

The nation's efforts to combat Covid-19 have affected all our lives, and will continue to do so for some time.

Midgley Matters Association and Midgley Community Forum have been considering how current advice from Government impacts on community activities, and how we might be able to provide some help to those within our community who are most vulnerable.

COMMUNITY AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

All events and activities in the Community Room have ceased until further notice.

This includes Coffee Mornings, Community Lunches, Community Breakfasts, Quiz Nights, as well as activities run by hirers of the room such as QiGong, Yoga and Women's Institute. The Community Room will no longer be available to hire for anything that might constitute a gathering of people such as children's parties.

The planned talk on climate change by Martin Tallis will go ahead remotely using internet technology. Download Zoom and join meeting ID:933 284 8463 Password 88. Email Martin.Tallis@gmail.com or call 882394 for help and a trial run.

All village activities organised by Midgley Community Forum are cancelled until further notice. Well Dressing/Spaw Sunday will not go ahead, and Open Gardens in June will not take place as planned.

We will keep all this under review and start activities and events again when the guidance changes and when we believe it is appropriate.

MIDGLEY SHOP

Many of the current Shop Volunteers will not feel able to continue to volunteer during the Covid-19 epidemic for obvious reasons. However, other volunteers who are not in a vulnerable category have offered to increase their hours. The intention is to keep the Shop open as much as possible. We may have to curtail opening hours a little in order to cope, but if we do have to do this, we will let you know of any changes.

Some supplies are proving more difficult to buy, but we are doing our very best to mitigate this. We will try to maintain as much of the range of basic goods as we can, but to be fair to everyone, we are limiting customers to 2 of any 1 item or 1 pack of toilet rolls, kitchen roll and handwash.

The Shop Management Group, together with the volunteers, have instigated hygiene protocols to reduce the risk to everyone. Please be mindful of the social distancing guidance when you shop and use contactless card payment if you can.

COMMUNITY HELP – SHOPPING

Please see over

COMMUNITY HELP – SHOPPING

We recognise that there will be some in the village who are vulnerable and cannot get to the Shop at present.

For these people, we will be implementing a 'Knock and Drop' delivery service from the Shop, run by volunteers. In brief, how this will operate is:

1. You ring Elaine Grant on 07748 286826 between the hours of 9 and 10 in the morning or 5 and 6 in the evening. On the first occasion, Elaine will take full details and open a 'Shop Account' for you.
2. Your goods will be picked from the Shop, bagged together with an invoice, and delivered to your door by a volunteer.
3. The delivery will be on a 'Knock and Drop' basis. The volunteer will knock on your door, leave the bag at the door and step back to maintain the recommended social distance and wait for you to answer the door.
Under no circumstances can the volunteer take your goods into the house or enter the house.
4. We only receive delivery of meat, fruit and veg on Wednesday, and when it's gone, it's gone. So if you want to be sure of getting what you want, you need to ring Elaine by 6pm on Monday for a delivery from Wednesday onwards.
5. We cannot handle cash or payments at the door.
The Shop will keep a record of your deliveries and invoice you at the end of each month. You can pay by bank transfer, or arrange for a member of your family, or other trusted friend, to pay at the Shop by card.

Elaine will take orders from this Saturday (28th March) for delivery from Monday 30th.

Although we do have some volunteers to provide the sort of shopping help described, further offers of help would be welcome.

OTHER COMMUNITY HELP

Members of our fantastic community are already offering to help others in various ways. These offers of help will be included in future Newsletters or pinned on the Noticeboard in the Shop.

(For example, there is an offer on the Noticeboard to help with dog walking for those dog owners who now feel unable to do this themselves).



If anyone else would like to make any offers like this, please leave details in the Shop, or ask for it to be put on the Noticeboard.

We hope to organise a system to keep in touch with people who are part of the vulnerable group, and may be almost entirely staying at home, in order to make them feel a little less isolated.

If you are in this group and wish to be contacted, or if you feel that you could help by volunteering to stay in touch with some vulnerable people, please ring Alistair Grant on 886339

Finally, if there are other ways that we can help, suggestions are welcome. There will be a list in the Shop that volunteers can add their names to, or call Alistair Grant on 886339 or Linda Swindells on 07539 302600.