

Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage

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

Bulletin Summer 2017



Our new Community Map for Cricket Green
Built by the community, for the community
Use it to share what you love that makes Cricket Green special
Find it at www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk

MITCHAM HERITAGE DAY, SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER

See our web site for more information – www.mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk

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Help build a map of what makes our area special

We have created a brand new online community map for local people to show what makes our area special.

The map can be accessed from any computer, phone or tablet through your web browser. Find it at our web site www.mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk.

Tell us what makes Cricket Green special to you by adding something to the map. Just mark the spot and then write something about what you are adding. It could be a building, a view, an object of any kind, a tree, an open space – anything you like. You can even add a photo direct from your phone. And you can comment on things other people have already put on the map.

We want this community map to be a resource that everybody can use, and one that we can all add to at any time. So go on, add something. Let's all celebrate the things that make our area special!

We'd like to thank Big Lottery Fund Celebrate England for the grant which made this work possible, and our development partner, community mapping service PlaceCheck.

As we write there is no update on the **Burn Bullock**. Plans were shown at a public exhibition in November last year but a formal planning application has not yet emerged. The Burn Bullock owners also own the cricket pavilion, and we are working hard with Mitcham Cricket Club to help ensure the safety of this important local building, Mitcham's first Asset of Community Value.

We distributed entry forms for **Merton in Bloom**, and have entered the **Its Your Neighbourhood** competition again this year. Watch the next Bulletin for details of the results. Mitcham usually does well in these competitions.

Before the General Election in June we asked the prospective Parliamentary candidates for the Mitcham and Morden constituency a **series of questions** about their approach to our area. See their

responses, including from re-elected sitting MP Siobhain McDonagh (Labour) at our web site – <http://bit.ly/2tomIIO>.

A number of **new street signs** have appeared in the Conservation Area replacing older signs on increasingly rickety wooden posts. We've spotted some variance between old and new including a different font and background colour and a difference in the cricket pitch style 'frame'. We're talking with Merton Council to ensure any further replacement signs are closer to the older ones in design.

We are dismayed at Merton Council's reduction of its grant to **Mitcham Common** from £48,000 in 2016/2017 to £24,000 for the current year. This has already cut maintenance on the common, including the path network that makes it so accessible.

The Canons Lottery bid - all systems go!

We're delighted The Canons has been awarded over £4 million by the Lottery.

The running track, dovecote, obelisk and pond will all benefit. The Canons house will be restored and let as offices, and the basement will become a community space. There will be a new café and children's play area. The car park outside the leisure centre will be replaced with a plaza. There will be a number of community projects. And there's much more!

As a member of The Canons Partnership (along with Friends of the Canons and Mitcham Society) we have already put in hundreds of hours of volunteer time over the last couple of years working with Merton Council and a number of expert consultants to achieve this success.

Now the grant has been secured, the real work begins! Watch our web site for the latest news, and let us know if you want to be involved.

What next for the Wilson?

The most recent timetable we have seen for the redevelopment at the Wilson Hospital site has a proposed opening date of March/April 2021.

This was in a recent paper presented to Merton Council's Health and Wellbeing Board by Merton Clinical Commissioning Group which is leading on the work. It is almost a full year later than people were told at a public meeting on the future of the Wilson on 31 January this year, where the operational date was given as June 2020.

The 'community development' part of the project will have separate funding arrangements and there is no programme for this available as we write this Bulletin. We continue to try hard to ensure a strong voice for local people in shaping the plans. The fate of the Birches remains unclear.

Celebrating 50 years of Conservation Areas

Did you know that Conservation Area legislation is 50 years old? We are celebrating this with national charity Civic Voice by identifying 50 things that make Cricket Green Conservation Area special.

We want to hear everyone's suggestions for inclusion in the list, and we're open to all ideas for things large and small. Views, trees, walls, paths, buildings – or details of buildings, and anything else you can think of! Put your suggestions on the Community Map at our web site Or email them – with a photo if possible - to info@mitchamcricketgreen.org.uk.

Adding to the Local List

Our proposal to add a number of items to Merton's Local List has been successful. All of our suggestions have been accepted for addition: cast iron Victorian gas lamp post at Jubilee Corner, historic running track at Park Place, Bramcote Court and Parade and lamp stands at Canons Lodge.

Goodbye to the Cricketers pub

The Cricketers was demolished in just a few days in May, in preparation for a development of flats. The development comes after a Planning Inspector gave the green light following refusal of the plans by Merton Council's planning committee, which consistently supported our view that proposed plans were too intensive and poorly designed for the area. There had been a pub on the site for over 200 years.

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.

Everyone is welcome to join us on the last Tuesday of every month (except December) for our open meeting at the cricket pavilion on Cricket Green. 7pm start.

Check www.mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk for additional diary dates and news.

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. There is a joining form at our web site or email us or write to our registered office (address below)
- Follow our lively and informative twitter stream - @MitchamCrktGrn
- Like us on Facebook <http://on.fb.me/1mLDIQL>



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**General enquiries: info@mitчамcricketgreen.org.uk
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