

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

July 2021

ULTRAFAST BROADBAND FINALLY ARRIVES IN ACOL!

As of the beginning of July, all Acol homes^{*} are on our new Community Gigabit Fibre Infrastructure, meaning broadband services with speeds approaching 1 gigabit per second (1,000 mb/sec) can be ordered from broadband service providers, although 100+ mb/sec - well over 10x the speeds that have been available in the south of our village - will be perfectly adequate for most households.

We are indebted to villagers who pledged Broadband Gigabit Vouchers enabling the financing of the infrastructure for our whole community. Under the terms of the voucher scheme those households should now place orders for Ultrafast broadband services deliverable via our new network.

Grateful thanks to Karen Ault for her help with the project and for her patience and fortitude when I was at the end of my tether!

As a reminder, suppliers of broadband services that can use Acol's fibre network are at <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/>. The list is expected to grow, and other broadband comparison sites are available.

Richard Steel

* Except for one address that was missed, and which has been expedited with Openreach.

A big vote of thanks is due to both Richard and Karen for their efforts and perseverance in organising this on behalf of the Village. We will all benefit from the improvement in our internet infrastructure, even if you chose not to avail yourself of the service, as it is a house selling point of increasing significance in our digital world.

Jon

FOR INFORMATION

Many thanks to those who volunteered to run stalls or supply facilities for the proposed Fete. However it has not been possible to identify anyone to take overall control of the organisation of such an event. Accordingly it is felt that it would be better to put the idea on ice for a future occasion, and when there may be a better opportunity for a celebration - possibly the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 4th June 2022?



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ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

The next draw will take place on the 7th July. Should you have any questions or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (84090)

VILLAGE INFORMATION

VILLAGE HALL

I am so pleased to advise that some small group meetings/gatherings have resumed in the Hall.

Wed & Fri - Village Textiles; Thurs am & Sun - Dance class; Thurs afternoons - Art Group; Tues am - Ballroom Dance Fitness commencing 6th July; 10am-4pm monthly Sats - Phoenix Quilters commencing 17th July. Unfortunately Acol Horticultural Society had to cancel their Summer Show but meetings and other events will resume on Tues 3rd Aug followed by the 'Nosh & Natter' on 7th August.

If you would like to contact any instructors, or the Art Group, please ring 841691 for details.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black) & waste food

19th July

2nd August

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

12th July

26th July

9th August

If you have any problems with your bins, ring TDC, **577115**, or queries to **577727**.

PCSO

Our new PCSO is Eileen Shrubsole, eileen.shrubsole@kent.police.uk. She has offered to attend our Parish Council meetings and we look forward to meeting her.

CCTV CAMERAS

The cameras seem to have improved some problems in Acol, but we still have too much traffic, including HGVs, and excessive speeds. Parish Council continues to campaign for an extension to Columbus Avenue. Please report ANY incident in The Street to 844706.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Iris Osborne (840901) can advise you of precautions or actions to take with regards to local crime or suspicious behaviour.

KENT POLICE

East Kent Division Rural Team can be contacted on 07980 978202 for queries or enquiries.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

You can check our website, acolparishcouncil.co.uk, or please ring 844706 if you have any queries or advice.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 11am ON MONDAY 26th JULY.

Sheila Bransfield

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MINSTER SURGERY

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - 100 K VACCINES!

We are very pleased and proud to announce that Minster Surgery and its PCN Partner Surgeries, have administered 100,000 vaccinations to patients at the Saga Vaccination clinic.

This has contributed to approximately 96% of all venerable people in Thanet being fully vaccinated and 85% of all groups receiving at least one dose of a Covid-19 vaccination.

Vaccination Clinics are continuing to be held at the Saga Centre in Westwood Cross, including Pfizer "walk in" clinics on some Saturdays. Invitations are being sent out to all vulnerable groups, at-risk patients and all those aged 18 and over. Further up to date information can be found on the following website: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus Currently we are receiving supplies of both the Oxford Astra Zenica and Pfizer vaccines, so if you have not yet received your first dose, second Astra Zenica vaccine or may have initially declined the vaccine, Please **BOOK NOW!**

Please note: Once you have had your vaccination you may be asked to sit and wait for 10-15 minutes, depending upon individual circumstances.

PLEASE BEAR WITH US!

As you can appreciate many of our Staff are also working at the Vaccination Hub and with staff sickness our resources are being stretched, but please rest assured we are here for you! It may take us a little longer, but if you need to be seen by a Healthcare professional, we will ensure you will be. Thank you.

SURGERY CLOSURE DAYS

STAFF TRAINING - Thursday July 22nd - from 1.00pm onwards

If you need to see a doctor during these times

Please Call 111 for NON-URGENT confidential help and advice

For COVID-19 help and advice - Call 119

For URGENT/LIFE threatening Cases Call 999 as normal

Editors Note:

Advertising

For a box advertisement of about 8cm x 9cm the cost is £10 for inclusion in 3 editions, £15 for 6 editions and £25 for 12 editions.

Please e-mail contributions to Village Voice to inchley@btinternet.com

This edition of Village Voice has not been sponsored

Should you (or your organisation) wish to sponsor an edition, either in memory of a loved one, to commemorate an event or even from a feeling of civic duty(!), please contact me.

Contributions for the next edition must be received by 5th August 2021.