



Crofton Residents Association



Welcome to the Winter 2025 edition of the CRA newsletter!

Light Up Orpington 2025



Orpington High Street was again pedestrianised for a superb family event for the illumination switch-on, on Sunday, 23rd Nov. Residents enjoyed a pedestrianised area with excellent live music, food stalls and fairground rides that created a festive atmosphere, concluding with a superb fireworks display.

This year sees the return of a real 30ft Christmas tree at the War Memorial.

[CASPA | SantaDash2025](#)

**SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2025
10:30AM AT PRIORY GARDENS**

A fun, festive, 2km run starting in Priory Gardens and finishing in Orpington's Market Square. Join hundreds of Santa's to run, jog, or walk your way round the beautiful Priory Gardens in the annual CASPA Santa Dash.

Supported by:
Orpington
Better for Business



Adults £10
U15s £8
Before 30th
November

*Adults £15 U15s £13 from 1st December up to registration on the day.

Check our Facebook page for more info of what's going on in Crofton!

Crofton Residents Association



Chairman's Letter

Dear Residents, welcome to your Winter 2025 CRA Newsletter.

I hope you have enjoyed the Summer/Autumn and found time to spend with your family and friends.

I and my fellow committee members have continued to represent residents' interests as best we can. Some of our activities are mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter or have been reported on Facebook. Many of our regular issues such as the verge wilding of Crofton Road has attracted debate, and lately we seem to be plagued by local planned and unplanned roadworks which have frustrated residents, businesses and local transport in creating numerous delays.



Oregon Park Residents Association (OPRA) have approached us with a view to joining the CRA. On an interim basis we are working together to strengthen the CRA link by including their 465 households as a joint body. We will present the opportunity to join the two organisations at the CRA AGM next year. In this interim phase we welcome Alexandra Lewis and Jo Parker who will work within our CRA committee and help prepare for the transition should it be formally endorsed. I would like to welcome the residents of OPRA who will receive this Newsletter and please read more about the legacy of OPRA on the opposite page.

A further issue for us has been the interaction with our Ward Councillors which has proved difficult in terms of communication. Cllr Marlow has now affiliated to Reform, since when we have had no communications from him. Cllrs Evans and Joel have been left to retain a dialogue which has not been easy due to their own personal issues. We have established links with the LBB Officers to keep us informed and hence enabled us to keep up the posts of information on our Facebook page.

I would also like to thank our Road Stewards who work very hard to deliver this Newsletter through your door. Please consider if you can help us and become a Road Steward which involves receiving a small number of Newsletters for delivery in your area for three issues per year. As with any volunteer organisation its success relies on some who give up their time for the benefit of others.

If you would like to know more, please get in touch at: info@croftonra.org.uk

Thank you for supporting CRA with your contributions which is much appreciated and I wish you, your families, friends and neighbours a



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Christopher Ford, Chairman.



Save the Date: We have set our AGM for Friday 17th April 2026.

Celebrating Oregon Park and Looking Ahead with Crofton



For more than 80 years, the Oregon Park Residents' Association (OPRA) has been at the heart of our community. From joyful celebrations such as the Queen's Coronation Fete on the green to the challenges of the pandemic, OPRA has stood as a symbol of neighbourly support and pride.

Generations of road stewards, committee members and residents have given their time and energy to make Oregon Park a wonderful place to live. We are deeply grateful for their dedication.

As communities evolve, so too must the associations that serve them.



That is why we are excited to transition OPRA into the Crofton Residents' Association (CRA). This evolution allows us to preserve the spirit of OPRA while expanding into a larger, more dynamic network.

Together, we will continue to protect and enhance our community, ensuring residents have a strong voice and access to the benefits of a well-organised association.



David, Rob, Jo and Alex. The 1952 committee below.

We look forward to building on the legacy of the past 80 years as we embrace the opportunities of the future.

Alexandra Lewis, OPRA Editor and Resident

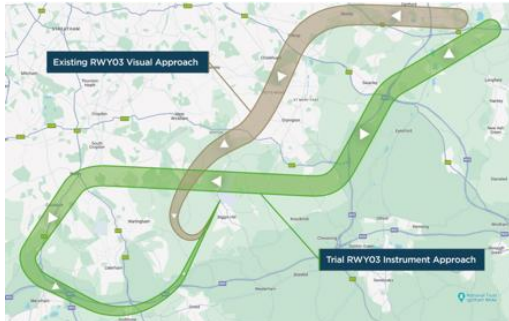


Biggin Hill Airport Update

We have continued to engage with Biggin Hill Airport (BHA) to represent residents' interests as members of the Biggin Hill Airport Consultative Committee (BHACC) and the Airport Residents Noise Action Forum (ARNAF).

The activities of the BHACC are detailed here:

<https://bigginhillairport.com/community/airport-consultative-committee/> which includes reports from the Chief Executive Officer and the key activities at the airport, the Noise Safety Sub-Committee (NSSC) report and the ARNAF update.



The most significant activity for CRA is a trial of an alternative landing approach to BHA. On the left of the diagram is the existing shorter route into the airfield which is referred to as the Instrument Landing System (ILS) approach in which aircraft descend over the Petts Wood, Crofton Heath and Locksbottom direction. Those living underneath know only too well

the noise intrusion that this creates.

An alternative approach was established and an application made to the Civil Aviation Authority (the Airports regulatory body) to use an alternative route. The initial proposal was rejected but this has since been redesigned and resubmitted. This later submission has been approved to commence a flight trial due to start on the 13th of November. This entails a route to the right of the diagram, shown in green. Here the aircraft follow a route overhead of a more rural area, essentially over the M25 (from Junction 4) then turning right over the BHA airfield out towards the A23 and then picking up a circular descent into the airfield through what is termed a radius to fix. The initial descent begins at a higher level and the outcome is promised to be a significant noise abatement activity.

The trial will continue to mid 2026 and if approved give a promised respite to CRA residents. Further information can be found here:

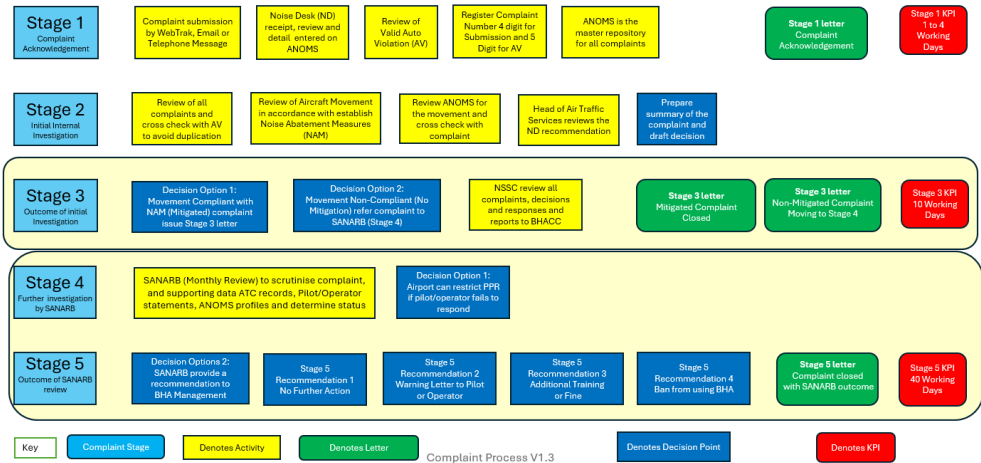
<https://bigginhillairport.com/community/noise/O3-approach-trial/>

The work of ARNAF has continued with positive engagement with the Airport. We have defined a process to monitor complaints to develop a tool which can enable the identification of a complaint and retrieval of information within the assessment process. The establishment of Key Performance Indicators provides a measure of the effectiveness of responses.

CRA, working with the Keston Village RA, have identified a number of improvements which provide an improvement plan for the benefit of residents.

The Complaint Working Group has developed a plan to identify the activities behind the 5 key stages of a complaint to help residents understand how complaints are addressed including the interaction with the NSSC and the Safety and Noise Abatement Review Board (SANARB) who review complaints and make recommendations to the Airport to manage and help mitigate complaints.

Complaint Process Overview Version 3



If you have any questions or comments, please let us know at info@croftonra.org.uk

Christopher Ford, Biggin Hill Focus.

New Year Litter Pick – 17th January

We plan to have another of our community litter picks on Saturday 17th January. Meet at 10.30am in St Paul's Church car park on Crofton Road. Litter pickers and bags will be provided (or bring your own if you have them). We plan to be out for about 1 hour.

We would love for you to join us to help tidy up our neighbourhood for the start of 2026!

If you are interested in actively playing a part in keeping our streets clean and safe you could also consider becoming a Bromley Council Street Friend – for more details visit:

<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/street-care-cleaning/street-friends>



John Perkins

Friends of Tugmutton Common inc. Farnborough Recreation Ground

Yet another year has flown by, doesn't time appear to go more quickly as we get older!

We held our annual bulb planting session in October, this year concentrating on the area around the tennis courts. This is to allow our residents to be able to enjoy them in the spring and also as a way of thanking the Tennis Club for their continued support and donations.

We are in the process of completing a project in the bio-diversity area being undertaken by LBB/idverde to plant around 30 trees to replace dead specimens and enhance the area with further native species. Hopefully the scheme will be effected soon.

Unfortunately, some playground equipment is in need of repair together with the maintenance of the outdoor gymnasium. We have made idverde aware of these matters and they should be attended to shortly. The Notice Boards are in need of repair and steps have been taken to remedy this situation.

Our annual barbeque to thank all our volunteers was held in September and was a great success. Without their efforts the area would not look so tidy and be a pleasure for residents to enjoy.



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.

Mike Titheridge, Chairman Friends of Tugmutton

Contact us via email: tugmuttonfriends@yahoo.co.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Team

Be sure to register for the Met Engage platform. You can get to know your local officers, help shape how your local area is policed and have direct access to key information and advice.

<https://www.metengage.co.uk/>

What members in Farn & Crofton are saying are the issues in the area:

Drug Dealing/ Drug Use
Mobile Phone Theft Shoplifting
Theft Of Motor Vehicles
Dangerous Driving / Speeding
Burglary
Stealing From Motor Vehicles
Bike / Cycle Theft
Anti-social Behaviour (e.g. Noise, Neighbours, Littering, Begging)



Trading Standards Alerts

Latest information alerts on Trading Standards can be found on the website:

www.bromley.gov.uk/trading-standards

Residents who need to find a trusted trader are reminded of the Trading Standards Checked scheme which works alongside Trading Standards alert.

Bromley Trading Standards Checked is a fair-trader directory to help you find a safe, reliable trader that you can trust, in partnership with Kent County Council.

Visit www.bromley.gov.uk/tradingstandardschecked to learn more.

Useful numbers:

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline: **0808 223 11 33**

If you or someone you know is thinking of giving or sending money in suspicious circumstances, contact the **Rapid Response line: 07903 852090**

Beware of Winter Fuel Payment Scams

Between April and September 2025, Action Fraud has received 2,790 crime reports relating to Winter Fuel Payment scams, with victims reporting losses totalling of over £27,000. Winter Fuel Payments are made automatically, you do not need to do anything. If you receive any text messages about Winter Fuel Payment, it's a scam. Not sure if a message is real? Contact the organisation directly using the contact details on their official website, not the number or web address in the message.

Your bank (or any other official source) won't ask you to supply personal information by email or text message. If you have spotted a suspicious SMS or RCS message, you can report it for FREE by forwarding it to 7766.

CRA Christmas Contribution

This Christmas we have donated £500 to Bromley Foodbank on your behalf,
Find out more on this worthy cause:



<https://bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk>

Friends of Crofton and Sparrow Woods (FoCSW)

Sundial Project

Many visitors to Eynsford Close Recreation Ground in Petts Wood may be unaware that there is a sundial made of paving stones set in the grass between the car park and the pavilion. The sundial was installed in 2004 to mark the historic ties between Petts Wood and William Willett, who conceived British Summer Time in 1916 whilst riding through the then extensive woodland from Chislehurst to what is now Petts Wood and beyond. He noticed on an early summer ride that workers were not rising early enough to benefit from the extra daylight. His idea led to an Act of Parliament, and ever since, we have put our clocks forward by one hour from the last Sunday in March until the last Sunday in October.

Ironically, time has damaged the sundial: the stones are cracking and sinking into the grass, inscriptions have faded, and nearby trees now cast shade for much of the day.



FoCSW are leading a project to replace the sundial and improve children's access to and understanding of it. This is part of a wider strategic objective to revitalise public access to the Crofton Circular Walk, and to introduce a children's circuit. This initiative is supported by the committees of Crofton Residents Association and Petts Wood & District Residents Association, as well as Crofton Schools.

It has been found that it would be too expensive to replace and relocate the stones, so the proposal is to instal a thermoplastic paint version between the pavilion and the children's playground. This will have two sets of numbers for use in summer and winter, it is safe and much more visually engaging. It is also proposed to instal an information board nearby.

The total cost is likely to be about £4,000 and it is hoped that a large part of this can be raised by a local crowdfunding exercise.

Look out for further details of this in the New Year.

John Perkins and

Jane Andrews Chair, Friends of Crofton & Sparrow Woods.

Website: www.friendsofcroftonandsparrowwoods.com

X: **CroftonFriends**

Thank You to Mike and Hilary Titheridge

Mike Titheridge and his wife Hilary stepped down from CRA commitments this year. We are very grateful for their 25+ years dedicated service – Mike as a committee member, vice chair and chairman. Hilary had a long service as a road steward and AGM helper.

They were presented with an engraved tankard and flowers earlier this year.



Crofton Villa Refurbishment

The National Lottery Heritage Fund has awarded nearly £250,000 to bring to life a new visitor experience at Crofton Roman Villa, as part of the upcoming refurbishment.

The new interactive and educational displays will expand on the history told at the ancient site through interpretation panels, wall murals, window graphics and a handling collection. The site is the only Roman villa open to the public in Greater London, with the funding helping to ensure that more residents and visitors can learn from and enjoy the ancient monument for generations to come.

The educational displays are central to the wider restoration of the site, which also includes a new roof and accessible toilets. Works are set to commence in early 2026 and expected to be completed in the summer.

Councillor Yvonne Bear, said: “For the first time we will be telling the whole story of the Crofton Roman Villa. This covers its origins as an Iron Age hut to its glory in the centre of a huge estate in Roman Britain, right through to its rediscovery in the twentieth century after it was lost during the fall of the Roman Empire. This project is about ensuring residents get the most out of their visits to learn about the incredible history of this ancient site, which is such a proud part of the borough’s heritage.”

Crofton Roman Villa is a unique site and this project will create an engaging, accessible experience for visitors of all ages.

National Trust Orpington

On the 15th November 1980 the Orpington & Chislehurst National Trust Centre (NTOCC) held its first meeting and now many years later we are celebrating our 45th Anniversary. The aim of the Centre is to further the work of the National Trust, by way of an active social programme. All monies raised go directly to the National Trust to help in the conservation of the nation's heritage and coastline.

The Centre to date has raised donations of around £240,000. Recent projects have included the restoration of the Croquet Lawn Hut at Chartwell and a new Cinque Ports flag which flies above the roof at Chartwell.

To celebrate the centenary year of the National Trust in 1995 we produced a Stained Glass Octavia Hill Memorial Window which can be seen in the Holy Trinity Church, Crockham Hill, the burial place of Octavia Hill, one of the founders of the National Trust.

Our membership, which is open to both members and non-members of the National Trust, mainly covers the Orpington, Chislehurst and surrounding areas but you can live anywhere to join us. We are one of about 180 Centres and Associations located across the country.

We have monthly evening talks held at the Orpington Methodist Church, Sevenoaks Road, Orpington, BR6 9JH, as well as some afternoon talks at the Chislehurst Methodist Church, Prince Imperial Road, Chislehurst, BR7 5LX.

In addition, we have social events, day trips, walks and holidays.

Recent holidays have been to Manchester and Cardiff.

Day trips include Crossness Pumping Station and Parham House & Gardens.

To find out more about the Centre and how to join, please send an email to:

ntocc100@gmail.com

Diana Harte, NTOCC Publicity Officer

Report a problem – Fix My Street!

<https://fix.bromley.gov.uk/>

Enter a Bromley postcode, or street name and area,

Locate the problem on a map of the area.

Enter details of the problem.

Confirm the report and Bromley Council will investigate.

<https://www.bromley.gov.uk/homepage/37/report-it>

If you are reporting an issue you consider to be dangerous or an emergency - call the Out of Hours Team on 0300 303 8671.



Weekend Opening of Waldo Road in Jan 2026

The Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre will reopen on a limited basis in January, at weekends, as work to complete the upgrade of the site continues.

Further details of when residents will be able to book appointments will be made available 'in due course', with a limited range of bulky items being able to be disposed of from the last weekend in January 2026.

Expanded options will be offered for residents ahead of a full opening.

Councillor Will Rowlands, Executive Councillor for Environment said, "As we press ahead with the upgrade work, which will be completed much later in 2026, I am pleased to confirm the re-opening of our Waldo Road Reuse and Recycling Centre in the New Year, open at weekends. We know for many residents that the weekend is a popular time to recycle unwanted bulky items and this additional disposal option will help residents in this popular period."

The weekend garden waste site at Norman Park closed on 29 November, with other sites already closed. **All sites will then reopen after Christmas to help residents recycle their Christmas tree and dispose of other garden waste as well if needed.**

Garden waste sites will then re-open again for the Spring gardening season.

Build your own LEGO Chimpanzee!



Chimp LEGO Workshop – a free, family-friendly event bursting with creativity and fun!

Orpington1st have created a custom LEGO Chimpanzee kit based on the incredible Gillie and Marc 'Chimps are Family' exhibition hosted in Orpington.

When: Saturday 6th December 2025 11am-3pm

Where: The Walnuts Shopping Centre

Bring the kids (ages 6+), unleash your imagination and take part in this hands-on drop-in workshop celebrating Orpington's famous brass chimps! **FREE entry** for children, families & LEGO lovers alike.

- Simply show a same-day receipt from any Orpington Town Centre business, shop, café or restaurant!

Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult who must be able to help younger children with the LEGO build.

Note: Places are first-come-first-served, limited number of LEGO kits available.

Chairman: Chris Ford **6 Morley Close** 07905831499
Treasurer: Don Benjamin **8 Broughton Road** 850259
Secretary: Mike Lawson **85 Crofton Road**

Committee members: Ted Fenwick, John Greeves, John Perkins,
Steve Skinner, Peter Bridges.



Thank you and Happy Christmas
To our Road Stewards

Alex Birks Agnew	12 St Thomas Drive	Nick / Betty	2 Orchard Green
Christine / Ron Bell	23 Drayton Avenue	Jennie Moreton	190 Crofton Road
Sheila Bristow	10 Hilltop Gardens	Christine McNamara	18 Clareville Road
Charles Castle	8 Highwood Close	Chris Mullender	3 Haverthwaite Rd
Isobel Clowes	22 The Ridge	Zdenka Pazderova	2 Broughton Road
Naomi Colwell	5 Monks Way	Jackie Pile	279 Crofton Road
Ray / Helen Cullern	20 Poplar Av	Jane/Adam Simons	37 Burlington Cl
Terry Easton	3 Newstead Av	Steve Skinner	59 Grange Road
Geoff Evans	28 Lansdowne Av	Jean Smith	85 The Ridge
Chris Ford	6 Morley Close	Julija Jurca	11 Stables End
Anne McIntyre	4 Oakwood Gdns	Mo / Chris Sparks	11 Munnery Way
John Greeves	16 Fairbank Av	Andy Steadman	51 Gumping Road
Ann/Brian Henderson	2 Lovibonds Av	Simon Stewart	29 Crofton Lane
Fang Li	10 Crofton Av	Kim/Keith Austin	68 Grasmere Gdns
Anthony Louis	21 Rose Dale	Allan / Clare	101 Crofton Av
Sandra Watts	7 Romany Rise	Mike Lawson	85 Crofton Road

**Please reach out to your Road Steward,
or the Committee via phone numbers above
or Email: info@croftonra.org.uk
<http://www.CroftonRA.org.uk>**

Can you help to support the CRA?

(Please ignore this if you have already paid your subs)

CRA subs remains at **£1** per house.

Donations are very welcome. On-line payment details:

Sort code: 20-14-33

Account number: 80302848

Account name: Crofton Residents association

Ref: <Your Name and Road>

