hotmail.co.uk)

Webmaster: Mr. Norman Young [norman.young@addiscombe.net](mailto:norman.young@addiscombe.net)

Newsletter Editor; Mrs. Ann Bowden [abowden017@aol.com](mailto:abowden017@aol.com)

Safe Neighbourhood Team 0208 721 2473 [addiscombe.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:addiscombe.snt@met.police.uk)

We have two regular sponsors for our raffle at our socials. We would like to thank them for their support.

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## Addiscombe



## Dry Cleaners

195 Lower Addiscombe Road, Addiscombe, CR0 6RA

Telephone 0208 654 2269

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**We also offer Clothing  
Repairs & Alterations and  
Shoe Repairs all on the premises**

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**20% Off your next Curtain Cleaning order with this advert.**

Offer ends 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011

Open Mon. to Sat. 8.30 am – 5.30 pm Wed. 1.00 pm

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## Virgin Active Health Club

On Surrey Street Market, no 44 Surrey St.

As one of 72 state-of-the-art health clubs in the UK, we are proud to offer you a stylish, spacious, and truly dynamic exercise environment. Work out, splash out, or chill out. Whatever your exercise goals, we can help you get there with our world-class gym facilities. At Virgin Active Croydon you'll find all of the latest exercise equipment, a 20m stainless steel pool, an adults only gym, a super-spacious free weights section and functional training area. We also offer a wide range of innovative aerobics classes, luxurious spa facilities with a newly refurbished sauna, personal training, and more. Call us today to find out more about our flexible membership options, or book a club visit Tel 020 8686 3700

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## POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

Many thanks to those who sent in their letters or emails of protests against the Council's proposals to increase the chargeable parking hours in our roads. Also many thanks to our elected representatives for the work done to make this incredible proposal known to all! The Council have listened to residents' objections and have not increased the hours. The charges, however, have gone up.

Well, this Newsletter has contained plenty of information about plans and events in our local area. It would be good if local events can have the support of H.O.M.E. members, especially our very own event, The Summer Garden Party! As soon as we have a volunteer to host the party we will advise you of the date on which it will take place. In the meantime, please mark the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July in your Diaries.

If you would like to become a Member of H.O.M.E. please fill in the form at the end of this Newsletter.

## ANNUAL SUBS/NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The current subscription year runs from **January to December 2011** and automatically includes membership of our Neighbourhood Watch. We hope residents who have not paid their subscription yet would still like to do so for this year. Contributions are, of course, at your discretion, but a sum of £5.00 (or more if you wish) per household would be very welcome. These help to offset expenses incurred in maintaining the website, printing newsletters and corresponding with the Council/Ombudsman etc.

### Subscription Form:

Name (Title, Initials, Surname).....

Called names (of all members of the household):.....

Address:.....

.....

Tel:.....Mobile.....

Email.....

I enclose cheque (payable to The HOME Residents' Association)/Cash

.....  
Hand this form in at the Summer Party or post it to our Treasurer (Melanie de Villiers, 10 Sonning Court, 38 Outram Road, Croydon, CR0 6XE

**Please note that the personal information provided is confidential to the Committee and Neighbourhood Watch and will not be passed on to any other organisation or individuals.**

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