

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 378 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

OPEN GARDENS & TREASURE TRAIL Saturday 19th September from 11am

Despite no Charlton Fete this summer, the Tennis Tournament is going ahead, with proceeds going to St James Church in Newbottle. Alongside the tennis tournament a community event will be running in the gardens of Walnut House and The Cottage. Please come along to raise much-needed funds for the church and support the players.



Open Gardens & Treasure Trail

Take a socially distanced wander around the lovely gardens at Walnut House and The Cottage. Visit the plant stall and pick up some delicious local produce and other treats. Buy a raffle ticket for the chance to win a great prize and take part in the Nature Trail or Treasure Trail for children.

Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament

£30 per couple, open to everyone. Matches played across five courts (three grass and two hard) in Charlton. Contact Eleanor Bland on eleanorbland@hotmail.com to check availability before Thursday 10th September.



The Rose & Crown Refreshments

The Rose & Crown pub and garden will be open from 11am for light food throughout the day and lunches as usual.

www.charltonandnewbottle.com

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



In more normal times we would now be coming to the end of the holiday season. However, quarantines, travel restrictions and the dramatic way that the Coronavirus has disrupted our lives has shaken up our usual routines.

Nevertheless, I do hope that you've been able to get some rest, and had a chance to 're-charge your batteries' in some way.

The word holiday comes from the old English word for holy day, and this is of more than merely historical interest. The Church has always celebrated Holy Days with feasting, celebrations and time off from work.

This reflects the Christian belief that we are more than clever machines designed to be constantly working. You'll find plenty of examples in the Gospels where Jesus takes himself off for what we might call some 'down-time'. Indeed, when we pray we can enter into a time of recreation, i.e. a moment when we can physically and mentally stop and refresh our spirit. This is because you don't have to speak to pray, and God is often found in stillness, silence and rest.

Whatever the last few months have been like for you, and whatever the coming month has in store, I hope that you will have some Holy Days, some time of rest and recreation.

Wishing you every blessing.

Fr Matthew

**There will be a service in our Parish Church every Sunday at 9.30am.
Everyone is welcome.**

A message from Charlton Store

To avoid any confusion or misconceived rumours, Charlton Village Store has been advised for sale. This is for both shop and accommodation, with the option of just the shop and Post Office.

Our notice period with the Post Office ends on 23rd January 2021, which will be the last day the shop remains open unless a buyer is found.

We will try to keep you updated where we can.

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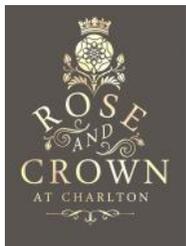
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*The Parish Council continues to
distribute free food boxes to
residents of Newbottle & Charlton
every Thursday.*

*They are for anyone who is in need
eg, self isolating, elderly, no income
etc. The deadline for an order is 12
noon on a Monday and they are
delivered on a Thursday.*

*Please email Theresa Goss, Clerk to
the Parish Council, at [newbottleparish-
council@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparish-council@yahoo.co.uk) or ring 01295
710965 to place your order.*



Nature Notes

We are writing this in the middle of a heatwave and are feeling rather jealous of anyone in Banbury who apparently had a good shower of rain last night. Here we had nothing and the whole garden is gasping for water. We can't remember another summer where the lawn got so parched and dry twice in one year. We had a long dry warm spell early in the year and our grass went completely brown – and felt crunchy rather than soft and yielding – but we then had some good rain and it very quickly recovered and greened up. But now it has all turned biscuit-coloured and biscuit-textured again. We garden on very sandy soil so it doesn't take much heat and drought to make everything look a bit sad. We quickly found out in this garden which plants are genuinely drought-proof. Hollyhocks love it but foxgloves don't. Only certain sorts of roses survive well here. All the rugosas are fine, and so are the roses which belong to the Hybrid Musk family, but otherwise it's only worth planting roses which are described as 'exceptionally tough and disease-resistant'.

Everything is ahead of itself this year. We were eating asparagus in April, raspberries in June and the blackberries were coming ripe in July. And then we discovered that our cyclamen (*c.heredifolium*) were coming out in July. These definitely belong to autumn and we checked in the bulb catalogue – they are meant to flower from September to November. These are not the large-flowered pot cyclamen so often for sale at Christmas, but the smaller wild cyclamen, found widely in woods in Europe. Here they have a home under the cherry trees with a lot of leaf-mould.

We have been entertained by the numbers of starlings in the garden. At one stage they were lined up all along our roof and on the television aerial and chimneys, chattering to each other. There were, we think, between 40 and 50. They like our beech hedges and sometimes there is a cacophony of starling chat as they crash about in there – really quite a loud noise.

The badgers are now enjoying our fallen apples and pears – we don't mind them having these as they aren't ripe yet. When it comes to the ripe ones, however, we're in competition. The broad beans have now finished so we've moved the fortifications from them to the sweet corn. We really don't want them to have our gorgeous corn on the cobs.

We've written quite a lot about butterflies this year, and we noted a news item about a success story – the reintroduction of the Large Blue Butterfly. This butterfly became extinct in Britain 40 years ago, but was reintroduced a few years ago to sites in Somerset and Gloucestershire. It has such an extraordinary and specific set of needs for its life-cycle to end up with flying butterflies, that it has taken years of work to create good conditions for it. They need grassland grazed by cattle to create ideal sites for red ants. The tiny caterpillars of the blue butterfly drop off wild thyme and are then taken underground by the red ants, which treat the larvae as their own, until the larvae turn carnivore and eat ant grubs through the winter. They pupate underground and emerge as butterflies the following summer. Last autumn over 1,000 larvae were released on Rodborough Common and this summer about 750 butterflies emerged. There are now more of these butterflies in Britain than anywhere else in the world.

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We welcomed people to enjoy walking and exercising around the airfield during lockdown.

As you will have noticed since restrictions have lifted, we are flying again. Although we are not yet back up to our pre-covid activity levels, some flying is taking place every day that weather conditions allow.

As such it is no longer safe to be walking, biking, running or anything on the airfield. Unfortunately, there have been several incidents where people have put themselves and pilots in extreme danger. For your own safety and the safety of others, please stick to the designated public footpaths.



Memorial Hall Update

At a meeting of the Trustees in August, it was decided that the Memorial Hall will remain closed for casual bookings until the end of 2020. Our priority remains the safety and wellbeing of the pre-school children and staff so the hall will also not be open to regular bookings until at least November 2020, this will be reviewed at the next meeting of Trustees in October.



KATHARINE HOUSE REIMAGINED MIDNIGHT WALK 10-19 SEPTEMBER 2020

This year, we are getting creative and conjuring up some special socially distanced midnight magic, with our flagship fundraising event Midnight Walk Reimagined. Wherever you are, whoever you choose to walk with, we hope you'll walk with us this September to support the fantastic work of Katharine House Hospice, helping to make every moment matter for patients and their families affected by life-limiting illness in our community. No matter how old or young you are, whether you choose to walk wearing pyjamas, covered in glow sticks, or head to toe in fancy dress, we want you on our team, join us today at www.khh.org.uk/midnight

DIGITAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER – KEEP UP TO DATE WITH YOUR HOSPICE

Please sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter, which is designed to keep you in touch with what's happening at Katharine House Hospice, including news of our fundraising events and developments at the hospice. Just head to our website to sign up >> www.khh.org.uk/newsletter

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF

We have started a new series of 'A day in the life of Katharine House' featuring stories from our staff, as they talk us through a 'normal' day at Katharine house. You can read more here > <https://www.khh.org.uk/a-day-in-the-life-of-helen>

LIVING WELL – FIVE WAYS TO WELLBEING

Our Living Well service here at Katharine House, has launched its new virtual programme focussing on the Five Ways to Wellbeing; Get Active, Give, Keep Learning, Take Notice, Connect. You can find lots of useful links and helpful information on our website www.khh.org.uk/living-well-at-katharine-house

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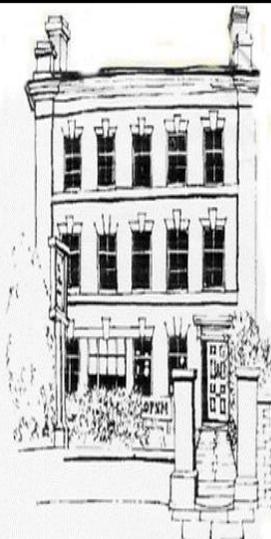
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