

CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 389 AUGUST 2021

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RECORD FETE ATTENDANCE

A very big thank you and 'well done' to all who attended and helped to make the Charlton Village Fete an enormous success.



The sun shone brightly and we welcomed over 400 adult visitors and many children to the stunning setting of The Cottage gardens. This number is a fete record and helped to raise over £4000 for St James' Church, Newbottle, an amazing total.

The tennis tournament rolled along all day and into the evening with the winners Jordan Robinson and Belinda Archer crowned champions.

Congratulations to the raffle winners: Sophia from Woodstock; Rosemary Lloyd; C Timms; Fiona Pool; Steve Mabutt; J Rands; Anna Pinney; Alistair Orchard.

If you'd like to take a look at the professional photographer's amazing pictures from the day, visit www.pietjezylphotography.co.uk/charltonvillagefete. For every print ordered, a donation will be made to church funds.

See a few more of our own fete photos on page 2.





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As I write this the sun is out and summer, after a fitful start, seems to have arrived. Perhaps the weather matches your mood, or perhaps not. The formal end of Covid restrictions certainly seems to have left people with mixed feelings, for some happiness and hope, for others apprehension and concern.

Over the last 15 months we have learnt to live by various slogans such as '*Stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives*', or '*Hands, face, space*'. Having had to read a lot of the more detailed guidance and instructions that have been issued, I can certainly see why politicians, scientists and doctors tried to put together pithy, memorable phrases to capture the essence of their advice.

So what catchy phrase or memorable slogan might we use now, as we move into this new phase? We hear that the emphasis will shift on to personal responsibility, and we will inevitably have more choices to make as we respond to the pandemic. How will we make those choices?

Just before His crucifixion Jesus gave His disciples a new commandment, *love one another as I have loved you*. Christians believe that Christ's love for humanity is a sacrificial love, almost greater than we can imagine, so the bar is set high for us! That said, with God's grace we can hope to grow towards a point where we live by this standard. Perhaps Jesus' new commandment can be our new rule for life in the coming months?

The love that Jesus speaks of is not romantic love. Rather it is about striving for the well-being of all whom we meet, whether we like them or not! In this context health means physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. A good place to start is to try and put ourselves in other peoples shoes and try and understand their concerns, needs, hopes and fears. Then we can begin to discern how we might live with consideration, with Christian love, for them.

It looks as if the coming months will still bring lots of challenges. We will continue to pray for the wellbeing of everyone in the parish, and you are most welcome to join us as we do so in the Parish Church, every Sunday at 9.30am.

Wishing you every blessing,

Father Matthew

Tel. 811364 fathermatthew.r@icloud.com

CHURCH SERVICES AT ST JAMES, NEWBOTTLE IN AUGUST: EVERY SUNDAY AT 9.30AM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

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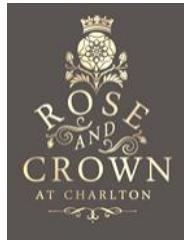
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Nature notes

Every year we do two butterfly surveys in the open countryside for Butterfly Conservation as part of a nationwide scheme to monitor the health of the butterfly population. Following on from a cool and wet spring when numbers of butterflies were low, it is reassuring to find numbers returning to their normal levels. Top of the range last week were the meadow browns: we saw 66 of these in an hour in the fields near Croughton. There were plenty of marbled whites on Hinton airfield. We have also seen a few of these in the headland along the church path. These are the ones with the checkerboard pattern of black and white on their wings.

The surveys can only be done when the sun shines and the temperature is warm. If it isn't, butterflies very sensibly hide away and don't fly.

We wrote last month about wild flowers, and there's a fine display of Lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*) in the Stonepits field at the moment. This is the sprawling plant with low spikes with clusters of tiny bright yellow flowers. It is ramping away. It's called Lady's bedstraw because when dried it smells very sweetly of hay and was used for bedding. This belongs to the same family as goosegrass, also known as cleavers because it sticks to everything. This is a terrible weed in our garden, and also a nuisance with a long-haired dog as any visit to a hedgerow in late summer covers the dog with sticky burrs which have to be combed out. In the Stonepits there are also single spikes of yellow flowers which are Common Agrimony, and much closer to the ground quite a lot of Bird's Foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*). The plant gets its name from the very distinctive arrangement of seed pods; they resemble the foot of a bird. Its common name is Eggs and bacon, as the flowers are basically yellow with patches of rusty brown, and it has sometimes been known as 'Granny's Toenails' (though we have never heard this) – apparently referring to the seed pods. (Rather rude to Grannies).

Along the church path there have been some good stands of Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), quite a short plant but with spikes of stunning blue-purple hooded flowers, and the pinky-purple flowers of knapweed are making a good showing, along with white Yarrow or Millfoil (an anglicized version of the French Millefeuille). If it wasn't such a weed in the garden, we could also admire the spreading Field bindweed: this isn't the twining climbing one with the big white flowers but a much lower plant spreading sideways rather than up and it has smaller pinkish flowers which really look pretty in a wild place.

Along the verges there is now lots of a bigger more solid version of Cow Parsley, known as Hogweed or Cows' Parsnips. This has a more plate-like disc of florets and bigger leaves than the earlier, more delicate plant. Locally there are patches of pale purplish-blue scabious too.

We enjoy watching the pair of red kites above the village. They have a very distinctive cry and seem to stay up on the thermals with no expenditure of energy – just a very occasional flap of a wing as they change direction. But we have missed having swifts nesting under the eaves – we see a few occasionally but it is sad to remember how many there were when we first came here.

Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting
Monday 19 July 2021 at 7.30pm
www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk

Present – Councillors Linda Baker, Michael Loggin, Phil Marshall, Kevin Ridge, Wayne Rule and Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Apologies were received from Mark Bracey and Struan Kenton.

Minutes - The minutes of the meetings held on 17 May 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Playing Field and Pavilion – The Working Group had met and had established their four main aims. A 'Have Your Say' Day was being held on 31 July 2021 from 10am to 1pm at the Playing Field for residents to make their own suggestions on the future use of the field. Ideas boxes were also located in the village shop and the Rose and Crown PH.

In addition, Brackley Athletic Football Club would be renting the playing field from the Parish Council from September 2021 to April 2022 for their football matches at the weekend.

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.

Village Litter Pick – This year, the litter pick would be held in mid-September 2021. An exact date would be confirmed nearer the time.

'The Queen's Green Canopy' – Investigations would be made into whether trees could be planted in the village to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022.

Book Swap – The village book swap would be starting up again in the bus shelter in Green Lane. Jenny Ridge should be contacted with regard to donations.

Street Lighting – Councillors Wayne Rule and Kevin Ridge would be undertaking a project to review the street lighting in the village, with advice from Eon. 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.

Highways – A meeting with the County Council Highway Officers had been held to discuss speeding issues in the village, especially around the stables and additional signage had been erected.

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.

Footpaths – The cemetery footpath had been cut back and a contractor would be contacted to cut back other hedges overhanging their boundary lines and making it difficult to pass along the footpaths.

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

WNS/2021/0579/FUL

The Reivers, Farthinghoe Road, Charlton
Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension.

WNS/2021/0625/MAF

Colready Farm Farthinghoe Road Charlton
Erection of 2 No. livestock buildings with associated feed bins, hardstandings, manure midden, dirty water tank and drainage attenuation pond.

The following applications had been approved by West Northamptonshire Council:

S/2020/2391/RES

Land off Hogg Lane Charlton

Variation of conditions 1 (Plans) 2 & 3 (materials) 4 (metre housings) 5 (driveway details) 6 (floor levels), 7 (Construction details) and 8 (water drainage) of S/2019/1210/RES (Application for the approval of reserved matters comprising of layout, scale, appearance, landscaping, and drainage, development approved under outline planning permission S/2018/0036/OUT Two detached dwellings (outline) Additional floorspace within the roof and roof lights on rear elevations

Approved

S/2021/0067/MAF

Manor Farm, Charlton

Variation of Condition 2 plans - S/2020/0468/MAF, Variation of condition 2 (plans) of S/2018/2627/MAF

Approved

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. Please contact the Clerk for the joining details.

20 September 2021

15 November 2021

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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