

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

ISSUE 409 APRIL 2023

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

## QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT

**Tuesday 18 April 2023**

Join us for a fun quiz to raise funds for the Playing Field Project  
Email [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com) to enter

Teams of 4,5 or 6 required  
£13 per person for a choice of curry  
(£3 of which goes to the Playing Field)

## Plant & Produce Swap

After the success of the 2021 event, the Charlton Plant and Produce swap is back on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

Do you still have jars of jam but haven't started sowing your tomatoes? Are you drowning in dahlias but would love some rhubarb?

Bring your excess plants and produce along and swap them for something you don't have. We'll be in the village hall car park from **4pm to 5:30pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April.**

Don't have anything to swap then don't worry, we'll take cash too and there'll also be refreshments to buy with all profits going to the local foodbank.



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) 01295 812446

# Coronation Family Bike Ride

On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May, the Coronation Bike Ride will be held in aid of the playing fields. We've got lots of fun activities planned on the day, so please come along.

Tickets will be sold via Ticketsource and if you're not a bike rider but would be happy to help out on the day, we're looking for a team of volunteers so please do get in touch at [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com)



## The Old Farmyard - Ready for Spring!

After meeting some of you at our open afternoon in October, here's an update on what we've been up to and what we've got planned. This year we have hosted events like corporate meetings, training days and even a mushroom growing workshop! With each event we're learning and improving. We're really keen to make the venue accessible for use by you, the local community, and we have developed a special local residents' rate. So, if you're planning an event this year, no matter how big or small, we'd love to hear your plans. Email me directly at [danny@forceleapfarm.com](mailto:danny@forceleapfarm.com)

### Monthly Guided Walks

We are developing a monthly guided walk program open to all, covering a range of subjects from farming to foraging, bird watching to star gazing. Got an idea for a walk... please send me an email.

Our first guided walk will be **Spring Lambing and a Guided Tour with Alice, 3pm Monday April 10th**. Calving and lambing will be in full flow, Alice will guide us around the farm where you'll get a chance to see the newborns. We'll then venture out across the farm to learn more about Spring on the farm. For more info and to book, visit [www.bit.ly/springlambing](http://www.bit.ly/springlambing)

### New Yoga Studio Opens

Did you know, we have a yoga studio at The Old Farmyard! Amy set-up her studio at the start of January and has weekly yoga classes open to all on Thursday evenings, she'd love to see some of you guys from Charlton, find out more at [www.amydavisyoga.co.uk](http://www.amydavisyoga.co.uk)

To keep up to date with what's happening on the farm please follow us on Facebook. [www.facebook.com/forceleapfarm](http://www.facebook.com/forceleapfarm)

Thanks,  
**Danny, Venue Manager**



# Kings Coronation

## Charlton Schedule

### **Pre Coronation weekend**

Best dressed house competition\*

### **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

**Rose and Crown** – Special Menu, Coronation being shown live

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**Charlton Big Bike Ride** – The Playing Field – 10.15 onwards

12.30 - **"Big Lunch"** Bring your own **Picnic Lunch** – shared tables at The Playing Field

13.00 – **Charlton Bake Off Competition**\*\* – cakes for sale after judging

13.15 – **Crown Competition** Parade & Judging\*\*\*

13.30 – **Toast to The King**

Rest of the afternoon, traditional games including rounders

18.00 – **Evensong** Newbottle Church

### **Monday 8th May**

#### **"Big help Out"**

The Parish Council are coordinating a list of jobs that need doing around the village – e.g. Playing Field, Village Hall & Cemetery, volunteers wanted! High Vis jackets optional...



#### **Notes**

\*Decorate your house from 29<sup>th</sup> April to turn the village red, white and Blue

\*\*Bake off competition -Theme: Coronation/Royal or Sporting

\*\*\*Crown competition – everyone can enter!

Prizes for best cake, crown and decorated house

During the picnic lunch there will be a game of heads and tails, please bring a £1 to participate. Cakes will also be available to purchase for cash post judging

All monies raised to Playing Field Development Fund

**Newbottle Parish Council  
Annual Parish Meeting - Newbottle & Charlton  
Monday 17 April 2023, 7.30pm  
At Charlton Memorial Hall, Main Street, Charlton**

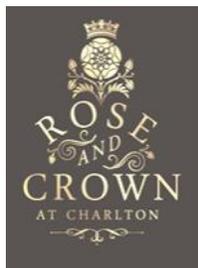
All residents welcome to attend

**Agenda**

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting on 7 May 2022 and matters arising
4. Report from the County & District Councillors
5. Open Forum for all village organisations to attend and submit verbal reports on work and achievements in the last 12 months
6. Chairman's Report of the year to 31 March 2023
7. Presentation of Parish Council Accounts 2022-2023

Theresa Goss (*Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council*)

Contact: [newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk) or 01295 710965 during normal office hours.



**Sunday 9 April 2023 - Easter Sunday**

**Join us to celebrate Easter  
Treats for everyone**



**Sunday 23 April 2023  
St George's Day  
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Happy Easter!

I hope that by the time you read this the weather will have cheered-up. As I write we are having a few more days of snow flurries and Spring seems to be on hold. A number of people have said to me that this winter has felt like a long one, and so now we are really looking forward to the warmer days ahead.

The warmer weather will be a blessing in many ways, and at the church we hope to take advantage of it on the 14th May when we will hold a Rogation service. Starting at the church we will walk across the field path to Charlton, pausing to pray, hear readings from the Bible and sing hymns.

This tradition has deep roots in England. Introduced in the year 747, around the time that the parish system was created, Rogation became a useful way to mark, or inspect, the boundaries of the parishes. Its name derives from the latin *rogare*, meaning 'to ask'. On Rogation Sunday we are asking for God's blessing on the parish.

Although it now persists mostly in the countryside, there was a time when Rogation services were held almost everywhere. We see the memory of them preserved in place names such as Gospel Oak in London, so called because that was the location at which a reading from the gospels was given as part of the Rogation service.

Rogation day has also customarily been a time of celebration and feasting. We will keep this tradition with refreshments served after the service at Walnut House, the home of Sir Paul and Lady Hayter. Do come along to the family service, there will be opportunities for children to take part in the worship. It will also be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy our beautiful surroundings in all their Springtime glory.

With my best wishes,

Father Matthew

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

Facebook: St James's Church, Newbottle & Charlton

## **FORTHCOMING SERVICES**

EVERY SUNDAY IN CHURCH AT 9.30AM (*EXCEPT AS BELOW*)

**PALM SUNDAY** FAMILY SERVICE STARTING AT THE MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK: 9.30AM 2ND APRIL

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** HOLY COMMUNION: 9.30AM 6TH APRIL

**GOOD FRIDAY** MEDITATION & REFLECTION: 2PM 7TH APRIL

**EASTER DAY** HOLY COMMUNION: 9.30AM 9TH APRIL

**ROGATION SUNDAY:** FAMILY SERVICE STARTING AT THE CHURCH; 9.30AM 14TH MAY. FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AT WALNUT HOUSE.

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THURSDAY 20th APRIL (AND FORTNIGHTLY THEREAFTER) AT 9.30AM:  
AN INFORMAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION AT 7 CARTWRIGHT ROAD,  
CHARLTON. FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS



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## The Old Farnyard

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## Nature Notes

We had a classic 'blackthorn winter' recently, when we had a sudden patch of really cold weather with snow and quite hard frosts, just when the blackthorn was in bloom. This is the rather stark white blossom along the hedgerows on very bare dark stems with vicious thorns. It leafs up after the blossom has been and gone and will produce sloes in the autumn. These are a member of the plum family (*prunus spinosus*).

We had a few mornings in March when we found Mr. and Mrs. Mallard walking around our pond. This is a formal pool really, and quite small, but it looked as if they were prospecting for a nesting site. Delightful as it would have been to watch the progress of a mallard nest and its ducklings, I had to tell them that it wasn't a very sensible place to start a family. With a quite large dog who takes a very great interest in birds, and two hunting cats, the ducklings wouldn't have stood a chance. We think they took the hint and we hope that they have found a suitable alternative.

Once we've had the blackthorn (often in February and it can go on into April – spring is late this year) we're into a succession of flowering trees as they have evolved to stagger their blossom to coincide with the emergence of different pollinators. Blackthorn is vital for the first queen bees as they emerge, and also for overwintering butterflies like the comma, small tortoiseshell and brimstone. Then we have wild cherries in April, of two kinds – the single white flowers of *Prunus avium* and the drooping white racemes of Bird Cherry (*prunus padus*). Then there's crab apple in pink and white, for the next tranche of moths, beetles and butterflies, and in May hedgerows froth in creamy hawthorn blossom with elderflower following on. Hazel catkins have already been and gone and these produce the male pollen, billions of grains of it, which blow in the wind, and the female flowers, tiny hot-pink blooms along the branches, catch it as it floats by. Then, with any luck, there will be hazelnuts (but the squirrels will get them all).

The Woodland Trust's Nature's Calendar, which collects and collates thousands of observations of phenological events (the first budburst, the arrival of migratory birds – and much more), shows that there has been a startling leap forward in the flowering dates of our native trees. Last year the first elderflowers appeared 14 days earlier than in 2001, hazel 36 days earlier, blackthorn 24. Over the millennia trees and plants have developed in symbiosis so that freshly hatched pollinators and insects waking from hibernation find the food they need at the time that they need it. Some of these insects are sensitive to spring temperatures so they may be able to keep in step with earlier flowering times. But there is more worry about solitary bees, which typically emerge in early April. The 270 species of solitary bees and 25 bumblebees are very important pollinators for orchard trees – apples, pears, cherries, and plums, but their eggs take a year to hatch so their emergence is regulated by time not by temperature, and they may emerge too late to pollinate the earliest orchard blossom, generally plums and pears.

We had a lot of early crocuses out at the beginning of March and when the sun was out they opened up and were alive with bees. Primroses are coming out now and the first violets in purple and white along the verges. Spring has definitely sprung.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

**Notes of the Newbottle Parish Council Meeting**  
**Monday 20 March 2023 at the Memorial Hall, Charlton**  
[www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.newbottleparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Present** – Parish Councillors Michael Loggin (Chairman), Linda Baker, Mark Bracey, Kevin Ridge, Wayne Rule and Matthew Walsh and Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer).

**Annual Parish Meeting (APM) 2023** – The APM is being held on Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall and all residents are invited to attend to find out what the Parish Council has been working on for the last 12 months. Village organisations are also invited to attend and report on their work too.

**Flagpole** – The Memorial Hall Committee has kindly given the Parish Council permission to erect a flagpole in the car park of their grounds. It is hoped it can be installed in time for the Coronation on 6 May 2023.

**Playing Field and Pavilion** – A container, up to the value of £2000, will be purchased by the Parish Council for additional storage on the site. Concerns about matchday parking were raised and contact will be made with Brackley Athletic FC to discuss these further.

**'No Mow May'** – The Parish Council has agreed to take part in this initiative, which will mean none of the grass verges in the village will be cut during May. The benefits of not cutting the grass are to encourage and support biodiversity and wildlife.

**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.

**Defibrillator Training** – A defibrillator training session is being arranged for a Saturday morning in June. The session will last about 2 hours and there are 12 places available. If any residents are interested in attending, please email the Clerk after 1 April 2023. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and names will not be added to the list until after 1 April 2023.

**Defibrillator Cabinet** – Investigations will be made into purchasing a cabinet to house the defib at the Playing Field to enable it to be accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Street Lighting** – If any street lights are not working, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council with the lamp number/location and this information will be forwarded 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.

**Parking Issues** – The Parish Council kindly requests that drivers do not park their vehicles on the footpaths in the village or at junctions.

Parking at a junction means that visibility is reduced for drivers turning in and out and forces them to drive on the wrong side of the road without knowing if there is on-coming traffic, which is clearly dangerous.

Parking on footpaths means that pedestrians and especially those with pushchairs or wheelchairs have to move into the road to get past the vehicle. This is also clearly very dangerous and residents should not be putting other residents in this dangerous position, especially when everyone is so aware of the speeding issues through the village.

**Please park considerately in the village**

**Dog Waste Bin** – The replacement dog waste bin on the Cemetery footpath will be fitted shortly.

**The Coronation of HM King Charles III** – The Parish Council will make a contribution of £200 towards the cost of the bouncy castle hire for the Coronation event which is being planned in the village.

**Planning** – The Parish Council has no objections to the following application:  
WNS/2023/0288/FUL—Colready Farm, Farthinghoe Road, Charlton  
Erection of a cattle shed.

The following planning application has been approved by West Northamptonshire Council's Planning Committee/Planning Officers, since the last meeting of the Parish Council:  
4 Cartwright Road, Charlton

A rear extension to the dwelling and replacement of a flat roof at the rear with a pitched roof to match the original roof. Conversion and extension of the garage to create habitable accommodation, for use by family members and with short term holiday letting use.

Planning applications can be viewed on the South Northants Council web site.

<https://snc.planning-register.co.uk/planappsrch.aspx>

**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. They will collect the rubbish and also gather evidence, which will then help them prosecute the offenders.

**Meeting Dates** - Future meetings, all starting at 7.30pm would be held at the Memorial Hall, Main Street, Charlton.

17 April 2023 (Annual Parish Meeting)

15 May 2023

17 July 2023

18 September 2023

20 November 2023

### **All welcome to attend!**

Agendas and Minutes 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**



In July, after over 25 years of volunteering, Pippa and Fiona are stepping down as leaders of Charlton Rainbows. Both volunteers have 'retired' from Girlguiding before but two years ago, after the pandemic, they came back to keep Charlton Rainbows open. However, they can no longer guarantee to be at Rainbows on a weekly basis.

So the search is on to find someone new to take over, ideally this would be a mum who has a younger Rainbow. But you don't have to have a girl in the unit – Fiona's youngest daughter was one of her first Rainbows and she will be 21 this year!

Ideally someone will volunteer this term to have a lengthy handover period and plan the transition. As a volunteer you will help girls gain confidence, make friends and learn new skills.

Could you see yourself as the new Rainbows leader? Or do you know anyone who you think would love to get involved to support girls in our local community? For further information please contact Fiona via email at [fbrown@btinternet.com](mailto:fbrown@btinternet.com)

## The Big Help Out gives everyone an opportunity to lend a hand

Community Volunteering is an important part of the UK's story, from Air Raid Wardens during the Second World War to over 12 million of us who stepped forward during the pandemic.

Now thousands of organisations – big and small – are getting together to mark **The King's Coronation** by giving everybody the chance to try volunteering for themselves and make a difference in their community.

### In Charlton, The Big Help Out starts on Monday 8th May

We have many ways that volunteers "lend a hand" in Charlton. From pantos to committees, school governors to working parties. We now have a team of 30 people who have joined 'Charlton Crew' to support the playing field and ad hoc work within the public areas of the village.

We want to commemorate The Big Help Out initiative by completing work in 3 areas in the village: the cemetery, the playing field and the village hall.

We need a lead volunteer for each of these areas – and also of course volunteers! If you are able to spare a few hours on Monday 8th May or during the week after, we will be using Charlton Chat on Facebook to publicise the opportunities.

If there are any other areas in the village that could do with a lift, please contact [newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:newbottleparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)



### Delivery person or people needed!

Is there anyone in Charlton who would be willing to deliver the Link each month to the houses on Farthinghoe Road and Cartwright Road? Eileen Graver has been doing this round for a very long time and would like to hand it over. She says it really doesn't take very long and it is only once a month.

Eileen and all the Charlton Link delivery team – Silke Everett, Alan and Ann Hawkins, Jenny Barker and Anita Harris – are owed a very big THANK YOU for their commitment to delivering the Link.

If you could spare an hour each month to deliver the Link, please contact Paul Hayter on [hayterp@gmail.com](mailto:hayterp@gmail.com) or Julia Rands on [juliarands@hotmail.com](mailto:juliarands@hotmail.com).



# Newbottle & Charlton School Update

**Our recent activities:**

**Right: Oak and Ash classes visit Brackley Fire Station**



**Above: Year 6 Orienteering**  
**Right: Mother's Day Tea**



## **Playing Field News**

Lots of activity at Playing Field Committee HQ, mainly centred around our fundraising programme. At the end of last month we had our Family Bingo Night, thank you to everyone who supported us and to our amazing Bingo Caller Dickie!

Back by popular demand on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April is our Quiz Night** at The Rose and Crown (see front page). And on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May we have our Coronation Family Bike Ride** (see page 2).

Lastly a huge thanks to everyone who signed up to be part of our Charlton Crew Group, we were excited to launch the group in March and hope that we'll be able to make even more great progress at the playing fields with their support. If you'd like to get in touch about joining Charlton Crew or any of the activities we've shared, contact us at [charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com](mailto:charltonplayingfields@yahoo.com) or through our Facebook page.

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