

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 410 MAY 2023

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

King's Coronation Schedule

Pre Coronation weekend

Best dressed house competition*

Saturday 6th May

Rose and Crown – Special Menu, Coronation shown live

Sunday 7th May

Charlton Big Bike Ride – The Playing Field – 10.15 onwards

12.30 - **"Big Lunch"** Bring your own **Picnic Lunch** – shared tables at The Playing Field

13.00 – **Charlton Bake Off Competition**** – cakes for sale after judging

13.15 – **Crown Competition** Parade & Judging***

13.30 – **Toast to The King**

Rest of the afternoon, traditional games including rounders

18.00 – **Evensong** - Newbottle Church

Monday 8th May

"Big help Out"

The Parish Council are coordinating a list of jobs that need doing around the village – e.g. Playing Field, Village Hall & Cemetery, volunteers wanted! High Vis jackets optional...

Notes

*Decorate your house from 29th April to turn the village red, white and Blue

**Bake off competition -Theme: Coronation/Royal or Sporting

***Crown competition – everyone can enter!

Prizes for best cake, crown and decorated house

During the picnic lunch there will be a game of heads and tails, please bring a £1 to participate. Cakes will also be available to purchase for cash post judging

All monies raised to Playing Field Development Fund



Read the Link in colour at www.charltonandnewbottle.com

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

Lots going on at the Playing Field

It's busy busy busy at Playing Field HQ with lots of activity. Not only have we got a number of local events running over the coming months, but we're also getting to grips with application processes.

We've got some plans over the summer to try and create and build the pump park along with phase 3 of the perimeter path, so we'll be getting in touch with our Charlton Crew team soon to ask for some help! This month we're also re-laying the roadside hedge at the playing field which we're all very excited about.

Thank you to everyone who attended our **Family Bingo Night** last month, we were overwhelmed by the support of the village with this event, which raised over £300.



On Saturday April 22nd we'll be running our first 'Pop up Cafe' on the playing field to provide drinks and cake to the football supporters. Why not pop along to pick up a drink— we'll be there from 9.30am— 12.00pm (any cake donations would be gratefully received!)

On **Monday May 8th** we're hoping that we'll be able to enlist some volunteers to help as part of the **Big Help Out** to get some bits and bobs sorted on the playing fields as well as other areas across the village.

As we write, we're very much looking forward to seeing many of you at our Quiz Night. Thank you to the Rose & Crown for continuing to support us by hosting the event. We'll let you know next month how we get on.

As ever, if you'd like to help, have ideas on fundraising please get in touch at charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com

Newbottle and Charlton Litter Pick

Thursday 11th May, meet at 6pm
at the Village Hall
Equipment will be provided

Last year we collected all this litter to keep our village tidy and remove the risk to wildlife

Please join us in 2023



Charlton Big Bike Ride

Charlton's very first Big Bike Ride is taking place on **Sunday 7th May from 9.30am** at the Playing Field. The ride is around 12 miles through some of our lovely local villages, finishing at the Playing Field for a tasty BBQ treat (included in the ticket price). Tickets are £7.50 per bike and available from ticketsource.co.uk or get in touch with Victoria Beadle, Della Wolfe or Katy Snelling to let us know how many tickets you'd like and we'll put them aside.



All proceeds will go to the regeneration work at the playing field and will support us with our fundraising applications. And as it's over the Coronation Weekend, we'll be awarding prizes for those who bike with a royal theme!

The Big Help Out gives everyone an opportunity to lend a hand



Community Volunteering is an important part of the UK's story, from Air Raid Wardens during the Second World War to over 12 million of us who stepped forward during the pandemic.

Now thousands of organisations – big and small – are getting together to mark **The King's Coronation** by giving everybody the chance to try volunteering for themselves and make a difference in their community.



In Charlton, The Big Help Out starts on Monday 8th May

We have many ways that volunteers "lend a hand" in Charlton. From pantos to committees, school governors to working parties. We now have a team of 30 people who have joined 'Charlton Crew' to support the playing field and ad hoc work within the public areas of the village.

We want to commemorate The Big Help Out initiative by completing work in 3 areas in the village: the cemetery, the playing field and the village hall.

We need a lead volunteer for each of these areas – and also of course volunteers! If you are able to spare a few hours on Monday 8th May or during the week after, we will be using Charlton Chat on Facebook to publicise the opportunities. If there are any other areas in the village that could do with a lift, please contact newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk



Charlton Panto whopping success!

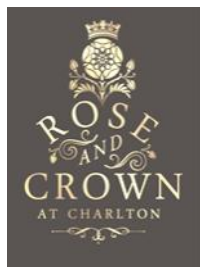
Wow! We may have had to wait an extra year, but the Panto was really worth waiting for. We received lots of positive feedback from audiences.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported. It was also a record breaking year for fundraising too, we raised **£3461** for the Village Hall. New this year was Blunderbore's Boozer, our outside bar. This proved really popular and helped boost the amount raised.

The great team of cast members, backstage and children all worked brilliantly together and had fun too! The Panto was directed by Kate McKellar, supported by Tim Collins, they took what was already a good script and made it into a genuinely funny one.

We will start to think about the next panto in March 2024, and put the planning in over that summer to start rehearsing in September 2024. We don't have a director yet, so if you would like to step forward contact us!

The next panto performances will be Wednesday 19th – Saturday 22nd February 2025.



Saturday 6 May 2023

Join us to celebrate King Charles's Coronation

We will be having a Royal and Traditional Menu for lunch and dinner

Come down and join us for this special occasion!

Perhaps also for a gin and tonic!

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Springtime at Forceleap Farm

Over Easter it was lovely to welcome some great spring weather to the farm, as well as many of you, who thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about spring on the farm and, as you can see, a chance to hold and feed the lambs. The star of the day had to be nine year old Sarah, Shepherdess Ros's daughter, who was in her element showing everyone how to handle the little lambs. Thanks for all your help Sarah.



In May, our **monthly farm walk is on Thursday 11th May** and will be hosted by CPRE Northants. It will focus on two important topics in farming right now; diversification and rewilding. Alice will give a tractor and trailer guided tour providing an opportunity to learn about the pressures affecting farming and what Forceleap Farm plans to do about them.

Later that week, **Saturday 13th May**, we welcome back our foraging friends Lizzy and Steve, who will be leading **guided foraging walks** and 'wild pizza' making.

And finally, **Open Farm Sunday** will be here soon, taking place on **Sunday 11th June**, it's a free, fun day out for the whole family. One to pop in the diary now!

Do come and join us for any of the above, to find out more please email me on danny@forceleapfarm.com

Thanks,
Danny
Venue Manager



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Books, old & new, maps and more

It is sometimes said that the best thing to happen to television was the Coronation of our late Queen. Prior to 1953 comparatively few people owned a TV set, and yet 27 million people watched the service from Westminster Abbey with, on average, 17 people watching each set. Thereafter sales of televisions really took off and, as the saying goes, we have never looked back.

However, as we watch the Coronation of our new King, I suspect there will be a little looking back to the past. The Coronation is an ancient service, and so it is inevitable that commentators will compare this one with previous coronations. It is wrong to suppose that the service is preserved in aspic, never changing. In fact, it has been 'tweaked' repeatedly over centuries.

Nevertheless, some elements remain unchanged. It is a national ceremonial occasion when those of all faiths, or none, can acknowledge the new Sovereign, but at its heart it is also a Christian act of worship. Two elements in particular convey this character. The first is when the monarch is anointed with Holy Oil and the second is when he makes his Communion.

The oil for this Coronation comes from olives harvested from the Mount of Olives, near Jerusalem, a familiar backdrop for many of the events recorded in the New Testament of the Bible.

Despite all the pomp and grandeur of the occasion, in these two parts of the service the Monarch comes before God with no more exalted status than you or I. Indeed, to make this point he is divested of his regalia before he is anointed and merely wears a plain white garment. This is because he is acknowledging that he cannot live up to his calling without the grace of God. The same applies to us all, and that is why anointing with Holy Oils and Holy Communion are available in the humblest parish church as well as in the splendour of the Abbey. Anointing and Communion are sacraments, that is gifts from God, given to His Church by which we can be sure we are receiving God's grace to strengthen us to live the life God has given us.

To celebrate the Coronation we are having a service of Evensong in the parish church. It will be at 6pm on Sunday 7th May. Do come along. We are also inviting you to suggest the hymns we might sing at that service. I can't promise we will be able include all suggestions, but we'd welcome your requests. Do drop me a line at the email address below, or ring me and tell me what you'd like to sing.

With my best wishes,

Father Matthew

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

Facebook/St James's Church, Newbottle & Charlton

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM

CORONATION WEEKEND, SUNDAY 7TH MAY: 6PM EVENSONG
ROGATION SUNDAY, 14TH MAY: 9.30AM FAMILY SERVICE STARTING AT THE CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AT WALNUT HOUSE.

THURSDAY 4TH MAY (AND FORTNIGHTLY THEREAFTER) AT 9.30AM:
AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD,
CHARLTON. FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

ALL ARE WELCOME

Nature Notes

Spring is late this year and we saw no butterflies at all in March. Usually we have seen the first brimstones flying by the end of the month. We had some lovely warm weather for the Easter weekend at the beginning of April, and then we saw Brimstones, a Small Tortoiseshell, a Comma, an Orange Tip, a Holly Blue and a Peacock. The Holly Blue is the small blue butterfly that you may see early in the year. Confusingly, though it is a small blue butterfly (and its wings are blue on both sides) it is not The Small Blue, the underside of whose wings is brownish.

We seem to write about the loss of wildlife and climate change quite a lot, which is all bad news, but driving down to Oxford last week it was a joy to see large areas along the verges with thousands of cowslips coming into flower. Motorway verges obviously suit them as they are protected from trampling, grazing and picking, and as long as they have managed to flower and set seed before an annual haircut they will continue to flourish and increase. Cowslip wine used to be commonly made in the country, and the recipes for cowslip wine start by picking 'a bushel of cowslips'. A bushel is an old-fashioned measure of volume, containing 4 pecks or 8 gallons (though there were local variations): malted barley, beans, grains of various sorts were measured out in bushels. This is the sort of volume you might get in an old-fashioned laundry basket – so that's a lot of cowslips. At the time when cowslip wine was being made, there were so many that there were plenty for everyone, but that sort of harvest can't have done their survival any favours, and the loss of 'unimproved' pasture and hay meadows in the 20th century reduced their possible habitats, leaving them only odd unsprayed corners. There are a few in the Stonepits field, and we have some in the garden. It was exciting to see that one had made itself at home in the middle of the lawn and we shall have to move it somewhere safer. It is also likely that the cowslips now flowering are less impressive than those of a hundred years ago: inevitably if you were picking your bushel of cowslips you would go for the biggest and best. Only the smallest would be left to set seed for the future.

Some years ago a friend who had a bit of woodland collected a lot of cowslip seed and gave us an envelope full. We sowed it in a seed tray and nothing happened at all. The seed tray got left in a cold frame and occasionally watered and lo and behold, a full eighteen months later they came up like mustard and cress. It is their descendants that we have in the garden now.

We have some Pasque flowers (*Anemone pulsatilla*) in a stony place and they have just come out – late. They are called Pasque flowers because they are normally out at Easter time and it is surprising how often they are. This is a rare wild flower in this country: we have seen them growing wild in the Hills and Holes, the old quarry, at Barnack near Peterborough.

The RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch this year highlighted the continuing decline of all sorts of birds. 1.5 m sparrows were seen in gardens in January this year, but this figure is down by 60% since the survey began in 1979. The RSPB gives a round figure of a loss of 38m birds from our skies in the past 50 years. Parliament passed the Environment Act into law in 2021: this requires a halt to species decline by 2030, but unless serious action is taken it will not be possible to meet that deadline.

Deborah and Paul Hayter



**KATHARINE
HOUSE
HOSPICE**

With lighter evenings and warmer weather, it's time to get back to enjoying the outdoors. We have plenty of ways that you can support our hospice while getting some fresh air. We couldn't support local people without your help.

An evening of stars!

Don't miss out on your chance to sign up for our movie-themed Moonlight Walk! Join with friends and family for a fun-filled six-mile or ten-mile walk under the stars on **Saturday 20 May**. Dress to impress and walk with hundreds of local people through the moonlit streets of Banbury to help raise vital funds for our hospice. Sign up to secure your tickets now: www.khh.org.uk/moonlight

Rose to Remember

There's still time to be part of our new Rose to Remember event this June! By purchasing a hand-crafted metal rose you can remember a loved one and pay tribute to the life and memory of someone special. The roses will be part of a stunning temporary installation, hosted by our friends at Sulgrave Manor, from **Monday 5 June until Sunday 18 June**, before they are taken home to keep. To find out how you can purchase a rose and be part of this special event, visit: www.khh.org.uk/rose-remember

Given HALF a chance...

The Oxford Half Marathon is back on **15 October!** Come and join our team for the biggest and best local half marathon! Whether you're a seasoned runner or ready to step up and try something new, this 13.1 flat half marathon through historic Oxford is a fantastic challenge. We'll be there to support you every step of the way. Sign up now! www.khh.org.uk/oxford

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. Full list of our Open Gardens www.khh.org.uk/gardens

Can you make a difference?

We are looking for volunteers with excellent communication and presentation skills who are also enthusiastic, friendly and approachable. If that sounds like you, then our exciting new Community Ambassador role could be right up your street. You will work alongside our super friendly fundraising team within the local community. Full training and ongoing support will be provided. Interested? Find out more at www.khh.org.uk/community-ambassador

Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your local hospice

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. www.khh.org.uk/newsletter

Thank you!

MINUTES OF THE NEWBOTTLE AND CHARLTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17 APRIL 2023 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, CHARLTON AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Michael Loggin; Councillors Linda Baker, Kevin Ridge, Wayne Rule and Matthew Walsh.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer), District Councillors Rebecca Breese and Rosie Herring and two members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Parish Councillor Struan Kenton.

1. **MINUTES** - The minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. **MATTERS ARISING** - There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2022.

3. **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** – Prior to the meeting, a report from the District Councillors had been circulated to the Parish Council and the meeting.

District Councillor Rosie Herring highlighted the Integrated Care System and one of her main priorities had been to address the lack of support which was available for young people with mental health issues. There was also a discussion about traffic issues in Charlton and the number of accidents on rural roads. WNC also had a new app which provided lots of information for residents, as well as the ability to report issues to WNC, such as potholes and comment on consultations.

Councillor Rebecca Breese also highlighted issues relating to planning matters in the village and the surrounding area.

District Councillors Rebecca Breese and Rosie Herring were thanked for their reports.

4. **OPEN FORUM** – The Chairman invited representatives from village organisations to provide a report on the work they had been undertaking in the village.

There were reports from the Memorial Hall Management Committee, Pre-School, Playing Field Association, Charlton Panto Players and Northants Police. The reports were available on the Parish Council web site.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their reports.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – The Chairman of the Parish Council, Michael Loggin, reported on the work of the Parish Council during 2022/2023.

Councillor Loggin thanked the Councillors and the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, for their work over the last 12 months.

The Chairman's full report was available on the Parish Council web site.

6. **PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022/2023** - The Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer presented to the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council accounts for 2022/2023. The figures had been subject to internal audit and gave an accurate picture of the activities of the year.

It was noted by the meeting that the Parish Council gave an annual donation to the Memorial Hall of £350 to cover the cost of the grass cutting.

The accounts were available on the Parish Council web site.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

(The meeting closed at 8.50pm)

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Have you seen our village Flag Pole?

The Parish Council has erected a flag pole at the Village Hall.
A flag will be flown on important occasions such as royal birthdays etc. It will also be flown on 6th May 2023 to mark the Coronation of King Charles III.

Delivery person or people needed!

Is there anyone in Charlton who would be willing to deliver the Link each month to the houses on Farthinghoe Road and Cartwright Road? Eileen Graver has been doing this round for a very long time and would like to hand it over. She says it really doesn't take very long and it is only once a month.

Eileen and all the Charlton Link delivery team – Silke Everett, Alan and Ann Hawkins, Jenny Barker and Anita Harris – are owed a very big THANK YOU for their commitment to delivering the Link.

If you could spare an hour each month to deliver the Link, please contact Paul Hayter on hayterp@gmail.com or Julia Rands on juliarands@hotmail.com.

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