



### Strange Times!

Well here we are, five weeks into lockdown, and with no real end in sight as yet.  
Strange times indeed.

Our fantastic band of Shop Volunteers continue to work hard to keep the Shop open and stocked, although it is still proving a challenge to source some products. The Community Room has been turned into an overflow store-room for the Shop, and also the operations centre for the 'Knock and Drop' home delivery service. Again we have another willing band of volunteers who make all this happen.

Our huge thanks to all of them.

We also have volunteers who are maintaining regular telephone contact with people who are not able to get out, or self isolating, or who may simply welcome a friendly voice on the other end of the telephone.

If you know of anyone who would like to be included, and who is not currently, please contact Alistair Grant on 886339 and I will pass their name to the two volunteers organising this service.

Although a little ironic, it has been hugely helpful in the circumstances that the weather in April so far has turned out to be among the best most of us can remember, and allows those who can to get outside to enjoy our gardens and our beautiful countryside around Midgley.

Gardens are looking good with all this lovely weather and all the extra attention – which again is a little ironic since we can't have our Open Gardens event in June this year as planned.

Although we can see a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel signalling an end to all this, end it surely will. Over time, life will gradually return to normal, although the future 'normal' may be a little different from what we have been used to.

In the meantime, the best we can do is for families, friends, neighbours and communities to support and encourage each other to find our best way through.

**Stay positive – Stay safe.**

#### Home Delivery

Just a quick reminder that we are operating a 'Knock and Drop' service for Shop produce to anyone living in the environs of Midgley Village who is unable to come to the shop, or who is minimising all social contact for health reasons.

This service is now working well with regular deliveries around Midgley village.

To arrange a delivery, all you have to do is to ring Elaine Grant on **07748 286826** any day between 9-10am or between 5-6pm.

If you want meat or veg, it's best to ring on Monday as these are delivered to the Shop weekly on a Wednesday and will be delivered to you on a Wednesday or a Thursday.

We can also arrange for collection and delivery of prescriptions.

If you need this, please call Linda Swindells anytime on **07539 302600**.

#### Email notification of Online Events

**Although the Community Room is not currently being used for community events, some Midgley talks are taking place on line using Zoom.**

**These talks are being advertised using the Midgley Notifications email list.**

**If you do not currently receive Midgley Notifications and Requests, and you would like to receive them, please email**

**[martin.tallis@gmail.com](mailto:martin.tallis@gmail.com)**

**requesting that your email address is added to the Midgley Notifications email list.**

**You can unsubscribe at any time.**

**Also if you or anyone you know could give a talk on any subject, please let Martin know at the email address above.**

## SHOP NEWS! SHOP NEWS! SHOP NEWS!

**\*NEW LINES:** We have taken the opportunity to try some New Lines.

We now have a range of Frozen Curries supplied by East West Catering  
In addition to the usual veg samosas, we are trying onion bhajees  
and seekh kebabs.



With chapattis or naan bread, you could replace your normal take-away.



We have several new items from Longley Farm.  
Cream Cheese, Soured Cream, Greek Yogurt etc.



There is now a much bigger range of fresh vegetables.  
We also have some exciting new wines to tempt your palate  
and bring a smile to your face in these unusual times.

Please let volunteers know if there are any suggestions for new products.

A number of volunteers are working very hard to keep the shop stocked. Not only is there a greatly increased demand, but our suppliers sometimes struggle to deliver everything we want.



Thanks to customers for respecting 1 person in the shop at a time.  
This is one of the measures we are taking to keep us all safe.

### \* Seeking Participants for 'Rural Life in a Pandemic- A Diary Project'

Hi, I'm Emilie Whitaker, a Midgley resident and academic at the University of Salford.

I am currently seeking participants for a diary project documenting the everyday rural experience of the pandemic. Participating in the project will contribute to a living social history of the pandemic in this place. Findings from the study will also help to inform future conversations about the needs of rural communities following the immediate impact of the virus.

Through emailed submissions, I want to hear from Midgley residents aged 18+.  
The diary submissions can capture everyday experiences, as close to real time as possible – just like a traditional journal or diary.

**Emailed submissions could include:**

- Word processed diaries
- Simple emails
- Audio Diaries and digital recordings
- Artwork or other creative expressions

The project will run initially for 6 weeks. Participants can send submissions to me as often or as infrequently as they like. Submissions could take place on a daily, weekly, monthly basis, or simply ad-hoc as circumstances allow. I'm very keen to hear from as wide a range of people as possible.

To participate and for more information please get in touch with me, Emilie,  
on 07790 994808 or [e.m.whitaker@salford.ac.uk](mailto:e.m.whitaker@salford.ac.uk)

A full information sheet is also available here: <http://tiny.cc/d3ngnz>

The project has been given full ethical clearance and support by the University of Salford.  
All submissions are confidential, participants will be anonymised, data will be password protected and stored on encrypted University Servers.



### READERS

To assist readers,  
from Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April  
a **BOOK EXCHANGE BOX**  
will be left in the **BUS SHELTER**.

Due to limited space, this is a Book Exchange.

\*A box of wipes will be left in the box  
to keep everyone safe.

### PLANT SALE

Sadly our Open Gardens this year will no longer take place.

Plants raised for this event will be sold  
from early May onwards  
outside 86, Towngate.



Tomato plants 50p each: Tel 883388

For Items to be included in the next newsletter, contact Sandra: email [sandyscott21@ymail.com](mailto:sandyscott21@ymail.com)