

Registered Charity No: 260077

The Charlton Society

Newsletter April 2023

Charlton House Summerhouse

As discussed at the last meeting, work is being undertaken to re-panel the Summerhouse, replicating the panelling in the Grand Salon. The work is being managed by Research Design who have received notification from Historic England they have funding to continue the work, although there is no deadline for completion. A document has been circulated detailing the work. Another issue that has been raised is one of the plane trees planted close to the Summerhouse is undermining the foundations of the Summerhouse. Research Design are proposing putting together an application to have the tree felled. Thank you to all members who responded to the discussion at last month's meeting. Also at the last Committee meeting it was discussed Research Design would present at a forthcoming CS meeting (scheduled for June) and host a brief Q&A. Please feel free to tender questions in advance.

Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust

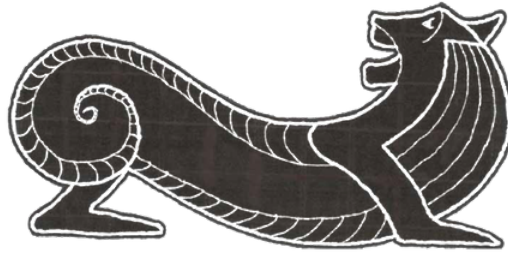
Charlton House is now officially open (although closed for the next couple of weeks due to filming work). Previous CEO, Tracy Stringfellow, has left and previous Head of Public Programming, Janet Denne, is now acting CEO. There is a calendar of events planned, Friday lunchtime concerts are returning, an open-air cinema festival is scheduled for early May. Frilly's has also re-opened. The Charlton Society looks forward to holding its meetings back at Charlton House from May and enjoying the House as an active community space once again.

RBG Urban Design Consultation

RBG produced a thorough 892pp document, *Urban Design Guide*, covering the whole of Greenwich detailing the design characterisation and intensification in specific areas of the Borough including Charlton. RBG asked for a response from residents, businesses and community groups, The Charlton Society's Planning Sub-Committee worked on a detailed response. A copy of the report is posted on the website under Planning.

Imagery Competition

The Charlton Society is proposing putting together a new collection of cards and notelets and would like to invite members to contribute. We are also looking to produce a calendar for 2024, plus update the images for the website. Deadline for all is *Friday 30th June*.



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Continued

Planning Update

The White Swan: News keeps coming! The eviction order to evict the squatters was successful and the squatters have now left the site. Also, good news, the planning application made to RBG to convert the first floor into residential dwellings has been rejected as work had already begun before the application went to Committee, leaving the developer either the choice to undo the work or re-apply, no news on this has yet been received. The ACV still stands, held by The Charlton Society, which is now valid for a little more than 2 years. The Charlton Society also submitted an application to get the building locally listed which is currently being progressed, news on this is expected in the next few weeks. Additionally, it has been announced that a community group, *The White Swan Music and Arts Group*, has applied for charitable status and funding from the government Levelling Up fund to set up a proposed community ownership of the site to re-open as a pub and community arts group. Thank you to all those who responded to the questionnaire posted on *Charlton Champion* last week, approaching 1,000 responses were received. The next stage of the application was completed this week. Watch this space!

No 33 The Village (Bowes): The planning application submitted to RBG to convert or demolish the site for a new retail unit on the ground floor has been rejected by RBG. The Charlton Society strongly supports RBG's decision. No appeal against the rejection has yet been received.

No 62 & 64 Charlton Church Lane: The Charlton Society put in an objection to the applications to convert from retail to residential for both addresses. The applications were rejected by RBG.

Dates for the Diary

- *Monday 8th May: Big Help Out Day 1.00pm-3.00pm, Charlton Village* (meet outside the greengrocer). As part of the Coronation weekend, The Charlton Society is hosting a Village clean-up. As many members as possible are encouraged to attend, work will include litter picking and weeding the planters. Please bring your own gardening equipment, trowels etc, hi-vis jackets will be provided!

- *Sunday 21st May @ Charlton House @ 11.00am - 3.00pm, Plant Sale and Community Day, organised by CABAHS.* The Charlton Society will be hosting a stall, please come along and say hello.

Next Meeting

- *Saturday 20th May @ 2.30pm @ Charlton House: Charlton's Green Chain Walk - the Buildings and Botany,* presented by Jane Lawson.