

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 363 APRIL 2019

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

## Annual Village Litter Pick

The annual **Village Litterpick in Charlton** takes place on **Friday 12 April**, starting at 6.00pm at the Memorial Hall.

**DO COME AND JOIN IN**

It takes less than an hour and litterpickers, bags and gloves are provided. The more the merrier and the quicker we can finish the job.

We all need to play a part in ridding the village of the scourge of litter for 365 days a year but this is a good way to start.

Any questions? ask Paul Hayter.



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

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# CHURCH

<https://newbottlechurch.weebly.com>

## SERVICES AT NEWBOTTLE

31st March	Lent 4	Matins	9.30am
7th April	Lent 5	Sung Eucharist	9.30am
<b>14th April</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>Procession &amp; Family Service</b>	<b>11.00am</b> (from Memorial Hall)
18th April	Maundy Thursday	Communion	10.00am
19th April	Good Friday	Meditations	2.00pm
<b>21st April</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
28th April	Easter 2	Matins	9.30am <i>(followed by church AGM)</i>
5th May	Easter 3	Sung Eucharist	9.30am

*House Communion - 9.30am on Thursday 11th April at 7 Cartwright Road*

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Some years ago, when I was in bed recovering from an illness, I watched a beech tree outside the bedroom window for three days. There wasn't much else to see and when the only other things you can do is read, sleep or listen to the radio, a beech tree becomes very interesting.

It was a beautiful tree; its tall, elegant silver-grey trunk powdered with green lichen and its branches swayed in the wind. Over those three days I watched its hard, tight buds develop into crinkly leaves just beginning to show that light, bright green that makes Spring come alive. It was a lovely sight.

The tree had been pruned at some time. A couple of branches had been taken off but smooth calluses had grown over the wounds and healed them. After a while it seemed that the tree was saying to me "You know, whatever's happening to you, the world's still out here, quietly getting on with life. The sun comes up each morning; the rain comes down most afternoons" - it was April after all - "and nature's doing its own thing."

It also reassured me that something, someone, somewhere is still in charge. There's a power for good at work which we call God, creating, sustaining, shaping and restoring our world, our lives. And if that sometimes involves a bit of pruning, so be it.

The beech tree also reminded me that nothing stays the same. That in three days buds can turn to leaves, and that in three days new life can become a reality.

Just as it did at Easter.

**David Morgan**



# CHARLTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



## Scam Awareness

A presentation  
by  
SANTANDER BANKING

**Monday 8th April at 7.30pm in The Memorial Hall**  
*details from Wendy Cone - 01295 811305*

### **Festival of Gardens**



**KATHARINE  
HOUSE  
HOSPICE**

More than 25 gardens are opening their gates for Katharine House as the Festival of Gardens returns throughout the summer months. For more information about the open gardens confirmed so far, visit <https://www.khh.org.uk/Event/gardens>

### **Interested in opening your garden for Katharine House?**

Register your interest by emailing [getinvolved@khh.org.uk](mailto:getinvolved@khh.org.uk). We'll send you all the items you need to get going and also include information about your garden on our website.

# **NEWBOTTLE PARISH COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON**

**CHARLTON MEMORIAL HALL,  
MAIN STREET, CHARLTON**

**7.30PM ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2019**

**ALL WELCOME!!**

### **Annual Parish Meeting Agenda**

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 16 April 2018 and matters arising
4. Report from the County and District Councillor, Rebecca Breese
5. Open Forum – for all village organisations to attend the meeting and submit verbal reports on their work and achievements in the last 12 months
6. Chairman's Report of the year to 31 March 2019
7. Presentation of Parish Council accounts 2018-2019



## Village Fete

It's time to start planning Charlton's traditional Village Fete, taking place at The Cottage this July

**The first Fete planning meeting takes place at The Cottage, 6.00pm on Wednesday 10th April**

Please come along if you have ideas for stalls or could spare a few hours to help plan this wonderful event.

**All welcome!**

**Easter Egg Trail**

**Sunday 14 April**  
**1pm - 3pm**  
**£3 per child**

Join us for a fun filled family afternoon at Katharine House and around Adderbury Lakes

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE

### Easter Egg Trail

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at Katharine House Hospice and around Adderbury lakes on Sunday 14 April, 1pm - 3pm, and help raise funds for people and their families living with a life-limiting illness.

Visit <https://www.khh.org.uk/Event/eastereggtrail> for more details.

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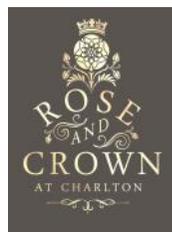
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more, please contact Sarah, the  
Bookings Clerk at:  
[bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk)



**Sunday 21 April 2019**  
**Easter Sunday**

**Includes Special Easter Treats**



**Menus available from**  
**The Rose and Crown**

**Booking Advised – Phone 01295 811317**



## Newbottle & Charlton School Update

Last time I informed you that the choir had reached the final of **Banbury Young Musician** of the year. I am so pleased to announce that we won the Junior Choir category, a fabulous achievement for the choir and Mrs Williams who leads them superbly. Christiana was also successful in her category.

Rev'd Doug Spenceley from the Diocese has been in school again regularly talking to the children about Lent and will return soon to lead Collective Worship on Holy week. It is wonderful that both Newbottle and Aynho have appointed Reverends and I look forward to building relationships with both to help keep the Christian ethos firmly embedded in our work.

In March we celebrated **World Book Day**, the school awash with characters from different books.

A love of reading is vital to achievement and we are lucky to have a fully stocked library and children who enjoy reading widely.



The day ended with a story share for 10 minutes.



We have had a great time as part of **British Science and Engineering Week**. We won two grants to fund a variety of investigations and visitors as well as trips out. Children visited a Dome in school to learn about prehistoric times and dinosaurs. We invited a rat, snake, Tarantula, hermit crab and others with Zoolab to share about animal

habitats, diet and features. We took half the school to the Big Bang Fayre in Birmingham which is full of science exhibitions and stalls and in school, children carried out investigations during the week - how to make a perfect sandcastle, design marble runs, making bouncy balls and being forensic scientists. Wow, all that in just one week!



Charity is important to us so that children appreciate others around them and in need, so we donned crazy bottoms for **Comic Relief** as well as holding a cupcake competition! Cakes were judged and purchased to raise money for this good cause!

**We have our Spring/Easter community tea on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm which you are all welcome to join us for - please let the office know if you can attend.**

*Mrs Smith, Head Teacher*

## Nature Notes

The weather has been very wild recently with a lot of storms and wind but we have generally had a very mild winter with few frosts. This March has been a great contrast to last year when we were suffering with the 'Beast from the East' and it continued to be very cold, delaying the onset of spring. This year spring has advanced in leaps and bounds, and the blackthorn blossom has been and gone, without the accompanying cold snap which was traditionally known as a 'blackthorn winter'. Blackthorn is very common in hedges around here, and the white blossom appears on bare branches well before the leaves, giving us the sloes of autumn.

The hot summer and drought of 2018 has affected the flowering of daffodils this year: in our garden we have a very poor showing of daffs and we think it is because the bulbs were short of water at the time when they were dying down (which is the bit we can see above ground), but this is when spring bulbs are building up their reserves and creating the following year's flower buds (below ground). They obviously didn't manage to do this as well as usual. We've been surprised to see lots of primroses appear in the garden again this spring: we thought many of them had died in the drought but they have survived, even in our very dry garden with its free-draining, sandy soil – just what they are not supposed to like.

This isn't a great area for primroses, but there are some about in the wild, and at this time of year it is lovely to see some of our other wild flowers appear in verges and odd corners. None of them is spectacular but individually delightful. Celandines are usually the first: we wage a losing battle against these in the flower beds, but they are so cheering in the wild with their sunshiny faces which are so glossy and bright. The little purple dead nettle is found here and there, and thyme-leaved speedwell with its small sky-blue flowers. This is a pest in the garden: here it comes up everywhere like mustard and cress, but in turf, as in the Stonepits field or along the verges, common speedwell is so pretty. White violets are appearing all along the edge of the Farthinghoe road near the Forceleap crossroads.

We go into Oxford regularly, and in spring we always note how far ahead the spring is compared to home: the blossom of the plum trees (*prunus pissardi*) is always out as you go in through North Oxford about a fortnight before ours makes a good showing. This is the ornamental tree, often with purple leaves, which bears fruit (small and not very tasty) in years when the very early blossom doesn't get ruined by frost. There are some in the village hall playground, and we suspect that it was a tree that had recently been introduced to nurseries at the time when north Oxford was being developed and houses built – because there is a lot of it there.

We have enjoyed seeing lots of different tits on our bird feeders this spring: we have had the usual Great Tits and Blue Tits, but also a Marsh Tit, a Cole Tit, and a group of Long-Tailed Tits, which are more often seen in gangs swooping along the hedge-rows. Apparently British-ringed Great Tits are no longer found so often in Europe, and it is thought that this is because of the increasing availability of good food in garden bird-feeders. We can always recognize the basic song of a Great Tit: it is an insistent, two-note, repetitive call, sounding like 'teacher, teacher'.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

# Memorial Hall News

**Ceiling improvement project** – following the successful start of the project where part of the suspended ceiling was removed, work will continue on the ceiling insulation and renovation from 1<sup>st</sup> April until Easter. We are looking forward to inviting the village to come and see for yourself and celebrate the newly refurbished hall with the Trustees on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**. More details to follow.



**Memorial Hall Film Club** – to make the most of the ‘new’ hall, the Trustees would like to set up a Film Club for village residents to come and watch a recently released film on a regular basis throughout the year. The Trustees have secured funding towards the purchase of some of the equipment and would very much like to hear your views on this event. Would you come? How often would you like it to run? What sort of films would you like to see?

The Trustees would be very interested to hear from you if you would like to get involved in the project – from purchasing the equipment to organising the evening’s refreshments – can you spare a little time to help out with this exciting new venture? Please send any views, suggestions and offers of help to Julia Rands (details on the front cover) or Della Wolfe on [della@thecurvegroup.co.uk](mailto:della@thecurvegroup.co.uk).

**Dates for your diary** – next meeting of Trustees: **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May** at 7.30pm and Memorial Hall AGM & Trustees meeting – **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June** at 7.00pm. Please attend if you can.

Don’t forget there is a special 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.

**Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting**  
**Monday 18 March 2019 at 7.30pm**  
**[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)**

**Present** – Chairman, Councillor Andrew Woods; Councillors Andrea Gladden, Michael Loggin and Diana Sheasby and Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer).

**Apologies** – Councillors Linda Baker, Richard Bland and Adrian Kelly.

**Minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Litter Pick** – The village litter pick was being held on Friday 12 April 2019 at 6pm, starting at the Memorial Hall.

**Parish Council Web Site** – The Parish Council now had a new web site, which could be found at [www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Street Lighting** – The Parish Council was aware that two street lights (outside 34 Myers Way and on the corner of Farthinghoe Road and Brackley Road) were not working and this was due to the lantern type being obsolete and they needed replacing. Before the Parish Council agreed to replace these lanterns, costs would be obtained from contractors to replace all of the lamps in the village which had obsolete parts and then a decision would be made whether to replace each lantern as and when required, or to replace all of the lanterns at the same time. This would be discussed further at the next meeting.

**Bus Services** – Contact would be made with neighbouring Parish Councils to discuss the type of service which was in place, following the withdrawal of the County Council's bus service.

**Playing Field Lease and Pavilion Project** – Fundraising for the project was continuing. If anyone would like to make a donation, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council.

**Annual Parish Meeting** – This was being held on Monday 15 April 2019 at 730pm at the Memorial Hall. Village organisations were invited to attend and present a report on their activities during the last year.

**Memorial Hall, Cinema Club** – The Parish Council agreed in principle to fund half of the cost for a projector for a new Cinema Club, subject to three quotes being obtained and the matter being discussed further at the next meeting.

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

15 April 2019 (Annual Parish Meeting)

20 May 2019

17 June 2019

15 July 2019

No meeting in August 2019

### **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

**You can also follow Newbottle Parish Council on Facebook**

There will be a **Bag2School collection** from **Newbottle & Charlton Primary School** on **Wednesday 3rd April**. If you have any unwanted, good quality clothes or paired shoes, please bag them up and leave them near the old school front door **before 9am**.

Bag2School is a **free fundraising scheme** for Schools, Community Groups and Charities to help raise money from donations of clothing. Unwanted textiles are collected and sold to importers and wholesalers in many countries of Eastern and Western Europe, Africa and Asia.

Accepted items: men's, ladies and children's clothing; paired shoes; handbags; hats; bags; scarves/ties; jewellery; lingerie; belts; soft toys. Not accepted: duvets, bedding, blankets and household linen; pillows and cushions; carpets, rugs and mats; curtains; towels; soiled, painted, ripped clothing; school uniforms; corporate clothing and workwear; textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material.

The school has raised hundreds of pounds through Bags2School over the years, money has been used for school trips and equipment.

Please support us if you can.



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