



## 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

As you may have noticed, the Shop and Post Office is now protected by a hi-tech CCTV system which covers both the interior of the shop and the roads outside. This should now serve as a strong deterrent to any would-be criminals.

Sadly we must report that we didn't win out, of the 5 finalists, in the Village Shop/Post Office category in the Midlands final of the CA Awards but we have been Highly Commended and now have a fancy certificate to put on the wall in the shop. Maybe we will crack it next year but as there were 17,000 nominations this year I suppose we mustn't be too disappointed.

The first draw of the volunteer sweepstake took place last month and the lucky winners were all delighted to receive their chosen prizes. If you are a volunteer it could be you this month.

Like a duck paddling on a calm pond – there is a great deal going on behind the scenes at the shop that most people are not aware of. Over the years the stock management and recording system had become a bit clogged up with the result that there were literally thousands of items on the list that are not actually in stock. Volunteer Anne Alan with assistance from various quarters has been putting in the hours to rationalise the system and remove all the dead wood. Many thanks Anne for your valiant efforts. Recruitment for a replacement for the sadly missed Jackie is now underway and we hope to be able to announce the name of the new co-supervisor to work alongside Jeanette, in next month's news-letter.

With Spring upon us, the early-season fruit and vegetables are back in stock. Our locally grown asparagus has been very popular and we can barely keep up with the demand for raspberries and strawberries. Ice lollies and ice creams are back in the freezer in readiness for 'flaming' June and we will be stocking bags of charcoal again for your summer barbeques.

Some new wines will soon be trickling on to the shelves including a very toothsome Clare valley Riesling which should prove popular for sipping on a warm evening. With NGS Open Gardens being held in the village again this year on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June we plan to have the shop open during the afternoon in case you need a cool drink, ice cream or even a bottle of wine on your trek around the gardens.

We are trialling a new range of freshly-made sandwiches delivered from our regular Brackley baker this month. They look yummy and are proving to be very popular. We also have a fantastic new range of greeting cards in the racks including some for births and condolences.

In case anyone is wondering, we shall not be holding our AGM in June this year as our accounting date has now been changed to the end of March. This means that in future our AGM will be in September. A date for this year's AGM will be fixed nearer the time.

Don't forget, if there is anything that you would like the shop to stock that isn't already on the shelves, pop your suggestion into the box by the till and we will do our best to satisfy your needs.

Alison and Digby