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The Chishills

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Coronavirus (Covid-19) update from Granta Medical Practices

Unfortunately the number of people affected by the coronavirus causing Covid-19 is increasing rapidly and this new virus is taking a foothold within our community.

At Granta Medical Practices we have a dedicated Covid emergency team who are meeting daily to discuss how we can continue to provide the best possible care for our patients.

As a practice we are fortunate in having both multiple sites and a large team of people, including those with experience of managing this sort of situation. This gives us options for delivery of care that are not open to many practices during any epidemic.

At a national level the Public Health England website

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england> and NHS UK website

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> provide up to date information about the national situation and plans, and health advice. At Granta we will be keeping our website www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk updated regularly to reflect the local situation and our actions at Granta, along with our social media accounts. We may also use SMS messaging to mobile phones to communicate any urgent messages. Please let us know if you have changed your mobile number or have one that you haven't yet told us about.

Prioritisation:

The current evidence is that for the vast majority of the population the Covid-19 virus is a mild illness which can be safely managed at home with rest, paracetamol and fluids just like a normal flu-like illness. However, for those with significant other medical problems and for the elderly it can be more serious.

With this in mind we have postponed all face to face GP appointments and some routine nurse appointments. This is for both our patient's safety and the safety of our staff. Instead we are now offering an enhanced telephone service and also a non-urgent dedicated email address, capccg.covid19.gmp@nhs.net, 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. We are working hard to make sure that those who are housebound will continue to receive their medications.

As a community we can help each other – both by following the advice given and by helping look after those who may need help

within our communities. If you are able to volunteer to help out in your immediate area, please email your details to granta.socialnavigator@nhs.net

Practical advice:

First and foremost is the need to wash your hands on a regular basis – warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds. This alone will help slow down the spread of the virus and help protect you, your family and our community.

Dr James Morrow, Managing Partner 16 March 2020

COVID 19: COMMUNITY SUPPORT SCHEMES IN HAND

In this current crisis, the community are pulling together to provide support for everyone.

There are two groups here to support you through the current crisis. You will receive in the coming days, two leaflets (you may have already received them already) with contacts of people in the village who can help you if you need anything during this period of isolation.

The Parish Council are very grateful to Sam Allan (Chishill Care) and Marianne Yallop and Jeremy Smith (Covid19 Villages Support Group) for the help and work they have put into these projects.

You can also email the Parish Council Clerk who can also point you in the right direction for assistance.

A LETTER FROM THE ALGARVE

Our European correspondents Chris and Chrissy Cartwright, have sent a report on life in Portugal

We are 'tuffing it out' here in the Algarve. Living in the country, half an hour from the 'hot spots' on the coast we are sheltered to some extent. However all large events have been cancelled by the local councils. Only ten people at a time are allowed into supermarkets and chemists, but there are

fewer folk here so the delays are not long. We are spending our time much as we normally do, soaking up the vitamin D sunrays, making marmalade and potting on the tomatoes and chillis.

Bars and restaurants are beginning to close, and folk are getting twitchy now. But the sun is still shining and the red wine hasn't run out!

LOVE TO YOU ALL

Chris and Chrissy

DAVID TRIUMPHS IN BOWLS FINAL

One of the village's most keenly fought contests climaxed on 5 March as the Bowls Club staged its annual knock-out competition final. Two dozen entrants were whittled down to two finalists: Jean Hatt and David Bannister. After a ding-dong match David pulled ahead with a 4-point margin in the ninth end and finally triumphed. Corona virus rules were in force, (bowls evenings have since ceased), so Jean and David congratulated one another with a cordial elbow-bump. (This took place before social distancing was invented)



Great Chishill Cricket Club

Following the ECB directive we have had to postpone all of our sporting and social arrangements until further notice. Sadly, this includes the really exciting launch of the Junior Section in April, we already had 30 children signed up. Nets and the start of the playing season have also been suspended. We will be distributing junior equipment to those who would like to borrow it. Please email me (angusgent@gmail.com) if you would like to borrow some, it may help entertain the children, young or old!

HARRIET'S TOMATOES AGAIN

Roll up, roll up! Harriet Scott and her Dad Tim have been busy growing tomato plants from seed for the annual charity plant sale. Look out for the plant stall later on in the year outside the house or call 837112 to place your order. As ever, there are lots of different varieties to suit all gardens and tastes.



URC News

As with all public facilities, we at the URC have had to cancel all of our upcoming events. This does not mean we are closed, far from it. While we are still allowed, we will keep the chapel open, the lights will be on, and we would welcome anyone who would like to take some time to reflect and pray in the calm of the chapel. The chapel garden will also be open if you would like to come and enjoy this beautiful corner of the village. You may even be lucky enough to be offered a coffee, served from a safe distance, of course.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us this year and to wish everyone well. You are all very much in our thoughts and prayers. We live in a wonderful community where we all know how to look after our neighbours. Remembering, it is the small things that count. Keep an eye out ... I will be posting a weekly prayer and reflection in our notice board on Barley Road.

Auction of Promises.

Fortunately we were able to honour our promises as the Schoolroom hosted the two Cinema Parties that were auctioned at the Chrishall School Ball. We had 20 seven year olds to watch Beethoven and the next weekend, 18 twelve year olds to watch La La Land. It was our greatest pleasure that we were able to contribute £680 towards Chrishall School, our local parish charity.

Women's Institute

The WI has cancelled all meetings and events until further notice.

BIN DAYS - APRIL

Black Blue (Only)

7 16 (Thurs)

22 (Wed) 28

No green bin collections

BUT THERE'S STILL TAKE-AWAY

Although all pubs and restaurants have been forced to close, a number of them have set up enhanced take-away operations, which offer welcome trade to them, and an opportunity for us to vary our diet. Among those we've noticed are: Coach House, Flint Cross (208272), who will also deliver free to Chishill; The Red Cow, Chrishall (838792); Chequers, Barley (849144) also delivers but min. £20 purchase) and Fox and Duck, Therfield (287246). Check Facebook pages of these places for menu details – things are changing fast!

The Old Bull Inn, Royston and Fox and Hounds, Barley have closed.

Great Chishill Open Gardens

In aid of St Swithun's Church
Sunday 21 June
Subject to restrictions being eased by then.