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Good News Neighbours!

Village Newsletter



March 2021

Dear Byfielder,

Daffs are out, lots of vaccinations have been had - let's hope we're turning a corner!

We're very pleased to report that Karen's amazing work for you all has been acknowledged - not just by us and Northants ACRE as reported

also now a Rose of Northamptonshire, an accolade also given to the Scheme as a whole in recognition of the village's efforts to support each other in the pandemic. *Thank-you Karen!!*



Everything we're doing can be found on our website :

www.byfieldgoodneighbours.com

If this is your first Good News(letter) the second half of the newsletter has information on:

- Shopping help
- Prescriptions delivery
- Hunkering in the Byfield Bunker- what's still fun in Byfield
- How to get involved
- Supporting us financially
- Who else needs help?

What your Good Neighbours are doing for Byfield at the moment....

Prescriptions We delivered daily during Lockdown3, but the surgery is now open. We can collect if required, you need to tell the surgery that Good Neighbours will be in to collect your prescription and call the main

Trips for your vaccinations, or surgery appointments. [Book in for a lift if required](#), if you have no-one in your household to take you over to Weedon.

[Fun in the Byfield Bunker](#)

The fabulous Terry has documented some of his walks in photo format, which can now be used as a guide for your own perambulations.

Being uploaded to the website soon, but email for early access if you're desperate to get out.

Terry starts from the end of Greenwood Close, off Bell Lane, but you can join the route anywhere along the way as they are circular. He has taken photos of the direction you are going in, as well as looking back where you should have come from (!) and any obstacles such as stiles so you know whether you can manage the route.

Sadly Terry is moving away from Byfield soon, we wish him well and thank him for his huge contributions to the life of the village over the years, particularly these lovely mementoes for us all.

Whilst we're not going to be fully back to normal for a while yet, as the weather improves, it'd be great to have wider input on fun activities to do in and around Byfield once again this Spring.

Everyone is welcome to make their own 'photowalk' and share with us all in the Byfield Bunker - why not give it a go ?

Have another idea? Let us know and see how we can support you making it happen?

We're also starting to look forward towards a normal 'Good Neighbours' set up, and would like to hope that all of our new friends and supporters will continue to be involved. If you're thinking along those lines, here's a couple of ideas :

Jigsaw Librarian – oversee the ins and outs of the village's jigsaw supplies

Café&Co – our café runs once a month on a Sunday afternoon – we need cake makers, kitchen staff, welcomers, and a co-ordinator – could this be you?

Nice Surprises - these have been such a hit, we'd like to keep this going beyond CoVid.

See more information below or on the website.

Ongoing support

We will be reverting to our usual offering of friendship and assistance in the near future - hopefully you'll know to turn to us, and if we can't help, we can point you in the right direction.

Other resources :

Energy Efficiency is relevant all year round : *we can refer you to an expert at Citizens Advice who can check you are on the right tariff - spring and summer is a great time to get ahead and organise this.*

Boddington Good Neighbours have created an amazing resource for financial support available for a variety of circumstances. Check out this link to work your way through the options and to find out more if you're



[Boddington Good Neighbours Financial Support Information](#)

Information on support from the government.

[Go to this Sway](#)

Ever wondered what 'safeguarding' means?

It's nothing new, in reality, but a catch-all term for what to do if you are worried about someone.

You may see unexplained injuries, notice a change in behaviour – perhaps more aggressive or suddenly very fearful, hear inappropriate speech, or perhaps notice things going missing etc.

Being a Good Neighbour, you're already doing the first part - we're actively noticing if someone needs help; but - rather than hoping we're wrong or not wanting to stick our noses in - it is the next part that actually makes the difference - what to we do about it ?

Good Neighbours have been trained on what to do in those kind of situations, so rather than worrying or ignoring it, you can call us in confidence and we will pass it on if necessary.

Remember, it is circumstances that mean someone is vulnerable, not their intelligence nor their resources. Someone unfamiliar with IT may be vulnerable to a scam, just as much as someone relying on help from another may be dependent on kindness that may be withheld.

...in cases, why not check with us and we can help reassure you or them that all is in order, and call in experts if necessary,

Are you prepared for an emergency?

Don't forget, you do not have to be old or infirm for it to be a sensible precaution to get prepared!



We also want to make sure that you know, if – for any reason – you are taken into hospital, no-one is automatically notified – not the Surgery, nor Good Neighbours – and the hospital can not tell us if we try and track you down.

If you would like us to know if this happens – perhaps you have a pet you'll need looking after, or we can get you some food for when you come home, why not speak to us now and we can help you put some things in place ahead of time?

We can also hold your ICE information (In Case of Emergency) for your family members and friends who might be worried about you.

Don't forget to send them one of our business cards as well so they know how to reach us too. Ask if you need some more copies - we have plenty!

[Are you worried about someone in Byfield needing help?](#)

If you know of someone who would like a 'care call' from us - either regularly, or just occasionally - we're more than happy to reach out and check if they need something. You can even nominate yourself :)

Other support options are listed on our [Useful Numbers](#) Page, including the County helpline.

If you know someone who is jealous of your Good Neighbours, refer them to this helpful map of similar support in Northamptonshire. [MAP](#) .
Elsewhere, search Mutual Aid + their location and they should find help nearby.

Who do you know who should be signed up to



[Sign up for the Good News Newsletter](#)



Shopping

Call the main number to request your items 01327 227000. See [here](#) for what shopping we can do for you.

Deliveries happen once your shopping has been collated, but please note we can not guarantee by a certain time, although so far we've been very quick! Plan ahead if you can. You can of course call for help with fetching an urgent item request, but make sure it is made clear that it is urgently needed.

Currently, you can also order and pay over the phone direct to the Co-op - Good Neighbours will bring your order to you in our delivery round.

Prescription Deliveries

The surgery is currently open for prescription pick-ups as normal. We can help with this if required - the process is :

Order your prescriptions with the Surgery (01327 265841) between 10 & 12pm, and 2-4pm or online.

Let us know when it will be ready for collection.

When the item is ready for delivery, a Good Neighbour will bring it to you. Surgery staff bring controlled substance prescriptions separately.

- We can not leave a prescription if you are not in - it will be returned to the surgery and we will try again the following day. Speak to the surgery if you want alternative arrangements made.
- We will take a photo of you receiving your medicines for proof of delivery - you can hide behind the door if you wish, but this is necessary to protect you and us - written acceptance is suspended due to distancing requirements. See our website for Data Protection & Confidentiality Policy on how we keep and store your information.

See [here](#) for more advice on safely receiving a prescription or a delivery.

Byfield Bunker



The website is still live and available for everyone in the village - click on the [Byfield Bunker](#) on the website and keep checking back for more ideas.

[Share our Shed](#) - There'll be things going wrong in our houses over the coming weeks, or little jobs that we want to get done. We can't just pop to the shop any more, but - between us - we probably have everything we need in our sheds. Send an S.o.S (Share our Shed) request from this page, and let's see if we can crowdsource what you need. You can also get in touch to offer things like free logs to your neighbours if you'd like.

links - including quiz rounds, exercising at home for seniors and more. And, soon, Terry's Photowalks.

This is also where you'll find pages such as [NN11 Nature](#) : we're spending a lot of time near Byfield at the moment - perhaps exercising more than usual in the countryside. Share your images of beautiful Byfield. or suggest new spots that villagers might not know about. Join us helping your neighbours even if you are stuck at home if you can sew by becoming one of [our MaskMasters](#).

[Kid Zone](#) - a repository of home-schooling resources and ideas to keep the kids entertained - download colouring in pages to say thank-you to our binmen and posties, or see the Teddy Bear Hunt around the village. We've also got a [Children's Library](#) from a kind volunteer, and now family DVDs too. One lovely grandma is recording bedtime stories for her grandchildren, and you can watch those videos with your little ones on there too!

[Byfield Bush Telegraph](#) - whether you are on your own usually or not, this might be a particularly difficult time to show someone you care. You can leave a message for a Byfielder on our Bush Telegraph page - or a general message of positivity is just as welcome. We are also matching new friends to keep in touch with each other - let us know if you'd like to be a penpal with someone new - young or old!

[Useful Numbers](#) - a repository of useful contacts for this pandemic period.

This is the village's resource - let us know what you are doing or would like to see happen - all ideas are welcome, all the more so if you can make the idea work !! Email us any time.

How to Volunteer

New volunteers are always welcome - whether you are able to go out or are currently self-isolating. Call or email us and ideas for help you can do from home are on the website.

Supporting us financially

In response to requests for ways to support us financially, we have set up a [GoFundMe](#) .

We've been amazed at the response so far from villagers, both via GoFundMe and direct donations.

Not everyone wants to be public about their donations, but you know who you are, and THANK-YOU!

That has allowed us to buy and host the website for the foreseeable future, to meet the phonebill & the DBS check charges we will have to pay, plus we can buy more efficiently from our sources with this as a float. With the donations counting as 'matched funding', we have had support from the HS2, Tesco, Daventry DC, Morrisons, Western Power & DEFRA. We're now actively supporting households in urgent need, so your donations also literally are feeding the village.

Who else should we be helping?

Do you know of someone who Byfield Good Neighbours could be supporting ?

Encourage them to call us, or let us know and we can reach out to them.

Do your friends and family know that Byfield has a Good Neighbours Scheme - let them know that we are here for you, and that they can help us help you - for example, by setting up a PayPal account to remotely pay for shopping.

Finally, we've already supported other villages to get set up as Good Neighbours at speed, and we're more than happy to help anyone else - tell them to get in touch.

Thank-you so much for all your support,

Your Good Neighbours

Update 9/3/21 Byfield Good Neighbour Scheme



Neighbours helping Neighbours

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www.byfieldgoodneighbours.com



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