

THE BEACON

Newsletter for Ottringham, Halsham & Sunk Island

December 2020 Sponsored by:



2020 has been and still is a very challenging year for everyone and our hearts and sympathy go out to all those who have lost loved ones due to Covid-19 and to those whose families have been affected by it. We hail the new vaccines that have been developed which will help us to return to our normal lives once more.

Christmas is not far away but this year it will be different and difficult for us. At a time when communities come together to rejoice, families gather for the annual Christmas Lights switch-on and carol singing, the arrival of Father Christmas on his sleigh, we have to keep apart. This time of the year makes it harder, but we will do it as we all have our part to play in the fight against this virus.

Never more in our village has the Post Office played such an important and vital role. Meeting people as we queue outside and social distance, masks on, for a quick chat, meeting people who normally you would not see so often (that is if you can recognise them behind their mask!), makes us realise how fortunate we are to have this hub in our community.

The Beacon newsletter has also seen a quiet year due to the lack of events and activities in the villages. Hopefully, it will not be long before we are producing monthly newsletters full of forthcoming events. Therefore the first newsletter of 2021 will probably not be until March/April 2021. We are grateful to ABP for printing this issue when they only have very limited staff at work and thank them for all their support.

To each and everyone of you take care, keep safe, look out for each other and enjoy your Christmas. 2021 we will see light on the horizon.

Bereavement: We offer our deepest sympathy to Nick, Albert, Ursula and family on their sad loss of Helen.

Nick, Albert, Ursula and family would like to thank friends and neighbours for the kind support on the passing of Helen.

OTTRINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Like most things this year the business of the Parish Council has been severely restricted, with only one alfresco meeting held since March. As such several projects have had to be carried over to next year.

Tree planting on the amenity field is going ahead, to replace those trees that have perished due to flooding during the winter and then the very dry spring.

It is hoped in the New Year to create a small garden at the junction of Old Road and the A1033 and to fence around the children's play area to keep dogs off.

Speeding on Station Road and Sunk Island Road continues to be of serious concern. We would like to hear from anyone with experience of this or any incidence of bad driving on these roads and also of any ideas of how to improve the situation.

Residents are reminded that the council provided dog poo bags are for emergency use and not to be taken in large quantities, as has been the case recently. Also once used it is asked that dog walkers remember to place the bags in bins and not to leave them around the edges of the amenity field.

The council wishes to thank Jason Risdol for all his help in tidying up the Church yard and Paul Mellor for his help on the amenity field.

Hopefully 2021 will be a much better year for all of us. Stay Safe and have a very Happy Christmas and New Year – Chris Hoe, Chairman.



Thank you I would like to thank all you super people who supported me again (donations for jams and chutneys).

A super total of £317.94 was raised for the Ottringham Events and the Institute.

Many thanks to everybody who donated fruit and saved jam jars.

A special thanks to Kath for being my outlet once again – Jenny Hoe

OTTRINGHAM FRESH VEGETABLES

- Small Box - £10.50 Large Box - £15.50 Free Delivery every Friday in a 5 mile radius
- More information on contents can be found on Facebook Ottringham Fresh Veg Boxes

Orders can be placed at Ottringham Post Office or by contacting Richard Acklam - 07889 438187 / 01964 624770



e-mail: ottringhamfreshveg@btinternet.com /
Facebook : Ottringham Fresh Veg Boxes

OTTRINGHAM VILLAGE INSTITUTE

The Ottringham Institute has been fortunate to receive the Co-op Community Fund again for next year running from 25 October 2020 until 23 October 2021.

We have applied for the fund to enable us to buy new tables and chairs.

We would be grateful if anyone who uses the Co-op and has a card would nominate us as their cause. This can be done by visiting: coop.co.uk/membership Many thanks.

NEWS FROM ST WILFRID'S CHURCH



Sadly as we write this, the church is closed due to the current lockdown, but hopefully providing the lockdown ends on 2nd December, then there will be a number of services in December:

- 6 December 10.30am - Holy Communion at St Wilfrid's Church
- 13 December 10.30am - Service of Christmas Thanksgiving at St Nicholas' Church, Keyingham
- 20 December 10.30am - Service of Holy Communion at St Wifrid's Church
- 25 December 10.30am - Christmas Day Service at St Wilfrid's

Once things have been confirmed after the lifting of the lockdown, details will be confirmed on the posters on the Church gates.

As Government and Church regulations currently stand, we will not be able to hold our regular service of Nine Lessons and Carols nor will we be able to have a Christingle Service with our lovely candle-lit path.

A BIG THANK YOU

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to the people of the village and our friends at both St Nicholas' Church Keyingham and the Heritage Centre at Sunk Island who made very generous contributions to the Harvest collection of food which has been donated to the Shores Community Food Bank. The car was full to bursting and everyone at the Shores were extremely grateful for the donations and have asked that their very sincere thanks be passed on to you all.

With love and peace – Audrey and Simon



MYSTERY PACKAGE!

Last Christmas we placed a small star on the tower of St Wilfrid's Church for the first time and everyone enjoyed seeing it – so much so that we starting saving to buy a larger one for the following year. Of course we were not to know, at that time, what the year ahead would hold for us, and how all our normal activities would be put on hold while we tried to stay safe and well though the pandemic. At the end of October, when we counted up what we had saved, we were a little over a third of the way to reaching our total.

However over the next few days came the wonderful news that an anonymous donor had offered to pay for all the small Christmas Trees for the Village, and that Sunk Island Garden Centre, who supply the trees, had also offered to sponsor the two larger trees outside the Watts Arms. News of these wonderfully generous offers spread quickly through the community and very soon afterwards we received three substantial donations to make up the entire cost of the large star!

It is also worth mentioning that PC Chairman Chris Hoe, will be selecting and cutting and putting up the two large trees for inside the Church Gates and outside the Post Office – which are so fresh I sometimes worry that the squirrels will still be in the branches when we put them up!

So...although it may not be the 'switch-on' event we are used to, we shall certainly be 'lighting up' over the next two weeks, a little more slowly and according to social distancing protocols, but our lights will shine out as the 'beacon of resilience and generosity' that is 'Ottringham'.

Altogether the donations represent a sum of around £1000 which is, I am sure you will agree, just amazing...

The Events Group and Ottringham Parish Council would like to express their tremendous gratitude to everyone who has helped to make this possible – you are the *real* **Stars of the Story** – Thank you!

MRS BEE'S EMPORIUM OFFERS LOCAL DELIVERY SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

2020 has been a difficult year for most people, and especially for local businesses. With many people unwilling to face the crowds this Christmas, buying Christmas presents may present more of a challenge - especially for those who are shielding or who are not confident at online shopping.

Mrs Bee's Emporium - a gift business based in Keyingham - has a novel solution.

"We realised that many people, especially older people and the more vulnerable, may find it difficult to get out and buy Christmas gifts this year. We don't know if there will be more lockdowns, or if people will be willing to queue outside shops in the winter weather. We design and hand make gifts in Keyingham and we realised that we were able to offer a unique service" says Claire, who runs Mrs Bee's Emporium with her husband Dom.

Customers can buy gifts for their loved ones online - or they can email or phone Mrs Bee's Emporium and explain what they'd like. They then have 3 options, all of which are free of charge:

1. Local 'no touch' delivery, on Wednesdays in November and December, by a mask wearing, social distancing member of the Mrs Bee team
2. Socially distanced kerbside collection from their Keyingham studio
3. Free shipping to a loved one anywhere in the UK. There is an option to purchase gift wrapping for a small fee of £5.

"We hope this will reassure anyone who prefers to minimise their contact with the world, such as the elderly or the most vulnerable, that they can still send presents to their loved ones at Christmas without exposing themselves to unnecessary risk" said Dom. "With our local service, our customers need not touch the gift themselves at all, if they prefer."

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“Whilst most people are happy using online tools, some of our customers are less confident” says Claire. “We will happily take contactless payment over the phone if that is preferred. Alternatively, we take custom orders, so customers can describe what they’d like us to make and we’ll make it especially for them.”

Mrs Bee’s Emporium’s best selling ranges are mugs, plants in funny pots and photo socks. They are in the top 1% of all shops internationally on the craft platform Etsy, and have shipped items to 63 countries across the globe. All their gifts are designed and hand finished by Artisans in Keyingham and Ottringham.

For more information:

Email: hello@mrsbeesemporium.co.uk

Phone: 01964 404012

www.mrsbeesemporium.co.uk

Please note: We do sell some adult humour gifts on the website

JULIA WITH HER MYSTERY PACKAGE! ALL WILL BE REVEALED IN DUE COURSE!



*Happy
New Year*



POPPY APPEAL 2020

In this difficult year we would like to thank everyone Who supported the appeal in any way. We have no totals yet as counting is difficult owing to Covid and RBL rules, but will make it public as soon as possible - Jean and Ernie.

COVID-19 SECURE

DADDY BEAR

DEAR CAT DAD.
Thank you for being our Dad.
If some other man was our Dad
I'd use his face
and go and find you.
JESSIE & MILLIE

Christmas is time to celebrate
Baby Cheeses

ALOE YOU VERA MUCH

Don't fancy Christmas shopping?

- 1) FREE NO TOUCH LOCAL DELIVERY ON WEDNESDAYS
- 2) KERBSIDE COLLECTION FROM OUR KEYINGHAM STUDIO
- 3) FREE UK POSTAGE DIRECT TO YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY - GIFT WRAP AVAILABLE (£5)

your photos

The Smith Family
2020 TIME CAPSULE

MIKE SARAH LOGAN IZZY

YOU GROW, GIRL

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News items may be left at Ottringham Post Office, North End Farm or emailed to the Editor at: heather.croft1@gmail.com

