

Quarterly Edition – June 2021

# Charlton Village News



[www.charltonvillage.org.uk](http://www.charltonvillage.org.uk) and [Facebook page: Charlton Community Chat](#)

## Welcome to the Summer Edition of 2021

Fingers and toes are crossed for our full escape from pandemic restrictions in June. There's lots going on in the village so take a look at the diary dates for our Community Clean-up and Open Farm Sunday later this month. On the Climate page there is some very useful information about recycling medicine packets whilst raising funds for Marie Curie UK – every little helps!



Thank you to Gilly for this beautiful photograph taken in Charlton Lakes Park

### DIARY DATES

**Tuesdays 15<sup>th</sup> June & 20<sup>th</sup> July:** Charlton Parish Council meetings 7.30pm

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Release from 2021 lockdown – keep your fingers crossed!!

**Sundays 20<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July & 15<sup>th</sup> August:** Andover Artisan Market in the High Street 10am-2pm

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June:** Charlton Village Community Cleanup. Collect kit at 8am by St Thomas' Church bus stop

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June:** Oaktrack 'Open Farm Sunday' for opening times see their website [www.oaktrack.co.uk](http://www.oaktrack.co.uk)

**Saturdays 26<sup>th</sup> June, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 28<sup>th</sup> August:** Andover Pop Up Indoor Market, Chantry Centre, 10am-5pm  
Support local artisans selling crafts, gifts and much more

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August:** Copy deadline for next edition

## Parish Council Updates

### Charlton Neighbourhood Plan

#### Making of the Plan

The Charlton Neighbourhood Plan 2019 to 2029 was 'made' following the positive referendum on 6 May 2021. The Plan forms part of the Development Plan for the parish and will be used to guide planning decisions in Charlton.

The referendum result is as follows:

Response	Votes	Percentage
YES	557	89.4%
NO	66	10.6%
Turnout	37.84%	

From 7 May 2021, the Charlton Neighbourhood Plan is subject to a six-week period where applications can be made to the High Court on the grounds that the plans are not within the appropriate powers and/or a procedural requirement has not been complied with. This six-week period of legal challenge ends on 18 June 2021.

The next action is for the Parish Council to make sure the Plan is used by the Planners in TVBC and that the detail gets taken into Test Valley's Local Plan that is being developed now. The Parish Council will continue to consult residents and keep you informed at every stage.

### Friends of Charlton Lakes

After a lot of lobbying, TVBC are now looking to produce a 'structured plan' for Charlton Lakes, looking at general maintenance and any opportunities for improvement/enhancement. Charlton will be at the heart of its future as part of a Steering Group that will look at opportunities and constraints, including climate change initiatives such as a re-wilding and tree planting. More on this as the way ahead develops.

### Community Clean Up - Saturday 26 June

Charlton Village will be holding a Community Clean Up on Saturday 26 June (bring the kids/dogs). Litter Pickers and bags will be provided. Collect kit from the bus stop by St Thomas' Church between 8-9 am. It would be helpful to know if there will be 10, 20 or 50 volunteers so please let Clive Ward know on 07538 596344 by Tue 8<sup>th</sup> Jun. Test Valley will arrange to collect and dispose of any litter we pick up. If you want to litter pick independently either on this day or on a different day that suits you please contact Test Valley [www.testvalley.gov.uk/transportparkingandstreets/streetcleaningandlitter/community-litter-pickers](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/transportparkingandstreets/streetcleaningandlitter/community-litter-pickers) and get your kit from them.

### Charlton Village Parish Council

The Parish Council meets every month, except August and December, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 19.30. Press and Public are welcome to attend. Please check the parish website [www.charltonvillage.org.uk](http://www.charltonvillage.org.uk) for details of how to join or contact the PC Chair, Cllr Jacqueline Smith on [cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk)

Despite advertising on Notice Boards and taking every opportunity to highlight the need for new parish councillors, nobody has come forward. The council is still able to carry out its role, but it would be great to have a volunteer or two. Why not give it a go and if it's not right for you it's simple to step back down!

If you are interested, please contact Heather Bourner the Parish Clerk [clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk) or Clive Ward 07538 596344 or [cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk)

### Facebook - Charlton Chat

Our Facebook page is for all residents in Charlton, Andover to enhance communication and the community spirit.

<https://www.facebook.com/charlton.community.chat>

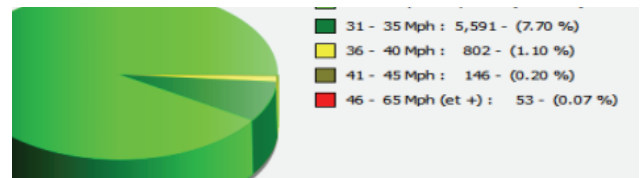
Facebook – love it or hate it, nearly 400 people are currently following the site as a way of keeping in touch with local news and topics of interest. There are some simple rules and we recommend that you take the advice of your teenager about how to secure your personal information so that you only share what you want to share

### Charlton Community Support Group

The Charlton Support Group, comprising 15 local volunteers, remains in place and is ready and willing to collect prescriptions, shop, run errands or just be a listening ear. If you need anything, please contact Clive Ward [cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk) / 07538 596344 or Ian Smale [cllrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:cllrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk) / 07421 354874

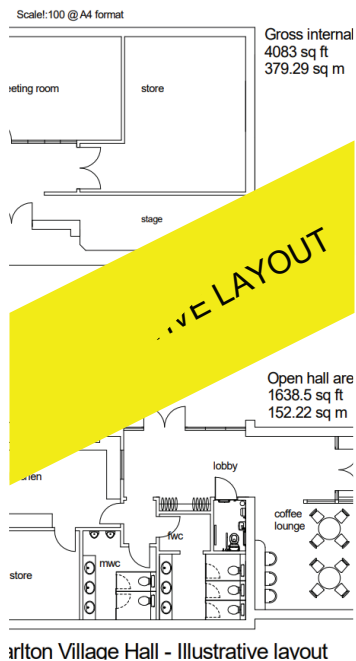
## Speed Indicator at Tesco Bridge

There are still far too many vehicles speeding particularly up the hill towards Andover. The numbers exceeding 45mph is particularly worrying and it hoped a speed gun campaign may help catch offenders. The Parish Council sent some stats to our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) and it would seem he is going try and get to Charlton at least once a week. He makes the point that it will be a deterrent only as he is not trained to use a speed gun yet. He is asking for support from the Countrywatch department who seem happy and able to do a speed gun session once a month. Watch this space, and your speed!



## Community/Village Hall – We Need You to be Involved!

Councillor Clive Ward – Parish Council lead for the Community/Village Hall Project.



The Parish Council has a mandate to consider commissioning a Village/Community Hall. The Village Survey and subsequent Neighbourhood Plan consultation confirmed around 80% support for a Hall but at that stage it was a concept only, without any idea of size, location, or facilities to be included.

As we draw closer to submitting a further PreApp to TVBC - likely now to be in the autumn – we need to have your views (realistic please). The Hall Committee will conduct several visits to local halls to gather evidence of what does and doesn't work. We then intend to have a Public Meeting in the Church – date/time to be decided – so that we capture the village ambition and enthusiasm. A questionnaire will also be produced to be circulated with the September Charlton News.

To have any chance of attracting grants and the support of TVBC, we need to be united and realistic in our aspirations and to show how the Hall will complement, not compete, with the existing Church Hall facility.

## Charlton Phonebox Library

The notorious phone box library in Hurstbourne Tarrant made the national news and even the satirical news quiz 'Have I got News for You'. So, I suppose we should be grateful that the worst problem we have is a small number of people abandoning books and other items on the floor from time to time.

In the last quarterly newsletter, I said the only place you can take unwanted books, if our library is full, is the Walworth recycling centre. Now there are a couple of other places to take them: charity shops and a yellow “book recycling” bin at the Anton Mill Road car park (next to Asda). If you know of any others do let me know.

Because of restricted space in our library our focus is on novels and biographies. Not children's or reference books.

Thank you for your support. And thank you to those who do their bit to keep it tidy.

Ian Smale





## **Charlton Village Climate Change Group**

*Charlton Parish Council recognises it has a responsibility to the environment. But importantly, we need all residents/households to play their part. If you are willing to be a street/area point of contact and want to get actively involved in making a contribution to reducing CO2 emissions, please contact Mike Cripps on 07801 064126 [michael.cripps@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.cripps@btinternet.com) or Clive Ward on 07538 596344 [cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk)*

We keep hearing of the government's commitment to climate change, but a lot of us at the grass roots level just see an incredible cost to individual households. The need to chart a route to a cooler planet is proven and growing in certain areas. There is so much work to be done and so much money to be spent if we are all to comply with what will be required to meet the climate target. But all this comes with a massive price tag: e.g.: E-Cars; Solar Panels; Air/Ground source heat pumps to name but a few. You may be in the position where your gas boiler is fairly new and working well. To replace it with an alternative (air or ground source heat pump) will cost in the region of £6000-£8000 (air) and £10,000-£18,000 (ground); you are a young family, and your petrol/diesel car is fine, affordable, and easily accommodating all the baggage necessary for those days out but if they are to be phased out and gas boilers are banned in the next few years, what then? A small electric car for pottering about locally is likely to cost £15,000 whereas a bigger electric car, to suit your needs, is currently priced around £44,000.

Yes, we need power and yet if we are forced to stop using fossil fuels where will our power supply come from? In particular, the demand for electricity once all houses are charging their e-vehicles after returning home from work. Increasingly our power supply comes from renewables. In fact, it currently stands at about 42%, with 2019 being the first year where energy from renewables outstripped coal and gas. The Government has set a target of 65% of our energy produced by renewables by 2030 and this will mean more renewable infrastructure, such as wind turbines, tidal turbines, and solar farms, of which we have already seen some built near Andover. However, at the same time as we need to increase the provision of renewable energy, we also need to think carefully about where these installations are located. Solar farms should be on the roofs of the huge warehouses and on brown field sites rather than high quality arable land, and wind turbines should equally not despoil the natural beauty of the landscape. We also need to bear in mind the amount of carbon produced per person in a current vehicle powered by petrol or diesel and what the carbon footprint of energy production for vehicles would be on an industrial scale.

So, at grass roots level what can we do? Firstly, climate change is not going to go away; we have got to do something, we got ourselves into this mess through aviation, de-forestation and even procreation. To support the 'route to a cooler planet' we should all increase our enthusiasm and commitment by perhaps ensuring we simply recycle as much as possible, compost what we can, (more information on composting can be found on the RHS website at <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=444> ), and by re-wilding certain areas of our village. Further recycling initiatives have been announced by Superdrug, joining forces with Terracycle UK, Buscopan and Dulcolax in a new recycling programme. You can now recycle any empty medicine blister packets in the Superdrug pharmacy, located in Andover High Street. Terracycle converts the packaging into reusable raw materials using unique recycling processes, thus saving empty medicine strips ending up in landfill for hundreds of years! For every medicine strip collected, Terracycle will donate points to Superdrug pharmacies to be redeemed into financial donations towards Marie Curie UK - Supporting a fantastic charity and recycling!

What more could we want? Well, lobbying is once again underway to get the County Council to upgrade the Materials Recycling Facilities, where the contents of your brown bin are taken for processing. Although less than 6% of waste here in Test Valley goes to landfill, more can always be achieved, particularly to improve our recycling rate. At the Council's depot in Andover a solar photovoltaic panel array on the roof and some internal LED lighting have been installed. The electricity usage from the national grid has been reduced due to these steps. Last year, the solar panels provided approximately 20% of the electricity used at this site. Also, air source heat pump technology has been installed at a sports pavilion, reducing the site's carbon footprint. There are currently seven electric vehicles within the Council's fleet along with 18 electric vehicle charging points in public car parks in Romsey and Andover.

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face, locally, nationally, and globally. It is a challenge that will continue to grow over the coming years, becoming ever more critical for future generations. That is why we must act now, and a joint effort is required to take steps to make Charlton a greener village for us all and to help sustain and improve the quality of life for our residents, now and into the future.

## Swifts



These beautiful and charismatic birds have declined across Hampshire and the UK by more than 50% over the past 23 years.

St Thomas' church has kindly agreed to host swift boxes to try and establish a colony. A very generous local resident from Tower Close has produced some made to measure boxes to attract the birds.

Initially, two boxes will be mounted on the church extension in the hope of attracting a colony of swifts, if not this year then next.

If you want to know more about the plight of these birds and how you can help please take a look at the Hampshire Swifts website:

<https://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk/>

## Charlton Village Church, St Thomas'

**Revd Alex Randle-Bissell**, Priest-in-Charge, 01264 512161 [revalex@pastrowfamily.org.uk](mailto:revalex@pastrowfamily.org.uk)

**Judith Appleby**, Benefice administrator, 07999 352585 [admin@pastrowfamily.org.uk](mailto:admin@pastrowfamily.org.uk)

**Facebook:** Family matters in our villages@pastrow **Website:** [www.pastrowfamily.org.uk](http://www.pastrowfamily.org.uk)

### Eco Church - Sally Brewer

St Thomas' has been awarded bronze from A Rocha Eco Church, and are currently speeding towards silver!

We have, so far created a bee and butterfly friendly patch, planted a cotoneaster shrub – which as well as providing berries for the birds, it also absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. We have installed bug hotels for our creepy crawly friends and have provided a wild bird feeding station, close to the bench so anyone visiting the memorial garden is able to watch feathered friends tucking in.

A member of the parish council has kindly donated some swift nesting boxes, we are awaiting prospective tenants soon! The Playgroup shed has water butts to collect rainwater, which can be used to water the plants and gardens.

During the kitchen refurbishment, the hand dryers in the toilets are to be replaced with an eco- friendly type – these will reduce our carbon footprint. Currently we are investigating the installation of solar panels to generate our own electricity.

St Thomas' Church is (and to quote Rev. Jill Bentall – past Vicar of St Thomas') 'the ultimate in recycling', as the building materials started life as Foxcotte Church!

Come along and have a look at our beautiful church, our refurbished kitchen, and wonderful murals – find the lost sheep if you can!

*Stay, ponder, pray, have a cup of tea... the choice is yours!*

### St Thomas' Church Refurbishment Update - Sally Brewer

Before covid (if you can remember those times!) St Thomas' Church was in the process of upgrading its buildings.

We now have some beautiful murals featuring well known bible stories in the Foxcotte Room, the Church has been redecorated and the floor returned to its former glory. We've also reorganised storage and have 'decluttered'.

Covid, sadly, put a hold on some of the work. This July will see the refurbishment of the kitchen. We have been extremely fortunate to secure a community grant from Test Valley to help hugely towards the costs and work will begin as soon as the Playgroup break up for the summer holidays.

All work has been completed using local tradespeople, who have provided work to an extremely high standard. We are very fortunate to have them!

## Letter from our Priest in Charge, Alex Randle-Bissell

Dear friends

What does it really mean to be a disciple of Jesus Christ? It is true that there have been some important distinctions made as the word 'disciple' has changed over the centuries. To start with, the word was solely associated with the Jesus movement but now has become a word that means anyone who is prepared to follow or adhere to a particular philosophy in life. Perhaps this reflects an increasing secular or pluralistic society, but I tend to think that even the dictionaries struggle with defining what it means to be a disciple. Many of them use the term 'follower', but the problem with this expression is that in reading the gospel stories we see that Jesus had thousands of people following him. He was indeed a local 'celebrity' who people flocked to listen to, and you can be sure that the crowds were packed full of those who were genuine believers, some that were mildly curious, and those that followed him because they were looking for ways to debunk him as fake news. Whatever the motivation, it is clear from reading scripture that being a disciple is much more than being just a follower.

Then we can look at the main group of disciples themselves, often called the apostles, a word which translated from the Hebrew equivalent *Sheliach* means 'messenger' or 'missionary' and we get to a closer understanding of what being a disciple truly meant to those who chose to be with Jesus. This was, of course, after they had spent three years trying to understand (with little success) what Jesus was teaching them, culminating in them abandoning him at his most dark hour. Bewildered, crushed and confused they scattered, only to be united by the same person who gathered them all together and had originally told them of his resurrection! It is one of the factors sometimes used in the proof of the resurrection account that this band of deserters, after witnessing Jesus amongst them again after his crucifixion, became the most fervent disciples the world has ever known and finally understood his message of love, grace and truth. Not only this, but they radically enacted his command to spread the good news of God to all nations.

Whether you are prepared to believe, or just even explore the possibility of this astonishing account, is perhaps a first step on the journey of discipleship. I wonder as we come out of lockdown into an uncertain future if you would like to consider treading this path with us for a while? A very well-educated chap called Frank Morison, started writing a book in the 1930's called 'Who Moved the Stone?' because he passionately believed the resurrection story was a complete load of made-up rubbish. I won't tell you how his story ended, and just to let you know that you can buy the book for a penny on Amazon...it is a remarkable read and may be a great place to start!

Blessings for the month ahead.

*Alex*

### Pastrow Benefice Services

[www.pastrowfamily.org.uk](http://www.pastrowfamily.org.uk)

To attend any of the services in our churches or online please check the church website for ways to register so we can keep those of you who do attend 'COVID secure and safe'.

### Charlton Village Newsletter

The Charlton Village News is created and distributed by volunteers and printed by Bulpitt Print Ltd. The printed quarterly edition is delivered free of charge to over 950 homes and can also be downloaded from the Village website [www.charltonvillage.org.uk](http://www.charltonvillage.org.uk) along with the monthly digital editions.

The deadline for input is the **14th of the month** before the edition.

Please support **all** our advertisers, both old and new, and mention the Charlton Newsletter when you do!

#### Commercial Adverts for goods or services

- Half page A5 landscape (12cm high x 16.8cm wide) - £40 per quarterly edition
- Quarter page A6 portrait (12cm high x 8cm wide) - £30 per quarterly edition

Please submit adverts in the correct size ideally in PDF or JPG format. Acceptance of all advertisements is subject to availability of space and at the discretion of the Editor.

Content should be addressed to The Editor Charlton Village Newsletter, via email [editor@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:editor@charltonvillage.org.uk) or via the post-boxes on the Village Noticeboards.



Equipped Pilates and rehabilitation studio with all classes targeted to your individual needs. Pilates Matwork and Large Equipment, Remedial Pilates, Stroke & Neurological Rehabilitation, Suspension training (TRX), Ante natal/Post natal, and Fitness based sessions. Group classes (max 10 people), Small group (max 4 people), Duet & One to One sessions.

**Contact details:**

Vir Dellino-Musgrave  
(NVQ L4, REPs L3)

**07796 031779**

[info@equilibrium-pilates.co.uk](mailto:info@equilibrium-pilates.co.uk)  
[www.equilibrium-pilates.co.uk](http://www.equilibrium-pilates.co.uk)



[www.oaktrack.co.uk](http://www.oaktrack.co.uk)

Grass fed meat · Free range eggs  
Seasonal fruit, veg & cut flowers ·  
Handmade preserves  
Cottage garden plants

Open Wednesday to Saturday  
9am – 2pm

M: 07933 764305

E: [littlehatherdenplants@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:littlehatherdenplants@hotmail.co.uk)

Tina Wells, Charlton Down,  
Andover, Hants. SP11 0JA

**LOVE + JOY HOME**

**RE-FILLS  
ECO PRODUCTS  
PLASTIC FREE ALTERNATIVES**

[www.love-joy-home.co.uk](http://www.love-joy-home.co.uk)



## Pet care – from our local Foxcotte Vets

Helping your pet adjust to life after lockdown

Many pets have had the luxury of having their humans at home during lockdown to answer to their every whim, so we are now approaching a period of adjustment as we gradually return to a new normal. Also, many new pets have been purchased over the last year and these pets may never have been left alone.

Top tips to help your pet adjust to being left alone again.

1. Help your pet spend more time alone whilst you are in the house. This can be achieved by placing them in a different room whilst you do something else or encouraging them to sleep in their bed whilst you work. A crate with a blanket over creating a quiet environment is ideal for this.
2. Try to only interact with your pet when you are going to be home in the future to revert them back to their old routine i.e. dinner times and walks
3. Give clear indications of the times your pet can interact with you and provide toys that your pet can enjoy keeping themselves occupied such as dribble feeders or kongs filled with kibble or tinned meat that has been in the freezer overnight.
4. Start leaving your pet alone for small lengths of time and gradually increase so they can adjust to being alone. If they show signs of distress as the time gets longer then do seek the help of a qualified behaviourist.
5. If you use a family member or dog walking service arrange a few sessions whilst you are at home, so they have your support when they return.
6. Other alternative treatments to help reduce stress include adaptil collars and plug ins, and various tablets/capsule such as Vetpro Stress and Anxiety.

If you have any behavioural issues with your pet, we would always recommend contacting a member of APBC (the Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors). Their website is <https://www.apbc.org.uk/>



# Have you heard of our Pet Health Club?



**As a member you will receive**

- ▶ Vaccinations (plus Kennel Cough)
- ▶ 6 Month Health Check
- ▶ All year Worm Treatment
- ▶ All year Flea Treatment (flystrike for rabbits)
- ▶ Cost Price Food
- ▶ Annual Urine Test
- ▶ Nail Clipping (twice a year)
- ▶ Microchip or £10 Voucher

**PLUS!**

- 20% OFF** Selected Lifetime Meds & Neutering
- 100% OFF** Direct Claim Admin Fees
- 50% OFF** Retail Cost of First Bag of Food
- 25% OFF** Prescription Food
- 10% OFF** Dentistry & Pet Passports
- 10% OFF** Pet Shop Sales & Geriatric Screenings

**Foxcotte Veterinary Group  
Contact Us**

**Charlton**  
15 Foxcotte Rd, Charlton, Andover,  
Hampshire, SP10 4AR  
Tel: 01264 358808

**Ludgershall**  
The Old Surgery, St. James St,  
Ludgershall, Andover, Hampshire, SP11 9QF  
Tel: 01264 790609 | [www.foxcotte.co.uk](http://www.foxcotte.co.uk)

**Whitchurch**  
33 Winchester St. Whitchurch,  
Hampshire, RG28 7AJ  
Tel: 01256 892067







## **IN, OUT, AROUND and ABOUT – Editor’s picks**

*If you have a recipe or activity, a place to visit, a walk to share – send them to the editor at [editor@charltonvillage.org.uk](mailto:editor@charltonvillage.org.uk)*

### **IN – Recipe**

#### **Beetroot, Bacon and Crème Fraîche soup**

from “A Love for Food” by Daylesford Organics

An easy, colourful, and tasty soup, delicious served hot or chilled. It’s cooked in one pan, so use a large pan with a lid from the start. You’ll need to use a liquidiser, blender etc to make it smooth.

**Prep time:** peeling and chopping – 10 mins, cooking – 45 mins. **Serves** at least four people

<b>INGREDIENTS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 tablespoons vegetable oil</li> <li>• 150g smoked streaky bacon, chopped finely</li> <li>• 2 onions chopped finely</li> <li>• 500g raw beetroot, peeled and chopped</li> <li>• Juice of ½ lemon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 sprig of fresh thyme, leaves only</li> <li>• 1 litre good chicken stock</li> <li>• 100g crème fraiche (plus some for garnish)</li> <li>• Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper</li> <li>• Parsley or mint for garnish</li> </ul>

#### **METHOD**

- Heat the oil in a large pan and sauté the bacon until golden brown
- Reduce the heat, add the onion, put the lid on and cook for about ten minutes until the onion has softened
- Add the beetroot and continue to cook with the lid on over a medium to low heat for another ten minutes, stirring from time to time to prevent it sticking
- Add the lemon juice, the thyme leaves and the stock and bring it all to the boil. Then reduce and simmer with the lid on for around 25 minutes
- Add the crème fraîche and bring back to the boil and remove from the heat. Liquidise, and season as necessary before serving. I like to add a dollop of crème fraiche to each bowl and a sprinkle of chopped parsley or mint for decoration. Delicious with warm crusty bread...mmm

### **OUT - In the Garden – time to take cuttings**



Plants can be rather pricy to buy so I like to propagate my own from cuttings taken in my garden or given to me. It’s very satisfying to watch them develop roots and grow on. I use a small seed tray of damp horticultural sand (Builders sharp sand will do). A seed tray can accommodate about 40 cuttings so it’s very efficient on space. Keep the sand damp and you can use it throughout the Summer.

Use the sand tray for cuttings from lavenders, artemisias, salvias, anthemis, thymes, pelargoniums etc. Look for new growth that has just started to harden but is still pliable. Remove the lower leaves and any flowers or buds, trim the joint and plunge the bottom two thirds of the cutting into the damp sand. Remember to label them!

Covering the cuttings and tray with a polythene bag can speed up the process. Once the plants are established you can pot them up in gritty compost and protect them from frosts with fleece. They’ll be ready to plant out next Spring.

Cuttings start to develop roots more quickly in warmer weather. From mid-September it’s a bit chilly to start anything off unless you have a heated propagator.

## **AROUND and ABOUT – Fullerton and Wherwell Circular Walk**

During that lovely dry spell in April, I was enjoying longer walks and recently spent a most enjoyable half day walking around the Chilbolton and Wherwell area followed by lunch at a pub!! OK, we were outside, but it was still a thrill!

This walk takes in the Rivers Test and Anton as well as remnants of two Victorian railways that served the Test Valley and Andover, the West Down Nature Reserve and two conveniently located pubs! As a circular walk, there are several places to start where you can find convenient car parking. It's just over 7km and took us a couple of hours.

It's a moderate grade walk with one steep escarpment at Red Hill (which could be slippery when wet) and it's a good walk for dogs! The Mayfly Inn is conveniently close or the Abbots Mitre in Chilbolton; both serve recommended food. Use the OS Explorer map 131.

1. Start GR 438138: West Down Nature Reserve close to junction of A3057 and Coley Lane. Follow the Test Way through the lower slopes of the nature reserve towards Chilbolton. There are several information boards and the opportunity to explore the reserve.
2. GR 438139 Cross Coley Lane (a left and right) following the waymarked Test Way. The track takes you between gardens and the River Test. You pass the Test Valley Smokery, who will smoke your own fish for you.
3. GR 439139 The track emerges at the car park for Cow Common (information board). Turn left and follow the path across Cow Common. A notable long wooden footbridge crosses the River Test at Wherwell.
4. GR438140 Cross Fullerton Road (left and right after 50m) You leave the Test Way, turning left at the top of a short bank. Now follow the waymarked path to the left in a north westerly direction across the flanks of Red Hill and Wallis Bottom. The ascent is gentle, the descent steep.
5. GR 437140 Cross the busy A3057 Romsey Road. Follow the path opposite. At the edge of a wooded area, TURN LEFT towards a footbridge over the River Anton. The path follows a fence alongside the Anton, to reach the trackbed of the disused Andover to Redbridge Railway.
6. GR 436140 Turn left along the trackbed. The path swings away to the right, although it looks as though you could follow the trackbed through the Golden Pond Fishery. Turn left when you reach Fullerton Road towards Fullerton Mill and the A3057. As you cross the River Anton, you can see one of the old railway bridges on the left.
7. GR 437139 Turn LEFT BEFORE the main road and then right, through the brick arches, beneath the road. You are now at Fullerton Junction where the Longparish Branch Line met the Andover – Redbridge Line. The path is signed to the left and then to the right. You pass the old railway buildings, now residential properties. Remnants of the overgrown platforms are visible on the right. The branch line from Whitchurch opened in 1885, serving Hurstbourne, Longparish, Wherwell and Fullerton. It was Queen Victoria's railway of choice when travelling to Osborne House on the Isle of Wight as it passed through the beautiful Test Valley.
8. Following the track bed takes you back to the junction with the A3057 by the West Down Nature Reserve, where you might have left the car.



### List of Charlton Parish Councillors

Chair	Jacqueline Smith	07938 561609	<a href="mailto:cldrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk">cldrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Clive Ward	07538 596344	<a href="mailto:cldrward@charltonvillage.org.uk">cldrward@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
	Ian Smale	07421 354874	<a href="mailto:cldrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk">cldrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
	Phil Wylde	07775 852024	<a href="mailto:philwylde@ntlworld.com">philwylde@ntlworld.com</a>
	Caroline Mills	01264 749882	<a href="mailto:cldrcmills@charltonvillage.org.uk">cldrcmills@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
	Barry Hodgson	07578 130830	<a href="mailto:cldrbohgdson@charltonvillage.org.uk">cldrbohgdson@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
	Vacancy x 3		
Clerk	Heather Bournier	07880 706601	<a href="mailto:clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk">clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk</a>
Test Valley	Linda Lashbrook	07766 708 061	<a href="mailto:llashbrook@testvalley.gov.uk">llashbrook@testvalley.gov.uk</a>
Hampshire County	Christopher Donnelly	07738 289858	<a href="mailto:CllrC.Donnelly@hants.gov.uk">CllrC.Donnelly@hants.gov.uk</a>

### First Point of Contact

Emergency resilience planning	Cllr Ward
Speed watch	Cllrs Smale, Ward and Mills
Traffic	Cllr Smith
Communication	Cllrs Smith and Ward
Community Hall	Cllrs Ward, Wylde and Hodgson
Environment	Cllr Wylde and Ward
Footpaths & Rights of Way	Cllrs Wylde and Ward
Planning	Cllrs Wylde, Smale and Hodgson
Carters Meadow	Cllrs Smale and Mills
Neighbourhood Plan	Cllrs Ward and Hodgson
Book Exchange	Cllr Smale
Charlton Lakes	Cllr Ward
Climate Change	Cllrs Ward and Smith
Lengthsman	Clerk and Cllr Hodgson

### LOCAL INFORMATION

Contact Group leader for current arrangements

CLUB	LEADER	CONTACT	DAY	TIME
Friends of St Thomas'	Mrs P Yates	01264 355766	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	2.30 – 4pm
Playgroup (Gov Funding from 3 years)	Mrs S Hartley	07979 841318	Mon, Wed, Fri Tues, Thurs	09.00 – 12.30 09.00 – 3pm
Brownie Guides (7 -11 years)	Mrs K Ryder	01264 316907	Tuesdays	4 – 5.30pm
Friendship Club	Mrs S Macnamara	01264 364726	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday	7.30 – 9pm
Rainbow Guides (5-7 years)	Mrs E Taylor	01264 394322	Thursdays	
Keep Fit	Mrs E Taylor	01264 394322	Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30pm
Slimming World Andover Rugby Club	Kate Evans	07568 622189	Tuesdays	7 – 8.30pm
Charlton Line Dance	Mrs Barbara Long	01264 323630	Mondays	7.30 – 9pm
Young Church	Mrs S Brewer	01264 366394	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.30 – 11.30am
Circuits Class	Jodie Bascombe	jodieawilliams@ googlemail.com	Friday	6-6.45pm

### CHARLTON WI

Charlton WI remained active, and members engaged throughout the last year using newsletters, online and some outdoor meetings with speakers and quizzes. However, our membership has diminished with the continued uncertainty about when groups will be able to meet face to face. Consequently, it wasn't possible to form a committee at our Annual Meeting in May with the result that, sadly, Charlton WI is now suspended.

This is disappointing for a lot of ladies, some of whom have been members from the early days, but there was no other option. The suspension lasts for up to three years after which any money held goes to National WI. Anyone can restart the WI within that time, they would get the balance of funds plus full support from ex-members and the WI. If you would like more information, please contact our outgoing President, Carol Fielding, by email: [carolfielding@hotmail.com](mailto:carolfielding@hotmail.com)



## #SHOP LOCAL!!

### Charlton Village Convenience Store

We are very fortunate to have our own village store, well stocked with lots of useful items and always a warm and friendly welcome.

As the saying goes... 'Use it or Lose it!' See you there!

### Oaktrack Smallholding, Charlton Down, Andover Hants. SP11 0JA

OAKTRACK SPRINGS INTO ACTION !

The arrival of Spring means only one thing here at Oaktrack – lambing! This year we welcomed over forty lambs including twenty sets of twins to the smallholding. The ewes are brought back to the farm a couple of weeks prior to lambing so that we can keep a close eye on them over the days and weeks ahead. The cold weather this year brought its challenges and a few extra mouths to feed but all have now returned to grazing in and around our local parish.

The horticultural side of the smallholding also springs into life at this time of year too! We have been busy weeding, planting, sowing, and filling up the polytunnel and greenhouses with lots of vegetable and cut flower seedlings for the months ahead and as we write there is an array of gorgeous shrubs and cottage garden plants including the striking purple heads of alliums and camassias coming into flower.

As the country opens and we return to some semblance of normality, it has been great to get out and about again, attending local markets in the area including Andover, Hurstbourne Tarrant and Woolton Hill. We are so fortunate to have lots of fantastic food and drink producers in the area and the markets are an ideal opportunity for the local community to come together and see lots of different suppliers in one place. Oaktrack has really enjoyed getting involved, it's been a great atmosphere and the markets have been well supported.

We are very excited to be hosting our own event on the smallholding later this month, as part of the national 'Open Farm Sunday' celebrations organised by LEAF, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June. We will be opening our gates to visitors, for the first time in over a year, to come and explore the smallholding and learn about our livestock and lives as smallholders. We hope you will join us!

For further information about this and other events we will be attending or to find out more about Oaktrack please visit our website at [www.oaktrack.co.uk](http://www.oaktrack.co.uk) or social media channels.



### Enham Stores and Post Office

Winners of a Test Valley Unsung Heroes Award 2021!

Congratulations to Leslie and Tim Barry, the Enham Alamein sub-postmasters, who jointly received the award for providing a fantastic and caring service to the local community. The shop and Post Office are open seven days a week and there's easy parking.



### Busy Bees!

It's vital to encourage bees, in gardens and in the countryside. Our local bee farmers, Becky's Bees, are looking to rent land of 1 to 2 acres with vehicle access all year round. Ideally the site would be away from footpaths and out of sight from main roads and public. Do you know anyone nearby who'd like to host some honeybees?



Contact Becky Chadd on 07973 423628. Their website is very interesting: [www.beckysbeesonlineshop.co.uk](http://www.beckysbeesonlineshop.co.uk)

## Jodie's Fitness page Fitness and pregnancy

Writing this after a sunny walk around Charlton Lakes, it made me smile seeing so many families out walking, cycling, and playing in the park – hopefully the start of summer!

With Baby Bascombe due any day now, I thought I would focus this article on fitness and pregnancy. Firstly, every pregnancy is different. It's important that you check with your midwife or GP that it is safe for you and your baby for you to exercise during pregnancy.

A good place to start is with these guidelines from the Chief Medical Officer

My top tips are:

- The recommended 150 minutes of activity are for the week, and it doesn't matter how they are split. The activity itself doesn't matter either. It's all about being physically active,
- If you don't exercise currently and you are pregnant then, 'start gradually.' It's useful to seek advice from a professional who is pre- & post-natal trained. There are lots of very good people around Andover who are qualified to advise, and they will be able to help you.
- Finally, I really recommend joining a pregnancy yoga or Pilates classes to help with posture. Your body shape changes so much during pregnancy, and I've found that attending pregnancy Pilates classes really helped me. Classes are available online or in person.

Contact Jodie on 07780 700905 / [jodiebascombefitness@gmail.com](mailto:jodiebascombefitness@gmail.com)

**Physical activity for pregnant women**

Through pregnancy aim for at least **150 minutes** of moderate intensity activity every week

UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines, 2019

**Top Services**  
No Queues & Free Parking  
**Local Produce:**  
Pies, Quiches, Pate & Cakes  
Bacon, Free Range Eggs & Honey  
Newspapers & Magazines  
**Fresh Baked Goods:**  
Bread, Pastries, Sandwiches, Rolls & Savouries  
Dry Cleaning, Laundry, Repairs & Alterations

**Post Office Services**  
Travel Insurance  
Travel Currency & Money Cards  
All Services **7 Days A Week**  
Gas, Electric & Mobile Top Up  
Mail & Photocopy Services

**Opening Times**  
Monday-Friday 7:00am to 7:00pm  
Saturday 7:30am - 6:00pm | Sunday 8:00am - 6:00pm  
*We Provide More Than Just Customer Service!*

01264 335 678

# J KING TREE CARE

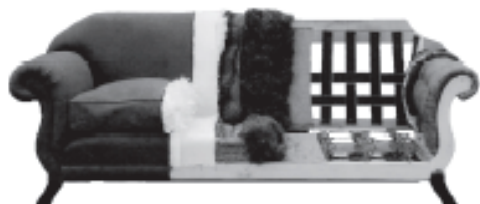
Tree Surgery  
Hedge Cutting  
Stump Grinding  
Fencing  
Chainsaw Milling

doover based, covering the surrounding villages  
of Hampshire and Wiltshire

T – 07921 566848  
E – [jking.treecare@gmail.com](mailto:jking.treecare@gmail.com)



**Chilbolton Chair Company**  
 Carpers & Upholsterers of fine quality furniture  
 (suppliers to The Pig Hotels)



Unit 12B, Stonefield Park, Chilbolton  
 Stockbridge, Hants, SO20 6BL  
 Tel: 01264 861117  
[www.chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk](http://www.chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk)

**We offer a wide range of services:**  
 Bespoke hand made furniture  
 Complete re-upholstery of antique or  
 modern furniture  
 Supply of a wide range of fabrics  
 Curtains, blinds, soft furnishings  
 Stock items available for sale

Please call, email or visit us at our workshop  
 Email: [info@chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk](mailto:info@chilboltonchaircompany.co.uk)  
 Mobile: 07582 850810  
 Mobile: 07961 800601

*Design & Artwork*  
*Leaflets*  
*Brochures*  
*Banners*  
*Books*  
*Signs*  
*Posters*  
*Stickers*  
*Stationery*

**We're  
 passionate  
 about Print.**

**Bulpitt Print Ltd**  
 Email: [sales@bulpittprint.co.uk](mailto:sales@bulpittprint.co.uk)

[www.bulpittprint.co.uk](http://www.bulpittprint.co.uk)

T P · HUNTING GATE · EAST PORTWAY · ANDOVER · SP10 3SJ



**LOVE THE EXPERIENCE  
 'EAR TO HELP**

**A REAL WORLD HEARING ASSESSMENT  
 WALK AWAY WITH HEARING AIDS THE SAME DAY.**

**TEST THEM IN YOUR OWN ENVIRONMENT BEFORE YOU PAY.  
 RISK FREE ~ NO WAITING ~ EASY PARKING**



**Safe & Effective  
 Earwax Removal Service**



**CALL - CALL OR EMAIL TODAY** Aubrey Smith HND RHAD MSHAA

**0786 485 1950 or 01264 332207**

[aubrey@smithshearingcare.co.uk](mailto:aubrey@smithshearingcare.co.uk)

[www.smithshearingcare.co.uk](http://www.smithshearingcare.co.uk)



Extending a welcome to the Charlton Village Community.



Charlton Park Crematorium. An oasis of calm in a hectic world.

*Summer has arrived at Charlton Park Crematorium and its lush greenery is nothing short of breathtaking. It's a place to rest, reflect and find inner calm. And a venue for many local family farewells, remembrance and memorial services.*

*You're most welcome to visit the crematorium's extensive, mature parkland and enjoy its peace in the sunshine. The grounds are open from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 10-4 at weekends, all year round.*

  
Charlton Park  
Crematorium

**TEST VALLEY**   
**GARDEN MACHINERY LTD**

**INTRODUCTORY OFFER:  
FREE COLLECTION & RETURNS**

LOCAL RESTRICTIONS AND TERMS APPLY

*— Never knowingly undercut —*

**Tel: 0800 107 3263**

**FOR ALL YOUR  
REPAIRS • SALES • SERVICE**

**[www.tvgm.uk](http://www.tvgm.uk)**

Treat yourself or a loved one with an Afternoon Tea delivered to your door

Afternoon tea for one or two people

Box will contain (per person):

One round of sandwiches with a choice of four fillings (white or brown bread)

2 scones (1 fruit, 1 plain) with jam and clotted cream

2 pieces of cake

£14 for one person  
£24 for two people

Contents subject to change. Delivery to Andover area during lockdown

ORDER NOW from Heavenly Cakes  
07921 503847  
teenrichardson@yahoo.co.uk

PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL & CONVENIENT



ASHLEY'S  
MOBILE TYRES

TYRES & PUNCTURE REPAIRS FOR  
CARS, VANS, 4X4'S,  
MOBILITY SCOOTERS,  
LAWNMOWERS

ANDOVER BASED, FAMILY BUSINESS •  
• 40+ YEARS EXPERIENCE •  
• RELIABLE SERVICE •

**CONTACT ME  
FOR ANY QUERIES**

ashley.tyres@yahoo.com  
**0333 772 9296**



WHITCHURCH  
SILK MILL  
HERITAGE OF WEAVING

**Early Bird Coffee and Cake Offer:  
£4.50**

**Tuesday to Friday  
10.30 to 11.30am**



**Enjoy a  
moment at  
the Riverside  
Café**

[www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk](http://www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk)