CCA Acton Newsletter

The newsletter of the Churchfield Community Association (CCA)
Issue 58, Spring 2024

The Churchfield Community Association welcomes people living and working around Churchfield Road who are interested in making a difference to our area

CCA joins ActForEaling to tackle climate change

Juliet McDonald

The CCA has long championed environmental causes, so, when several members volunteered for ActForEaling, it made sense to join forces. The CCA is now one of 40 partners on the website.

ActForEaling was set up in 2020 when a small group of people began meeting to discuss local climate action. It brings together individuals and organisations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and to restore nature and biodiversity across the borough.

Campaigns include: Ealing Sewn Up, The Green School Network, Biodiverse Front Gardens and Balconies Competition, and Cut The Crap. These are just a few of the group's initiatives.

Cut The Crap is an exhibition currently touring the seven towns of the borough. It is in the foyer of ActOne Cinema until 25 May.

ActForEaling's Enid Barron who created the exhibition Cut The Crap

The focus is on waste and the huge damage it does to the environment, nature and wildlife. The interactive pop-up also provides suggestions about how to reduce waste and its impact.

In collaboration with Cultivating Ealing and Ealing Council, ActFor-Ealing promotes the Biodiverse Front Gardens and Balconies Competition. Anyone who has a front garden or balcony they are proud of can enter.

The aim is to encourage residents to increase biodiversity by planting instead of paving their front gardens, which invites birds, bees and insects to their home.

There are eight categories and generous cash prizes for the winner and runners-up.

More information can be found on the group's website www.actforealing.org. This features a wide range of eco-events, from film screenings and nature walks to repair cafés and clothes swaps. There is also an informative weekly e-newsletter.

Grow veg for ActForEaling's latest competition and win a prize

Email contact@actforealing.org to sign up or get involved.

May election

Janet Mearns

The May election in London was for the London Mayor and GLA members. CCA members voted in the constituency of Ealing and Hillingdon.

It was no great surprise that Labour candidate, Sadiq Khan, was returned as mayor, and that Bassam Mahfouz (Labour) became a new GLA member.

There was a slight departure from previous procedure. We could no longer provide a second preference when voting for the mayor, which can disadvantage smaller parties

Bassam, director of a refugee charity, represents Northolt West End Ward on Ealing Council. He can continue as a councillor, but may decide to resign, thus triggering a by-election.

His priorities for the GLA are: safer streets, homes for Londoners, an NHS where we need it, and a greener, more accessible city.

The CCA looks forward to engaging with Bassam over any relevant concerns in our neighbourhood.

Bassam Mahfouz (Labour) new GLA member

E-bike parking

David Wootton

Dockless e-Bikes and scooters are available to hire in Ealing. They are managed by three companies: Dott, Lime and TIER.

Ealing was the first London borough to partner with Lime, the bicycle-sharing company, after the firm rolled out its e-Bikes in 2018.

Churchfield Road W3 showing nine Lime e-Bikes in a designated parking area

E-Bike rides in the borough increased by 67% in 2022 compared to the previous year, achieving a total of 240,000 rides since Lime's launch in 2018, with over 550,000 km travelled.

To hire you must download their app to your smartphone, sign up and include your payment details. Charges average £1 to hire and then 30p per minute.

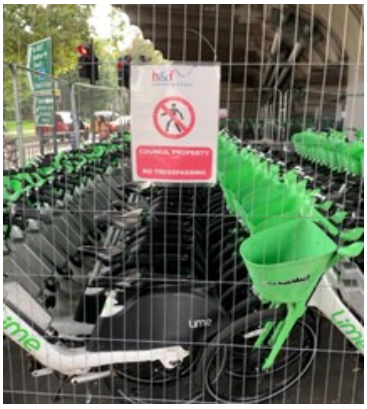
To comply with local rules and regulations, these vehicles have a maximum speed of 16 mph and you are limited as to where you can park. There are no national guidelines for parking and in West London each borough has its own set of conditions.

Ealing has designated parking areas, shown in the apps. The problem is that bikes are often left strewn in random places and blocking pavements.

Riders are required to take an 'end-trip photo' of how they park. These photos are reviewed, with users warned and fined for mis-parking.

Fines are £2 for the first offence, escalating to £20 for the fifth offence and after that a ban. All three companies state that they have teams to collect offending bikes within two to 12 hours of being reported.

LB Ealing's website directs residents to the hirer company's phone number to report anti-social parking issues. LB Hammersmith & Fulham is more proactive.



Hammersmith & Fulham: Hundreds of confiscated Lime e-Bikes under Hammersmith Flyover

Residents there can now report rental e-Bikes that are parked in an illegal or anti-social way via Love Clean Streets app. If not resolved by the hire company in 12 hours, then e-Bikes are confiscated and the hire company heavily fined by the council.

660 reports were made in May 2023 and that figure has now reduced to 100 in recent months. LB Wandsworth also now follows a similar policy.

Banking Hub update

- Now opening on Saturday mornings as well as weekdays for all your financial transactions.
- Post Office 'No Charge' ATM Machine now up and running at Banking Hub, accessible during The Oaks opening hours.

EVENTS

See: www.churchfield.org
Find us on Facebook
Any ideas for social activities, contact chair, David Wootton: Hello@Churchfield.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Reduce & Recycle Hub with CCA book swap:**
  First Saturday of every month, 10am-2pm at Acton Market
  As well as other recycling and repair opportunities.
- **CCA quiz with buffet:**
  Wednesday 3 July, 6.30pm
  at L'Oriental.
  Details to be sent by email.
- **Putt in the Park:**
  Wednesday 17 July, 6-6.30pm
  in Acton Park. Turn up and join in a round of putting.

ACTON HISTORY GROUP

www.actonhistory.co.uk/acton/
Details: David Bays
020 8992 0287; 07952 839653
Free to members; non-members £2
Meetings: 7.30pm, 2nd Wednesdays
St Mary's Church Hall

- **AGM and talk:**
  Wednesday 12 June, 7.30pm
  by 'Passmore Edwards' & David Knight on 'Old Acton Library'.
- **Talk by Michael Woods:**
  Wednesday 11 September, 7.30pm
  'Willesden Junction and the railway line to Richmond'.
- **Talk by Paul Lang:**
  Wednesday 9 October, 7.30pm
  'Postcards of Hayes and its environs'.

ActOne CINEMA

See: ActOneCinema.co.uk

- **Steve McQueen's 'Occupied City' screening:**
  Sunday 9 June, 1.30pm
  Introduced by Ellen Jones.
- **ROH live: 'Andrea Chenier':**
  Tuesday 11 June, 7.15pm
- **'Passport to Pimlico':**
  Wednesday 12 June, 2pm
  Classic matinee.
- **Acton Screen Revisited:**
  Sunday 23 June, 3pm
  A look back at Acton's cinematic history - discussion & surprise.
- **Dirty Blues Show:**
  Saturday 29 June, 7.30pm
  Music from the 1920s-40s.

Cinema & café short closure from 17 June for decoration.

Fly-tipping in Churchfield Road

Natasha Patel (BID manager, Your Acton Bid)

There has been ongoing and persistent fly tipping in Churchfield Road during the last 12 months, possibly longer. It is a particular issue at the corner of Burlington Road.

This is routinely reported to the council who will arrange collection, quite often on the same day. As a consequence there is no unsightly build up nor issues with vermin.

However the problem persists and there appears to be no deterrent. In fact the council's efficiency with its clean-up operation seems to encourage the practice.

Your Acton Bid were made aware of the problem and, as of February this year, they have helped facilitate the installation of a deployment camera above Fields Café on Churchfield Road.

Fly tipping in Churchfield Road

The camera has a 360 field of view so it can see up and down the road up to a certain point. It being a deployment camera also means that it can be moved into other areas should the need arise.

The purpose of this camera is to ensure the safety and security of all residents and businesses located on Churchfield Road.

Before this installation there were no cameras on the road. If a serious incident occurred, the Met Police would not have been able to get a clear recording of what had happened.

The camera is controlled and operated by Ealing Council CCTV control which is staffed 24 hours a day and provides consistent support to the Met Police.

You can see which cameras the control room controls and operates by going to GiS Ealing Maps: GiSMaps - CCTV (ealing.gov.uk).

Your Acton BID is relying on this installation to ensure peace of mind to everyone, as well as keeping an eye on the fly tipping issues which seem to plague that corner of Burlington Gardens.

Toilet and changing facilities at The Oaks

Maire Lowe

A couple of months ago I was passing through The Oaks when I heard shouting. An elderly man was calling out angrily.

As I drew nearer I saw he had wet himself. Presumably this was because he couldn't reach the toilet in time.

There are no signs showing facilities at The Oaks, but there is a single toilet open at certain times, and a baby changing room which is kept locked shut.

Oaks management say that, as they have been troubled by anti-social behaviour in the past, they post a phone number on both doors so that customers can call and request a key.

We assume the distressed man couldn't wait, had no phone or couldn't read the notice.

We asked Ealing Council's Planning Enforcement for their views. They sent wording from 'Policy S6 Public toilets'.

Why is there no security desk in the foyer, to look out for bad behaviour or help the bewildered? It's common in other shopping centres and supermarkets.

The Oaks management say fire regulations do not allow. We don't understand why.

The difficulty in accessing the toilet doesn't just apply to older persons and babies needing a change. Small children, disabled persons and others are affected.

Do you use the shops in the Oaks? What would you like to see happening here? The CCA would like to know.

Read more and sign the petition 'Open the facilities in the Oaks shopping centre':
https://chng.it/YXFbpM2zTQ.
Our goal is to reach 500 signatures and we need more support.

Policy S6 Public toilets

A Large-scale developments[92] that are open to the public, and large areas of public realm, should provide and secure the future management of:

1) free publicly-accessible toilets suitable for a range of users including disabled people, families with young children and people of all gender identities; and
2) free 'Changing Places' toilets designed in accordance with the guidance in British Standard BS8300-2:2018.

These should be available during opening hours, or 24 hours a day where accessed from areas of public realm.

92 'Large-scale' should be taken to mean developments that fall within Category 1B, Part 1 of The Town and Country Planning (Mayor of London) Order 2008, unless a development plan provides a local definition.

5.6.1 **Public toilets are a vital facility**, both for Londoners and visitors to the city. They are especially important for certain groups including disabled people, older people, people with babies and young children and pregnant women, as well as tourists and visitors who may be less familiar with their surroundings. Public toilets can support businesses in boosting customer footfall, by giving people

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To contact the CCA secretary:
Email: hello@churchfield.org
Website: www.churchfield.org

JOIN THE CCA

- Vote at meetings
- Receive invitations to members' events
- Join the CCA email group

Annual Membership fee *(Standing orders only)*
Single/Business – £5
Household – £7.50

2023 Annual General Meeting

Maureen Colledge

On a cold November night last year some of us turned out for the CCA's AGM.

This was followed by talks from Natasha Patel, Manager of Acton's Business Improvement District (BID) and Cathy Swift, Chair of LAGER Can, the Litter Action Group for Ealing Residents.

Both inspired us in the way they work with the community and achieve real impact.

A few of us who braved the cold holding placards for 'Cleaner and Attractive Acton' and 'Better Connected and Active Acton'

Rupa Huq, MP, and the new Rector of St. Mary's, Joseph Fernandes, also spoke.

Whilst those who attended agreed it was a good meeting, the turnout was disappointing. It was also a financial disaster as we had paid for the hall and a buffet.

This year we will meet our constitutional requirement to hold an AGM. But we'll avoid a financial disaster by holding a short formal one just before the start of our popular Xmas social and quiz.

Hustings

Maureen Colledge

When the General Election is called, which it must be before the end of January 2025, we will organise a Hustings, and invite all candidates to attend a public meeting.

Each candidate will make a short statement, followed by questions from the audience.

Our aim is to promote local democracy and give access to aspiring politicians.

Whether you are undecided or have decided who will get your vote, don't miss this opportunity to meet local candidates and question them about what is important to you!

Welcome to Churchfield Road

David Wootton

Fusion Java Food: opened in December 2023. Previously E'Sapurit Food/ Studio 102.

NOCO Deli: 53a Churchfield Road; opened in January 2024. Previously an office/residence.

Jet Travel: 137 Churchfield Road; opened in Feb 2024. Previously Pretty Woman Nail Bar.

Aston Rowe: moved from 103 Churchfield Road to ex Marsh & Parsons premises 57/59 Churchfield Road in March 2024.

Old Main Post Office: premises to be converted to Hillcrest GP surgery, opening Autumn 2024. https://www.hillcrestsurgery.nhs.uk/practice-relocation-update/

➢ **View recent and past newsletters on the CCA website: www.churchfield.org**

CCA QR Code links to CCA Website