

# ECCO

Dear Neighbours

Greetings, I hope you are well.

As you may know, The Boulevard was the name given to the western end of Addiscombe Road in the early years of the last century, when 11 planted areas populated with trees and shrubs were created for pedestrians to enjoy as they wandered towards East Croydon Station and the town centre. These planted areas have run wild as the years have progressed. The planted area at the eastern junction of Bisenden Road and Addiscombe Road is known as the BISENDEN BED.

Early in 2017, a remarkable Croydon character named JOAN PICK passed away. She was a tireless advocate for the conservation of our planet's limited resources. With the support of the East Croydon Community Organisation (ECCO), I persuaded the Council to plant a lime tree in Joan's honour in the Bisenden Bed at a public ceremony on 24th May 2017. We always intended this to be the first phase of the project. The second phase was to find a way of memorialising Joan in words, and to repopulate the Bisenden bed with flowers and shrubs. Some planting happened in the autumn of 2017 using a grant from the community budget of the ward councillors, but the plants did not flourish.

Andrea Perry from the Friends of Addiscombe Railway Park and Dartnell Park and I have been taking steps to complete the project. We've met with TfL, since they have responsibility for and oversee safety on either side of the tram track, with Croydon Council, which manages the Borough's green space including the beds, and with L&Q, the housing association which is building apartments close to East Croydon station, who may be able to help us by supporting applications for grant aid and by providing labour.

**Our proposal as a result of these discussions is to change the shape of the Bisenden bed to accommodate a new bench, made from wood sourced sustainably, similar to the one in the first bed at the corner of Blake Road, backed by a curving fence to encompass an area we can then plant with wild flowers and shrubs (please see sketches overleaf).**

The bench could carry an inscription to Joan, so that those who pass by or sit there will know that this small, biodiverse area was inspired by her and her passion for conservation. We feel that this accomplishment will bring pleasure to many Addiscombe residents and other passers-by. Once the bed is established, we hope neighbours will water the flowers now and again, but the aim will be to create one attuned to climate change for minimal maintenance.

## PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS

by putting this paper with your comments overleaf through the door of

**No.6 Blake Road, CR0 6UH, by Sept 30<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you – Jerry Fitzpatrick (ECCO Clean and Green Street Champion)

**For more information visit the web site**

**[eastcroydon.org.uk](http://eastcroydon.org.uk)**