

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 406 JANUARY 2023

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

WE NEED YOU!!

A plea for volunteers to help us with the Playing Field Project

The first stage of the path was completed for a fraction of the cost due to the hard work of a very small group of volunteers. We have lots we can do in the Field that doesn't need specialist resource.

We don't need new committee members, but we really would like a group of people (we are aiming for a minimum of 20) that are able to do a few hours when the need arises.



The projects coming up will be labour intensive, but again we can reduce the cost if we have the volunteers. There are also opportunities to support with the fundraising activity.

If you can help then please either email charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com or come along to the Village Hall on **Thursday 5th January at 7 p.m.** to find out more.

The playing field team are: Victoria Beadle, Della Wolfe, Mark Bracey, Alice Townsend, Mike Loggin, Kevin Ridge, Dickie Penrose and Pete Smith.

← We need lots more of this!

Read the Link in colour at www.charltonandnewbottle.com

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

QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT

Thursday 31 January 2023

Join us for a fun quiz to raise funds for the
Playing Field Project

Email charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com

Teams of 4,5 or 6 required

£13 per person for a choice of curry
(£3 of which goes to the Playing Field)

Carols in the Car Park

Despite arctic temperatures, the affectionately titled 'Carols in the Car Park' in December had something to keep everyone warm – whether that was hearty singing accompanied by the accordion, the fire pit, mulled wine or hot chocolate!

Thanks to everyone who helped to set up the event and to those who came along and contributed to the enjoyment by all. More than £70 was collected and donated to the Parish Foodbank.



HARRY DUNN

On 27 August 2019, we lost our precious boy Harry and we knew our lives would never be the same again. Little did we know what was coming down the road however, and when we found out that Anne Sacoolas had gone, we were devastated. We were then told that we had less than 1% chance of having anyone held accountable for Harry's loss.



We were lucky that just two days later, Radd Seiger, who many of you in the village will know, knocked on our door and asked if he could help. His children are the same age as ours and we have known him for 20 years. We also knew that he and his wife Sarah had quietly helped many people in the village over the years who were going through tough times. When Radd told our entire family that Harry would absolutely get justice, we knew that would happen for sure and he led the way. Radd and Lisa Dowd from Sky News, who had only moved out of our village a few months before Harry died, got to work. We were meeting President Trump a week later and we just have not stopped fighting for justice ever since. Harry finally got the justice he deserved on 8 December and at long last we now feel we can move forward to our inquest and parliamentary enquiry. Our goal now is to make sure that what happened to us never happens to another family again. The inquest should take place in 2023.

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the village for your love and support over the years. It has been completely overwhelming to see the village, surrounding communities, and millions of people all around the World put their arms around us. We could not have done it without you and it has made bearing our loss that little bit easier.

As Radd has said so many times, who would have thought that our tiny little community could have taken on the might of the US Govt, and won! No one gets left behind here and we are so lucky to have had him. Some of you will know he is now also supporting dozens of other families too.

We know these are difficult times and we hope that 2023 is a positive year for all of you. Thank you so so much again from the bottom of our broken hearts.

Charlotte, Tim, Tracey, Bruce and Niall




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Jack and the Beanstalk Tickets!

Will go on sale on **Wednesday 11th January** at 8 a.m. We have decided to be all modern and these can be purchased online.

We will use our panto WhatsApp groups and Charlton Chat to let you know the link to our provider the week before.

Performance times and cost of tickets:

Wednesday 15 th February	7.30	Adults £7
Thursday 16 th February	7.30	Adults £7
Friday 17 th February	7.30	Adults £9
Saturday 18 th February	2.30	Adults £7
	7.30	Adults £9

All children's tickets are £5 for all performances (children up to 12 years old).

This is an important fundraiser for the Village Hall in addition to being a great community event. If you can help with sewing, or want to volunteer to support the front of house team during the week then please email k.e.mckellar@googlemail.com

Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas celebrations were merry. Christmas is not yet over in the Church, and an important part of this season is the Epiphany.

We celebrate this feast on the 6th and 8th of January this year. The Epiphany, meaning 'revealing', is the occasion when the Magi, the 3 Kings, or 3 Wise Men as they are sometimes known, visited Jesus. They gave Him their attention, and in return it was revealed to them that He is God.

Many will know the story of these men, nowadays we would probably call them scientists, who travelled from the East, guided by a star, and brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gifts were full of meaning and symbolism. However, they also gave God some of their time, travelling over long distances in hazardous terrain and unfavourable weather. In doing so they were giving another valuable gift, and in return the Magi were given the precious gift of knowing God.

How do we make sense of all this? The key to unlocking this mystery is to recognise that the more we are open to God, giving Him more of our time, the more we perceive Him and receive from Him.

Love is the driving force behind everything that God does, and so He continues to give us gifts. I don't believe in coincidence, but I do believe in blessings. Those moments, big or small, often hidden in plain sight, which are the work of God in all our lives. A kind word spoken at just the right moment, an unexpected meeting with an old friend, a beautiful sunrise or piece of music, that lifts our spirits.

The beginning of a new year is a good time to take stock, and perhaps resolve to change the way we view our lives. Rather than seeing events as the product of our 'good luck' perhaps we might instead see blessings from God. When you begin to see God revealed in this way some of the anxieties of life can be let go, and we receive God's peace because we discover that we are not at the mercy of chance. We are loved by God, to whom the Wise Men brought their gifts, and who continues to give us gifts as tokens of His love for us.

Wishing you every blessing in the year ahead,

Father Matthew

Tel. 811364, email: fathermatthew.r@icloud.com

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM

FRIDAY 6TH JANUARY, 9.30AM SCHOOL EPIPHANY SERVICE

THURSDAY 12th JANUARY (AND FORTNIGHTLY THEREAFTER) AT 9.30AM:
AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD,
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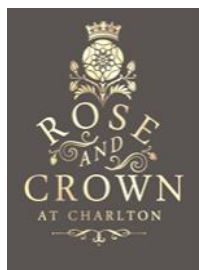
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**Don't forget to book for
Burn's Night, 25 January 2023
a fun evening for all**

**The Rose and Crown Family would
like to thank all of you who have
supported us throughout 2022**

**We would also like to take this
opportunity to wish you and your
families a Happy New Year!**



*Happy
New Year*

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Playing Field Progress

We're super excited to share that we have completed the first phase of our perimeter path, which we were lucky to do before the change of weather!

This, along with the car park expansion has been a great achievement and allows us to demonstrate to any potential funders that we're serious about implementing our business plan.

We've also had the opportunity to engage with the Football Association who were impressed with our business plan and the engagement and support that we have outlined from local residents. They have provided us with feedback and some areas to consider within our plan and believe that they may be able to offer some support when we're a bit more established which is great news.

We'd like to congratulate Ali Collis on her half marathon achievement and thank her for raising awareness of the project and for her fundraising of over £370.

We have lots more fundraising opportunities available to us, but we need some more help to be able to deliver them, please do get in touch if you're able to get involved chalrtonplayingfields@yahoo.com

Lastly we've got some local fundraising events happening in 2023. Quiz Night - The Rematch will be taking place at the Rose & Crown on January 31st, please do get in touch if you'd like to register your team. In March we'll be having our very own Easter Bingo Night in the Village Hall and on May 7th we have our Charlton Big Bike Ride.





Newbottle & Charlton School Update



It was lovely to welcome local residents back to our school for one of our Community Teas. The children sang some Christmas songs and the Year 6s enjoyed serving tea and cake. Our next one will be around Easter time.

The school Key Stage 1 Nativity was a great success. It was called 'Away in a Manger' about Maurice the Mule who found a special baby in his manger. The children were amazing, especially our 'rockin' stars!

The services for Christingle and Christmas went well and the singing was beautiful, we even had a few children doing solos. The Christingle service is one of my favourite events of the year.

It was lovely to see so many at our Mini Christmas Fayre even though due to the cold we had to move it inside. It was a great way to end our term. Thanks to the staff and PTFA for their support running different stalls.

On the first day back after Christmas we are off on a whole school trip to MK theatre to see Snow White which we are excited about.

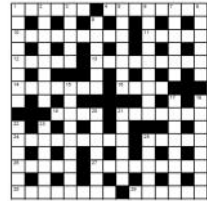
Please do join us at Church for our Epiphany service on Friday 6th January at 9:30pm

Happy New Year!

Mr Smith, Headteacher

Crossword winners!

Congratulations to Trish Naylor who won a £25 Rose & Crown voucher by completing the Christmas Crossword in the December Link. The two runners up prizes of £15 Rose & Crown vouchers went to Katy Snelling and Derrick Jephcott. Thanks to everyone that entered!



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

Spread some cheer and volunteer!

We couldn't run our events or continue to provide all our services without the support of our brilliant volunteers. If you think you can help, take a look at our website.

The gift that keeps on giving

Our Charity Calendar for 2023 features 12 stunning local scenes – taken by talented members of Banbury Camera Club – and helps to raise vital funds for our hospice. You can pick up your calendars in one of our shops or find them on our website.

We're here to help

If you have lost someone you love and would like some support, we have a team of trained Bereavement Support Workers waiting to help you. The support is free, can be carried out face to face or on the phone. And you don't need to have had any direct involvement with the hospice, we are here for anyone who needs us. If you'd like to find out more about how we can help support you, please take a look on our website: www.khh.org.uk/bereavement-services.

Would you like to join a friendly choir and sing for fun?

Fabula Community Choir is open to all and is based at Kings Sutton Church Rooms. We get together on Wednesday evenings, 6.15-7.15pm, to sing a wide range of popular songs.

We would love to welcome new members, the cost is £4 per session. No auditions required! Get in touch with Emma Perry on emma.perry@astrop.co.uk or just come along.



Nature Notes

At the time of writing the last nature notes we were still basking in unseasonably warm weather, with the grass still growing and many of our garden plants in flower. Then we had a serious cold snap with really low temperatures, frost and even some snow. In the sunshine the countryside and the garden looked beautiful but today we have warm wet weather and the garden is a sea of frosted and blackened foliage.

Today's paper has a report of a study into the numbers of earthworms in the UK. We have written before about 'insectagedon' and everyone must be aware by now of the destruction of wildlife all over the world, but until now there has been no long term monitoring of soil invertebrates. Earthworms are vitally important for the health of the soil that underpins every ecosystem, and which also provides the crops that feed the world. From the best data available scientists have estimated that there has been a decline in earthworm abundance in the UK of between 33 and 41% in the last 25 years. Not only does this decline in soil biodiversity mean that the soil is less healthy, with less nutrient recycling and processing, which makes it less able to produce crops, but there are also knock-on effects on all the species that feed on soil invertebrates, like birds. We know that thrushes, starlings and many waders that rely on soil invertebrates are in long-term decline.

Earthworm declines appear to be greatest in farmland and in broad-leaved woodland, while wilder upland areas seem to be less affected. Arable cultivation depends today on extensive drainage, pesticide use and inorganic fertilizers, which will inevitably have had an effect of soil biodiversity. But the changes in broad-leaved woodlands and pasture possibly indicate that climate change and the growing levels of animal-wormer pollution in the soil are the drivers of the loss of bio-diversity there.

The analysis of the Big Butterfly count from last July, when 96,000 people submitted their tallies of butterflies and moths, showed that there had been a slight decrease in the average number of sightings from 2021, despite the exceptionally warm weather. Good summer weather is good for butterflies, generally, but the prolonged heat and drought may have meant that a lot of caterpillars starved to death because the vegetation they needed was dry and dessicated. Apparently after the drought of 1976 it took eight years for wider countryside species to recover.

Deborah and Paul Hayter

Check out our **2023 Village Calendar** so you'll know exactly where all the fun is happening in the village throughout the year!

We hope this will grow as we are informed of new events. If you have an event coming up, then do let us know so that we can publicise it.

Village Event	2023	Raising money for
January		
Tuesday 31st January	Curry and Quiz Night - Rose & Crown	Playing Field
February		
15th - 18th February	Panto (every other year)	Village Hall
March		
15th March - 6th April	Easter Egg Treasure Hunt	
Saturday 25th March	Family Easter Egg Bingo	Playing Field
April		
Sunday 2nd April	Palm Sunday - Church Service with Donkey	
Monday 17th April	Annual Village Meeting - Parish Council	
Thursday 27th April	Plant and Produce Swap - Village Hall	Local Food Bank
May		
Sunday 8th May	Big Bike Ride and Coronation Celebration	Playing Field
June		
Sunday 11th June	Open Farm Sunday - Newbottle Farm	TBC
July		
Saturday 15th July	Charlton Fete and Tennis Competition	Church
August		
September		
tbc	Promises Auction	Playing Field
tbc	Harvest Festival	
October		
	Halloween events - pumpkin trail and carving competition	Playing Field
November		
Saturday 11th November	Act of Remembrance - War Memorial	
tbc	Quiz at the Pub	Playing Field
December		
Sunday 10th December	Carols in the Carpark	Children's charity and Tree
tbc	Carol Service - Church	Children's charity

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