

East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere Society



EWH Neighbourcare



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We are here for you – one number to have:

- prescriptions delivered
- shopping collected
- a friendly chat on the phone
- attending a medical appointment
- or someone to go for walk with

01635 745 600



In walking around the area, we see quite a few people have put up their Christmas lights outside their houses – this may be earlier than usual but thank you for cheering us up!

Want Someone to Talk with?

If you are feeling lonely or fed up and would like to talk then don't forget you can call the local number **01635 745 600** to have a friendly voice to chat to.

All the up-to-date COVID rules are described in last week's newsletter – to review them please click [HERE](#) and select Newsletter 23.

Time to Smile

We all need to smile and there are many creative cartoons and jokes around relating to the current situation; here are just a couple we liked.



From the Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale



Thank you once again to our fantastic Neighbourcare team for bringing invaluable information to us all in these constantly changing times.

We began the season of **Advent** on Sunday, a reflective time of preparation for Christmas. At our online services we enjoyed another new backdrop, purple for Advent, made by Mary Herbert and Sue Hopkinson. The design picks up on the theme of '**Comfort and Joy**', which the Church of England is using this Advent and Christmas.

Public worship in our church buildings resumes on Sunday, according to the regulations we had become used to (hand hygiene, face coverings being mandatory, social distancing, no communal singing etc) and we are returning to a mix of 'in church' and online services. This Sunday 6th December, we are in St Martin's, East Woodhay at 11am for Parish Communion.



NORTH WEST HAMPSHIRE BENEFICE
ASHMANSWORTH + CRUX EASTON + EAST WOODHAY + HIGHCLERE + WOOLTON HILL

You are invited to an
online (using Zoom)

Christingle Service

3.30pm
Sunday 6th December

(...make your own Christingle at home ready for the service.)
For the zoom link and details please e-mail Sue at coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com

The Christingle Service is online this Sunday 6th December at 3.30pm. Please ask for joining details and instructions on how to make your own Christingle by sending you e-mail address to me at cdale001@btinternet.com, or Sue at coordinator.nwhb@outlook.com, by 5pm on Saturday please.

The full **December service schedule** is [HERE](#). All our churches are **open for private prayer** on Sundays (those with specific times: St Michael & All Angels', Highclere 11am-12.30pm; St Martin's, East Woodhay 11am-3pm, St Thomas', Woolton Hill 10am-4pm).

Christmas Services and how to request attendance

May I remind you that 'in church' Christmas services will be different from previous Christmases and restrictions reduce the capacity of our buildings. Therefore, it is important to 'request a seat' for any service you wish to attend on 20th December or Christmas Eve/Day. **You can enter your request using our online form [HERE](#)**. Please also register via the form to receive news of family activities or to ask for the zoom code for the online Carol Service on 23rd December.

The **Scarecrow Nativity in Highclere** begins with Mary and Joseph (and the donkey!) journeying around the parish to 'Bethlehem'. See them on the corner of Rutherford Close (4th-6th December), corner of Tubbs Lane/Andover Road (6th-8th), corner of Tubbs Lane/Star Lane (8th-10th), Highclere Village Hall (10th-11th), Brook House, Church Lane (11th-13th), 28 Penwood Heights (13th-15th), (15th-17th location to be confirmed), Woodland Stores (17th-19th).... Then arriving outside the church, joined by other characters from the Nativity, in time for worship on Sunday 20th December.

There is also a **Bethlehem Stable** on the green in the centre of Ashmansworth, keep an eye on it because it will get more and more Christmassy over the coming weeks...

with every blessing to you all

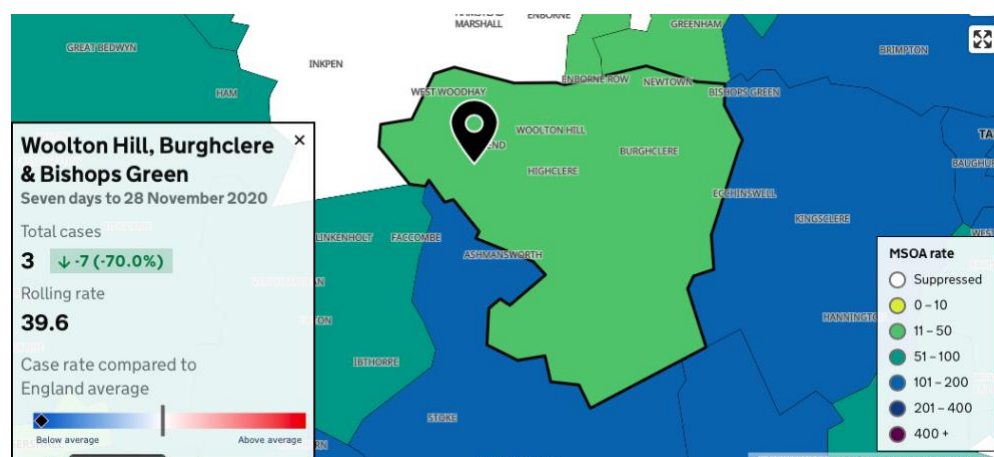
Revd. Canon Christine Dale
(e-mail: cdale001@btinternet.com, Tel.
01635 253323)



Latest Local COVID-19 Cases

Some more good news regarding our local COVID-19 cases which are significantly down to just 3 and, for the first time since we published the data, lower than some of our neighbours. Thank you to everyone for the efforts being taken and it is so important we continue to drive down the cases.

Our recent historic information is stored [HERE](#). The link to the original data can be found [HERE](#)



Food & Drink

Carpenters at Burghclere – are open; click [HERE](#) for all details. Plus, every Friday - Bring someone from your bubble and enjoy a sharing board and 2 house drinks for just £30. Also includes the chicken burger or vegan burger.

Highclere Red House – are serving diners to eat in Tuesday - Saturday, 12pm to 10pm. Takeaway and delivery services will remain exactly as they have been 12pm - 9pm Tuesday to Saturday (including Christmas Eve). click [HERE](#)

Furze Bush – are open for lunch, dinner or just a coffee and also for a takeaway service. Hours of opening are from 12-10pm and serving food between 12-3pm and 5-8pm weekdays and 12-8pm weekends. click [HERE](#)

Rampant Cat – is not open for food and drink on the premises but are open on Friday to Sunday takeaway only click [HERE](#) for menu and ordering details. Real ale is at £2.50 a pint - please bring your own containers. Christmas Day home takeaway is available but please book early.

Farm shops

- Saddleback Farm shop Brightwalton, open daily plus takeaway café click [HERE](#)
- E mail jo@fernworthfarm.co.uk for click & collect at Ashford Hill, or delivery

Garden Centres

Time for Christmas Trees.....

Penwood Nurseries are open click [HERE](#)

Yew Tree Garden Centre is open and also the café has an undercover outdoor area (see picture opposite) click [HERE](#)



Activities

Low impact workout – 15 minutes with Joe Wicks, low impact for seniors click [HERE](#)

Arts & Crafts to make –

Make your own **outdoor lantern** – collect a FREE kit from 101 at Greenham Dec 5th / 6th. To book a collection slot - click [HERE](#)

Make your own **applique Christmas bunting** – free video tutorial [HERE](#) (see picture opposite)

Do you stitch? The National Needlework Archive at Greenham have launched 'Poetry in Stitch Lockdown 2020' – create your piece in any textile medium by Feb 2021 click [HERE](#)



Going Out

A Victorian Christmas at Milestones, Basingstoke, also daily story time with Father Christmas, and a Christmas Market 5th & 6th Dec booking essential click [HERE](#)

Hawk Conservancy Trust near Andover, daily flying displays, café open, to book, click [HERE](#)

Wash Common library now open Sat 10am - 12 noon, Tues 2pm - 4pm

Theatre & Cinema – the Corn Exchange Newbury will take bookings for individuals and 'bubbles' "Our new seating layout will have more space between rows, the new seats will have individual arm rests, and each household group will be kept separate using dividing Perspex screens."

Pantomime - Aladdin – from Dec 4th, tickets still available but going fast

Cinema – New film of A Christmas Carol Dec 18th – 24th see clip [HERE](#)

Cinema - Screening of Katherine Jenkins Christmas Spectacular Dec 4th – 10th

For all Corn Exchange bookings click [HERE](#)

Exhibitions:

Corn Exchange - If you enjoy Quentin Blake's humorous drawings, visit '50 Years of Children's Book Illustrations' at the Base 4th – 13th December. (see *picture opposite*). Booking is essential Click [HERE](#)



Willis Museum - The Sunday Times Watercolour Competition – exhibition at the Willis Museum, Basingstoke Click [HERE](#)

Whitchurch Silk Mill – free exhibition of art & craft by Hampshire Artists Cooperative Tues – Sun, 10.30am – 5pm, shop & café open Click [HERE](#)

Christmas Shopping

Here are some ideas on how you can support local, independent businesses.

Shop from home:-

'The Borough Basket' – one website for small businesses and craftspeople from Basingstoke and surrounding villages – new stores added! Click [HERE](#)

Christmas Cakes & decorations – free local delivery – supporting Young People & Children First charity – click [HERE](#) for online information

Christmas Wreaths – order from Burghclere florist Bramble Cottage Flowers click [HERE](#). A selection is also available at Yew Tree Garden Centre and from Woodland Stores. (see *picture opposite*)



Local writer Jean Maye has released her first **children's fiction** book. It is available [HERE](#)

Going out shopping:-

Craft Fair outside the Carpenters at Burghclere, 9 till 12 Saturday and Sunday morning 5th & 6th Dec, the pub is open for tea/coffee, mince pies & bacon sandwiches from 8.30am.

Camp Hopson – reductions in store up to Sunday 6th Dec

Kintbury – pop up shop Sat 5th Dec 10am to 3pm selling Christmas goodies for Young People & Children First charity (located in the courtyard by the post office)

Next Newsletter

We are planning our next Newsletter for 18th December following Government review of the COVID rules.

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Ashmansworth and Crux Easton Parish Website