

Newick Community Response

Support and Help during the Corvid-19 Pandemic (Issue 4)

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. Lewes District Council has launched a Community Hub which offers help on a district level, use the form on their website to request support for yourself or others online at <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/community/covid-19/request-support-for-vulnerable-residents/> or call 01273 099 956.

Newick Community Response now has around 100 people on the 'vulnerable' list, who have been linked up with phone buddies and where necessary have a process in place for provisions. There has been a huge response from volunteers which is wonderful. Another leaflet drop is planned for the Easter weekend as a reminder that there is support and Easter cards being delivered. Volunteers are even making jams and chutneys to give to those on the list who are on their own.

Sadly, the Parish Council have received complaints about cyclists and runners where there have been instances where people have not been adhering to the 2 metre social distancing guidelines. When out taking our daily exercise would all walkers, cyclists and runners please have consideration for others doing the same. The majority of roads and lanes around the village are narrow, so to allow for safe distance we would suggest that all walkers, cyclists and runners use single file when passing others on the road.

There have been some amazing ideas to keep entertained posted on Newick Talk and the Newick Community Response Facebook pages. Many food providers in the village and local area are now offering takeaways delivered to the doorsteps of Newick. There are people sewing bags for NHS staff to carry their uniforms. There is even a quiz which was set up when the Newick Pub league had to cease due to the coronavirus. The aim being to help people socialise and relieve the tedium of being under lockdown. The quiz runs twice a week, with a live version Tuesday and Friday evenings which is then posted on their website the next day. The quiz is free to everyone and there are no prizes. If anyone needs relief from boredom, we encourage them to have a look and join in. See <https://www.chaileyandnewickpaintinggroup.com/social-distancing-quiz>

St Mary's Church is now closed for worship, except for funeral services and these will be restricted to immediate family only with social distancing applied. Online worship continues, see <https://newickchurch.org/services-2/> for more information. The Church remains a support and comfort with the Pastoral Team continuing to do their amazing work in the Parish.

Most have you will have heard the 'clap for carers' on a Thursday night at 8pm. The clap for our carers campaign encourages everyone in the UK to stand at their doorways and windows to applaud key workers helping in the fight against coronavirus. The first mass round of applause happened on Thursday 26 March to thank the NHS workers tirelessly battling the pandemic. Now the clapping has been extended to everyone "helping our world to keep turning", including emergency services, shop workers, delivery drivers, public transport staff, postal workers, teachers, refuse collectors, vets, cleaners and all key workers. The sound of Newick coming together has been both moving and inspiring. On Fridays at 5pm is the Door Step Dance Along (this week to the tune of HAPPY!), see the Newick Community Response Facebook page for weekly updates.

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 Rev Paul on 01825 723186. Newick Distress Trust for donations or financial assistance please contact Geoff Clinton on 01825 722512 or Rev Paul on 01825 723186. Full details of the government measures can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus Current medical advice is changing regularly so please CHECK UPDATES. More information on: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> If you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, your condition gets worse or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days. Use the online 111 system: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>. Or call 111 (only if you cannot help online).

Continue to work together, support your neighbours, friends and family. One of the marvellous things about community is that it enables us to help people in a way we couldn't as individuals

Please keep in touch and stay safe.

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