

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 404 NOVEMBER 2022

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and our advertisers*

## Half Marathon Fundraiser for Charlton Playing Fields

On Saturday 26th November, Charlton's Ali Collis is joining the Aynho Running Group to run a half marathon to raise funds for the Charlton Playing Field Project.

Ali said: "I took up running during the first covid lockdown and have enjoyed it ever since. I've completed a half marathon, a vUltra run (862 miles in 2 years) and several smaller runs.

"For this half marathon, we start at the Cartwright Arms in Aynho and go to Souldern, Clifton, Adderbury, Kings Sutton, Charlton and finish back in Aynho.

"I'd like to raise money for the Charlton Playing Fields to help fund a new pavilion and equipment for our village."

If you'd like to sponsor Ali, please visit her fundraising page <https://gofund.me/2f25e633>. Keep an eye on Facebook for timings and if you can, cheer on the runners through Charlton on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

(Ali is pictured 4th from left).



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

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## Nature Notes

At the time of writing we are still having warm autumn days with blue skies, sunshine, and what little rain we have had has almost all fallen during the nights. Our puppy has hardly met any rain during her short life. The colours of the autumn leaves are already glorious and there is still much to come. Most leaves are green throughout the summer and this is due to the presence of chlorophyll, the green pigment which enables the leaves to carry out their important function of photosynthesis – transmuting the energy of the sunshine into food for the plant. (That's a very basic explanation.)

Autumn leaf colour comes from two groups of pigments: carotenoids, the orange-yellow colours which are present in leaves through the year, and anthocyanins which produce the reds and purples in autumn leaves. The carotenoids are masked most of the year by the green chlorophyll, but as this dwindles with the shortening days, the yellow, orange and brown pigments show through. We love seeing the field maples turn: these are our only native members of the acer family, and their leaves become a gorgeous rich butter yellow – there are some lovely ones in the hedge to the right of the lane going down the hill to Kings Sutton. Native silver birch also tends to turn a good yellow.

The anthocyanins are not present in the leaves throughout the year, but are actively produced in late summer, developing in the sap of the cells in the leaves. This is the result of many factors both inside and outside the plant, but roughly speaking the formation of these pigments depends on the breakdown of sugars in the presence of bright light. And of course, this last summer and autumn there has been a lot of sunshine, enabling both the production of sugars and then their breakdown. We noticed some elders in the hedges which have turned a delicate pinky-green, and the dogwood leaves are developing rich purple tints. Other native shrubs and trees which develop rich colours in this spectrum are spindles, some of the blackthorns, hawthorns, guelder rose (not a rose but a viburnum with clusters of brilliant translucent red berries), rowan and dogwoods.

Many trees had a false autumn where they dropped many of their leaves during the heatwave and the drought, as a protective mechanism. At the same time, reacting to the stress they were under, many put all their efforts into producing more seeds as possibly their last chance for producing progeny. Oak trees are laden with acorns (oak trees do not produce acorns every year), there are masses of conkers and hawthorns are laden with berries – but very few sloes as these must have been blighted by a late frost in the spring.

We haven't had much to report about bird life recently, apart from our sadness at having no swifts nesting in our eaves. Climate change brings all sorts of surprises, and we were told of the appearance of a little white egret by the lake at the bottom of the village. This is a small white member of the heron family which first appeared in the UK in significant numbers in 1989 and was first recorded as breeding in Dorset in 1996. It is now thought to be established in many breeding sites along the south coast, and is obviously trying out the possibilities of inland counties as well.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

## Carols in the Car Park

Everyone is invited to wrap up warm and gather in the top car park at the Village Hall at 6pm on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December to sing Christmas carols and share a mug of hot chocolate or mulled wine.



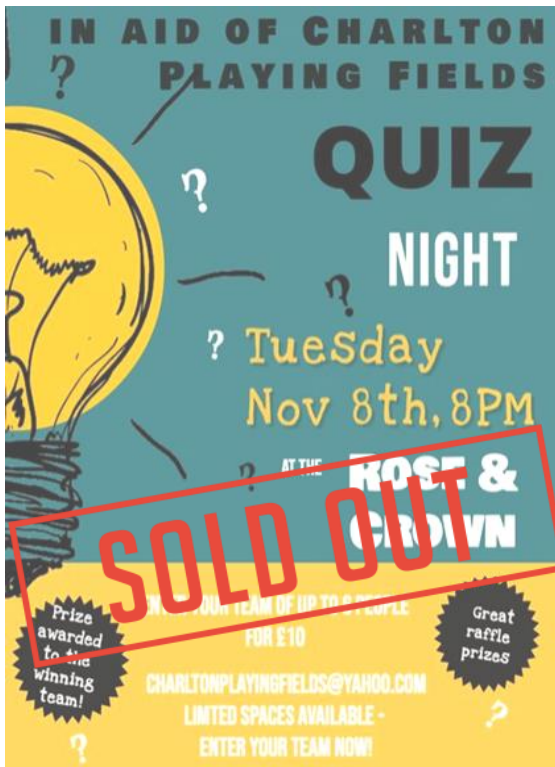
We first added this event to the village Christmas calendar during the pandemic and it was so popular that we have made it an annual event. There will be a charity collection so please bring any spare change.

## Village Christmas Tree



Another popular addition to Charlton festivities is our village Christmas tree which stands in front of the Village Hall. Our first tree was gifted to us and as a village we raised the funds for the lights. With the surplus funds, we purchased last year's tree and will do the same again this year.

The lights are connected to the Village Hall and whilst Trustees are very conscious of rising energy costs this winter, they are happy to fund the lights again for each evening. The lights will be switched on during Carols in the Car Park on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Please feel free to add your decorations to the tree.





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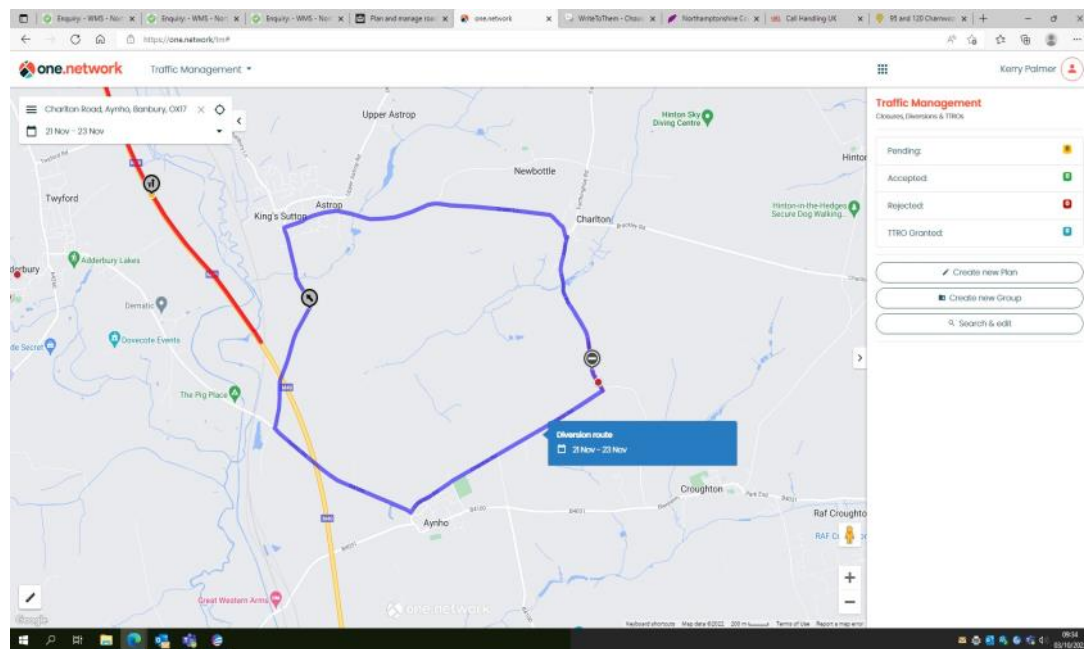
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## ROAD CLOSURE

Part of Aynho Road will be closed between 21-23 November to allow Anglian Water to repair the water main. Below is the plan that shows the extent and diversion route.





## Newbottle & Charlton School Update

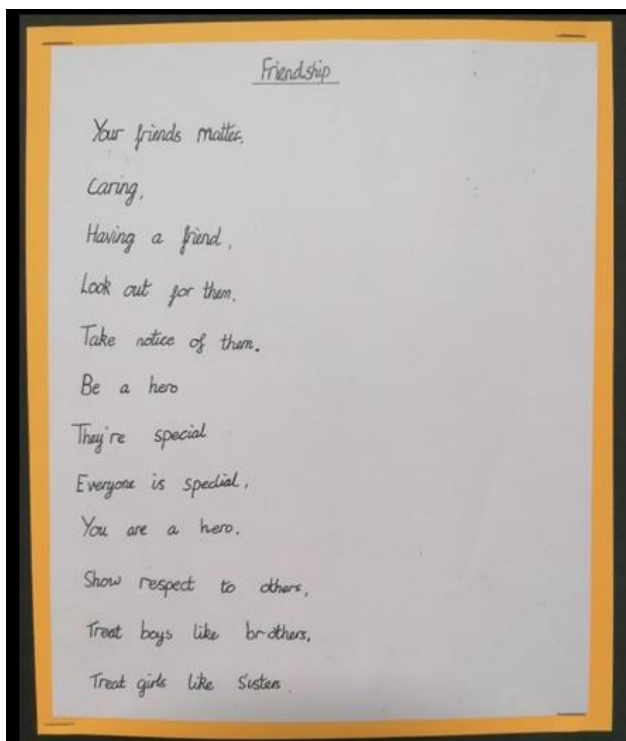
It was lovely to welcome potential new families to our Open Days over the last few weeks. If you weren't able to come but still want a tour, you are more than welcome to contact the office (see our website for details). I was very impressed with our Year 6s who were our tour guides and they had great feedback from parents about them.

All the children have been learning about their class topics which are focussed around history and geography. Many of the classes started with some poetry and I have included an example of what they created.

Linked to the London Marathon, as a school we took part in a mini marathon challenge. Over the week each child had to try to run 2.6 miles and we finished with a mini competition on the playing fields on the Friday. It was a wet ending to the week, but I was impressed with how the children, staff and parents persevered to run around the field.

For those older members of our village, you may remember before covid-19 we had community teas where we invited you in for a cup of tea and piece of cake while the children sang you some songs. We have provisionally booked Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, but we will be sending out invitations in the next few weeks.

Mr Smith, Headteacher





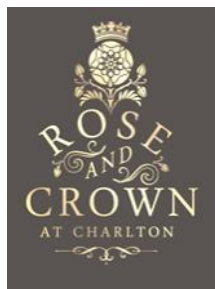
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It was wonderful to begin our recent Harvest Festival at the Grain Store on Newbottle Road and to actually see and bless the harvest for which we are thankful. The walk from there to the Church was a reminder, if one were needed, of how fortunate we are to live in such beautiful countryside.

One of the ancient prayers of the church, often said at the beginning of each day, speaks of how each aspect of creation; sun, moon and stars, winter and summer, beasts and cattle, bless the Lord. In other words, that everything we see around us in the natural world speaks of God's glory and His love for us. Seen in this light the beautiful villages, lanes and farms of our parish are, in themselves, a sort of 'natural cathedral' in which we glimpse God.

We are also blessed with our ancient and much loved parish church. Have you visited it lately? Would you like to help with its upkeep? We are looking for people to join our flower-arrangers, and would welcome new volunteers (no experience necessary!) If you'd like to know more please contact me at the Vicarage, my phone number and email address are printed below.

Do you have a child in Year 5 or 6 at our village school? I will soon be starting a group for children interested in learning more about Christianity and who would like to make their first Communion in Church. Receiving Holy Communion is, like being Christened, one of the most important moments in life. It is a life changing encounter with God. If that sounds exciting, interesting, intriguing (or even strange!) then find out more by contacting me, and if you have a child who might be interested in learning more about this do let me know.

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

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

*SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 6PM: CAROLS IN THE MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK*

*WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER, 6PM: LESSONS & CAROLS*

*CHRISTMAS EVE, 10PM: FIRST COMMUNION OF CHRISTMAS*

*CHRISTMAS DAY, 9.30AM HOLY COMMUNION*

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

**Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 19 October 2022 at the Memorial Hall, Charlton**  
**[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)**

**Present** – Parish Councillors Michael Loggin (Chairman), Struan Kenton and Wayne Rule and Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer).

**Vacancy** – Following a resignation, there is a vacancy on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact the Clerk. [newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk) or 01295 710965.

**Playing Field and Pavilion** – The Parish Council confirmed its appointment of a Sub-Committee, the Playing Fields Association (PFA), to manage the playing field on its behalf. There would be discussions between the Parish Council and the PFA on its Terms of Reference. The Parish Council thanked the PFA for all its work at the playing field.

**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.

**Flagpole** – Investigations would be made into a flagpole for the village and it would be discussed further at the next meeting.

**Street Lighting** – Discussions were ongoing with Eon with regard to the roll out of the new street lights and it was hoped the project would commence shortly.

If any street lights 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. <https://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/report> or call [0300 126 7000](tel:03001267000). They will collect the rubbish and also gather evidence, which will then help them prosecute the offenders.

**Poors Allotment Committee** – Councillor Linda Baker would provide the Parish Council with an update on the Committee at the next meeting.

**HM The Queen, Book of Condolence** – Father Matthew had kindly agreed that the Book could be kept at the Church and it would be available for viewing on special occasions. Due to the number of Books which had been opened, the County Archives were unable to store them.



**Parking Issues** – The Parish Council kindly requests that drivers do not park their vehicles on the footpaths in the village. Parking on footpaths means that pedestrians and especially those with pushchairs or wheelchairs have to move into the road to get past the vehicle. This is clearly very dangerous and residents should not be putting other residents in this dangerous position, especially when everyone is so aware of the speeding issues through the village. **Please park considerably in the village.**

**Planning** – The Parish Council had no objections to the following application:

WNS/2022/1791/FUL

Jellicle House Main Street, Charlton

Single storey rear extension and garage conversion

WNS/2022/1814/FUL

Hinton In The Hedges Airfield Road To Walltree Farm Steane

Permanent use/storage of filming equipment associated with skydiving simulator

The following planning applications had been determined by South Northamptonshire Council's Planning Committee/Planning Officers, since the last meeting of the Parish Council: None

Planning applications can be viewed on the South Northants Council web site.

<https://snc.planning-register.co.uk/planappsrch.aspx>

**Meeting Dates** - Future meetings, all starting at 7.30pm would be held at the Memorial Hall, Main Street, Charlton.

21 November 2022

16 January 2023

20 March 2023

17 April 2023 (Annual Parish Meeting)

15 May 2023

17 July 2023

18 September 2023

20 November 2023

**All welcome to attend!**

A copy of the draft minutes for the whole meeting are available at

[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk) or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, at [newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk) or ring 01295 710965 during normal office hours

**You can also follow Newbottle Parish Council on Facebook**

## Charlton Playing Field Update

The Charlton Playing Field Committee continues to work away to bring to life the business plan. Whilst we're working behind the scenes on the big grant applications, we're also working on more local events to support the match funding element of the applications.

To this effect, we'd like to say a HUGE thank you to those who are coming along to **Quiz Night** and to the Rose & Crown for hosting. We're also working on a village event at the end of January (more information coming soon!) and getting prepared for the **Charlton Big Bike Ride on Sunday 7th May**.

We're currently in the process of looking at suitable benches and picnic benches for use on the playing field. Thank you to those who've been in touch to sponsor or contribute towards a bench, this will be an ongoing activity so please get in touch if you're interested at

[charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com)



## Jack and the Beanstalk

**15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Charlton Panto Players are back rehearsing in November, hoping that all lines have been remembered...

With just 13 weeks to go until the first performance, the team is looking forward to bringing everything together and getting ready for tickets to go on sale in early January.

Ticket news in next month's link.

## Rural Centre Open Day

About 120 people came for a viewing of the old farmyard at Forceleap. The redevelopment of the old farm buildings includes some offices to rent, short term/holiday accommodation in the old farmhouse and a venue for training, meetings, parties etc.

There were lots of ideas shared about the future of the space and all appreciated the refreshments served in the new courtyard which was a lovely sun trap on a beautiful afternoon. If you missed it, contact Alice at the farm to arrange a viewing, all welcome.



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

### Getting Christmas wrapped up

It may be the most wonderful time of the year, but it can also be one of the busiest – so why not tick wrapping off your long to-do list and support our hospice at the same time! A team

of willing volunteers will be ready and waiting to gift wrap your pressies on 9 and 10 December at Banbury Castle Quay. If you could help support this event by joining our wrapping crew, email [getinvolved@khh.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@khh.org.uk) or sign up on our website: [www.khh.org.uk/collectiondays](http://www.khh.org.uk/collectiondays).

### Could you be a Village Champion for Katharine House?

We're looking for volunteers to help put up posters three or four times a year in their local village to help us spread the word about our upcoming events. We already have some brilliant Village Champions, but we're looking to recruit even more. If you think you could help, then we'd love to hear from you. Send an email to [getinvolved@khh.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@khh.org.uk) or find out more on our website.

### Lights of Love – 8 December

Our annual Lights of Love event is taking place on Thursday 8 December at St Mary's Church, Banbury. We'd love you to join us for a special gathering where we come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have loved and lost. Everyone is welcome – people of all faiths or none. Find out more and register to join us here: [www.khh.org.uk/lights](http://www.khh.org.uk/lights).

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