



CCA Acton Newsletter

The newsletter of the Churchfield Community Association (CCA)
Issue 62, Spring 2026



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

Acton Park pond — grant for rejuvenation

Maureen Colledge



Acton Park pond as it is now



An imagination of how it could be

Success! £3,500 grant from Ealing's 'Your Town, Your Voice' fund to the CCA

Last November we bid for some of Ealing Council's community fund for ideas to create a cleaner, greener and more welcoming Acton.

Spurred on by our member Jon Blend's two year campaign to get action on the sorry state of Acton Park's pond, we bid to return it to a thriving wildlife pond. This month we learnt that we had been successful.

The Parks Service already has funding for new fencing for the pond. With their support, we asked for money for other improvements.

Our £3,500 grant will pay for marginal plants, such as yellow Iris, variegated slender sweet flag and white Marsh Marigold.

It will also buy pond plant soil, planting bags and gravel; oxygenators; pond edging; pond waders and dipping kits for cleaning and educational use; a metal interpretation panel about pond life; and labour to work with and guide volunteers.

The Acton Park Ranger supports our plans and the Ark Byron School told us they use the park, including the pond, for nature teaching, so renovation would benefit them.

As Jon Blend, child and adolescent psychotherapist said in support of our bid, 'Children and young people benefit from access to fresh air and breaks from classroom learning. Nature-watching at a functional pond

could help them breathe better, and calm busy nervous systems.'

We will be appealing for help with work on the pond, so please consider stepping up when we have a volunteers' session.

If you can't help with work, how about giving us a donation to fund more labour?

You can make a bank transfer to:

Churchfield Community

Association;

Account number: 46113010;

Sort code: 60-01-02.

And add the reference 'POND'.

Local Elections —Thursday 7th May 2026, 7am to 10pm

West London Orbital railway go-ahead

Paul Webster

West London Orbital is back on the agenda. TfL plan to consult on it with the public this summer.

The new service is planned to run between Hendon and Hounslow using existing underused rail tracks, including Acton Central and South Acton stations

This will make some new journeys available by train rather than car or bus, which may be great for fans of Brentford Football Club as the new Lionel Road Station is next to the stadium.

However, for those living close to the line this will mean more train noise and wider disruption, since, at least earlier in their ideas, TfL planned to permanently close the level crossings on Churchfield Road and Bollo Lane.

The justification for closing the level crossings is that the increased rail traffic would mean that they would be closed for 70% of the time when trains are running, and potentially more if there were problems on the line resulting in the east/west services not being synchronised.

Lifts and a footbridge seem to be TfL's preferred solution for Churchfield Road, rather than making the existing foot tunnel available without needing to go through the ticket barriers.

Since the building of the new flats in Station Yard, the existing tunnel door is not usable because it is in their courtyard behind closed gates.

However, if the barriers are permanently closed, there are some significant consequences to consider:

- A pedestrianised section of Churchfield Road would be a problem for those living near the crossing, particularly in Goldsmith Road where cars would not be able to exit.
- Access to the park and nearby nursery and schools would become harder.
- People on East Churchfield Road would have a longer trip to the local shops.
- There would presumably be traffic disruption, with vehicles using the side roads to and from Uxbridge Road a lot more.

A link to more information has been added to the CCA website: <https://churchfield.org/directory/>
You can follow that to register for updates from TfL.



Proposed route of West London Orbital

Your Acton Makers' Market

Natasha Patel

Your Acton Makers' Market returns for its third vibrant year, bringing the community together across four special dates: Saturday 18th April, 20th June, 19th September and 12th December.

With over 50 stalls, visitors can explore a rich mix of local artisan makers, delicious food vendors, and beloved Acton businesses.

This year the celebration grows even bigger, with the road closure extended from Alfred Road to Cowper Road, creating more space to wander, shop and connect.

Whether you're discovering handmade treasures or enjoying street food, the market promises something for everyone. For more information, please visit:

www.youractonbid.co.uk.

EVENTS

See: www.churchfield.org

Find us on Facebook

If you have any ideas for social activities, please contact our chair, David Wootton:
diwootton@gmail.com

CCA SPECIAL EVENTS

- ♦ **Spring Quiz:**
Thursday 16 April, 6.30-9.30pm
The Rocket pub.
Details will be sent by email.
Booking essential:
bayscolledge@talktalk.net
- ♦ **Summer Garden Party:**
Sunday 28 June; 4 to 7pm
In a stunning W3 garden.
Full details to be sent by email.
Booking essential:
bayscolledge@talktalk.net

ACTON HISTORY GROUP

www.actonhistory.co.uk/acton/

Details: David Bays

020 8992 0287; 07952 839653

Free to members; non-members: £2
(Membership £10 a year)

*All meetings: 7.30pm,
2nd Wednesdays,
St Mary's Church Hall,
opposite Morrisons*

- ♦ **AGM and 40th Anniversary:**
Wednesday 10 June
- ♦ **Talk: Portraits of Acton**
Notables:
Wednesday 9 September
- ♦ **Talk: Rise & Fall of All Saints Church Acton:**
Wednesday 14 October

LOCAL ELECTIONS IN MAY

Local Elections take place on Thursday 7 May 2026 from 7am to 10pm.

You must be registered to vote by 20 April, which you can do online. Details of your polling station will be on your polling card, sent to you in advance.

To vote in person you must have photo ID: e.g. passport, driving licence, Blue Badge, Oyster 60+ card, Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) or Freedom Pass.

No voter ID? Apply for a Voter Authority Certificate online at least six days before the election: www.gov.uk

High Street disabled parking success

Janet Mearns

The benches and planters, which were installed without any Equality Impact Assessment, have been removed from outside 25-53 Acton High Street.

When lockdown restrictions were eased, we found these obstructions taking up all the parking bays, except for those for loading only seven days a week up to 7pm.

Where were disabled people to park to access the near-by shops and facilities?

After some campaigning, we were promised two disabled bays, but only one appeared, which was almost continuously occupied by



Updated road markings in the High Street

the same Blue Badge holder, indicating that they really needed it. It has taken a five-year campaign to get the obstructions removed.

The parking bays have now been re-configured. East to west there are now two loading bays, one disabled bay and four bays for general use.

Disabled people now have a much increased chance, although no certainty, of finding a parking place in that part of the High Street.

This improves their ability to go out and about, which is essential to their wellbeing and important to local businesses.

The second promised disabled bay would reassure us that the council care about the needs of all local residents.

Parking changes in Churchfield Road

David Wootton

From November 2025 Ealing Council has replaced its free Stop & Shop parking bays with a revised Stop & Shop+ scheme, plus new hire e-Bike parking bays.

Under the new system, drivers are required to register their vehicle, and now get 30 minutes of free parking instead of 60, after which charges will apply.

An LBE statutory consultation between April and May 2025 received 791 valid responses (82% opposed, 12% supported them, and 6% neutral).

Most respondents believed the scheme would harm local businesses. Others raised concerns about its impact on elderly and disabled drivers, digital exclusion (people who do not use mobile phones), and the lack of need for change.

These changes have adversely impacted local business. The previous free 60 minute Stop & Shop bays on Churchfield Road and surrounding side streets are now Stop & Shop+ bays. Shoppers are deterred from using them.

Stop & Shop vehicle parking has further been reduced by the introduction of hire e-Bike parking bays from Autumn 2025 on and around Churchfield Road. Local businesses say they were not consulted about the loss of these car parking bays.

The council acknowledged these concerns but argued that requiring registration, even for free parking, would improve enforcement and increase space turnover.

Renters Reform Act 2025

Open-ended tenancies, controlled rent rises and stronger tenant protections

David Wootton

In February 2026, I attended a workshop on behalf of the CCA held at St Mary's Church Acton to update local groups and the Acton renting community on the new regulations for renters.

The Key Changes in Brief:

From 1st May 2026, the rental system moves to a single, rolling tenancy model. Fixed-term contracts end, and all existing Assured Shorthold Tenancies automatically become periodic tenancies with no set end date.

Evictions will become more regulated. Landlords can no longer rely on automatic end of term possession and must use a valid legal ground. However, cases where notice is served before May 2026 may still follow the old rules.

Rent increases are standardised, limited to once per year, requiring two months' notice, and must reflect market rates.

Tenants gain the right to challenge increases.

Tenants also gain a new right to request permission for pets, while students remain subject to a specific rule allowing eviction at the end of the academic year with four months' notice.

Landlords must provide tenants with an official government information sheet by 31st May 2026 with financial penalties for non-compliance.

For further information:

Renters' Rights Act Information Sheet 2026—GOV.UK

The newsletter of the
Churchfield Community
Association (CCA)
Issue 62, Spring 2026

To contact the CCA Chair:
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

CHURCHFIELD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Spring Quiz

Thursday 16 April 2026 6.30pm to 9.30pm at The Rocket



Summer Garden Party

In a stunning W3 garden

Sunday 28 June 2026 4.00pm to 7.00pm



Details will be sent by email. Booking essential at bayscolledge@talktalk.net

Acton History Group celebrates 40 years

David Bays

In June, Acton History Group will celebrate its 40 year anniversary.

After humble beginnings in 1986, the Workers Educational Association class soon evolved into an active group of people interested in the area's history.

Retired teachers, Tom and Averil Harper Smith, spearheaded the group's early years, inspiring research and some long-lasting projects.

These included indexing issues of the Acton Gazette up to 1965, which has since proved invaluable to local historians. They also published over forty booklets about aspects of Acton History.

Since then, the group has published several of its own works, including *Tin Hats*, *Doodle Bugs and Food Rations* about Acton's home front in WW2; *Waitrose: Seeking to Attain Perfection*, relating the story of the first Waitrose shop in Acton and how the company prospered; *Acton Through Time*, a collection of old and new photographs of the town; and *Celebrating the Light*, the story of Mill Hill Park.

Another early project raised funds to rescue the old parish pump which now stands behind railings outside St. Mary's church alongside the restored milestone.

Regular meetings are held on the second Wednesday of most months. The Group's special 40th anniversary AGM will reflect on some of its past and look forward to future activities. It will be at 7.30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall on Wednesday 10th June.

For information about joining the group or attending as a visitor: www.actonhistory.co.uk/acton/page2.html

Or contact the Secretary at 30 Highlands Avenue, Acton W3 6EU

Hello & goodbye on Churchfield Road — David Wootton

Welcome to:

Snoots Vet Services, August 2025; previously JG Contemporary

Mari Specialist Coffee, February 2026; previously Bondi Juice

Bloom Central, September 2025; previously Mill Deli

Layla's Bakery, September 2025; previously Zola's Bakery/Deli

Terracotta, November 2025; previously One Two Bitez!

Goodbye to:

L'Oriental, September 2025; awaiting new use

Re'Store, September 2025; awaiting new use

Poets Parakeet, February 2026

➤ View recent and past newsletters on the CCA website www.churchfield.org