



Government Guidance and Local Information

Lockdown Extended

So we're in this for at least another three weeks. The rules remain the same and no new restrictions have yet to be introduced but we will do our best to keep you informed as and when anything changes.

We have come this far and for those who watch the daily government briefings we have to have faith that the actions we have been asked to undertake are having an effect.

- Stay Home
- Protect the NHS
- Save Lives

Green Bin Renewals

Wiltshire County Council have delayed the renewal date from April to June to allow staff to be redeployed on essential services.

Carer Support

Carer Support Wiltshire and Wiltshire Parent Carer Council continue to offer support during COVID-19. For those who cannot access information online, they can call Carer Support Wiltshire 0800 181 4118 Mon to Thurs 9.30am – 4.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 4.00pm or the Wiltshire Parent Carer Council 01225 764647 Mon to Fri 10am to 5pm.

Emergency Dentists

A network of 14 emergency dentists have now opened up across the region. The closest for Semington being Bath and Chippenham with further services available in Swindon and Bristol.

Call **0345 758 1926**
9.00am to 5.00pm -1700
Monday - Friday Out of hours
(Evenings and Weekends) Call
NHS 111

Collection of Pensions

We said in Newsletter No. 3 that we were working on a procedure to make it possible to collect safely cash pensions for vulnerable residents isolated at home. The procedure is now in place and is aimed at those who can only get money to pay bills through visiting the Post Office. It has safeguards in place to protect them and their money.

If you need this help, or if you know of anyone who does, please telephone Siobhan Chown on **01380 870197**.

There are bears popping up everywhere in Semington! So we think it's about time we went on a Bear Hunt..... after all you were simply amazing at the Easter Egg Hunt... Why not use your daily exercise routine to see how many bears you can see around the village.

The Bear Hunt will take place from Friday 1st May to Sunday 3rd May and we'll post full details on the Facebook page and village website.



Andy's Answers to The Most Eggs-celent Easter Quiz

1. **W**ith a Little Help from my Friends
2. **I**'m a Believer
3. **S**outh Pacific (Happy Talk)
4. **H**ot Chocolate
5. **I** am the Walrus
6. Phyllis **N**elson
7. **G**eorge Harrison (My Sweet Lord)
8. **Y**esterday
9. **O**ne Day at a Time
10. **U**nder Pressure
11. **A**lison Moyet
12. **L**ittle Red Rooster
13. **L**ove Is All Around
14. **A**t the Hop
15. **H**ozier
16. **A**ll You Need is Love
17. **P**olice - Don't Stand So Close To Me
18. **P**eter, Paul and Mary
19. **Y**azz and The Plastic Population
20. Dave **E**dmunds
21. **A**rms of Mary
22. **S**chool's Out
23. **T**iffany
24. **E**lton John
25. **R**abbit

We hope you enjoyed the quiz – be sure to catch Andy's quizzes posted on the Support Group Facebook page.



So Long and Thanks for All The Post!

Les, the Postman, is retiring this month after four years of faithful service looking after the village. He is quite the fastest walking person I know! If you missed it, Les wrote a personal note to all the villagers which is in the April Parish Magazine on the village website and extracted onto the Facebook page.

Thank you to Sharon Adams for suggesting that we put 'thank you' signs in our windows to show Les just how much we've appreciated his services in the village. I think this is a fabulous idea – so let's see how many signs we can get posted for Les!

I am sure that behind the closed doors of our enforced isolation there have been many, many Crafty Elves at work keeping idle hands and creative minds busy. So, how about sharing your creations with everyone else once we're out the other side of lock-down ?

We'll be arranging an exhibition of anything that you have created during this time and it will be an amazing opportunity to get everyone together to share and admire our creations.

So, pick up a paintbrush, thread a needle, dust off your camera, write down that poem, or in true Blue Peter style, break out your sticky-backed plastic and safety scissors and see what you can create. Don't worry it won't be a competition, and there won't be any Blue Peter badges on offer, just a simple sharing of creativity. Open to all ages and abilities. Rumour has it that Armstrong's Angels have a herd of elephants they're going to exhibit.....

Contact Siobhan directly for more details (see page 4)



Newsletter & Parish Magazine

A limited number of newsletters are printed each week to distribute to villagers without online access.

Please let your Road Lead know if there is someone who needs a printed copy of the newsletter.

The May edition of the Parish Magazine will be published as normal and I am aiming to have it out by next weekend so there will be no newsletter next week – we will aim to have some more in-depth reports from Wiltshire Council in the magazine.

Phone Buddies

We want to make sure that every one in our community feels they have someone to turn to during the next period of lockdown. We have lots of people including those who are self-isolating who want to help support the community effort, meet the 'Phone Buddies'.

If you would like to have a natter, to someone other than the cat, the dog or the wall or more importantly know of someone who could benefit from contact with a Phone Buddy please let your Road Lead know so we can ensure that self isolation doesn't leave you isolated in every sense of the word.



Jacqui apologises that the ducklings have proved elusive this week, but she saw that the heron down at the canal was having a very bad hair day!

I don't know about you but if we ever get locked down again I'm petitioning for hairdressers to be made an essential service, there's only so much grey hair a girl can take!

The challenge is still on for ducklings Jacqui!

Check Out Our Facebook Page

On the our community support Facebook page there are loads of great ideas and topics – here's our pick:

- Learn about Semington's history from Ray
- Try one of Andy's quizzes
- Decorate a dragon for St George's Day
- Make a thank you sign for the refuse collectors
- Put a rainbow in your window
- Order a meal from the Somerset Arms
- Post a photo with the hash tag #lovewhereyoulive



The May Day Bank Holiday has been moved back to Friday 8th May to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. As you can imagine lots of events had originally been planned nationally.

Please remember the rules on social gatherings and social distancing, everyone must keep to their own gardens!

Easter Egg Hunt Article for Wiltshire Times by Emma Day

With the arrival of spring and a true coming together of community spirit in Semington of late, the approach of Easter this year heralded something a bit more special than usual in the village. The villagers behind the Semington Support Group suggested that the village come together and decorate our houses, so the children of the village could be gifted with some Easter bunny magic while out on their daily exercise. The village rallied behind this idea with close to 90 houses being adorned with rainbows, eggs, chicks and bunnies. The Easter bunny, busy as ever, left a trail of his bunny feet and spring flowers all over the village. Pound Close even came out on Easter Sunday to sing hymns and rival the musical Italians (thank you to Bev and Jack for organising). One of the residents of Pound Close commented about the “ lovely community spirit”.



As the children and families haven't been able to enjoy the trail experience together because of social distancing, the Facebook group has been a wonderful source of communication to share with everyone the magical Easter finds through photos and comments. The way family commented their children were “bursting with excitement...when they got home they immediately video called their isolated grandparents which cheered them up too”, proof that the joy the village is creating is spreading to others.



A massive thank you needs to go to all the residents for helping create a bit of village magic for our wonderful children during these uncertain times, it was an incredible effort and looked stunning. It was fabulous to show we could have a community event while adhering to the new rules we are under. A special thank you as well needs to go to Tesco Extra in Trowbridge who after hearing about the village community, kindly donated some decorations and flowers the Easter Bunny used in his trail, and also some plants which went to some of the residents that have been in self isolation or who live by themselves.

Useful Contacts – Road Leads and Community Support Core Team

Road Leads –All Road Leads now carry ID.

Highfield Close – **Tania Russell, George Evans & Cameron Evans**
 The Hunt Close – **Siobhan Chown**
 The Orchard & Palmer Grove (inc The Conifers) **Mark Rollinson**
 Turnpike Close – **Rachel Sweeney**
 Pound Close – **Emma Day**
 Canal Bridge - **Ian Williamson**
 Pound Lane - **Robbie Reed**
 St Georges Road - **Cindy Wyllie**
 St Georges Place - **Cindy Wyllie**
 St Georges Court - **Diane Walker & James Walker**
 The Knapps - **Kirsty Coetzer**
 Somerset Way - **Stuart Taylor**
 Church Street - **Emma Putnam**
 High Street - **Paul Randall & Kip Airey**
 Wessex Close - **Sharon Adams**
 Manor Close - **Margaret Marsh**
 Little Marsh - **Vicky Bodman**
 Littleton - **Julia Wade**

Community Support Core Team

Vicky Bodman – victoriabodman@gmail.com 07815 015470
 Emma Putnam – emma@askmelocal.co.uk 07895 455673
 Siobhan Chown – schown@bearly-there.co.uk 01380 870197

For contributions to the Newsletter or Parish Magazine contact Gillian at semparmag@icloud.com