

Newick Community Response

Support and Help during the Covid-19 Pandemic (Issue 5)

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.

The Easter weekend saw a further leaflet drop to remind the community that there is support available. Easter cards and Easter eggs were also delivered to those on our vulnerable list. The NCR team of volunteers have now carried out over 40 requests from shopping to prescription collections. We have a team of volunteers buddied up with those who are vulnerable, providing phone support and checking in. A wonderful volunteer has called each of the people 'at risk' on the pastoral care list, to ensure that they have registered where applicable for the Government Food Box. In the coming days and weeks, we expect it to become more difficult to secure food delivery slots, but please, know that the community is there to support you - we just ask that you give us notice. Send an email to newickcommunityresponseemail.com to find out how we can support with groceries if you are unable to leave your home.

Newick Talk and the Newick Community Response Facebook pages continue to share ideas to keep occupied during lockdown. Why not dress up for a night at the Theatre like the Mundy family? National Theatre At Home, launched to give people access to live theatre for audiences staying at home. Every Thursday a new show is made available free of charge, live at 7pm on the National Theatre YouTube channel. The show is then available on demand for seven days. Jane Eyre is currently available with Treasure Island being screened from Thursday, April 16, and Twelfth Night the following Thursday, April 23.

Most of the people of Newick have been adhering to Government advice regarding social distancing and staying at home and we can all be grateful to one another for this, this is what we would expect from this lovely community. As we all know this will make a huge difference to people lives and the protection of the NHS. Unfortunately, there have been several instances which have been observed of villagers ignoring this advice. Just to reiterate the Government guidelines: www.gov.uk, the rules clearly state the following;

Stay at home – no unnecessary journey or social contact.

Only go outside of your home for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible.

One form of exercise a day and then only with members of your own household.

Any medical need or to provide care or help to a vulnerable person.

Travelling for work purposes, but only where you cannot work from home.

Public gatherings of more than two people are banned, excluding people you live with.

Do not meet or socialise with others, friends or family who live outside your household.

Social distancing is important because Coronavirus spreads when an infected person coughs small droplets - packed with the virus - into the air. These can be breathed in or can cause an infection if you touch a surface they have landed on, and then touch your face with unwashed hands. Newick has elderly and vulnerable people who have to self-isolate. We also have households with members suffering from various medical ailments such as defective immune systems, asthma, and heart disease. These families will be put at risk by the thoughtless actions of individuals who continue to flout the rules, however careful they feel they are being. Contrary to what you may have read Coronavirus is in Newick. It is here. Tragically people have lost family members. Do not think that Newick is protected from it. It is not. We need to take this seriously to protect ourselves, our neighbours, and our friends. Please, please stay at home.

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

Thank you for your support, kindness, patience, and compassion to each other during this time.

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

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

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