

Newick Community Response

Support and Help during the Corvid-19 Pandemic (Issue 3)

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.

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 can be viewed on the Facebook page 'St. Mary's Church Newick'. Newick Community Centre is now closed until at least the end of June. This means that the Parish Council office will also be closed until July at the earliest.

The food shops in Newick continue to be open and have been a lifeline for our community; we thank our shopkeepers for their hard work and dedication to the village. We thank every single person who has volunteered to support our wonderful village. Newick is also home to a number of residents who are working on the NHS frontline, in our Schools or as key workers we are so very grateful for the work that you are doing.

Sussex Police have advised that if you are going to walk your dog then you need to do this from your property, do not get in your car to drive to common land or Ashdown Forest to exercise your dog. The Police have started using checkpoints across the District and are actively checking that drivers are complying with government rules. Plan your route on foot in Newick carefully and consider if you were to meet someone coming in the opposite direction on some of the narrower footpaths whether you could safely pass observing the two-metre rule.

The NHS Volunteer campaign initiative looks to help the 1.5 million Britons with underlying medical conditions who have been asked to stay at home for the next 12 weeks. Anyone who is over the age of 18, fit, healthy and non-symptomatic can offer their time to the scheme and help to deliver shopping to vulnerable people, transport patients to and from hospital, drive medicines and equipment to NHS facilities and check up on isolated individuals by telephone. Those in higher-risk groups (including those over 70, those who are pregnant or with underlying medical conditions) will still be able to offer support by telephone. You can still sign up to become an NHS Volunteer Responder at goodsamapp.org/NHS.

Newick Distress Trust has received a number of applications from people who need urgent financial support in these difficult times, we thank the generosity of the village as several donations have been received. If you can contribute financially by donating to the work of the Newick Distress Trust or need financial assistance yourself, please contact Geoff Clinton on 01825 722512 or Rev Paul on 01825 723186.

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.

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).

It is at times like this that we must continue to work together, let's do what we do best, look after each other. We urge you to pick up the phone and keep in contact with those you know live on their own or will be struggling during this period. We will get through this.

Please keep in touch.

Chris Armitage
Chair, Newick Parish Council
newickpc@newick.net

Revd Paul Mundy
01825 723186
Church.newick@gmail.com

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