

May 2020

The Bickleigh Bugle



Firstly thanks to the small team who have put together the help sheet and the feedback seems to be that everyone is looking out to residents thus making sure we all keep as well as we can.

For those who can get out for exercise it has been lovely to enjoy probably one of the hottest and driest Aprils ever witnessed in the U.K. May will undoubtedly go back to normal - but perhaps not? The primroses have been

extra special and the tree blossoms have come and almost gone in just a few days.

Those that have ventured out have enjoyed Polly and Thom's bookstall, also Richard's and Elaine's at the Parish Rooms - thanks for some new reading material.

Finally the army of volunteers and so many others who have done their very best to hold society together will never be forgotten- thanks to you all over and over again.



We are publishing by email this month so there will be no paper copies. If you know of a neighbour that may like a copy perhaps if you have a printer then you could print one off?

Update from the Bickleigh Coronavirus Response Team

In last months Bugle we outlined the initial plans of the Bickleigh Coronavirus Response Team (BCRT) to look after the more vulnerable in the village. It's especially gratifying to confirm that over 30 volunteers have now come forward from all parts of the village to offer help mainly with grocery shopping and getting prescriptions.

Where possible we have paired those in need with the volunteers who live closest and this is working really well with all requests for help being covered. If you are a volunteer and not been asked to help yet that is likely to be because your particular part of the village is well covered or there happens to be no one in need near you. We also appreciate that others in the village are being helped by neighbours in addition to those mentioned above.

Whilst social media sites like WhatsApp and Messenger are great for keeping in touch, especially in times like this, the main source of information is the Bickleigh website which is updated almost daily with the latest information that we are receiving from MDDC, DCC and other government bodies.

We have also included over 20 useful links including links to the main supermarkets, farm shops, Church of England, mental health charities, and even a pub quiz. So please check this site regularly – www.bickleigh.org.uk

We have also written to all households in the village reiterating the aims of the group and explaining what help is available for those needing it. The response to this has been excellent with a number of new volunteers coming forward especially from the more outlying areas of Bickleigh.

We are especially grateful to all those trying to make this time more bearable than it might otherwise be with such amazing things like libraries, game swaps, cycle hill climbs, quizzes and scrubs bag making being just a few!

Finally, I'm sure we all appreciate how difficult the social distancing rules can be, particularly for those with young children so thank you to the vast majority of villagers who are properly observing the government instructions.

Don't forget Stay at Home, Help the NHS and Save Lives!