



Village Shop News Update

Telephone – 01295 760066

The Festive Season & New Year period saw more positive support for the Shop with sales in December up on the prior year by 11.6%. The Christmas Order Forms were a big success & we once again we learnt a lot from the exercise but probably most important was getting them to you early enough allowing you to include us in your planning. Thank you for giving us your custom when there are so many others fighting for your attention & money. Throughout 2012 I wrote a news update for the Shop's performance & each month my comments were pretty constant. Resisting the drum roll, I can now tell you that we ended the year just under 5% ahead in total gross sales through our till against 2011 at a grand total of £134,500. Month on month comparison against 2011 saw us ahead in takings for 10 months. February is the month for the Oscars so I'll keep the 'acknowledgement speech' short. Great results all made possible through your custom along with the hard work & the support of our wonderful Volunteers. Thanks must also go to you Jane for once again for arranging the emergency cover, including your own time 'behind the counter' & our condolences to David at this sad time for him & his family. Our volunteers make all that we do possible & this is just another shining example!

More good news which will help improve the service that we provide still further. By the time that you read this we should have our new EPOS system in place which we believe will make the management & reporting of the Shop easier than the old system which was in place since we opened in 2004. Training modules will be delivered to our Volunteers at the end of January & into February. So how will this touch screen technology benefit you? Three key areas really:

1. We will be able to accept Debit Cards for payment alongside the current cash & reverse credit options (note; we will not be accepting Credit Cards).
2. Our stock can be priced
3. Your purchases should be quicker

It's an investment that we believe as your Management Committee will help us understand the nuances of our community based business more completely allowing us to provide a better all round service to Sulgrave & the surrounding villages.

So finally we move on to the challenges of 2013; as ever, if you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can improve the services that we provide for you personally then do please let us know. Belated New Year wishes & I look forward to reporting our progress to you each month.

'Mac' Macdonald

01295 760470

'John the Post's' Memorial Bench

The order for an engraved 5 foot wide oak bench has been placed with the supplier which we hope will be delivered towards the end of February & positioned proudly outside our Shop in March. Thank you once again for being so generous in creating a long lasting & fitting tribute to John.

Ken Christy, Wysteria Cottage, Helmdon Road, Sulgrave

'Mac' Macdonald, Grafton House, Park Lane, Sulgrave