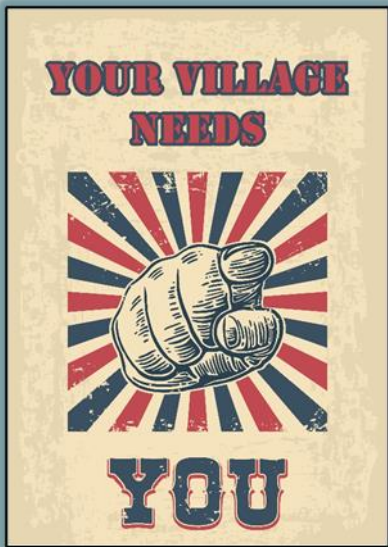


# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 398 MAY 2022

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## VILLAGE EVENT Freshers Morning

**SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY**  
**10am – 12pm**  
**VILLAGE HALL**

**Everyone is invited to come along, see what is going on in the village, find out how you can support our community**

**Annual General Meeting hosted by the Parish Council at 10.30am**

**And if that's not enough of an incentive there are free refreshments!!!**

[www.charltonandnewbottle.com](http://www.charltonandnewbottle.com)

*Charlton Link Editor: Julia Rands, [juliarands@hotmail.com](mailto:juliarands@hotmail.com) 01295 812446*



## Newbottle & Charlton School Update

Before we broke up for the Easter Break, Oak and Ash classes (Yr R-2) had a fantastic day in Warwick looking at toys from the past at St Johns Museum. They also had the opportunity as part of their science topic to visit Forceleap Farm and meet the new additions. They loved seeing the calves and listening out for signs of Spring.



As part of our Easter celebrations the children learned all about the importance of this festival to Christians in RE and through our daily acts of worship which included a special service at St James'. The children also took part in our annual Easter Egg hunt in school and were given an Easter egg kindly donated by the PTFA. Children had the opportunity to decorate an egg or create an Easter bonnet as part of a competition run by the PTFA.

Last month I shared with you that we carried out a sponsored 150 challenges event as part of our year-long anniversary celebrations. So far we have raised £1287 for Save the Children Ukraine appeal! A big well done to all! We have some more events in the pipeline to celebrate our 150-year anniversary which includes welcoming the community and past pupils/staff to the school. We are just finalising the dates and activities so please do keep an eye on our website [www.newbottleandcharlton.co.uk](http://www.newbottleandcharlton.co.uk) or look out for an invitation nearer the time for more details. As part of these celebrations, we would love also to reuse our flagpole that we have and if possible get the old school bell working; if any of the community knows of anyone who might be able to fix these for us, we would be most grateful.

This term the children are starting their summer topics investigating the questions: 'Where is the best place to build a castle?' (Yr R-2), 'Why would you choose to live in London?' (Year 3-4) and 'Why has Brazil got one of the world's fastest growing economies?' (Year 5/6).

We also have plans for a Mayday celebration with country dancing and maypole dancing as well as children running their own mini businesses this month as part of our Family Enterprise scheme.

***Mr Smith, Headteacher***

# Open Farm Sunday

Newbottle Estate Farms is once again opening for Open Farm Sunday this year. It will be the normal fun on the farm with trailer rides and lots of demonstrations and displays. We will be raising money for the Playing field project and the butchers will be providing their legendary BBQ.



Please walk from the village if you are able to as parking can get quite busy.

**June 12<sup>th</sup> 12pm – 4.30pm at Forceleap – Free Entry**

## Playing Field Update

The appendices that accompany the business plan have now been compiled, so the final document is ready.

We have started the funding process, this can take some time, but our commitment is there to follow it through. We are also focussing on some quick wins, with lower value funding opportunities e.g. Tesco token scheme. This is important as we will need to provide a percentage of the overall funding amount for the larger grants.

We have had a noticeboard made up which will be in place this month outside the entrance to the playing field.

We are delighted with the support of Brackley Athletic Football Club and their commitment to the village. Their use of the playing field and the fees paid has been hugely helpful in our funding applications, as we can demonstrate regular use of the field, plus for the first time in years a healthy set of accounts.

Lastly do come and see us at the Freshers Morning. We will have the business plan to show you and representatives from the team to talk you through plans and hear your ideas. Also we will need to form a Playing Field Association, so would love some volunteers to come forward to join this group.

# Queens Platinum Jubilee Weekend in Charlton

## Pre the Jubilee weekend

Best dressed house competition, lets turn our village red, white and blue



## Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Party at the Pub

Lighting of Beacon in the field behind the pub at 9.45pm

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June

11.00 – 12.00 Drop off picnics at the Village Hall

12.00 Parade assembles at The Stables

12.30 Parade – theme – Choose 1 of the 7 decades of the Queen's reign. Parade through the village ending at The Village Hall\*

*\*Parade, banners announcing each decade, do dress in an outfit from a decade of the Queen's reign (e.g between 1950's – 2020's). There will be a prize for the best dressed child and adult*

13.00 'Bring your own Picnic lunch' in the grounds of The Village Hall\*\*

Gin, Beer and Pimm's bar

Toast and announcement of winner of The Best Dressed House competition and Best Dressed Adult and Child

*\*\*This will be in the area next to the play area, traditional street party, long tables will be set out. The Rose and Crown are providing a paid gin, Pimm's, lager and London Pride bar*

14.30 Playing Field Games

Treasure hunt quiz around the village\*\*\*

*\*\*\*Winner announced in July Charlton Link*

15.30 Commemorative Jubilee Oak planting and dedication at the Playing Field

18.00 Jubilee Evensong at The Church

## **WANTED!**

- ☆ *We need an idea of the numbers for the street party. There is an event set up on Facebook Charlton Chat, if you are planning to attend, could you confirm there?*
- ☆ *If you want to get involved then email [della@thecurvegroup.co.uk](mailto:della@thecurvegroup.co.uk). We have leads for all the key activities, so Della can put you in touch with the right person.*
- ☆ *We are seeking a volunteer to lead the games at the playing field, volunteers will be provided to support.*
- ☆ *If you have any vehicles of historical interest, please contact Alice or Eleanor.*
- ☆ *We may need some more chairs depending on numbers.*



(Pictures from VE Day celebrations in May 2020)

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It was wonderful to welcome many to our Holy Week and Easter services, and to continue the celebration when our village school came to church for their Easter service on the Wednesday after Easter Sunday.

Easter (and Christmas) are moments of great joy, and so should be savoured. In the Church's calendar the festivities at both seasons extend well beyond the day itself. This is as it should be because the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are moments when the whole history of humanity was changed forever. So, the Church encourages you to keep partying!

In the coming months we will have more to celebrate. As many of you will know plans are being made for a wonderful celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Charlton, and we shall be marking this event with a service of Evensong at 6pm on Sunday 5th June at St James' Church. Do come along, all are welcome.

If you'd like to know more about our services, or anything else to do with the church and the Christian faith, then do come along to the forthcoming 'Fresher's Morning' being held in the Memorial Hall between 10am and 12noon on Saturday 7th May. We will be there and hope to see you there too.

With my best wishes,

Father Matthew

Tel. 811364, email: [fathermatthew.r@icloud.com](mailto:fathermatthew.r@icloud.com)

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM

EVERY FORTNIGHT, FROM 21ST APRIL, ON THURSDAY AT 9.30AM  
AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD,  
FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

ASCENSION DAY (THURSDAY 27TH MAY) 9.30AM  
HOLY COMMUNION IN CHURCH

WHITSUNDAY (SUNDAY 5TH JUNE) IN CHURCH  
9.30AM HOLY COMMUNION  
6PM EVENSONG FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

## Nature Notes

We are writing this at the end of the Easter weekend when we have had beautiful warm sunny weather. It was a joy to be in the garden and we have had a lot of butterflies, not only the Brimstones which we saw first in March, but also a lot of Orange-tips. These are easily distinguished as their name describes them, though the females don't carry that distinctive orange splash at the ends of the wings so we never know whether we see them as well. The females have black wingtips, which makes them rather like small white butterflies; but both sexes of Orange-tips have mottled green underwings which are lacking in the Small White. Orange-tips lay their eggs on some of the cruciferous plants and are particularly keen on Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolare*). This grows as a weed in this garden, but we had never had much of it until the last couple of years, when it seems to be everywhere. We now wonder whether the ready availability of this good food plant has increased the number of butterflies. They also like cuckooflowers (*Cardamine pratensis*) which grows in dampish places, hence the butterfly's Latin name *Anthocharis cardamines*.

This is the noisiest time of year for bird song, when birds are busting themselves to attract a mate and claim good feeding territories. We are not very good at identifying bird song – when you can hear it as often as not you can't see it. There are a few that we know: at the moment there is a very insistent Great Tit with his repetitive call of 'Teacher! Teacher!'. Magpies chitter-chatter in the wood; when we have a green woodpecker in the garden and it flies off you can understand why the old country name was 'Yaffle' – they do yaffle. Our sparrows are very argumentative between themselves and very noisy – but you couldn't call it 'song'. We've seen Yellowhammers along the church path hedge this year but haven't heard their very distinctive song – 'A little bit of bread and no cheese!'

It wasn't until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century that ornithologists began to ring birds, and this made it possible to work out where our summer visitors went to in the autumn. That great naturalist, Gilbert White, spent a good deal of time in the 18<sup>th</sup> century trying to find the hiding places where swallows hibernated in winter. But in 1912 a UK-ringed swallow turned up in South Africa to everyone's amazement - no-one had thought it possible that small birds could fly so far; UK-ringed Manx shearwaters were found off the coast of Brazil and Argentina, and UK-ringed Arctic Terns in Antarctica and Australia. It became apparent that not only did birds migrate to and from Europe, but seasonal waves of birds ebbed and flowed all round the globe. Analysis has shown that there are eight major 'flyways' around the world, and the UK is on the East Atlantic Flyway. This bird superhighway has millions of birds flying there and back along it every year, and like any highway, it has service stations – places to rest and refuel. In the UK many of these pit stops are RSPB reserves, particularly wetlands with rich and diverse ecosystems, but it is obvious that for bird populations to flourish, the rest of their 'flyways' should remain bird-friendly too, meaning that international co-operation is needed.

We wrote last month about finding a dead fox in the garden. This time we met a very live fox – it was trotting along a high wall behind our greenhouse and, startled by humans, leapt down in front of us – a very large jump – and made its way off. It was probably checking out our compost heaps, which now have meagre pickings as all our food waste goes into a rat-proof hotbin.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**



# Cattle in the fields

As you may have noticed the cattle are out grazing again. Please remember that cattle can be unpredictable and can therefore pose a risk to those in their fields especially dog walkers. We make every effort to manage the risk by choosing breeds with a docile reputation, culling aggressive individuals, employing skilled stockmen and managing the cattle's grazing so that cows at most risk of being aggressive are not grazed in fields with public foot paths and bridleways in.

The cows are at their most protective and so pose the biggest risk for a couple of weeks after calving, so we keep calves for the first couple of weeks in grass fields with no public access. To avoid any problems the best policy is to stick to the foot paths (we can then anticipate that you might be there) and keep your dog on a lead whenever you are crossing any grass field. If you are nervous, it is fine by us to walk around the edge of the field near the fence, so you don't have to walk through a group of cattle.

If you do get chased by cattle, let go of the lead as the cow will probably be chasing the dog rather than you (the dog is far more likely to get away if it is not attached to you) and get out of the field as quickly as possible.

Finally, probably the greatest danger posed by cattle to local people is if they get out onto the road. This happens several times a year and is nearly always because someone has left a gate open. Please save us a great deal of stress and help us reduce the risks posed by straying cattle on the road, by making sure your whole group closes all gates properly when you go through them.

Please try to stick to countryside code:

- ⇒ Keep on the foot path
- ⇒ Keep your dogs under control
- ⇒ Close any gates you open
- ⇒ Move quietly through the countryside
- ⇒ Keep away from stock

Thank you in advance for all your help with this and I hope you enjoy having them in your view!!

Thanks Alice



## The Future of the Village Shop and Post Office

Following the meeting on 6 April regarding the coming closure of the village shop in mid-May, we are trying to establish what the village needs/wants in terms of a shop and Post Office, and what the options might be for the future. This is your chance to have a say about this important service - without the commitment of people in Charlton, it will be lost.

There will be the chance to comment on the Charlton Chat Facebook page in due course, but do also feel free to send any thoughts and comments to [charltonshopfuture@gmail.com](mailto:charltonshopfuture@gmail.com).

Further updates will follow after the next meeting on Wednesday 27 April (Village Hall, 7.30pm).



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

It's a busy time at the hospice with so many events and services opening up again. Your support makes a difference! Without the generosity of our wonderful community, we couldn't keep caring for local people when they need us the most. Thank you!

### **Dig deep for a good cause**

If you love spending time in the great outdoors, then don't miss out on our Open Garden events throughout the spring and summer months. We have some fabulous villages taking part, as well as some private tours and events with limited availability. You can find the full list of our Open Gardens on our website. [khh.org.uk/gardens](http://khh.org.uk/gardens)

### **Welcome return**

Our Living Well programme of events is back up and running on Mondays and Thursdays! We are now able to offer bookable sessions for patients and family members to take part in art/craft & photography, mindfulness, hand massage and reflections. We welcome referrals from carers and families of people with a life-limiting illness over the age of 18. If you would like to find out more about Living Well or book one of our sessions, please contact the Living Well team on 01295 228500 or visit the website. [khh.org.uk/livingwell](http://khh.org.uk/livingwell)



## Charlton Fete - Saturday 23rd July 2022

Last year's fete was a great success and we'd like this year's to be bigger and better than ever. New ideas and new people are very welcome!

If you'd like to get involved, please come along to a meeting on **Wednesday 4th May at 6 pm** at The Cottage on Main Street, to start the planning.

Please contact Deborah Hayter on [hayterdeborah@gmail.com](mailto:hayterdeborah@gmail.com) if you'd like to be part of the 'event team'.



### Palm Sunday

A group of worshippers joined Fr Matthew and Heidi the donkey to walk from the Village Hall to St James Church on a sunny Palm Sunday last month.

### Charlton Litter Pick

Thank you to the half a dozen keen and enthusiastic Charlton residents, plus the Guides, who joined the village litter pick on Friday 1 April.

They did a great job collecting rubbish in and around the village. Thank you for your support!



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