



April 2026 Newsletter

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The White Swan

The White Swan Music & Arts Charitable Community Benefit Society

A note from the group: Where do we go next? We will launch a new Crowdfunder campaign in late spring/early summer with a share scheme investment offering so we can bring bigger investors alongside donors to the project - and we are already talking to them

Sign up here: <https://www.whiteswanmusicandarts.org> to receive the newsletter.

Asset of Community Value (ACV): We're still waiting for the official notice!!!!!!!!!!!!!! But keep pursuing it with Greenwich Council, our latest enquiry was Tuesday 17th February 2026.

State of the Village and SOVAP

The Assembly Rooms, car parks on Torrance Close: There will be a forthcoming application to build a six-storey block of flats on the ex-car park behind the two terrace houses on the corner of Torrance Close. The future of the car park adjacent to the Assembly Rooms will be discussed again in June.

Planning Matters

Greenwich Local Plan: It was reported that the Council had received 1,000 responses to the draft plan leading to some changes. The section on HMOs received a high number of comments and a new Open Space Study will be produced. For the second draft it is anticipated that this draft will go to Cabinet in June for approval to start the second consultation in July.

GLi Data Centre application: Charlton Together and Atlas & Derrick Gardens have been monitoring the application to develop a Data Centre adjacent to Atlas & Derrick Gardens. In Charlton Riverside. The original application was for a logistic site so this represents a large increase and in short, the proposal is receiving a lot of criticism and concern from local people and the NHS despite claims that it could provide the heating requirements for a lot of the local area.

Victoria Geoghegan, assistant Director Planning and Building Control will be leaving RBG at end of May to take up a new post in Richmond and Wandsworth. We wish her well in her new career in Staff Services for Richmond and Wandsworth.

Talks Programme & Events 2026

Next Talk: 16th May: Dr Michael Passmore: Flats for Poor Families – London County Council's performance 1890 – 1930.

16th May: Plant Sale at Charlton House, 11am to 3pm

HUSTINGS: SATURDAY 25TH APRIL AT 11PM for an 11.15am start:

THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, CHARLTON VILLAGE.

Charlton Hustings - local council candidates will be there to answer your questions at the Assembly Rooms, Charlton Village. Doors open at 11am for a 11.15 start so come along and find out what the candidates are offering, it is a free event. The Hustings have been organised by The Charlton Society, Charlton Central Resident's Association and the Charlton Valley Community Hub.

AGM: PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE OF DATE: THE CHARLTON SOCIETY AGM WILL NOW BE HELD ON OCTOBER 24TH.

This is as result of the Reverend Liz Newman, Rector of Charlton Benefice presenting her final address on the previous Saturday. We wish her all the best in the future and thanks for the support she has given to Charlton and Charlton Society over the past years.

Out and About

Maryon-Wilson Park: The original exhibition to celebrate 100 years of Maryon-Wilson Park will now open on the 1st of June in Charlton House in a slightly different format but still something to be viewed and wowed!!!!.

Judy Smith:

Sadly, Judy died on Wednesday April 1st 2026. Her area of concern was Eltham but in the past she also took interest much further afield in particular with the Greenwich Waterfront Development ~Partnership.

Her funeral will take place at 3.30pm on Wednesday 29th April
At Eltham Crematorium North Chapel, Crown Woods Way, SE9 2AZ
and afterwards at Anstridge Community Hall.

Please RSVP for catering to judy20april@gmail.com

The Charlton Society - The Committee:

Congratulations to Felicity Kerridge who received the Spirit of the Borough 'Environment Champion Award' as founder of Clean Up Charlton, organising regular litter-picks and building a growing network of environmental volunteers.

Charlton Society Archives: Pauline Langley while cataloguing Charlton Society archives found recently in Charlton House has discovered the following:

- 25 foot well discovered in one of the rooms of the Charlton Village Alms houses?
- a teenager who undertook an excavation "on the site where Pop Stickells once lived" found early Victorian bottles and a George III penny issued in 1797.
- Elsewhere in the Village in 1974 fragments of a quart stone beer mug "have been stuck together revealing that it belonged to George Carpenter, Charlton 1747"

Charlton Parks Reminiscence Project – website: The society has paid for a further year's hosting of the website in support of the 100 year's celebration of Maryon-Wilson Park. This will last until April 2027. Following which the website will be archived, allowing public access but not in its original format.

Remember the Society is as strong as its membership.



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