

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage

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

Bulletin Autumn 2015



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We are Highly Commended in national Civic Voice Design Awards

We were delighted when we learned that we'd been shortlisted for the prestigious Civic Voice 2015 Design Awards.

Only 12 projects throughout England were shortlisted for an award. We were in the Public Realm category – and shortlisted alongside three other projects for our Lottery funded Cleaning Local Landmarks project.

Representatives of MCGC&H attended the national awards ceremony at Central Hall Westminster, where Civic Voice President Griff Rhys Jones presented the awards. You can see our Highly Commended plaque on the front cover of this bulletin.

This is what the judges said about our project:

"An imaginative community led scheme to restore three historic local landmarks; a milestone, a memorial stone and a horse trough which have all played a part in the story of Mitcham. Local heritage is preserved, celebrated and brought meaningfully to life by and for local people, inspiring a new generation to learn about and appreciate how the present is firmly rooted in the past. A model of how to involve volunteers in heritage and how small interventions can cumulatively make a huge difference."

Civic Voice has published a commemorative booklet about the awards with information about all the entrants, and you can see this along with photos from the ceremony at our web site – www.mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk

An old planning permission for flats on the **Kwik Fit site** on London Road site has lapsed, and a new owner has been consulting on a new plans.

The plan at the time of writing is for 22 flats and 280 square metres of ground floor commercial space. Our submitted comments to Merton Council include our view that the building is too high and bulky, overpowering for the location at the gateway to the conservation area and inappropriate to the size of the nearby housing. We expect a full planning application imminently.

We have become involved in work on the **contracting out of the management of green spaces**. We made a submission to Merton Council

highlighting the detailed characteristics of the open spaces in Cricket Green to help inform the specification and ensure the distinctive character of our area is treated properly in any contract. You can read this at our web site.

We were pleased to see Merton Council's Planning Committee refuse an application for a **new bungalow** in the back garden of a property in Mitcham Park.

We do not generally get involved in domestic planning applications, but in this case we felt a precedent would be set if planning application was given, causing damage to the special character of this part of Cricket Green Conservation Area.

Mitcham Heritage Day Saturday 19 September

Join us at Cricket Green on Saturday 19 September for Mitcham Heritage Day. We are delighted to be coordinating a number of different activities across Cricket Green between 10am and 4.30pm. You should have a flyer about the day with this bulletin showing everything that's happening. More details are at our web site – www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk. Some of these events are part of the Open House London programme.

Bollards!

There is a new row of intrusive 'chalk stick' bollards along Cricket Green road opposite Date Valley School.

They were fitted quickly as a response to the incursion of travellers on this section of green space.

There are also garish metal posts which can be laid flat for vehicle access to the grass. One of these is in very insensitively located in the

centre of the footpath opposite Cold Blows.

Fortunately, Merton Council agrees with us that the bollards are not appropriate, and we have been informed that they are a 'temporary measure' and will be replaced with something more appropriate.

What that will be, and when it will arrive we do not yet know. We are working with council officers to speed things along.

Burn Bullock and cricket pavilion update

Since our last Bulletin you will have noticed scaffolding around the Burn Bullock indicating that the works required on the listed building by Merton Council are underway. We hope this is at last the start of a new chapter in the life of this famous local pub.

We continue to work very closely with Mitcham Cricket Club to help the club achieve a secure future for the cricket pavilion, which is in the same ownership as the Burn Bullock.

Community on the Green a great success

Our Community on the Green event held on 29 July was a great success – thanks to everyone who came along to find out more about us and our work and to celebrate Cricket Green.

Highlights of the evening were: an excellent speech by Mayor of Merton David Chung, presentation of cheques to Mitcham Cricket Club by both Mitcham Cricket Green

Community & Heritage and Mitcham Society following our annual joint golf day earlier in the year and a guided walk round The Canons grounds. Cricket was played by young members of Mitcham Cricket Club.

This is only the second time we have held Community on the Green – and it looks like it is set to be an annual fixture!

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 among 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

25 August, 29 September, 27 October, 24 November Monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of the month at the cricket pavilion on Cricket Green. 7pm start for August and September. Check online for October and November start time.

19 September Mitcham Heritage Day (incorporating Open House London). We are coordinating a series of walks, tours and open venues. Details at our web site.

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 email us or 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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