



## Village Shop News Update

Shop Telephone: 01295 760 066



e-mail: [svshop@hotmail.com](mailto:svshop@hotmail.com)

When there is a crisis about finding volunteers to fill a shift, when the till locks up and we are unable to close, when we have overestimated the demand for croissants and there is a big pile left over at the end of the Sunday morning shift – we must just sing along with Bob Marley – “Don’t worry about a thing, ’cause every little thing gonna be all right” - And it usually is.

But the shortage of volunteers is an on-going issue, especially during the summer months when many of our regulars are on holiday. So, for fear of sounding like a stuck record, we must again get down on our knees and beg for help. If you live in the village but have never volunteered – please consider giving it a go. It isn’t difficult, you will always be working alongside someone else, you will be expertly mentored, and you really will be helping the community. If you already do one shift a week, could you possibly squeeze in a second? And, if you are new to the village, do consider joining our merry band as it is a great way to get to know everyone and it can also be fun. Everyone agrees that the shop has been a huge asset to the village and the surrounding area but without willing volunteers, it would not exist.

Our fresh fruit and vegetables, which are collected throughout the week from our local supplier, are in huge demand and we are constantly having to re-order to maintain stocks. Our wonderful strawberries have been disappearing almost as quickly as they arrive.

There are plenty of new goodies on the shelves this month. Colin Russell’s Sulgrave honey is back in stock and it’s the real deal. We have an assortment of tasty new nibbles including Stag seaweed oatcakes, Great British Biscotti in ‘chorizo and cheddar’ and ‘almond’ flavours, Cuoco Florentines and, if you fancy a change for breakfast, The Great British Porridge Company’s strawberry and peanut butter flavoured porridge oats. A new selection of ice lollies has just arrived in readiness for the predicted heat wave (Hmm – we shall see!). There should be a new “cheese of the month” for August but, at the time of writing this, we are not sure what it will be.

Some new wines will be filtering on to the shelves as old stocks run out so watch out for the excellent Aimone Italian blend which was very popular when we last had it in stock, a tangy South African chenin blanc and a cracking new Argentinian malbec. We now have three rosés (two from Italy and one from Spain and each with a different character) to enhance those long warm summer evenings which are bound to come (aren’t they?).

To end on a high note, at the pop-up picnic event held on Castle Green on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, Chairman of Sulgrave Parish Council, Richard Fonge, presented a beautiful water-colour painting of the shop in recognition of the efforts made by the Shop Management Committee, staff and volunteers to support the community during the very difficult times that we have all endured. Many thanks to Richard and the SPC for this lovely gesture and we shall ensure that the painting takes pride of place on the shop wall.

Enjoy the Summer holidays

Digby and Alison