

# **ACOL VILLAGE VOICE**

**April 2020**

## **CORONAVIRUS**

I have now been editing the Village Voice for the last twelve years, and have managed to ensure that every villager received a printed copy each month - until now. (Undoubtedly there are some of you who immediately thought that every cloud...)

Sadly no access to the Copyshop, and all but one of my distributors being over 70 means that until the Government relaxes the lockdown I will not be able to return to the printed word. Please therefore for the time being refer to electronic media sources, and if your neighbours or village contacts do not have such access please copy and distribute this as appropriate, and make them aware that they have not been forgotten, and that I will get things back to normal as soon as it is allowed.

If you advertise in the Voice, then please be assured that I will extend the period to ensure that you still get the appropriate number of months of publicity.

## **THANK YOU**

Can I, on behalf of all those who have been, like Barbara and I, on the receiving end of the generosity of neighbours and friends, new and old, who are helping us through this very difficult period. Whether it is the establishment of Whatsapp groups, the offer of assistance with shopping, or just the occasional friendly enquiry as to our wellbeing, the support throughout the village has been extraordinary, and much appreciated. I can only imagine how those who are isolated and alone must find the current situation, but how much worse it would be without the love and support of those around them.

## **BE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER**

I can only imagine that one villager was having a bad day recently when she chose to criticise another villager (who lives alone and in isolation) for employing a local handy man to paint her garden fence.

1. There is no regulation requiring self employed people not to work - they too have families to feed, and the government will not be paying them anything until June, unless they claim Universal Credit.
2. The tradesman was local, and only travelled a couple of miles to and from the job.
3. The work was outside, but within the bounds of a private garden, and the tradesman was observing the 2 metre rule at all times.

As a result of this ill-informed and unsolicited criticism, the villager was very much upset, as they had no conception that their actions could be so badly misinterpreted. The tradesman was denied his right to earn a living while operating within the guidelines from the Government. Furthermore another tradesman, who had been contracted to paint the outside of the villager's house, was also denied the opportunity to earn a legitimate living.

Incidentally, the Village Hall Management committee have contracted the aforementioned painter/decorator to paint the inside of the Village Hall while it is out of use. He will, of course, be alone in the hall at all times, and will observe the 2 metre rule if approached. Should anyone feel moved to complain or criticise this perfectly permissible action, they should contact me on 847705.

### **ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club**

The monthly draw has been suspended for the time being. Should you have any questions, or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (840901).

### **ACOL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

AHS Spring Show has been cancelled

AHS Annual Quiz and Social Evening has been cancelled

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## **VILLAGE INFORMATION**

Hoping everyone is staying safe and well in isolation! This is such a fantastic village with so many younger people offering help to the older villagers, collecting shopping or prescriptions, etc. If you need help you can no doubt, in this wonderful close community, ring neighbours but if they are also in isolation there are more details given on the village website: [facebook.com.acol.village](https://facebook.com/acol.village). If you do not have computer access then again just ask one of your lovely neighbours!

### **VILLAGE HALL**

You will not be surprised to hear that the Village Hall is closed until further notice. All bookings have been cancelled for the time being.

### **REFUSE COLLECTIONS**

Refuse (black), & waste food

13<sup>th</sup> April

27<sup>th</sup> April

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

6<sup>h</sup> April

20<sup>th</sup> April

4<sup>th</sup> May

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

### **PCSO**

PCSO Debbie Forsyth will obviously not be holding village surgeries just now, but you can email her at [60457@kent.police.uk](mailto:60457@kent.police.uk) for urgent matters.

### **CCTV CAMERAS**

Please ring 844706 if you wish to report any incident in The Street.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Please be sure that Iris Osborne (840901) has your contact details to report regular updates.

### **KENT POLICE**

Dedicated number for the East Kent Division Rural Team is **07980 978202**.

### **VILLAGE FACEBOOK WEBSITE**

Village events and notices are on [facebook.com.acol.village](https://facebook.com/acol.village).

### **ACOL PARISH COUNCIL**

You can keep informed of meetings and events through our website - [acolparishcouncil.org.uk](http://acolparishcouncil.org.uk)

You can ring Parish Council, 844706, Mondays 9am-5pm, or the Clerk any day (9am-5pm) on 832243. Please ring these numbers if you have problems and do not know who to contact.

Sheila Bransfield

**YOUR M.P. At Your Service .....**

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**Email: [galerj@parliament.uk](mailto:galerj@parliament.uk)**

# MINSTER SURGERY

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR OUR PATIENTS

During this difficult time, we have introduced special measures to control the risk of infection between patients and also members of staff, whilst continuing to maintain a high standard of service to all our patients.

We are therefore asking everyone to adhere to the latest medical advice provided by NHS England and the Department of Health relating to the outbreak of the Corona Virus (Covid 19) affecting the UK and limit their attendance at the Surgery as much as possible.

Further advice and information concerning the virus can be found at:  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) and [gov.uk](http://gov.uk)

As a result, all appointments will initially be via a telephone or video consultation with a clinician who will then make a clinical judgement on whether a "face to face" consultation is necessary.

It is important that we limit attendance at the surgery to avoid the risk of cross contamination, especially to those patients with underlying health conditions. This practice has now been introduced in all surgeries across England.

Like any other organisation, we have members of our own team who have underlying health conditions, so we are taking appropriate precautions to safeguard their health and welfare. This is naturally having an effect on the Practice, so we would like to thank you for your patience and understanding during this very difficult time for all of us and reassure you of our commitment to all our patients.

On Behalf of:  
The Practice Partners  
Minster Surgery

## **THE CRISPE CHARITY**

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GRANTS.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
OCTOBER 2020.

FOR AN APPLICATION FORM PLEASE WRITE OR TELEPHONE:

ANN STORY,  
8, NURSERY FIELDS,  
ACOL,  
BIRCHINGTON,  
CT7 0JF

01843 846651

Or email [annstory56@btopenworld.com](mailto:annstory56@btopenworld.com)

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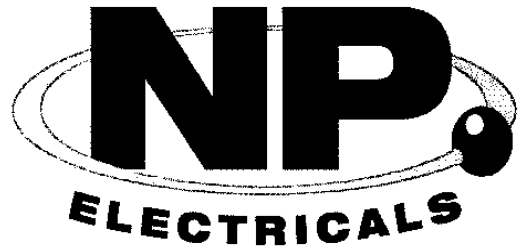
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**Editors Note:**

PLEASE PRINT AND DISTRIBUTE THIS EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE to any friends inside or outside the village who might be interested in knowing what is going on in Acol.

**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](mailto: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.