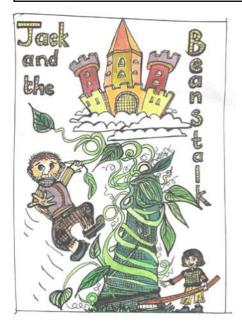
## **CHARLTON LINK**

### Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 394 JANUARY 2022

Funded by the Parochial Church Council, Newbottle & Charlton Parish Council and our advertisers



# Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime Tickets!

On sale on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January** at 8 a.m.

We have decided to be all modern and these can be purchased online using Ticketsource.

We will use our panto WhatsApp groups and Charlton Chat on Face book to let you know links the week before.

#### Performance times and ticket prices:

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30	Adults £7
Thursday 17" February	7.30	Adults £7
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30	Adults £9
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	2.30	Adults £7
•	7 30	Adulte £9

Children's tickets are £5 for all performances.

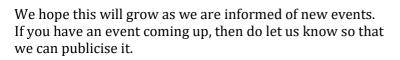
If you can help with sewing, or want to volunteer to support the front of house team during the week then please email <a href="mailto:k.e.mckellar@googlemail.com">k.e.mckellar@googlemail.com</a>

www.charltonandnewbottle.com

Charlton Link Editor: Julia Rands, juliarands@hotmail.com 01295 812446

#### VILLAGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

In 2022, you will find a Village Events Calendar in Charlton Link so you'll know exactly where all the fun is happening in the village throughout the year!





Dates for your diary so far for 2022:

Jack in the Beanstalk Panto – 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> February Queens Jubilee Street Party – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June Charlton Fete – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July Carols in the Car Park – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December

These events will also be posted on the village website (www.charltonandnewbottle.com) and on the Charlton Chat Facebook page.

Get in touch with your event, in plenty of time, by using the email on the front page of Charlton Link.



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#### CHURCH https://newbottlechurch.weebly.com

I hope you had good Christmas. It was heartening to be able to return to some of the traditions of previous years. In particular, it was wonderful to have the school's Christingle service back in church. So much hard work by the staff and children clearly paid off, and it was a fitting start to a season of Christmas services in church.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our celebrations over the festive period, providing music and refreshments at 'Carols in the Car Park', reading the Lessons at our Carol Service and decorating the Church.

January can sometimes feel like quite a dreary month after the festivities, and perhaps the current uncertainty and anxiety surrounding the pandemic add to the sense that we are in the 'bleak mid-winter'. However, the Christmas season stretches into January, and in particular we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany at the beginning of the year.

I dare say most of us remember the story of the three Kings, or Wise Men, bringing their gifts to the Christ child. Behind the account of their story in St Matthew's gospel lie some fascinating details from which we might draw a few parallels with our own situation at the moment. Theirs was a long and difficult journey through largely unknown country, it was at times dangerous, and they were led to change their plans in the face of that danger, returning home by a different route. Yet they made it! And were blessed with a joyful, life changing encounter with God.

Whatever 2022 has in store for us, I pray that we may be sustained on our journey through this year by the faith and hope that sustained the three Kings on their pilgrimage.

Wishing you every blessing for the coming year.

Father Matthew

Email: fathermatthew.r@icloud.com

Tel. 811364

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY SERVICE, EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

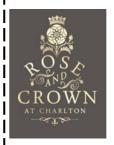
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The Rose and Crown Family would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have supported us throughout 2021

We would also like to wish you and your families a Happy New Year

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#### Newbottle & Charlton School Update

The countdown to Christmas was a very busy time. We were lucky enough to have some live events for parents and children to enjoy. We also invited a theatre production in to perform a very funny play about King Arthur with some Christmassy themes.

We had a reduced capacity at our Nativity play called 'Jesus in a Manger' performed by Oak and Ash classes (Year R, 1, 2). The children were fantastic and I especially liked the catchy songs and actions. We were also able to have two services at Church. We had our traditional Christingle service in the evening, led by Birch and Elm classes (Year 3,4,5,6) and our whole school Christmas Service on the last day of term. The children sang some new and traditional songs beautifully. We had a mini Christmas Fayre outside this year, where the children sang some songs; Birch class ran some games stalls and the PTFA and staff ran refreshments and our Secret Santa room. It was well-attended and a lovely end to the term.

This year we are celebrating out 150-year Anniversary. See below for more details and ways you may be able to help us. So far no one had contacted us and we would love to hear what the school was like in the past.

Happy New Year!

Mr Smith. Headteacher



#### 1872-2022

This year we are celebrating our 150-year anniversary at school. We have some plans for events which we would like to do to mark this special occasion. This includes a 3-week whole school topic, a special church service, a big party in the summer and a winter ball next December.

We would love to hear from you if you or you know of someone who is an ex-pupil or staff member to tell us about what school was like for you in the past. This could be 5, 10, or even 50 years ago. We would love you to share your experiences

with us. This could be through a visit to the school, video or letter to the children.

We would also love to see old photos or any other memorabilia to help children compare how school has changed over the years.

We would love to invite the wider community to some of these events and more details will follow soon.

#### Carols in the Car Park

The fairy lights were lit, the tree was trimmed, mulled wine was warm and the fire pit was roaring for Charlton's 2nd annual 'Carols in the Car Park' in December

Thanks to everyone who helped and contributed towards the enjoyment by all. More than £150 was collected with the money split between The Children's Society and the fund for our village Christmas tree in 2022.



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#### **Nature Notes**

We are writing this before Christmas and we have realized that the birds have had all the holly berries from the trees at the bottom of the garden. There are just few left near the house. If we think of it in time we cut the berried holly and stick it in a bucket somewhere cool – it lasts well for a few weeks until it's time to put it in the house.

There are lots of ivy berries to keep the birds going through the next few weeks. Ivy is such useful stuff for insects and birds. The flowers -insignificant tiny and yellowish, in clusters - appear late in the year and provide food for late-flying bees and other insects. The berries then ripen from green to black gradually from December onwards, providing food for hedgerow birds throughout the hardest months of the winter. Ivy only begins to flower and fruit when it can't climb any further and stops being long trails and turns into a woody, shrubby plant.

We are seeing deer more often in the garden – possibly because we no longer have a big dog on site. We love to see the roe deer in the fields – they are unmistakeable with their white rumps as they bounce away - but would prefer not to have them in the garden as they are so destructive of our plantings. There were two one early morning this week: unfortunately our boundary walls, which are old dry-stone field walls, are no obstacle to deer – they hardly need to make any effort to clear them. We are also regularly visited by a muntjac deer. These are usually solitary so we don't know whether it is the same one every time or whether there are several taking it in turns.

In the last few weeks the pheasants have returned. Some years we have had whole families of pheasants every morning throughout the autumn – to the great excitement of the dog. This year we have hardly seen one but just recently we have had a couple of very splendid cock pheasants who come to pick over the ground underneath the bird feeders. We saw one of them pecking at a glass door to the house – was he pecking his own reflection? Our smaller cat started to stalk one but quite obviously decided after five minutes that it was a little above her pay grade and sat down to watch it out of sight.

Climate change is now obvious to everyone, but it is impossible to write about wild-life without referring to the way that global warming is changing the environment and everything in it. Everyone will be aware that we see far fewer butterflies and moths than we used to, and this is partly down to the use of pesticides and loss of habitat, but there are also chains of dependencies which are being disrupted. Moths are in trouble as there is a whole group whose caterpillars feed on the juicy leaves of broadleaved trees just after budburst in spring. Trees come into leaf based on the length of the day, but moth eggs hatch out when the temperature is warm enough. In the past there was close synchronicity, but now the moth eggs are tending to hatch early into a leafless environment and the caterpillars starve. This has knock-on effects for blue tits, for instance, which need lots of caterpillars to feed their new chicks and will struggle to find food for them.

The RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch takes place the weekend of 28th – 30th January: more than a million people took part last year – please join them. Go to the RSPB website and find out how to join in.

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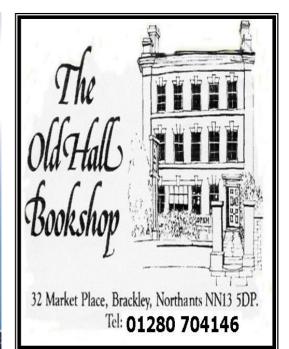
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