

CRICKLEWOOD

Cricklewood Town Team Annual Report 2024 - 2025

Station garden

The Cricklewood Station garden is flourishing with all year-round planting despite the damage caused by heavy storms, which resulted in having to replace the fencing; this was kindly donated by B&Q. The station entrance was festive at Christmas with the annual lights display installed by volunteers with support from B&Q, who donated more Christmas lights.

Some of the history artwork that adorns the glass panels of the passenger waiting shelter were removed but thanks to support from GTR Govia Thameslink these have been replaced.

Cricklewood Lane Market

Funding from Barnet Business enabled a rebrand and to give the market an identity on a world food theme. A successful evening of music and food was held in the summer. Local startups are now providing cuisine from around the world, including Lebanon, Caribbean, Yemen, Pakistan, Brazil, Philippines, Afghanistan and beyond! The video showcasing the local market cuisines as a go-to food destinations in North London is *on our website*.

Broadway Christmas lights

Cricklewood Town Centre boasted not only one, but two Christmas trees this year; one in Oaklands Road sponsored by JJ Rhatigan and the other in Cricklewood Lane sponsored by SOCO. Together with the Christmas lights, thanks to our Barnet local councillors, the town centre was in festive spirit.

Re-imagining and revitalizing the Cricklewood Broadway clock.



For over a decade, the clock situated in the median of Cricklewood Broadway remained non-functional, prompting continuous complaints from local residents to Barnet Council.

In response to these concerns, the Town Team collaborated with the charity We Restart to reimagine and revitalize this longstanding landmark funded by Barnet Council.

More details on our website: www.cricklewood.net

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Oaklands

The NCIL project was finalised with the funds outstanding from the planned lights used to install a further star “Smiths” and a Cricklewood noticeboard. Both of these have achieved positive feedback on social media.

Several events have been held in this pedestrianised area, and it is a favoured location for Brent Public Health with their public health clinics and vaccination bus, which can be easily accessed by local residents or those working in the area.

Brent Women of Renown Project

The evaluation report was approved and signed off by the funders, the National Lottery Heritage Fund. All electronic documentation, include the E-book, evaluation report and the film area available on the CTT website.

<https://cricklewood.net/brent-women-of-renown/>

Engaging with developers

JJ Rhatigan the developers of the Galtymore site, aim for completion in 2026. They continue to engage with CTT and donated a Christmas tree which was erected in Oaklands Road. The local churches held a carol service there with photos being shared on social media.

Photo taken from the top of the Rhatigan site



The Cricklewood Lane developers, **SOCO**, also donated a Christmas tree which enhanced the busy market site in Cricklewood Lane. They are engaging with the local community on their plans for the for the Co-op site.

Cricklewood Lane/Broadway corner site has been put up for sale by Barnet Council.

The owners of the **B&Q development site** are engaging with the local community and CTT members attended a session to understand the implication of the development for the local community. A working group has been established with local groups including CTT having representation on the green area facing Cricklewood Lane.

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In spite of extensive challenges adult gaming licences continue to be approved and become a blight across Cricklewood.

Chichele Road Pedestrian Crossing is still an ongoing discussion between Barnet and Brent Councils and TfL. CTT and NW2_RA are ensuring there is a resolution to this issue.

We continue to advise the local councils of issues of graffiti, fly tipping and unusable phone boxes.

Station House has been vacated and returned to Network Rail. CTT consider the feasibility study put in place by Barnet would have significant benefit to local business and we will continue to pursue the opportunity.

Access for All at Cricklewood Station

A feasibility study to investigate the potential to make Cricklewood station step-free was announced by the Department for Transport in 2019. Feasibility studies investigate the potential affordability and deliverability of a project, as well as the potential benefits in meeting the objectives of the Access for All programme, passenger demands forecasts and economic and transport benefits. Once complete the feasibility study is submitted to the Department for Transport to determine the next stage of the project.

The proposed Access for All scheme at Cricklewood station is particularly complex due to the limited access for possessions, signalling infrastructure interventions required and delivery that would struggle to keep the station fully operational due to platform widths. These challenges mean the scheme remains in the design stage with cost and benefits estimates under review. Network Rail anticipate further detail will be available in the coming months on the status of the project.

However The Town Team are concerned with the significantly increased footfall from the developments in Cricklewood for people accessing **Cricklewood station** under the railway bridge, which is already congested.

As ever members of CTT continue to advise the local councils of issues of anti-social behaviour, particularly graffiti, fly tipping and unusable phone boxes attracting problems. Currently we have requested that the phone box in Cricklewood Lane should be re-purposed as a holder for a Defibrillator.

Joint working across Cricklewood from the **2 Safer Neighbourhood Teams** is continuing with the successful Operation Terminus. The Town Team are members of these ward panels and are pleased to be involved and encourage more joint working across the Broadway.

Ashford Place continues delivering social support services to the residents of Cricklewood and across Brent. A significant charity, established in 1983, it has been an important partner to the Cricklewood Town Team since 2010 and indeed is grateful to

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local residents' associations, faith groups and CTT for supporting vulnerable residents and grateful to local groups for engaging with them for assistance to residents of Cricklewood.

www.cricklewood.net.

April 2025