Happy Easter!

Poor man’s Fabergé by David Smith

Week 2
10 April 2020
A Newsletter for all in the Parish of Nursling and Rownhams
Editorial

Welcome to week 2 of our solely digital Coronavirus editions!

We thought we would treat our readers to an edition in glorious technicolour so that you can appreciate the beautiful artwork that the children of the village have made. We will continue to include photographs in colour in future digital editions – as long as you keep sending them in! However, when life returns to normal and we resume the production of our monthly paper copy of the Village News, we will revert to black and white.

Thank you so much to all those who have contributed items for this week’s edition. We really appreciate your efforts. Thank you, too, to our ‘followers’ whose number grows daily.

Now that it is becoming clear that the lock down is here to stay for some weeks ahead, we plan to publish a digital edition every Friday with a deadline for contributions of 12 noon the preceding Tuesday. In addition to the many suggestions for contributions in the Editorial in the first digital edition, we hope to receive ideas for Recipe of the Week, suggestions for local walks and letters. Above all, we would like some better jokes than those we have had so far!

Please print out a copy of the digital Village News for those who would not otherwise have access to it. If you are unable to send material digitally, you can always pop an envelope marked ‘Village News’ through the letterbox of 33 Horns Drove on your daily exercise walk. This will be sanitised in line with current advice.

Send your on-line contributions to:

editors.villagenews@gmail.com


The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the editors
‘May you live in interesting times’ is a Chinese curse. Well, if the source of the current Covid-19 proves to be in Wuhan, that is prescient.

As we adjust to our life in lock down, I am finding on my daily walk many interesting things in and around the village. I have loved watching family groups on their daily walk, cycle or run. Hopefully, families are enjoying their enforced time together and, living where we do, we are lucky to have space to exercise safely.

All the runners, walkers, cyclists and dog walkers I have met have been respectful of space and always nod or exchange pleasantries. It seems that most people in our village ‘get it’. I feel safe in our local Co-op doing an irregular shop because of customers keeping their distance, though yesterday there was a group of 4 or 5 outside clumped together. Thank you, Co-op staff, for continuing to work through this difficult time.

I think it is heartening to see the rainbows that are displayed in so many windows and the bears participating in the bear hunt. I have a monkey in my window who identifies as a bear and strongly objects to being ignored by bear hunters! Later, an Easter Egg Hunt will take place with painted eggs on windows.

It is lovely to see ‘Help Yourself’ boxes with rhubarb, children’s toys, duck’s eggs and jigsaws at the end of driveways.

So, what do you miss about life before the lock down? What have you been doing to keep you and your family occupied? What do you miss about the ‘old life’?

Rownhams Resident
Eco Thoughts for A Difficult Time

Eco thoughts may seem rather out of place in the midst of this present crisis, but we WILL come through this time and the climate crisis will sadly still be with us.

Perhaps we can use this extraordinary and exceptional time where we will be changing all sorts of habits and activities that were 'givens' before, to consider whether and how we could lighten our footprint on the Earth. Perhaps we can change some of our habits and ways that we previously took for granted, to try and live more gently and in tune with our precious planet and to conserve it's resources.

You may find some useful ideas on the 'Climate Stewards' website, and there are many others.

Even if you've looked before, now is a time to dig a bit deeper perhaps and see if there's something which now seems more important or doable than before.

Take care and stay safe!

Angela Jones

Austin Six

The photo below was captured by David Smith. For car enthusiasts and everyone else, this would be a particular treat as it’s a well preserved part of our history. David comments: “I took this picture in a Romsey car park last year. I hope other drivers took extra care when manoeuvring!”
‘THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC…’

Many villagers belong to choirs and musical groups and must really miss the companionship and making of music that lock down has made impossible. So here are some suggestions to raise your spirits – please add your suggestions in the weeks ahead or let us know how your music groups have adapted to these strange circumstances.

Use your browser to find anything by the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain or Sinfonity Toccata and Fugue in DM.

If you are in possession of a ukulele and don’t know what to do with it, contact robharvey33@yahoo.co.uk and he can help. Your family won’t thank you for it, mind!

*Cath*

________________________________________________________

**Alfred Cedric Stanley “Stan” Gover**

19 June 1929 – 20 February 2020

Doris Gover and family would like to thank all those who came to celebrate the life of husband and father Stan Gover, aged 90, on Friday 13th March 2020. It was so nice to see so many of you from the village despite the trying times at present.

Thanks to the Romsey Golf Club for hosting and providing a wonderful buffet and great service.

Also thanks to all who donated to the Alzheimers Society.
Community News from Gavel and Bell

OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

At this difficult time of Covid-19, praise must go to the sterling work our beloved local NHS are providing to all. We should also thank teachers, carers, public service workers, the emergency services, volunteers and everyone providing services to help our society function during lock down.

I am pleased that the community each Thursday evening at 8pm supports the NHS by clapping. I support the effort in Balmoral Way in my Romsey Town Crier outfit.

It is unfortunate that many charity events have been cancelled and my thoughts go out to each being unable to raise such needed funds during this recess period. During the following months we all hope the situation fades away to allow normal activities again.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

Terry Hamer

Easter Eggs for Children

We heard that two parishioners planned to give away free Easter eggs to children in the village. Did this happen? Did you get an egg? Would you like to tell us about it?

Defibrillators can be found outside

The Village Hall in Nursling Street and the Community Centre in Horns Drove

Someone not breathing or breathing erratically? Call 999. Do CPR. Ask someone else to go and get the defibrillator. 999 will give them the code to access the equipment. Follow the spoken instructions given by the defibrillator.
Out for a walk? What did you see?

The photo below was captured by Alan Bowman.

He says “I saw these just on our little walk this afternoon in Colt Close. They are super cute and brought a smile, so thought I would share with you all! “

Maybe this would inspire you to send in similar items of what you have seen on your walks recently.

Do let us know! We would love to hear from you.

Email: editors.villagenews@gmail.com
Brownie News

Our last Brownies meeting of this term was on Monday 15th March. We didn't know until later that evening that it would be when Girlguiding UK suspended all meetings and activities.

During that meeting the Brownies decorated photo frames for their mums, ten Brownies were presented with their “Know Myself” theme award and Jessica received her Baking badge - the first one for our pack ~ Well done Brownies.

We'd had a busy term up until then. We completed several of our Unit Meeting Activity challenges from the “Know Myself” theme. We had a yoga session back in January led by Tawny Owl's yoga tutor and on March 9th the Brownies had an Aquafit session at Red Lodge pool. Thank you, Marie Godwin, for organising that for the Brownies. These two activities we hope will encourage the Brownies to consider completing their Mindfulness badge.

One of the clauses for this badge asks the Brownies to think about ten things in their life that they are grateful for; they can be things from the past or today. The clause then says "you might not realise you didn't notice at the time how grateful you were. Do you feel more grateful now you've had a chance to think about it?"

This clause when I read it the other day really seemed so appropriate for now and got me thinking! 2020 is the Golden Jubilee year for our Girlguiding County of Hampshire West. Back in 1970 Hampshire as a Girlguiding County had grown too large so it was divided into three: North, East and West.

Lots of activities had been planned across the sections ~ Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and the Adults too. Unfortunately, like so many things some have been rescheduled with many fingers crossed that the rest will take place!

Everyone has been given the Golden Jubilee challenge to work towards, and for each section completed by earning 50 points, part of a badge will be awarded. Flexible Guiding means some tasks may need to be adapted!
Girlguiding has asked for all Girlguiding members to place a lit candle (or a battery one) in their windows every Sunday evening from 7.10pm to 8.20pm whilst Girlguiding activities are suspended to keep our ‘Guiding light’ alive. (The times are 1910 to 2020 ~ from when we began to present day!)

If you have ever been a member of Girlguiding please join us and light your candle too.

Last Monday, during our usual meeting time the Brownies were set an indoor scavenger hunt to complete with photos of their collections posted to our closed Facebook group. Over 50% of the Brownies took part. Brown Owl and Snowy Owl also took part along with Snowy Owl's sister who was one of our Brownies a few years ago and now lives in Northumberland!

More activities will take place after the Easter break until Girlguiding says meetings and activities can resume - we may even venture into online Brownie meetings!

If your daughter would like to join our pack or you would like to add her name to our waiting list please give me a call or send an email ~ it's never too late; or too early to add her name to our waiting list.

Phone 02380 732394 or email: brownies.firstnandr@ntlworld.com

Or register here:
https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

We are part of Girlguiding Romsey Division. We cover quite a large area from us here in Nursling & Rownhams to Lockerley and from Braishfield to Wellow.

Girlguiding isn't just for the under 18's so if you are interested in joining as an adult leader or helper in Romsey Division please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs Rosalie Burnett
Unit Leader - 1st Nursling & Rownhams Brownies & Assistant Division Commissioner - Girlguiding Romsey.
RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Barbecued Salmon, Pesto And Potatoes

Ingredients
600g potatoes
Green beans
Broccoli
4x120g salmon
Pesto (could be shop bought or self-prepared if feeling adventurous)
Olive oil
2 lemons
Seasoning (salt and pepper)

Method
- Scrub the potatoes, then trim the beans and broccoli. Cook the potatoes in a large pan of boiling salted water for 15 minutes, or until tender, adding the beans and the broccoli for the final 5 minutes.
- Rub salmon with olive oil and salt and pepper and set aside.
- Fire up your barbecue and leave at a low heat. Oil the griddle to avoid salmon sticking to it.
- Place salmon on barbeque skin side up for 3mins, or until cooked to your preference. Then flip to skin side down for another min for skin to crisp up briefly.
- Drain potatoes and veggies and place in a big bowl. Add the pesto so it coats all the veggies as much as you prefer.
- Add the salmon and enjoy!

This can be adapted with the salmon cooked in a pan.

Onize Okhiku
Bridge Club

As you might have gathered, our Bridge Club is now closed for the foreseeable future.

The last session we had was our AGM on Thursday March 12, when the current committee was re-elected.

The English Bridge Union (EBU) can be accessed online at www.ebu.co.uk and you might find something that interests you there.

We hope that everyone is managing well while there are many restrictions in place, especially those who rely on the social aspect of playing bridge with others.

The hand below illustrates the importance of using trumps to ruff out losing tricks, rather than drawing trumps immediately.

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Commentary on the sample hand

This hand was played on March 5 at the club and South ended up playing the hand in 4♣.

With singletons in each of the NS hands facing Aces, the best way to play this hand is not to draw trumps, but to try and make them separately. West leads their singleton ♥, hoping to be able to ruff that suit at some point (as it happens, it is better for W to lead a trump, but that lead is hard to find). This helps S, as it leads into the Ace Queen tenace, so setting up a trick in that suit as the Ace is played if E plays the King, otherwise the Queen will win the trick.

Now the best play for S is to play a ♣ to the Ace followed by another, ruffed in the S hand. (This is to prevent W discarding ♠ which would happen if S immediately plays ♥s.) Then S leads a low ♥ and ruffs it in the N hand as low as possible, depending on what W plays. W does best to discard a ♦. Another ♦ is played, ruffed in the S hand. Another ♥ follows and is ruffed, W discarding a ♦. Now when a ♣ is led from the N hand, S needs to ruff with the Queen, or else W can ruff and return a trump which leaves S one trick short. S now leads another ♥ and ruffs that with the remaining trump. Now since the ♣s are good, one is played and S can discard a ♥ or trump it, depending on what E plays. This way, just three tricks are lost and the contract made.

Peter Ransom

FREE KIDS ACTIVITY SHEETS

The link below is for free activity sheets that can be used to encourage younger children to find out about the world and beyond. There are just a few now but more may be added

http://www.papermagpie.co.uk/papermagpie/downloads.html
What happened when Scout camp was cancelled!

Hello, my name is William Nash. I am 10 yrs old and I belong to the 21st Nursling and Rownhams Endeavour Scout troop.

We were meant to be on a group camp this weekend, but we were unable to go because of the Corona virus. I was really sad to begin with, but thanks to our amazing leaders, we all got to camp in our own back gardens and complete a series of fun challenges instead!! It was so much fun! I built a 5.2m tower, cooked my own food, had a camp fire and I challenged my family to lots of games.

One of the activities was to join an international Scouting Jamboree online. I had never done anything like this before, so I was a bit nervous to start with. We had to link up with a Scout from another country and find out some interesting facts about them. I met a Scout from the Philippines called Enamymus. I found out that he has a brother and a sister, and he liked making friends and eating food. His favourite food was burritos!! He told me that last summer he went on holiday to Korea and did hiking, about 28km I think. I told him all about my holiday last summer to Italy climbing Mount Etna! It was fun meeting him and learning something about a Scout on the other side of the world.

Who says we can’t have fun during lock down, we just have to do things in a different way that’s all! I am looking forward to our next adventure.

Stay safe everyone

William Nash

Do you have any interesting article? Or link to a website that someone in the community would find beneficial? Please forward to: editors.villagenews@gmail.com
ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK

Hopscotch

According to Wikipedia, "Hopscotch" is a children's game that can be played with several players or alone. Hopscotch is a popular game in which players toss a small object into a numbered triangles or pattern of rectangular outlines on the ground and then hop or jump through the spaces to retrieve the object.

Below is a photo of a young one in our community enjoying a game of Hopscotch. You can go out in your garden and have loads of fun with this!
Hope

In these times, it is heart-warming and really inspirational to see us come together as a community and provide the much-needed spirit of oneness.

These photos were captured by Karen Terzer on our pavements. They depict how the simple things in life speaks volumes. These are just simple drawings, but they speak a message of hope to our hearts and praise for the tireless NHS and other professionals providing outstanding services at this time.
Tommy Cooper Hour

Those of us of a certain age will remember this programme. Tommy Cooper was a brilliant comedian whose jokes were so bad, they were funny. Here’s a few that he would have thoroughly approved of!

Before lock down, I was driving down on my motor bike and pillion to the coast when I was stopped by the police. They said, 'Excuse me, sir, but we have just found your wife lying in the road. We think she fell out of your pillion.'

'Thank goodness for that,' I replied. 'I thought I had gone deaf.'

One-liners

I really regret buying a cheap satnav - it just keeps saying "we are where we are".

No-one ever regrets going to the theatre - apart from Abraham Lincoln.

CORONA VIRUS
HELP NEEDED?
HELP OFFERED
CALL/TEXT SARAH ON 07887 420656
150 years of Red Cross in Britain

In 2020 the British Red Cross is celebrating its 150 Anniversary of helping people in crisis in the UK and beyond. Throughout the year we will be celebrating across Hampshire.

The Red Cross movement was formed in 1863 by Swiss businessman Henry Dunant and has become the largest humanitarian organisation in the world with 193 country members. The British Red Cross was formed in 1870 making 2020 our 150th Anniversary year. In 1870, it was called the National Society for Aid to the sick and wounded in War. The early years of the British Red Cross were focused on the war effort; there were 41 Red Cross Military hospitals in Hampshire mainly in stately homes and golf clubs. In 1956 Hampshire was host to Hungarian refugees and in 1974 Portsmouth had a Red Cross centre in Leigh Park supporting the vulnerable in the community, teaching first aid and lending wheelchairs to those in need.

The British Red Cross is well known for its international humanitarian work, but we also help people in the UK with our local services. From helping people home from hospital, loaning wheelchairs, teaching first aid to supporting refugees and asylum seekers with their integration into the local community. We also have team of volunteers trained and ready at the moment’s notice to help those in a crisis: whether a fire, flood or emergency evacuation, the British Red Cross will be there to help.

If you would like to be involved in our 150th anniversary events, or join us in fundraising for our local work, please contact pfalck@redcross.org.uk. We would love you to take part in our #150challenge raising £150 or more in our 150th year. You would be a member of the 150 club and would join a growing number of supporters proudly helping us help others through the power of kindness.

Editor’s Note: This notice from our local Red Cross Branch is very relevant in our current situation. Gary Lineker recently announced that he was donating 2 months nett salary in support of the work the British Red Cross would be doing to support the vulnerable during lockdown.