

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 360 JANUARY 2019

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## Big Village Hall News

The Trustees of Charlton Memorial Hall are delighted to announce that funding to upgrade the ceiling and insulation in the main hall has been secured from the Viridor Credits scheme.

The Trustees applied for £20,000 to remove the old lighting and false ceiling, install better insulation and a new raised ceiling and the application was approved just before Christmas. The upgrade will make the hall more energy efficient and look really smart for bookings later in 2019 and beyond!



Once the project paperwork has been completed, work will begin in February and will be completed during the Easter school holidays.

It's been a busy year for the Hall, hosting a wonderful wedding in the summer as well as the regular Girl Guiding and Preschool bookings. The park and playground equipment had a spruce-up and passed its ROSPA inspection again.

Don't forget that there is a **special booking rate** for Charlton villagers to use the hall and there is also table tennis equipment to hire as well. Contact [bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk) for more details.

The Trustees will be meeting on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** and are always looking for new members to give a little time to help maintain and improve our memorial hall. Why not come along to the hall at 7.30pm to find out more?

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

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

## SERVICES AT NEWBOTTLE

Sunday 6th January Epiphany Sung Eucharist 9.30am

Sunday 13th January Baptism of Christ Matins 9.30am

Sunday 20th January Epiphany 3 Sung Eucharist 9.30am

Sunday 27th January Epiphany 4 Matins 9.30am

Sunday 3rd February Epiphany 5 Sung Eucharist 9.30am

Thursday 10th January Communion at 7, Cartwright Road, Charlton 9.30am

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A few days after Christmas, Christians celebrate Epiphany. Sometimes it would be good if the church stopped using words like that and translate them into English that everyone can understand. It's a time when we remember the coming of the wise men to see the baby Jesus. You know the carol - "We three Kings of Orient are . . ." and all that.

It's interesting to get behind the carol and see what the Bible really says about them.

First, they weren't kings. The Bible says they were Magi - wise men. They were probably priests who'd travelled from Persia, and whether they'd ridden camels like the Christmas cards show, or came on horseback or in chariots we just don't know.



Second, the Bible never tells us how many wise men there were. Old legends say there were twelve, but wherever you go today, the number usually comes down to three. Maybe that's because there wouldn't be enough old dressing gowns and tea towels to go round if the local school had to dress twelve of them, but the only reason for thinking there were three is because three gifts are mentioned - gold incense and myrrh - and everyone assumes they each brought something.

The important thing however, is not who they were or how many there were but the fact that they were searching for something. Reaching out beyond themselves and their own backyard for something or someone to give meaning to life. And that's what Jesus still offers through the whole year.

**David Morgan**



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

## **RESOLVE TO VOLUNTEER IN 2019**

From drivers to gardeners, shop assistants to complementary therapists and receptionists to fundraisers, we're looking for volunteers to join our fantastic team in 2019 and make a real difference to the local community. Whether you have a couple of days a week or a couple of hours a year to spare we have a role for you!

We're also excited to share details of two new opportunities to volunteer: supporting patients and carers at home as a Hospice Companion or helping people to get active as a Health Walk leader.

**Join us for coffee at the hospice on Friday 11 January from 10-11.30am or Tuesday 15 January from 5.30-7pm** to find out how you can get involved. For further information or to sign up to attend email [volunteering@khh.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@khh.org.uk) or call 01295 816 477.

## **CARE FOR A COCKTAIL?**

Calling all cocktail connoisseurs! This new year please host a cocktail night to raise money for people facing life-limiting illness. Whether you hold it in your home or your favourite pub, pub or restaurant, there's no better time to get together with friends and help your local hospice. Find out how to get involved at [www.khh.org.uk/cocktail](http://www.khh.org.uk/cocktail)

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

It costs £4.5 million to provide our services every year, and three-quarters of that funding comes from people in the local community, as well as local businesses and trusts and foundations.

Last year we supported more than 800 people facing life-limiting illness in our community. Without your help we simply couldn't do that without your generosity. Thank you for everything you do for your local hospice.

## **KEEP UP TO DATE WITH KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE EVENTS**

We're looking forward to a busy 2019 here at Katharine House, with plenty of fundraising and hospice events throughout the year. From Midnight Walks to mountain treks, open days to volunteer opportunities, you can find out more about what's happening at your local hospice at [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk).

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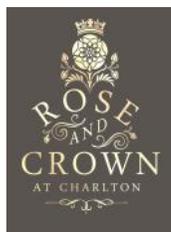
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# CHARLTON MEMORIAL HALL

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



**Don't forget that  
Special Someone !**

**Valentine's Dinner**

**The Rose and Crown, Charlton**

**Thursday 14 February 2019**

**Booking Essential  
01295 811317**

**Menu available from the pub**

## Nature Notes

The other day we heard – and then saw – a huge flock of jackdaws. We had never seen so many all together before. They were extremely noisy. This is our smallest crow, identifiable by the grey 'shawl' around the back of the head, and a black cap. It can be found all year round and in all sorts of habitats, and eats all sorts of things: insects, fruit, seeds and carrion, and will also steal eggs and nestlings from smaller birds' nests in spring. The RSPB website says it is 'a sociable bird', often seen in flocks, though we more often see them in pairs in the garden. Apparently they mate for life and get together in their first year, though not nesting and laying eggs till their second year. Now our chimneys are securely wired over at the top we rather like to see them: they used to try and build nests in the chimney and dropped endless kindling down it hoping that some would stick. Most of it didn't and made a mess in our fireplace.

2018 hasn't been a good year in the vegetable garden. We have always been good at leeks and they are a winter standby, usually sitting there in perfect condition until pulled for the kitchen. This year the leeks have been afflicted by an insect called the Leek Leaf Miner so they have brown soggy streaks and little black bits of excrement. We never spray anything that we eat so the only answer is to plant leeks in a totally different place next year (we would usually anyway) and cross our fingers that the insects don't find them. The prolonged drought in the summer has affected plants too, despite major efforts to water what seemed to need it. Our sprouts have hardly made proper sprouts, just bits of leaves, which is disappointing: again, these are a winter standby and can usually be relied on just to be there until needed. Picking sprouts on a cold wet morning is one of the nastiest jobs.

Bad news for Ribena lovers: researchers have found that milder winters driven by climate change are likely to affect blackcurrant crops, with plants producing less fruit and of poorer quality. This is because blackcurrants, like many woody plants, need a period of chilling before beginning to grow in spring. This stops them bursting into bud too soon with the risk of frost damage, and also ensures that when they flower, there are lots of pollinators already around. Warmer winters could lead to flowering later in the year. Apparently a third of the UK blackcurrant crop (worth about £10m a year) needs 1,800 hours of chilling below 7°C (45°F), but some plants need far lower temperatures.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

# From the Banbury Guardian 28 March 1942

## CHARLTON OPENING OF THE MEMORIAL HALL

The new Memorial Hall at Charlton, erected in memory of Mr Charles Whigham by his brothers and sisters, on a site presented in memory of Miss Frances Cartwright by her nephew, Mr T Cottrell Dormer, has been lent for the duration of the war to the YMCA to be run as a club and canteen for H.M.Forces. The opening ceremony was performed by Lady Portal, the wife of Air Chief Marshall Sir Charles Portal, Chief of Air Staff.

The building, which is attractive and well planned, was packed for the occasion. Mr Whigham took the chair and made a brief speech in which he outlined the history of the venture.....

Mr Adams Scott, Associate National Secretary of the YMCA gave an interesting account of the Association's wartime activities on behalf of the troops. It had no fewer than 1226 Service canteens, staffed by some 60.000 voluntary workers, and was running about 900 mobile canteens. He laid great stress on the aim of the YMCA to give members of the forces a touch of home life and of the home atmosphere.....

A Chaplain of the R.A.F. then formally dedicated the hall, after which Lady Portal presented badges to a number of the local voluntary workers who are assisting the YMCA in its running. Lady Welby made a few introductory remarks and the names were read out by Lady Birkenhead.

After the ceremony there was a film entertainment, and it was clearly evident that the Charlton Memorial Hall was making a good beginning in its role of recreational centre for the troops.

[During the war, RAF personnel from Hinton-in-the-Hedges airfield were housed in prefab quarters in what is now Myers Way. *See Charlton and Newbottle: The History of Two Villages, pp 5, 191-2*]

### CHARLTON LINK DELIVERER REQUIRED!

Charlton Link is delivered to your home each month by a small team of village people. From this month, our dedicated deliverer Marie cannot continue with her route of Farthinghoe Road and Cartwright Road. So we are looking for a replacement.



This important role takes **less than 30 minutes once a month** so is not a big task but is vital to get the Charlton news out to the village! Can you help? Please see Keith in the shop for further details.



## Newbottle & Charlton School Update

Christmas in school is always a very busy and hectic time but one that is joyous to see too.

End of term reports were written, delivered and assessments completed. We had our end of term church service as well as the Christmas community tea and on the last day we had a fun-filled party day!



This year's Key Stage 1 Nativity was called 'The Hoity Toity Angel'. It told the story of some very ungrateful angels who soon changed their ways and realised it's not what's on the outside that matters but what's on the inside. This story was intertwined with the traditional events that led up to the birth of Jesus.



Key Stage 2 led a beautiful Christingle Service at church, which again shared all the messages and symbolism of the Christingle itself as well as readings from the bible telling the Christmas story.

The most amazing part is when the lights are switched off once all the Christingles are lit and the children sing Away in a Manger - it is just beautiful.

We wish you all a very prosperous and happy 2019.

*Mrs Smith, Head Teacher*

# Charlton Installation Services



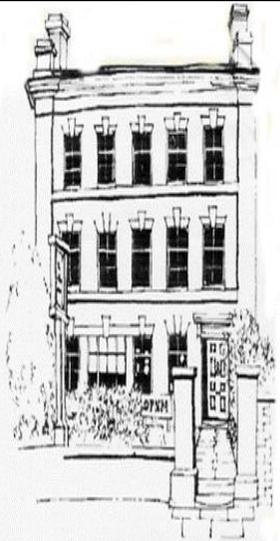
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