

East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere Society



EWB Neighbourcare



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We are here for you – one number to have:

- prescriptions delivered
- shopping collected
- a friendly chat on the phone

01635 745 600

Supporting Each Other – Mental Health

As many of you may be aware, this week is Mental Health Awareness Week and its theme is kindness. With the extraordinary situation we find ourselves in there's probably never been a more apt time to look out for our friends, colleagues and family members – some of whom may have pre-existing mental health conditions, but others of whom may be experiencing stress and anxiety as a result of the pandemic, its restrictions and the impact on our everyday life.

However, it's not just about others, self-kindness is also very important, not for purely selfish reasons, but because taking time to rest and relax (even if this seems impossible on many days) and improve our own wellbeing is vital for us to be able to continue to work and care for others.



Neighbourcare is always here to help and we have a team of trained people who are available at the end of the phone. If you, or anyone in your family, or anyone you know is in need of well-being support we are only a phone call away: **01635 745600**. : <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus/random-acts-kindness>

Clap for Carers / NHS – a time for a chat too

Every Thursday at 8pm we go outside and clap to show our appreciation for key workers. Another wonderful benefit is that we also see our neighbours and, because of the self-isolation, it's our chance to chat over the fence and catch up on the news.

We were recently sent this photo of Mark Baker, a neighbour of Bertha Bates, in Broadlayings wearing his NHS coloured wig during the 'Clap for Carers'. Well done Mark!



Woolton Hill Surgery & Neighbourcare

Woolton Hill surgery has come in for praise from patients recently on local social media sites. Underlining the message in a previous newsletter there have been three parents who have expressed their relief and delight in the speedy service from the surgery.

“Great service from Woolton Hill today” wrote one parent “Called this morning, got a call back from the Doctor very quickly, received a clear diagnosis and antibiotics were delivered a few hours later. Well done to everyone!”

This was quickly echoed by two other parents:

“I had the same excellent service last week for my son. Brilliant service from the surgery reception, Doctor and Neighbourcare who delivered his prescription medication within hours.”

“I rang regarding my daughter, got a call back within the hour and prescription medication delivered an hour after that. Great service, thanks to all concerned”

and by many others in agreement.

It is a clear demonstration of how well the surgery is working in these difficult times and how, together with the delivery service Neighbourcare has put in place, patients are being given the best possible assistance.

On a daily basis, Neighbourcare collects prescriptions from Woolton Hill surgery and delivers throughout the area. For standard repeat prescriptions, a call to the Neighbourcare line on **01635 745600** before 1.30pm Monday to Thursday will result in medication being delivered the following day usually around lunchtime; a turn round of less than 24 hours. Fridays are a little different and medication will be delivered on the following Monday.



The Neighbourcare line is open from 9am to 5pm but out of these hours a message can be left which will be picked up and actioned by a co-ordinator. You can also request online at www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk

If there is need for medication which our surgery doesn't carry, then a driver can collect the prescription from the surgery, take it to the designated pharmacy for dispensing and deliver to the patient. Wherever possible Neighbourcare tries to ensure that if you, or a member of your family, are ill, then medication can be brought to your door so that you can stay safe and protect the others of your household.

This service is **free**. If you are a patient of the surgery and would like assistance, we are here to deliver to you. For very many people in the area, it has proved a great help and we are now approaching 2000 deliveries since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. Coordinators who register delivery requests are frequently thanked and told by callers how important the service is to them, often for different reasons dependent on their circumstances. Drivers also report back on a daily basis the thanks of those to whom they have delivered, saving them a trip to the surgery where there may be a queue.

Please note the surgery will be closed on Monday 25th May and there will be no Neighbourcare deliveries that day – normal service will resume on Tuesday.

From the Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale

It is so wonderful to see the continued community response of compassion and support in this time of need. Thank you to everyone.

It remains the case that we must keep our church buildings closed and cannot hold public worship. Online services by 'Zoom' however continue, there was a bit of a countrywide 'Zoom blip' last Sunday morning when a number of folk had trouble joining the service. However, I was able to lead Thursday's online Ascension Day service from my spare bedroom and all went smoothly - so things seem to be back up and running again! This coming Sunday (24th May) we are online at 11.00am for Holy Communion and 6.00pm for Evensong. If you would like to join our e-mail circulation for details and joining codes for services, please send your e-mail address to me (contact details below).



Image from the online Ascension Day service

If you are missing our annual church fetes, sadly also not being held because of the current restrictions, and in particular the opportunity to stock up with plants for your garden, then fear not! I am glad to report that 'fete' plants are still available from our usual generous and keen gardeners:

Erica Harman is selling plants in aid of St Michael & All Angels' Church, Highclere from her garden gate (Brook House, Church Lane, Highclere (01635 253786)).

Sarah Porter is selling plants in aid of St Martin's Church, East Woodhay, from outside her home at the top of Gore End Road, Ball Hill.

Chris Vane is also planning to hold a plant sale early in July in aid of St Thomas' Church, Woolton Hill.

with every blessing to you all
Revd. Canon Christine Dale
(e-mail: cdale001@btinternet.com, Tel. 01635 253323)

Basingstoke & Deane - Planning

The Development Control Committee of the borough council held its first virtual committee meeting this week to ensure that planning applications continue to be considered. Another virtual meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday 27th May. A virtual meeting means that councillors, officers and those wishing to make representations to the committee can do so online without having to be physically present, ensuring social distancing is maintained.

The meetings are live streamed online in the usual way so that they can be watched through the council's website. <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/webcast>

In due course recordings of the meeting will be available through the council's You Tube pages, BasingstokeGov.

Garden Waste and Bulky Waste Services to resume

Some waste and recycling services in Basingstoke and Deane are set to resume from next week as staffing levels begin to stabilise following the COVID-19 outbreak.

Bulky waste and garden waste collections services will be reintroduced in phases as part of a plan agreed with bin contractor Serco.

The staggered approach will see those services requiring the fewest staff brought back online first to ensure the existing waste, recycling and clinical waste services can be maintained for the duration of the pandemic.

Waste collections, which were reduced to a fortnightly collection on Monday 20 April and have the biggest impact on staffing, will remain on the current collection schedule until both the council and Serco are confident the weekly service can be sustained by the crews during the pandemic.

Bookings for the council's bulky waste collection service will go live on Tuesday 26 May, with collections starting the following week. Residents can request a booking online at

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bulkywaste

Deliveries of bins and glass containers to residents who have requested them, will also start from this date.

Following the suspension of the service in March, garden waste customers will see a return to their fortnightly collection service from mid-June. All existing customers will receive a letter advising them of the start date and information regarding the extension of their annual subscription. No new customers can be accepted to the service at this time, but this will be reviewed.

Monitoring of the services and staffing numbers affected by self-isolation will continue to take place. If a reliable service cannot be maintained or if waste, recycling or clinical waste services are affected, these services could be suspended again.

For more information on the services and frequently asked questions visit

<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/covid-19-bins-and-recycling>

The Chase – Latest news

The contractor is onsite at the Chase and working on the clear up. At this moment we do not yet have a date for the Chase to be reopened. As a reminder, please keep out of the Chase until the work is completed. More news next week.

Basingstoke & Deane – Mayor & Chief Executive

Cllr Diane Taylor is staying on as Basingstoke and Deane's Mayor for another year,

The decision came after local authorities were granted a number of emergency powers through the Coronavirus Regulations 2020, including being able to not hold an annual general meeting. It is in line with the earlier decision to postpone the borough council elections due in May this year until May 2021.

Cllr Taylor will make history as the first Basingstoke and Deane Mayor to serve two consecutive terms since the council became a borough in 1978.

Mel Barrett, the borough's chief executive has also announced that he will be leaving in September after five years in charge to take up the role of Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council. The borough will now begin the search for a new Chief Executive and an appointment is expected later in the year.

Shopping & Deliveries

Yew Tree Garden Centre :

Just in:

Osteospermums,
Geraniums,
Bacopa,
Triobells,
Felicia,
Hydrangea,
Scaevola,
Fuchsia and many more.....



The Rampant Cat

Message from the Rampant Cat - 'We are still amazed after your support from our first sold out weekend of being a takeaway, Thank You!.

We will be serving our roast dinners in takeaway form from this Sunday. Please look at separate menu for options. [HERE](#) '

Newbury Market is open and Fruit & Veg stall is now back along with all the regulars. Strict social distancing is in place.

Woodland Stores 01635 253651 and **Woolton Hill Stores/Post Office** (253463) are both well stocked, selling bread and cakes from Halls Bakery. Woodland Stores is now open on Saturday from 9am to 8pm.

Regular outlets:

Red House – Highclere for takeaway 01635 255 531 <https://www.thehighclereredhouse.com>

The Pheasant – Highclere, 01635 253360 <https://www.thepheasanthighclere.co.uk/blog>

The Blue Dolphin at Wash Common is open for collections Tues – Sat. Order on line [HERE](#)

Lusso pizza and ice cream, 01635 32128 <https://www.lussokitchen.co.uk>

Andrew North, **Fresh Fish**, car park - Highclere Red House at 2.30ish every Friday afternoon

Mio Fiore in Newbury takeaway service at <https://www.miofiore.co.uk>

Fancy **in home dining** then John at <https://www.casualdiningbyjohn.com/market-place>

Quizzes & Games

Regular events - Jay's Virtual pub quiz every Thursday & Saturday evening at 8.15pm as well as a kids quiz on Monday at 10.30am and other speciality quizzes, on subjects from Harry Potter to Car Brands to Musicals... Click [HERE](#)

Macmillan Games Night In. Take part in a quiz, murder mystery or board game night and raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Click [Macmillan Games Night In](#) to download a pack

Play Dog Breed Bingo with the family on your daily walk – download a sheet [HERE](#)

Activities

For children - Interactive story telling for 3 to 7 years old. Proteus Theatre Space in Basingstoke are hosting 'Conversations with Colin' about an alien landing on earth today. May 28th 10.00 am on facebook. Click [HERE](#)

For Children – The Corn Exchange offers mini make and do sessions during half term week Click [HERE](#) to sign up

For those with dementia and their carers – Hampshire Cultural Trust are publishing regular activity packs titled 'Still Curious' – see [HERE](#) to download

Adults - Learn a new skill – local artist Bethany Milam is offering a series of free on line art classes, covering portraits, watercolours and more. Click [HERE](#) for details

For anyone interested in puppetry – The Watermill Theatre has a series of downloads – interviews with a puppeteer, guides for making puppets and exercises for making your puppet come to life! Click [HERE](#)

Watch free live stream performances

– from English National Ballet - **SWAN LAKE** streams for 2 days from Wednesday 27th click [HERE](#)

- from the National Theatre – **A Streetcar Named Desire** available on YouTube from Thursday evening 7pm. To find out more, click [HERE](#)

Walking in the area

There are some lovely walks in the area and it is a lovely time of the year to enjoy them but please remember to social distance from others. The AONB have produced a leaflet which is posted on the Woolton Hill website [HERE](#)
If you know of a good walk then please let us know via the contact [LINK](#) - great to share.



Photo courtesy of John Priest

Next Newsletter

The following newsletter will be issued next week. You can request to receive this newsletter directly by registering via the website below:

www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk

East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere
Society



EWH Neighbourcare

