



Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone: 01295 760 066  e-mail: svshop@hotmail.com

Well, Spring is almost sprung and the grass will soon be riz – so it is once again time to oil the lawn-mower and blow the dust off the garden furniture. As for the 'boidies', the chiff-chaffs should have already arrived from the Mediterranean and West Africa and they will soon be joined by willow-warblers and swallows. Almost time to sit in the garden with a glass of wine.

The shop has faced a tough month as both of our supervisors were off for a number of weeks and our trusty band of volunteers have had to put their collective shoulders to the wheel in order to keep things running smoothly. As usual, everyone responded brilliantly to the call so many thanks to all those who chipped in. Special thanks are due to Sally Elliot and Anne Allan who took over the supervisors' and PO duties.

With the clocks going forward and the days getting longer, folks will be more inclined to venture out in the evenings so, from Tuesday 6th April (the day after the Easter weekend), the shop will stay open for an extra hour, closing again at 6pm rather than 5pm. The Shop and Post Office opening times over the Easter period are listed below.

There have been a number of changes in the personnel running shop operations in the last month. Mel Kirkpatrick has taken over the onerous task of putting together the weekly volunteer rota from David Walker and has done a brilliant job. Filling all the slots and applying gentle arm-twisting when necessary is not easy – so well done Mel.

There has been a major changing of the guard on the Management Committee as Anna Faure has just signed up as our Treasurer. She takes over from Robin Prior who has overseen the finances of the shop since its inception 17 years ago. Robin has a vast amount of accumulated knowledge so will remain in the background as an '*éminence grise*' though officially we refer to him as a consultant. Zoe McCrow has already taken over the book-keeping and payment duties from Robin and is doing an excellent job.

It's great to see that some new faces have joined our band of merry volunteers on the shop floor. We can never have too many so, if you are still dithering, please step forward and contact Mel at melkirkp@hotmail.com who will be delighted to add your name to the list.

The trial run of Smith and Clay (Brackley Butchers) sausages has been a success so we shall probably be keeping them on as a regular line. They really are great bangers. The yummy Russell and Atwell fresh chocolates are also proving very popular and the current stock will remain in tip-top condition in the chiller through to the end of the month. Remember to keep your eye on Nextdoor, Facebook and Instagram for the latest product news and promotions.

Word has clearly got out that the shop is baking again and the smell of fresh sausage rolls and pasties is luring in a steady stream of passing trade each morning. The weekend croissants and *pains au chocolat* are also in demand – and, if you are worried about missing out on a croissant with your morning coffee, you can always place an order the day before.

We shall be sticking to the 'one in, one out' policy for customers for the time being but if, as we all hope, the pandemic continues to recede, we may soon be able to get back to the hustle, bustle and buzz of the good old days. Fingers crossed for 21st June if not before.

And finally, don't forget you can make a donation to the local food bank run by Father Nick, through the shop.

A Happy Easter to one and all.

Digby and Alison

EASTER 2021 - SHOP & POST OFFICE OPENING HOURS

	SHOP	POST OFFICE
Thursday 1st April	8.00am - 5.00pm	9.00am - 1.00pm
Friday 2nd April (Good Friday)	8.00am – Noon	9.00am – Noon
Saturday 3rd April	8.30am - Noon	Closed
Sunday 4th April	9.00am - Noon	Closed
Monday 5th April (Easter Monday)	Closed	Closed
Tuesday 6th April	8.00am - 6.00pm	9.00am - 1.00pm