

Christmas Fair We took part in the Acton Christmas Fair and raised £244.35. We plan to do so again this December and we are represented on the organising group.

Graffiti We have discontinued our bi-monthly paint out. The Council team now eliminates most graffiti rapidly. We will reinstate the paint out if the situation deteriorates.

Meetings

During the year we held one public meeting which was our Annual General Meeting in November 2008. We planned to have a second meeting in the summer on the subject of the Heathrow third runway. However we were unable to get anyone willing to put the 'pro' case. We have, however, joined HACAN Clearskies (Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise). More about them on their website www.hacan.org.uk. We are ready to leap into action should the third runway show signs of actually happening.

Newsletter

At our last meeting, the future of the Newsletter was uncertain. The printers Berrico told us they could no longer continue their sponsorship, and we had no editor. Happily Linda Taylor agreed to take over the editorship. We have not found a new sponsor, but we have succeeded in finding a new printer who has offered a price which we can afford from our own resources. Two editions were produced this year and there will be a further edition immediately following the AGM

Social

We held a second summer garden party at 34 Goldsmith Road on 21 June, which was very well attended and now looks like becoming an annual institution. Next year the summer party coincides with our tenth anniversary and we are looking at ways of marking it. All ideas welcome.

We organised a spring picnic in Acton Park on 16th May. The brave souls who defied the weather had an enjoyable afternoon and we plan to repeat the experiment, possibly later in the year when there's a better chance of fine weather.

Monthly pub socials continue to be well supported. In the New Year we revert to Wednesdays. The venue and date is always given on the website – Churchfield.org. There's no 'First Thursday' in December because of the Christmas party.

We held our most successful quiz event yet in October with 35 people taking part.. Friday evening at Kalinka proving a better time and venue than the George and Dragon on Sunday afternoon.

Kalinka was also the venue for last year's successful Christmas party. This year it will be at l'Oriental in Churchfield Road – the date for your diary is Friday 11 December.

Membership

Membership continues to be buoyant. We now have 176 members of whom 150 are now paying by standing order, giving the Association a more stable income stream.



Churchfield Community Association

Annual Report 2009

Our Association was born in the summer of 2000 out of frustration with the appalling level of graffiti and other vandalism on Churchfield Road. Therefore the coming year marks our 10th anniversary.

The fact that we have survived and flourished for ten years demonstrates that the Association fills a genuine local need. However many of those who were active in the early years are beginning to drop out.

Firstly, we must think of ways to mark and celebrate this important milestone so as to bring the CCA to the attention of more local residents and businesses. Secondly, we appeal to existing members to consider seriously coming forward to take a more active part.

The key to continuity for voluntary organisations is to allocate tasks among the widest possible number of people so that no one feels overburdened and gives up.

Consultations and Public Involvement

Town Hall Project We are represented on the Ealing Council consultation group looking at the options for bringing the Acton Old Town Hall back to life. In principle we strongly support the Council's efforts to develop this key site in the heart of the town, but we recognise that there are many competing interests to satisfy in this complex project.

Albion Public House We became involved in efforts to stop the Albion turning into a drug dealers' den. We put pressure on the owners which resulted in them properly securing the premises. There are no signs yet of any development work, although they have submitted plans. We continue to monitor this important local building.

Carnival Last year we reported to you on the poor organisation and unacceptable noise levels of the 2008 Acton Carnival. During the winter we, along with others, put pressure on the Acton Community Forum which resulted in Ealing Council's events team taking over. As a result, the Carnival this year was professionally organised and its future funding is now more secure.

Projects

GANG As a result of a proposal accepted by last year's AGM, we set up GANG – Good Acton Neighbours Group. The idea is to create a reserve of members able to step in and offer neighbours immediate non-professional help during illness or other family emergencies. This could involve lifts to hospitals or clinics or doing the shopping. In the scheme's first year we achieved many willing volunteers but only two customers. We deliberately put just a toe in the water for fear of taking on more than we could cope with. We now need to consider how to make our offer more widely known.

Carnival. We ran our customary stall at Acton Carnival on 11 July, raising £215.24 for our funds. Although the noise level was down and the organisation was much better, the day was slightly marred by poor weather.