

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 396 MARCH 2022

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## Newbottle and Charlton

# Litter Pick 2022

**Friday 1 April 2022 at 6pm  
starting at the Memorial Hall**

**No need to book in advance, please just turn up  
Equipment will be provided.**

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

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#Justice4Harry

# Village Jubilee Plans

for weekend of 4/5<sup>th</sup> June 2022



We are looking forward to bringing the community together for a weekend of celebration and commemoration of the Queens' 70 years on the throne.

## **Calendar of events**

Best dressed house competition, let's turn our village red, white and blue

### **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

Platinum Party at the Pub, with a Beacon to be lit in the field behind the pub, once its dark

### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

12pm assemble for our Jubilee parade, celebrating 7 decades of the Queen's reign – come dressed in an outfit from one of the decades. We will also have an assortment of vehicles

12.30 – Parade through the village

13.00 – Village Street Party Lunch in the Grounds of the Memorial Hall, with Pudding Competition

### **Afternoon**

- Treasure hunt around the village
- Games at the Playing Field
- Commemorative plaque unveiling

If you have any of the following can you let us know at [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com):

- A tug of war rope
- Any interesting vehicles for the parade, horse, pedal or fuel powered
- Bunting
- Prizes – there will be prizes throughout the weekend for best dressed house, best outfit etc, if you would be happy to sponsor one of these let us know the amount and any idea you have for the prize

The next Jubilee meeting will be on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 19.30** in The Memorial Hall. All welcome!



# Freshers Morning

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 10am – 12pm**

The Parish Council would like to invite all villagers to a “Freshers Morning” held at The Memorial Hall.

This will be an opportunity to meet the organisations who are active in the village and find out more about what is happening in our community. Free refreshments will be provided by the Memorial Hall Trustees.

The Annual Parish Meeting will also take place at Fresher’s Morning at 10.30am. Residents will be able to meet the Parish Councillors and hear about the work undertaken in our village in the last 12 months.

Please save this date in your diaries. The whole community is invited to attend!

## Charlton Easter Treasure Hunt

Charlton Panto Players will once again be organising an Easter themed Treasure Hunt for children around the village in the lead-up to Easter. Look for clues posted around the village to spell a word.

The Hunt will run from **28th March to 13th April**. An Easter egg will be hand delivered at Easter for any winning entries. Pick up your activity sheet from the shop to find out more and get started. Have fun!



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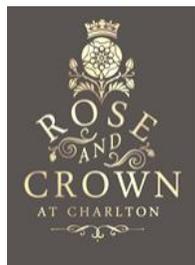


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Upcoming events for your diaries:

St Paddy's Day, Thursday 17 March

Mother's Day, Sunday 27 March

St. George's Day Saturday 23 April



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



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# Playing Field Update

The working party on behalf of the Parish Council has finalised the Business Plan for the Playing Field. The **business plan has 2 purposes:**

1. Outlines to the village and wider community the plans for the playing field to gain commitment and hopefully enthusiasm for the project
2. Details the project to enable funding and sponsorship opportunities to be secured

The business plan has now been published on the Newbottle and Charlton website <https://www.charltonandnewbottle.com/>. Now we have the plan, we really hope that more villagers would like to get involved, we will be publishing **opportunities to support the project over the coming months.**

If you want to get involved or have any comments please email these to [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com) or contact the Parish Council at [newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk).

Highlighted below are the priorities and costs. The total cost is £231,250. We have prioritised first the opening up of the space and improving accessibility:

## **Priority 1 – Total Cost = £47,250**

- Planting of 60 trees and protective fencing as part of the Green Canopy Scheme to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee in 2022
- Making the field more accessible by removing part of the hedge adjacent to Farthinghoe Road
- Clear car park back to the fence on the right to create 12 more spaces
- Install an all weather path round the field
- Install 2 x picnic benches and 2 x seating benches at 2 locations in the field
- Put up a noticeboard at the front of the field

## **Priority 2 – Total Cost = £29,000**

- Plant wild flower area
- Re-purpose the basketball court to a multi activity facility
- Re-lay the hedge – Farthinghoe Road

## **Priority 3 – Total Cost = £75,000**

- Build a new pavilion

## **Priority 4 – Total Cost = £80,000**

- Install a new play area specifically aimed at older children (ages 9 +)

## Nature Notes

At the time of writing we are under the influence of Storm Eunice and it is rather blustery out there. But despite that spring has definitely arrived. The sparrows were beginning to nest before the end of January: we can always tell because they are not very tidy and drop bits of their nest-building equipment outside our back door. They nest under the eaves – very noisily – but we're happy to give them a home. This spring we have also put up a house martin nest and a swift box, both from the RSPB. We are hoping it will encourage them to return to us. We have never had swallows here but we know they go to other houses around. Swifts also find a home under the eaves of the few houses in Farthinghoe Road that have not had their eaves boxed in.

Our results from the Big Garden Bird Watch were a little disappointing. We had 6 starlings, 6 blackbirds, 4 house sparrows, 2 Blue Tits and 1 Great Tit, 2 Robins, 1 Crow, 6 Jackdaws, 1 Woodpigeon, 1 Pied Wagtail and 1 Woodpecker. These numbers are well down from those we have had in the past. We used to have lots of greenfinches coming to our bird feeders, but haven't had any for some years. We were saddened to find two dead greenfinches in one week on the ground, and we think that this is the effect of disease. Greenfinches have been affected by a disease which very sadly is spread through attendance at bird feeders. We all should clean these very regularly.

It has been a great year for snowdrops. We had none here when we arrived, and have been assiduously lifting, dividing and spreading them around ever since. They clump up very readily but didn't seem to spread themselves by seed at all. But at last they do seem to be doing so as there are a few in places where we don't think we have put them. The first early crocuses are opening up in the sunshine and they were being busily worked over by some honeybees in mid-February, which seems very early. We had seen a bumblebee or two before this, and they are usually the earliest bees to be out and about.

It has been lovely to see some excellent old-fashioned hedge-laying along the lane to Newbottle. This has to be done in winter, and entails nearly cutting through the stems and bending them towards the horizontal, all in the same direction. As the sap rises in the spring these will all 'break' along their length with the new growths giving extra mass to the hedge. With the addition of vertical hazel stakes driven in at regular intervals, and woven hazel to make a firm topping, it makes a good stock proof barrier. Before the advent of modern machinery hedges would have been laid like this in rotation, so in any farm there would always be some that were mature, thick and tall, some growing up, and some newly laid. Many of the hedges around here are not very old – dating from the time of Parliamentary enclosure in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century – but they are still very valuable habitats for wildlife. Yellowhammers (which we have seen along the church path hedge) are definitely hedgerow birds: they feed in the verge alongside, nest in the hedge bottom, hide from predators in the shrubs and perch in the trees to sing. A good thick hedge can act like a wildlife corridor linking areas of good habitat. We are more accustomed to see hedges being flailed by machinery, and this tends to leave them gappy at the bottom, and sometimes gets rid of the hips, haws and berries just when they are needed for birds to feed on.

## Newbottle & Charlton School Update



All classes started their own topics with an enquiry based approach. Oak and Ash (Year R-2) classes looked at toys and answered the question '**What has changed since your grandparents were young?**'. Elm class (Year 3/4) focussed on '**From the end of the Roman occupation to 1066: how did Britain change? Who were the Anglo-Saxons? Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?**' Birch class (Year 5/6) are studying the Mayans looking at '**Who were the Mayans and what did we learn from them?**' (Birch class clay masks pictured right).



We also had different themed days over the last short term, focussing on different curriculum areas. We started with **Number Day** which we celebrated on 2.2.22. This day involved raising money for the NSPCC by wearing digits and taking part in some mini number games including target throwing, dice and dominoes and the tweezer challenge. The staff had amazing outfits includes dressing up as dominoes and CBeeBies' Numberblocks. We managed to raise a fantastic £139! The focus was all things numbers with lots of maths across the curriculum including looking at which jobs use different areas of mathematics.



We also had **Safer Internet Day**. This year's theme was '**Together for a better Internet**', focussing on gaming and how to keep safer online when playing. Children had lessons focussing on what we can all do to make the internet a great place. Children thought about the top tips for being online:

- *Enjoy all the amazing things there are to do online!*
- *Always be kind and respectful to others online.*
- *Make safe choices.*
- *Remember that it's okay to say no to people online.*
- *Always tell an adult if anyone or anything online makes you worried, upset or uncomfortable.*



The last Friday before half term was **Mental Health Awareness Day** where the focus was on the importance of not bottling things up but to share how we're feeling whilst recognising different emotions. We feel this is particularly important as covid-19 still impacts all our lives.

*Mr Smith, Headteacher*

This year Ash Wednesday falls on 2nd March. The forty days of Lent that follow take us up to Easter, and are sometimes known as ‘the springtime of the soul’. This name is at odds with Lent’s reputation as an austere time of discipline, when we might decide to give up a few favourite treats, such as chocolate.

In fact Lent is a time to look at our lives ‘in the round’. A time for attending to our well-being, in the fullest sense, and a time for new spiritual growth, hence its association with springtime. This is the theme of our services during Lent.

For the last two years our attention has been focussed primarily on our physical wellbeing, protecting ourselves and others from the virus, but we are so much more than merely physical beings. Our hearts, or souls, and our minds need care too, and this is what Lent is all about. For Christians it is a time to re-focus on God, believing that all that is good and live-giving comes from Him. Discerning His will for our lives can therefore enable us to flourish and be truly ‘well’.

We will be keeping Lent with a variety of special services, listed below. You are welcome to any of these, and to **our weekly Sunday service at 9.30am in church**. Two particular dates that you may like to put in your diary are Sunday 27th March when we will be holding a **Family Service for Mothering Sunday**, and Sunday 10th April when we will be gathering at the Memorial Hall at 9.30am for our outdoors **Palm Sunday Procession, complete with a donkey!** Do come along.

## FORTHCOMING SERVICES

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM:

*Including a Family service for Mothering Sunday on 27th March*

FORTNIGHTLY FROM THURSDAY 3RD MARCH AT 9.30AM AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD:

*A short informal service of Holy Communion, followed by refreshments.*

PALM SUNDAY, 10TH APRIL AT 9.30AM: AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

An Outdoor service beginning at the Memorial Hall and ending at the Church

THURSDAY 14TH APRIL, 9.30AM IN CHURCH

*A service of Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday*

GOOD FRIDAY: 15TH APRIL: 2PM IN CHURCH

*A service of Reflection & Meditation*

EASTER DAY: 17TH APRIL AT 9.30AM IN CHURCH

*Holy Communion*

With all good wishes,

Father Matthew

Tel. 811364

[fathermatthew.r@icloud.com](mailto:fathermatthew.r@icloud.com)

# VILLAGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you have an event coming up, let us know so that we can publicise it.

## Dates for your diary so far for 2022:

Easter Egg Hunt - 28<sup>th</sup> March to 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Rose & Crown St George's Day - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
Freshers Morning - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
Queen's Jubilee Celebrations - 4/5<sup>th</sup> June  
Charlton Fete - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Jack and the Beanstalk Panto - 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> October  
Carols in the Car Park - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December



Get in touch with your event, in plenty of time, by using the email on the front page of Charlton Link.



**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. Rainbows meet 4.30 – 5.30pm and Brownies meet 6 – 7.30pm.**



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.

## Memorial Hall Update

The Memorial Hall is happy to report that we have high usage rates, with the hall now in use nearly every weekday night. We have ad hoc Parish Council/ WI on a Monday, a choir on Tuesdays, Panto set to resume on a Wednesday, Dog training on Thursdays and Brownies and Rainbows on a Friday.

The trustees have been working hard on the grounds, and completing remedial repairs ahead of our annual summer safety inspection of the play equipment. Also we have arranged for the plum trees that overhang the path and the slide to be professionally pruned.

**Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting**  
**Thursday 27 January 2022, 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Charlton**  
**[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)**

**Present** – Parish Councillors Linda Baker, Michael Loggin (Chairman), Mark Bracey, Struan Kenton, Phil Marshall and Kevin Ridge. Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and one member of the public.

**Minutes** - The minutes of the meetings held on 15 November 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Annual Parish Meeting/Freshers Morning** – The Newbottle and Charlton Annual Parish Meeting is this year, being combined with a community 'Freshers' event to encourage residents to engage with village organisations and to provide help and support for each other. The event will be held on **Saturday 7 May 2022, 10am to 12 noon, at the Memorial Hall**. Village organisations are invited to attend and are welcome to have a small area where they can talk to residents about their organisation. There will also be the formalities of the Annual Parish Meeting, where residents will be able to meet the Parish Councillors and hear the work which has been undertaken in the last 12 months. Please contact the Clerk for more information and please save this date in your diaries. The whole community is invited to attend!

**Village Welcome Pack** - The Parish Council will be investigating providing a small Welcome Pack for new residents in the village. Anyone with suggestions of items for inclusion, should contact the Clerk.

**Playing Field and Pavilion** – Work was continuing with regard to improvements to the playing field and pavilion and the Working Group had produced a draft Business Plan.

**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.

**Library Bus Shelter** – The Library in the Green Lane Bus Shelter is continuing, but the books may be removed for a short time during the winter. Thank you to Jenny Rule for organising this.

**Street Lighting** – A review of the village street lighting was continuing and Councillors Kevin Ridge and Wayne Rule had been liaising with Eon, who currently supplied the electricity and maintained the street lights on behalf of the Parish Council.

If any street lights are not working please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council who will forward the information 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.

**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.**

**Tree Planting** – As part of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, 15 saplings would be planted in Myers Close. If any residents would like to assist with the planting, they would be very welcome. Please contact the Clerk. The Parish Council thanks Paul Wilson for suggesting this project and assisting the Parish Council to implement it.

**Grass Cutting** – Mick Dempsey would continue to cut the grass verges in the village for the 2022/2023 season.

**Litter Pick** – The village litter pick would be held on **Friday 1 April 2022 at 6pm**, starting at the Memorial Hall. The Parish Council would now be taking responsibility for the litter pick from Sir Paul Hayter. Sir Paul had organised the litter pick for many years and the Parish Council thanks him for all his hard work and support.

**Dog Waste Bin** – A new dog waste bin would be purchased and located at the Rose and Crown Pub.

**Myers Close Play Area** – The Parish Council would like to hear the views of residents regarding the play area and whether it should stay and be refurbished or whether it should be removed and replaced with something different. Suggestions are very welcome. Please contact the Clerk if you have any comments on this proposal.

**Defibrillator** – A defibrillator had been purchased by the Parish Council and would be located at the playing field pavilion. It would only be available when the pavilion was open and not at any other time. If any residents would be interested in attending a training session on how to use the defib, please contact the Clerk. In an emergency, an accessible defib was located at the Primary School, however the cabinet could only be opened once 999 has been dialled and the code had been given out by the operator. Always ring 999 in the first instance.

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

S/2020/2394/FUL

Hunters Hatch Main Street Charlton

Part demolition of existing single storey. Proposed two storey and part single storey rear extension.

Re-roofing of existing garage and enclosure - Amended scheme to include a part demolition of existing single storey. Proposed two-storey and part single storey rear extension. Re-roofing of existing garage and enclosure

This application had subsequently been approved by West Northants Council.

WNS/2021/1929/FUL & WNS/2021/1930/LBC

Newbottle Manor Road to Church Newbottle

Replacement of existing 1980s garden pond with a new swimming pool and associated works including use of existing ancillary buildings for mechanical plant.

This application had subsequently been approved by West Northants Council.

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 March 2022

25 April 2022

Saturday 7 May 2022, 10am to 12 noon (Annual Parish Meeting)

16 May 2022

18 July 2022

19 September 2022

21 November 2022

**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

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