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Charlton Village News



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Quarterly Edition | March 2024

Top News!!



Spring has arrived... painting our village with vibrant hues, fragrant blooms, and the promise of new beginnings. As the days grow longer and the temperature slowly rises, we are delighted to present the **Spring Edition of the Charlton Village Newsletter for 2024.**

In this edition, you will discover a plethora of exciting events to look forward to, community initiatives, inspiring stories, tips for the garden, a delicious cake recipe and much more. Our newsletter is bursting with the energy and enthusiasm that spring brings.

So grab a cup of freshly brewed tea, find a sunny spot to indulge in the pages of our Spring Edition.

The Charlton Village Newsletter Team



Exciting Kick-off...

at first Charlton Village Community Association (CVCA) Meeting of 2024 for Association members.

It's with great enthusiasm that we announce our village community planning meetings of 2024 are under way. The first one took place on 23 January, followed by the second on 27 February, at our Charlton Village church, St Thomas.

These gatherings mark the beginning of an exciting journey as we kickstart the planning process for a year filled with memorable events and activities. Our aim is to create opportunities for everyone within our community to get involved, share ideas, and contribute to the vibrant spirit of Charlton Village.

As the plans progress... excitement grows for events that are coming up for the village. For example, our Community Day and Charlton's D Day Commemoration. You can find out more over the next few pages.

Villagers! Are you looking to make a positive impact in our community and get more involved in local activities? Join our vibrant Community Association today! We welcome individuals of all ages, from the youngest members to the most seasoned residents. Your unique perspectives and contributions are invaluable. **Reach out to Clive Ward via email, cliveward.cvca@gmail.com or Jacqueline Smith jsmith.cvca@gmail.com.**

Let's come together, embrace the spirit of community, and make 2024, a year to remember!

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Find out how **you can share your stories** for the next edition!
Due 1st June.

For your latest local news | Visit: www.charltonvillage.org.uk | Follow:  Charlton Community Chat

Parish Council Updates



Charlton Village's Battle with Flooding

Clearing Drains and Gullies Emerges as Key Issue.

As heavy rainfall continues to pose a threat to the village, it has become evident that a crucial challenge lies in maintaining clear drains and gullies throughout the area. When these drainage systems become clogged with debris, leaves, or other materials, they are unable to effectively channel water away from roads and properties, leading to localised flooding and potential damage.



Hampshire County Council (HCC) has acknowledged the **need to clear the drains and gullies on Hatherden Road**. However, this is not seen as a high priority. All we can do is to make sure we are reporting the problems as quickly as possible. **Scan the QR code to find out more and how to make a report.**

Charlton's Village Hall

Community Backs Village Hall in Recent Survey Responses.

"Thank you..." to each and every one of you who took the time to participate in our recent survey about our village hall plans. Your valuable feedback, views and insights, are instrumental in helping us in creating a space that truly serves our community's needs.

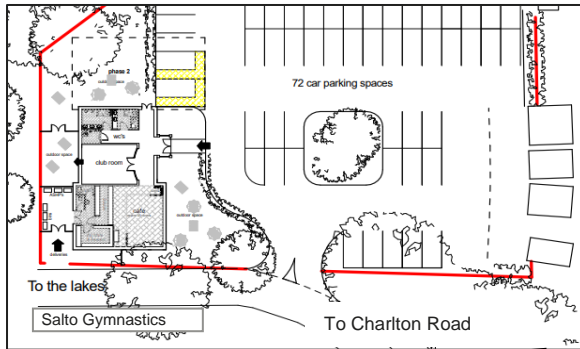


We received **104 responses**. It is not a huge number, considering the size of the village, however, using this information the Parish Council concluded that it would be unsafe or unwise to continue with the Village Hall project, in its current form.

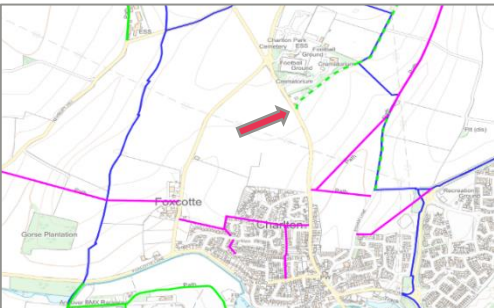
What now? We're looking into...

A Community Hub located on the Salto Car Park... (see images) consisting of a Café, book exchange and Information Hub. It would be suitable for small group activities which you suggested, such as photography, and chess, and would have toilet facilities.

The building will be designed so that it could be extended (Phase 2) should the village decide to do so in the future, and the Village Hall Committee will produce a conceptual design and engage with Salto and TVBC planning.



Watch this space!!



Charlton's Footpaths...

It's Important to Maintain Village Footpaths for Accessibility.

The footpaths, shown in purple on the image, are the responsibility of HCC. Due to limited resource, Charlton employs a 'Lengthsman' (Handyman) who, as part of his job, helps to keep these paths in good order and accessible to everyone.

Any overgrowth on these paths and in all the alleyways, is the responsibility of the respective homeowner. To help the village, please check the overgrowth in alleyways and clear where possible. This is so that everyone, the disabled, families with buggies and the elderly will find it easier to use the path.

Improvements being made: The path leading up passed the Old Nursery, marked with a red arrow on the image and shown as a green dashed line, is a Restricted Byway. It should be navigable by horse and carriage... but it has lapsed into a narrow footpath. The Parish Council is working with the Countryside Ranger from HCC to try and widen it back out, so that it is easily walked.

LOCAL INFO



A list of useful telephone numbers

Playgroup - Gov Funding from 3yrs

Mon, Wed, Fri | 9am - 12:20pm
 Tues, Thurs | 9am - 3pm
Contact: Mrs S Hartley
Telephone: 07979 841318

Brownie Guides (7 - 11yrs)

Tuesdays | 4pm - 5:30pm
Contact: Mrs K Ryder
Telephone: 01264 316907

Rainbow Guides (5 - 7yrs)

Thursdays | 4pm - 5:30pm
Contact: Mrs E Taylor
Telephone: 01264 394322

Keep Fit (all levels)

Thursdays | 7:30pm - 8:30pm
Contact: Mrs E Taylor
Telephone: 01264 394322

Slimming World (Andover Rugby Club)

Tuesdays | 7pm - 8:30pm
Contact: Kate Evans
Telephone: 07568 622189

Charlton Waterside



Despite the vandalism and thoughtless behaviour of some... Charlton Waterside is looking good and should be an ideal spot to picnic, sit and relax, especially come the better weather.

Help us to keep the area safe and tidy - Please report any issues found.

2

MAJOR EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2024...

Anticipation Builds for Two Major Community Events in 2024.

As we look ahead, excitement is buzzing in the air for two major community events set to captivate and inspire both residents and visitors alike. With a sense of anticipation building amongst our Charlton Village Community Association and attendees, these upcoming gatherings are expected to bring together individuals from all walks of life for moments of celebration, connection, and shared experiences.

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!



The first event on the horizon is the D Day 80 Commemoration - 6 June

Plans Are Beginning To Shape Up.

The UK will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings of 1944, with a series of major commemorations and events across the UK and in France. It was the most remarkable achievement, but cost many lives, so it only feels right that we join in. It will be particularly poignant if the service veterans of Charlton, can stand up and be counted. There are many more than you think!

So... what's the plan? Timings have been confirmed as 6:30pm to 10pm. The first part of the evening will be about music, food and drink, leading to an act of commemoration. And not forgetting, the Beacon is going to be lit at about 9:15pm!

TICKETS
AVAILABLE
SOON

NB: Any profit made will be split between the Charlton Village Community Association and SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity who will be sponsoring the event. <https://www.ssafa.org.uk/>



The second major event lined up for 2024, is our Charlton Village Community Day – 6 July

Bigger and Better Than Ever.

A day for the Community to get involved and have some fun. Showcasing the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our diverse community, the Community Day at Charlton Lakes, will feature a wide range of performances, exhibitions, and interactive experiences. It is a celebration of unity, as people from all backgrounds come together. Keep an eye out for more information which will be shared via our Charlton Village Chat, Facebook group.

The Charlton Village Community Association is leading the organisation, but they need more volunteers. **If you can help, please make yourself known to jsmith.cvca@gmail.com or cliveward.cvca@gmail.com. Telephone: 07538596344**



Stay connected...

and up to date with all upcoming events in our community, by joining our Facebook community – **Charlton Village Chat**. This is where we share exciting news, updates, and details about local events, so be sure to hop on board!

We also encourage you to let us know about any events or initiatives you have planned. Your contributions will help us effectively advertise and promote these events to ensure maximum participation and community engagement.

Let's continue to make our village a lively and thriving place to be. Looking forward to your active involvement!



Calling All Villagers: Help Us Uncover the History of '8 Charlton School'

Do you fancy yourself a local historian or a lover of mysteries? Are you passionate about delving into the past and uncovering hidden stories? If so, we have an intriguing enigma for you to solve!

The village newsletter has been contacted by a former Charlton resident, appealing for information regarding a document titled '8 Charlton School'. The information they are asking about will assist with writing a 'History of St Thomas Church', which they are hoping to have published soon.

From Ray Sore:

"There has recently come into my possession a multi-page document headed '8 Charlton School'. The document includes photos of the classes of 1939 and 1962 with many names.

For copyright and other reasons, I would like to know the author of the document and location of the photos. The figure 8 being part of the heading and pages being numbered 35 – 45, indicates that it was part of a very much larger document. Which could be of further interest. Thank you".



Charlton School Infants 1962

So far I have not been able to name the children in Mrs. Lawrence's class. Help would be appreciated.



Can you help? If so, please get in touch with Ray direct.

Email: ray@sore.org.uk or call (01264) 359576.



Litter – life after Baz Marshall

Baz has left big shoes to fill

If you want to help with litter picking in Charlton, it's easy.

Simply use the above QR code to register and get the equipment you need.

If we have a few individuals or families picking litter, we can keep Charlton tidy.

Fancy coming along to our Parish Council Meetings...?

They take place in Charlton Church Hall at 7.45pm, every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

*Except August and December.

Everyone is welcome. Agendas will be posted to the website and notice board, but can also be obtained by contacting The Parish Clerk, E Attwood 07534 336756, or by e-mail clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk

LIST OF CHARLTON PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Chair	Jacqueline Smith	07938 561609	cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk
Vice Chair	Clive Ward	07538 596344	cllrward@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Ian Smale	07421 354874	cllrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Phil Wylde	07775 852024	cllrpwylde@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Daniel Rawlingson		cllrdrawlingson@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Norman Woods		cllrnwoods@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Keith Wilson		cllrkwilson@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Vacancy x 2		
Clerk	Eveline Attwood	07534336756	clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk
Test Valley	Linda Lashbrook	07766 708 061	cllrllashbrook@testvalley.gov.uk
Hampshire County	Christopher Donnelly	07738 289858	Chris.Donnelly@hants.gov.uk

FIRST POINT OF CONTACT:

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

St Thomas, Charlton



Revd Alex Randle-Bissell, Priest-In-Charge, 01264 512161 revalex@pastrowfamily.org.uk

Judith Appleby, Benefice Administrator, 07999 352585 admin@pastrowfamily.org.uk

Facebook: Family Matters In Our villages@pastrow

Website: www.Pastrowfamily.Org.Uk, or simply scan the QR code with your smartphone.



SERVICES & EVENTS - ST THOMAS

All Services and events at St Thomas, unless stated otherwise. Please check our website for the very latest information and timings www.pastrowfamily.org.uk



Dear friends,

Does prayer really matter?

For a start, it's an ancient question to a very ancient practice, and humanity has been searching for a credible answer for centuries. Perhaps better and more answerable questions are, does prayer actually work? What is it, and what does it mean for us? For some, it seems like an old and rather odd

ritual and raises up an image of kneeling down for long hours with hands clasped together in a meaningless pursuit... for something never answered.

For others, prayer is as natural as breathing and connects them with something divine, with others, and the creation within which we all exist. I have known people to actually fear praying, especially out loud within a group of people. As if there is some sort of formula or ornate language to be adhered to, and recognised and brings about profound embarrassment, if there's a remote chance that you would get anything wrong. I have also known that one of the most powerful prayers we can ever say is simply 'God, help me,' words that have been uttered for centuries by believers and non-believers, often at times of great anxiety. Of course, whatever we assume or conclude about prayer, the reality is that it remains a mystery. However, whilst we can't quantify what it really means... what we can often do is attempt to qualify what it means to us. Many scientific studies and research have concluded that those people who do engage with prayer, often have better outcomes regarding their responses to illness, stress or dealing with everyday life. Perhaps one reason is that prayer is often linked with stillness, mediation and a detachment from the world, even for a short time.

It may come as no surprise that prayer was a natural part of life for Jesus. As he taught disciples to pray, he encouraged them to connect through praise and supplication both individually and as part of a loving community focused on mercy, compassion and peace. The result of this can be read in the book of Acts in the Bible, which I thoroughly recommend, which testifies to incredible things that happened to a small group of people, which resulted in world-changing events and resulted in the universal church we know of today. As a Pastrow parish, we are engaging with a year of looking at how important prayer is in our 'Prayer matters 24' initiative, based on the book of Acts, so please do look out for some of the many events happening throughout 2024 on our website and in our churches.

I pray that you have a very blessed Easter!

Blessings for the month ahead.

Alex

Join us for breakfast, prayers or light refreshments and a chat, **all welcome!**

MARCH

- 2nd** | 9am - Prayer Hour (Hatherden)
- 3rd** | 10am - Pastrow Family Gathering (Hatherden) & 4pm - Said Holy Communion (Smannell)
- 8th** | 1pm to 3pm - Cosy Café
- 10th** | 10am - Holy Communion & 3:30pm - Messy Church
- 17th** | 10am - Family Service
- 22nd** | 1pm to 3pm - Cosy Café
- 24th** | 10am - Holy Communion, 3:30pm – Play and Praise & 6:30pm – Encounters with Jesus
- 25th** | Aspects of Prayer Retreat – The Old Dairy Hatherden. (Book at admin@pastrowfamily.org.uk)
- 26th** | 6pm – Reflective Service (Tangley)
- 27th** | 7:30pm – Dramatic Reading (Hatherden)
- 28th** | 6pm – Passover Meal (Book at admin@pastrowfamily.org.uk)
- 29th** | 2pm – Walk of Witness (TBC)
- 30th** | 7:30pm – First Communion of Easter (Smannell)
- 31st** | 10am – Family Service with Communion



APRIL

- 6th** | 9am – Prayer Hour (Hatherden)
- 7th** | 10am - Pastrow Family Gathering (Hatherden) & 4pm - Said Holy Communion (Hurstbourne Tarrant)
- 12th** | 2pm to 4pm - Cosy Café
- 14th** | 10am - Holy Communion
- 21st** | 10am - Family Service
- 26th** | 2pm to 4pm - Cosy Café
- 28th** | 10am - Holy Communion, 3:30pm - Play and Praise, & 6:30pm - Encounters with Jesus

MAY

- 4th** | 9am – Prayer Hour (Hatherden)
- 5th** | 10am - Pastrow Family Gathering (Hatherden) & 4pm - Said Holy Communion
- 10th** | 2pm to 4pm - Cosy Café
- 12th** | 10am - Holy Communion & 3:30pm – Messy Church
- 19th** | 10am - Family Service
- 24th** | 2pm to 4pm - Cosy Café
- 26th** | 10am - Holy Communion, 3.30pm - Play and Praise & 6.30pm - Encounters with Jesus



Charlton Wanderers Football Club



The Charlton Wanderers Football Club (CWFC) is a Sunday league men's team competing in the Andover and District Division 3. The club is run by **George Porter**, Club Chairman, and **Michael Ashmore**, Club Secretary, and has made remarkable strides since its establishment.

Beginning in 2021, players from Andover's Man vs Fat weekly weight loss sessions, held at Charlton Astro at Sports Academy, formed a team to partake in the local Andover Sunday league.

The club's journey has been one of continuous growth and development, expanding the squad quality by recruiting players from outside the program. This led to a significant rebrand in the summer of 2023 transforming the club into what is now Charlton Wanderers FC, positioning themselves as the football club of Charlton.

At present, CWFC finds themselves in an impressive 2nd position within the Andover and District Division 3, with promotion to Division 2 looming on the horizon. This extends beyond the league, finishing as semi-finalists in the North Hampshire John Ward Cup, emerging as the last Andover team standing in the competition. The pursuit of silverware continues, as they face Wherwell Royals FC in a momentous Semi-final clash of the local Anniversary Cup on the 3rd of March.

For the latest updates, fixtures, results, and additional information about our club, as well as to connect with us through our social media channels, we invite you to visit our website at <https://charltonwanderersfc.com>.

A Shared Recipe...

A village resident kindly shares their recipe for a traditional, Simnel Cake.

Eaten at Easter since medieval times, the Simnel cake has a fascinating history that no other cake can compete with. Its originates in the UK and its name is derived from the Latin word 'simila', a fine white wheaten flour which is used in the recipe.



Method:

Preheat oven Gas 2 (300f / 150c)

- 8 inch cake tin, greased & lined.
- Cream butter, add sugar & beat until light & fluffy.
- Beat eggs together & add a little at a time. Beating well after each addition.
- Then, gently fold in fruits & grated orange & lemon peel with a metal spoon.
- Sift flour & spice, then carefully fold into the mixture alternately with milk.
- Spoon half the mixture into tin, add half the marzipan rolled out to correct size. Then spoon the rest of the mixture on top – level it & bake in oven, 2 ½ to 3 hours. Until centre is firm & springy.
- When cool, brush with jam & roll out another round of marzipan. Make 12 balls & fix to top.
- Brush with beaten egg & place under grill until golden.

Ingredients

- ❖ 6 oz Butter (175g)
- ❖ 6 oz Caster Sugar
- ❖ 3 Eggs (Beaten)
- ❖ 6 oz Currants
- ❖ 8 oz Sultanas
- ❖ 2 oz Glaze Cherries (washed, dried & quartered)
- ❖ Grated rind of 1 orange & 1 Lemon
- ❖ 2 oz Candied Peel
- ❖ 8 oz Plain Flour
- ❖ 1 tsp Baking Powder (level)
- ❖ 1 tsp Mixed Spice (level)
- ❖ 3 tpls Milk
- ❖ 500 Pack Marzipan

If you have a recipe to share - Contact:

editor@charltonvillage.org.uk



March...



March is a month of transition, marking the shift from winter to spring in the Northern Hemisphere. As the days grow longer and the temperatures begin to rise, March brings a sense of anticipation and renewal. It's a time when nature awakens from its winter slumber, with blossoming flowers and budding trees. Many cultures also celebrate significant holidays and festivals during this month, making it a time of both reflection and joyful anticipation.

🌸 🌸 Celebrating the Irreplaceable Love of Mothers 🌸 🌸

As March blooms in all its glory, we find ourselves in the midst of an unforgettable celebration - Mother's Day - Sunday, 10 March, 2024.

This special occasion serves as a heartfelt reminder of the unwavering love, compassion, and strength that mothers selflessly shower upon us every day. It is a time to honour, cherish, and express our deepest gratitude to the incredible women who have shaped our lives in countless ways.

Mothers hold a unique place in our hearts, offering a nurturing presence that guides us through life's triumphs and challenges. Their love knows no bounds, their sacrifices often unspoken, and their wisdom is a beacon of light in our darkest hours. From the gentle lullabies that filled our childhood dreams to the empowering words that echo in our minds, a mother's influence leaves an indelible mark on our very being.



On this special day, let us take a moment to reflect on the immeasurable impact of these remarkable women in our lives and acknowledge the extraordinary role that mothers play in shaping families, communities, and society at large. Whether biological, adoptive, foster, or chosen, the essence of motherhood transcends labels and extends to anyone who embodies the spirit of care, empathy, and support.

To all the mothers out there, your love is a gift beyond measure, and your presence is a beacon of hope. May this day be a tribute to the countless ways you enrich our lives with your warmth, grace, and unconditional love.

"Happy Mother's Day to each and every one of you!"



"What March flowers grow on faces? A: Tulips (2 lips)"

The Charlton Village Community Association's Community Quiz



Saturday, 16 March in St Thomas' Church.

There will be a pizza van located in the car park serving from 6:30pm, with the quiz starting at 7:30pm. Come along with your team (10 teams of 6 would be great!). The entry fee is £5 per team, payable on the night.

It's the day before St Patrick's day, so feel free to dress up if you wish.



Good Friday - 29 Mar, Easter Saturday - 30 Mar and Easter Sunday - 31 Mar.

Easter is one of the oldest Christian traditions and commemorates the last week of Jesus' life, his death, and his resurrection. For Christians, Easter symbolises the dawn of a new life and the high point of the Christian calendar.

Eggs are a symbol of new life created during the spring and perhaps one of the largest traditions, during a UK Easter, is the giving of Easter eggs. Chocolate eggs... yummy!! However, early Easter gifts were originally birds' eggs, painted in bright colours and patterns. Some still celebrate Easter with egg painting as a children's activity. One of the most exciting parts of Easter is getting creative and decorating eggs to your heart's content.

'Eggcellent' Ways to Decorate Easter Eggs



Marbled Easter Eggs - For a pretty twist on traditional dye methods, try marbling your Easter eggs! A bit of nail polish in bright spring colours, a container of water, and a toothpick will do the trick.

DIY Photo Easter Eggs - Honor your family and loved ones, even friends with their images 'Mod Podge*' onto hard-boiled eggs. This clever technique of printing photos, then trimmed and pasted to each egg could be really fun! No special tools or papers required!

* Mod Podge has been loved by crafters of all ages, you can get this online or at The Range.

April...



April in the UK holds promise for various events and developments. It is anticipated to be a month considered by forward-looking endeavors, innovation, and societal progress. With a continued focus on environmental initiatives, the nation is likely to witness an increased emphasis on sustainability and green technologies. Efforts to address climate change and promote renewable energy sources are expected to feature prominently on the national agenda. Furthermore, technological advancements and discussions around artificial intelligence and automation may gain traction, shaping the future of work and industry in the UK.

Ramadan 2024

A sacred month in the Islamic Calendar, holds immense signification for Muslims across the globe.



Many cultures celebrate significant holidays and festivals during the months of March and April, making it a time of both reflection and joyful anticipation. A billion Muslims around the world celebrate Ramadan. A blessed month of the most important dates in the Islamic calendar. It's a time dedicated to fasting, prayer, worship, reciting the Qur'an, self-reflection, abstaining from sinful acts, and connecting with Allah (SWT). This auspicious month is full of great spiritual rewards for all Muslims and is also a time when many choose to give zakat charity to those in need.

So, when does Ramadan start in 2024? This year, the Ramadan start date in the UK is expected to be **Sunday, 10 March**, and fasting will conclude on the evening of **Tuesday, 9 April**. These dates are subject to the official moon sighting.

How do you wish someone a Happy Ramadan? You can exchange Ramadan greetings by saying "Ramadan Kareem", which in Arabic translates into "Have a generous Ramadan," or "Ramadan Mubarak," which roughly translates into "Happy Ramadan."

On the last day of Ramadan, which is Eid-al-fitr, the greeting changes to "Eid Mubarak."

SPRING CLEAN YOUR HOUSEPLANTS

Now is a good time to give houseplants some TLC before they start growing again.

Cover a worktop or table with a plastic sheet and gather your plant together. Here's a few TLC tips:

- ✓ **Repot if required** – roots poking out of the pot means the plant needs repotting into a slightly bigger one.
- ✓ **Tidy with secateurs** – snip away yellowing or brown foliage and any dry flower stems.
- ✓ **Clean the leaves** – Wipe shiny leaves with a damp cloth to remove dust.
- ✓ **Resume watering** and start feeding.

Did you know that... April 2 is Light It Up Blue for Autism Day and the whole month is Autism Awareness Month

Andover Chamber Choir
Fauré: Requiem
plus
"A Patchwork Mass"
featuring music by Byrd, Bruckner and Palestrina

7:30 p.m. Saturday 13th April 2024
St Mary's Church, Andover

Tickets £12 (incl. refreshments) on the door or £10 in advance from The Lights, Newbury Building Society, Andover, or from choir members. Under 16s free.

In aid of 'Finding Freedom from Abuse' (formerly known as Andover Crisis & Support Centre)
www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk

ANDOVER CHAMBER CHOIR

ANDOVER CHAMBER CHOIR

The Andover Chamber Choir will return to St. Mary's Church, Andover on 13 April at 7.30 pm for its first concert of 2024.

Musical Director **Andrew Wyndham** said "We will be singing Faure's beautiful and ever popular Requiem. Completed in 1890, Faure's setting has been a favourite with choirs and audiences ever since."

The first half of the concert is a '**Patchwork Mass**' which will be made up of contrasting settings from different composers including Byrd, Palestrina, and Bruckner.

Proceeds from this event will be going to the Andover charity 'Finding Freedom from Abuse', a charity committed to supporting women, men, children and young people who have been affected by domestic and sexual violence and abuse.



Tickets at £10 (in advance), or £12 at the door.

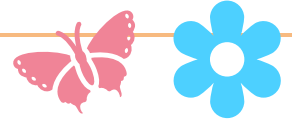
Interval refreshments included and available from The Lights (online and in person), Newbury Building Society and choir members. Under 16 free.

May...



May is a delightful time when flowers bloom, trees are in full leaf, and the days are longer and warmer. The landscape is painted with the colors of blossoming gardens, lush green fields, and blue skies dotted with fluffy white clouds. May also heralds the arrival of festivities and events such as May Day celebrations, the Chelsea Flower Show, and various outdoor festivals. It is a time when people often come together to enjoy the beauty of nature and the promise of summer ahead.

Here's some delightful activities and events to enjoy in Hampshire, during May 2024:



Exbury Gardens: In late spring, explore the world-famous azaleas and rhododendrons.



Boom & Bloom: Feel the flower power at the Winchester Science Centre.

Bluebell Carpets: Admire vibrant bluebells in Micheldever Woods.



BBC Gardeners' World Spring Fair: Go green-fingered at this event held at Beaulieu.

Local Produce: Sample the new season's local produce at a Hampshire Farmers' Market.

Beach Paddle: Dip your toes in the water for a paddle at one of Hampshire's beaches.

Bird Spotting: Have your own Springwatch with bird spotting and wildlife watching at the Titchfield Haven National Nature Reserve.

National Trust Gardens: Visit The Wyne, Mottisfont, Hinton Ampner, or Uppark to see spring colours.

Spring Break: Book a spring break and stay in splendid self-catering accommodation.



Why are oak trees so forgiving? Every May they "turn over a new leaf"



MAY: IN THE GARDEN

What to do this month...



Keep weeds in check

May is the month when weeds start to grow very quickly, but also the month they can be stopped in their tracks... with a few simple tasks:

- **Firstly, consider** leaving a small 'wild' area of garden. It will help attract beneficial insects and you won't have to worry about weeds.
- **If you don't** have time to remove all weeds, cutting off flowers will help stop the spread. Then prioritise removing weeds growing directly around your plants.
- **Use a hoe to cut** off weeds growing between other plants if you can't dig deep enough to uproot them. Do it every few days until the plants have closed the gaps.

Stake perennials

An informal, *higgledy-piggledy* garden can look great in summer, but some plants need a bit of support to truly look their best. It's best to get stakes in place when plants are very short but there's still time to help perennials that emerge late. A network of bamboo canes with string wound tightly around them (but not the plants) can do the trick.



Collect brushed fur of your pets into a bag and put it into a bird feeder. The birds will take away this fur for their nests and chicks! Turning dog shedding into bird nests



Don't forget...

Keep Mowing Lawns but put the blades on a high setting to prevent grass from being stressed, and to reduce the amount of clippings you have to deal with all in one go.

Check for nesting birds before you clip into any large shrubs or topiary features. Ideally leave any clippings until summer if possible.

Pick off and bin any leaves on roses that are showing signs of blackspot. This will help to stop it spreading.

Medicine 'Mishap'

When it comes to our children's health, checking their medicines and carefully reading the provided information is of utmost importance. Amy Howard, a village supporter, recently went through a dreadful turn of events when noticing a mistake with labelling on her son's medicine, and wanted to share her story.

"Following a telephone consultation with our Doctor, my son, aged 6 years, was prescribed antibiotics for tonsillitis. When I went along to collect the medicine, the Pharmacist advised me to give my son, two tablets twice a day, as per the label. So once back home, I gave my son his first two tablets, and then later-on that evening, another two as instructed.

The following morning, after giving my son yet another two tablets, I noticed that I was only supplied 10 tablets in total. Knowing this was incorrect, I checked the printed pharmacy label, which read exactly what my doctor had prescribed. However... after looking a bit closer at the package, I realised we had been given the wrong medicine!

In shock and to my horror, after reading the information leaflet inside the box, it clearly read, **'Do not give this medicine to children and adolescents below 18 years'**, and the recommended dosage, for an adult, was one 200mg tablet, twice a day. Meaning, my 6 year old son, had taken double the amount of the recommended dosage... for adults, three times, six tablets, in a 24 hour period!



I immediately called 111, and after answering a few questions, I was assured that due to the amount he had taken, and the average weight of a 6 year old, it was likely the toxin levels would be low, but I needed to take my son to A&E within the hour. She then informed me that she was obliged to raise this as a Safeguarding Issue, to Social Services... I immediately broke down and imagined the worst.

We attended Winchester A&E, where the staff nurse and doctor were brilliant... but, both flabbergasted by this dangerous mistake. Thankfully - following observations, my son is okay and was given the correct medicine and is on the mend.

Initially I felt judged for giving these tablets to my son, and bad for not double checking, or spotting this mistake sooner. I generally felt sick to my stomach with fear, that something terrible would affect my son long term. Not only this, I was worried about the Social Services contacting me, and thinking about what they were going to say. As it is, I have been overwhelmed with the support given to me, and the assurance that I have done nothing wrong. The call from Social Services was a routine follow up, they agreed it was a pharmacy mistake and that the case for me was closed, and all they needed was my permission to complete the Safeguarding process with the hospital, schools and ultimately the pharmacy.

We put our trust in professionals, especially to get these things right! I wanted to share our story, and reach as many people as possible, to remind you about the importance of making sure **any** medication you collect, is checked against the printed label, the packaging and also the blister pack inside if the box is not sealed. Had this been painkillers, or steroids... we would have had a very different and unbearable outcome."

*An emailed complaint was submitted to both Day Lewis Pharmacy Head Office and the General Pharmaceutical Council.

Have you got a story to share? Whether you have a heartwarming tale, a fascinating experience, or any news you'd like to share, simply get in touch by emailing editor@charltonvillage.org.uk.

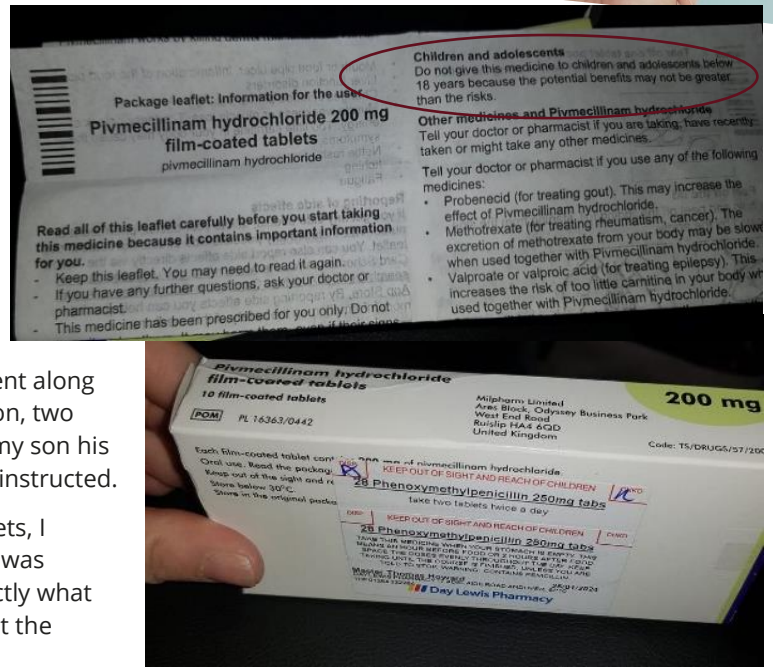
Looking after yourself this Spring...



Keep moving

Now that the weather is warming up, consider taking your exercise routine outdoors. Aim for 150 minutes a week of moderate intensity aerobic activity (30 minutes, 5 days a week) – think brisk walking, cycling, dancing and gardening.

Let's look out for one another, by checking on our vulnerable neighbours and reminding them to keep moving as well.



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OAKTRACK SPRINGS



INTO ACTION!

The arrival of Spring means only one thing here at Oaktrack – lambing! Our first arrivals are due at the end of the month when our flock of Kerry Hill x Swiss Valais are due to lamb. We will be bringing the ewes back to the farm a few weeks before, so we can keep a close eye on their condition and for signs of labour. Once born, the ewes and lambs will then be kept on site until we are happy that both are fit and well enough to be taken back out to graze. Our Shetland crosses are then due to lamb later in mid-April.

The horticultural side of the smallholding also springs into life at this time of year too! We have been busy dividing perennials, planting, sowing and beginning to fill up the polytunnel and greenhouses with lots of vegetable and cut flower seedlings for the months ahead and in anticipation of our **Spring Plant, Garden and Gift Sale**.

We are now busy planning for our summer event when we will be opening our gates to visitors, to come and explore the smallholding, and learn about our livestock and lives as smallholders. The event is being held as part of the national 'Open Farm Sunday' celebrations organised by LEAF, on **Sunday 12 June 2022**. 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 or social media channels <https://www.facebook.com/Oaktrack/> and <https://www.instagram.com/oaktracksmallholding/>. www.oaktrack.co.uk



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E: oaktracksmallholding@gmail.com
Tina Wells, Charlton Down, Andover,
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CHARLTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Your village newsletter is created and distributed by wonderful volunteers and printed by Bulpitt Print Ltd. The printed quarterly edition is delivered free of charge to over 970 homes, and can be downloaded from the village website www.charltonvillage.org.uk.

Have you got a story to share?

We believe that each of you holds a unique story, a cherished memory, or an exciting update waiting to be shared. That is why we invite you to be a part of our upcoming village newsletter. Whether you have a heartwarming tale, a fascinating experience, a new project, or any news you'd like to share, simply get in touch by emailing editor@charltonvillage.org.uk.

Your stories and updates hold the power to inspire, connect, and bring us closer together as a community.

***Deadline for input - 14 of the month before the edition.** For example, the next date would be the 14 May, ready for the June edition.

Commercial Adverts for goods or services

Large – approx. A5 landscape (12cm H x 16.8cm W) £40 per edition
Small – approx. A6 portrait (12cm H x 8cm W) £30 per edition

Please submit your adverts in JPG or PNG format.

***Acceptance of all advertisements, and articles are subject to availability of space and at the discretion of the Editor.**

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Welcome to the Fun Zone!

Looking to relax? This section is for some *light-hearted* fun and entertainment. Let your inner child run wild and enjoy a well-deserved break from the daily hustle and bustle!

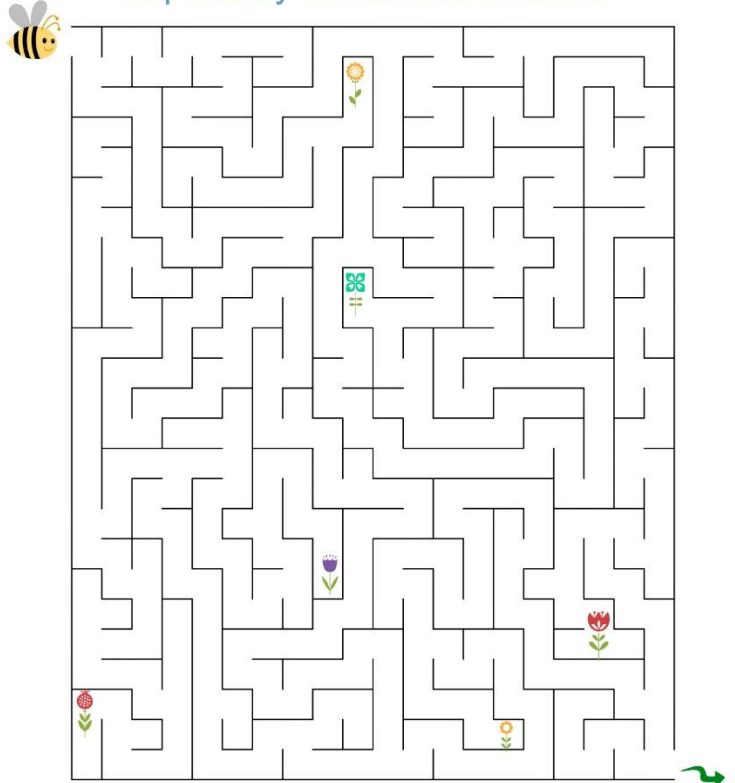


Spring Word Search

R	B	M	G	N	I	T	U	O	R	P	S	D	B	A
I	D	S	Z	O	S	P	U	G	I	I	L	F	Q	B
V	F	Y	R	K	U	W	P	L	G	I	E	S	S	Z
R	D	A	L	E	S	R	C	H	I	R	N	G	A	S
T	A	U	U	F	W	J	I	E	G	P	E	Q	G	O
S	F	I	C	Y	R	O	B	I	N	S	B	E	E	S
U	F	S	N	C	G	E	L	J	J	Z	J	I	N	P
N	O	W	T	E	N	G	T	F	G	F	Q	L	K	R
S	D	Q	B	C	D	H	N	T	A	R	F	M	B	I
H	I	H	M	L	F	P	T	I	U	K	S	Q	J	N
I	L	B	L	O	O	M	A	Y	W	B	H	W	H	G
N	S	D	R	I	B	S	I	I	Q	O	Z	Q	Z	M
E	L	U	C	Y	R	B	S	T	L	R	R	Y	Y	I
P	O	R	T	W	K	P	Z	O	M	S	C	G	F	N
H	A	T	C	H	C	R	A	M	M	K	Q	V	M	K

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| APRIL | EGGS | RAIN |
| BEEES | FLOWERS | ROBINS |
| BIRDS | GREEN | SPRING |
| BLOOM | GROWING | SPROUTING |
| BLOSSOM | HATCH | SUNSHINE |
| BUTTERFLY | MARCH | TULIP |
| DAFFODILS | MAY | |

Help Buzzy Reach His Friends!



Spring Word Scramble

- WBNI AOR _____
- BLLAMURE _____
- WFLORE _____
- PLITU _____
- NERGE _____
- MLOBO _____
- PLRIA _____
- LFBTUTREY _____
- NIAR _____
- DREGNA _____
- EBE _____
- YMA _____
- GNRIPS _____
- HSSNIEUN _____
- YBNUN _____
- CAMHR _____
- EDES _____



Extending a welcome to the Charlton Village Community.



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

Spring is nearly here at Charlton Park Crematorium and it's a lovely place to rest, reflect and find inner calm.

It's also 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 the peace. The grounds are open from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 4pm on weekends, all year round.


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You can access all the links that we have shared, via the online version of this newsletter. It can be found, alongside all previous editions, on our website - www.charltonvillage.org.uk

