



July 2026 Newsletter

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The Charlton Society is a Registered Charity No. 260077

The White Swan

You will all be aware that Mendoza has entered a new planning application to install four flats in The White Swan. This will require a second floor being built, ostensibly in the style of 19th century The Swan. But many of the proposed changes will render a ground floor pub unviable and difficult to run. It also goes completely against the ambitions of The White Swan Music & Arts group. Comments to Greenwich Council concerning this application were due to be received by 1st June 2026 although many of you have already commented.

The application is still going through the system – so nothing to report.

Asset of Community Value (ACV): The Charlton Society objected to the refusal by Greenwich Council to attach a new Asset of Community Value to The White Swan and have requested a meeting with the Council to discuss their decision.

State of the Village and SOVAP

Village Flower Beds: A chance meeting with officers of the Council's Parks department will see the remaining beds planted up with geranium plants, hopefully in the near future. It was explained that they had been planted with Begonias which had died due to the hot weather. The issue of a new planting regime of shrubs that are more tolerant to dry weather and will provide some protection from the traffic pollution was discussed and will be put forward again. A vision of change championed by Roden Richardson and first requested and agreed by the Parks department five years ago – but never give up hope!!

Village Crime: Worryingly in the past week The Co-op Grocery Store has been subjected to a robbery, an elderly shopper caught up in the incident was badly shocked and a sales assistant assaulted.

In the same week the Red Bus outdoor toy cupboard has been vandalised and a few weeks ago a young woman assaulted by her partner in Charlton Park. We could be excused for thinking that the Village was being specifically targeted. It is important that we take care of our local shops and one another but not put ourselves in harm's way. The issue will be discussed at the September 10th meeting of the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Charlton Park boundary wall – What a beautiful wall and the buttresses on the park side – a work of art. It was a long time coming but now we have a restored historic wall and a new pavement. Thank you Greenwich Council.....

BUT The Vacant Lot on Charlton Park Road: Where has the Herras fencing gone? You might recall that the site next to the corner house on Guild Road sprouted the beginnings of a new house. Built in breeze blocks it reached the second floor, then it stopped, then it disappeared, then all sorts of rubbish began to grow up until one day a Herras fencing was erected along the edge of the pavement – it was almost the stuff of a fairy tale. The fly-tippers had been thwarted. A couple of weeks ago, mysteriously the Herras fencing disappeared, it appeared to have moved to nearby

Maryon Wilson Park. It was there for a few days protecting a patch of grass. Now the fencing has disappeared completely– DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE IT WENT? And now the fly-tippers are back.

Planning Matters

GLi Data Centre application: Charlton Together and DAGRA (Derrick and Atlas Gardens Residents Association) are putting together a campaign to alert people to the issues related to the proposed Data Centre being discussed for the site off Anchor & Hope Lane. We will keep you informed of the issues.

Talks Programme & Events 2026

Events: ***Saturday 15th August:*** between 2.30pm and 4pm
at **St. Thomas's Church, Maryon Road SE7 8DJ.**
On 27th July the revised Local Plan will be released for consultation
for a period of 6 weeks.

The Charlton Society has organised a meeting to discuss our comments on behalf of the Charlton Neighbourhoods.

You are invited to a special meeting of The Charlton Society to discuss the second draft of the Local Plan and formulate the Charlton Society's comments. We have sent out copies of the Society's comments on the first draft and will provide links to the second draft in time for the meeting.

26th July	Mural Walk: A Fund-raising event organised by White Swan Music & Arts; a tour of Street Art around Charlton, revealing the stories of how they were achieved. Tickets: £15 Bookable at info@whiteswanmusicandarts.org
12th September:	Charlton House – Open House.
18th October:	Horn Fair at Charlton House.

Other events are announced on The Charlton Society Facebook site.

Talks: **19th September:** **The everyday heroes of Postman's Park. Dr. John Price.**
24th October: **The Charlton Society Annual General Meeting followed by Travels with my Turtle: Slow travel challenges from SE7 – Jo Kibble.**

Out and About

Shooters Hill: The Battle for the Shooters Hill abandoned air warden's bunker; subject of a Time Team's excavation back in 2008? According to 'The Londoner' Greenwich Council would like to procure the bunker, Shrewsbury House Community Centre would like to open it for local use.

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Remember the Society is as strong as its membership

