

Canning & Clyde Monthly Update - August 2022

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Canning & Clyde Community Drop-in

Saturday 3 September 2022, 2 – 4 pm

Clyde Hall, Clyde Road

Anyone living in Clyde or Canning Road is very welcome!

Please feel free to drop in for two hours or ten minutes.

It will be great to see you.

Even if you usually engage with us electronically, it would be lovely to put a face to a name.

Come along to meet neighbours.

Feel free to raise any local issues or contribute ideas for the community.

Drinks are free. Cake will be 50p per slice / bun. Voluntary donation towards cost of hiring the hall would be appreciated. **Cash only please.** Yes – I rarely use cash now! It's not worth our while, however, to invest in a card-reader.

This is not an open event. It is restricted to people living in Clyde or Canning Road. We are trying this as a replacement format for what was our Annual Residents Meeting.

Flier is attached.

Canning and Clyde residents' views on our area – 2021

In July 2021 we asked residents in our email group what they felt about our roads and the wider area.

Here is a summary. For reasons of keeping this email to a reasonable length, I haven't repeated every single comment. If you would like an anonymised copy of everyone's opinions, just let me know and I'll email it to you.

When it comes to our two roads - generally speaking people are pretty happy. There was no one stand-out issue.

Residents of Canning Road like the fact that the road is relatively quiet traffic-wise and want to keep it that way; there was one exception - one person wanted Canning Road and other neighbouring roads open to northbound traffic.

Several residents said our two streets are tidy and clear of litter. One or two in each street said the opposite. It seems to depend on which part of which road you live in. The same applies to whether people think homes are well or badly maintained in their road. Lack of Council grass cutting at Chequers Court, where the Council own the freehold, was raised.

Thinking of the immediate area around Canning and Clyde Roads and in Croydon as a whole – support for green issues was expressed by a number of residents. This included reducing traffic in the area and keeping parking for residents. There was a desire to support local businesses; the Lower Addiscombe Road and Cherry Orchard Road area were named. A number voiced dismay at Council finances and at the run-down state of the central Croydon shopping area.

Earlier in 2021 we also asked residents in our email group what they thought about the Council requiring people to use expensive wooden frames in the front of their homes, should they want or need to replace them, because of the Conservation Area. Those who responded all thought that UPVC should be allowed. Most said it should be sympathetic to the style of the building.

The Conservation Area was imposed by surprise on us without consultation in March 2008.

Quiz – reminder of date

Saturday 8 October, 7.30 pm, Clyde Hall

For fun and to raise funds for Croydon Stroke Association

Next month we will have information on the ticket price. We are waiting to find out the cost of fish and chips.

Rocky's Plaice – three day holiday club

For children about to start Reception up to Year 6

St Mary Magdalene Church, Canning Road

Mon 22 – Weds 24 August 2022

See attached flier with application form

Summer of Fun at Whitgift and Centrale

There is a whole range of activities based in the Whitgift and Centrale shopping centres for families and young people from now until Sunday 4 September.

Activities include Circus workshop, Street art, Beat boxing, BMX, skateboarding, Glitter, Facepaint, tattoos and braiding.

Each session costs £2 and you book online in advance. Click here for [more information](#).

Free summer fun for children and young people aged 4 – 16 in receipt of free school meals

Croydon children and young people in receipt of free school meals can access a huge range of free activities with healthy meals included at more than 40 different clubs this summer.

Click here for [more information](#).

New, easier way to check your bin collection days

The Council has produced a new [Check your bin collection days](#) page on their website. As well as telling you the exact date of your next various rubbish collections, there is also a link to download a calendar. This calendar is the same as the paper one they used to deliver.

Council recycling sites – access for pedestrians

At one time you had to have a car to be allowed to take stuff to the Council's recycling sites. This has changed. '[Pedestrians can now access the Factory Lane and Fishers Farm recycling sites.](#)'

Addiscombe West Safer Neighbourhood Team July newsletter

The July newsletter for our Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (Addiscombe West) and also for Selhurst, South Norwood and Woodside is attached.

Addiscombe West Safer Neighbourhood Team – emails

Our Police Safer Neighbourhood Team send out information that may be useful to residents. If you would like to go on their email list, you can email them at snmailbox.addiscombeweststnt@met.police.uk

East Croydon Community Organisation (ECCO)

In case you are not aware of it, ECCO is an organisation that covers the East Croydon area.

We have taken part in a couple of their street clean ups in the past.

[Click here](#) if you would like to know more about them. It is possible to go on their email list.

Public consultation – anti-social behaviour in central Croydon

The Council along with the Police are proposing to establish a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for central Croydon. There used to be one but it was not renewed during the Covid 19 lockdown.

The Council describe the proposal in the following way. *'The proposed PSPO would cover the town centre and its surrounding area, including parts of South Croydon and Broad Green. This is to cover antisocial behaviour hotspots close to the town centre, preventing it moving from the town centre to nearby parks and public spaces.'*

Proposed conditions of the new town centre PSPO include allowing the police to seize and dispose of open alcohol containers, disperse individuals causing harassment, distress or alarm, and enforcement through fines or prosecutions.'

Click here for [more information and to take part in the survey](#).

Free digital skills taster sessions

Central Croydon – Clocktower

8 – 18 August 2022

CALAT (Croydon Adult Learning and Training) are offering a whole range to free, largely 2 hour basic digital skills courses. These include surfing the web safely, Word, Powerpoint, Excel, staying safe online. Click here for [more information](#).

Covid test scam

People are being targeted with messages saying they've been in contact with someone who has contracted the Omicron variant, and they need to order a test via a link. This takes the victim to a phishing website which harvests information.

[You can read more about the scam Covid messages on the BBC News website.](#)

Street trees in hot weather

If you live near a street tree, please might you consider giving it some water during very hot weather? Just one or two saucepans of water every other evening would

help. If possible, it's best to water in the evening as less evaporates from the surface than during the hotter part of the day.

If anyone is able to give Steve's tree a water, that would be great. It's the Indian Bean Tree on the triangle of grass between Canning and Clyde Roads. It likes a lot of water. Please see attached photo of which tree it is.

Birds in hot weather

Have you noticed how the birds have been quieter and less active over the last two weeks or so?

Birds need to drink water as well as cool down sometimes.

Even if you don't have access to a back garden, it is possible to put out a home-made bird bath in the front. The link below gives a simple way to make a small bird bath. If you don't have the items suggested, you may be able to think of something similar.

One tip - the RSPB recommends that the surface of the edge of the bird bath isn't too smooth but sufficiently textured for birds to be able to grip. Unglazed terracotta is one option.

If possible, place the bird bath somewhere fairly open so a bird can see any approaching predator (eg cat)!

[Terracotta saucer and pot](#)

Outside this month

Things to see / hear in the month of August

Our bellwether for the changing seasons – the swifts – have left two to three weeks early. The RSPB site states that migration seems to be triggered by lack of insects high in the air. This may be drought-related. They are now flying back to central Africa. Click here for a [map of their route](#).

Scotts Pine and drought

On a walk on the higher parts of the Shirley Hills (Addington Hills) you will see Scotts Pine. These are not native to these hills but were planted in the mid 19th century.

A [study funded by Stirling University](#) has found that Scotts Pine are very good at recovering from drought over the following nine years after a very dry summer. They in fact grow more quickly than usual in subsequent years, when there is sufficient rain.

Click here for a brief history and description of the [Shirley Hills \(Addington Hills\)](#).

How to minimise the chances of grass and woodland fires

You may have heard about the fire at the Shirley Hills (also called Addington Hills) and nearby Chapel View. Click here for an article in [Inside Croydon](#).

We can all do our bit to minimise the chances of causing a fire. According to the London Fire Brigade one of the main causes of fires in parks in dry weather is people having barbecues. People being careless in the way they dispose of cigarettes, matches and glass bottles are also a common cause.

In addition the London Fire Brigade gave the following advice.

'The recent hot, dry weather has made the ground extremely dry, which unfortunately means grassland and parks will burn quickly when exposed to even the smallest of sparks.

"Common causes of grass fires include carelessly discarded cigarettes or matches as well as rubbish left lying around such as glass bottles, which can start flames by magnifying the sun's rays.

"Every one of us can help reduce the risk of fire and keep our communities clean, make sure rubbish is safely thrown away and cigarettes are always properly disposed of.

"If you see a grass fire, don't attempt to put it out yourself as grass fires can travel very quickly and change direction without warning. If you see signs of smouldering grass then call the Brigade and let us know where the fire is.'