



# Canning & Clyde Road Residents Association

Website: [www.canni.demon.co.uk](http://www.canni.demon.co.uk)

3 May 2004

## POST IT NOW! EDITION

### PROPOSED POST OFFICE CLOSURE

The Post Office is intending to close our post office at 113 Lower Addiscombe Road. Many residents oppose this. Below are some of the reasons a variety of people have given us. **If you wish to see our post office remain open, then it is vital you take the time and trouble to write giving your reasons.** Each personal letter really counts far more than would a petition. You need to send your letter to: **Paul Simmonds, Head of Area, Post Office Ltd, c/o National Consultation Team, PO Box 2060, Watford WD18 8ZW by 7 JUNE 2004.** Buy a stamp from our local post office and post it now!

Reasons already given by residents:

- Ø Our post office is not just near but essential for people unable to travel far. It enables those who are not sufficiently mobile to take the bus to remain independent, collect their own money and send their own parcels. They can get out, see people and chat.
- Ø Some people feel much more secure obtaining cash from the small post office, where they are known, than at a cash dispenser.
- Ø Mr and Mrs Acharya's provide a personal service. If people cannot read or understand forms, they take the time and trouble to explain things.
- Ø Our post office has been at the heart of the local community since 1937.
- Ø When the Post Office closed the East Croydon office, it cited the St James Road and our 113 Lower Addiscombe Road offices as providing an alternative service. St James Road has since closed. The signs outside the closed East Croydon office still point people to these. It is hard to believe that the Post Office was not already considering closing these two offices when they made this statement. Was the Post Office deliberately misleading residents? Even if it was not, to offer alternatives due for closure is hardly helpful!
- Ø The level of service at the central Croydon and the central Addiscombe post offices is already unacceptable. The queues are even now too long.
- Ø Travel to the central Addiscombe post office is difficult for those with limited mobility. The bus service is unpredictable and drivers under pressure to meet timetables too often start moving before everyone has had a chance to sit down. There is very limited parking near the the Addiscombe office.
- Ø This is an area with a high density of population and consequential need.
- Ø The Post Office has recently sent round information informing people that direct payments can be made into a Post Office account. On the strength of this information, a number of residents have just applied for such accounts. They now feel misled.
- Ø Given the perception that the Post Office has misled people over the closure of East Croydon post office and the convenience of post office accounts, how can it expect people to trust it with the new financial services it is encouraging people to buy?
- Ø The residents association opened its bank account with Girobank (who transferred operations to Alliance & Leicester). We would have to review this to find the most convenient service provider.

**Please write – your letter is important!**

*continued overleaf*

We have the support of Andrew Pelling (Greater London Assembly Member), Geraint Davies MP and Sean Fitzsimons (Addiscombe Councillor).

Andrew Pelling would be pleased to gather as many reasons as possible to retain our local post office. Please copy your letter to him at: Cllr Andrew Pelling GLAM, FREEPOST SEA10670, Purley CR8 2UZ or e-mail: [Andrew.Pelling@london.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.Pelling@london.gov.uk)

Geraint Davies MP would also be interested to hear your views. Please copy your letter to him at: PO Box 679, CR9 1UQ or e-mail: [GeraintDaviesMP@parliament.uk](mailto:GeraintDaviesMP@parliament.uk).

Write also to Postwatch, the independent Consumer Council for Postal Services, at: Postwatch Greater London, 28-30 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0TT or e-mail: [london@postwatch.co.uk](mailto:london@postwatch.co.uk).

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## **ROLLING RUBBISH**

The current situation is that the Council will not provide further collections. Whilst supporting recycling, we are still actively promoting the great value of the rolling rubbish service.

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## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIPS**

The Council organises these meetings about three times a year. Councillors and council officers are present. Residents are asked for their views and informed of Council decisions. The next Addiscombe, Woodside & Ashburton meeting will be held at Ashburton Community School, Shirley Road on Wednesday 19 May at 7.30 pm.

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## **ADDISCOMBE LINEAR PARK**

The much promised linear park from the end of East India Way to the Black Horse Bridge has experienced continued delays because of 'social difficulties' around Dalmally Passage which need to be resolved between the Council and local residents. The Council has, however, hired a company to carry out a full survey of the site; the information gleaned will form the basis of design proposals and costings that council officers hope to present to interested residents in June. We shall let you know when we have learnt the date and venue.

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## **WRONG TROUSER DAY – FRIDAY 2 JULY**

Wallace & Gromit's Children's Foundation is a new charity dedicated to improving the quality of life for children in hospitals and hospices throughout the UK. It is holding a Wrong Trousers Day on Friday 2 July. You, your colleagues and friends can help children in hospitals and hospices by wearing funny, foolish or just plain wrong trousers on that day! All the foundation asks is that everyone who takes part pays £1 to Wallace & Gromit's Children's Foundation. If you would like to participate, visit their website at [www.wrongtrousersday.org](http://www.wrongtrousersday.org) or write to: Wrong Trousers Day Organisations, FREEPOST SWB315, Bristol BS2 8ZZ.

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## **CONTACT DETAILS**

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