

CCRA QUIZ

Recycling Quiz Answers

How many did you get right?

- **Batteries** should be disposed of separately in battery banks (eg at ASDA, Sainsbury's and Curry's or household battery bring bank).
- **Tissues / kitchen roll** should go into the Green top bin to be composted.
- **Fruit juice containers** can now be recycled in Blue top bins
- **Bubblewrap** goes in the Blue top bin
- **Small planks of wood, Lipsticks, Used aluminium foil and Polystyrene cups** are not recyclable and belong in the Black bin
- **Broken remote controls** should go to the WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment) bank – the pink bin at bring sites
- **Grass clippings** go in the Green top bin, but the **black refuse sack** goes in the Blue top.
- **Tights, boots and other clothing** can now be recycled. For details of the free collection service phone 020 8921 4661
- **Out-of-date pills** should go in Black top bins
- **Scratched CDs and DVDs** should go in Black top bins

Charlton Central Residents Association



Dates for your diary

Saturday 3 December

Christmas Social

St Richard's Hall, Swallowfield Road

3pm onwards

Classified Ads

Grapevine currently reaches 1000 homes and other outlets in the local area. If you would like to advertise goods or services cheaply, effectively and locally contact Sarah Roseblade on 0208 244 2405 or sarah.roseblade@ntlworld.com. A form can be found on our website, rates for individuals and small businesses are as follows:

- Ads up to 15 words plus contact details cost £10 for one issue or £35 for four issues.
- Ads containing up to 20 words, contact details & an image / logo cost £20 for one insertion of £70 for four.

Reg Biddulph

Friends gathered at Eltham Crematorium in September to say a final farewell to long time Elliscombe Road resident Reg Biddulph, who has died after a long illness, aged 85.

Reg was born in Germany but came to England with his family when he was ten. They lived in Wellington Gardens to begin with but moved to Elliscombe Road a few years later and Reg remained resident there until his death.

During the Second World War Reg served in the Royal Navy and afterwards the lure of the sea saw him complete service in the merchant navy until his retirement to Charlton when he was 60. Residents will miss his smile and cheerful optimism.



Comments, feedback, queries or material for the next edition of Grapevine should be emailed to: grapevine@charltonresidents.org by November 7 2011.

Alternatively, phone Joy Ogden on 0208 293 3034 or Bob Smith on 0208 853 2697.

CHARLTON GRAPEVINE

VINTAGE 15 OCTOBER 2011

the newsletter of the Charlton Central Residents Association

Nosey Parkers

Nosey parkers from the CCRA area joined forces at St Richard's Hall after the annual meeting on 19 September for a robust session with two of Greenwich Council's traffic and highways experts.

Nosey, because we wanted to hear the council's justification for a doubling of permit charges and what their future strategies are, especially with regard to the Olympics.

Trevor Davies, interim parking services manager and Richard Carr, traffic engineer, gave cogent reasons for the way parking is run in Charlton, but their answers failed to satisfy everyone and, as the meeting chaired by Len Weir closed, there were still many issues left unresolved.

Key complaints were that the council kept charges unchanged for some years then felt it necessary to double them in one hit., and that there is little point in operating Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) when they are so poorly policed.

No real reason was offered for having kept the charge unchanged until now, then doubling it, but Mr Davies told the audience of 45 that more money was



needed to upgrade outdated meters and introduce new systems of payment and to bring in more wardens. Currently there are 16 wardens operating in the borough. This will be increased by eight, with more to come. Meters have to be changed because the Royal Mint will shortly scrap existing 5p and 10p coins and replace them with new ones. The new coins are of cheaper and lighter alloy which means they will fit current meters but will not register in them.

Members sought assurances that our parking and traffic requirements would not be neglected during the eight to nine weeks of the Olympics and Mr Davies told the meeting that the council was currently developing a strategy with Transport for London for the Olympics, that would address local concerns.

Will there be future increases in permit charges? Mr Davies said that inevitably there would be increases but no more were planned for this year.

See Letters, Page 6.

What's in store?

Could there soon be an embarrassment of riches in the local supermarket department? GV sleuths hear that Sainsbury's on the Peninsula has been troubled by flooding issues and wants to move to a site along the lower road adjacent to the end of Charlton Church Lane, rumoured to be the Wickes' site. This would mean one of the main approaches to the supermarket would be Charlton Church Lane and it opens up the possibility of substantially increased traffic on an already clogged thoroughfare. And if a main store were to open so close to the station would it affect plans for a supermarket express store beneath the flats now built on the corner of Floyd Road? Your intrepid truth questers are investigating.

Advance warning!

CCRA's Christmas social is to be held on Saturday 3 December in St Richard's Hall. Set fair for Christmas... would you like to set up a stall at the social? Perhaps you make things that would make great Christmas presents? Or maybe you're a dab hand at making Christmas decorations? If you have something to sell – with a Christmas flavour – we're offering you a chance to sell to CCRA residents. Secure a table for just £10 – you keep your profit. To book a table, ring Linda on 020 8858 7377.

See Diary Dates, page 8.

Full details will be available nearer the time.



Battle of Wellington Gdns



The plans for 42-44 Wellington Gardens have still not gone to a planning committee, but are likely to be considered in November. The council is unlikely to listen to widespread concerns about overcrowding. However, CCRA would like the council to recognise very real worries about the impact of perhaps more than 30 extra people moving into the area and the added pressure, for instance, on drains and parking. It is vital the council requires the builders and developers to comply with planning conditions so we do not yet again have to suffer the mess and noise which disrupt the neighbourhood when they are allowed to disregard them.

Council officers do not appear to have visited the site and have made basic errors in their report to the planning committee. This leads CCRA to believe that if the council allows simple errors to slip through apparently unnoticed, it is also unlikely to identify and deal with much larger problems. We are seeking to influence the council to ensure the best possible outcome for our area. We will provide a more detailed report on this proposed development in the next members' bulletin.

Down in the Valley

The saga of the Valley pub site in Elliscombe Road goes on. Having seen the derelict pub demolished and site screens erected, residents were braced for the next stage – the building of a block of flats. Now Grapevines learns that the company that planned the development has gone bust. The site remains dormant. GV will keep you informed of developments.

Having Problems **RENTING?**

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CCRA Annual General Meeting

The annual meeting of CCRA was held on 19 September. Linda Pound and Len Weir were returned unopposed as chair and vice chair respectively and David Gayther was returned as treasurer. Martina Keating stood down as secretary and Liz Somerville has taken her place.

It was agreed that CCRA would allow associate membership for some individuals living outside our area and for neighbouring businesses. Full details to follow in the next Grapevine.

There was a lively Q and A session on the thorny issue of local parking problems (see front page). Members were invited to take part in a quiz on recycling, won by Brenda Taggart from Delafield Road. The questions in this issue on page 3 and the answers are on page 8. *For further information on recycling go to the CCRA website (www.charltonresidents.org)*

Environment Action Group: cleaning

CCRA's environment group has established a street monitoring scheme. The plan is to monitor all CCRA streets once a month and to send a report to council officers focusing on drains, litter, weeds, pavements and so on. This is already proving successful. Drains have been cleaned and just one, in Nadine Street, remains to be cleared. In addition a programme of repairs to paving stones is being put in place. If you could spare some time to help with the monitoring we'd love to hear from you. *Phone Linda on 020 8858 7377 and she'll put you in touch with the group.*



AGM Quiz winner Brenda Taggart

Some rubbish questions: what do you *really* know about recycling?

At the AGM there was a quiz testing how much you know about recycling! We're lucky in that Greenwich has one of the most efficient recycling programmes in the country – and this has helped to keep our council tax down. Your efforts can help it to be even more effective.

Recycling quiz

CCRA is grateful for the generous support of LBG's Waste Services Team in compiling this quiz.

In which bin – Blue, Black, Green or Other (specify) – would you dispose of the following items:

1. Alkaline batteries
2. Tissues/paper kitchen towels
3. Fruit juice containers with 'Tetrapak' label
4. Bubblewrap
5. Small planks of wood
6. Lipsticks
7. Used aluminium foil
8. Polystyrene cups
9. Broken remote controls
10. Grass clippings in black refuse sack
11. Tights
12. Cardboard
13. Boots
14. Out of date vitamin pills
15. Scratched CDs/DVDs

For answers turn to page 8

Olympic activity

All around the borough, and especially in Charlton, there are increasing signs of Olympic activity. At a lively discussion session following the annual general meeting, parking and traffic pundits told us they were in discussion with Transport For London to resolve issues affecting residents during the nine week period of the Games. Woolwich Common is a hive of activity as the skeleton structure for the shooting events rises from a Legoland of girders and Charlton will soon see a new Lidl store next to the fire station, with a hotel above.

Out on the Peninsula, Greenwich Council has approved a detailed planning application for a Cable Car, an exciting and futuristic addition to North / South links across the Thames. The gondolas will rise 54 metres above the river and stretch 1,100 metres between Greenwich Peninsular and the Royal Victoria Dock in Newham.



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Law and well out of order

The recent looting and rioting shocked and appalled all those who witnessed it. The central Charlton area remained safe during the disturbances as the Charlton retail park and Woolwich town centre were subjected to violence and destruction.

In the aftermath, representatives of CCRA and the Charlton Central Neighbourhood Watch met Inspector Halpin of Greenwich CID at a meeting between community groups and the Metropolitan Police. Topics included: background to the riots; the role of the Met and our local Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) during and in the week following the riots; identification of offenders; sentencing policies and lessons learnt.

Whilst there was looting in both the Peninsular and Stone Lake Retail Parks, local shops in Charlton Church Lane were not under threat.

But the police need our help to bring looters to justice. Do you have any photos taken on the night or CCTV footage that might be of interest to the police? If so, contact our SNT on 0208 721 2734 / 07766 992585 or email Charlton.snt@met.police.uk

Following the looting, acting Commissioner Tim Godwin sent a message, saying: "I want to thank all of you who have shown such immense support for the police in

recent days. It is a testament to the close relationship that has been built up between the police and the people of London, that even in the areas worst affected you are supporting us. Londoners have come together to help us identify the looters and violent people who damaged our city. This has enabled us to charge over 1,000 offenders with crimes committed during the disorder, and we will continue to pursue the remaining offenders relentlessly."

If you would like to know more about issues of law and order, join the CCNWatch, supported by CCRA, by contacting any of the CCNW co-ordinators listed on the 'cut out and keep' contact list included in this issue.

Law and Order Action Group

The last few months have seen a review of all Safer Neighbourhood Teams, which has led to a reduction of 150 sergeants' posts across London: Greenwich has reduced the number of its sergeants from 17 to 13.

The good news is that our local team has remained unchanged. Our SNT is: Sergeant Adrian Musgrave, PCs Emma Knowles and Tom Ott, supported by PCSOs Benjamin Laing, David Solly and Lee Wilson. They can be contacted on: 0208 721 2734 or at charlton.snt@met.police.uk

Why not keep this handy contact list by your phone or on your fridge for easy access?

Situation	Contact	
Emergency	999	
Non-Emergency	101	Local Police, 24 hour
Safer Neighbourhoods Team	020 8721 2734	or 07766 992585 – response within 24 hours
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	you can call this anonymously
Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator	020 8921 4411	or contact-centre@greenwich.gov.uk
Possible Bogus Callers	020 8921 8223	Greenwich Trading Standards Service
Noise Complaints	020 8921 8921	Greenwich Noise Team Daytime Shift Mon–Fri 9–5.30 (Summer, Sat & Sun 1pm–8pm) Evening Shift Sun–Thurs 8pm–1am, Fri and Sat 8pm–2am
Fly Tipping	020 8921 4661, Optn 1 020 8854 8888	Cleansweep Greenwich Council Switchboard
Abandoned Supermarket Trolleys	(Call stores direct)	ASDA: 020 8858 3313 TK MAXX: 020 8293 1957 Sainsburys: 020 8305 2519 Cleansweep: 020 8921 4661
Charlton Central Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators	020 8853 3354 020 8305 1484	or b.taggart@ioe.ac.uk or thegalloways28@hotmail.com Brenda Taggart Annie Galloway
Neighbourhood Watch Street Co-ordinators	Calydon Rd Delafield Rd Elliscombe Rd Priolo Rd Wellington Gdns	Dhesi, No 11/0208 858 5534 Annie No 28 / 0208 305 1484 & Brenda No 49 / 0208 853 3354 Harjit No 8 / 0208 473 8908 & Len No 107 / 0208 858 4920 Tamara No 53 / 0208 333 1657 Elaine by phone only on 0208 855 7682
CCRA	020 8858 7377	Linda Pound
Police Stations	Greenwich Woolwich	31 Royal Hill, Greenwich, SE10 8RR 29 Market Street, Woolwich, SE18 6QR Tel no. 101 Tel no. 101

The Green Room
Autumn in a small garden

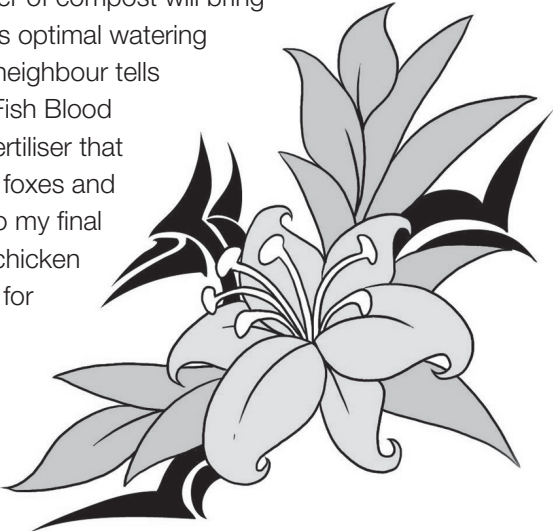
As the days grow shorter and the garden fades, it is time to look forward. But there are still rewards to be had in the garden.

Clearing the plot will certainly include digging up and composting most of the annuals, flowers or vegetables. Adding leaves will build soil structure. Don't be too thorough in your tidying some of the length of the rose stems.

Things that will be part of next year's harvest are worth our attention now. Garlic planted in the autumn is usually stronger than that planted in spring. Planting Aquadulce broad beans will give you an early crop. Anyone considering a new rose bush or fruit tree is well advised to get it into the ground in autumn with time for roots to establish before the frosts come. My adventure for this winter is to try to keep Winter Density lettuces growing through the snow. Apparently they will be good eating by March or April.

My favourite garden activity for October and November is planting up pots with spring flowering bulbs. Taking into account their different flowering periods, you can plan a display from March 'til June - I don't count the snowdrops that you may have naturalised in the lawn. In order to protect them from the squirrels and other digging beasts, I prefer to plant my bulbs in pots that can be covered with chicken wire. You'll get a strong floral statement from putting at least six bulbs of the same species in the same pot.

The other exciting spring treat is to use one larger pot to plant bulbs at different depths that will give succession flowering over a longer period. The compost will be exhausted but the pleasure will go on. You'll need a deep pot - at least a foot I would say - and put in at least four inches of bulb fibre or multi-purpose compost. Start with the latest flowering ones at the bottom - say half a dozen tulips at a depth of six to eight inches below your predicted top level in the pot. And I put a little feed of fish blood and bone meal under and around each bulb. Next, cover this with a layer of compost of about an inch. Create a new layer of bulbs and feed; a double-headed type of narcissus works well. Follow on with another layer of compost and then a final layer of bulbs - say some early flowering crocus bulbs at the top. By which time you'll be aware that the next layer of compost will bring the pot to its optimal watering height. My neighbour tells me it's the Fish Blood and Bone fertiliser that attracts the foxes and squirrels. So my final step is the chicken wire covers for the pots to keep Mr Renard at bay.



Topical Tip for October

A bowl of flowering hyacinths will make a lovely Christmas present. Three bulbs will make a good display and you will need a bowl at least ten inches wide and four to five deep. Plant the bulbs with their sprouting tips showing above the compost. It's effective to choose three of one colour or to put three different colours in one bowl. Once planted and watered, keep the bowl in a cool dark place, in the basement or under the stairs cupboard, watering sparingly: this will support root development. When the shoots are a couple of inches high, bring the bowl into the daylight to support flowering. Planting by the end of October should produce a lovely Christmas bouquet.

... Enjoy

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I heard it on the grapevine...

How happy is my valley?

In 1898 the splendidly named newspaper the Skibbreen Eagle in Ireland's County Cork, pointed the traditional finger of fate at both Lord Palmerston and the Emperor of Russia and warned: "The Skibbreen Eagle has got its eye on you."

In 2011 the Charlton Grapevine turned its steely eye upon Chris Powell with similar sentiments. Looks like he got the message. We've kicked off the new season in fine style and, as I write, we are top of the division with a game in hand. A home win against Chesterfield could see us go three points clear. We're not the full 5p yet. Performances I've watched this season show promise but still give cause for concern. I'd like to see us finishing off teams much more clinically and not giving them any chance to get back in the game.

But BWP is still doing it up front. At the time of writing he's got five goals in five and a half matches. Not bad. And other players are starting to show their mettle.

In a Q and A session earlier in September at Bromley Supporters Club, the chairman Michael Slater was asked where he saw Charlton in five years time. He thought for a moment then told a packed audience that he expected promotion this season, some time of consolidation in the Championship, then promotion back to the Premiership.

They bought 16 players in the close season and have since bought more. When Powell was brought to the Valley he was told to plan for Championship soccer and our purchases have been to that end. Slater says more

money is available to buy strikers and other key players.

There is, then, cautious cause for optimism down at the Valley. We have an unenviable reputation for unravelling around Christmas and losing the plot thereafter. I'm starting to believe this could be our season. But I've said that before. Over post-match beers at the Buge, more sagacious pundits than me are also starting to talk success. However, I'm writing this on rice paper just in case I have to eat my words. COYR's!

Guides and Scouts

Groups meet at St Richard's Hall, Swallowfield Rd.

Guide groups meet on Fridays as follows:

Rainbows	(5-7 yrs old)	5-6pm
Brownies	(7-10 yrs old)	6-7.30pm
Guides	(10-15 yrs old) incl. Senior Section (14+)	7.30-9pm

For further details please contact
Gemma on 07540 272 593

Scouting groups meet as follows:

Beavers	(6-8 yrs old)	Wednesdays 6-7pm
Cubs	(8-10 yrs old)	Thursdays 6.45-8pm
Scouts	(10-14 yrs old)	Tuesdays 7-8.30pm

For further details please contact
Gwen Zammit on 020 8856 7373

Local community

Local history group

Frances Ward from the Heritage Centre in Woolwich was a huge success when she spoke at CCRA's spring social. She is giving a talk on The Peopling of Greenwich at 2pm on 15 October at the Heritage Centre. For further details ring 020 8854 2452. Hope to see you there. And we're planning some follow up activities: further details in the next Grapevine.

Book group

We're reading the Booker shortlist and planning a meeting on 17 October: the night before the judges' decision is announced. For further details contact Diana on 020 8893 6431

Wine appreciation group

Planned events are: an evening entitled 'My favourite wine' on 8 October, for which there will be no charge; and 'Lucky Dip' on 26 November, £15 per head. For further details or to book a place email charltonwine@yahoo.co.uk

Singing Group

The singing group is open to anyone interested in singing for pleasure. We meet fortnightly, alternating between Mondays and Thursdays. It is not necessary for everyone to attend every session as the focus is on singing for enjoyment rather than rehearsing for performance. Songs have included popular songs, folk songs, madrigals and songs from Africa, Europe and South America. The remaining dates this year are: Sept 26, Oct 13, 24, Nov 7, 24, Dec 8, 19. We always welcome new members and if you are interested in joining us, please contact Chris on 020 8858 7377.

Music Group

The music group is open to anyone who can play any instrument, whether they are experienced or relative beginners. There is no audition process and no need to read music. We meet fortnightly on Mondays and play a wide range of music chosen by members of the group. The emphasis is on playing for pleasure and therefore there is no need for everybody to attend every session. The remaining dates for this year are: Oct 3, 17, 31, Nov 14, 28, Dec 12. We always welcome new members and if you are interested in joining us, please contact Chris on 020 8858 7377.

Dear sir . . .

One enraged resident has written a long letter, which we have edited, to say he was unconvinced by their arguments for increasing parking permit charges. He says there is no evidence that the Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) system works in Charlton and adds:

"Indeed they admit their random walk 'parking enforcement service'

is impossible to enforce properly, bearing in mind the two-hour grace period. They can never afford to employ enough enforcers to do a fair job. Enforcement is haphazard and by my calculation most parking tickets are handed out to residents and their friends who resist paying tribute to the council for parking outside their homes.

"We could easily descend into 'parking fascism' if they decide to make their life and enforcement easier with a 'permit-holders only rule. With few exceptions the residential roads in Charlton provide easy parking during the day and I would contend that it has nothing to do with the CPZ scheme as is evidenced by plenty of parking in those areas where permits are not required.

"The doubling of the permit charge has removed the benefit of the doubt and no longer justifies paying to park in a CPZ in Charlton. The saving from a diminished parking service might mean our council tax is better spent and might provide for improving genuine council services that enhance the quality of life for residents.

Yours,

BH

"I would like to warn other Virgin Media companies that due to high usage in this area, Virgin broadband is extremely slow and the connection is well below what we have paid for. Virgin have indicated that they will be unable to rectify the situation before 29 October. My connection has been so slow that I felt obliged to cancel my contract. I'd like to advise all those who have a contract with Virgin to check the speed (there are plenty of broadband speed test websites on the internet). Even if you are able to use the Internet you may be paying a high price for your connection and perhaps getting only half the advertised speed. If you are not happy I would advise you to call them. They may not be able to resolve the issue but you may be offered a discount as I was!

Yours,

RB



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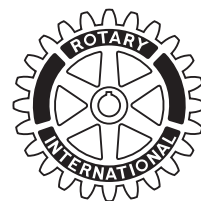
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