

East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere Society



EWH Neighbourcare



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Neighbourcare are here for you – one number to have:

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

01635 745 600



The government has announced its potential route map for a way out of the current restrictions on the way we live designed to minimise the impact of Covid 19. The plan gives the earliest dates at which changes will be made to current restrictions, but these are not guaranteed. Before proceeding to the next step, the Government will examine the data to assess the impact of the previous step.

This assessment will be based on four tests:

- a. The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.
- b. Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.
- c. Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.
- d. An assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern.

The plan will be implemented in four steps, with a minimum of five weeks between each step: four weeks for the scientific data to reflect the changes in restrictions and to be analysed; followed by one week's advance notice of the restrictions that will be eased.

The [national lockdown guidance](#) on what you can and cannot do has been updated to include the changes ahead from Monday 8 March. Until that point England is still in a national lockdown so people must stay at home, leaving only where permitted by law, and follow the rules.

At each step, the restrictions will be lifted across the whole of England at the same time:

Step 1 (8 March and 29 March)

8 March:

- All pupils to return to schools and further education colleges for all years. Wraparound childcare, such as after-school clubs, can reopen. Childcare and children's supervised activities can also resume where necessary to enable parents to work or engage in similar activities. Twice-weekly rapid testing for secondary and college pupils - in addition to regular testing for all teachers - to reduce the chance of the virus spreading in schools.
- Higher Education students at English universities on practical courses can also return from 8 March.
- Care home residents can have one named visitor indoors who must take a rapid COVID test that is negative and wear appropriate PPE.
- Outdoor recreation, such as a picnic, is allowed, with one other person, or with your household or support bubble.

29 March:

- Outdoor gatherings (including in private gardens) of either six people (the rule of six) or two households will also be allowed, making it easier for friends and families to meet outside.
- Outdoor sports facilities such as tennis and basketball courts, and open-air swimming pools, will also be allowed to reopen, and people will be able to take part in formally organised outdoor sports.
- The 'stay at home' rule will end on 29th March, but many restrictions will remain in place:
 - people should continue to work from home where they can,
 - people should minimise the number of journeys they make where possible, avoiding travel at the busiest times and routes,
 - travel abroad will continue to be prohibited, other than for a small number of permitted reasons. Holidays abroad will not be allowed, given it will remain important to manage the risk of imported variants and protect the vaccination programme.

Step 2 (no earlier than 12 April)

- Opening of non-essential retail.
- Outdoor hospitality can open. Hospitality venues will be allowed to serve people outdoors at Step 2 and there will be no need for customers to order a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks and no curfew, although customers must order, eat and drink while seated ('table service').
- Personal care premises such as hairdressers and nail salons can open.
- Public buildings, including libraries and community centres can open.
- Indoor leisure facilities such as gyms will also reopen (but only for use by people on their own or in household groups).

- Most outdoor attractions and settings including venues, zoos, theme parks, and drive-in cinemas.
- Self-contained accommodation such as campsites and holiday lets, where indoor facilities are not shared with other households, can also reopen.
- Funerals can continue with up to 30 mourners, and the number of people able to attend weddings, receptions and commemorative events such as wakes will rise to 15.
- The Global Travel Taskforce will report on 12 April with recommendations aimed at facilitating a return to international travel as soon as possible while still managing the risk from imported cases and Variants of Concern. Following that, the Government will determine when international travel should resume, which will be no earlier than 17 May.

Step 3 (no earlier than 17 May)

The government will look to continue easing limits on seeing friends and family wherever possible, allowing people to decide on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances and allowing households to mix indoors. This means that from Step 3:











- Most legal restrictions on meeting others outdoors will be lifted - although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal.
- Indoors, the rule of six or two households will apply.
- By no later than Step 3, the advice on social distancing between friends and family will be updated, including hugging. But until this point, people should continue to keep their distance from anyone not in their household or support bubble.
- Most businesses in all but the highest risk sectors will be able to reopen. In all sectors, COVID-Secure guidance will remain in place and businesses may not cater for groups bigger than the legal limits.
- Indoor hospitality will reopen - and as in Step 2, venues will not have to serve a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks and there will be no curfew. Customers will, however, have to order, eat and drink while seated.
- Other indoor locations to open in Step 3 including:
 - indoor entertainment venues such as cinemas and children's play areas;
 - the rest of the accommodation sector, including hotels, hostels and B&Bs;
 - indoor adult group sports and exercise classes;
 - some larger performances and sporting events in indoor venues with a capacity of 1,000 people or half-full (whichever is a lower number), and in outdoor venues with a capacity of 4,000 people or half-full (whichever is a lower number);
 - in the largest outdoor seated venues, where crowds can be spread out, up to 10,000 people will be able to attend (or a quarter-full, whichever is lower);
 - up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions and wakes, as well as funerals and other life event ceremonies.
- International travel will be reviewed to determine whether and when it can be resumed.

Step 4 (no earlier than 21 June)

- Remaining premises will reopen, including nightclubs; and

- restrictions will be eased on large events and performances that apply in Step 3. This will be subject to the results of a scientific Events Research Programme to test the outcome of certain pilot events through the spring and summer, where we will trial the use of testing and other techniques to cut the risk of infection. The same Events Research Programme will guide decisions on whether all limits can be removed on weddings and other life events.

The following charts are a handy summary of the above four steps:

STEP 1 8 March	STEP 2 No earlier than 12 April
29 March	At least 5 weeks after Step 1
 EDUCATION 8 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and colleges open for all students • Practical Higher Education courses 	 EDUCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As previous step
 SOCIAL CONTACT 8 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person • Household only indoors 29 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule of 6 or two households outdoors • Household only indoors 	 SOCIAL CONTACT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule of 6 or two households outdoors • Household only indoors
 BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES 8 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wraparound care, including sport, for all children 29 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised outdoor sport (children and adults) • Outdoor sport and leisure facilities • All outdoor children's activities • Outdoor parent & child group (up to 15 parents) 	 BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All retail • Personal care • Libraries & community centres • Most outdoor attractions • Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only) • Self-contained accommodation • All children's activities • Outdoor hospitality • Indoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents)
 TRAVEL 8 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay at home • No holidays 29 MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise travel • No holidays 	 TRAVEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic overnight stays (household only) • No international holidays
 EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funerals (30) • Weddings and wakes (6) 	 EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funerals (30) • Weddings, wakes, receptions (15) • Event pilots

STEP 3
No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- Indoor hospitality
- Indoor entertainment and attractions
- Organised indoor sport (adult)
- Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel (subject to review)

 **EVENTS**

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50%
- Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25%
- Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50%

STEP 4
No earlier than 21 June

At least 5 weeks after Step 3

All subject to review

 **EDUCATION**

- As previous step

 **SOCIAL CONTACT**

- No legal limit

 **BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES**

- Remaining businesses, including nightclubs

 **TRAVEL**

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel

 **EVENTS**

- No legal limit on life events
- Larger events

This is just a summary of the announcements made. Further clarification of detailed points will become available over the coming days. Remember nothing other than the actions planned for 8th March is definite. Progress will depend upon meeting the four key tests.

For full details go [HERE](#)

Vaccination Centres

A new mass vaccination centre has opened this week at the Madejski Stadium, Reading, for those invited by the NHS to book their jabs via the national booking system.

Newbury Racecourse has been instructed by the Government to focus on cohort 6 which covers patients aged 16-64 with certain underlying conditions and adult carers.

This is a large group of about 11,000 in total (around 17,000 in cohorts 1-4 were vaccinated at Newbury up to last weekend) and the racecourse vaccination centre has advised that it will take some time to work through. Supplies of vaccine are forecast to be lower for the next couple of weeks than has been the case recently, which will also impact on timescales for vaccinating this clinically vulnerable group. People in this cohort are excluded from being able to book and attend at an NHS mass vaccination centre.

In order to assist this group, many of whom may have school age children returning to school on March 8th and therefore no longer able to totally shield, anyone over 65 should, wherever possible, travel to an NHS mass vaccination site thereby freeing up a space for a cohort 6 patient who is restricted to attending in Newbury.



Jog for Jabs - Fundraising

GPs and practice staff from across the 9 GP surgeries involved in Newbury Vaccination centre have decided to fundraise for the UNICEF vaccine delivery project and local Newbury based mental health charities.

The team of 15 so far will be running, walking and jogging the equivalent of Land's End to John O Groats and back - that's 1980 miles in just 50 days! They have already completed a massive 277 miles with a team average of 55 miles per day!

Dr Ruth Lambert, GP at Falkland Surgery, who organised the challenge said: "This is a fantastic opportunity to raise money for two very worthwhile causes, one vaccine related and one local!"

Dr Heather Howells and Karen Oakton from Kintbury and Woolton Hill Surgery were spotted heading off for a run after their morning shift the other day. Well done ladies!

If you would like to donate, click [HERE](#)



From the Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale



Greetings and blessings to you all.

Locally we continue to be cautious and offer Sunday services online (via 'zoom', for link details please e-mail me at cdale001@btinternet.com).

As the season of **Lent** gets underway we have a new Lent banner for our online services, once again with grateful thanks to the creativity of Sue Hopkinson and Mary Herbert. This photo does not do it justice!

All in one banner we have our Lenten journey of reflection: the colour purple at the edge is for Lent reflection with its focus towards Holy Week and Good Friday (*the crown of thorns and cross*) and the renewal of hope at Easter (*the sunrise in the background*).

As a part of our Lent journey, we are offering weekly online (zoom) **'Thinking through Lent'** discussions on **The Lord's Prayer** (Tuesday evenings from 23rd Feb), or the **'I am' sayings of Jesus** (Wednesday mornings from 24th Feb). If you would like to be included in information about these please fill in this simple online form [here](#).



The Church of England is offering daily Lent reflections under the heading **'God's Story, Our Story'**. You can sign up to receive these directly (or even download an App!), see details on the website [here](#).

All our church buildings continue to be open for private prayer on Sundays. Churches with published opening times: St James', Ashmansworth 9.30am-4.30pm; St Martin's, East Woodhay 11am-3pm; St Michael & All Angels', Highclere 11am-12.30pm; St Thomas', Woolton Hill 10am-4pm. If you visit one of our churches please do protect yourself and others by wearing a face covering inside the building, sanitise your hands on entry, and using a seat with a 'green tick' card marker (when you leave please turn over the card to show the red no entry sign). Thank you.

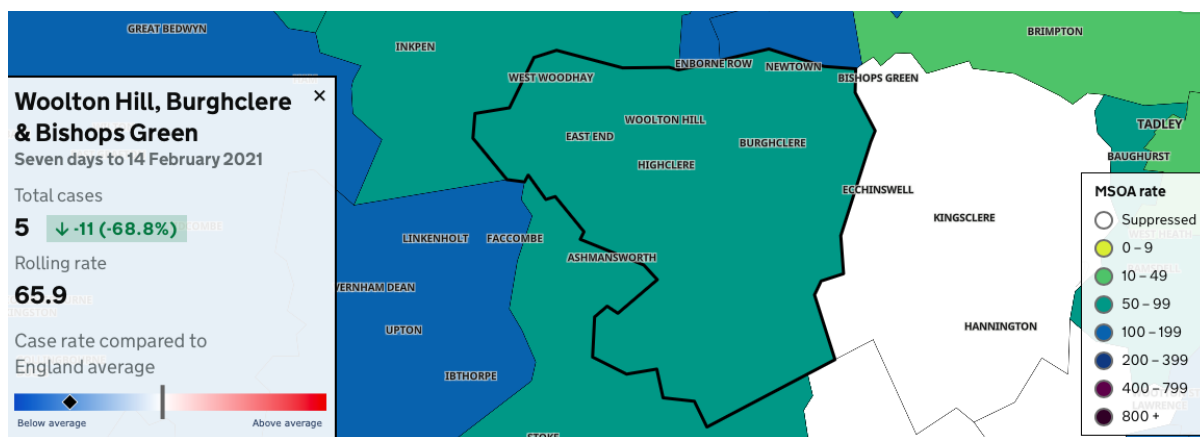
If you want to ask for prayer, please do contact Canon Marvin (254718) or me (253323). with every blessing to you all,

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

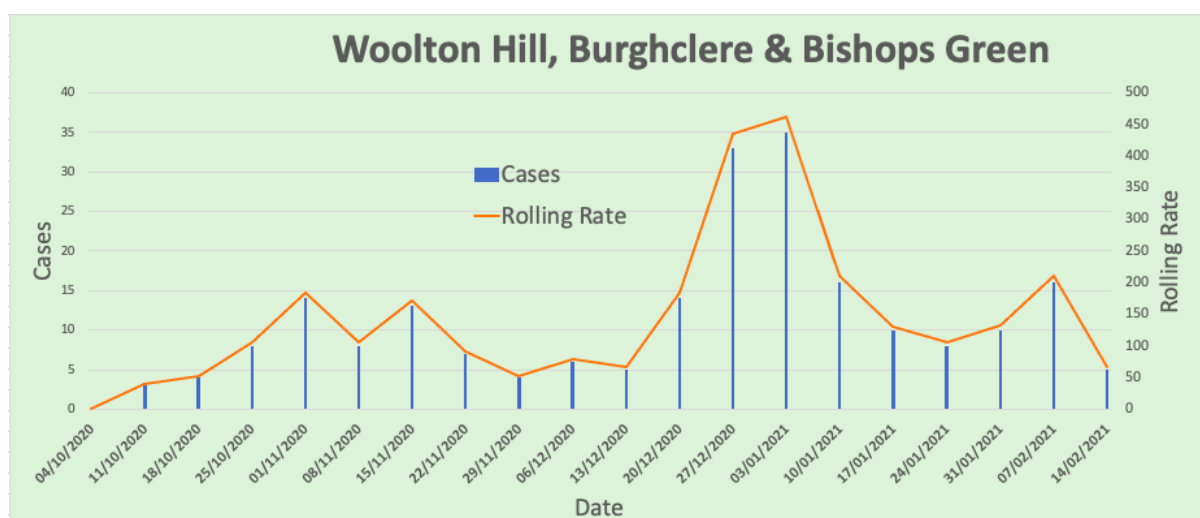


Latest Local COVID-19 Cases

Here are our recent local numbers which show the case changes from the previous week. Fortunately, after the slight rise of last week the trend graph now shows a continued decline in local cases.



Shown below is the trend over time



All recent historic information, with graph is also stored [HERE](#). The source to the original data is [HERE](#)

Local Shops, Food and Takeaways

For a list of local shops and takeaways see Newsletter 30 [HERE](#).

FairTrade Fortnight 22nd Feb – 7th March recipes and video ‘cook-alongs’ (warning, some involve chocolate!) click [HERE](#)

Savernake Game are currently delivering fortnightly, 26th February, 12th & 26th March, Text 07811947987 or email - Juliette.howard@hotmail.com

Feed local heroes – the Rampant Cat are fundraising to offer free takeaways to local care and health workers. Click [HERE](#) to support is on February 16th

Activities – Staying In

Basingstoke Festival – storytelling and crafts videos for younger children, such as ‘make a sock puppet Jane Austen’ or ‘make a canal boat from recycled materials’ Click [HERE](#)

Henley School of Art – a range of online classes including painting animals and people, for information click [HERE](#)

The Great Big Art Exhibition - ending 7 May 2021, The Great Big Art Exhibition is a 100 day-long celebration of the creativity in each and everyone one of us. So, whatever level of art, display your artwork where it can be seen, such as your window. Click [HERE](#)

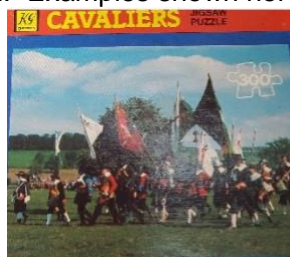
Fun facts about radio – test yourself in this short quiz about the history of radio click [HERE](#)

Make a colourful Spring wreath with materials found at home from the Virtual Village Hall click [HERE](#)

Jigsaws Do you enjoy jigsaw puzzles? East Woodhay Society's nominated Charity, [Young People & Children First](#), is doing its best to support young care leavers through these difficult times. They have been gifted some jigsaw puzzles, which we are offering for sale, with all proceeds to the charity. We are happy to deliver to local doorsteps for a suggested donation of £3 each. Examples shown here:-



The Boat Show 500pc



Cavaliers 300pc



Barge 500 pc

If you would be interested in any of these, please e mail eastwoodhaysociety@gmail.com

Theatre on-line

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre – rent performances on line from £4. Click [HERE](#) for details

3 – 7 year olds – Proteus Theatre perform Brrr! A play about Steve, the penguin who doesn't like the cold. Free to view through this link click [HERE](#)

Staying Active:

Introductory stretch and flex class – free 30 minute on-line exercise class, mostly chair based, from Our Parks. Click [HERE](#)

Something faster – Cardio Latin dance workout – free 30 minute on-line class from Pop Sugar click [HERE](#)

Activities – Going Out

Cycling routes in Hampshire – click [HERE](#) for urban and off road routes

Enjoy the mud? – sign up for a 'tough mudder' fundraising event with the British Heart Foundation, 5km or longer mud and obstacle courses at various UK locations over the summer. click [HERE](#)



Naturewatch & Walks



The answer to the previous newsletter's question: Common trees found in Britain with catkins- Hazel, Alder, Silver birch, Oak, willow, Walnut, White Poplar.

Thanks to Paul Farrington for this newsletter's question. Can you name the breed of this handsome ram taken locally?

Send us an image – of your favourite local view this winter and we will include it in a future newsletter. Please email to EWCleresNews21@gmail.com

Beauty in Winter – your photos

Thank you for these lovely local photos – please keep sending them in



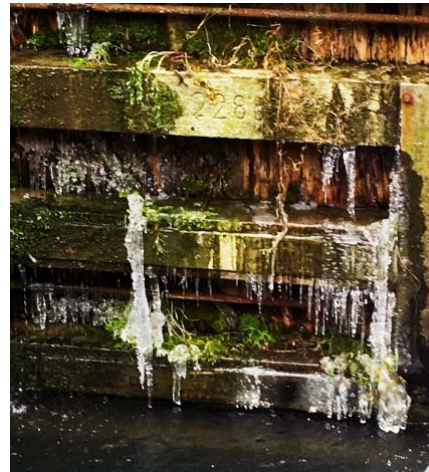
Thanks to Carole Thelwall-Jones for taking this lovely robin



James Mitchell took this early morning shot whilst walking from Hollington to East Woodhay



Thanks to Paul Hurst for capturing these interesting trees on a walk in Facombe



Ice on the lock along the canal taken by Cedric Cottrell

Send us an image – of your favourite local view this winter and we will include it in a future newsletter. Please email to EWCleresNews21@gmail.com

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