

# CHARLTON LINK

Village News for the People of Newbottle & Charlton

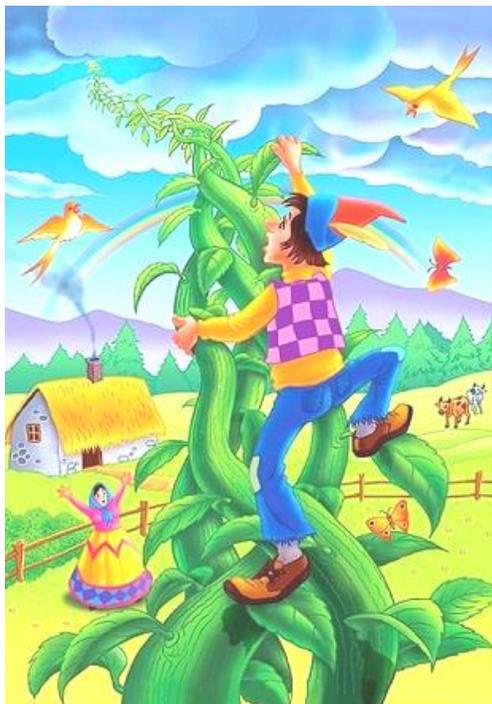
ISSUE 390 SEPTEMBER 2021

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## It's Audition Time!

### Jack and the Beanstalk – Half Term, 16-19 February 2022

If you would like an acting role in the panto then auditions are being held in the hall on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September:



- Children at 18.00
- Adults at 19.00

Like to get involved? Please come along!

If you don't want to act, but would still like to be involved in this wonderful village event, then either email [vjbeadle@hotmail.com](mailto:vjbeadle@hotmail.com) or follow us at Charlton Panto Players on Facebook.

We will provide updates on our Facebook site for those involved in the panto, so join us to know what's going on.

[www.charltonandnewbottle.com](http://www.charltonandnewbottle.com)  
Charlton Link Editor: Julia Rands, [juliarands@hotmail.com](mailto:juliarands@hotmail.com) 01295 812446

#Justice4Harry

# OCTOBERFEST

St James's Church Newbottle & Charlton  
Saturday 9 to Sunday 17 October 2021

- ☆ 9/10/21: **Adderbury Ensemble** string quartet concert (3 quartets by Haydn, Ravel and Dvorak)
- ☆ 10/10/21: **Harvest Festival** family service, 9.30am
- ☆ 10/10/21: afternoon ambulatory talk by **Eleanor Bland** - church & manor house architecture and history
- ☆ 12/10/21: **Scarecrow** concert - three players, lots of instruments - folk/jazz/blues
- ☆ 14/10/21: **Miriam Allan** (wonderful soprano from Prince Philip's funeral) and **Steven Devine** (on a Broadwood square piano of 1790), performing Haydn English Canzonettas, 7.30pm
- ☆ 16/10/21: **Come and sing/Come and play** - an opportunity for local talent to shine, 2.30pm
- ☆ 17/10/21: Closing festival evensong with lots of singing, 6pm

Throughout the week, there will be a display of local history documents, old photographs of Newbottle and Charlton and local archaeological finds.

For more information and for tickets: Roger Neill (rneill@perdiemprojects.com)



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## Nature notes

It is not only dogs who deposit their poo on the church path. At the time of writing there is a very neat badger latrine pit just by the side of the path with several days' leavings in it. They had filled one and then started another one close by. We are always impressed by how tidy they are and their skill in aiming. We are not so impressed when we find latrine pits in the garden as that means they think it is their territory. We would argue with that.

We wrote last month about the wild flowers along the church path, both by the hedge and in the headland. The week after writing the whole lot was mown which made it a lot tidier but less interesting and colourful. At the moment the Pyrenean cranesbills and the Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon are making a valiant come back so there is still something to see.

We have several Buddleias in the garden and they are not called the Butterfly bush for nothing. Butterflies really love them and we have had a good number of Peacocks and Red Admirals visiting them – a total of 18 Peacocks at one time in the garden - but, of course, nothing like we would have had in sunny weather 30 or 40 years ago. It has been a mixed picture with the butterfly surveys this year. We reported last month on a large number of sightings but the recent countryside survey was disappointing with far fewer butterflies; we have to remember that it is normal to see fewer butterflies in August than in July.

Anyone who is a member of the RSPB will probably be aware that 2021 marks the centenary of the 1921 Plumage Act, a vital step in the protection of several bird species which were threatened with extinction because of the insatiable demand of the millinery trade for feathers to decorate fashionable hats. It is thought that 61 species, including great crested grebes, little egrets and birds of paradise were at risk of disappearing because hundreds of thousands of them were being killed for their feathers. It was a group of splendid campaigning ladies who got together to persuade others to refuse to wear feathers in their hats (in rather the same way as everyone was embarrassed out of wearing fur more recently) and the all-female Society for the Protection of Birds was founded in 1889 largely out of anger that the all-male British Ornithologists' Union was doing nothing to protect threatened species like great crested grebes. The society received Queen Victoria's blessing (becoming the RSPB) and has campaigned ever since to protect threatened birds (avocets and ospreys are success stories) and their habitats.

On one of the warm evenings recently when the back door was open late we surprised a large toad on the kitchen floor. We were delighted to see it as we don't see toads often enough and they are so useful in the garden. We certainly have enough slugs and snails to feed an army of toads. We surprised it again when moving a large pot just outside: toads walk rather than hop like a frog and though they seem slow they can cover a lot of ground and disappear into the undergrowth at some speed.

We thought the heron had had all the newts in our pond but in clearing the duckweed and muckage (raked out of the water and put on the side for all the wildlife to crawl back into the pond) we were delighted to find that we still seemed to have at least a couple of babies.

**Deborah and Paul Hayter**

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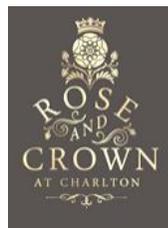


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Life seems to be getting back to some normality and we are delighted to have welcomed you back to the pub

Thanks go to our staff for their hard work as we get back up and running. Some are heading off to Uni and we wish them all the best in their new adventures

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at the pub

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I've been looking through our parish registers. The Government has reformed the marriage registration laws, marriage certificates have been computerised and are now issued by local authorities, in our case from Northampton. Therefore, parish clergy up and down the land have been asked to close our marriage registers, and this provided an opportunity to take stock of all the records we keep in our church.

They are a fascinating snapshot of local history, and it's striking how often the same names appear in baptism, confirmation and marriage registers and, sadly, on the war memorial too.

This provided quite a contrast with my previous parish, situated on the fringes of London. We used to reckon on about a quarter of the parish population changing every couple of years, as the flow of people to and from London continued.

There's been a revival of interest in genealogy over recent years, perhaps spurred on by TV programmes like '*Who Do You Think You Are?*', and parish registers can be a useful tool when researching your family history. Most of our records are now kept at the County Records Office at Wootton Hall in Northampton, and can be seen there. However, we retain some locally and you are welcome to contact me if you would like to consult them.

Questions of who we are, and where is our home, are brought into focus by the baptism register. For Christians baptism, or christening, joins the baptised to a new family. We become joined to all Christians, wherever and whenever they have lived, and our home, with them, is heaven, in the eternal presence of God.

Wishing you every blessing,

Father Matthew, Tel. 811364

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

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO OUR WEEKLY SERVICE:**

**EVERY SUNDAY AT 9.30AM**

## Charlton Playing Fields

It's been a busy couple of months, and the team have made good progress. Thank you to everyone that turned up at the Have Your Say event on 31 July, there were lots of great suggestions, we have reviewed these alongside previous ideas and the input we received from the school children.



We had enough data to pull together the project plan which will be a significant step forward. We met again on 19 August as we were keen to maintain the momentum in bringing changes to this underused space in our village. This project plan will be used for further consultation and for gaining funding.

We have a small pot of funds from previous fundraising efforts and we want to think how we can use this to create some small wins in the field, for example some picnic benches or creating a more welcoming entrance.

We have also had a meeting with the Preschool and are supporting them in their redevelopment, however we have agreed for the projects to be treated as separate, with any potential Pre-school building in the playing field located in consultation with the trustees and fundraising led by the Preschool. This will allow the Parish Council to focus on investment in the playing field as a community space and making it accessible to all.

We will provide updates in the link each month, on the Charlton Chat Facebook page and our dedicated page @ the Charlton playing field project.

We would love the village to really get behind this, please do let us know if you would like to support the team, email Phil Marshall on [philnewbottle@gmail.com](mailto:philnewbottle@gmail.com)

## Memorial Hall ... Did you know?

A quick reminder that the maintenance of the play park, front gardens and car parking area is the responsibility of the Charlton Memorial Hall Trustees. The Trustees meet regularly to discuss the upkeep of the hall and park. The play equipment is inspected by the Trustees on a weekly rota and is independently inspected by RoSPA annually.

Twice a year the Trustees weed and tidy up the perimeters of the park and arrange for more extensive tree trimming as required in the autumn, when it's best to prune trees. The Parish Council pays for regular grass cutting.

If you do have any queries or comments please direct these to the Hall Trustees via the email [bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@charltonmemorialhall.co.uk). If you'd like to join the group of Trustees and get more involved with the care of our village hall and park, please get in touch via this email too.

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