

Registered Charity No: 260077

# The Charlton Society

## *Newsletter March 2023*

### ***Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust***

Charlton House is officially opening on Saturday 1st April. Events are already starting to happen in the garden (please *Dates for the Diary*). Previous CEO, Tracy Stringfellow, has now left and the previous Head of Public Programming, Janet Denne, is now acting CEO. There is a full calendar of events planned, Friday lunchtime concerts are returning from 14th April, there is also an open-air cinema festival in early May. Frilly's is also back! The Charlton Society looks forward to welcoming Charlton House back as an active community space and hope all members show their support.

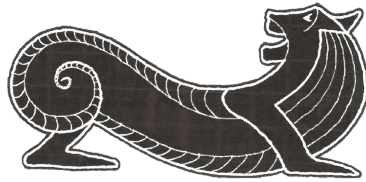
### ***Charlton House Summerhouse***

Work is also being undertaken to re-panel the Summerhouse, replicating the panelling in the Grand Salon. The work is being managed by Research Design who have just received notification from Historic England they have funding to continue the work, although there is no deadline for completion. Another issue that has been raised is the plane trees on the corner are undermining the foundations of the Summerhouse. Research Design are proposing putting together an application to have the trees felled. The Charlton Society Committee will be discussing this at the next Committee meeting. Any feedback from members gratefully received. A presentation from Research Design will be circulated to all members.

### ***Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs)***

The new SNT groups from the Metropolitan Police have now started to meet along the lines of the new ward boundary changes, Charlton Village & Riverside and Charlton Hornfair. Meetings are scheduled quarterly and The Charlton Society is well represented on both panels. The first meetings happened earlier this week and the Met presented an outline of policing proposals from new Police Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley, *Turnaround Plan*. One of the tenets of the document include the promise of increased officers on the street. Particular focus for the areas discussed for both wards were tackling violent crime and anti-social behaviour.

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### *Continued*

#### *Planning Update*

*The White Swan:* Some news at last! On Friday 17th March, an eviction order went to court to evict the squatters. The police had previously raided the site to serve the eviction notice and cut off the electricity. 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. The ACV still stands, held by The Charlton Society, which is now valid for little more than 2 years. The Charlton Society also submitted an application to get the building locally listed which is currently being progressed, notification was recently received that this is about to go to the Cabinet member for sign-off. Additionally, The Charlton Society is very much involved in a steering group to keep track of next steps for the site.

*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 has put in an objection to the applications to convert from retail to residential for both addresses. Deadline is 31st March.

#### *Greenwich Foodbank*

The Charlton Society is pleased to show its ongoing support of Greenwich Foodbank as we are dealing with the cost of living crisis where nobody in the community should have to face going hungry. There are drop-off and welcome points in Charlton, including St Luke's, also the Baptist church on Marlborough Lane. For further information on how to offer support, from volunteering to food or cash donations, please go to [greenwich.foodbank.org.uk](https://greenwich.foodbank.org.uk).

#### *Dates for the Diary*

- *Sunday 19th March @ Charlton House @ 10.00am - 3.00pm.* Producers' Market, local artisan producers selling cakes, pastries, breads, drinks, plus crafts. Every third Sunday of the month thereafter. Free.
- *Sunday 2nd April @ Charlton House @ 11.00am - 3.00pm.* Bunnies in the Bed, annual Easter trail in the walled garden in association with CABAHS. Free.

#### *Next Meeting*

- *Saturday 15th April @ 2.30pm @ Charlton House: The Eastcombe Estate,* presented by Barbara Holland.