

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton



ISSUE 371 JANUARY 2020

*Funded by the Parochial Church Council, Newbottle & Charlton Parish Council
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PANTO TICKETS

Tickets for the Charlton Pantomime go on sale in the village shop on Monday 13th January (oh yes they do...!)

The village panto this year is **The Pied Piper of Hamelin** and is sure to be a great night out — expect many sausage jokes! The panto will be running from Wednesday 19th to Saturday 22nd February 2020.



Always great fun, and a major fundraiser for Charlton Memorial Hall. Tickets cost £7 for adults and £5 for children. Don't miss out — get your tickets now!

Wanted - Cleaner for Charlton Memorial Hall



The village hall needs a weekend cleaner for 2 hours each weekend plus 2 hours, total 10 hours per month.

Rate of pay: £10 per hour. Immediate start required as our current cleaner has found another job.

If you would like to apply, please email della@thecurvegroup.co.uk or call 07736 859124.

www.charltonandnewbottle.com

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

Services at Newbottle in January

Sunday 5th January 9.30am : Sung Eucharist

Sunday 12th January 9.30am: Matins & Holy Communion

Sunday 19th January 9.30am: Sung Eucharist

Sunday 26th January: 9.30am Matins & Holy Communion

Sunday 2nd February 9.30am: Sung Eucharist

Eucharist at 9.30am at 7 Cartwright Road on Thursday 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.

Time marches on, and perhaps it feels as if Christmas is already in the past. In fact in the Church the Christmas season lasts into January. This month we keep the feast of the Epiphany, the moment when the three wise men visited Jesus. Contrary to some depictions in art they actually arrived sometime after his birth, and so this year we mark the occasion on Sunday 5th January.



Perhaps the two most important things about this event are the gifts they brought and the identity of the wise men. Each gift signified something about the purpose and course of the life, death and resurrection that lay ahead for the Christ-child. Furthermore, the fact that these three visitors came from distant lands reminds us that Jesus lived, died, and rose again for the benefit of all of us, regardless of our differences.

Therefore the Church is there for everyone, without exception, and you would be most welcome to join us at one of our services.

I hope that 2020 brings you much happiness and every blessing.

Fr Matthew



Newbottle & Charlton School Update

In December, school was very busy with Christmas festivities and we also held our own General Election. Birch class (year 5 & 6) created their own parties and manifestos and the whole school voted. It was a brilliant experience for Birch and the whole school with the Blue Planet Party collecting the most votes.



A packed audience filled the hall as many nervous Reception, Year 1 & 2 children performed 'I'm Gonna Shine'. We had some amazing dancing, narration, acting and singing and they all were stars (even though technically some were not!) and that King needed watching out for too! It was a marvellous afternoon, all the children were amazing as well as the KS1 staff, led by Miss Dooley, who coordinated this wonderful annual performance.

St James church was filled by many of our KS2 children and families for our Christingle service. This traditional event which is one of my absolute favourites was again fantastic. The children were super at knowing where to be, what to say and there was some beautiful singing including an opening song from the Choir.

At the end of term, the Primary School league tables were released. This is not something I pay attention to but it was pointed out to me that Newbottle & Charlton CEVA Primary School is the top performing school in Northamptonshire and 8th in the whole country. What an amazing achievement which is down to all the fabulous children, families, staff and community support. Please look here for further details if you are interested.

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=928&la-name=northamptonshire&geographic=la&for=primary>

May the peace and joy that Christmas brings, be with you all; wishing you all a very prosperous and happy 2020.

Mrs Smith, Head Teacher

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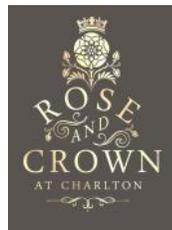
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To make a booking or find out
more, please contact Sarah, the
Bookings Clerk at:
bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk



Don't forget that special someone!



Valentine's Dinner

**The Rose and Crown, Charlton
Friday 14 February 2020**

**Booking Essential
Contact 01295 811317
Menus available from the pub**

Nature Notes

We have been seeing a solitary collared dove in the garden. This is unusual as they tend to be in pairs, though occasionally they group into flocks where there is a lot of food available. These belong to the pigeon family, and are a pale, pinky-brown colour and as their name suggests, they have a distinctive black bar or collar around their necks. Everyone will be familiar with their sound, a monotonous cooing, endlessly repeated, which goes *COO-COOO-CU*, three beats, distinguished from the wood-pigeon's sound which has five beats: *COOO-COOO,COOO-COOO,OOO*.

Collared doves are a successfully spreading species: they did not occur in Europe, let alone the British Isles, until the 1930s, apart from some in the Balkans. It spread from the Balkans right across Europe expanding its range westward and northward by about 2,000 km in about 20 years. When it first bred in Norfolk it was a tremendous excitement for bird-watchers, or 'twitchers', but now it is everywhere. It has managed to spread so fast and so widely because the young birds disperse extensively and generally to the west, and do not return to the area where they were born.

Wood-pigeons are bigger than collared doves, with a fatter body, and these are the ones that crash about in the branches so noisily. They are one of our commonest birds and a pest: anyone who grows any brassicas in their vegetable gardens will know how pigeons can destroy, almost overnight, a whole crop of promising cabbages and brussels sprouts.

It is not only the squirrels that have been stealing our walnuts. We have been told that crows (or possibly jackdaws?) have been seen swooping down to get the fallen nuts, then flying down the village street to find a good tall house where they drop the walnut from the top of the roof so that it plummets down and smashes onto the road, making the kernel available for a bird that works fast to harvest it before the next car comes along. Not such bird-brains.

We have been cursing masonry bees. These bees tunnel into the mortar between stones in walls and lay a solitary egg in each excavation. We have walls with the original lime mortar from 350 years ago and the bees love it. Quite a lot of the house has been repointed but up on the north gable we realized that there are places where there are really large holes which must be repointed before the stones actually fall out. There is a fashion for making 'bug hotels', to provide homes for solitary bees and other insects, and you can buy very sophisticated ones from the RSPB, amongst other places: but we are providing an enormous bug and bee hotel, to our cost. Even if we deny the masonry bees homes in the walls of the house, we have lots of other walls in the garden with similar conditions, so we needn't feel guilty.

Deborah and Paul Hayter

I'd like to wish all Charlton Link readers a very happy and healthy 2020. Thank you to all the volunteers who deliver the Link, to Keith who co-ordinates the deliveries, our regular contributors and to the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council who, along with our advertisers, fund the printing of the Link.

If you have an event or news item that you would like to be included in the Link, please contact me via the details shown on the front cover. The deadline for submissions is the 18th of the month.

Best wishes from Julia, the Editor

Memorial Hall Update



Thanks to the small band of helpers who worked hard to spruce up the grounds of the Memorial Hall in December, and to those who lent their green bins to be filled with garden rubbish.

There is always space for more people who care about our village hall and can spare a little time to come to a few meetings per year to discuss it's upkeep.

The Trustees will next meet on **Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7.30 p.m.** All are welcome.

Introducing two new bus routes

The Rural Lynx Bus service is for members only and will operate weekly. Unfortunately there is no funding available for this service so a fare of £3 - £5 depending on pick-up point will need to be paid. The service will be operated by an accessible bus to aid people with mobility problems.



If you wish to use the bus, you need to become a member of the Rural Lynx Bus Service by completing a membership form – membership is free and forms are available on the bus.

The route is run by Cherwell Valley Route Management and is operated by Cherwell Valley Bus & Coach. For further information, please contact 07923 42227 or email enquiriescvrm@gmail.com.

See next page for timetables.

Bus Timetables

Thursday – Banbury Route CVRM-03

Pick-up Point	In (Read Down)	Out (Read Up)
Fewcott – Ardley Road Bus Stop	09.31	13.47
Fewcott – White Lion Inn	09.33	13.45
Fritwell – Primary School Bus Stop	09.36	13.42
Souldern – Fox Inn	09.38	13.40
Souldern – Hillside/Bovewell	09.40	13.38
Aynho – Grammar School Bus Stop	09.43	13.35
Charlton – Primary School Bus Stop	09.50	13.30
Kings Sutton – Banbury Lane Bus Stop	09.56	13.24
Kings Sutton – Cannings Garage	09.58	13.22
Banbury – Sainsburys Bus Stop	10.06	13.14
Banbury – Morrisons Bus Stop	10.07	13.13
Banbury – Town Hall Bus Stop	10.10	13.10

Friday – Bicester Route CVRM-04

Pick-up Point	In (Read Down)	Out (Read Up)
Kings Sutton – Cannings Garage	09.30	13.50
Kings Sutton – Banbury Lane Bus Stop	09.32	13.48
Charlton – Primary School Bus Stop	09.38	13.42
Aynho – Grammar School Bus Stop	09.45	13.35
Souldern – Fox Inn	09.48	13.32
Souldern – Hillside/Bovewell	09.50	13.30
Fritwell – Primary School Bus Stop	09.52	13.28
Fewcott – White Lion Inn	09.55	13.25
Fewcott – Ardley Road Bus Stop	09.57	13.23
Bucknell – Bus Stop	10.00	13.20
Bicester – Manorsfield Bus Stand 7	10.10	13.10
Chesterton – Green Bus Shelter	10.20	12.57
Chesterton – Red Cow	10.22	12.55
Bicester – Manorsfield Bus Stand 7	10.32	12.45

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