

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 413 AUGUST 2023

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

For just the second time in 10 years, the Great British weather forced the Charlton Fete into the Village Hall. With grit and determination, we kept calm and carried on!

Thanks to everyone who braved the 50mph winds and the odd shower, over £2200 was raised for St James' Church, Newbottle. A magnificent effort by stallholders, organisers and all the visitors.  
See page 3 for Fete Raffle Winners.



Read the Link in colour at [www.charltonandnewbottle.com](http://www.charltonandnewbottle.com)

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Undaunted by the weather, many people turned out to support our Summer Fete. Thank you to everyone who helped to organise and run the event, and of course to everyone who came along. The heavens opened on the stroke of two o'clock, vindicating the decision to move proceedings to the Memorial Hall. So far we've raised around £2,200, which is a terrific amount in the circumstances.

We weren't the only ones watching the skies, farmers will also be keeping an eye on the weather as this year's crop is gathered in. At church we are starting to think about our Harvest Festival. This year the service takes place at 9.30am on Sunday 24th September. Do put that date in your diary and come along, all are welcome. It will be a family service and we are looking for volunteers to read the lessons and the prayers. All the texts will be provided and, as in previous years, it will be good to have local farmers and children taking part. If you'd like to participate, please contact me on the number or email address below.

It was wonderful to have our village school in church for their leavers and end of term service on 18th July. Ministering in the school is definitely one of the many 'perks' of my job, and we in the church greatly value our links with the school. We wish the staff and pupils every blessing for a restful and refreshing break.

As the holiday season really begins things will be a little quieter. Our fortnightly Thursday morning services of Holy Communion at 7 Cartwright Road are taking a break for the summer. They will resume on Thursday 7th September. However, our regular Sunday morning services continue each week at 9.30am and all are welcome to attend. Furthermore, the church is always open in daylight hours. Do drop in and enjoy the calm and peace in the building. It is a special place that has an atmosphere shaped by centuries of prayer, and I often think the gap between heaven and earth is a little narrower there.

Lastly, I'd like to thank everyone who came to my Induction and Institution service on 2nd July. It was a really joyful occasion, and it was lovely to see so many people there from Newbottle and Charlton.

I hope you have a wonderful summer.

With my best wishes,

Father Matthew

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

Facebook/St James's Church, Newbottle & Charlton

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM

HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY SERVICE: 9.30AM SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY MORNING SERVICES OF HOLY COMMUNION AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD RESUME ON 7TH SEPTEMBER

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

# The sound of leather on willow in Charlton once again!

On a blistering hot afternoon in June, the cricket square was used for the first time in a few years when a Charlton Village team, ably captained by Mike Loggin, played a Rose and Crown team.

Charlton batted first and made 103 all out in the 20<sup>th</sup> and last over. The Rose and Crown team led by Matt Walsh fell just short with 86 for 7 off their 20 overs. 93 year old Margaret Houldcroft presented the cup. With her love of cricket, Margaret enjoyed watching many games at the playing field. The Rose and Crown presented a miniature bat which was signed by the winning side and is now hung behind the bar.

It was a great day, the result of a lot of hard work by the Playing Field Committee and friends, particularly preparing a square which was suitable for playing cricket on rather than a weed feature. Thank you to everyone who turned up, provided cakes, drunk cider and Pimms and ate sausages.

We raised £840 which will go towards our fundraising total for the redevelopment of the playing field. After the match, Cadge Cain sung at the Rose and Crown, and the pub provided sandwiches, thank you to them for supporting the event.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE FETE RAFFLE WINNERS:

**Paul Evans, Glider Flight**  
**Mrs Hayward, Rose & Crown Voucher**  
**Malcolm Knight, Whiskey**  
**Deborah Hayter, Brackley Butchers Voucher**

**Bev Rowe, Massage Voucher**  
**Andrew Page, Sky Dive Voucher**  
**Alex Ashley, Champagne**

# Newbottle & Charlton Pre-school



It's been a busy year at Preschool, where has the year gone? We are looking forward to enjoying the summer holidays.

This term we have been learning about the life cycles of frogs, chickens and butterflies. We watched our caterpillars grow, feed, and then transform from a chrysalis into beautiful butterflies before our eyes.

We enjoyed Sports Day in July and celebrated our Graduation Ceremony to say goodbye to all the children leaving us and going to big school in September.



The Rose and Crown Presents a  
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and French Cuisine

**'Bon Appetit'**

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# Big Donation for Playing Fields Project after Open Farm Sunday Success

After a very successful Open Farm Sunday this year with nearly double the number of visitors compared with last year, we're very proud to announce we will be donating £1,300 to the Charlton Playing Field Project.

We'd like to say a very warm welcome to Kane Richardson, who has recently moved into our second business unit at The Old Farmyard. We wish him all the best of luck in his new home.

For any budding yogis - Amy runs her pregnancy yoga studio at The Old Farmyard and offers a 'normal' yoga class each Thursday at 6.15pm, you can book on her website, it's called 'Bunk Off Bedtime' by the way, or you can get in touch with Amy at [amy@thehypnobirthingyogateacher.com](mailto:amy@thehypnobirthingyogateacher.com)

Meanwhile, out on the farm... despite some very up and down weather, harvest season is now well underway. During August you can expect to see the combines out in the fields harvesting our wheat and barley. We'll also be gathering in the silage and hay, which thanks to an extraordinary grass growing year should feed the cattle all the way through the winter.

For updates on upcoming events follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/forceleapfarm](https://www.facebook.com/forceleapfarm)

More photos from our fabulous Open Farm Sunday:





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## Newottle & Charlton School Update

It has been a busy end of term as always. Oak and Ash classes (Reception to Year 2) had a fantastic day at Cotswold Wildlife Park learning all about animals linked to their Explorer topic.



Birch Class (Year 5/6) put on an amazing show for parents over two nights with their production of Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies. It was a great play filled with lots of jokes and amazing songs. They all did so well!



We have some changes in school from September 2023. Ms Rowe and Miss Hirst will be reducing their hours of teaching and so we have appointed two new teachers, Mr O'Sullivan and Mrs Hetherington and we can't wait for them to join us. Mrs Hogan, one of our HLTAs is also becoming a class teacher under the direction of Mrs Lovesay-Bonham who will become our Inclusion lead.

We are also having some decorating done and the toilets will get a partial refurbishment while we move all the classrooms around ready for a fresh start in September. Reception children will stay in a class of their own from September while all of Year 1 will now join Year 2 to make up Ash class (currently we mix Year 1 into two classes). We are really excited for these changes and we hope to invite you in soon after all the work is completed for a tour.

A note to say the defibrillator that lives outside the school office will be moving to a new home in the village (details to follow). We have a brand-new internal one which will be kept in the school foyer and will be open for use by anyone during school opening hours in term time - 7:40am to around 5:30pm.

Have a lovely summer!

*Mr Smith, Headteacher*

# Newbottle Parish Council Update: July 2023

**Community Bus Service** — A community bus service was being run from the village to Brackley, Northampton, Banbury and Towcester. For more information, please call 'Ability' on 01327 604123.

**Street Lighting** — If any streetlights are not working, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council with the lamp number/location and this information will be forwarded to Eon. Please bear in mind that the street lighting contract is between the Parish Council and Eon, so if residents contact Eon directly, they may not get a response.

**Fly Tipping** — If residents are aware of any fly tipping, please report this to West Northamptonshire Council or call. They will collect the rubbish and also gather evidence, which will then help them prosecute the offenders.

**Flag Pole** — A planning application has been submitted to West Northants Council for the flag pole located outside the Memorial Hall.

**Waste Services** — Residents are encouraged to respond to the West Northants Council consultation on the future of waste services in the County.  
[www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk)

**Myers Close Play Area** — Councillors will investigate the types of new playing equipment which will be suitable for the play area.

**Bus Shelter** — Additional shelving will be installed in the bus shelter on Green Lane.

**Playing Field** — A fundraising cricket match, held on the playing field, raised £840 for the pavilion project. Further cricket matches will be arranged in the next few weeks. Please keep an eye out on social media.

**Co-option** — Jordon Bolton was co-opted onto the Parish Council on 17 July 2023. Councillors and the Clerk look forward to working with him.

**Defib Training** — The session organised by the Parish Council on 10 June 2023 was very well attended and received. Thanks to all those who came along.

## **Parish Council Meetings at the Memorial Hall, 7.30pm: 18.09.23 & 20.11.23**

Agendas and Minutes are available at [www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk) or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965

during normal office hours

All welcome to attend!

Follow Newbottle Parish Council on Facebook or find us online at  
[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)



## Spruce-up for Village Hall

Trustees of the Village Hall meet regularly to manage bookings and make sure the hall is kept in good condition to accommodate village events like the Fete. With the summer holidays here, the halls, kitchen and bathrooms will all be getting a fresh coat of paint and other minor maintenance issues will be taken care of thanks to the appointment of a handyman.

We have a good number of regular and ad hoc bookings and the Trustees want to make sure that the Village Hall continues to be a great asset to our village. If you'd like to become a Trustee, please get in touch with [dellawolfe@thecurvegroup.co.uk](mailto:dellawolfe@thecurvegroup.co.uk)



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

### **Singing for the Soul**

We're excited to launch an informal singing group starting September 2023 as part of our Living Well offering. Sessions are free and open to anyone with a life-limiting illness, their family members or those who have experienced bereavement within the last two years. No experience necessary and no auditions – just singing for the joy of it! Call 01295 228500 for more details and to register your interest.

### **A way to remember**

Our stunning Celebration Tree is an amazing way to remember the life of someone special. Taking pride of place in our reception area, our specially commissioned rose tree celebrates the lives of loved ones and is a wonderful way to mark a special occasion, like a birthday or anniversary. Every engraved leaf and rose helps to support specialist end-of-life care across our community. Find out more about how you can arrange a leaf or rose dedication here: [www.khh.org.uk/celebration-tree](http://www.khh.org.uk/celebration-tree).

### **Challenge accepted**

As part of our relaunched Accumulator Challenge, we're asking teams to grow £50 into as much money as they can between 16 October 2023 and 16 February 2024 – and we have just 20 spaces available. This is your chance to compete to be crowned the Ultimate Accumulator or win the coveted prize of the Ultimate Innovator! We're so excited for the return of this popular event and can't wait to see all the creativity and friendly competition in aid of Katharine House. Why not inject a little fun into the workplace, classroom or local community space and sign up to our Accumulator Challenge today? [www.khh.org.uk/accumulator](http://www.khh.org.uk/accumulator)

## Nature Notes

The Big Butterfly Count has already begun – on the 14<sup>th</sup> July – but it goes on till the 6<sup>th</sup> August so you all have an opportunity to help Butterfly Conservation scientists to understand the impact of climate change on our butterflies. All you have to do is spend 15 minutes in any sunny spot – your garden, by a hedgerow, in the Stonepits field – and record the number and type of butterflies that you see. If you google Big Butterfly Count you will find lots of information and there is a mobile app you can download to help you identify what you see.

Last year's record temperatures, heatwave and drought caused some of the plants that caterpillars feed on to wither and die. Lots of recording now will help scientists discover what the ongoing impact of this extreme weather has been. Butterflies are indicators of a healthy natural environment – with half of Britain's butterfly species already threatened or near threatened with extinction, it's never been more important to understand how our insects are responding to the changing climate and to take action to protect them.

Last week we had a sudden influx of Red Admiral butterflies in the garden – four at one time on a single plant. It always seems remarkable that these butterflies have migrated here from North Africa and continental Europe. Their flight seems so un-purposeful, but they arrive in a series of northward migrations and the immigrant females lay eggs which then emerge as fresh butterflies from July onwards. It seems likely that the ones we are seeing are fairly newly hatched as they are very smart and vibrantly coloured. The results of our Big Butterfly Count (done on the 17<sup>th</sup> July) are: 8 Small Whites, 1 Peacock, 5 Red Admirals, 3 Small Tortoiseshell, and 7 Large Whites. Not bad for 15 minutes work.

We've recently found two new badger latrine pits in different places in our garden. One of them is rather close to the greenhouse and we are hoping that they don't have their eyes on our tomatoes. We have to put a barrier across the open door of the greenhouse during the day against the dog who has proved to be a rather keen veg and fruit eater: we found her nibbling the cucumbers and she has stolen quite a lot of the low-hanging unripe figs. She'd go for the strawberries too if they weren't netted against the birds.

You may have noticed a few very dead young trees in various places. There is one just by the main entrance gate to the school. These are young elm trees which have succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease. Some of us can remember the devastation wrought by Dutch Elm Disease when in the 1970s it wiped out thousands of mature elm trees with their characteristic billowy outline, changing the landscape in a very major way. English Elms do not set seed in this country, but they can and do grow from suckers from their own roots up to 100 metres away from the original parent plant. So what has been happening since the 1970s is that there is re-growth from the roots which grows successfully until it gets to about 20 – 25 feet, when the bark becomes solid enough to be colonized again by the beetles which infect the tree with the disease and it dies. It's always easy to identify an elm tree as every leaf is asymmetrical where it joins its stem, with one lobe bigger than the other. At some stage the trees will win the battle with the beetles – but not yet.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

## Playing Field update

June was a great month for the Playing Field Project, with an injection of funds from the cricket match and Open Farm Sunday. We're currently gearing up for a further Cricket Match in July with Charlton playing Brackley 3rds which is a great opportunity for the Bar & Grill to be wheeled out and some further funds raised.

We continue to work on fundraising applications. We've submitted stage one for the pump park which we hope to receive feedback on soon and the opportunity to move to stage two. We're working with Passmores to finalise the designs for the pavilion in order to get updated and accurate costings to enable us to submit to a different funding body.

We've received and built the new picnic benches that now sit outside the pavilion for all to use and we've also purchased a new bench! We hope that we'll be able to continue to add to the facilities over time.



As a team we're currently working on some fundraising events for after the summer, look out for dates in September for The Charity Car Wash (all funds raised will be ring fenced for the pump park) and we're hoping to run another Pop up Cafe to support the football and we'll also be holding The Charlton Big Clear Out on Sunday October 15th.

As we wind down for a few weeks off over the summer, we'd like to thank all those who are supporting in whatever way they can and a HUGE thank you to the working party for their continued enthusiasm and commitment to improving this community space.

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