

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Covid-19 and Lockdown 2 – November 2020

Due to the Government announcement of a second national lockdown, we have issued this extra newsletter in November.

The second National Lockdown is currently running from 5th November until 2nd December. The restrictions are not as severe as the March lockdown, with schools, universities, garden centres and play areas (Chelston Rise) staying open this time.

Those employed in the manufacturing and construction industries will still be working, as will those in banking and critical infrastructure. Gardeners and cleaners can still work in other people's homes.

The official government guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

The Star & Garter: is closed for Lockdown 2.

The Church: No services during Lockdown 2 save for funerals only.

The Village Hall: No social events or family parties, but some educational classes can be held.

Given the availability of supermarket home delivery services (significantly ramped up since the first Lockdown) and pharmacy deliveries (see below), the Parish Council is not planning on calling up volunteers for food shopping or returning Adrian to the microphone for daily podcasts yet, though this will be kept under review in case the situation worsens.

Health: The Govt has written to all 1.2m clinically extremely vulnerable persons to advise them on additional precautions, but has not reintroduced "Shielding" nor food parcels.

If you regularly have to collect a prescription from a pharmacy, consider changing to a free delivery service such as [CO-OP Health](#) run by the CO-OP, [Echo](#) run by Lloyds Chemists, or [Pharmacy2U](#). There is no extra charge to you or the NHS for these services.

Covid Test: Mobile testing centres are still available in the Northamptonshire area. For up to date testing information or to book a test, head to the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you receive a positive Covid-19 test result or are told by the NHS to self-isolate because of close contact with someone who has Covid and cannot work from home during this period, you may be eligible for a Test and Trace support payment.

For further details, see the eligibility information at <https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/Pages/test-and-trace-payment-support.aspx>

Mental Health in Lockdown 2: With the shorter days and inclement weather, residents may have a greater feeling of isolation. If there is anyone in the parish you know may be specifically vulnerable, such as elderly living on their own, with family not being able to visit. They may appreciate a ring occasionally to see if they are okay, if they need anything or just to have a chat.

Some support line numbers -

Samaritans 24/7 helpline 116 123

Email jo@samaritans.org response up to 24 hours

Shout 24/7 text helpline 85258

Silverline older person 24/7 helpline 0800 4 70 80 90

In conjunction with Age UK, Silverline operate a friendship service for anyone over 60 for a weekly chat. Contact <https://www.thesilverline.org.uk/what-we-do/telephone-friendship-service/>

Other News

Tree felling in the churchyard: The Churchwardens have been advised by a qualified tree surgeon that the Chestnut tree overhanging the disabled carpark should come down to a 4m stump. It is now over mature apparently with canker also. Branches have been removed in past years and it is felt that it presents a possible danger to vehicles and people.

We have had trouble disposing of the large amount of wood resulting from the large branch which fell onto the neighbours land, so Rev'd Michelle has suggested we offer further wood from the tree to be felled around the village.

Please contact me (Arthur Wright - 624530) if you can take some of the wood. Kind regards, Arthur.

Daffodils: Following last year's full fibre installation in the parish by Gigaclear, the Parish Council asked for a donation to fund the replacement of any daffodils that may have been damaged by the ground works.

Two sacks of daffodils have now arrived and residents can have up to 20 bulbs each to plant in the highway verges near their homes.

Chelveston – from Adrian Dale, 21 Water Lane.

Caldecott – from Mark Hunter, *Ashbury*.

Next Issue: The December & January issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of December, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of November.

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Parish Council & Village News - November 2020

Grass Cutting: After three years of providing the Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance, the contractor, Creatifica Associates Ltd (better known to most as Adrian Dale), has decided to retire.

The Council is looking to appoint a new contractor for the 2021 season and has invited quotes from a number of vendors.

Some residents have expressed concern that this will mean the return to 8 monthly cuts (Mar – Oct), as was the case pre-Adrian. However, the Council recognises the impact of climate change means that the grass is still growing in February and November, and has factored this into its requirements. However, unless the Council was to massively increase the Precept (and it has no plans to do this) it could not afford the weekly or bi-weekly cuts that Adrian has been providing on a heavily subsidised basis.

Wildflowers: On the theme of environmental change, the fallow areas to the north and south of the allotments will be sown with wildflowers next March by the landowner, as well as the area between bridleway MM17 and the stream. These flower margins should attract and sustain more pollinators, which in turn should be beneficial to the allotments.

To accommodate this, the allotment parking is moving from inside the field to the area between the wooden posts and the bridleway sign on the side of High Lane. Once this new parking area is in place, the allotment field gateway will be closed to prevent compaction damage to the flowers.

Cross of Sorrow restoration 1920- 2020: If you have visited the churchyard recently, you will have seen the works are largely complete, with the old stonework cleaned and new stone replacing the damaged parts, including the new cross at the top of the column.

Just over £3,000 was raised by public subscription in the last 11 months, with the Council acting as the guarantor of the balance. If you had thought about contributing, but were unsure if the appeal would be successful, there is still time to get your name on the list of benefactors before we close it!

Either send a cheque payable to "Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council" to the Clerk (address below) or online via <https://paypal.me/CrossofSorrow>



New stone cross in position on top of the column.

Remembrance Service: Normally this would be the church service, followed by the outdoor service with the laying of the wreaths at the Cross of Sorrow (UK) and Tower memorial (US). Recent years have seen a regular US Air Force contingent from the 305th Air Mobility Wing (AMW) fly over from McGuire AFB (NJ) to attend the service.

Unfortunately, Lockdown 2 meant that things were much lower key this year. In line with the government guidance there was no church service and no US contingent. Instead residents were encouraged to observe "Remember at Home", and join in with the online service for Remembrance Sunday via the website www.church.chelveston.org.uk

Representatives from the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council and the 305th BGMA laid wreaths at the Cross of Sorrow and Tower memorials.

Parish Council Members & Officers

Chair: Andrew Seaman, Rosemoor, Raunds Rd.
Vice: Jennifer Harwood, 7 Britten Close.
Neil Chambers, 6 Hillside.
Clinton Hill, 52 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

Mandy Hill, 15 Water Lane.
Patricia Mommersteeg, Church House, Caldecott.
Carol Parsons, 5 Pokas Cottages.
Clerk: Mark Hunter Ashbury, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk

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