

ACOL VILLAGE VOICE

December 2021

PLEASE NOTE:

SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY TO GO AHEAD

REINDEER DRIVE POSTPONED

CAROL SERVICE CANCELLED

Village Voice would like to wish all readers a safe and peaceful Christmas and a healthy New Year.

THANK YOU

To start with, a few words of thanks to all those who work selflessly in the background for the good of the Village and in the upkeep of its Hall.

I would particularly like to thank and pay tribute to the Village Hall Management Committee and their spouses, who have continued to serve the community to the best of their considerable abilities. Iris Osborne, for running the Support Fund, and for her hard work as Secretary and Treasurer, Sheila Bransfield for managing the Hall bookings and Karen Ault, Jude Manser, Chenice Butterworth and Bill Yeoman.

We must also thank David Hayfield, who willingly undertakes whatever urgent maintenance is required - and who erects and decorates our tree so beautifully every year, and the many others who give of their time for the benefit of others.

I should also thank the regular hirers of the Hall, who so obviously value and enjoy the facilities, and without whom we would not be able to ensure the upkeep and provide the enhancements for the benefit of all villagers.

On a personal note, I must also thank Bill Yeoman, Karen Ault and Jude Manser for helping me distribute the Village Voice each month, whatever the weather.

Jon

Senior Citizens Christmas Party

I am pleased to be able to say that the Christmas Party will be going ahead as planned this year, with plenty of people signed up for an evening of food and frivolity. However, in light of the current situation - infections rising, new Omicron variant with accompanying uncertainty as to its virulence and susceptibility to the vaccines, we are proposing a number of precautions to protect all involved:

1. We would ask that you undertake a Lateral Flow Test* on the day of the party, and not attend if this is positive for Covid
2. We will rearrange seating, so that instead of the usual 2 x long table set-up, there will be 6 tables of six, spaced as far apart as possible. Your food will be brought to you at the table and the people doing the waiting will be wearing facemasks
3. We will minimise as far as possible the need for close interactions at each table, so no crackers or nibbles I'm afraid!
4. In line with current common practise there will be no communal singing from the attendees while the Greyhound Buskers Ukulele Band provides the entertainment.
5. Following Government advice, we will be opening as many doors and windows as possible for short periods throughout the evening to disperse any build up of Virus but hoping to avoid anyone finding this too cold or uncomfortable.

By these means we hope to ensure that people have as good a time as possible without jeopardising their health in the run-up to Christmas. We also hope these measures will go some way to reassure those wondering whether it will be safe to attend. If you are unable to attend for any reason, please let me know as far in advance as possible, on 847705.

* Lateral Flow Tests are available from Chemist stores or online via the NHS website.

Reindeer Drive

Due to the nature of the event, with constant changing of seats throughout the evening, it is considered that holding an evening of this nature is not appropriate at this time.

Accordingly, the event has been postponed for the time being.

Carol Service

Sadly, for similar reasons, **it will not be possible for the Carol Service to go ahead.**

ACOL VILLAGE HALL SUPPORT FUND - 200 Club

Winners for the Month of December 2021 were:

Member no. 128 who won 1st prize of £20.00

Member no. 81, who won 2nd prize of £10.00 and

Member no. 8, who won 3rd prize of £5.00

A total of £35.00 was donated to the Village Hall funds

The next draw will take place on the 5th January 2022. Should you have any questions or wish to join the scheme, please contact Iris Osborne (838829)

VILLAGE INFORMATION

It is wonderful to have good news for the village, in these troubled times. The Defibrillator was fitted outside the hall on Tuesday, the same day that the roundabout for the Recreation ground was delivered and, thanks to Einar Willett, it is stored in one of his barns. Our Minster friends will be putting it in place this week.

VILLAGE HALL

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE VILLAGE HALL WILL BE CLOSED FOR ONE WEEK, 25th TO 30th APRIL (inclusive) FOR A COMPLETE OVERHAUL OF THE FLOOR. Hopefully there is sufficient notice for our valued users to make appropriate arrangements.

Regular Bookings:

Mondays - 9.30-10.30, Pilates; 1-3.30pm, Pam's People sewing group.

Tuesdays - various times, Ballroom Dance Fitness classes; 1st Tues eve in month, AHS meetings.

Wednesdays - 9.30am-4.30pm, Village Textiles; 7-9pm, Acol Drawing Group.

Thursdays - Mornings, Private Dance Classes; 1.30-4pm, Acol Art Group.

Fridays - 9.30am-4.30pm, Village Textiles

Saturdays - Various events, some detailed below.

Sundays - various times, Private Dance Classes.

Advance notice of planned AHS events for your diaries:

Sat 12th Feb afternoon, Valentine's Tea; Sat 2nd Apr all day, Spring Show; Sat 14th May evening, Quiz Night; Sat 23rd July all day, Summer Show; Sat 13th Aug afternoon, Nosh & Natter; Sat 24th Sep all day, Autumn Show; Sat 15th Oct eve, Race Night; Sat 19th Nov all day, Floral Art Workshop; Sat 3rd Dec evening, Christmas Party.

And then it will be 2023!!!

If anyone is interested in taking part in any of these events or classes, please ring 841691 for contact details.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Refuse (black) & waste food
No Green Bin Collection this month

20th December
3rd JANUARY 2022

If you have any problems or queries, ring TDC, 577115, or queries to 577727.

Recycling (blue), red bag & waste food

13th December
27th December

PCSO

Contact Eileen Shrubsole, PCSO, at eileen.shrubsole@kent.police.uk, or ring APC on 844706.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

If you need information or help, ring Iris Osborne on 838829.

KENT POLICE

Police East Kent Division Rural Team is available on 07980 978202 for enquiries or information.

ACOL PARISH COUNCIL

Our website is at acolparishcouncil.org.uk. Please ring 844706 for any information required.

The next Parish Council meeting has been arranged for 11am on Monday 17th January 2022.

Sheila Bransfield



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MINSTER SURGERY

Covid-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - UPDATE:

Booster Jabs are now available for the over 40's but please remember there must be 3 months since your second Vaccination.

Older teens aged 16-17 are now eligible for a second dose but must be at least 12 weeks after their first

Those aged 12-15 are still only eligible for a single dose.

The Covid-19 Vaccination programme will continue to be rolled out at the Vaccination Centre in Westwood throughout December,, every Tuesday ,Thursday and Saturday with Drop-Ins available any time.

Not had yours yet? There are still many patients who are unvaccinated and many others who have not yet had two vaccines or even their Booster, **So Please Book Now** or just turn up at any DROP-IN CLINIC.

WINTER FLU vaccine. All patients over 50 and those considered to be vulnerable and at risk will have already received an invitation from the surgery to receive the Vaccination. So if you have not received your invitation please contact the surgery as soon as possible.

Covid-19 cases are still quite high throughout Thanet with coughs and colds quite prevalent in many local schools so PLEASE use common sense where necessary and follow the guidelines:

Wash Hands" "Cover Face" "Make space" "Let Fresh Air In"

New Persistent cough? Loss Taste/Smell? High Temperature? Book a Test - Call 119 PLEASE NOTE it will still be mandatory to wear Face Masks when attending the Surgery.

"FACE TO FACE" appointments

Patients will continue to receive a telephone consultation from a Doctor before being offered an appointment with the relevant healthcare professional. Currently 62% of patients are receiving a Face to Face appointment where necessary.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Christmas Eve 24th December am: normal opening hours

Pm: Emergencies only

27th & 28th December - Closed All day

29th - 31 st December - Normal opening hours

3rd January 2022 - Normal opening hours

If you need to see a Doctor during these times

Please Call 111 for NON URGENT confidential help and advice for you and your family.

For COVID-19 help and advice - Call 119

For URGENT/LIFE threatening Cases Call 999 as normal

Repeat Prescriptions - Please continue to submit them as per normal also allowing for time to be processed by the Surgery and your Pharmacy.

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Editor's Note:

PLEASE PASS ON THIS EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE

Non-residents of Acol can become subscribers to the Village Voice at the cost of £7.50 for 12 editions, the charge covers the cost of printing and posting to a nominated address.

Advertising

For a box advertisement of about 8cm x 9cm the cost is £10 for inclusion in 3 editions, £15 for 6 editions and £25 for 12 editions.

Please e-mail contributions to Village Voice to inchley@btinternet.com

This edition of Village Voice has not been sponsored.

Should you (or your organisation) wish to sponsor an edition, either in memory of a loved one, to commemorate an event or even from a feeling of civic duty(!), please contact me.

Contributions for the next edition must be received by 5th January 2022.