



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone – 01295 760066



**Shop opening hours:** Monday 8 am – 1 pm      Tuesday to Friday 8 am – 6 pm  
Saturday 8.30 am – 3 pm      Sunday 9 am – 12 noon

**Post Office opening hours:** Tuesday to Friday 9 am - 1 pm

Phew! What a scorcher! But who's complaining? The glorious summer weather has been good for the shop - encouraging lots of passing trade including hordes of sweaty cyclists dropping in to rehydrate and buy ice-creams. Last month, various local events brought in many extra customers and the first weekend of July was one of our busiest ever. Trade has been so brisk that it has been quite a battle to keep the cooler shelves stocked up and to ensure that we haven't run out of popular lines.

The endless sunshine brought the barbecues out from the backs of sheds and garages so, for as long as the hot weather lasts, we shall be stocking bags of barbecue charcoal. We also have a nice new range of summery greetings cards.

The new recyclable coffee mugs have now arrived so we encourage regular caffeine junkies to buy a mug for the bargain price of £3 and save 20p each time they buy a coffee. The environment will be grateful.

Wine sales continue to break records – but some customers have asked why we don't stock a few rather more expensive wines. The answer is that we have limited shelf space and have found, from experience, that wines above a certain price level are slow to move. However, Digby would be very happy to source some higher quality wines if customers require them. Just let him know what wine style or grape variety you are interested in and what sort of price per bottle you would be prepared to pay and he will happily do some research.

We are going through a partial changing of the guard at the shop. Celia Stimpson will be standing down as volunteer coordinator at the end of August and her role will be taken over by David Walker. Many thanks to Celia for all her efforts over the past years and thank you David for taking on this onerous task.

Colin Wootton has, with regret, retired from baking duties at the shop much to the chagrin of consumers who delighted in his perfectly cooked pasties and sausage rolls. Thank you Colin for availing us of your patisserie skills for so many years. Colin's departure leaves us with a need for a replacement to join our team of *boulangers* so if anyone would be prepared to come in on one or two mornings a week and take on this important role please contact the shop.

Many people are not aware that the shop runs a reverse credit system for regular customers. It's simple to set up and very convenient. Just open an account (forms available at the shop) and pay in some money - then, each time you make a purchase, give your account number and the cost of your purchase will be charged to your account. When your balance gets a bit low you can top up your account with cash, cheque or debit card. Easy peasy. As well as being convenient for you, by opening an account you will benefit the shop as it will reduce the number of card transactions, each of which incurs a significant cost.

Sadly, our lovely shop supervisor Tracey Speed will be leaving us at the end of this month. Tracey has been a huge asset to the shop, not only providing cool efficiency and a smiling face on the shop floor, but also taking on the often tedious back-office duties. Good luck for the future, Tracey - you will be sadly missed.

The observant amongst you may have noticed that the shop sign at the end of Magpie Road is looking rather smarter than it has of late. Many thanks to Ian Cherry for removing it from its gallows and bringing it to Digby to scrape off the grime, mould and rust and provide a little titivation.

Let's hope that August brings some rain for the parched gardens - but not too much.

Digby and Alison