

## **Parish Magazine - May 2020 Issue**

The Parish Council would like to sincerely thank all the wonderful key workers, volunteers, shops and every individual in our great community. The response to the coronavirus has been outstanding. The network of volunteers has successfully taken the whole community under their wing; there are people willing and able to help people in need, who are vulnerable or self-isolating. If you are unable to find assistance from family, friends or a local support network, the parish council has a database of volunteers to help. Email [clerk@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk)

If you are in financial difficulty and don't know where to turn, call or email the parish council and we will do our best to put you in touch with people who can help.

The local shops and businesses have responded amazingly to the crisis and many are taking orders and delivering to those in need. Individual staff members are putting themselves and their families at risk to help during the crisis.

And to all the keyworkers, doctors, nurses, hospital porters, carers, cleaners, supermarket workers and everyone who is helping us survive this pandemic – **THANK YOU.**

**Below is a list of organisations with helpful information:**

**NHS** – Call 111 and 999 only if an emergency

**Surrey County Council** <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/coronavirus>

**Guildford Borough Council** <https://www.guildford.gov.uk/>

**Guildford Citizens Advice** <https://www.guildfordcab.org.uk/>

**Waverley Citizens Advice** <https://waverleycab.org.uk/>

**Voluntary Action South West Surrey** <https://voluntaryactionsws.org.uk/>

**HMRC Business Help & Support/Guidance for Employees - Job Retention Scheme:**

Businesses [www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme)

Employees [www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-could-be-covered-by-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme)

**Shere Surgery** – 01483 202066

**Alzheimer's society** <https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/> has information with particular advice during this crisis

**North Guildford Foodbanks** - Park Barn, Bellfields, Merrow <http://northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk/>

Food parcels will need to be pre-ordered by email. If you have a voucher already, email it to the food bank with your shopping list. Collection or delivery must be pre-arranged.

If you have no voucher but need food, the following organisations can refer you:

Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB), Social Services, Health Visitors, Christians Against Poverty (CAP), Children's centres, Guildford Action for Families, Guildford Borough Council (Family Support Team & Community Wellbeing Team), local schools, many Guildford churches, local community wardens, doctors surgeries, Vaughan House, Home School Link Workers, Probation Service, Youth Support Service, Age UK Surrey or Homestart.

If you are unable to contact these organisations, you can contact the food bank directly but they would prefer a referral.

**The Salvation Army** <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/guildford>

**Dorking Area Food Bank** <https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/dorkingarea/> Open as usual - Opening hours: Tuesday: 4.45 - 5.45pm and Thursday 2.30-3.30pm

They have temporarily suspended the requirement to bring a voucher. However, they are asking only those who are in financial crisis come to the foodbank for assistance. Although no voucher is required, clients are being asked to provide their name and the number of adults and children in their household in place of a voucher. They are unable to deliver food parcels and clients must leave after being handed their pre-packed bag.

**If you do not need to use the food banks but would like to make a donation, please donate money online using the details on their websites.**

**Henry Smith Fund Shere** - for financial assistance call Keith Childs Chairman of the Trustees 01483 203234. The Henry Smith fund has joined with the charity JustGiving fundraising - **Village Larder** to support people in Shere, Gomshall, Peaslake, Holmbury St Mary and Abinger who, due to Covid-19 and the resulting lockdown, have lost their earnings and now cannot afford food and household essentials.

**Finally, the council appeals to everyone to remain calm, listen to Government instruction and advice. Be thoughtful, be kind, Try not to worry!**

**Next Council meeting** – 8pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020 held remotely using Zoom – please email [clerk@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@shereparishcouncil.gov.uk) if you would like to join to observe or speak about an item on the agenda.