

CRICKLEWOOD

Annual Report 2025 – March 2026

Destination Cricklewood

Cricklewood Town Team launched a colourful mural on the parapets of the bridge on the Edgware Road in Cricklewood. A matching theme was used on the bridge tunnel signage in Cricklewood Lane which has been refreshed with similar artwork.

This project was funded by High Street and Places (HS&P) Capital Grant Fund. CTT commissioned Wood Street Walls to deliver the artwork.



before

Cricklewood Festival – Crossroads

The highly successful Crossroads Music Festival was held in September, a vibrant two weekends celebration of grassroots music that showcased the rich cultural diversity of our local community bringing together talented artists and music lovers to honour the authentic sounds and musical history that make Cricklewood special. Supported by Arts Council funding, many volunteers and the restaurant and hotel venues along the Broadway. The festival attracted a lot of footfall to the town centre and venues. Lively sessions were held in 4 outdoor spaces and 9 restaurants/bars

<https://cricklewood.net/the-crossroads-music-festival-cricklewood/>

Station

Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR), which operates Cricklewood station, is set to lose its franchise as all services, including Thameslink, will see its contract end and transfer into public ownership with its services managed under the planned Great British Railways (GBR) structure on 31 May 2026.

The Government's announced that the Access for All upgrade to Cricklewood Station won't go ahead, as it would be too expensive and cause too much disruption. So that's no lifts, no step free access for the northbound platform, and no other accessibility

CRICKLEWOOD

improvements. Cricklewood's one of three lower ranked "indefinitely deferred" stations.

Cricklewood Market

A great startup incubator space for local entrepreneurs offering a good selection of foods from around the world. The stalls have attracted food critics and received good reviews. It now has a waiting list of residents wishing to trial out their business ideas. The stalls, lights and music events help keep the space activated.

Regular updates on Instagram of amazing food supplied by the market street food stalls, the range of cafes and restaurants around Cricklewood, events and history of the area.

<https://www.instagram.com/cricklewoodldn>

Oaklands Pedestrianised area

We were pleased to organise another Dr Bike repair event in October sponsored by **Brent's Together Towards Zero** who funded this initiative and supported our mission for a greener, more active Cricklewood; the highly skilled bike mechanics provided excellent advice, repairs and information for the owner to keep their bike well maintained. These events are very successful and a further one is planned for April.

The Brent public health bus uses the Oaklands area regularly to provide vaccines and healthcare services and advice to residents; which are well appreciated.

Christmas

The station garden lights have been upgraded, supported by B&Q and our volunteer team and are greatly appreciated by residents and visitors who use the station.

The lights on Cricklewood Market Place, installed by the market adds to Cricklewood's Festive cheer and draws a lot of compliments.

JJ Rhatigan's sponsored the Christmas tree at Oaklands Road, and as before local churches held a carol service, which was well attended by residents.

We are grateful to our Barnet Councillors who ensure that the Christmas lights on the Broadway and Cricklewood Lane continue to shine at Christmas.

CRICKLEWOOD



Engaging with Developers

The work by Rhatigans on the **Galtymore** site nears completion, and the Asda store should be open in June. We will look forward to the residents moving into the building which will help to increase the footfall in Cricklewood. Rhatigan's have been very supportive of Cricklewood projects.

Developers for **B&Q** site have engaged with the community as required as the Green space is an Asset of Community Value. The Town Team are involved with discussing the issues of the area through attendance at the community meetings and exhibitions. Comments proffered by the town team on designs for the site have been taken into consideration.

The **Matalan Store** closed on 3 January 2026. Brent planning portal shows no decision notice issued yet, six months after committee resolved to grant permission for a 826 bed purpose-built student accommodation scheme on the site. The actual decision notice won't be issued until the developers sign the legal agreement.

The **Gladstone Centre** – CTT are supporting the plan for the Community space alongside the Willesden GP Surgery's plan for an I-hub and are encouraged that Cosmos will move into the Pavilion as part of this plan. Planning approval for the whole site will be submitted within the next couple of months.

The need for a regulated **pedestrian crossing** at the top of Chichele Road frustratingly still requires resolution.

Adult gaming licences are still a challenge. Macau Casino (old Barclays Bank) appealed Brent's enforcement notice for the unauthorized signage and other frontage changes.

CRICKLEWOOD

We are pleased the team, with the support of Councillors, has successfully secured the removal of the long-abandoned and filthy **BT phone box** on the corner of Oaklands Road and Olive Road. After years of persistent requests to BT, we have finally cleared away what had become a hotspot for fly-tipping, urination, illicit advertising and other antisocial behaviour. This small but important victory reflects the pride our team takes in working for a Cricklewood we can all be proud of — a neighbourhood that is cleaner, safer, healthier, and more welcoming for everyone. This removal means that since 2012 CTT have managed to organise the removal of 18 dilapidated and unused phone boxes. And there are still more causing issues and not providing the service intended.

The continuance of anti social behaviour, issues of fly tipping and graffiti continue to be our focus in ensuring a more positive place to live and work. The installation of CCTV at either end of Hassop Road will help to deal with many of the issues raised by residents and businesses.

Joint working of the SNTs on either side of the Broadway continues to be very effective and it is encouraging to see Cricklewood no longer near the top of the areas of concern across Brent.

Ashford Place continues delivering social support services to all residents of Cricklewood across. An important charity for vulnerable residents and who are grateful to local groups for engaging with them in order to assist local residents.

We warmly welcome **local businesses** who share our vision and want to work with us to achieve these goals. Together, we can continue building a Cricklewood that thrives.

April 2026