

# East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere  
Society



EWH Neighbourcare



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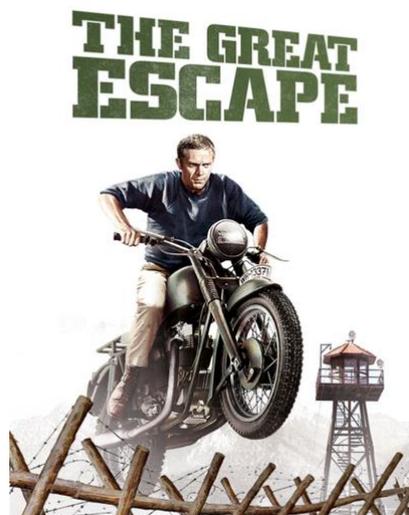
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**Neighbourcare** are here for you – one number to have:

- prescriptions delivered
- attending a vaccine / medical appointment
- shopping collected
- a friendly chat on the phone
- or someone to go for walk with

**01635 745 600**



## The Great Escape

Next Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March we start the long march to freedom.

The next relaxation of Covid rules in England is on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, with more restrictions to be lifted on 12<sup>th</sup> April and then every five weeks - **as long as targets for beating coronavirus are met.** Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are outlining their own plans for lifting lockdown.

### What are the four tests for easing restrictions?

- The coronavirus vaccine programme continues to go to plan.
- Vaccines are sufficiently reducing the number of people dying or needing hospital treatment.
- Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospital admissions.
- New coronavirus variants do not fundamentally change the risk of lifting restrictions.

Before each stage is finalised an evaluation will take place against these four criteria to see whether restrictions can be lifted. Until an announcement is made current restrictions remain in force.

### What will you be able to do?

#### What's already changed

Schools and colleges have reopened, and university students can return for practical courses.

Two people from different households can meet outside for recreation, which can include "a coffee on a bench"

Care home residents can have one nominated visitor, with testing and social distance precautions.

#### Going out and about

The stay-at-home rule will end next Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March, but the government urges people to stay local as much as possible.

Outdoor sport facilities may also reopen next week, including golf courses and tennis and basketball courts, and formally organised outdoor sports can restart.

From 12<sup>th</sup> April it is hoped gyms and spas can reopen, as can zoos, theme parks, libraries and community centres.

Indoor entertainment such as museums, theatres, cinemas and children's play areas along with outdoor entertainment, such as outdoor theatres and cinemas, and adult indoor group sports and exercise classes will remain closed until 17<sup>th</sup> May at the earliest.

Performances and large events may restart after 17<sup>th</sup> May, but with limits on audience numbers.

Nightclubs will not reopen until at least June 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Having friends come round.**

From next Monday up to 6 of you can get together socially but it has to be **outside** in your garden or in a public open space. That 6 includes children. **Guests cannot be invited indoors.**

It will not be until 17<sup>th</sup> May at the earliest that you will be able to entertain guests indoors.

From then six people or two households not already in a bubble may meet indoors and people may meet in groups of up to 30 outdoors

### **Going to a pub or restaurant**

Pubs and restaurants with outside areas may be able to open from April 12<sup>th</sup> to serve food and drinks. There will be no requirement to only serve alcohol with food and no curfew but there will be table service only and tables will be restricted to groups of 6 or two households.

Serving food and drink indoors may be permitted from 17<sup>th</sup> May if all goes well.

### **Getting a haircut and going shopping**

It is intended that from 12<sup>th</sup> April all shops will be able to open, along with close-contact services, including hairdressers and beauty salons (including in people's homes)

### **Going on Holiday**

From 12<sup>th</sup> April members of the same household can take a holiday in England in self-contained accommodation. Hotels, hostels and B&Bs however will not reopen until 17<sup>th</sup> May at the earliest. Check whether regulations are different in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as they will be announced separately.

International leisure travel remains banned for the time being. It *may* resume at some point after 17<sup>th</sup> May but this is not a foregone conclusion and will depend upon progress in the UK and the situation in the intended destination. Further announcements are expected in April but the legal restrictions have been extended until the end of June and can be extended further if necessary.

### **Getting married**

From next week weddings can be attended by up to 6 people. While funerals can continue with up to 30 mourners, it is planned the number of people able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events such as wakes and other life events such as Christening will rise to 15 from 12<sup>th</sup> April, then 30 people from 17<sup>th</sup> May for weddings. All restrictions on numbers are expected to be lifted from 21<sup>st</sup> June.

### **When will it all end?**

If all goes well all legal limits on social contact will be removed from June 21<sup>st</sup>. However, the guidance concerning wearing face masks, washing hands and social distancing is likely to remain.

## The roadmap summarised.

### What's going to happen on 29<sup>th</sup> March?

- People can meet outside, within the "rule of six",
- The stay-at-home rule will end, but the government will urge people to stay local as much as possible
- Outdoor sport facilities will reopen, and formally organised outdoor sports can restart
- Weddings can take place, attended by up to six people

### Stage two (no earlier than 12<sup>th</sup> April):

- All shops allowed to open
- Restaurants and pubs allowed to serve food and alcohol to customers but sitting outdoors only
- Gyms and spas can reopen, along with zoos, theme parks, libraries and community centres
- Members of the same household can take a holiday in the UK in self-contained accommodation
- Weddings attended by up to 15 people can take place

### Stage three (no earlier than 17<sup>th</sup> May):

- People can meet in groups of up to 30 outdoors
- Six people or two households can meet indoors
- Pubs, restaurants and other hospitality venues can seat customers indoors
- Hotels, hostels and B&Bs can reopen
- Up to 30 people can attend weddings or other life events, like christenings
- Remaining outdoor entertainment and indoor entertainment such as museums, theatres, cinemas and children's play areas can open
- Adult indoor group sports and exercise classes can restart
- Performances and large events can restart, but with limits on audience numbers
- International leisure travel may resume. This is not a foregone conclusion.

### Stage four (no earlier than 21<sup>st</sup> June):

- All legal limits on social contact will be removed. However, the guidance concerning wearing face masks, washing hands and social distancing is likely to remain.
- No legal limits on the number of people who can attend weddings, funerals and other life events
- Nightclubs will be allowed to reopen

There will be a minimum of five weeks between each step: four weeks for the scientific data to reflect the changes in restrictions and to be analysed; followed by one week's advance notice of the restrictions that will be eased. **The next announcement is therefore due on Easter Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> April.**

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## Easter opening at Woolton Hill Surgery

If you need to order repeat medication, please note that the Woolton Hill surgery will be closed on Friday 2nd April (Good Friday) and Monday 5th April (Easter Monday).

In order to avoid the risk of running out over the Easter break, repeat prescription requests should be made no later than Monday 29th March.

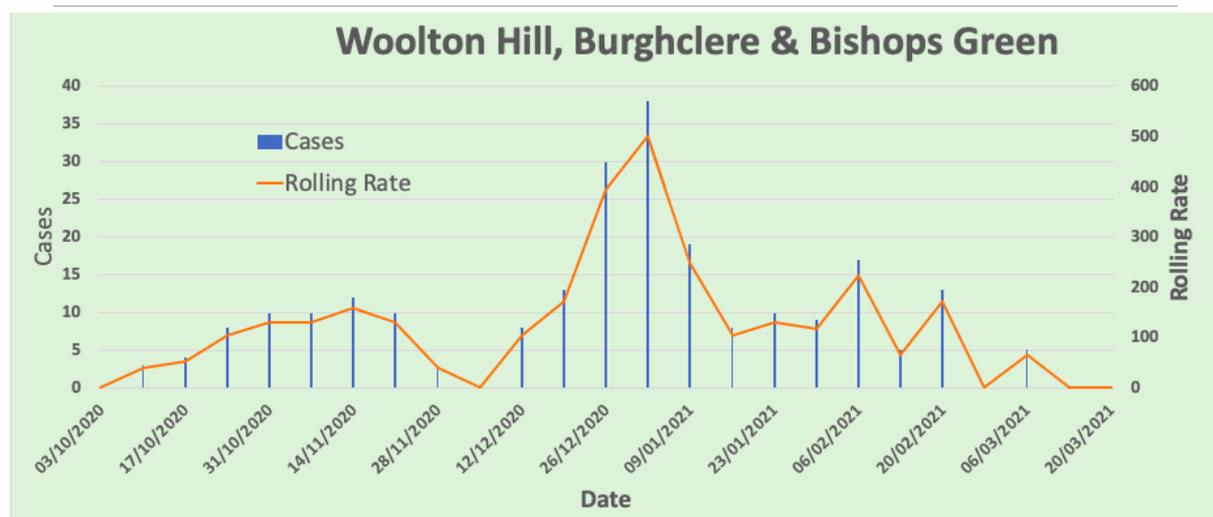
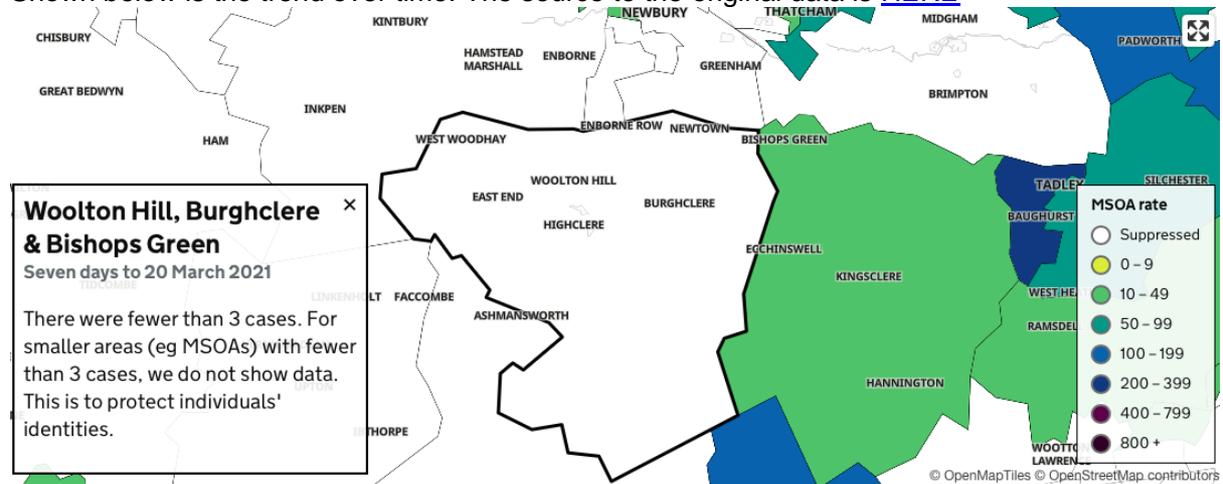
There will be no Neighbourcare deliveries on Friday 2nd April, the next available delivery after Thursday 1st April will be Tuesday 6th April.

Once you hear from the surgery that your medication is ready, if you don't have to pay for it call Neighbourcare on **01635-745600** and your medication will be collected and delivered to your door at no charge. **The surgery recommends this in order to reduce public footfall into the building.**

## Latest Local COVID-19 Cases

The good news reported in the previous newsletters continue and in the last week of reporting there were again fewer than three cases in our local area.

Shown below is the trend over time. The source to the original data is [HERE](#)



## A Day in the Life of a Neighbourcare Phone Coordinator

Good morning/good afternoon, Neighbourcare, how can I help...

A greeting like this means you are speaking to one of the five Neighbourcare Co-ordinators, any three of whom are on call each day, Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

The majority of our current calls are for the delivery of repeat prescriptions and sometimes people open the conversation with "I'm sorry to bother you..." but it isn't ever a bother, it's why we're here. Every call we take and each delivery we arrange keeps one more person out of the surgery and helps the staff to keep the building safer for those who need to be there.

### What do Neighbourcare do?

The core role of Neighbourcare has been to provide volunteer drivers to take clients to essential appointments but during the pandemic this has expanded to include the delivery of prescriptions, collecting shopping and providing a regular chat to those who would appreciate a call.

The option to provide volunteer drivers to take people to appointments was not possible during the first and second lockdowns and has only recently been re-started, with strict Covid protocol in place, protecting both driver and client. Our drivers are starting to take clients to appointments again – the surgery, the dentist, the hospital and lately the racecourse for their vaccinations.

### **How does it work for Prescription Delivery?**

When we answer a call we ask for your name, address and postcode in order to identify you on the lists for the surgery. We also check to see what has come through on requests via the [website](#) to collate a complete picture of requests. When the lists close for the day, they are sorted according to how many delivery drivers will be required and then sent to the surgery.

The surgery then boxes the prescriptions to tally with the lists, advising us of anything extra that may need adding and also if any of the items will need to be kept cool.

The following morning at 11am, the driver/s will knock the back door of the surgery and the boxes will be handed out to them and off they go to deliver, reaching clients before lunch.

### **A friendly voice**

Over the months of lockdown, we have come to recognise many of our 'regulars' and it's always nice to speak to a familiar voice and have a little chat whilst recording their request.

When you get feedback from clients who have been for their first 'jab' who say "Our driver was lovely and it worked so well, can we please ask for him/her to take us for the second appointment?" it's great to feel part of this amazing community service,

### **"It's always a pleasure, never a chore"**

If you need a prescription or shopping collecting or would like a driver to take you to an essential appointment or would like a chat, just give us a call, we're here Monday to Friday, 9-5 on **01635 745600**, we look forward to hearing from you.

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## **From the Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale**



Greetings and blessings to you all.

The heart of the Christian faith is shaped by the solemn course of Holy Week following Jesus into Jerusalem, through dark days of betrayal, trial and brutal death, the emptiness of Holy Saturday then the mystery and joy of the Easter Festival celebrating the resurrection, love and light of Christ. I can hardly believe that for the second year running we cannot worship *together* as we wish through these holy days.

Nevertheless, the message of new life rising after intense darkness is perhaps more pertinent than ever at this time: giving hope that despite days of lockdown and for some intense grief, misery and difficulty the cycle of life will turn, and shoots of new life will reappear in ways that we may not expect. This week the Church of England published this prayer to mark the day of remembrance of the first lockdown.

*Dear God, be with us as we think about all that has changed this year and help us to trust that you are always with us. Be close to us as we remember those who have died and help us to trust they are at peace with you. Show us how to reach out to others with kindness and care, so that hope shines out in every heart and home. Amen.*

We are able now to offer a mix of online and 'in church' services despite restrictions: the singing of hymns in church is still not permitted for example, and face coverings (unless exempt) and

social distancing are still required. Here is the table of services for Holy Week and Easter:

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <b>SUN 28<sup>th</sup> Mar</b><br><i>Palm Sunday</i>                                    | Benefice Communion<br>Evensong for Palm Sunday   | <i>Online 'zoom'</i><br>East Woodhay   | 10.00am<br>6.00pm   |
| <b>MON 29<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>TUES 30<sup>th</sup></b><br><b>WED 31<sup>st</sup></b> | Compline<br>Compline<br>Morning Prayer<br>Compline   | <i>online 'zoom'</i><br><i>online 'zoom'</i><br><i>online 'zoom'</i><br><i>online 'zoom'</i>     | 8.30pm<br>8.30pm<br>10.00am<br>8.30pm                     |
| <b>THURS 1<sup>st</sup> Apr</b><br><i>Maundy Thursday</i>                               | Holy Communion <i>of the Last Supper</i>   | <i>online 'zoom'</i>   | 8.00pm  |
| <b>FRI 2<sup>nd</sup></b><br><i>Good Friday</i>   | <i>All churches open for private prayer</i><br>At the Foot of the Cross<br>At the Foot of the Cross  | Highclere<br>East Woodhay  | 11.00am<br>2.30pm   |
| <b>SUN 4<sup>th</sup></b><br><i>Easter Sunday</i>                                       | Easter Communion<br>Festival Communion ( <i>with hymns!</i> )<br>Easter Communion **<br>Easter Communion **<br>Easter Service **<br>Easter Evensong ** | East Woodhay<br><i>online 'zoom'</i><br>Woolton Hill<br>Highclere<br>Ashmansworth<br>Crux Easton | 8.00am<br>9.30am<br>9.30am<br>11.00am<br>4.00pm<br>4.00pm |

\*\* please book to attend these services on Easter Sunday. E-mail Sue at [coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com](mailto:coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com) to find out how or to request link details for online zoom services.

All our church buildings continue to be open for private prayer on Sundays. *St James'*, Ashmansworth 9.30am-4.30pm; *St Michael & All Angels'*, Crux Easton 10am-3pm; *St Martin's*, East Woodhay 11am-3pm; *St Michael & All Angels'*, Highclere 11am-12.30pm; *St Thomas'*, Woolton Hill 10am-4pm.

If you want to ask for prayer, please do contact Canon Marvin (254718) or me (253323). with every blessing to you all,

Revd. Canon Christine Dale  
(e-mail: [cdale001@btinternet.com](mailto:cdale001@btinternet.com), Tel. 01635 253323)



## Activities – Staying In

**Easter Quiz** – Local group East Woodhay Society are holding a 4-day Quiz over the Easter days. Questions will be sent out via email and will be about Easter and the locations of local photos taken in the area.

Just £5 to enter with all money going to the charity Young People & Children First. Please email [eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com](mailto:eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com) for details to join in with the quiz.

**Family fun** - Dye your own hard-boiled eggs with natural food colours – click [HERE](#) for instructions

**7 -12 year olds** – could you write an exciting short story incorporating a spur, a scraper, a pendant and several other ancient items?? Competition entries close 18<sup>th</sup> April click [HERE](#)

**Calling local musicians** – HHCR, Basingstoke Community Radio are starting a new Monthly show " Hampshire Unsigned " with music and interviews. Contact [unsigned@hhcr.org.uk](mailto:unsigned@hhcr.org.uk)

**Textiles** – buying / donating – the Old Chapel Textile Centre at Greenham will reopen their shop on Saturdays from April 17<sup>th</sup>, and can accept donated fabrics and findings to support their charity. click [HERE](#) or email [octc@live.com](mailto:octc@live.com)

## Theatre On-line

**Watermill Theatre** host a monthly on-line play reading group. For details click [HERE](#)

**Pirates of Penzance** (with a difference) from Theatre Royal Winchester, available on line 29<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April for tickets click [HERE](#)

## Staying active

**Low impact dance grooves** – free 30 minute routine from Pop Sugar on-line Click [HERE](#)

**Yoga** – free 20 minute morning stretch session click [HERE](#)

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## Activities – Going Out

**See the wild daffodils** – from the boardwalk between Trade Street & Fullers Lane

**Corn Exchange Learning Centre** re-opens in April with classes for children & teens click [HERE](#)

**Something to look forward to...** take a picnic to an outdoor summer film screening, locations nearby, advance booking [HERE](#)

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## Naturewatch

The Andover peregrines are back together on the roof of St. Mary's Church. There is one egg already in the nest box, and hopefully more will be laid over the next few days.

Incubation takes several weeks – watching the chicks was one of the delights of lockdown last year – fingers crossed for a healthy brood this year! To watch live click [HERE](#)



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## Beauty in Spring – your photos

**Send us an image** – We are always pleased to see your favourite local views – email images for future newsletters to [EWCleresNews21@gmail.com](mailto:EWCleresNews21@gmail.com)



Thanks to Paul Farrington for this lovely spring picture of blossom.

This newsletter's question is - what kind of tree is this and can you spot the honey bee?



Carole Thelwall-Jones took these lovely photos locally of hare and a roe deer



Thanks to Alan Teece for this dramatic shot of Hollington Drive in the sun



Paul Hurst captured these vibrant violas walking in East End

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