



Charlton Village Monthly News

February 2020 www.charltonvillage.org.uk Facebook page: Charlton Community Chat

The Charlton Village Monthly News is published on the Parish Council website and on Charlton Community Chat Facebook page. For those who aren't able to access electronically, copies will be posted on the Village Notice Boards. If you have anything you wish to include in the Monthly News please send by email to cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk or post it into the letterboxes on the Notice Boards.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Clive Ward – Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

I keep promising that the Charlton Neighbourhood Plan will be circulated shortly by TVBC. Once again, we haven't quite delivered. No one's fault just process challenges. We are expecting the 'i's to be dotted and the 't's crossed in the next week or so. Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan will be available at the Pub, the Church, Salto and in the Andover library. The supporting evidence base (a weighty tome) will be made available should any resident require it.

40 Days

That is all it takes to improve yourself and, in turn, the people around you. We call it *Lent*. 40 days or 6 weeks in the lead up to Easter to take steps forward in knowing how Jesus Christ fits in to our lives (or could do if we ask him) and how to help others know what a huge difference he makes to us.

If you live to 80 years that's over 29,000 days. How about giving 40 of those days, or 6 weeks, to join one of the weekly groups below and think about how you can make sense of your faith to yourself and how to make sense of it to others. Only you know your story and your style. But we need each other to help us explore these things. The 6 week course goes by the name 'Blowing your Cover'.

To sign up for one of the groups just email: admin@pastrowbenefice.org.uk or phone 07999 352585 and Jude will give you the full details. You don't need to be a member of one of the Pastrow Family of churches. They are open to all.

Here they are:

Mondays 7.30 pm from 24th Feb

Mondays daytime from 24th Feb)

Mondays 7.30 pm from 24th Feb)

Tuesdays 10.00 am from 25th Feb

Tuesdays 8.00 pm 25th Feb

Wednesdays 7.30 pm from 26th Feb

Thursdays 7.30 pm from 27th Feb

Thursdays 7.30 pm from 27th Feb

Thursdays 7.30 pm from 27th Feb

Hatherden

(Hurstbourne Tarrant /

(Vernham Dean

Charlton

Charlton

Hatherden Road

Andover

Andover

Penton Mewsey



Charlton Village Community Day – 20 June 2020

Many will be aware of the Charlton Village Community Day on 20 June at Charlton Lakes. People have been meeting in dark corners talking about how to improve on last year's event and booking the long lead items such as bouncy castles and the like. They key to success is having enough volunteers on the day. If you would like to get involved: manning a stall or just standing in for 30 mins while a stall holder gets a break or if you happy to act as a steward (fetching hi vis jacket provided) making sure that everyone stays safe or if you are simply able to be called upon to plug a gap if required please let me know cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk or 07538596344 if you would like to text.

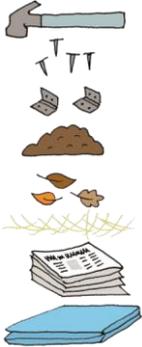
Nature Corner

Welcome to February. The hedgehogs seem to be braver than ever this year, and out in force.

If you combined all our gardens in the UK, we actually provide a space for wildlife larger than all our National Nature Reserves put together.

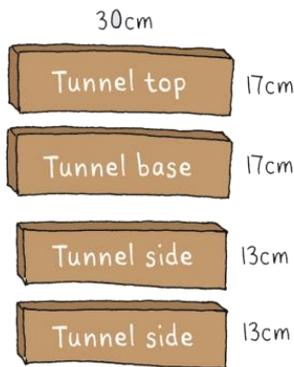
By gardening in a wildlife-friendly way, we can help our spiky companions move around safely and find a home. Sadly, hedgehog numbers are declining and since 2002 we have lost 30% and there are fewer than 1 million hedgehogs left in the UK. This decline is likely caused by development, agricultural intensification and climate change. Hedgehogs need homes, so making one for them is a great way to encourage them into your garden. You can help to look after garden wildlife like hedgehogs by providing food, water and shelter. You could build your own Hedgehog house, here is something I found if you want to try to help our prickly friends

You will need:



Hammer and nails
2 metal hinges
Soil
Dry leaves
Straw or dry grass
Newspapers
Polythene sheeting
20mm untreated FSC plywood boards (birch is ideal!) cut to the sizes shown
A quiet, shady spot
Also access for our prickly friends to your garden.

How to build your hedgehog house:



Step 1

Cut your timber to the dimensions shown. Assemble the tunnel and main chamber separately; attaching the feet and the hinge flap before putting the box together will make things a little easier. Don't be tempted to skip the tunnel – it means that predators won't be able to swipe their paws inside! The tunnel will be slightly shorter than the height of the opening so that it can be slotted in at an angle, making a ramp. You can also drill a hole that will fit a hosepipe into the back of the box to add some extra ventilation.

Step 2

Pick a shady, quiet spot to put your assembled hedgehog house. Lift the lid off the house, and put the newspaper, leaves and dry grass inside.

Step 3

Cover with polythene sheeting (making sure it's still accessible for cleaning later on), and pack soil and dead leaves around the outside, leaving the entrance and air pipe free of debris.

Remember:

Clear out the hedgehog house once a year (late March – early April) to prevent the build-up of pests. Do not clean it out if a hedgehog is in residence though!

Making a compost heap is also good option for providing space for hedgehogs to nest, and have the added bonus of attracting lots of insects for them to eat!

Happy Hedgehogs make Happy Humans

Jen Mulberry

Stay Aware

Burglaries are on the rise in North Hampshire.

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Charlton has been put on hold due to lack of community engagement. Warnings and advice will still be received and from the police and these will be put on the Charlton Chat Facebook page with significant issues highlighted on village noticeboards.

The Bridge from Foxcotte Road to Charlton Lakes

As you may well know, funding for a bridge from Foxcotte Road (close to Mercia Avenue) to Charlton Park has now been found by TVBC. Frustratingly, TVBC has had some personnel issues and the start date has been delayed – not for too long we hope. We are still hoping the project will be complete by the time of the Charlton Village Community Day on 20 June. Again, thank you to all those who engaged with the process; your support made all the difference.

Photography

This month we would like as many photographs as possible from young and old. They must be of Charlton but otherwise the choice is yours. **Remember to post them to www.charltonsnaps@gmail.com or via Instagram [CharltonSnaps](#)**

Maybe you tried out my last tip on Composition on your Photography skills? I would love to hear from you or if you have any topics you would like to learn about please ask any questions by emailing me:

cllrjmulberry@charltonvillage.org.uk

I thought I would continue this month with Photo composition. It really is the most fundamental and important skill to learn in photography apart from light which is the utmost important skill to learn whatever style of photography you enjoy.

This month I thought we could go over the Filling of your frame and or cropping your image.

If your photographs are losing impact due to a noisy (busy) background or its surroundings, try to crop in tight around your main point of focus (i.e. a face or an object), the main part of your photo you are trying to see.

By cropping tight you can eliminate your noisy background so all the attention falls on your main subject. This works particularly well with portraits of people or animals, especially if you are trying to capture something more focused or you're shooting in a busy location where your background would cause too much of a distraction to your subject matter.

Filling the frame or cropping could involve you going in much tighter and maybe capturing them with just their face. Or you could stop down to the minimum F-stop on your cameras I.E F2.8.

By doing this it allows your subject to be in focus but blows the background out to a much softer focus. This then allows the eye to hone in on your subject, making them stand out and allowing the background to be more subtle to the eye.

Give it a try and see what happens to your photography skills. Practice makes perfect. Maybe see you around Charlton with your cameras.

Jen Mulberry

<u>February 2020 in our village...</u> Monday 10th – Charlton Village Community Day meeting, 8pm Foxcotte Room Thursday 14th – deadline for input to Quarterly Charlton News Tuesday 18th – Charlton PC meeting, 7.30pm Foxcotte Room	What's on at St Thomas Church? Regular services... Every Thursday 9.15pm Compline 1 st Friday of month 2.30pm Holy Communion 1 st Sunday of month 10.00am Family Service 2 nd Sunday of month 9.00am Holy Communion 11.00am Young Church
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Future diary dates (March)

Monday 9th - Charlton Village Community Day meeting, 8pm Foxcotte Room

Tuesday 17th - Charlton PC meeting, 7.30pm Foxcotte Room

6.30pm Encounters with Jesus

3rd Sunday of month 10.00am All age service

4th Sunday of month 9.00am Holy Communion

3.30pm Family Play and Praise

6.30pm Encounters with Jesus

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