

WOODCHURCH COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY IN THESE CHALLENGING TIMES

Coordinated through Woodchurch HUB

**** This week's village updates as at 27 APRIL 2020 ****

Pandemic Central Support in Woodchurch – Woodchurch Working Together...

- **We are here to co-ordinate help for anyone in the village – please call us 01233 801 789.**
- Calls or emails to the Village Central Support Hotline will be picked up by our village Hotline Helpdesk Team who will then coordinate with one of our volunteers to support and complete the task.

It is not only the elderly and vulnerable who are being seriously affected as the lockdown continues




With the support already in place within the village to help the vulnerable and self-isolating residents manage during the lockdown, we are now ensuring that we are ready to support families who may become seriously impacted in other ways. As the restrictions continue some village residents may suddenly find themselves in a critical situation - for example where a family finds the primary wage earner has lost their income without being eligible for the government Furlough scheme and has therefore suddenly lost their only source of family income. Finding yourself in this situation can be distressing and it can be difficult to know what to do. If you are in this position, **please contact the Support Line** - and if you know of someone who is affected **please encourage them to phone**. All calls are treated in the strictest of confidence. Whilst the Support Line cannot provide any direct financial assistance there are grants and funding available from several sources (including one only available to Woodchurch residents) that may be able to assist through these unprecedented times. Please don't forget that we also have the **Woodchurch Foodbank** which is already helping some of the residents who are most in need.



Remember to follow us Woodchurch Hub on   
or visit www.woodchurchhub.uk for ongoing updates and information

How Woodchurch & our village groups are adapting at this time...

Each week we plan to highlight how our clubs or groups have found ways to stay together remotely to support each other and our community. **Please keep us updated and we are happy to share!** In addition to the groups mentioned last week these ones continue to be active:

The Big Thin Red Line 	Formulating a programme of VE Day 8 May Stay At Home Celebrations <u>and</u> asking for nominations for two people who deserve recognition to be presented with Woodchurch Community Awards on VE Day. 
Woodchurch Players 	The company of 'The 39 Steps' are meeting up via Zoom and hope to announce soon when the play will take place. They are recruiting for a director for next year's panto and a front of house co-ordinator – contact Les Fenton: bethles.fenton2@btinternet.com
Woodchurch Local History Society	Keeping in contact with WLHS members via email and members were asked to think back to their home town and select a statue, memorial or Blue Plaque of particular interest and send in a photo and a few descriptive paragraphs for inclusion in the May newsletter.

'Tainment Thursdays and Sharing Saturdays ...

We have been asked recently about arranging swaps, sales or giveaways of plants/seeds and puzzles/books around the village – what a great idea and we'd like to encourage this as a village as suggested below:

'Tainment **Thursdays** = Books and Puzzles
 Sharing **Saturdays** = Plants and Seeds

Please leave items at the end of drives on our suggested days for villagers to collect when enjoying daily exercise.

If you're keen to take part eg find a new puzzle/seedling, but are self-isolating/keyworker, please contact community@woodchurchhub.uk where there are people who are ready to help.

Key links from previous updates

Shopping <https://www.woodchurchhub.uk/pandemic-shopping/>

Walks <https://www.woodchurchhub.uk/woodchurch-community/walks-around-woodchurch/>

Woodchurch Surgery is not closed, rather their doors are locked. They thank the Village for the kind PPE donations received and ask **that donations of masks need to be "Type IIR" fluid resistant surgical.**

Volunteers – thank you to all our growing group of village volunteers – together we are making a difference.

Sharing a few smiles

- ☺ Thanks to **you** we were able to deliver **7** food boxes in and around our village this week.
- ☺ Great relief all around – following anxious requests from several keyworkers, the village toilet has now been reopened.
- ☺ How wonderful our village is looking at the moment ->



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PANDEMIC CENTRAL SUPPORT

01233 801 789 (please ensure to use dialing code)

Support@woodchurchhub.uk

www.woodchurchhub.uk

If you **need help** please call our team of village volunteers who are happy to help.

The idea is to match volunteers with people in need but this is not designed to replace any family & neighbour help, social care or NHS services that you may require.

If you **can help** please fill in the online form on www.woodchurchhub.uk or call 01233 861381. It is **brilliant** that a growing group of people are volunteering. We all need to be watchful and be ready to help our friends and neighbours at this challenging time.

Take every precaution to ensure that you are spreading only kindness. Wash hands regularly. Avoid unnecessary travel. Avoid physical contact (at least 2 metres distance). Supplies will be delivered to doorsteps, not inside homes.

Beware of scammers. Do not trust anyone you don't know who knocks on your door offering help. If in doubt contact the Central Support Hotline for advice 01233 801 789.

Stay at home if you have a fever or new persistent cough, and follow the latest government guidelines on www.111.nhs.uk/covid-19 or ring 111.

DO NOT ATTEND THE GP SURGERY

Recap on previous updates:

Pandemic Central Support - Support at this time is being coordinated nationally and this link illustrates how we are working together <https://www.woodchurchhub.uk/woodchurch-community/pandemic-home/>

Woodchurch Surgery is not closed, rather their doors are locked. The surgery has now gone live with **eConsult** which is accessed via a link on their website www.woodchurchsurgery.co.uk. Alternatively, patients can **call the Surgery on 01233 860 236**. If patients have difficulty collecting their prescriptions the Surgery can arrange delivery.

Shopping - For those that do have to go out for essential items or have an online shop please remember to look out for your neighbours (particularly those self-isolating and without internet access) and see if you can add extra items for them.

Church – Details of live streamed Sunday services and midweek noon and evening prayer are posted on the Church Benefice Website www.bhhw.org.uk. There is a prayer box at the front gate and a group of Christians will pray privately for those who are lonely, afraid or sick. Contact: Ann Tiplady (Church Warden) 01233 861 363. There is a YouTube channel and Facebook page for 'Bethersden High Halden Woodchurch Benefice'

Foodbank - If you have any food donations please drop them off (safely and only whilst on your daily walk) to these collection points: 132A Front Road (by gate) or 62 Lower Road (by front door) or 17 The Green (by front door)

If you **are in need** of foodbank donations please call the Central Support Helpline 01233 801789 or Ann Tiplady (Church Warden) 01233 861363.