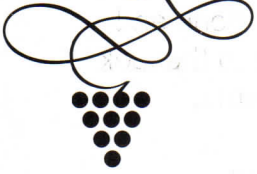


CHARLTON GRAPEVINE



June 2011
SPECIAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDITION
Packed full of Green Goodness!

CCRA goes for the big clean-up again!

Saturday 2nd July is CCRA's third community day. We hope, as in previous years, that many of you will want to be involved in events designed to make our streets friendlier and more attractive. This year we are linked into a London-wide initiative known as Capital Clean-up (for further information see the Big Tidy Up website www.thebigtidyup.org).

The programme for the day is as follows:

11.00 am – 2.00 pm

Volunteers can collect tools for greening and cleaning from St. Richard's Community Hall.

12.30 – 1.30 pm

Free lunch for volunteers involved in cleaning and greening at St. Richard's Community Hall.

2.00 – 4.30 pm

Freecycle (see back page for further details)

Tea, coffee, cakes and soft drinks for sale

7.00 – 9.30 pm

Ceilidh – free entrance, children welcome. Free light refreshments. Raffle.

Wine, beer and soft drinks available at very reasonable prices.



Cleaning, greening and 'freecycling'

Over the past three years, CCRA has developed a programme of cleaning and greening. We have also offered an opportunity for you to 'freecycle' your unwanted treasures. Previous events have proved very popular, and have involved many volunteers from our area. Please come along and help to make the day a success. These events have helped to make a real difference to the look of our streets. We do hope you'll be able to help with some or all of the following events.

Cleaning

If you are willing to volunteer to clean up some of the messy corners around our area you will be issued with a natty green high-visibility vest, a litter picker and gloves. Phone *Linda on 020 8858 7377* to volunteer or for more information or just turn up at St. Richard's Hall anytime after 11.00 am – even if you can only offer 30 minutes or an hour. Lunch provided for volunteers, free of charge.

Sadly the council is not able, as it did two years ago, to take away large bulk items such as fridges and building rubble. If you are elderly or disabled and would like some help to get rid of small items of rubbish please contact Linda on the number shown above. She will try to get someone to assist you.

Greening

Some unloved corners could benefit from some weeding and planting. If you are able help with this please phone *Linda on 020 8858 7377* or contact Martina on *charlton-gardening-group@googlegroups.com*. Alternatively you can just show up at the hall anytime after 11.00am to help with some basic gardening. Lunch provided for volunteers.

Freecycle

No money need change hands – just bring along your unwanted books, ornaments, electrical goods and so on. Take away anything you see – all for free! 2.00 to 4.30 pm at St Richard's Community Hall. Anything left over will be donated to Greenwich and Bexley Hospice for sale in their charity shops.

Recycling

In addition to the items which can be recycled in your normal blue-top wheelie bin, the council has agreed to collect batteries and textiles. If you have any of these which you wish to get rid of you can bring them along to the hall during the afternoon.



Taking responsibility for your own patch

Although the council has a weed control programme, one look around the area will tell you what Greenwich Council itself admits - that this year the programme has not worked. If each of us weeded the area immediately outside our own home, we could make a real difference. Similarly if we all tried to make sure that our front gardens and stretches of pavement were tidied we'd make a great difference to our area.

Drains

Two years ago, Greenwich Council promised a deep clean for all our drains. That never materialised. But this month Greenwich has begun a programme of 'gully-sucking' and jetting. By July 2nd, our community day, all drains in the area will have been cleaned. What we can do is to try to make sure that during this period we try to avoid parking over drains. This will ensure that the gully-sucker can get close enough to clean all drains thoroughly.

We are also in discussion with the engineers' department, to see what can be done about the smelly drains in the area – further reports in forthcoming issues of Grapevine.

Useful contacts to support CCRA's clean up



To report Asda's abandoned trolleys phone: 020 8858 3313.

To report fly-tipping, graffiti, overflowing litter bins or failure to empty wheelie bins, contact Cleansweep. Phone 020 8921 4661 or email: cleansweep@greenwich.gov.uk.

CCRA has been given the status of Environmental Champion and this entitles all of us living in CCRA area to report fly-tipping, graffiti, overflowing litter bins, failure to empty wheelie bins, broken paving stones or blocked drains on cleaner@greenwich.gov.uk. This should give us a priority response.