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EALING
CIVIC SOCIETY

Corinne Templer appreciation event 10 June 2021 – Please join us

As members will know, our vice president, Corinne Templer, sadly died just before Christmas. She was a long-serving Executive Committee member of the Society – almost since its beginnings in 1967 - and we plan to celebrate her life at a special online event on 10 June at 7:30 PM.



The event will start with some individual recollections and a short film featuring Corinne's campaign for the Town Centre back in the 1970s, followed by the opportunity to get together in smaller groups to talk about Corinne, exchange funny stories or share memories.

Please let us know whether you plan to attend so we have an idea of numbers and can organise the smaller groups. If you would like to say something to the group during the event, also let us know so we can organise these slots. We are

hoping to put together some photo-montages and videos, so please send any photos or videos of Corinne as soon as possible that you would like to be shared during the event.

Please reply to info@ealingcivicsociety.org.

Last chance to save the Victoria Hall - don't let the lights go out - donate now!

Since 1893 the Victoria Hall has been at the centre of community life in Ealing. It has hosted weddings, classical, rock, folk, jazz and many other types of event. That's all going to change if central Ealing's largest and most accessible venue is allowed to be sold off to become part of a hotel.



There's one last chance to stop this. A legal appeal has been launched against Ealing Council's scheme to dispose of the Victoria Hall to hotel developer Mastcraft. The Council plan means selling the Hall and its other rooms. These belong to the charitable trust which built it by public donations over 130 years ago. The Friends of the Victoria Hall (of which the Society is a member), have asked a Tribunal to block the Charity Commission's approval of the scheme. They say that the Commission was wrong to pass the plan, which has failed to meet the main requirements the Commission itself laid down last year.

The Friends urgently need your help. Please pledge as much as you can to help cover their legal costs. Be sure to sign up for Gift Aid to make your donation go even further (Charity ref ZD045A7). The people of Ealing will be in your debt for generations to come for helping to save this precious community

amenity.

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Open House Festival appeal for buildings

The Open House Festival 2021 is scheduled for 4/5 September. Open House London has celebrated London's amazing architecture for the last thirty years. An eclectic selection of Ealing buildings has always been included.

Open House includes public buildings that everyone knows and also encourages private owners who are proud of the architecture or design features of their homes to open-up too. The Festival is a unique opportunity to visit private residences and gardens in London, usually closed to the public.

The Society has been working with Open House to identify buildings that would be interesting to visit. If any members or friends and contacts can suggest buildings that would be worth visiting, or would like to open their own home, then let the Open House team know through the contacts below. If possible, please pass on the names and details of the people they need to contact.

Open House will arrange for people to gather outdoors as appropriate and they also hope that Covid-19 guidelines should have relaxed enough later this year to allow indoor gatherings without too many restrictions. Guidelines will be produced covering the number of guests, mask-wearing, social distancing etc. that apply as appropriate at the time.

If you would like to get involved on 4 and 5 September, volunteer helpers would also be really welcome. Get in touch with the Open House contacts below to express interest and for detailed information about taking part.

Contact details for West London Open House:

Steve Bower, stevedbower@hotmail.com

Jonathan Ramdeen, jonathan_ramdeen@hotmail.com

Perceval House redevelopment update

Our Spring 2021 Newsletter noted that the Council's Planning Committee on 10 March had approved the proposals to redevelop the Perceval House site in central Ealing but that owing to many technical problems the Council was forced to annul the decision and rerun the meeting for a third time (a first meeting had been adjourned).



Proposed tower seen from Walpole Park

The proposals, which include hundreds of new homes as well as a new library, customer contact centre and Council offices, were finally approved on 31 March. The price that would have to be paid would be the imposition of a 26 storey tower in a sensitive location just outside the Ealing Town Centre Conservation Area close to the Town Hall and to the Victorian residential area to the north.

The Council has now submitted the consent to the GLA for endorsement, the process having been delayed by the Mayoral elections which took place on 6 May. On the assumption that the GLA will approve the development, it must then be submitted to the Secretary of State for his approval because the land is owned by the Council. In conjunction with other local groups, we are challenging both steps in the hope that we can persuade the Secretary of State to call the application in for determination at a public inquiry.

You can add your voice to the representations to the Mayor and GLA. Submit comments online, before Monday 24th when the application is to be considered, at this [link](#).

As a minimum, request that the concerns of the many local objectors are taken into account and the Mayor should not endorse the Council's approval. You may also include specific objections to the scheme that you have, including:

- the 26-storey tower would be unacceptably high in a suburban location;
- it would dominate nearby listed buildings including the recently restored Grade I Pitzhanger Manor;
- the character of Ealing would be seriously harmed;
- there would be very little play space for families; and
- redeveloping Perceval House which is less than 40 years old is environmentally unsustainable.

Appeal for new newsletter editor

Finally, our Newsletter Editor for the last 10 years, Tony Williams, has decided to retire which means that we are now looking for new editor. We are very grateful to Tony for the sterling work he has done over the past decade and wish him well for the future.

If you are interested in possibly taking on the job please get in touch with us through info@ealingcivicsociety.org. Experience in using electronic publishing software would be a great advantage.



Visit our [website](#) for latest news. You do not need to open a Facebook or Twitter account to follow us on these social media but if you do you can get access to rapid news updates.

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