

Newick Community Response

Support and Help during the Covid-19 Pandemic (Issue 7)

St Mary's Church, Newick Parish Council, the village pastoral care team and many wonderful volunteers have been working closely together to support our community since the start of the outbreak of Covid-19. We have Newick Community Response (NCR) email newickcommunityresponse@gmail.com for Parishioners who need help and people able to offer help. The Facebook group 'Newick Community Response Covid 19 – Mutual Aid' is offering real time help for those who need it. The website www.newickcovid19.org.uk and the additional Covid 19 tab to the Newick.net website are central sources of information.

We have had some glorious weather recently and residents who are undertaking their daily exercise have been discovering new walks and the beautiful countryside we are so lucky to live in. Newick Rootz is a volunteer group formed in 2011 under the guidance of the East Sussex County Council and with the support of the Newick Parish Council. Under normal circumstances the group is actively engaged in maintaining and improving public footpaths in the Parish. If you are looking for a new route they have a footpath map which can be viewed at <http://newickrootz.org.uk/maps.html> - there's also a hard copy in the latest Parish Council newsletter that was delivered in March. Whilst more people have been out and about this has resulted in an increase in litter. Sadly dog waste bags, gloves and masks have been found littered in the village.

When VE Day dawns on 8th May 2020 it will be 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Many celebrations were planned for the weekend which have now been cancelled or postponed. The Royal British Legion website includes suggestions and ideas of how we can still mark the occasion and an educational learning pack. <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75> They suggest a two-minute national silence at 11am. At 2.45pm the first of two special BBC One programmes will be shown to mark VE75, including extract from Sir Winston Churchill's victory speech delivered at 3pm on VE Day. In the afternoon Britons are encouraged to hold 1940s-style afternoon tea parties at home rather than street parties, including homemade bunting and recipes from the era. <https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/plan-your-ve-day-party/> NEASSA are planning a fun family 'Virtual Village Quiz' to remember the armed services on VE75 Day, as well as recognising our Emergency Services and NHS at this time. It will take place online at 7pm on Friday 8th May. Full details will be available on their website www.neassa.org/VE75. Any questions please contact Ashley Stockwell on hello@neassa.org. At 9pm there will be an address by the Queen followed by national doorstep rendition of Dame Vera Lynn's We'll Meet Again.

NCR is still supporting vulnerable members of the community. For those residents who are unable to book grocery slots online, cannot call on family or neighbours and are unable to visit stores themselves, please drop an email to the address above and we can see how we can support! The volunteer response system is working well, and NCR are able to react quickly to people's needs e.g for prescriptions. As always, a huge thanks to all those that are helping. It has been great to see people are supporting each other by sharing jigsaws games, wool etc. which makes such a difference, Patsy continues to be willing to help with the distribution if necessary.

A reminder of the key contacts - if you are aware of any of your neighbours who are vulnerable and are without a family, please contact Patsy Bailey on 01825 722590 or Revd Paul on 01825 723186. Newick Distress Trust for donations or financial assistance please contact Geoff Clinton on 01825 722512 or Revd Paul on 01825 723186. Full details of the government measures can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus

This week Boris Johnson urged people not to lose patience with the lockdown and we ask our Parishioners the very same thing. "Patience is not the ability to wait, but the ability to keep a good attitude while waiting." – Anonymous quote.

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