

Milland Coronavirus Update 20 March 2020

HOLLYCOMBE SCHOOL

All schools are closed as from the end of today. However, Hollycombe Primary will remain open to do **childcare for any key workers** locally (not just those whose children are already pupils there) and the staff can work over the Easter break. The school is also happy to be redeployed to anything else that could be useful: all the Governors and parents are very supportive and on-board with doing anything to help. Contact Louise Pearce, Headteacher, Hollycombe Primary School, Wardley Green, Milland, Hampshire, GU30 7LY, tel. 01428 741332, email head@hollycombepriamary.org.uk

MILLAND STORES

- Milland Stores is offering a door-to-doorstep no-contact next-day **delivery service** for groceries, household goods and meat and will do its utmost to fulfil orders. Can customers please place their orders by emailing goods@millandstores.co.uk or after 2pm on 01428 741109.
- Credit and debit cards will be accepted for all orders. Delivery areas will include Milland, Borden Wood, Iping, Redford, Linch, Hollycombe and Wheatsheaf Enclosure.
- The shop will now be **closed from 2pm** every day (including weekends) to enable staff to fulfil orders.

RISING SUN

The Rising Sun (01428 741347) is offering doorstep deliveries of a wide range of meals (and drink) as from 5–9pm this Saturday and thereafter from Monday 23 March onwards. Free delivery for orders over £30. Menu available from the pub or as a pdf file from Milland News.

CHURCHES

All of the churches are closed for regular services but remain open for anybody who would like to go in for private prayer or just to sit quietly. For pastoral help, call Rev Trish Bancroft (01428 741285) or Rev Bill Johnston (01428 741131). There will be updates on the benefice website (beneficeoflinchmillandstedham.co.uk).

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

All events and meetings are largely cancelled or postponed – contact the groups for more up-to-date information.

EGGS

Several locals are offering their own fresh eggs for sale – keep an eye out for their roadside signs (e.g. in Milland Lane and at the Bakehouse in Fernhurst Road). In Redford, Ian and Paola at Woolhouse Farm are offering their neighbours the chance to buy eggs ‘from the blue caravan’ (‘contact free!’) at Woolhouse Farm at normal price (£1.50 per half dozen). They also have lots of fresh rhubarb and bunches of flowers. Email hectorandthefox@gmail.com.

DELIVERIES

As well as supermarket shelves being empty, anybody who already orders their **groceries online** for home delivery will be well aware of the current nightmare of websites crashing and now having to book at least six WEEKS ahead to have any hope of delivery – and even then it cannot be guaranteed. New online customers are no longer being accepted by most of the major supermarkets. This also applies to our local **milk delivery** service from Milk & More: they have added more than 25 new customers in our area alone in the past week and the website is no longer accepting new customers and is sometimes unable to accept changes to orders because the site is under stress. Milland News suggests you should rapidly buy your own cow – or at least a goat – as well as chickens, and get the veg patch up and running!

ADVICE AND HELP

In response to my previous circular email, several individuals have offered to help in any way needed. I do hope that others have taken up the idea of dropping leaflets to all their neighbours offering help (let me know if you want a format for leaflets). If you need help and are in the village, **Milland Stores** is a vital source of information on who might be able to help you. Online, try joining the **Nextdoor Milland** network. Nextdoor is a neighbourhood hub for ‘trusted connections and the exchange of helpful information, goods and services’: you need to register with them as a first step (<https://nextdoor.co.uk>). The leader for Nextdoor Milland is Jenny Mitchell (jenny-mitchell@hotmail.co.uk).

Milland parish councillors will be a source of information for those living within their individual ‘areas of responsibility’. Contact the parish clerk Lorraine Grocott (01428 741393, email postmaster@milland-wsx-pc.gov.uk) or the parish council chairman Jeremy Parker (01428 741811, 07879 620030, email jeremy@jvvp.co.uk) for more information and keep an eye on the parish council website www.milland-wsx-pc.gov.uk.

Milland News will send out further email circulars from time to time. Meanwhile, there is sunshine in the forecast and signs of spring everywhere. Keep well and be kind to the many local people who are naturally feeling uncertain and perhaps lonely in the current situation.