

Covid-19 Update

Issue no. 2

Since the previous Notice was sent out last week by the TGE Response Group, events have truly been fast-moving. There continues to be an increasing number of cases of Covid-19 and also, sadly, an increasing number of deaths caused by the disease.

As a result, the Government has introduced strict regulations restricting movement of people and has banned gatherings of 2 or more people. It is clear that we must all follow these strict directions as the way of eventually eliminating the pandemic.

In Toppesfield & Gainsford End, we are fortunate to have a community that is able and willing to support all those who have needs during this tough time. Those in need are not just people with pre-existing conditions or those living alone but also those who have self-isolated for whatever reason. We have been actively putting measures in place for Toppesfield & Gainsford End to support as many as we can.

The following is an update of where we are now:

- **Volunteers.**

32 people have already come forward offering to volunteer for a variety of activities such as manning the shop, delivering groceries, prescriptions and meals from the pub, dog walking and assistance with online shopping. In addition, there are 16 people in the T&GE response group spending a lot of time arranging and supporting the various actions being taken.

- **Community Shop**

- Your Community Shop is open as usual until March 28th.
- **Please note that from Monday 30th March the Shop will be open from 8:30am until 1:00pm Monday to Friday and 10:00 to 12:30 on Saturdays.**
- Home deliveries have started from the Shop! Included with your delivery will be an invoice of which the Shop has kept a copy. If you would like to pay by BACS, the sort code is 309831 (Lloyds Bank) and the account number is 01526307.
- Please email any orders to tgevolunteer19@gmail.com
- Another trip to the wholesaler took place on 24th March to obtain some of those rather elusive things such as toilet rolls. These, and anything else deemed to be in short supply may not be on the shelf, so please ask the volunteer on duty.
- **We do ask that you buy only what you need please.** We will try to keep the Shop as well stocked as possible.
- Your Community Shop can order a range of meat and poultry from Priors Hall Farm. The order for the Shop is placed on a Tuesday mornings with delivery on Thursday.
- We also have a range of frozen food including vegetables .
- Newspaper and magazine deliveries are daily except Sunday; please call the shop on 236003 if you wish to order something – we carry very few spare copies.

- **Pub**

As you know, all pubs closed on Friday evening. David and Paul at the Green Man will now be providing a meal takeaway service from 1:00 -2:00pm and from 5:00 – 8:00pm. In addition, they are planning to work with Pumphouse Brewery to supply 2-pint takeaway reusable bottles of draught beer. This service will be available from the brewery during the morning and afternoon as soon as the bottles are delivered – hopefully Thursday 26th March.

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- **Support group**

We have specialists in the village to help those suffering with their mental health. There is a confidential phone helpline providing emotional support and practical solutions and signposting. Please use it to ask for help for yourself or someone who you know is vulnerable:

Tel. 07341 264 221

- **Village Hall**

- The village hall closed for all clubs and gatherings on 17th March.
- On 20th March the pre-school closed, as per Government guidelines
- The hall is primarily a meeting space, however other uses would be considered
- The hall will receive a professional deep clean if it is used during the current period.

- **St Margaret's Church**

We are very sad that we have to close your church at this time of need. If you need prayers for you or loved ones please call **Sally on 07850361101**. Be assured that we are praying for the community every day and there will be a YouTube service every Sunday <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvBm95H2KmE> Peace be with you all xx

Please keep the following contact details available:

To send an email to the group to offer to become a volunteer –

tgevolunteer19@gmail.com

For prescription delivery or for any help other than shopping call **07341 264219 (24 hours)**

To request support for food deliveries call **07341 264220 (8:00am to 8:00pm)**

However, we would prefer all food orders to be by email to tgevolnteer19@gmail.com

If you would like to talk to someone about a specific or general topic that concerns you or if you are feeling lonely please call **07341 264221 (8:00am to 8:00pm)**

We will continue to deliver these leaflets on a regular basis for as long as we can and information will continue to be posted on the parish Facebook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/toppesfieldandgainsfordendcommunity/>

In addition, we are putting together an email database of residents. We will use this for urgent communications, should the need arise. In the event that we are unable to print and deliver leaflet updates, we will email information to everyone for whom we have an email address and for those without email we will phone.

To help us with this please send us your email address, telephone number and name to
tgevolunteers19@gmail.com

or call us on: **07341 264219**

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In the meantime, please remember to be aware of your neighbours, especially those who may be self-isolating or may be especially at risk or vulnerable due to pre-existing conditions.

And most importantly, it is essential that EVERYONE follows Government advice