

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage

For the benefit of Mitcham Cricket Green
Conservation Area and its environs

Bulletin Winter 2015



You may already have heard the very exciting news of almost £4 million of grant funding for the Canons area.

We worked hard with Friends of the Canons and Mitcham Society to help Merton Council write the bid for this Lottery grant last year. There is now over £300,000 to develop the project's ideas during the coming year – and we want the whole community to get involved. See inside for more.

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£4 million Lottery grant for Canons area

There are big plans to restore the Canons, rejuvenate Madeira Hall, make a new café between the Canons and Madeira Hall, make the running track usable to joggers and others, create a sensory garden and much, much more thanks to a multi-million pound Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

We are acutely aware of the need to maintain and celebrate the contrasting characters of the built and open areas, make the area more inviting to new and different audiences, and not introduce too much new development and clutter.

There will be lots of opportunities for all the community to get involved in the next phase of the work and help shape the changes that will take place, and we couldn't be more excited about the prospects. Do get in touch if you want to be part of it – email us at info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk.

St Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church has put in a planning application for a parish hall behind the church, close to a number of homes. We are supportive, and have asking the Planning Committee to ensure: amplified sound systems are not used, there is no light spillage, the design standard is high, rainwater management is adequate and access to the hall by the whole community is encouraged.

The **recycling facility** behind the Vestry Hall has still not been removed despite a commitment being made before we published our last bulletin in September 2014. Cricket Green ward councillor and cabinet member for Environmental Cleanliness and Parking Judy Saunders agrees that the location is inappropriate. We continue to press for its removal.

Date Valley School asked for permission for a Saturday school and evening opening for adult education. At the October Planning Committee a decision was deferred so local people's concerns about parking and other points could be considered.

The school then removed evening classes from its application, retaining plans for a Saturday school for 5 to 17 year old students. The December planning committee refused this application on the grounds of impact on public amenity such as noise and disruption caused by cars.

The input of local people alerting the council to problems with parking and other disruption was crucial to the Planning Committee's decision.

We held a public meeting with the owners of the **Bull pub in Church Road**. They have responded to our views on their work to convert the pub into flats, and we had a very interesting and useful discussion about the history and future of the building.

If you have not already tried it, then please do download our **free audio trail**. It is a wonderful hour long guided walk around Cricket Green designed for your smartphone. Get it from our web site – www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk/free-audio-trail

Burn Bullock on national Heritage at Risk register

The Burn Bullock has been added to the national Heritage at Risk Register. This is maintained by English Heritage and records the listed historic buildings and structures across England most at risk from being lost or irrevocably damaged.

The owner has submitted a planning application for works to repair the building, but as we write there is still no word on the future use of the building or its large car parks. This is a very fluid situation – follow us on Twitter for the latest news @MitchamCrktGrn, and watch our web site www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk.

Cricket pavilion is Merton's first Asset of Community Value

Following our nomination, Merton Council has officially recognised the historic Mitcham cricket pavilion as an Asset of Community Value. This is the first community asset to be recognised in this way anywhere in Merton, though over 1,000 buildings, open spaces, pubs and other community assets have been recognised by local authorities across England.

Listing gives the cricket pavilion an important status as a building that's valued by local people when decisions are made about its future or development in the area. Also, any effort to sell the building would trigger a six month moratorium during which time the community could raise the funds and support needed to take over responsibility for the building.

This recognition is especially important as the cricket pavilion faces an uncertain future. Although locally listed it is under the same ownership as the nearby Burn Bullock.

We are supporting Merton's Heritage Discovery Day in March

Please come to the Civic Centre in Morden on 28th March for an exciting Heritage Discovery Day being hosted by Merton Council. Heritage organisations from across the borough will come together to show off the great work they do. There will be displays and activities for all the family. We'll be giving one of a number of talks. Full details of the day are being planned, but it is going to be a day packed with things to do and see.

Mitcham is the borough's bloomin' hotspot

This time of year might seem an odd one to be celebrating our area's success in the Merton in Bloom competition – but the achievements in 2014 are a great encouragement for planning 2015 displays. So, our warmest congratulations go to all. Best Bloomin' Pub class 1st the White Hart, 2nd the Windmill, 3rd the King's Arms, Highly Commended the White Lion of Mortimer. Best Commercial Premises class 2nd the Barratt Homes office at Miles Road, Highly Commended Gino's Restaurant and Cricket Green Medical Practice. Best Community Garden class 3rd Age UK Merton, Highly Commended St Barnabas Church and Mitcham Parish Church. School Wildlife Garden class 3rd Bond Primary School, Highly Commended St Mark's Primary School.

About Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage is the civic society for Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area and its environs. Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area was the first to be designated in Merton, in 1969. Cricket Green has great historical importance, including a really interesting sporting heritage that's about more than just cricket. We work hard to protect Cricket Green, maintain its much valued village character, and encourage everyone to enjoy its open spaces and take pleasure in its history and diverse local community.

We are part of a national network of hundreds of civic societies through our membership of Civic Voice.

Dates for your diary

24 February 2015 Monthly Meeting. Our monthly meeting at the cricket pavilion on Cricket Green starts at 6pm. All are welcome.

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28 March 2015 Discovery Day, Civic Centre Morden. A celebration of heritage packed with information, activities and displays.

28 April 2015 AGM. Time and venue to be confirmed at our web site.

8 May 2015 Pirelli golf tournament and luncheon. Annual fundraising event for Mitcham Cricket Club details to follow at our web site or email us to be kept updated.

Check www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk for additional diary dates

Join us and make a difference

As a local charity and voluntary group we rely on your support. How you can help us:

- Join us. Annual membership costs £10. You will find a joining form at our web site or you can write to us at our registered office (address below)
- Send your views on issues in this Bulletin to info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk
- Ask us for more information about anything in this Bulletin
- Come along to one of our meetings. We meet on the last Tuesday of every month (except December). Everyone is welcome.
- Follow our lively and informative twitter stream - @MitchamCrktGrn
- Like us on Facebook <http://on.fb.me/1mLDIQL>

General enquiries: info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk

Web site: www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk

Twitter: @MitchamCrktGrn

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