

Hambledon Action Plan

Update 22 April 2020



Dear Villagers,

This is our second hard copy update of the present COVID-19 crisis and is particularly aimed at those in the village who are not on the internet. I hope you find it of value and please get in contact with the core team if you have anything to chat over.

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Paul Quinn , Chair PC	p.quinn@hambledon-pc.gov.uk	07850 646755 (mobile) 02392 632946 (home)
Sam Meeson , volunteer	thameesonfamily@gmail.com	07770 924258 (mobile) 02392 632451 (home)

It's OK to ask for help. We are still registering those who need help, and are particularly keen to be contacted by anyone who feels they were missed in our initial 'sweep'. Even if you normally look after yourself perfectly well, the COVID-19 outbreak has made life harder for everyone. If you need help to get food or medicine, or you are finding it hard to manage without anyone to assist you, please call the team above or, if you don't want to use the village system ring 0333 370 4000 for the Hampshire County Council support service (9am to 5pm any day of the week).

The Village Volunteer System is well established and working well with 128 volunteers and 107 households being supported; the number depending on who is isolating and for how long. Volunteers have just been issued with Hambledon Action Plan badges for ID, especially in the Shop and supermarkets. We have many good lines of communication through the internet on the Parish Council website with daily updates, WhatsApp groups, FaceBook pages and an increasing number of people enjoying multi-person video calls on Zoom, FaceTime and WhatsApp. **If you are not on the internet and not supported at present, we can allocate a volunteer just to have a chat and keep you up to date with Hambledon news, a chat buddy.**

The prescription collection and medicine delivery scheme is working very well. If you need help with either please contact the team:

Jo Walker , coordinator	jowalker@doctors.org.uk	07711 627850 (mobile) 02392 632642 (home)
John Thornton	j.thornton@hambledon-pc.gov.uk	07419 376955 (mobile) 02392 632719 (home)
Lucy Meeson	lucymeeson1@gmail.com	07443 482920 (mobile) 02392 632451 (home)

The Shop is doing well and has a new owner. A warm welcome to Ash from us all! The HAP team is delighted with the actions taken by the new owner and Lee to keep us all safe with good social distancing. Some important changes: the shop is now offering a **free, same day delivery service** with a minimum order of only £20. Payment can be made by card, contactless, cash or cheque with the delivery drivers respecting the 2m separation rule. E-mail peoplesmarket@yahoo.com with name/address/tel no/shopping list. For those not on line ring 02392 633965, but please be aware that the shop is very busy so excuse the team if they stick to the point! The shop is increasing its range of products to include plants, BBQ charcoal etc, as well as being fully stocked on almost everything else. It will remain closed after deliveries to reduce risk, opening 10am(ish) on Mon/Wed/Fri. A big thank you to the volunteers keeping us safe at busy times by managing the flow of folk into the shop.

St Peter and St Paul's. There is lots going on with the Church with vibrant services on Facebook and YouTube. To be kept up to date with Church matters please register with Janet Harrison via janetsteveharrison@hotmail.com or telephone **02392 632 812**.

The next phase. We recognise that most people are now okay for the essentials, and the next phase of the Action Plan is doing what we can to mitigate the effects of us all being isolated for long periods. You might be alone; driven up the wall by your 'other half'; yearning for some adult conversation when the kids are in bed; or just keen to have someone new to chat to.

So please turn over for some great ideas...

Hambledon Pen-Pals

Who doesn't love receiving a letter or card through the post? If you would like to be put in touch with a fellow villager, please contact Jo Tester. Let us know whether you would prefer a child or adult 'pal' and we will do our best to match you up. You might decide to keep in touch via e-mail, or stick to the good old-fashioned written letter!



Book Borrow and Exchange

With such a long period in lock-down, many of us might have read all our books and be unable to buy books online or access Hampshire Libraries' excellent e-books lending system. The HAP team has been trying hard to find a central location under cover for a table of books for folk to donate, borrow or exchange, but have been unable to get the necessary permission from property owners. If cardboard boxes are used for the books, the risk of infection is very low but, if you are concerned, books can be quarantined for 24 hours and hands washed. So, the best we can do for now is to suggest that those with books they are happy to put out do so at their property with a sign saying 'Books Here'. Let one of the HAP team members know and we will put locations on the PC website. For those not online, please ring the HAP team or consult with a HAP volunteer who will be kept up to date with locations. Volunteers can, of course, pick up books for those isolating or shielding. Books can be suitable for any age group, fiction or non-fiction, and any genre, but please do not donate those with plastic coverings.



Plant Exchange

The Hort Soc plant sale is usually held early May. Some of the committee and stalwart members are hoping to set up a way of sharing plants that otherwise might be wasted. Have you extra plants above those you can use? Is there a plant you would like? There might not be a glut of veg, plants are likely to be annuals rather than perennials, and it might not work, but they are willing to try! Let Jo Walker know if you are interested.



Chat Buddy

Would you like someone new to talk to? We are all feeling more anxious and maybe a bit more stressed than we are used to, and it's good to chat with someone. Might be for some adult conversation, or some gossip, or to let off steam. Let Jo or Sam know if you would like someone. We have isolating volunteers just aching to help out!

Hambledon Helpers

Would you like someone to read to the kids, or explain calculus or the mystery of the Holy Trinity?! Or are you good with kids and would like to help out? We know that home schooling can be challenging for parents - but we have many retired teachers or qualified folk who might have the skills to help. If you want to be a Hambledon Helper, or would like that support, please give the core team a ring/email/letter/WhatsApp/message/text.

Computer Club

Struggling to understand the phone the kids have given you, or the mystery of Zoom or what an iPad is for?! We can hook you up with someone who may be able to help. Again, let the core team know.



Hambledon Businesses

The Parish Council is very aware that many village businesses are facing significant challenges in weathering the COVID-19 storm. The Government has put in place a number of measures to alleviate some of this financial grief and to ensure businesses are ready to go with staff after lock down. Further details are on the PC website. This is an appeal to the village to use those businesses that are still running and support them when they start operations after the lockdown is eased. Meanwhile, a Hambledon Village business forum is being formed, and the Old Gits are enthusiastically supporting home deliveries by Bowman Ales!

We recognise that in these strange times we are not the sole fount of good ideas, so please contact us if there is something you think we should be doing, or a service you'd like to offer. Please keep safe and maintain social distancing.

Paul Quinn, Sam Meeson & Jo Tester