Dear all,
In these unprecedented times we are all trying to come to terms with a new way of life.
Village News aims to convey useful local information as well as bring a small ray of sunshine...
It’s your newsletter so please tell us what you would like to see published. We’re thinking of publishing this every fortnight. Is that the right frequency?
Also, not everyone is on the internet. If your neighbour isn’t connected, please think about printing a copy for them.
And not everyone is signed up yet so please encourage people (connected or not) to opt-in.
Stay safe!

Yvette Ruggins

Local Volunteers
Please continue to be a Good Neighbour and be aware of those who live alone.
There’s also the emergency ‘cascade’ system in place.
Potential volunteers should contact Lynne Jackson (Chair, Parish Council) on 820408 or Annie Van Rossem on 820718
Don’t forget that a cheerful voice at the end of a ‘phone can do wonders.

National Volunteers
In less than a week over 750,000 people nationally have volunteered to protect highly vulnerable people, enabling them to stay safe & well at home.
There are a number of ways to help:
1) telephone ‘check in & chat’
2) Community Response Volunteer
3) Patient Transport Volunteer
4) NHS Transport Volunteer
All these roles are crucial and will support the NHS.
See www.goodsamapp.org where you can sign up.

Local What’sApp Group
There’s a new What’sApp Group for Brockhampton & Sevenhampton. It’s an informal and immediate way to share thoughts, ideas and, if necessary, ask for help.
If you’d like to join, email villagedates@gmail.com or text Petrina on 07775 617749 or Beth on 07868 704681

Support our pub!
The Craven Arms is still offering a takeaway service (Thurs -Sat), also delivering to the vulnerable & those self-isolating. Not only is this a welcome and tasty alternative to home cooking*, it supports our local pub.
Well done Barbara and Sam!
Call The Craven Arms on 820410

* I can’t cook fish & chips!
**Village Dates cont..**

**Clap for Carers**

Last Thursday evening at 8pm many of you will have stood at your front door or window and shown your appreciation for the NHS and carers.

It’s a small gesture but it shows these wonderful people (including residents in our villages) that we really, really appreciate what they are doing for all of us.

We hope this becomes a weekly ‘event’. Keep your eye out for details!

#thankyouNHS #clapforourcarers

Let’s not forget others keeping our country going: Police, firefighters, teachers, carers, refuse collectors, utility workers, banking staff, shop keepers and assistants, delivery drivers, postmen and so many others...

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**Waste and recycling collections**

Household waste & recycling collections are operating in line with the new service and are not affected by Coronavirus.

Do not leave extra bags at the side of your bin, the Council will not be able to collect them.

Leave out your normal amount of recycling for collection.

**Garden Waste**

Garden waste collections are now suspended due to a number of waste collection staff who are self-isolating.

Please do not attempt to take any garden waste to any of the County Council’s Household Recycling Centres, as these are currently closed.

There will be an update on when the service will start again ASAP.

**What to do with your rubbish if you have Coronavirus or are self-isolating**

Follow the guidance on the Public Health England website if anyone in your household suspects they have Coronavirus.

Individuals with confirmed Coronavirus should store their personal waste (e.g. used tissues, disposable cleaning cloths etc.) securely in disposable bags. These bags should be placed into another bag and securely tied/sealed and kept separate from other waste. This must be stored for at least 72 hours before being put in your usual household waste bin.

Other household waste can be disposed of as normal.

**Recycling centres**

All household waste recycling centres are now closed following Government advice, until further notice.

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**Defibrillator Code:**

1904 then press tick

The defibrillator is on the outside wall of the Rhodes Memorial Hall, to the right of the notice-board

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**Scams, scams, inglorious scams & thefts**

It is very sad to see a small number of people taking advantage of the situation and trying to fleece us. Be vigilant, don’t give information or bank details to an unsolicited caller and be careful before you click on links.

Banks, HMRC & Police will never ask you for bank details.

Pass information onto the Police by calling 101 unless it’s an emergency.

For further information: www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk

For tips on how to work safely from home: www.getsafeonline.org/coronavirus

Also, keep an eye on your outbuildings and property. Thieves aren’t observing the ‘Stay at Home’ requirement.

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**‘Social Distancing’ - some exceptions**

This week, Police broke up a gathering of 10 cars/15 people coming to see the short-eared owls at the top of Brockhampton. They had come from Birmingham, Swindon and various parts of The Cotswolds.

This Thursday, Police reported that there were 17 people having a picnic at Broadway Tower.

Words fail me........

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**Google ‘ladybird book on COVID-19’ to download it. A touch of humour to brighten your day!**

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Hadfield Fine Art is showing a series of online themed exhibitions in addition to the online shop.

The first is “Flora” and is available to view at www.hadfieldfineart.co.uk

Call 821251 or email info@hadfieldfineart.co.uk

Hadfield Fine Art is based in Sevenhampton