

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 354 JULY 2018

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CHARLTON VILLAGE FÊTE

**SATURDAY 14TH JULY, 2-5PM
THE COTTAGE, MAIN STREET**

**Teas, homemade cakes, bar & BBQ, jams, ice-creams, plants, tombola,
tennis tournament, fun dog show, games, pony rides and lots more!**

**EVERYONE WELCOME
FUN FOR ALL**

**In the week before the fête, programmes will be delivered door-to-door
and raffle tickets will be on sale. Please support the fête by purchasing
raffle tickets and collecting bottles (of any type).**

Father Roger Bellamy died Sunday June 10th 2018

We shall miss Father Roger very much indeed. He was our Vicar here in Charlton and Newbottle, as well as Kings Sutton, for seventeen years, and we had hoped for a few more. He told us when he knew his condition was terminal, and he was not going to undergo any more treatment, that his health was on a downwards escalator, but he felt at the same time that he was on an upwards escalator towards God. We are sure he is now at home with God.



Fr Roger ministered to everyone, whether they were churchgoers or not, and was always ready to offer support and comfort to those in trouble, or ill-health, or newly bereaved. He was also extremely good at pouring oil onto troubled waters – sorting out the minor tiffs and arguments that occur in any community.

Charlton school will miss him: he did Collective Worship once a week so all the children knew him, and he was also a wise and efficient Chair of Governors, leading the school through some difficult times and changes of headteacher.

Those of us who do the flowers in the church always liked it when he turned up when we were all there getting the church ready for Easter or Christmas (usually just when the kettle was coming to the boil for coffee – how did he know?) and he would chat and encourage us in our efforts.

How lucky we have been to have a good musician as our Vicar, who could capably play the organ when needed, and accompany the children at school. And Fr Roger was efficient: the services he took moved along briskly; his sermons were brilliant but never longer than ten minutes, and the meetings he chaired were always to the point and never longer than necessary.

Requiescat in pace

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council.

The funeral will be held on Friday 29th June at 1pm in Kings Sutton Church. At his request, there will be no flowers.

A school memorial Service, led by Revd Roger Burne, will also be held at St James' Church, Newbottle on Tuesday 10th July at 2pm. The whole school will be there and all parents are invited. Former pupils and their parents are welcome to attend as well.

SERVICES AT NEWBOTTLE

1st July Trinity 5 Sung Eucharist 9.30am

8th July Trinity 6 Matins 9.30am

15th July Trinity 7 Sung Eucharist 9.30am

22nd July Trinity 8 Matins 9.30am

29th July Trinity 9 Matins 9.30am

5th August Trinity 10 Sung Eucharist 9.30am

Do you remember the story of David and Goliath? Goliath's the baddy, a giant soldier stronger than anyone else. David's a shepherd boy, the young hero who, with great courage and faith in his God, went out with a sling and hit the giant in the forehead with a stone. Exit giant, minus head.

I used to find that story a bit hard to believe. Killing a strong man with a small stone seemed unlikely. Then I visited the British Museum in London. They've got sling stones there that were dug up in Israel by archaeologists. They're as big as cricket balls - the stones, not the archaeologists - and thrown expertly by a sling can travel at a hundred miles an hour. That could change the face of cricket. It certainly changed the face of Goliath.

The Bible tells us that when David first saw Goliath, David was up on a hillside. Goliath in the valley below. My guess is that from up there the giant didn't look so big. But as David moved down and nearer, the giant seemed to get bigger and bigger and more threatening. That's how our problems sometimes appear. The nearer they get, the bigger and heavier we feel they are, but they're the same size really. Someone imagined David's reaction as he saw the giant close up. His first thought was "He's big!" but his next thought was, "I can't miss!"

Some of our problems are only as big as we make them and can be cut down to size with a bit of courage and the sort of trust in God that David had.

David Morgan

Could you spare a little time to become a valued Trustee and help to take care of our village asset? The small committee meets a few times a year to discuss bookings, maintenance and keep an eye on the finances. If you would like to get involved, please contact Chair of Trustees, Della Wolfe on della@thecurvegroup.co.uk for more details.

**NOTE - NEW TIME: The Annual General Meeting of Charlton Memorial Hall takes place on Tuesday 3rd July at 6.30pm.
All welcome.**

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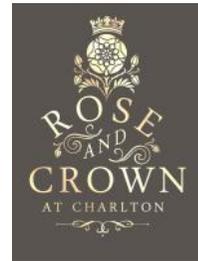
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CHARLTON MEMORIAL HALL

For Hire

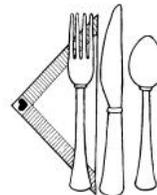
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To make a booking or find out more, please contact Sarah, the Bookings Clerk at:
bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk



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ANNOUNCE THAT FROM
1 JULY 2018**

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Newbottle & Charlton School Update

As a school community we were saddened by the news of Father Roger Bellamy passing away. He gave so much to the school in so many ways



and will fondly be remembered by us all. Father Roger will be remembered in the school for his leadership as Chair of Governors where he has helped me tremendously, as well as supporting teachers and parents as member of the governing body for many years. His role at Church, taking services for us, regularly being in school to lead collective worship and being a presence in lessons is also something I expect families and children will remember. We take comfort in the fact that Roger was at peace with what was happening and had his church family to guide him - something we too can turn to at this time.

As a school, we are holding a memorial service for him on Tuesday 10th July at 2pm. Those linked to the school and its community (past pupils) are welcome to join us at Newbottle Church.

In school, children have been working hard to complete many statutory tests. Children in Year 6 sit formal tests which are sent off to be marked with school learning the results in July. Children in Year 2 also sit tests - called special tasks in our case. These are then used to inform our own judgments. Finally Year 1 children have to complete a Phonics check; 40 words - some real some made-up for children to sound out correctly.

We have some additional members in the school community - 6 chicks which hatched at school and are being carefully cared for in our hall by all the children. We visited Forceleap Farm where we saw parts of the farm and took a tractor ride. Year 6 are gearing up to move to secondary School. DR Connelly presented them with their autograph books and a book about moving on from Scripture Union. Moving on can be a scary and difficult part of a child's development but we hope we have prepared them with skills to make the move smooth and successful. Children are moving to Chenderit, Magdalen, Warwick, Akeley, and Heyford. Finally, I would like to invite you all to our **Summer Community Tea, on Wednesday 18th July 2018 from 2pm**. Please let the office know if you can attend - (01295) 811480.



Mrs Smith, Head Teacher

Nature Notes

It's bad news to have had deer in the garden. They seem to have a taste for flower buds and have nipped off a lot of possible blooms, and worse, appear to have taken a liking to our strawberry bed. We were looking forward to a really good crop of our own strawberries but after the deer's depredations it doesn't look as if we shall have many. We don't think that we can keep them out as the old stone field walls round the bottom of the garden are no barrier to a deer.

We grow a lot of verbascums of various kinds in the garden as they like our sandy soil. These are tall plants with spires of flowers, usually yellow and often with slightly woolly leaves. Their English name is mullein, and there is a Mullein Moth whose caterpillars feed specifically on this group of plants, and we have a few of these this year. Luckily there are not so many that they completely wreck the plants so we are prepared to co-exist with them. The caterpillars are black and white with spots of yellow.

We have had a run of warm dry weather which is good for butterflies and two Painted Lady butterflies visited the garden. These are migrants, having flown in from the continent (apparently they tend to come ashore on the Isle of Wight), and so if it is good year for them and their travels we will hope to see a lot more as the summer goes on. It seems amazing that butterflies can travel such long distances as their flight often seems so inconsequential. We have just had a few days in Mallorca and on one of our walks in the mountains we saw a group of Painted Ladies, all rather brighter and more colourful than the one in Charlton – presumably because they hadn't flown over the English Channel.

The hedge along the church path is an old one with several field maples and spindle in it – usually signifier plants for a hedge which is several hundred years old. Nearest to the cemetery the hedge is very mixed, with blackthorn, field maple, crab apple, hawthorn, elder, sycamore, wild cherry and dog rose, but further up towards Newbottle it is largely made up of elms. English elms do not set seed in this country, and spread by suckers which can appear up to 100 metres from the parent plant, so a hedge with English elms tends to consist almost entirely of elms. Since the last major outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease in the early 1970s, which killed off every mature elm tree in most of England, elms have continued to throw up new trees from suckers. These survive until they reach the height when their bark becomes thick enough to attract the Elm Bark Beetles, and these then infect the trees with the killer fungus that they carry. So an elm hedge has cycles of full elm growth (like now), followed by the elms dying off and elders colonizing the gaps, taking advantage of the space.

Many of the elms in the hedge are Wych Elms, which are not affected by the disease. All elm leaves are rough on the upper surface and have asymmetric lobes where they join the stem, but Wych Elm leaves are much bigger, many of them a good six inches, whereas the English Elms are more like three inches and some much smaller.

We have a Robin's Pincushion on one of our species roses: this is a red, round, hairy growth, about two inches across, towards the end of a twig, It is caused by the larvae of a tiny gall wasp, which feeds on the host plant, but causes little damage.

Deborah and Paul Hayter

**Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting
Monday 18 June at 7.30pm. www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk**

Present – Councillors Linda Baker, Andrea Gladden, Adrian Kelly, Michael Loggin and Diana Sheasby, Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer), Chris Duff and Gary Sewell from Gigaclear and three members of the public.

Apologies – Councillors Richard Bland and Andrew Woods.

Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2018 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Gigaclear Installations – Chris Duff and Gary Sewell from Gigaclear attended the meeting to discuss the ongoing installations in the village. They apologised for how the project had been handled and promised to rectify all outstanding issues which residents had. Residents advised on their own poor experiences with Gigaclear's contractor Trenchcut and they were reassured that these situations would not occur again. Mr Duff and Mr Sewell both confirmed that communication with the village would be improved for the rest of the project and this would be via the Clerk to the Parish Council and letters to residents affected by the project.

Playing Field Lease and Pavilion Project – Although the lease had been signed, there was still one outstanding issue which needed to be resolved. Councillor Andrew Woods would be looking into this matter.

VAS on Farthinghoe Road – Locations of the poles had been agreed and the VAS would be sited as soon as possible.

Footpath to Cemetery – A contractor would be asked to cut back the vegetation to make the footpath passable again.

Parish Council Documents – The Parish Council confirmed the following documents for 2018/2019; the Asset Register, Risk Management Log, Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Complaints Procedure, Freedom of Information Policy and GDPR/ Data Protection Policies.

Internal Audit 2017/2018 – The internal audit report, the effectiveness of the internal audit and the statement of internal audit control for 2017/2018 were approved.

Noticeboard – Repairs would be carried out to the Parish Council noticeboard.

Meeting Dates - Future meetings, all starting at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, Charlton were as follows:

16 July 2018 (including a walk around the village)	15 October 2018
17 September 2018	19 November 2018

All welcome to attend!

A copy of the draft minutes for the whole meeting are available at www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk or please contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, at newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk or ring 01295 710965 during normal office hours

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