



Living in Oakington & Westwick through the Coronavirus Outbreak – Number 2 (15th April)

To ask for or offer help:

Leave a message on **07902 111786** or **07375 945284**

Email **owneighbours@gmail.com**

Keeping in touch

It's really important at the moment to keep in touch with what's being offered in the village.



If you are online, join the Oaky Folk facebook group or the parish email list (email oakingtonpc@btinternet.com).



If you don't have a computer, ring OWN and we can arrange for the weekly updates (and April Journal, if you missed that) to be delivered to you, or just tell you over the phone what's new.



Several roads have informal whatsapp or email groups, to share shopping trips, support each other and keep spirits up! If you don't know your neighbours – perhaps you moved here recently – contact OWN to be put in touch with someone we know who lives near you.



Over the next week or two OWN volunteers will be phoning and writing to some residents identified by the District Council as those who might be badly affected by the current situation – to see if there's anything you suggest or need.



Something we can all do is stay in regular touch with anyone we know who lives alone or needs support, eg medical staff.

For help with...

Shopping

If you are self-isolating because of illness or age, ring Oakington village shop (**01223 232327**) to place an order which will be delivered by a volunteer. Please plan ahead for the week so you don't need to ask too often, minimising volunteer outings.

Otherwise please phone/text/email OWN using the contacts above, for

- Picking up a prescription or pharmacy supplies (with as much notice as possible)
- Technical help with contacting friends and family on your computer or mobile
- A chat because you've had enough of your own company!
- Anything else – leave us a message and we'll do our best

We know that the Coronavirus is causing financial hardship for many. To use our **Food Bank**, contact Ben Phillips on benp@standrewsoakington.co.uk or **07342 945373**. We are setting up a Hardship Fund to support this and other essential needs. If you are struggling, please get in touch with OWN and we will do what we can to help.

Useful Information

Oakington village shop

We need the shop more than ever, and we want Raj and Kanwal who run it to stay well! Keep them and other customers safe by washing your hands, keeping your distance, sticking to the customer limit, and doing as much shopping in one go as possible (perhaps asking neighbours if they need anything), to reduce the number of visits to the shop. If you can, pay with a contactless card.

White Horse Pub

Takeaways are available to pick up or (for self-isolating households) to be delivered. Every evening 5-8pm while stocks last. Cod, scampi or cheeseburger and chips, pizzas. Call Ferdan on 07415 308172 to order and pay.

Garden Centre

Closed, but delivering when possible (minimum order £10) – they have been very busy. Orders have to be placed by email but you can call 01223 234818 to ask what's available.

Food Bank and Hardship Fund

The food bank is being well used and donations are needed. Please leave your donations in the box in the Village Shop – where there is a list of suggested items. Or you can donate money to the Oakington & Westwick Coronavirus Hardship Fund, which will be used to stock the Food Bank and also for other essentials (eg. nappies, baby milk, pre-payment meter top-ups) for those in need:

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/own-hardship-fund

Get Crafty!

If you'd like to get creative while stuck at home, contact Oakington & Westwick WI for some craft ideas! Call Helen Williams 01223 232614 or helenwilliams5@outlook.com.

Coronavirus Scams

Sadly fraudsters are exploiting people's anxieties and isolation – so PLEASE be wary of scams. Scammers contact you by phone, letter, text, email, or even knocking on your door. They may claim to be from government agencies, the NHS, Public Health England, or charities. Examples include: selling fake vaccines or Covid 19 home test kits, fake fundraising websites, emails or text messages from a fake HMRC website offering a tax refund, text messages from the same number as recent GOV.UK messages, but leading to a spoof website.

If you're not sure something is genuine, call someone you trust to discuss. If someone you don't know offers help, ring the OWN number overleaf.

Don't share your bank card or pin number ... let anyone into your home ... respond to unsolicited messages or calls that ask for personal or financial details ... click on links or attachments in suspicious emails ... hand over or transfer money to someone you don't know who is offering to help you. Except for shopping and paid prescriptions (ask for a receipt), help should be free of charge

IMPORTANT NOTE: OWN never ask for money in advance. If a volunteer has paid for something on your behalf, then, once you have the goods and receipt, you can write a cheque or transfer the amount to a bank account set up by OWN specifically for this purpose. The volunteer will be reimbursed from this account. No cash is handled.

If you want to check that a phone call from an OWN volunteer is genuine, hang up and call someone you know - this would ensure a fake caller has freed the line. Then contact OWN on the numbers or email overleaf, and we will take steps to ensure you know future calls are genuine.

Who delivered this leaflet and is that safe?

Oakington & Westwick Neighbours in partnership with the Community Association, the Parish Council, Oakington Village Stores & Post Office, St. Andrew's Church, the Baptist chapel, and other volunteers.

Public Health England have advised that the risk of transmission from paper (touched by unclean hands or coughed over) is probably small, and that postal deliveries can continue as normal. Mail and leaflets like this one are critical for those who rely on paper and letters to receive help and maintain contact with the outside world.

We are following County guidance: Hands washed before and after handling leaflets; minimal handling; social distancing while delivering; no-one with symptoms (or a household member in quarantine) involved in production or delivery.

If you would rather not receive paper information in future, however, please put a notice by your letterbox.

Data Protection Note: contact information for users and volunteers stored by OWN will be deleted at the end of the coronavirus crisis. Please contact OWN with any queries.

Thank you

to the many people who have offered to help – what a fantastic community we live in!