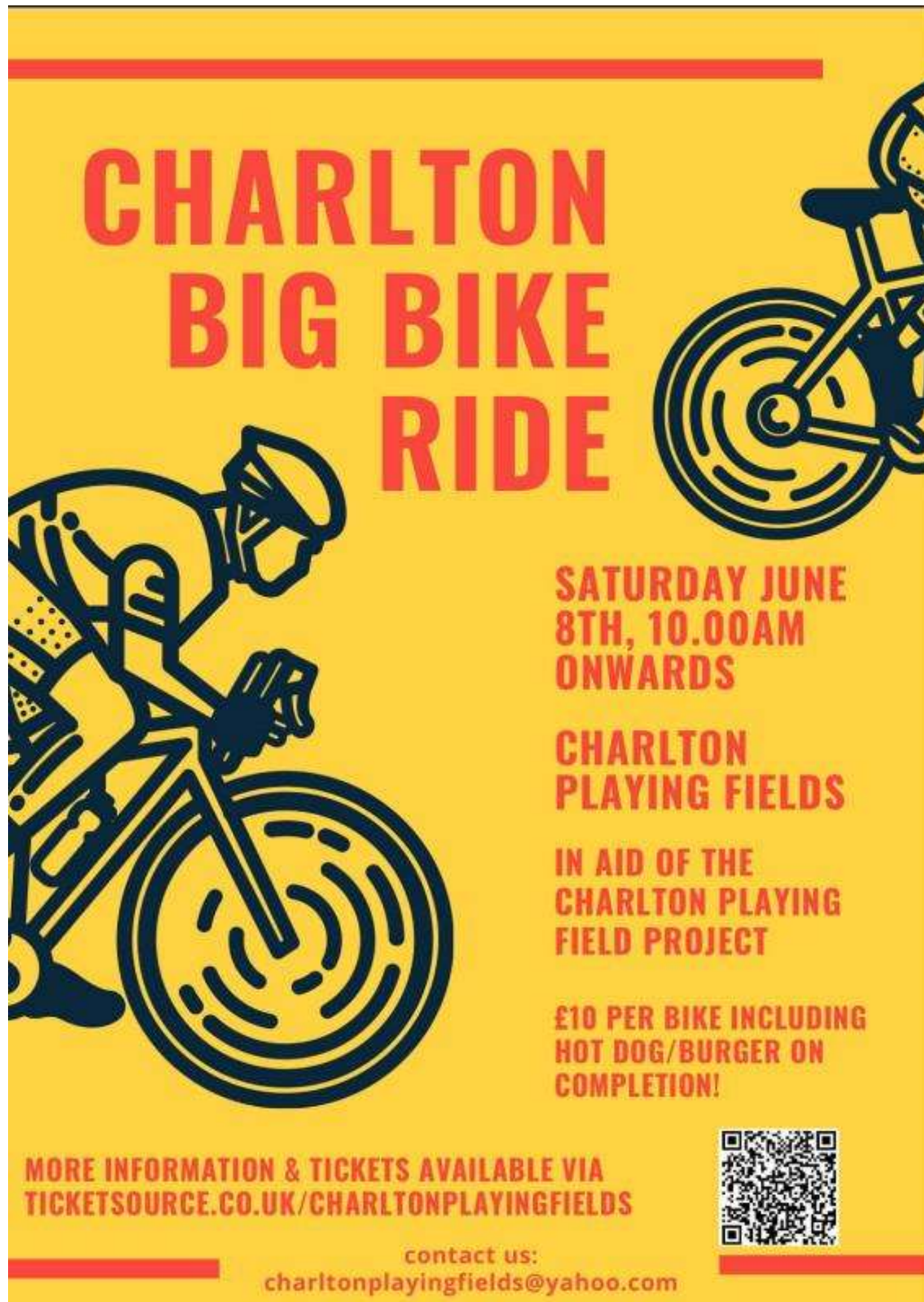


# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 422 JUNE 2024

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

A yellow poster for the Charlton Big Bike Ride. It features a stylized blue line drawing of a cyclist on the left and a bicycle wheel on the right. The text is in red and blue. The title 'CHARLTON BIG BIKE RIDE' is in large red letters. The date and time 'SATURDAY JUNE 8TH, 10.00AM ONWARDS' are in red. The location 'CHARLTON PLAYING FIELDS' is in red. The purpose 'IN AID OF THE CHARLTON PLAYING FIELD PROJECT' is in red. The cost '£10 PER BIKE INCLUDING HOT DOG/BURGER ON COMPLETION!' is in red. At the bottom, it says 'MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHARLTONPLAYINGFIELDS' in red. A QR code is in the bottom right. The contact email 'charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com' is at the bottom center.

**CHARLTON  
BIG BIKE  
RIDE**

**SATURDAY JUNE  
8TH, 10.00AM  
ONWARDS**

**CHARLTON  
PLAYING FIELDS**

**IN AID OF THE  
CHARLTON PLAYING  
FIELD PROJECT**

**£10 PER BIKE INCLUDING  
HOT DOG/BURGER ON  
COMPLETION!**

**MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA  
TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/CHARLTONPLAYINGFIELDS**

contact us:  
charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com

Read the Link in colour at [www.charltonandnewbottle.com](http://www.charltonandnewbottle.com)

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

# **MINUTES OF THE NEWBOTTLE AND CHARLTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, CHARLTON AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Linda Baker, Mark Bracey, Jordan Bolton, Wayne Rule and Matthew Walsh.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and two members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Parish Councillors Michael Loggin and Kevin Ridge.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Wayne Rule as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, chaired the meeting.

**1/24 MINUTES** - The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**2/24 MATTERS ARISING** - There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2023.

**3/24 REPORTS FROM THE WEST NORTHANTS UNITARY AUTHORITY COUNCILLORS** – There were no reports from the West Northants Unitary Authority Councillors.

**4/24 OPEN FORUM** – The Chairman invited representatives from village organisations to provide a report on the work they had been undertaking in the village.

There were reports from the Memorial Hall Trustees, Parochial Church Council, Primary School, Pre-School, Cricket Club, Playing Field Association and Northants Police. The reports were available on the Parish Council web site. The Chairman thanked everyone for their reports.

**5/24 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – As the Chairman of the Parish Council, Michael Loggin, was not present, the Vice-Chairman, Wayne Rule reported on the work of the Parish Council during 2023/2024.

Councillor Wayne Rule thanked the Parish Councillors, West Northants Unity Authority Councillors and the Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, for their work over the last 12 months.

The Chairman's full report would be available on the Parish Council web site.

**6/24 PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2023/2024** - The Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer presented to the Annual Parish Meeting, the Parish Council accounts for 2023/2024. The figures had been subject to internal audit and gave an accurate picture of the activities of the year. It was noted by the meeting that the Parish Council gave an annual donation to the Memorial Hall of £350 to cover the cost of the grass cutting. The accounts were available on the Parish Council web site.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

(The meeting closed at 8.25pm)



## **CHARLTON SUMMER FETE**

### **SATURDAY 13th JULY**

Charlton's traditional garden fete in the beautiful gardens of The Cottage is always popular and raises vital funds for our beautiful parish church, St James' Newbottle.

Delicious teas, tennis tournament, egg-throwing, fun dog show and all the other games and stalls combine to make it a really enjoyable afternoon.

**BUT WE STILL NEED HELPERS!** And new blood and new ideas! If you would like to help, even just a little, please contact Eleanor Bland or Deborah Hayter via the editor of the Link (email on front page).

## **LEWIS BALDWIN FITNESS & COACHING**

Here at LBarn we offer 1-2-1 coaching and small group personal training sessions in a great location at Charlton House Farm. I work alongside 2 other coaches and between us we are creating a friendly and welcoming environment for all members.

We cater for all ages and abilities and believe in creating a safe and fun atmosphere to train in, which is pivotal for clients to see progress in themselves, physically and mentally.

LB has become a great community and it's wonderful to see all members strive within it. Please do come along; join in the fun and enable us to help you become the best version of you.

We look forward to meeting you! Contact us at [lbptinfo@gmail.com](mailto:lbptinfo@gmail.com) or pop up and meet us at Unit 4A, Charlton House Farm. Brackley. NN13 5LH.

Summer is approaching and the preparations for our Summer Fete are now gathering pace. Do save the date and come along. It will take place at The Cottage, Main Street, Charlton at 2pm on Saturday 13th July. As ever, there will be a very varied number of stalls and games, and prizes to be won. It promises to be another wonderful event.

Another indication of the changing season is the increasing interest in the forthcoming Olympic Games, due to be held in Paris in July. You may be surprised to read that there is a connection between the Christian faith and this sporting event.

Perhaps you have seen the film 'Chariots of Fire'? It tells the story of Eric Liddell who competed for Great Britain in the 1924 Games, also held in Paris. Liddell's event was the 100 metres. However, the heats for that event were to be run on a Sunday, and Liddell, prompted by his Christian faith, felt uncomfortable racing on a day that has traditionally been considered a day of rest. Instead he entered, and won, the 400 metres.

The world is a very different place now, and Liddell's reticence to run on Sunday may seem somewhat anachronistic to us. However, this detail matters less than Liddell's motivation. He sought to use all his gifts and talents in the service of God, and having won his gold medal he moved to the Far East and became a Christian missionary. For Liddell his 'life goals' were long-term and stretched beyond the passing glory of sporting success.

In this regard Liddell was faithful to St Paul's vision of the Christian life. Writing in the early years of the Church, St Paul invites the first Christians to view life as a marathon that must be run with perseverance and discipline. These characteristics, if they are directed towards the search for God, can enable us to develop and use our gifts and talents fully. In so doing we may achieve the harmony of mind, body and spirit that lies at the heart of true peace, which is itself a gift we receive when we encounter God.

With all good wishes,

Father Matthew

Tel. 811364, email: [fathermatthew.r@icloud.com](mailto:fathermatthew.r@icloud.com)

Facebook/St James's Church, Newbottle & Charlton

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS**

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM

WEDNESDAY 12TH AND 26TH JUNE AT 10.30AM

AN INFORMAL GATHERING FOR PRAYER, MEDITATION AND FELLOWSHIP  
AT 5 GREEN LANE. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL EILEEN ON 811654

WEDNESDAY 5TH AND 19TH JUNE AT 9.30AM

AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION OR PRAYER,  
AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS



## Newbottle & Charlton School Update



A big thanks to everyone who sponsored me for the skydive! It was a great experience especially with the children there cheering me on.

During May we took part in our Mayday and Family Enterprise event and we had some great businesses created by our families including craft, plant and food stalls. Here are some of the photos from the day.

*Mr Smith*  
Headteacher







the synergy practice

- ✓ Physiotherapy
- ✓ Sports Rehabilitation
- ✓ Sports Massage

Call **01865 803 066** for an appointment or  
Book online via [thesynergypractice.com](http://thesynergypractice.com)  
or e-mail: [info@thesynergypractice.com](mailto:info@thesynergypractice.com)

Unit 3 · Rainsborough Barns · Charlton Road  
Charlton · OX17 3DT

The  
Old Hall  
Bookshop



32 Market Place, Brackley, Northants NN13 5DP.  
Tel: **01280 704146**

*Books, old & new, maps and more*

## Charlton Carpentry & Fencing

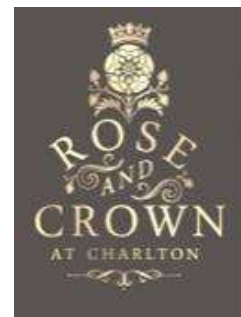
Doors  
Cupboards  
Shelving  
Cladding  
Guttering  
Sheds  
Closeboard,  
Panels, Arches,  
Decking, Bin Enclosures, Gates, Etc.



For a free quote call  
Mark Brown **01295 812761**

Email  
[markbrown333@btinternet.com](mailto:markbrown333@btinternet.com)

No Job Too Small  
25 years experience



**Sunday 16 June 2024**



**Menus available at the pub**

**Bookings now open: Phone 01295 811317**

## Summer is here at the Playing Field!

We kicked off the summer with a brilliant fundraiser 'Head in the Clouds' where Mr (Pete) Smith bravely jumped out of a plane to raise money for the Playing Field. This was kindly sponsored by Skydive Hinton.

So far this has raised **£1,165** which is a fabulous amount, thank you to everyone who donated and were at Pete's jump to support him. He loved the experience too.

Coming up we have the **Big Bike Ride on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June** which starts at 10.00. Further details at Ticketsource, search for Charlton Playing Fields.

We also have a Charity **Car Wash on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July**, come down to the Playing Field to have your car washed.

And there is Sunday **afternoon cricket**... Lots of it! We have home games on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> July. And the big one on 23<sup>rd</sup> June which is Charlton against the Rose and Crown. There will be refreshments and a BBQ, great for supporters!

If you want to put yourself forward to play cricket there is a Whatsapp group to join, email [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com) and we will add you to it.

We have had 2 donations to the playing field and we will be buying another bench and a large picnic bench in time for the warmer weather (we say with everything crossed!)

Here's reminder of the fun we had at last year's Big Bike Ride!





# B LEWIS BALDWIN

FITNESS & COACHING

**SMALL GROUP PT**  
**1-2-1 COACHING**  
**ONLINE COACHING**

Free consultation  
Private & distraction-free gym  
Sessions tailored to all abilities  
Routine check-ins  
Regular social events

**YOUR HOME FOR FITNESS & COMMUNITY**

We would like to welcome you to our private gym in Charlton.

With over 25 years' combined coaching experience,  
our team is dedicated to building you  
strength and confidence within our friendly community.  
We will meet you wherever you are at on your journey,  
and guide you to achieving  
your health, fitness and mindset goals.

Book your trial at [www.lewisbaldwinpt.com](http://www.lewisbaldwinpt.com)

lbptinfo@gmail.com | Find us on   

LBarn, Unit 4A, Charlton House Farm, Brackley Rd, Charlton NN13 5LH

## Charlton Installation Services

**Your  
local  
electrician**

- All types of electrical works undertaken
  - Over 20 years experience
  - High standard of workmanship
  - A local service you can trust
  - All associated building works carried out
- MCS approved PV Solar Panel Installer

**For your free quotation  
call Keith Nash  
01280 709830 - 07714 168471**



“In loving memory of Gordon Harold  
Smith who passed away peacefully on  
Sunday 28th April 2024.

Gordon lived on Brackley Road in  
Charlton for many years.  
Forever in our Hearts”.



**We deliver daily newspapers  
and magazines to the village.**

**Any combination of  
days per week catered for.**

**(Happy to deliver on Sundays  
only when the shop is closed)**

**Ring us on 01295 268499  
or e-mail**

***info@smithsnewsagents.co.uk***





### **Upcoming Open Gardens**

Have you taken a look at our Open Garden itinerary for this year? Once again, we have some incredible supporters opening their gardens and offering people the chance to pay a visit and enjoy the stunning outdoor spaces, all while raising money for our hospice. Make sure you get the dates in your diary now and check the website for full details of each event. [www.khh.org.uk/gardens](http://www.khh.org.uk/gardens)

### **Three cheers for our volunteers**

Could you spare some time – either on a regular basis or occasionally? We're looking to recruit volunteers across a number of areas, including: shop volunteers, gardeners, hospice companions, receptionists and patient drivers. Our volunteers are a vital part of Katharine House and we simply couldn't run the hospice without them. Find out more about how you can make a difference here: [www.khh.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.khh.org.uk/volunteer).

### **Fundraising fundamentals**

Are you planning an event in aid of Katharine House? If so, make sure to download our supporter kit from our website. As well as answering commonly asked questions, it includes fundraising ideas, ways to promote your event and what to do with your hard-earned money. We're always so grateful for the incredible fundraising efforts of our supporters – so we want to make it as easy as possible! Check out our Supporter Kit here: [www.khh.org.uk/supporterkit](http://www.khh.org.uk/supporterkit).

### **Read all about it**

The spring issue of The Rose – our supporter magazine – is out! Have you seen a copy? It's packed full of stories about our services, incredible examples of fundraising, facts and figures about how your support is making a difference, details about upcoming events and much more. You can read our latest issue here: [www.khh.org.uk/rose](http://www.khh.org.uk/rose).

### **Digital monthly newsletter – keep up to date with your local hospice**

Sign up to receive our Katharine House digital monthly newsletter and keep in touch with all our latest news and fundraising events at the hospice. [www.khh.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.khh.org.uk/newsletter)

## Nature Notes

It seems very odd to be writing the notes for June: we have gone from winter to summer in a very short space of time. The crops in the fields are growing very fast: one week the dog could be clearly seen above the greenery, the next she could completely disappear into it if her nose went down.

We've written before about the oaks and ashes: 'if the oak comes out before the ash, we shall have a splash; if the ash comes out before the oak, we shall have a soak', meaning the difference between a summer with minimal rain and a thoroughly wet one. Of course it is a nonsense: some plants are stirred into life by temperature, others by the length of the days, so those affected by temperature get going early in a warm spring. This year the oaks are fully out, along with everything else, including the horse chestnuts in full flower, while many of the ashes have hardly started to leaf up. With some of them it may be due to ash dieback disease but they haven't all got it and even the healthy trees are still looking leafless.

We have all been bitten by the Blandford fly in the last fortnight, and apparently Minor Injuries Units in Oxfordshire have had lots of victims reporting these very nasty bites. If you haven't met it, it is a species of black fly, 2-3mm in length, which flies low to the ground and is most common during May and June, usually biting ankles and legs. It spends its larval stage in the weedbeds of slow-flowing rivers (and, we suspect, in hardly moving water such as we have had at the bottom of our garden for some months) and when the fly emerges, the female needs a blood meal before mating, and then has to wait before laying 200-300 eggs in a damp and shady spot. So it is a bloodsucking insect which seems to like humans and dogs best. Its bite leaves an obvious puncture wound and a painful swelling which varies depending on how sensitive the victim is to insect bites. One of us reacts badly to insect bites and came up with alarmingly large inflamed swellings on the wrists and arms. Although the flies usually go for ankles and legs those of us who are gardening often have our hands in the soil.

In this country the fly is found in East Anglia, Oxfordshire (I think in this case being so near to the river Cherwell we count as Oxfordshire) and Dorset and was first noticed in the 1960s. During four weeks in the spring of 1972, about 600 people visited their doctors in Blandford, Dorset, with bites, which is why it is called the Blandford Fly. It is also called the Stonesfield stinger or Woodstock Fly in Oxfordshire which is the only other area where it is a real problem, found around Oxford, along the R. Cherwell and the R. Thame. Apparently entomologists have found it in Surrey and Sussex but there are no records of it biting humans there.

We have lots of Red Mason Bees and old stone walls in which they can nest, lay their eggs and supply the emerging larvae with plenty of food until they emerge as adults the following spring. But unseasonally warm sunshine in January can trick the new bees into breaking out of the cells and taking flight to look for food. They will have been deceived by the warmth as there will be no nectar or pollen to feed on. This is another instance of the way that climate change causes species that rely on each other to get out of sync.

On a happier note, we saw our first swifts above us on May 12<sup>th</sup> and are looking forward to seeing more. And you can tune in to the live webcam of the swifts in the tower of the Natural History Museum in Oxford to see how they progress. This is the longest study of a bird species in the world and has been going since May 1947. (Go to the Swifts in the Tower, Oxford Natural History Museum).

**Paul and Deborah Hayter**



# Charlton Calendar 2024

<b>April</b>  15 <sup>th</sup> – Parish Council Annual Village Meeting	<b>May</b>  8 <sup>th</sup> – Head in the Clouds in aid of the playing field  13 <sup>th</sup> – Countryside & Wildlife Quiz in aid of the playing field  20 <sup>th</sup> – Parish Council Meeting  Plant & Produce Swap – in aid of the local food bank	<b>June</b>  8 <sup>th</sup> – Charlton Big Bike Ride in aid of the playing field  9 <sup>th</sup> – 2pm Charlton vs. Fritwell Cricket Match (at Charlton)  14 <sup>th</sup> – Old Skool Disco in aid of Newbottle & Charlton Primary School and the playing field  23 <sup>rd</sup> – 2pm Charlton Village vs. The Rose & Crown Cricket Match
<b>July</b>  6 <sup>th</sup> – Children's Charity Car Wash in aid of the playing field  7 <sup>th</sup> – 2pm Charlton vs. Hinton Cricket Match (at Charlton)  13 <sup>th</sup> Charlton Fete & Tennis Tournament in aid of St James' Church  18 <sup>th</sup> – Community Tea, Newbottle & Charlton School	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>  Panto 2025 auditions & rehearsals begin  16 <sup>th</sup> – Parish Council Meeting  22 <sup>nd</sup> - Harvest Festival, St James' Church  27 <sup>th</sup> – Charity Auction in aid of the Playing Field
<b>October</b>  Halloween Activities – in aid of the playing field	<b>November</b>  11 <sup>th</sup> – Act of Remembrance, Charlton War Memorial  18 <sup>th</sup> – Parish Council Meeting  Quiz Night in aid of the playing field	<b>December</b>  Charlton Living Advent Calendar  15 <sup>th</sup> – Carols in the Car Park  Carol Service – St James' Church  24 <sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve; First Communion of Christmas, St James' Church  25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day; Holy Communion, St James' Church

## **DMJ Home Improvements**

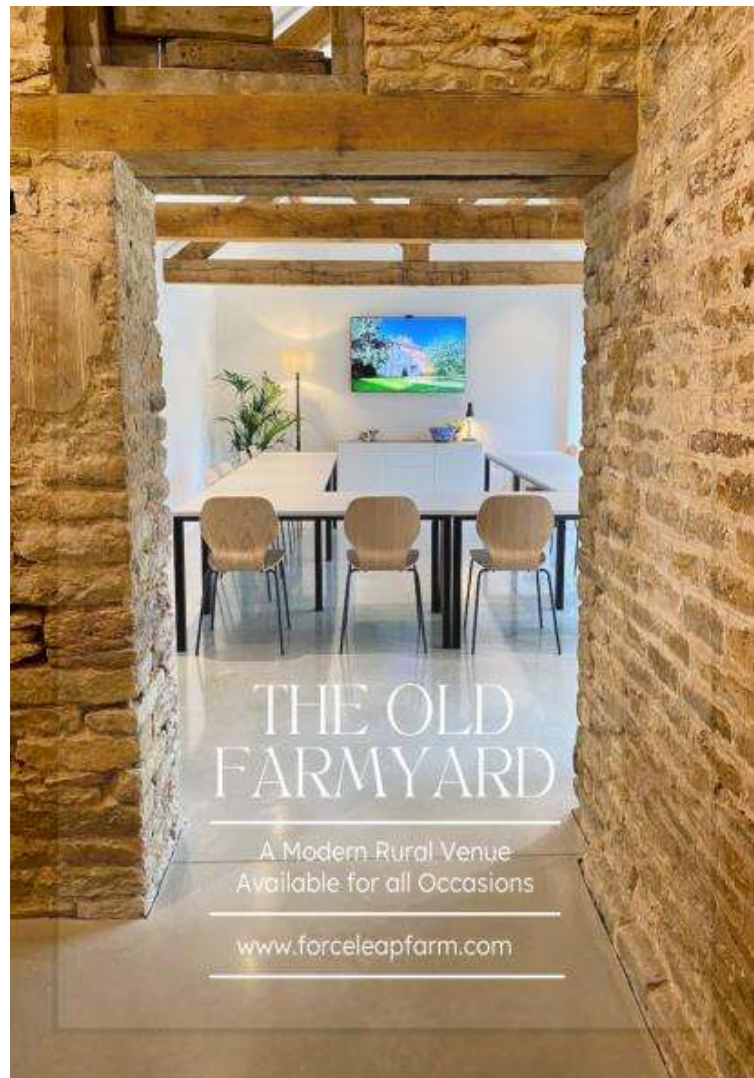
David Whitrow  
66 Rochester Way, Adderbury,  
Near Banbury, Oxon, OX17 3JK

### **Bathrooms, Plumbing & Tiling**

Interior & Exterior Maintenance

Tel: 01295 811331

Mobile: 07981 261115



### **Hairdressing by**

*Emma Kenton*

Ring for an appointment today on

*07496004635*

Reasonable Rates

In The Comfort Of Your Own Home

Fully Qualified With 15+ Years Experience

## **CHARLTON VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE**

- ◆ Large Hall
- ◆ Small hall/meeting room
- ◆ Modern kitchen
- ◆ On-site parking
- ◆ Disabled access/facilities
- ◆ Toilets

To find out more, please visit  
[www.charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](http://www.charltonmemorialhall.co.uk)

To book, contact Sarah, the  
Booking Clerk at  
[bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk)