

Quarterly Edition – March 2023



Charlton Village News

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

Welcome to the Spring Edition of 2023

As I write this, I can see evidence of Spring in the air. The trees are starting to bud and the weather is feeling a little warmer, well almost.

Inside is the latest from the Parish Council and information on the forthcoming Community events.

If you have any articles, recipes or puzzles for the next edition please send to the editor at editor@charltonvillage.org.uk



King Charles's Coronation Weekend

Picnic in the Park

**7th May 2023,
12 – 4pm**

**8th May 2023
Volunteer day**

**See inside for more
Details!**

DIARY DATES

Tuesdays 21st Mar, 18th April, 16th May 2023: Charlton Parish Council meetings 7.45pm

Sunday 19th March: 10am Mothering Sunday Family Service, St Thomas

Sunday 9th April: 10am Easter Sunday – Family Service with Communion

Sunday 7th May: 12pm – 4pm Coronation Picnic in the Park, Charlton Park

Parish Council Updates

Coronation Picnic in the Park 7th May 2023



To celebrate Kings Charles's Coronation, we will be holding a community event in Charlton Park. The event will be between 12pm and 4pm. The idea is for residents to bring their own picnic and enjoy an afternoon of fun.

There will be an inflatable slide for all to use, free of charge. We are also hoping to have tug of war, wellie wanging and other games.

Coronation Volunteer Day 8th May 2023

The King has asked people to come together and volunteer on this day to enhance their community. The council is considering a litter pick, tidying of rivers, cleaning and painting the bus shelter. If you would like to be involved, please contact Cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk

Charlton Village Community Day 1 July 2023

The organising of the community day has begun. The new Community Association requires your help to make this even better than last year!

We need enthusiastic people who would like to get involved, that can be with preparation or help on the day.

We need help with the following

- Grand draw prizes – are you up for persuading companies to donate prizes.
- Raffle Ticket sales – could you sell raffle tickets before the event
- Advertising – we need someone or a group of people who could tackle this
- Scarecrow competition – we would like this to happen this year but as yet do not have anyone to organise it, could this be you!

If you feel you want to get involved then please contact Jacqueline Smith jsmith.cvca@gmail.com
Tel: 07938 561609

Railings by Carters Meadow

As most of you will have seen, the work to create a swing gate in the railings has begun.

This will enable Charlton residents to access the Open Green space and enjoy the tranquillity of the river.

The Parish Council will be looking at installing a bench with litter bin in the next few months.



Local Elections

We need more residents to put themselves forward as Parish Councillors at the upcoming local elections. Our full complement is 9 councillors and it would be great to get some younger volunteers. You just need to be over 18 - no upper age limit - and want to serve the Charlton community.

Cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk

Charlton Newsletter

We are still looking for an editor for the newsletter. We would also like some feedback on the newsletter. What do you think of it? What would you like to see included? Do you have an article that you would like to submit? Could you become a feature writer? Contact editor@charltonvillage.org.uk

Charlton Village Community Association

In the last newsletter we gave details of the new Charlton community charity which is being formed to run events for the community. The purpose of the charity will be to support and enhance community life and wellbeing of all residents.

We are still looking for any volunteers, who wish to be Members or Trustees. If you feel you would like to be involved then please email Jacqueline Smith jsmith.cvca@gmail.com

Trustees

The charity would be managed by a committee of trustees who are appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the charity.

In order to carry out the charitable purposes, the trustees have the power to (at least):

- (1) Raise funds, receive grants and donations
- (2) Apply funds to carry out the work of the charity
- (3) Co-operate with and support other charities with similar purposes
- (4) Do anything which is lawful and necessary to achieve the purposes

Membership

The charity shall have a membership. People who support the work of the charity and are aged 18 or over, can apply to the trustees to become a member. Once accepted by the trustees, membership lasts for 3 years and may be renewed. The trustees will keep an up-to-date membership list.

Jubilee Beacon

The planning application, with preferred option C, has now been submitted to TVBC. This is for the placing of the Beacon in the centre of the village as a prominent and lasting memorial to our late Queen Elizabeth.



Once planning approval is given, we will gain quotes for the installation.

We are also investigating different ideas for creating the flower display that it deserves.



Portable generator



We are in the process of purchasing a generator from the grant we were awarded through the Scottish and Southern Electricity Network's Resilient Communities Fund.

This will enhance our community resilience and assist in dealing with any emergency issues occurring within our parish. It will also be used during our community events

Charlton Lakes

Fishing at both Foxcotte Lake (Charlton Lakes) and Anton Lakes Local Nature Reserve are now being managed in house at TVBC. Andover Angling Club have requested not to renew their lease of the site due to a dwindling membership. The Club wish to remain involved with the sites and will be arranging work parties throughout the summer months, with support of Countryside Officers to manage weed in the lake at Foxcotte and carry out other small maintenance tasks.

Day Tickets will be available to purchase through Challis Tackle in Andover and OJ's Fishing Tackle at Picket Piece. Information on fees and charges as well as rules for the site can be found on TVBC website. Season tickets will be available to purchase through TVBC and will allow ticket holders to fish across all three sites in Andover including Rooksbury Mill Local Nature Reserve.

During the handover of the site existing fishing platforms will be reviewed, with some likely to be deemed end of life. These will be removed and others will be subject to repair. Following this review new signage will be created and installed on site to inform visitors of fishing available (temporary signage will be erected in the interim period).

Bus Shelter

Several residents have reported that the bus shelter is being misused by certain individuals

It has been noted that groups of young people are using this as a meeting place. That in itself is perfectly reasonable, as currently Charlton has nowhere else for them to go. However, recently there has been a considerably amount of rubbish left strewn around the shelter.

This has now been reported to the police who have asked that they are notified of any future incidents of anti-social behaviour.



Any reports can be made to Police direct either on 101, or online via their website ([Report antisocial behaviour | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary](#)), or to TVBC direct via the online form at [Anti-Social Behaviour Report | Test Valley Borough Council](#).

Please only report, when necessary, as not all youngsters are out to make trouble.

Bra Recycling



Don't forget the Bra Recycling Box in Charlton Convenience Store

2 boxes already sent off and nearly ready to send 2 more. Well done ladies!

Charlton Leisure Centre - Community Consultation

The consultation has been slightly delayed due to the upcoming elections to be held in May. TVBC are hoping to start the consultation shortly after this and conclude as per the original milestones, laid out in the Dec Newsletter.

The Leisure Centre is an important venue for the community in Charlton, Andover and surrounding villages. TVBC will be consulting over its future management/development to produce a Plan for the next 5 years and beyond.

We urge all residents to engage with this consultation when it starts.

Reporting Highway Problems

Are you fed up with all the potholes?!

The more people that report them the better. Please use the links below

Missing or damaged signs:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/brokensigns>

Potholes: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/potholes>

Tree/hedge problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/treehedge>

Flooding/drainage issues: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding>

Pavement problems: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/paving>

Problems with rights of way:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem>

When reporting an issue, you'll be sent an email confirming a reference number for the report.

Reporting of other issues

If you are unsure who to contact the Fix my street website is a good option. By entering a few details of the problem, they can then direct the issue to the relevant authority or company.

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/around?js=1&zoom=2&lat=51.22174&lon=-1.50128>

Winter Fuel Payment help if required

People above the age of 66 in Test Valley, who may be in need of a little extra financial help, are being urged to come forward.

With the rising cost of living, many people will be in a situation where they need more help than before and may not know how to access support.

Anyone with an older relative who could do with a little extra financial help is encouraged to direct them to Citizens Advice, who are administering the funds.

Towards the end of 2022, Test Valley Borough Council, Unity and Citizens Advice Test Valley launched a scheme where anyone who receives a Winter Fuel Payment, but doesn't necessarily need it, was able to donate it to help other pensioners in the area struggling with the rising cost of living.

At least £1,300 has already been given to Unity, and with TVBC match funding any donations, it currently has around £2,600 to distribute to those in need

Residents can contact Citizens Advice on 0808 178 6882 or go to their website www.testvalleycab.org.uk

Elections May 2023

Voter ID is coming!

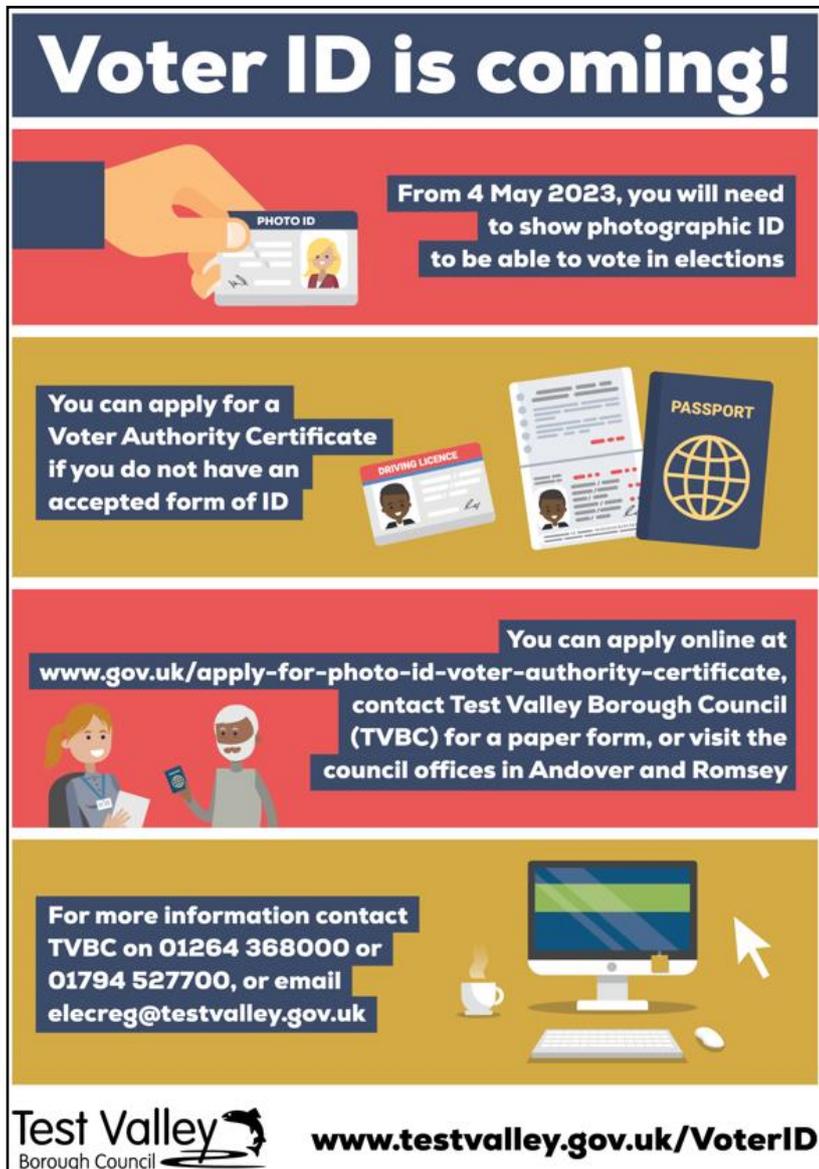
From 4 May 2023, you will need to show photographic ID to be able to vote in elections

You can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate if you do not have an accepted form of ID

You can apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate, contact Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) for a paper form, or visit the council offices in Andover and Romsey

For more information contact TVBC on 01264 368000 or 01794 527700, or email elecereg@testvalley.gov.uk

Test Valley Borough Council www.testvalley.gov.uk/VoterID

An infographic with a dark blue header and footer. The main body is divided into four horizontal sections with different background colors: red, yellow, red, and yellow. Each section contains text and illustrations of various forms of identification (photo ID, driving licence, passport) and application methods (online, paper form, council offices). The footer includes the Test Valley Borough Council logo and website URL.

Test Valley Borough Council is urging residents to make sure they are prepared for the introduction of voter ID later this year, as the government rolls out the major change to elections across the country.

By law, from 4 May 2023, all residents will need to show photographic ID when they go to a polling station before they receive their ballot paper. The government is introducing the changes to reduce and prevent voter fraud.

People can use various forms of ID, including a driving licence, passport, Older Person's Bus Pass, a blue badge or Disabled Person's Bus Pass. The full list of accepted ID can be found at www.testvalley.gov.uk/voterID

Residents can also use expired ID as long as the photograph is still a good likeness.

Anyone who doesn't have an accepted form of identification can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

Those unable to apply online can contact TVBC's electoral services team to request a paper form on 01264 368000 or

01794 527700, or by emailing elecereg@testvalley.gov.uk

The deadline to apply for a VAC for the Test Valley borough elections set to be held on 4 May 2023 is Tuesday 25 April, but residents are being encouraged to apply as soon as possible.



This picture was taken by Brian Cartwright. It is a photo of Elizabeth, from Charlton, having a lovely interaction with a Robin.

Interesting facts about Robins:

- Young Robins do not have red breasts
- It is almost impossible to tell male and female robins by sight
- Each Robin has a completely unique red breast pattern
- The size of a robin's territory is related to the quality of their habitat. Upland woods are

less amenable; hence you might only get 10 pairs per square kilometre. More appealing lowland woods may accommodate as many as 300 pairs in the same area.

Charlton Village Church, St Thomas'

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

Letter from our Priest in Charge, Alex Randle-Bissell

Dear friends,

Before my ordination in 2012, I was a teacher and used to regularly train student teachers. I was once asked about my philosophy of training people from all walks of life and whether it was just a robotic process of churning out graduates who in the end would follow the same pattern of rules, regulations and methods. It was one of those questions we sometimes get which stops us in our tracks and makes us ponder what we really think (I do believe the questioner was attacking the National Curriculum and hinting that all teachers were boring and lacked creativity but we'll leave that aside for the moment!) and my response was a phrase that I have applied to every aspect of training people ever since, whether it be teachers or curates – 'my job as a trainer is to help that person make good decisions.'

This phrase was borne, as I reflect now, out of some national research I was once part of which concluded that teachers make about 2,500 decisions a day, and when one thinks about the constant and pressured environment of a classroom full of children, the ability to make decisions that affect so many lives is of paramount importance!

We can, of course, apply that phrase to all aspects of our lives – how do we make good decisions? Who has helped us in our lives to get us to the point where we can be confident that the choices we make are the best ones we can in the circumstances we find ourselves in?

In the past, the received wisdom pointed us towards taking time out to ponder, consider carefully or debate issues before important decisions were made. However, in the rapid speed of our modern world, so often driven by data and results (and sometimes constant exposure through media platforms) we don't always have the luxury of time to get balanced consensus and to reach the best decision possible.

Having come from the fast-paced environment of education into the church, I must confess that I was initially frustrated as a curate that the cogs of the machinery of the organization turned very slowly indeed! However, I have grown to deeply appreciate the time and care that is given by many of our groups and committees in searching for the best solutions to the issues we face. Whilst it is true that the church in our modern-day culture is in decline, its structures and purpose remain resolute, and we continue to be relevant and ever available for our local communities as we journey together through our lives. I know this as I am frequently meeting people in our churches during the week when I pop in for a moment of prayer to find some who say – 'I'm just taking a moment out of my day and this looked like the best place to come to' or some who declare, 'I'm not sure why I'm here, but I have something on my mind and wanted somewhere to think.'

Our churches are here for you – whatever season of life you are in. I hope and pray that you have a very blessed time during this Lenten season.

Peace be with you.

Alex

Church Services at St Thomas and Pastrow Churches for March to May
Please check <http://www.pastrowfamily.org.uk/> for latest information check link

All services at St Thomas unless stated.

4 th March	9am Prayer Breakfast
5 th March	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Christ Church Hatherden 4 pm Said Holy Communion – St Marys Vernham Dean
10 th March	2 pm Warm Space – tea and friendship
12 th March	10 am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Messy Church 3.30 pm
19 th March	10 am Mothering Sunday Family Service
24 th March	2 pm Warm Space – tea and friendship
26 th March	10 am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Play and Praise 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus
1 st April	Prayer Breakfast
2 nd April	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Christ Church Hatherden 4 pm Said Holy Communion – St Thomas Charlton
Holy week – please see the Pastrow Family website www.pastrowfamily.org.uk for all the latest information.	
9 th April	10am Easter Sunday – Family Service with Communion
14 th April	2 pm Warm Space – tea and friendship
16 th April	10am Family Service
23 rd April	10 am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Play and Praise 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus
28 th April	2 pm Warm Space – tea and friendship
30 th April	10 am Service full details on the website
7 th May	10 am Pastrow Family Gathering – Christ Church Hatherden 4 pm Said Holy Communion – St Peters Linkenholt
14 th May	10 am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Messy Church
21 st May	10 am Family Service
28 th May	10 am Holy Communion 3.30 pm Play and Praise 6.30 pm Encounters with Jesus

Correct at time of going to press please always check our Grapevine newsletter on the website www.pastrowfamily.org.uk for the latest information.

What Spring's Arrival Means to the Honeybee



Spring is right around the corner. The first action of business for the colony as the weather changes is increasing its population in advance of summer's warmth. Spring is the busiest time of year for the bees, not only because of restocking food but it's also the season when new colonies are started and established colonies re-emerge.

The worker bees in spring are busy with finding food for their colony as soon as the first source of pollen emerges. A worker bee can visit around 2,000 flowers per day!

However, due to its capacity for carrying food sources, bees can visit only around 50 to 100 flowers before having to return to the hive to dispose of its supply.

You can help ease the stress of honeybees in spring by being careful about what you clean out of your garden while waiting for new growth. Dandelions, which are often looked on as a pesky weed, are an extremely important nectar provider. It's often the honeybee's first source of food after the long winter. Instead of weeding them, keep them for honeybees until more valuable sources bloom. Besides keeping dandelions, plant flowers native to your region. Honeybees especially love daffodils, sunflowers and honeysuckles.

Charlton Village CE controlled Primary School



A resident from Charlton sent in these photographs.

They were taken in May 1958 and 1959.

Were you one of these children, it would be interesting to know if you have any stories!

The school was built in 1876 and was closed in 1962

It has since been a residential property





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OAKTRACK WELCOMES NEW ARRIVALS AND NEW BREEDS

Local smallholding – Oaktrack - based in Charlton Down, welcomed its first new arrivals of the year earlier this month when their pedigree Berkshire sow – fondly known as Angel – farrowed within a matter of hours and had ten piglets. The piglets will be weaned at around eight weeks and raised outdoors with plenty of space to roam around. More farrowings are expected at the end of March with Audrey, another pedigree Berkshire sow currently in pig.

Looking to expand their flock of sheep and herd of pigs, Oaktrack owners Tina and Jim Wells have selected some new breeds for 2023. A small flock of Kerry Hill cross Swiss Valais sheep from Wales joined the other animals on the smallholding and are due to lamb in March. Carefully selected for their superior wool and meat, the sheep have distinctive black markings around their nose and eyes and long curly fleece as the photo illustrates.



Gloucester Old Spot cross Oxford Sandy Black weaners are another new breed for Oaktrack and the couple are looking forward to seeing how the pigs mature and develop.

Farming on a small scale on their four-acre smallholding enables Tina and Jim to keep a close eye on all the new arrivals, ensuring they settle in and are able to maintain the best care and welfare for their livestock. “There is never a dull moment on the smallholding

whether its livestock, gardening or keeping on top of producing supplies for the farm shop. For my husband Jim and I, smallholding is very much a way of life, not just a business,” owner Tina Wells comments.

If you would like to keep up to date with all the latest news and events at Oaktrack follow them on Facebook (@oaktrack) and Instagram (@oaktracksmallholding) or subscribe to their newsletter via the website at www.oaktrack.co.uk.

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List of Charlton Parish Councillors

Chair	Jacqueline Smith	07938 561609	cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk
Vice Chair	Clive Ward	07538 596344	cllrcward@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Ian Smale	07421 354874	cllrismale@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Phil Wylde	07775 852024	philwylde@ntlworld.com
	Caroline Mills	01264 749882	cllrcmills@charltonvillage.org.uk
	Andy Gibbs		
	Vacancy x 3		
Clerk	Heather Bournier	07880 706601	clerk@charltonvillage.org.uk
Test Valley	Linda Lashbrook	07766 708 061	llashbrook@testvalley.gov.uk
Hampshire County	Christopher Donnelly	07738 289858	CllrC.Donnelly@hants.gov.uk

First Point of Contact

Emergency resilience planning	Cllr Ward	Planning	Cllrs Wylde, Smale
Speed watch	Cllrs Smale, Ward and Mills	Carters Meadow	Cllrs Smale and Mills
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

LOCAL INFORMATION

Contact Group leader for current arrangements

CLUB	LEADER	CONTACT	DAY	TIME
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
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 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 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 edition
- Quarter page A6 portrait (12cm high x 8cm wide) - £30 per 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 or via the post-boxes on the Village Noticeboards

Facebook - Charlton Chat

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

This is run for the community. If you have something to say or share then please post it on the visitors' section. You can also send a Facebook message and we will action.

If you don't use Facebook but would still like to get in touch then email Cllrsmith@charltonvillage.org.uk

Enham Village Post Office & Stores

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas advent raffle, we raised £1000 which was split between the Countess of Brecknock hospice and the Landale Wilson landscaping project,

We have been making some changes and improvements to the shop space and have added more to our 'Free From' range.



As well as fresh flowers and plants, Spring bulbs and packet seeds will be in soon.

Our big news to share with you is Leslie is very proud to have been awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) in King Charles' first new year's honours list, for services to the Post Office and to the community of Enham Alamein.

She has asked for her heartfelt thanks to be passed on to everyone who has sent congratulations. Her investiture is March 20th so will be happy to show everyone the BEM then.

A last little reminder, if the shop is open the Post Office is too so that's 7 days a week availability.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Tim, Leslie and team.

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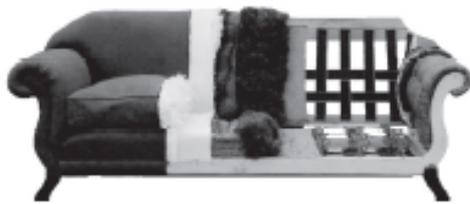
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The connection between spinal alignment and mood.

Many people are aware of the benefits of exercise, nutrition, and stress management for maintaining good mental health. But have you ever considered how spinal alignment may also be a crucial part of the puzzle?

At Calmer Living we are trained to diagnose and care for conditions that affect the musculoskeletal system, including the spine. By correcting spinal misalignments, we aim to improve the function of the nervous system and restore the body's natural ability to heal itself.

One of the ways in which spinal alignment may affect mental health is through its impact on the nervous system. This system is the body's primary means of communication, and it is responsible for transmitting signals between the brain and the rest of the body. When the spine is misaligned in certain ways, it may put pressure on the nerves, which can interfere with proper function. This can lead to a range of symptoms, including anxiety and irritability-especially when pain is present.

Adjustments may also help improve sleep quality, which is an important factor in maintaining good mental health. When the spine is misaligned, it can lead to discomfort and pain, which can make it difficult to get a good night's sleep. By correcting spinal misalignments, advising on good sleep hygiene and nutritional advice sleep quality may be improved.

It's important to note that chiropractic care is not a cure for mental health conditions, but it may be an effective complementary way to improve symptoms and enhance overall well-being.

If you would like more information go to www.calmerlivingchiropractic.co.uk or email: clare@calmerlivingchiropractic.co.uk to receive 25% off a New Patient Consultation.



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