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Charlton *Village* News



Quarterly Edition | June 2026

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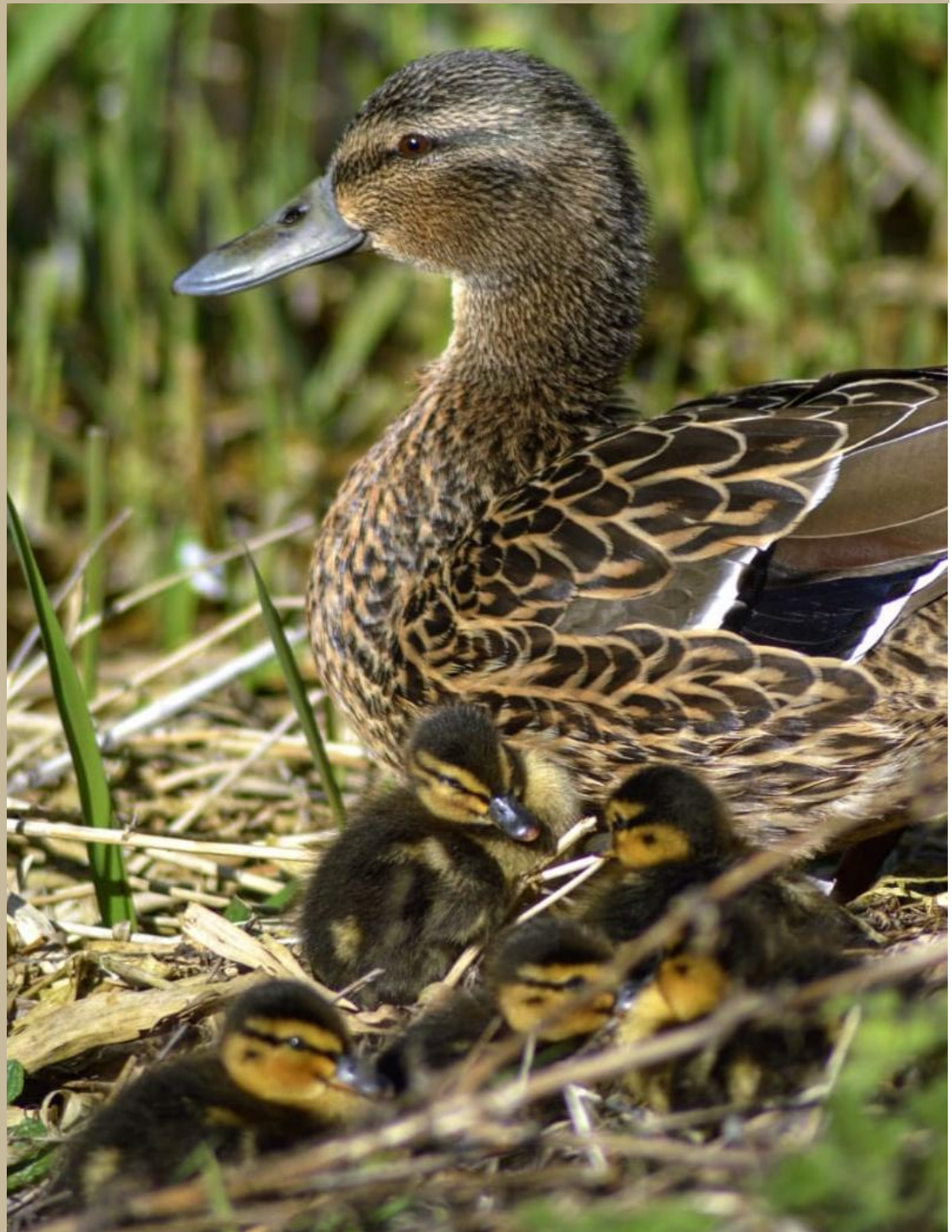


Photo by **Luke Tyler** at Charlton Lakes, captured in the summer of last year.

Thanks to everyone who sent in their photos for this newsletter— **head to page 8 to view more.**

Welcome to the June 2026 issue!

Hello Charlton Village,

Find a quiet spot, grab a drink, put your feet up, and take a moment to catch up on all the latest from across Charlton Village. A heartfelt thanks to everyone who shared content - you're the heartbeat of this newsletter.

 **Do you have a story, photos, recipes or tips to share in the next edition of this newsletter?** We'd love to hear from you. Drop us a message at editor@charlton-pc.gov.uk.

Deadline for input - 14th August, ready for the September edition.

*Acceptance of articles are subject to availability.



Parish Council Updates

Charlton Village Community Hub: Next Steps

Overview Since the last Newsletter, Charlton Parish Council (CPC) has been collaborating with Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) to refine the Hub requirement and explore the best way to deliver it for the local community. TVBC has drafted a Project Brief, which is set to be advertised to architects soon.

The brief states the aim: to deliver a facility that meets local needs, enables funding to be raised, and maintains ongoing local engagement as the project develops.

Project Brief (extract) *"To deliver on the ambition of the local community, Charlton Parish Council and Test Valley Borough Council are working together to explore how this facility could be achieved for the local community in a way that best meets local needs, enables funding to be raised for the project and ensures ongoing local engagement as the project develops."*

The appointed architect will help test and refine the design, with a timetable that includes:

Timetable for 2026

Tender advertised	April/May
Tender brief issued	April/May
Appointment of architect	May/June
Inception meeting	May/June
Design development	July
Draft proposals presented at village fete	4 July
Stakeholder presentation	July-August
Refinement of proposals	September
Completion of RIBA Stage 2	October

The architect will review options to identify the most suitable solution. Possible approaches include:

1. A standalone community hub building located adjacent to the Lakeside Café
2. An extension or reconfiguration of the existing Café building to incorporate flexible community spaces
3. An alternative or hybrid solution, informed by best practice and value for money

Next Steps: The Project Brief will be issued to architectural firms in the near term. The CPC and TVBC will continue to engage with stakeholders to gather feedback and align the design with community needs. Updates will be shared in upcoming newsletters as plans progress.



If you have questions or ideas for the Hub...

Please share them with the Parish Council as the process moves forward.



Music in the Church: Charlton kicks off a new local tradition

On 25 April, the Charlton Village Community Association (CVCA) hosted a music event in the church.

The event featured **NoKando**, led by **Kev Rees**, a popular Andover-based live music band known for energetic 80s hits and rock covers in the Hampshire area. They delivered a fabulous performance that had the audience tapping along and enjoying a memorable night of live music.

A cafe/bar was available throughout the evening, with a lively interval that provided the perfect space for socialising and catching up with neighbours.

This is hoped to be the first of many such events, with plans already underway for an autumn concert. Stay tuned for more details as the series grows.

Don't miss our next

BIG event... 

**Charlton Village
Community Day
2026!**



Yes, that's right - our major event, the Community Day, is back! Mark your calendars - Saturday, 4 July 2026, at the Charlton Leisure Park field.

Excitement is growing within our Charlton Village Community Association and among attendees. It's the ideal chance to gather family, friends, and neighbours for a day filled with fun and entertainment.

Join us for a fantastic lineup - There will be free inflatables, goats, aerial displays, music, a dog show, plenty of refreshments, including homemade cakes. Welly Whanging is back! And not forgetting... the 'Grand Draw' with some excellent prizes.

As we anticipate this upcoming community event, the buzz of excitement is sure to captivate and inspire both residents and visitors alike.

🚦 We'd love to have face painters at our event. If you or someone you know can help, please get in touch with Clive Ward at cllward@charlton-pc.gov.uk.



Keep an eye out for more details on the village notice boards and our Facebook page - Charlton Chat!

*Images from last year's event.



Charlton & District Playgroup: Proud to Be Part of Our Village Community

We are a preschool operating from St Thomas's Church in the heart of Charlton village, providing a warm and nurturing environment for young children and their families.

Following our recent positive Ofsted report, we want to take a moment not just to celebrate, but to say a heartfelt thank you to the wonderful community that supports us every day.



We are especially grateful to our local Tesco Express for their generous donation of Easter eggs for the fourth year running for our recent **Easter Egg Hunt**. Thanks to their kindness – and the fantastic support from families of the children – the event was a great success, raising an amazing £897 for the playgroup. The children had a brilliant time, and it was lovely to see so many families come together to enjoy the day.

As a playgroup that has been part of the community for over 40 years, we are passionate about strengthening our local connections and helping children feel a real sense of belonging in their village.

We would love to hear from any local residents who might be willing to come in and talk to the children about their jobs, hobbies, or interests. Whether you're a police officer, firefighter, nurse, builder, artist, gardener, or have a unique hobby, these visits are a fantastic way to inspire curiosity and help children learn about the world around them in a fun and engaging way.

If you or someone you know would be interested in getting involved, please do get in touch – we would be delighted to welcome you.

Thank you again to everyone who continues to support Charlton & District Playgroup. Your kindness, generosity, and community spirit make a real difference to the children and families we serve.

Spaces available from September for children aged 2.5 and above.



Keep Our Village Tidy — Join Us!

Charlton is a wonderful place to live and visit, and we can all play a part in keeping it clean, safe, and welcoming for everyone—young, old, and everyone in between!



There are two great ways to get involved:

- Join a litter pick (help us pick up litter around the village)
- Volunteer for the Waterside Care (help look after our local waterside area)



Interested? If you'd like to take part, or you want to learn more, please email clive.wardcvca@gmail.com.



Footpaths

A friendly reminder - with it being growing season. Please report any maintenance required to **Daniel Rawlingson** - cllrawlingson@charlton-pc.gov.uk

LOCAL INFO

A list of useful contacts

CHARLTON & DISTRICT PLAYGROUP

***NOW accepts** Government funding **from 2 years** of age.

Mon, Wed, Fri | 9am – 12:30pm
Tues, Thurs | 9am – 3pm

Contact: Mrs S Hartley

Telephone: 07979 841318

BROWNIES

Tuesdays | 5:45pm – 7:15pm

GUIDES

Wednesdays | 6:30pm – 8pm

Contact: Miss K Ryder

Telephone: 07917 697558 or
01264 316807

RAINBOWS

Wednesdays | 5pm – 6:15pm

Contact: Miss A Turner

Telephone: 07794 323293

Thursdays | 5:45pm – 7pm

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

Stay Updated with Charlton Village News!

Sign up to receive the latest news and events directly in your inbox.

www.charlton-pc.gov.uk



**Sign up for
email alerts**

Contact details for your Parish Council members

Name	Telephone No.	Email Address	Role & Responsibilities
Clive Ward (Chairman)	07538 596 344	cllrward@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Wider Local Government Initiatives, Community Hub, Charlton Lakes, Communications, CVCA Liaison, Emergency Planning, Neighbourhood Plan, Traffic & Speed Watch
Norman Woods (Vice Chairman)	07799 408 978	cllrwoods@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Emergency Planning, Footpaths and Rights of Way, Book Exchange, Charlton Waterside, Community Hub
Keith Wilson		cllrwilson@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Charlton Waterside, Traffic and Speed Watch, Communications, Footpaths and Rights of Way
Tracey Tasker		cllrtasker@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Community Hub, Planning
Daniel Rawlingson		cllrrawlingson@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Planning, Charlton Lakes, Charlton Waterside, Footpaths and Rights of Way, Neighbourhood Plan, Wider Government Initiatives
Peter Summers		cllrsummers@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Communications, Book Exchange, Charlton Lakes, Planning
Aaron Brown		cllrbrown@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Communications, Emergency Planning, Neighbourhood Plan, Planning, Wider Government Initiatives
Emma Curry		cllrcurry@charlton-pc.gov.uk	CVCA Liaison, Neighbourhood Plan, Communications, Community Hub, Planning, Traffic and Speed Watch
Jayne Mockford		cllrmockford@charlton-pc.gov.uk	Book Exchange
Eveline Attwood (Parish Clerk)	07534 336 756	clerk@charlton-pc.gov.uk	

Contact details for your local Borough Councillor:

Linda Lashbrook	01264 773588 07766 708 061	cllrllashbrook@testvalley.gov.uk
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Contact details for your local County Councillor:

Chris Donnelly	07738 289 858	Chris.Donnelly@hants.gov.uk or cllrndonnelly@testvalley.gov.uk
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Monthly Parish Council Meetings

Held in public at St Thomas Church on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7pm.

We allocate 15 minutes on the structured agenda for public participation, during which residents may raise matters that relate directly to the published agenda items. Any resident may ask a Councillor to place an item on a future agenda, and then attend the relevant meeting to outline their issue or concern.

For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk - Eveline Attwood (details above)

Your Feedback Matters!

We take your feedback seriously. For example, the Mercia Gate to the Park needed a new mounting design to stop it from dropping—and that suggestion came directly from a resident. We're now putting this into action.

No matter how big or small your concern is, please let us know. Your input helps us make improvements for everyone.

St Thomas, Charlton

The Pastrow Family...

A benefice or collection of churches in and around the villages of Andover, North Hampshire.



SERVICES & EVENTS - ST THOMAS

All services and events at St Thomas, unless stated otherwise.

For the latest timings... visit

www.pastrowfamily.org.uk

A note from

Rev Carol Dunk

"Happy Easter to you all.

I know that Easter Sunday was a few weeks ago, but in the Church we're still in the season of Easter, which lasts for 50 days until Pentecost Sunday, where we celebrate being given the gift of the Holy Spirit after the risen Jesus has ascended to Heaven.

In this Easter season we celebrate the gift of new life and new beginnings, especially the new life that comes from knowing and loving Christ. We, as Christians, believe that if we're truly sorry for the things that we've said or done that are wrong or unkind, then God will forgive us. This enables us to start afresh, hopefully wiser and more thoughtful than ever we were before.

How our world desperately needs God and this Easter reminder of what Jesus sacrificed for us, out of love for everyone. Jesus died so that we might have that promise of eternal life, forgiveness and to know of the unconditional love that God has for each and every one of us. Yet we still tend to ignore God and Jesus' teachings, even some of those who go to church, need a reminder of what and who it is they are following and worshipping.

Jesus died so that we might have new life, new beginnings, and be forgiven. You may ask what are we doing with that amazing promise that Jesus gives to each and every single one of us, which isn't just for Easter but for everybody? Our world is currently full of hatred, vitriol and bigots and Jesus came to overturn all of this almost 2,000 years ago, and yet we still aren't listening or learning from our mistakes. If we really want our world to be a lovely place for ourselves, our children and grandchildren etc. to live in, then we should be truly following Jesus, embracing everyone we come across in our daily lives and spreading God's love, joy and tolerance with those we encounter.

This Eastertide let us be reminded of that ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made for us, so that we would be free to live in a world of love, joy, hope and peace. We have a long way to go but if we become better disciples, better people than through God's grace we will be able to heal our sick and divided world."



Come join us everyone is welcome!

June	
Sunday 7th	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Charlton 4 pm Said Holy Communion – Hurstbourne
Friday 12th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Saturday 13th	10 am Julian Prayer meeting – Hatherden
Sunday 14th	10 am Holy Communion
Sunday 21st	10 am PFG4 All A family friendly service for everyone
Friday 26th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Sunday 28th	10 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus
July	
Sunday 5th	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Hatherden 4 pm Said Holy Communion – Linkenholt
Friday 10th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Saturday 11th	10 am Julian Prayer meeting – Hatherden
Sunday 12th	10 am Holy Communion
Sunday 19th	10 am PFG4 All Service
Friday 24th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Sunday 26th	10 am Morning Prayer 3.30 pm PFG4 Fun & Faith 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus
August	
Sunday 2nd	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Charlton 4 pm Said Holy Communion – Vernham Dean
Saturday 8th	10 am Julian Prayer meeting – Hatherden
Sunday 9th	10 am Holy Communion
Friday 14th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Sunday 16th	PFG4 All followed by BBQ lunch A family friendly service for everyone
Friday 28th	1.30 – 3.30 pm Cosy Café
Sunday 23rd	10 am Morning Prayer 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus
Sunday 30th	10 am Outdoor Communion Service

If you would like to sign up to our weekly newsletter

Grapevine, please email

eventsadmin@pastrowfamily.org.uk to sign up.



Dig for Dementia...

🌱 Cultivating Connections: Dig for Dementia at Andover Museum

Charlton residents are warmly invited to join Dig for Dementia, a weekly gardening group hosted in the courtyard garden of Andover. These sessions offer a gentle way to stay active, enjoy the fresh air, and connect with others in a supportive environment.

Gardening has profound benefits for wellbeing, from reducing stress to stimulating sensory memories. Whether you are a seasoned "green finger" or simply enjoy the company of others over a trowel and a watering can, our group is all about community and shared experience. We focus on light gardening tasks, seasonal planting, and—most importantly—a relaxed chat with plenty of tea and biscuits.

The group meets **every Tuesday from 10-12**. It is free to attend, and no prior experience is necessary. To find out more, or to register your interest, please contact Jack.

07912666929 | hello@digfordementia.co.uk | Facebook/Instagram - @digfordementia



National Service commemorative plaque installed in Andover's Pocket Park

A National Service commemorative plaque, recognising the contribution made by the millions of young men conscripted to serve in the Armed Forces between 1945 and 1963.

The plaque forms part of a national initiative led by the National Service Veterans Alliance to ensure the service and sacrifices made are permanently remembered in towns with strong military connections. Andover was identified as a town of military importance, and permission to install the plaque was granted by Test Valley Borough Council.

The plaque commemorates the 2.2 million young men who were called up under the National Service Act and served across the world. Many of those men are now in their 80s, 90s and over 100 years old.

The project was made possible through a fundraising challenge completed in the summer of 2022 by Michael Homer, Chairman of the National Service Veterans Alliance. Known as The Plaque A Thon, the challenge saw him visit 50 towns of military importance by train within 150 hours. The challenge raised £7,200, funding the creation of 60 brass plaques for communities across the country.



Michael Homer, Chairman of the National Service Veterans Alliance, said:

"National Service shaped the lives of 2.2 million young men who answered the call to serve between 1945 and 1963. Many of them are now in their 80s, 90s and beyond, and this plaque is about making sure their contribution is never forgotten. Andover has long standing military links, so it feels entirely right that one of these plaques has a permanent home here. I'm grateful to Test Valley Borough Council for supporting this tribute, and I hope it gives people a moment to reflect on the service and sacrifice made by a remarkable generation."

The Mayor of Test Valley Borough Council, Gordon Bailey, said: "This plaque is a simple but powerful reminder of the service given by thousands of young men from across the country, including many with links to Andover. Pocket Park is a fitting location for this tribute, offering a quiet space for reflection at the heart of the town. It is important that we continue to recognise and honour the role National Service played in shaping both individual lives and our shared history."

The plaque is now in place at Andover's Pocket Park and will remain as a permanent public tribute to those who served.



Your Community Updates

Stories, pictures and updates shared by

Charlton Caught On Camera!

In our previous issue, we called on our talented local photographers to capture Charlton Village at its best for the front page. **Congratulations to Luke Tyler for his delightful ducklings photo** - perfect for the early days of summer. Thank you to Christine Taylor for sharing your son's photos.

We were fortunate to receive a wonderful range of images, mostly of our feathered friends at Charlton Lakes, and while we can't feature every single one, here's a selection we're thrilled to share with you.



by Luke Tyler



by Gary Kinghorn



by Gary Kinghorn



by Robin I Morgan



Share Your PHOTOS

Share Your Best Shots for a Chance to Be Featured on the Front Page

We'd love for you to keep sharing your standout Charlton Village photos. Your images could line the front page of the next newsletter, giving you great exposure and showing off our village's charm.



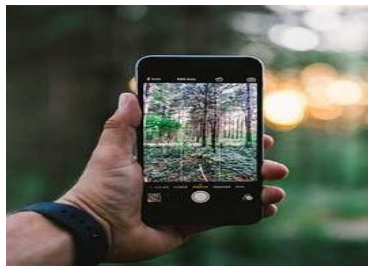
How to participate:

Submit photos that **capture the spirit, scenery, or everyday life of Charlton Village**. Your image must be your own original work.

Simply email your high-resolution (JPEG or PNG) with a brief caption or location note to accompany the photo to: editor@charlton-pc.gov.uk.

Tips for great submissions: Choose well-lit, sharp images with clear focal points. Reserve portraits or candid village scenes with strong composition. Include a variety of perspectives: landscapes, streets, nature, and community life.

Rights and usage: By submitting, you grant Charlton Parish Council the right to publish the image in the Charlton Village Newsletter. The Council may crop or resize images for layout purposes. Entrants retain copyright of their photographs.



There's something for everyone at The Royal Oak, Charlton!

From mid-week catch-ups to classic car show-and-shines, there's always a reason to visit The Royal Oak.

Whether you're bringing the family, meeting neighbours, enjoying dinner and a few drinks in the beer garden in the sunshine, or catching all the latest live sports action with Sky Sports and TNT Sport, there's something for everyone - and everyone is welcome.



Catch the World Cup on the Big Screens

Starting 17th June, the action will be live on our big screens!

Weekly Events

- Classic Car Meets — Mondays from 7pm
- Bike Night — Tuesdays from 7pm
- Macmillan Coffee Mornings — Wednesdays from 10am
- Quiz Night — Sundays from 7pm



Andover Chamber Choir invites audiences to revisit childhood with "Rhymes and Recollections"

Andover Chamber Choir is set to transport audiences back to the carefree days of youth with their charming and evocative upcoming concert, "Rhymes and Recollections: A Choral Collection of Childhood Songs".

This unique performance weaves together familiar nursery rhymes, beloved literature, and masterful choral arrangements that celebrate the wonder and nostalgia of childhood, promising a captivating evening for all ages.

The programme is an eclectic and beautifully curated mix, showcasing the choir's versatility and passion for diverse choral repertoire. Highlights include John Rutter's charming '5 Childhood Lyrics', a playful arrangement of 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' by Andrew Carter, and Eric Whitacre's ethereal setting of the Rudyard Kipling poem, 'The Seal Lullaby' - a piece renowned for its poignant beauty. Adding a rich layer of literary charm, the evening will be interspersed with prose from iconic children's authors, including A. A. Milne and Beatrix Potter, grounding the musical pieces in cherished childhood narratives.

The programme touches on the universal themes of innocence, memory and comfort, and Andover Chamber Choir invites everyone - from those who grew up singing these tunes, to music lovers discovering them anew - to join them for an evening of musical reflection and joyful recollection.

The concert takes place at 7.30pm, Saturday 18th July, Farleigh School, Andover, SP11 7PW. Tickets are £15 on the door or £12 in advance from The Lights (in person and online) or through choir members. Under 16s are admitted free.

Proceeds are in aid of Andover Young Carers, providing vital support and respite to young carers in Andover and the surrounding area.




RHYMES AND RECOLLECTIONS
A Choral Collection of Childhood Songs

7.30pm Saturday 18th July 2026
Farleigh School
Andover, SP11 7PW

Tickets: £15 on the door, £12 in advance, under 16s free. Refreshments included.
Available at The Lights, Andover (in person and online)
and through choir members.


Proceeds in aid of Andover Young Carers.

www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk

CHARLTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Your village newsletter is created and distributed by wonderful local volunteers, and printed by Bulpitt Print Ltd.

The printed quarterly edition is delivered free of charge to over 970 homes across Charlton, shared with local businesses, and can also be downloaded from the village website.

Have a story to share?

We'd love to hear your stories, memories, updates, and any bits of village news for our next newsletter. **If you'd like to contribute, just drop a message to editor@charlton-pc.gov.uk.** They'll happily guide you through what's needed and help make sure your piece fits the newsletter format.

Deadline for input - 14th August, ready for the September edition.

*Acceptance of articles are subject to availability.



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”



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Local Daytime Fitness Classes

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Monday: Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre

Tai Chi QiGong 1pm & 3pm | Zumba Gold 2pm

Tuesday: St Ann's Hall, Andover

Zumba Gold 9am | Tai Chi QiGong 10am & 11am

First Class Free. Drop-in's welcome*.

PAYG £9 per session. Or choose a class pack to save.

10 Classes £70 (£7 per class) 5 Classes £40 (£8 per class)

*Check my website or contact me for term dates

Email: rachel@zenfitnessrachel.co.uk

Phone/WhatsApp: 07443 837472

Facebook: @zenfitnessrachel

www.zenfitnessrachel.co.uk



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Visit: ssafa.org.uk

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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



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**CONTACT ME
FOR ANY QUERIES**

ashley.tyres@yahoo.com

07595 978371



I'm Kim, an independent funeral celebrant based in Charlton, creating thoughtful and personal ceremonies that truly reflect the life, character and values of your loved one.

With compassion, integrity and care at every step, I take time to listen to your stories and create a bespoke ceremony that feels authentic, meaningful and completely personal. There are very few rules when it comes to a funeral ceremony - it can be classic and traditional, a celebration of life, nature-led, or a bold, creative and truly unforgettable farewell - the choice is yours.

You are very welcome to contact me directly when the need arises or simply ask for me by name when meeting with your funeral director. Why not speak to me first and see how I can help create a goodbye that feels right?

"Everyone that attended Nan's funeral said how perfect it was, that was down to you."

"The service was delivered beautifully. Thanks, Kim for being such a great celebrant at my Dad's funeral. We thoroughly enjoyed the service and eulogy that you gave to celebrate his life. Again, a heartfelt thank you."

"From the first conversation and visit everything was handled with genuine care, compassion, and professionalism. What stood out most was Kim's attention to detail and the ability to listen to all family members and giving her own guidance. Kim guided us through the process with kindness and clarity. On the day itself, every element of the ceremony felt tailored and appropriate for our brother, everything was delivered with calm confidence and genuine empathy."



kim@kimlund.co.uk



07867 472095



Kim Lund - Funeral Celebrant



kimlund.co.uk



Kim Lund
Funeral Celebrant



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