

Volunteering for Wickham, Knowle, Shedfield, Shirrell Heath and Whiteley

April 2020 Easter Bank Holiday News



A big thank you

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help during the Covid 19 crisis. Over 200 people have come forward and we are very grateful indeed.

A small team is out in the community walking dogs and helping to deliver prescriptions and shopping to those in need.

Thanks to all those who have offered to help, the team can be expanded if needed and please don't feel that you have been forgotten because we have not been directly in contact. Also, although it may be frustrating, we are not allowed to ask people over 70 to go out and about as volunteers. We need to keep you safe at home!

Our villages in action

At Knowle, led by Mike and Collette Little, volunteers have carried out fourteen shopping trips for vulnerable people, this doesn't include the smaller neighbourhood groups who are looking after each other. Seventeen trips to the pharmacy have been made with 63 prescriptions collected and delivered. Four residents have been taken to the surgery for appointments. Six residents have been put in touch with each other to offer mutual support. Again, the neighbourhoods are looking after each other with support from Mike and Collette where needed. The community at Knowle has come together in ways that we could not have foreseen thanks to the leadership of Mike and Collette.

In Wickham and Shedfield we are delivering newspapers to six households, shopping for 20 people and delivering prescriptions to 15 people. We have referred two vulnerable people onwards as they were outside our remit and abilities. Neighbours are, of course, looking after each other as well. We have one, very grateful, customer in Whiteley who has Katie as a personal shopper. Thank you to Cllr Carl who is managing the volunteer recruitment and deployment.

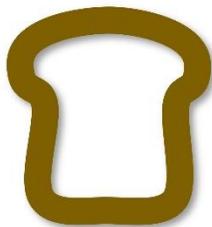


Revd Jane's photo from the middle of the empty road

Alongside this the Wickham Community Care Group are taking people to medical appointments as they always have done and the Village Agents are supporting older people where needed. Revd Jane and the team at St Nicholas Church are looking after everyone's spiritual needs by arranging online services and developing innovative ways to keep in touch with Christian life.

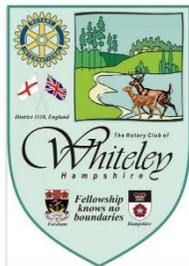
Our local shops and services are superb, keep using them as they will continue to need you when this is over. Ben the butcher is delivering as are Confiserie Verdonk (The Chocolate Shop), McCarthys and the local plant nurseries. The staff in the Co-op, the chemist and One Stop are heroic as are all those working at Wickham Surgery.

Meon Valley Foodbank



MEON VALLEY
**FOOD
BANK**

www.meonvalleyfoodbank.co.uk



When we found out that the Meon Valley Foodbank may have to close due to a lack of donations, Knowle rose to the occasion with amazing speed, filling Mike's 4 x 4 to the brim. Probably not what he had in mind for his latest vehicle! Wickham, Shedfield and Shirrell Heath also stepped up and last week's donations from our villages helped 51 local people.

Our friends at the Rotary Club of Whiteley will be making weekly large donations of supplies and Infinity Football Club, who have made their home at Knowle, has raised nearly £800 for the foodbank. Community in action!

Thank you to the volunteers who have offered to help with collections for the foodbank, it is much appreciated. We will continue to collect these from Wickham Square at 10.30am on Tuesdays. This week donations of dried food, tins and uht milk would be gratefully received along with the following:

Meat meals, tinned meatballs, hot dogs, minced beef and stewed steak, cold meats such as ham, corned beef and spam, cereals and porridge.

Also, toiletries and cleaning supplies including clothes washing powders/tabs etc.

Online donations are not available at present but message us for the bank details for BACS payments to the foodbank if you would like to help.

Thank you.

Together we are strong.

Nicki Oliver Clerk to Wickham Parish Council

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