

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 403 OCTOBER 2022

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

## Charlton Playing Field Fundraising Events

The fundraising team has been working hard to bring the village a couple of exciting events that are being held in aid of the regeneration of the playing fields.

This year we'll be holding our very first **Pumpkin Carving Competition**, a fun half term activity! We'll provide the pumpkins ready for collection from the Village Hall at **10.30am on Saturday 22nd October** and you need to bring them back a week later for judging on **Saturday 29th October** to the Village Hall at 10.30am. It's £3 entry fee and we have two categories that you can enter, we're looking for the best pumpkin with the scariest face, and best pumpkin that represents village life....it's time to get creative. Please register your entry via email [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com) or send us a message via our FB page.



We're excited to be hosting **The Charlton Playing Field Quiz Night** at the Rose & Crown on **Tuesday 8th November at 8pm**. Enter your team (of up to 6 people) for £10 at [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com). Numbers are restricted so entry will be allocated on a first come first serve basis, get in touch now to guarantee your team's place.



Finally, 2023 will see the village hold the first **Charlton Big Bike Ride** on **Sunday 7th May**, we'll be sharing more details nearer the time, but make sure you mark it in your diary.

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

Charlton Link Editor: *Julia Rands, [juliarands@hotmail.com](mailto:juliarands@hotmail.com) 01295 812446*

**Charlton Rainbows and Brownies meet on Fridays in the Memorial Hall and currently have spaces for girls aged 5-10 to join us for fun activities.**



At Rainbows, girls get their hands dirty with arts and crafts, get in touch with nature and play games - it's all about learning by doing.

To register at Charlton Rainbows please visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk> or contact Fiona on 07787 911677.



Brownies go along to camps, holidays, day trips and sleepovers. They get together with their friends at regular meetings where they learn new hobbies, get creative, develop skills and have outdoor adventures.

To register at Brownies please visit <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk> or contact Stacey on 07876 247520.

## Rural Centre Launch - Sunday 16th October

We're very busy at Forceleap with all the final snagging and installing the biggest septic tank in England! Anyway, we are nearly there and we are excited to announce that the first proper event at the centre will be for you as a local launch! On **Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> from 3pm.**

As announced in the last Link, we are developing a venue for courses and events with a focus on promoting wellbeing, with an exciting space to rent out to local people which has a strong link to the farm and wider environment. The centre will be in the old farmyard at Forceleap, which has been converted from derelict buildings into some very attractive spaces. It is very cool and worth coming to see!

The idea for this initial local launch event is to try to convey our vision but really to present a blank canvas to people living locally. This will be an opportunity for you to have a look at what we have been doing and we very much hope to give you maximum opportunity to feed back your ideas. What do you think we should be offering in terms of facilities, activities or events? What would we need to do to tempt you to come and use this new space?!

Over the winter we will be building up the centre, both in terms of facilities but also what activities we are going to offer with an idea to launch a full program in the Spring, but we want your ideas now so we can feed them into the process from the start.

So come and join us on **Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> from 3pm.** Further details will be put on Charlton Chat Facebook page and in posters around the village. See you there!



## Can you help an older person to remain safer in their home?

Since 2019 Able Community Care has given out almost 80,000 'DO NOT KNOCK' door stickers for free to older and disabled people who do not wish to answer the door to strangers.

Able Community Care is a nationwide, live-in care provider which was established in 1980.

Originally, we just gave out door stickers to our clients, but the demand has grown and since then we have received requests for the door stickers from around the UK.

If you would like to receive any door stickers to give out to older or disabled people you know, please email to:

[info@ablecommunitycare.com](mailto:info@ablecommunitycare.com) with how many you would like to receive and an address to send them to. (No addresses will be kept or passed on).

[www.ablecommunitycare.com](http://www.ablecommunitycare.com)



the synergy practice

✓ Physiotherapy

✓ Chiropractic

✓ Sports Therapy

Call 01865 803 066 for an appointment or  
Book on-line via [thesynergypractice.com](http://thesynergypractice.com)  
or e-mail: [info@thesynergypractice.com](mailto:info@thesynergypractice.com)

Unit 3 • Rainsborough Barns • Charlton Road  
Charlton • OX17 3DT



As I write this we are in a period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Since the Jubilee we have noticed her gradual withdrawal from public duties, and her increasing frailty. However, although we may not have been surprised by the news of her death, many of us were shocked. I think this is because she was a constant presence in our national life. She was reassuringly there over seven decades while much else that seemed permanent and familiar changed or disappeared.

On Wednesday 14th September, midway through the period of mourning, the Church kept the feast of the Holy Cross. The cross is the universal symbol of Christianity, and for Christians it reminds us that God loves humanity so much that he would make any sacrifice for us. The cross has, therefore, become a sign of the deep and dependable nature of God's love for us. As St Bruno said, 'while the world changes the cross stands firm'. For many years the Queen stood firm and, as she said on many occasions, the source and inspiration for her steadfast commitment to her duty was her Christian faith. For her the cross stood firm even as the world changed.



Autumn is traditionally a time of remembrance, and this year the season will now have an added poignancy. As part of that season we will be holding an **All Souls service at 4pm on Sunday 6th November**. All Souls is the date in the church's calendar when we remember our loved ones who have died. In conversations over the last two years, and especially during the pandemic, many people expressed a wish to have a specific occasion to remember loved ones. For some that has been a private moment in church, and of course you are always welcome to visit the church, which is open every day. However, for some a more formal occasion would be welcome, and so we have decided to hold this service. If you wish us to remember someone by name during the service please do drop me a line at the email address below, or phone the Vicarage. All are welcome to come along to what will be a service of reflection and prayer.

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

THURSDAY 13th & 27th OCTOBER AT 9.30AM

AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF PRAYER, OR HOLY COMMUNION, AT  
7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS

SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER AT 4PM IN CHURCH: ALL SOULS SERVICE

*ALL ARE WELCOME*

## Harvest time at Forceleap

The Harvest Festival was held at St James church in September. We started in the grain store to see the harvest before going to the church to thank God for it. The process of harvest is amazing and worthy of note. You put a tiny seed in the ground and a plant grows that eventually produced a seed which you harvest and then put in the ground. We might put in 25t of wheat seed on the farm but from that we will harvest 1575t of wheat, much of which will be made into flour and ultimately bread or biscuits etc.

The crop at harvest is really a semi dead plant, no longer green but golden brown and brittle. You can't fail to be impressed by the combine harvester that does a huge number of things all at the same time as it 'combines' various operations. First it cuts a standing plant and feed it into the machine without dropping it and avoiding feeding in stones, balloons, animals or anything else that might be in the field at the same time. Then it cuts the ear off the plant and threshes it to get out the seed, which it catches and put into a tank. It then sieves the rest to make sure any dropped seed is captured and then throws the straw (the stalk) out in a line ready to bale and spreads the chaff (rest of the plant that is not the seed or the stalk) over the field. Usually, simultaneously it is driving itself and unloading the grain into following trailers while on the move. We have a new combine this year and it blew me away with how advanced it is. I was impressed by the guys operating it as it looked really complicated to me.

This year was an easy harvest as it was very dry and over very early, but it was also a good harvest for me. We just about got enough rain to make sure things were OK. Harvest itself was generally good although the crops were very dry and hot in places with the main issue being to avoid fires. Now it has rained we should be able to start our sowing campaign for next year's crops and off we go again!

On the cattle side it has been a terrible year for grass growth and the quality has also been poor. Interestingly, this has affected the calves much more than the cows, as the cows simply stop producing milk and so they look in good shape, but the calves have struggled. As a result we are going to wean them early and get them onto a diet that will better meet their nutritional needs. We have also had to start feeding fodder to the cows out on grass but I think we have enough...

or I hope we have enough,  
we will see in February!

Alice Townsend  
Forceleap Farm



## Spruce-up for Village Hall grounds

On a sunny September Sunday morning, a few Hall helpers cleared weeds and leaves from the lower car park and the paths outside the hall, and trimmed back the foliage either side of the car park slope.

The next meetings of the Hall Trustees take place on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, at 7.30pm**. Anyone interested in taking care of our Village Hall, inside and out, is very welcome to attend.



## Playing Field update

The Playing Field Association met in September, priority areas for the next few months are:

- ⇒ Start work on the Perimeter Path
- ⇒ Begin fundraising applications
- ⇒ Engage with Brackley Jaffas

We have removed the vehicle from the field that was previously used for pulling the gangs for grass cutting.

We have had one offer to sponsor a bench – if anyone else would like to sponsor a bench or picnic bench then please email [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com)

We are also very happy to have new members who would like to join the group, either speak to one of the existing group or email.

Current group: Victoria Beadle, Mark Bracey, Mike Loggin, Pete Smith, Della Wolfe, Kevin Ridge and Alice Townsend.

# Charlton Carpentry & Fencing

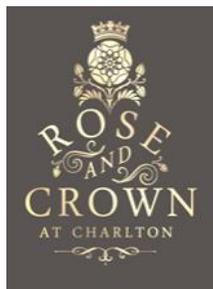
Doors  
Cupboards  
Shelving  
Cladding  
Guttering  
Sheds  
Closeboard,  
Panels, Arches,  
Decking, Bin Enclosures, Gates, Etc.



For a free quote call  
Mark Brown **01295 812761**

Email  
**markbrown333@btinternet.com**

No Job Too Small  
25 years experience



## Christmas 2022

Eat, drink and be merry with us this  
Christmas

Heart-warming, home comforts  
and festive drinks

Menus Available from 15 October 2022

Rose and Crown Charity Christmas cards  
for sale now

**Telephone 01295 811317**

**[www.theroseandcrowncharlton.co.uk](http://www.theroseandcrowncharlton.co.uk)**

# CHARLTON VILLAGE HALL

## *For Hire*

- ◆ Large hall
- ◆ Small hall/Meeting room
- ◆ Modern kitchen
- ◆ Toilets
- ◆ On-site car park
- ◆ Disabled access/facilities

To make a booking or find out  
more, please contact Sarah, the  
Bookings Clerk at:

[bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk)



## Hairdressing by

*Emma Kenton*

Ring for an appointment today on

*07496004635*

Reasonable Rates

In The Comfort Of Your Own Home  
Fully Qualified With 15+ Years Experience



# Newbottle & Charlton School Update

The beginning of the year started with a relook at our school Christian values; focussing on what values are and discussing which ones we feel are important. The whole school community was able to share which values they think are important to concentrate on in school. These values will be woven through our school. Our new values wheel includes love/compassion at the heart of what we do which is the hub, followed by the spokes which are our values in action; Christian, British and personal to individuals. As a school we work together to display these values through everything we do.



## NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Evryg ydrow awlffwr, evryg awnweibf twawb. "I can do all things through him who glives me strength"



### Open Days

for prospective parents of children starting school in Sept 2023

Take a tour of the school and meet the Headteacher to answer any questions you might have.

For more details and to book a tour please contact the office.



Times available:

Thursday 6th October  
Slots available between 9:30-11:30  
Monday 10th October  
Slots available between 1:30pm-3pm



Tel: (01295) 811480

Email: [bursar@newbottle.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:bursar@newbottle.northants-ecl.gov.uk)



Our class topics have started which include Ash and Oak class (YR-2) learning about contrasting localities - Zambia and England; Elm class (Y3-4) learning about the Stone Age to Roman period of history in England and Birch class (Y5-6) learning about modern Greece and the Ancient Greeks.

We have a few open days coming up; it is not too late to contact the school to come and visit us if your child is going to start school in September 2023.

Mr Smith, Headteacher

## Nature Notes

The grass is beginning to grow again, having had some rain, and it has even been necessary to mow a few bits. However in our garden we had to replace an area of turf last year as it had been completely destroyed by the badgers, and this part is still looking very dead – only the weeds are regrowing. It is not helped by the badgers who are still digging it up at night. We were hoping that with some rain and more moisture in the fields the badgers might leave us alone: we have realized that their depredations are worse in periods of dry weather, but we continue to find new and active latrine pits so they are still regarding our garden as part of their territory.

Our farming correspondent tells us of some unexpected effects of the drought and heat: the autumn-sown cereals produced surprisingly good yields of grain, whereas the spring-sown crops were a write-off. But the straw was so dry and brittle it was almost impossible to bale it up for winter bedding for the cattle.

Earlier in the year it looked as if there would be no blackberries worth picking: they looked tiny and shrivelled. But they have plumped up and there are large crops to be picked. At the time of writing there are still lots of berries available: we are surprised that they haven't been hoovered up by people keen to get their share of food for free. On the other hand, there are very few sloes, as the blackthorn must have been hit just at the crucial time by one of the frosts we had in the spring. So no sloe gin this year. When we have good crops of damsons, as we have had this year, despite the frosts, we make damson gin, which is delicious too.

The apples and pears seem to have been unaffected by the drought. It looked at one stage as though we would have very few, and those would be small. But like the blackberries they have plumped up with a bit of rain and there are plenty – and some of the fruit is enormous.

We have learnt to refer to climate change rather than global warming: the latter can sound quite pleasant – who wouldn't want to have warmer summers reliably? – but we now know that climate change is bringing, and will bring, more extreme weather such as the heatwaves that we had this last summer, more storms and generally more weather 'events'. We have written before about the effect that it is having on our wildlife as our climate in the UK gets warmer, but wine-drinkers among us will be noticing changes too. Everyone is aware that vines are now being grown in England, and good wine is being made here: a couple of years ago we visited a vineyard and winery in Kent where they make award-winning sparkling and still wines. The vineyard sits on the same band of chalk subsoil that the champagne region is on, and they now have the same climate as champagne had 30 years ago. No wonder they can make really good fizz.

Wine grape varieties have been developed over the centuries to grow in narrow geographical and climatic ranges where temperatures during the growing season average 12 – 22°C. So varieties that were selected to suit particular local climates and areas will be affected by changes in that climate. Some wine producers have already moved their production to cooler areas: some Australians have moved production of chardonnay and pinot noir grapes to Tasmania which is further south and cooler.



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

There are some brilliant events and plenty of ways to support our hospice in the next few months. Your support helps us to keep making every moment matter for local families living with a life-limiting illness. Here are just a few things that are coming up...

### **Santa Fun Run – 4 December**

Forget mince pies and mulled wine, if you truly want to feel festive this Christmas then make sure to sign up to our Santa Fun Run. This much-loved event is taking place on Sunday 4 December at Spiceball Park, Banbury, and you have a choice of the 1.5km route or the full 5km – kitted out in a stylish Santa suit, of course. Tickets are available to buy online now! [www.khh.org.uk/santa](http://www.khh.org.uk/santa)

### **Schools Santa Run**

Back by popular demand! We can't wait to see the return of the Schools and Tots Santa Run. Last year, more than 10,000 tots, school pupils and staff took part in our festive fun run at school – and we'd love to make it even bigger and better this year. So if you know of a nursery, primary or secondary school who might like to take part, then let them know.

[www.khh.org.uk/schoolssanta](http://www.khh.org.uk/schoolssanta)

### **Lights of Love – 8 December**

We will be holding our annual Lights of Love event 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. Find out more [www.khh.org.uk/lights](http://www.khh.org.uk/lights).

### **What's on the cards this Christmas?**

We have another fantastic selection of charity Christmas cards this year. Sending a Katharine House card is a great way to support our hospice and to spread some joy. Cards are available to buy in our shops as well as online in our hospice eBay Shop. Take a look at all the designs on offer and order yours today. [www.khh.org.uk/christmas-shop](http://www.khh.org.uk/christmas-shop)

### **The Rose returns**

Our Autumn issue of our supporter magazine – The Rose – has landed. The issue is packed full of stories about our services, incredible examples of fundraising, facts and figures about how your support is making a difference, details about upcoming events and much more. You can download the latest issue here: [www.khh.org.uk/rose](http://www.khh.org.uk/rose)

# Charlton Installation Services



**Your  
local  
electrician**

- All types of electrical works undertaken
  - Over 20 years experience
  - High standard of workmanship
  - A local service you can trust
  - All associated building works carried out
- MCS approved PV Solar Panel Installer

**For your free quotation  
call Keith Nash  
01280 709830 - 07714 168471**



# The Old Hall Bookshop



32 Market Place, Brackley, Northants NN13 5DP.

Tel: **01280 704146**

*Books, old & new, maps and more*



## SMITHS NEWSAGENTS

**We deliver daily newspapers  
and magazines to the village.**

**Any combination of  
days per week catered for.**

**(Happy to deliver on Sundays  
only when the shop is closed)**

**Ring us on 01295 268499  
or e-mail**

***info@smithsnewsagents.co.uk***

## **DMJ Home Improvements**

David Whitrow  
66 Rochester Way, Adderbury,  
Near Banbury, Oxon, OX17 3JK

### **Bathrooms, Plumbing & Tiling**

Interior & Exterior Maintenance

Tel: 01295 811331

Mobile: 07981 261115