



OWN Update 9

14 May 2020

The relaxing of some restrictions means that life will change (again). One positive event this week has been the re-opening of Oakington Garden Centre. It is open from 9 – 6 Mon – Sat, and 10 – 4 Sun and social distancing measures are in place. Only 25 customers are permitted at any one time in maximum groups of 2 (this could be two adults, or an adult and child). Deliveries are still being made to those who are self-isolating, but there is a significant backlog. Oakington residents who put “Elephant” in the subject line of their email order will be prioritised. Payment by card is preferred. oakingtondeliveries@gmail.com

Another piece of good news is the launching by OWN of a Village Telephone Tree. Can you spare a few minutes each week for a short chat with a couple of other people in the village? This is how it works: each week you call two people, and you will get a call from a third person. Interested? Get in touch, and we will get back to you to answer any questions. 07902 111786/ 07375 945284 or email owneighbours@gmail.com

Another way to keep in touch is through our Zoom Virtual Café which happens on a Thursday morning from 10 – 11.30am. The link appears on the Oaky Folk Facebook page. Contact Ben Phillips for further details: benp@standrewsoakington.co.uk 07342945373

Nearly £1500 has been raised for the Hardship Fund. This pandemic is showing just how much we need each other to get by. If you are struggling to keep your head above water, we want the Hardship Fund to act as a lifeline to help weather the storm. For support, please contact OWN on 07902 111786/ 07375 945284 or email owneighbours@gmail.com and we will try to respond promptly. Your details will be kept confidential. The fund can help with such things as:

- Baby and child needs
- Personal hygiene products
- Energy bills
- Other expenses depending on circumstances, e.g. petrol or travel expenses to go to a funeral

OWN will also help you to find other local support for a longer term solution.

For immediate needs the local foodbank has been providing families with support. More canned goods would be helpful. OWN has made 11 shopping deliveries, collected 5 prescriptions, carried out 4 other errands and supported 2 IT queries in the past week.