CCA Acton Newsletter

The newsletter of the Churchfield Community Association (CCA)
Issue 60, Spring 2025

The Churchfield Community Association welcomes people living and working around Churchfield Road W3 who are interested in making a difference to our area.

Blue Badge Theft

Janet Mearns

Most people are vaguely aware of Blue Badges which allow disabled people to park in disabled parking bays and, in some circumstances, on yellow lines. This increases disabled people's opportunities to travel and park near their work, shops and other facilities they want to access.

Newly disabled and non-disabled people, including some councillors, do not realise that theft of Blue Badges is rife and growing.

The Internet enables thieves to sell the badges for considerable sums as London parking is in great demand. Despite the fact that people are dependent on their Blue Badges for daily activities, replacement badges can take weeks to arrive.

London Assembly member, Bassam Mahfouz, continues to raise this issue. When he was an Ealing councillor he introduced a disabled bay parking permit scheme, sometimes referred to as a 'white badge'.

Blue Badges relate to specific people, not vehicles. People who are severely disabled enough to qualify for a disabled parking bay outside their home can register their vehicle, obviating the need to leave their Blue Badge in their car overnight. There is a charge for this over and above the charge for the Blue Badge.

To find out more information, visit www.ealing.gov.uk; search for 'parking permits (disabled)'. You can also buy devices for locking your Blue Badge to your steering wheel by searching the Internet.

The criteria for getting a Blue Badge have been standardised across the country. They can include physical, sensory and mental mobility impairments.

You have to apply to your local council. Visit www.ealing.gov.uk. For further advice you can visit www.disablityrightsuk.org/resources/blue-badge-scheme.

Blue Badges and their possible theft are an example, albeit a minor one, of the extra costs of being disabled.

One of the benefits designed to help mitigate the extra daily living costs of being disabled, Personal Independence Payment (PIP), has been very much in the news recently because eligibility is to be restricted.

Whether you need a Blue Badge or advice about benefits that you may be entitled to as a disabled person or a carer, you can contact Ealing Advice Service for help: https://ealingadvice.org/.

CHURCHFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Summer Garden Party

Sunday 29 June 2025 *4.00pm to 7.00pm*

It's back – our great summer garden party.
Relax in a stunning local garden and enjoy the chat, with food and drink provided.
Small charge (£10 cash on the day) includes a donation to our host's charity UK Sepsis Trust.
Booking essential by emailing bayscolledge@talktalk.net

Friary Park - Phase 3

Paul Webster

After an extra round of changes by the developer, presumably based on discussions with Ealing Council, the GLA and, hopefully, the feedback from the local community, plans for the final phase of Friary Park / Verdean have been approved by Ealing Council planning committee.

The changes appeared on the council planning website about one week before the April committee meeting. This was after the previous proposal mysteriously disappeared from the agenda for the March meeting.

While some local campaigners hoped that this meant that the whole phase had been withdrawn and perhaps there might be a new plan with significantly smaller towers (nothing higher than 14 floors), that was always an unlikely outcome.

The developers have claimed that they need to have more properties to sell if they are to increase the number of social rented apartments.

In the end they have done this by modifying their proposal to add two more floors to one tower, making it 24 floors (the same as the highest one already in construction).

There are now 15 more social rent homes. This means that the Phase 3 development will add 693 homes, of which 148 are deemed 'affordable'. This implies that 545 are unaffordable!

Anyway, there does appear to be some flexibility in the future determination of how achievable these figures are, based on actual selling price and market conditions. So, campaigners need to keep a watchful eye on progress.

Adopt a Street with LAGER Can

(Litter Action Group for Ealing Residents)

Susan Hauser and Tricia Howey

I have been litter-picking for about six months now. I didn't much enjoy it at first and started off by doing it in a rather grudging fashion, thinking I shouldn't really have to do this, the Council should. Or people shouldn't just drop their rubbish wherever they go; it's a disgrace!

But I eventually got over myself and now love going out there and doing my bit. I have 'adopted' the street I live in, and litter-pick it once or twice a week. Most times it takes me less than ten minutes and makes such a difference.

The Poet's Corner branch of LAGER Can are spearheading a new initiative to inspire residents to keep their local streets clean.

With nationwide cuts to council street cleaning budgets impacting Ealing residents, the branch is trialling an 'Adopt a Street' approach to voluntary litter picking.

The scheme encourages people to be proactive about litter and fly-tipping issues, and commit to simply keeping their local patch litter free. Try it for yourself. It's good fun and you meet lots of friendly people.

Their new flyer highlights the benefits of litter picking, and how you can get involved. They can provide you with all the equipment, advice and encouragement you need. Adopt a street to make it cleaner and discover the benefits!

Email to be put in touch with a friendly member in your area: lagercan2020@gmail.com

EVENTS

See: www.churchfield.org

Find us on Facebook

Any ideas for social activities, contact chair, David Wootton: hello@churchfield.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

- **Your Acton Makers Markets:** A street market of makers and artists held between Burlington Gardens and Alfred Road Brought to us by Acton BID and Design LED. *Saturdays 21 June, 20 September, 13 December, 10am to 4.30pm, in Churchfield Road.*
- **Summer Garden Party:** Relax in a stunning local garden, with food and drink provided. Small charge (£10 cash on the day) includes a donation to our host's charity UK Sepsis Trust. **Booking essential** by emailing bayscolledge@talktalk.net *Sunday 29 June, 4pm to 7pm*
- **Acton Real Ale Festival:** All welcomed for ale tasting, plus comedy and barbecues. *Friday 29 to Sunday 31 August, 12 to 11pm, at West London Trades Union Club, 33 Acton High Street W3 6ND*

ACTON HISTORY GROUP

www.actonhistory.co.uk/acton/

Details: David Bays
020 8992 0287; 07952 839653

Free to members;
visitors welcome: £2

- **AGM & Talk by David Knights:** 'A Walk in Acton in 1987' *Wednesday 11 June, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Hall*
- **Talk by Anthony Smith:** 'Acton Farms and Farming' *Wednesday 10 September, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Church Hall*

ActOne CINEMA

ActOnecinema.co.uk

ActOne Cinema is expecting a very busy summer season with a varied choice of new films.
The venue continues to screen the Royal Ballet and Opera Live Cinema Season, inviting you to enjoy the excitement of live broadcast from the Royal Opera House. Plus a variety of live events in the lounge.

Energy Garden at Acton Central Station

Brandon Lynch, Community Engagement Officer

Energy Garden is an urban resilience model which aims to create environmentally supportive spaces, conversations and communities across London.

Energy Garden provides community owned solar projects. Through these it supports both youth training programmes and a series of biodiversity gardens along London's transport network.

Our Acton Central Station garden was established in 2017 with the support of the station staff and wider community. The platform now boasts over fifty containerised planters and an array of biodiversity.

Volunteering sessions, from 12pm and 4pm to 7pm, take place on the platform every Tuesday.

Our Energy Garden at Acton Central

Sessions include: watering, weeding, urban horticulture, and engaging with community members on environmental issues.

Keep an eye out for up-and-coming events over the summer period!

If you have an interest or experience in gardening, and would like more information or to take part in our sessions, get in touch with Brandon Lynch, the community engagement officer for our Acton Central Station: brandon@energygarden.org.uk.

All abilities and all ages are welcome; we aim to learn from each other, with each other.

Music Events at St Mary's Acton

Luca Wetherall, director of music at St Mary's church

Jazz Night at St Mary's

A huge success with high quality acts

We're building something new at our church. We want it to be a community hub for events and activities and not just a place for Sunday worship, though we're very good at that too!

A big part of this is the vibrant music scene that we've been creating both inside and outside of our regular services.

Recently, we launched an exciting new series called St Mary's LIVE. It's a series of Friday night concerts spanning multiple genres.

All our acts have been carefully curated and chosen for being some of the highest quality upcoming acts in London.

Our recent Jazz Night was a huge success and we were thrilled to welcome the Kelley Suttenfield Quintet.

We are always looking to keep innovating and evolving, so our next concert is something new: a 'Rave in the Nave' on the 11th of July.

Tickets are available here: buytickets.at/stmaryslive

What's happening in and around Churchfield Road?

David Wootton

Welcome to:

Kave Coffee Shop: was Village Trading Store.
Lark London: cards and clothing. May 2025.
Noco, now rebranded as Zola's: food deli. Nov 2024.
Soul Food Kitchen: 120 Churchfield Rd; was Roots.
Parakeet Wine Bar: 46 Churchfield Road.

Goodbye to:

Chimney Cake: March 2025; now vacant.
Maya Stained Glass: 31 Churchfield; working at home.
Pizza, Fish & Chips: 25 Churchfield Road; vacant.
Burger & Kebab: no. 21; awaiting new business.
Village Trading Store: Feb 2025; now *Kave Coffee*.
Poets Wine Bar: May 2025; now *Parakeet Wine Bar*.

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

Newsletter edited by: Linda Taylor (linda102taylor@gmail.com) **Printed by:** Blissetts Print

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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

Padel Courts in Acton Park

Ealing Council listens to local residents

Rosy Leigh

Ealing Council responded to demands for public access to padel ball in Acton with a plan to build courts on the former bowling green garden in Acton Park.

Padel ball is a cross between tennis and squash and new courts would be part of the council's improved sports facilities for young people.

A brief consultation was put on Ealing's website during April, including a one-day exhibition. Few people objected to having more sports facilities.

However, many were dismayed by the way in which the proposed location relied on an evidently unsupported claim that the best option was to tarmac over an existing peaceful garden space.

Over a thousand survey responses were received following a concerted effort to alert as many local people as possible to the threat to the garden.

This seems to have been a genuine consultation to garner views from residents, and councillors have listened.

Because of the many expressions of concern about the proposed location, they have agreed that they will not be proceeding with the idea of delivering courts in that section of Acton Park.

They are reviewing whether there are alternative locations within Acton Park which could be suitable. If such locations are identified, they will arrange another consultation exercise to allow local people to choose their preferred option.

Quizzing

Maureen Colledge

Thanks to all those who come to our popular quizzes. Tony and Paola at L'Oriental have been hosting our quizzes for years and always provide a good spread.

Forty-two came to our combined AGM and quiz last November at The Rocket and thirty booked for our recent quiz at L'Oriental.

Our excellent quizmaster Paul Talbot comes up from Kent to conduct the quizzes, but he is finding the travelling difficult. Is there anyone out there willing to take over or understudy Paul?

A street market of makers and artists held between Burlington Gardens and Alfred Road. Brought to us by Acton BID and Design LED.

♦ *Saturdays 21st June, 20th September and 13th December; 10am to 4.30pm, in Churchfield Road.*

Membership Drive

Whilst membership of the CCA has stayed constant for several years, we want to encourage more locals to join us. We have enclosed a membership leaflet for you to pass on to friends or neighbours to encourage them to join. Our best selling method is word of mouth, so if you can tell them about the good work we do, how sociable we are and the events they will be invited to, all the better.

Thank you, from the CCA Executive Committee.

CCA QR Code links to CCA Website