

THE WEAVERHAM NEWS

For the village and its people

April 2020

LOCKDOWN SPECIAL



Welcome to this special edition of the Weaverham News brought to you by Weaverham Trust and its partners in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. We hope it finds you and your family safe and well during this unprecedented time of social distancing, social isolation and enforced lock down.

We have been thinking long and hard about what we can do in relation to the Weaverham News during this period. We thought reaching out to residents (especially those currently in isolation) with our best wishes and information would be a good idea. We thought the only way to do this was to produce our first ever on-line News. For obvious reasons unlike the previous 77 issues we will be unable to deliver it to every house in the village. Therefore we would like your help in circulating its contents to your friends and neighbours especially those without access to the internet or a computer - this is likely to be the only way to reach the most isolated in our community.

I am sure you will agree that even though we are living in unprecedented times we have been lucky enough to see the positive side of a lot of people and companies in our own village and those surrounding. A big thank you goes out to all who are still working and also those supporting their neighbours however they can. It has been touching to hear the village applauding with such passion on the 'clap for carers' evenings and our thanks go out to all those people who are still putting themselves at risk to support the rest of us.



In such a difficult time it is great to see the spirit of Weaverham is alive and well. We have seen residents in the local news after going for their daily walk in full Christmas mode (you know who you are) and the smiles this brought to



people was wonderful to see. Windows and pavements have started to explode with colourful rainbows as children & grown-ups alike help to cheer up peoples daily exercise routines. We have even heard of bears popping up in some windows to enable a bear hunt to take place. If you want to get involved just put a teddy bear in a window that can be seen

We hope you are finding plenty to occupy you and those of you with children are managing the schoolwork situation. We hope those of an older generation are managing supplies. I suppose this is a time when social media really comes in to its own if you can find a slot on the Supermarket 'on line' delivery sites! Several of our local shops are doing a sterling job with home delivery services. As a village we are lucky to have local shops and have always recognised that we need to support them. Now they are doing their bit to support us.

We all hope normal service will be resumed whenever its safe for it to do so. Meanwhile look after yourselves and give each other a wave when you're out exercising. Don't forget we have plenty of local walks in Bottom Pitch Meadow, Owley Wood. Petal and Blue Plaque walk leaflets can be downloaded from the Trust website

The biggest point of this edition is to try and keep as many of you informed of what support is there for you and for your neighbours who may be self isolating and needing extra help. If you know of someone who might be in need of support please let them know they are not alone. We have included some notes you can print off and drop through letterboxes if you wish to let neighbours know you are there and willing to help them. This information may go out of date quickly but we hope it helps.

Most of all we wish you a safe journey through these unusual times. Remember Stay Safe, Stay Home.

Glen Gidley on behalf of the Weaverham Trust

CORONAVIRUS

**STAY HOME
PROTECT
THE NHS
SAVE LIVES**

An update from Cheshire West and Chester Council

As you can imagine with the scale of the current crisis, CWAC has had to act fast and implement immediate measures for the safety of all our residents. There have been numerous press releases each day, many of which have posted on here but I thought it might be helpful if I provided a summary of all of the main changes to our services.

As I mentioned in a previous post, as your ward Councillors, we are here to help and support in anyway we possibly can. Due to various reasons, we 3 are classed as vulnerable so are physically restricted but please do feel free to message or phone us. CWAC Updates can be found at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/coronavirus

We would like to thank you all so much for everything that you are all doing to keep yourselves and each other safe.

Community

- There will be no green bin collections for the time being, normal bin collections remain the same.
- Household recycling centres are closed until further notice.
- Bus timetables have changed.
- Council owned play areas have been closed.
- Previously we asked that all community events are cancelled until the end of May, this has now been extended to the end of June.
- Healthcare, social care workers, NHS volunteers and other key workers will be eligible for parking permits to park in all Council owned carparks for free during the outbreak. Please contact parking@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
- Following recent advice on scams, fake news is also rearing its head. Please check all sources carefully and use only information from a reliable source.
- No bookings for wedding and civil ceremonies will be taken and notice of marriage or civil ceremonies are postponed. Registration certificates will not be able to be collected in person.

Volunteers

- Any business providing a service at this time e.g. takeaways etc. is being asked to complete a form to be entered onto a central hub. Please email gemma.baxter@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Council Tax

- Deferment is possible but you will need to contact the Council. A hardship fund has also been established. Anyone receiving support through the Councils Council Tax reduction scheme will receive up to £150 off their bill.

Housing

- Housing – Only emergency repairs will take place for the time being

Businesses

- Business rates holidays will be available for retail, leisure and hospitality businesses.
- No direct debits will be taken from any businesses in April.
- 2 grant funding schemes have been announced: Small business grant funding of £10,000 for all businesses in

receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief. Grant funding for either £10,000 or £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses where the rateable value is less than £51,000. For further information please contact business@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Council

- All meetings have been cancelled and will be conducted virtually if necessary.
- Services are being streamlined.

Weaverham Surgery

Due to the unfolding situation with Coronavirus (Covid-19) we need to let you know about some changes at the Surgery.

In order to protect the health & wellbeing of our staff and try to maintain a service for our patients we need to temporarily change our operating practices.

Key Changes

Patient access

- The surgery will be open for telephone contact as usual from 8am-6.30pm
- The surgery doors will be open to patients between 1pm-6.30pm.
- Any patients with appointments outside of this time will be advised to ring the bell.
- The only reason for attendance should be to collect blood forms, fit notes and to attend appointments

Prescription requests

- No written prescription requests will be received (to minimise hand and contamination contact).
- The current prescription boxes will be sealed.
- On line requests will be advised – the website and facebook page have been updated to reflect this and patients can request prescriptions via email, on line or by phone
- Medication requests will be accepted by e-consultations – see website
- The prescription line will be manned from 8am – 12pm and requests can be made over the phone for those without on line/internet access.

Blood tests

Essential bloods- Near patient testing, Lithium and other essential bloods will continue

Other non-essential bloods will be discussed with patients- as to whether they can be safely delayed

Patients with symptoms of potential Covid-19

Patients phoning with potential covid19 symptoms are signposted to the gov.uk website or 111

Patients triaged by the GP with potential symptoms of Covid19 who need to be seen will be seen at the end of the day.

Please visit the Surgery website for updates any further changes. www.weaverhamsurgery.nhs.uk

Memorial Orchard and Thorn Wood



It is spring and the trees are in bud. Soon there should be wild flowers growing in the Memorial Orchard and in other parts of Thorn Wood. We have been told to stay at home but we are still allowed to go out for a daily walk.

If you decide to visit Thorn Wood and look around the Memorial Orchard please maintain social distancing especially at the narrow entrances and exits. Try to avoid contact with others. If you see someone walking in the opposite direction or wish to overtake other walkers please go off the path for a short distance so that you can protect yourself and them.

Please avoid congregating around the picnic tables. Some experts advise against sitting on park benches. Stay safe, stay healthy and keep your distance. Protect yourself. Protect others. Protect our NHS.

Tina Johnson

www.orchard.weaverham.org.uk

[Facebook.com/The Memorial Orchard](https://www.facebook.com/TheMemorialOrchard)

Weaverham Helping Hands



Hi. My name is Jenny Mark White and I have set up and coordinating a Facebook group called Weaverham Helping Hands.

A few local residents have posted flyers through their neighbours doors who are elderly offering help with shopping, prescriptions, post

etc. Also we advertise on the Facebook page for those who are isolating. We each look after our area so that the neighbours know who we are. We haven't yet got volunteers for all road, so if anyone wants to help, please join the Facebook group.

Jenny Mark White

Show Cancelled!

Dear Residents / Show supporters

Weaverham & Acton Bridge Village Show - August 8th 2020 is CANCELLED

After much consideration and with sadness the Weaverham and Acton Bridge Village Show Committee have made the decision to cancel the Village Show planned for Saturday August 8th 2020.

The country and the world are experiencing the horrendous impact of the spreading Corona Virus, which is causing unprecedented change in our everyday lives. Gatherings and events have been banned for obvious reasons, and we have to follow government advice on this matter in the interest of public health and safety. No one knows how long it will take to get things under control back to normal again, we all face a very challenging time in the coming weeks.

What we do know, is that in order to run the show we rely on funding from our sponsors. The majority of sponsors are small local businesses, many of which are experiencing difficult times, some have even closed for the foreseeable future. Even if the government relaxes the restriction on social gatherings, the committee feels it would be inappropriate to ask them for money to support the show, given the current economic climate.

All being well, we will continue to plan ahead and hope that you will support a future Weaverham and Acton Bridge Village show, in the meantime stay home, stay safe and support our local businesses where possible.

We can and we will face this together

Denise Whitney - Show Secretary

On behalf of the WAB Village Show Committee



We just wanted to let you know that Barnyard pet & equestrian are offering a delivery service at the moment including Weaverham. You can order by calling the shop on **01606 871445**

Barnyard - Pet & Equestrian Supplies.

www.barnyardcheshire.co.uk

Email: barnyardcheshire@outlook.com

THE WEAVERHAM NEWS

Is Produced & Published by the Weaverham Trust

Supported by Weaverham Parish Council

www.weaverhamtrust.co.uk

facebook [weaverhamtrust](https://www.facebook.com/weaverhamtrust)

Weaverham community centre is holding a 'Weaverham Wonderful Windows' Competition

The idea is to brighten up the village with wonderful pictures in your windows of anything that makes you happy. We are encouraging people to get creative and use your imagination. Also there will be some tasty treats for winners. The competition will be judged on the 11th May so still plenty of time to enter.

All we ask is you put the name of your street on the 'Weaverham wonderful windows' facebook page. Happy creating everyone. Stay home, stay safe, stay healthy.

STAY HOME, KEEP SAFE

We just wanted to send a quick email to let you know how much we are thinking of you. The 3 of us fall into the 'vulnerable' category for various reasons - despite being able to physically support you, we are very much here for advice, support, signposting or even if you would just like a virtual chat with a cuppa (our numbers are below).

It has been amazing to see all the community groups popping up to help members of their community, all doing a fantastic job. If you haven't already done so, could you please register any groups that you are part of or aware of with Cheshire West Voluntary Action enquiries@chesterva.org.uk as this is the central point of contact for anyone wishing to volunteer or requiring a service. Attached here is a copy of the Good Neighbours Guide which may provide additional advice and guidance for groups.

The generosity being shown by individuals and businesses is fabulous. You may be aware that we receive member budgets each year and we have been informed that we can utilise some of those monies for the benefit of volunteer groups helping the covid-19 emergency. If you would like to apply, please complete the form attached here (we have been told that the information only has to be very basic). Another funding pot for such groups is the community response fund. Any grants over £500 will be considered but it is expected that most grants will be around £2,000 – Application form attached here.

If you are aware on any businesses providing services specific to covid-19 e.g. delivery services etc. please ask them to complete the form attached here .

For the foreseeable future, CWAC has streamlined its services and in many cases only essential, urgent or emergency works will take place. This is to ensure the safety of staff and also to enable the redeployment of staff to other essential services for the time being it would be much appreciated if you could help us convey this message.

On behalf of your 3 Weaver & Cuddington ward Councillors, thank you so much for everything that you are doing to keep each other safe – We will get through this together! If we can help you in anyway please do let us know, that's what we are here for.

Cheshire West and Chester main switchboard

0300 128 123

Gillian Edwards: **01606 259482**

gillian.edwards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Charles Fifield: **01606 854294**

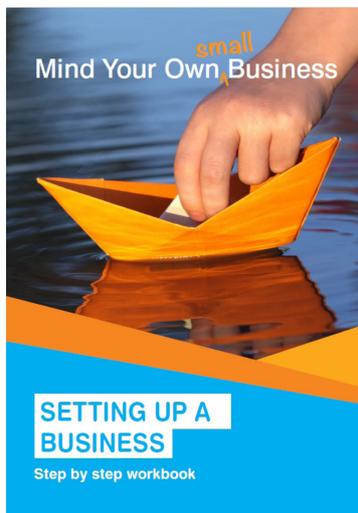
charles.fifield@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Paul Williams: **07767 471733**

paul.williams2@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Cllrs Gillian Edwards, Charles Fifield and Paul Williams

Mind your Own Business!



The current crisis not only threatens lives but also jobs. So for some, now may be a good time to consider creating a job for themselves and others by starting a small business.

Weaverham Entrepreneur Jerry Marshall has experience of setting up several successful businesses and social enterprises in the UK and overseas. Through the challenges and victories of

his entrepreneurial journey, he has put together Mind Your Own Business, a practical guide to setting up a small business or social enterprise.

"Mind your own business" has been made into a 13 part series on Trans World Radio UK www.twr.org.uk, starting on Sunday 5 April at 7pm (also Saturdays at 7am and available afterwards as a podcast). Each half hour programme includes interviews with different entrepreneurs.

The Mind Your Own Business workbook is a free download at www.mindyournbusiness.uk . The series starts with two introductory programmes and then covers the core Workbook material. The series comes from a Christian perspective but is designed for those with any or no faith. Jerry will also host several webinars during the series for local aspiring entrepreneurs. Details will be sent to those downloading the workbook.

HOW TO CONTACT THE POLICE

I hope everyone is keeping well and staying safe.

During these times it remains our priority in keeping our communities safe, We have changed some of our working practices to ensure we keep the public safe as well as our staff.

Myself and other PCSO'S continue to be visible in the communities and are regularly attending key locations like shops and open spaces to ensure people are following the current guidelines.

We're doing our best to help our communities during this health emergency. Please only call **999** in an emergency or **101** if it's urgent, or if you can use our online services. If you need to make an essential journey to speak to an officer at a police station you can still do so at Northwich Police station between 2pm and 3pm everyday, excluding bank holidays. Please note if attending in person additional safety measures for you and our staff are in place. Thank-you."

Kind regards
PCSO Nichola

Weaverham Cricket Club

WCC are in the same situation as many of our local sports clubs, we are in limbo with the season delayed and no idea as to when this may start again or even if it will. The cricket club relies on the Summer months for its revenue.

Players of all ages will pay a membership fee and the bar will be open and all of this along with our fundraising initiatives such as the annual Beer Festival ensure we can remain an integral part of village life for another year.

All this is now under threat and we are looking towards to the ECB and sport England to see what help they are willing to provide to help combat the Coronavirus issue. Whatever scheme is introduced we are aware it will be heavily oversubscribed and fingers crossed we will receive the help that is needed.

From all at Weaverham Cricket Club, we hope you stay safe and well and continue to follow Government advice, staying indoors until you are advised otherwise.

The Leg Club

As a lot of you know the Leg Club is a drop in centre for people requiring leg ulcer treatment with an emphasis on social interaction, empathy and peer support. It normally meets each Thursday afternoon 1pm-4pm at The Lighthouse, Church Lane, Weaverham.

Due to the current situation the Leg Club has been suspended until such time as restrictions are lifted and it becomes a safe place for members, District Nurses and Volunteers.

If anyone has any queries regarding the current situation or information about the club please contact Norma Broadhurst – 01606 74051.

May I send good wishes to you all from all the staff and volunteers and we hope to see you all at the end of this.

The Russett School

The next few weeks (and possibly months) will be a particularly difficult time for children and families, whilst schools are closed and we are advised to self-isolate or socially distance ourselves from our friends and family.

Our normal structure and routine will be out of the window. So at The Russett School we have been making Rainbows to display in our window to show our support for all the NHS and other key workers who are helping to keep us safe.



Keep helping our elderly

We are certainly living through unusual and challenging times. Our first concern must be the health and wellbeing of all our residents and especially to support those residents who are vulnerable because of underlying health issues or age (or both!). It is at times like this that we all need to work together to help and support each other.

If you are able to check on elderly neighbours or those with other health issues, especially those who live alone, and offer some help with food shopping, collecting medication etc for those who are having to remain indoors for 12 weeks your efforts will be very much appreciated.

In my “day job” I am part of the team at Cheshire West and Chester Council that is co-ordinating support for these very vulnerable residents. The youngest vulnerable resident I have contacted so far is just 2 years of age (Well, it was actually mum I spoke to!) and the oldest is well over 90! Some of the residents I have contacted are our friends and neighbours here in Weaverham. Every single person I have contacted has been extremely grateful for the concern and support being offered to them and I can honestly say that it has been a pleasure and a privilege to be part of this major operation.

Parish Council work carries on albeit in a very different way as we are unable to hold the usual Council and Committee meetings due to Government instructions. This has presented some different challenges and, sadly, we have had to close the Russet Road Play Park and the Swimming Pool in line with Government instructions. These facilities will be re-opened as soon as we are advised that it is safe to do so. The Parish Office is also closed but emails, phone messages and mail are all being collected daily and dealt with as soon as we can. If you need to contact the Parish Council please email us at clerk@weaverhampc.co.uk or call **01606 854451** and leave a message. If you need to write to us the address is Weaverham Parish Council, The Parish Office, Weaverham Community Centre, Russet Road, Weaverham CW8 3HY.

Finally, please follow the advice and help to keep yourself and your friends and neighbours safe at this trying time.

Peter Wilkinson, Vice-Chairman, Weaverham Parish Council.

Are you in isolation?

I trust you are all managing during the current coronavirus outbreak and are keeping yourselves safe. You will be glad to hear that Mid Cheshire Grounds Maintenance have been able to carry out restoration work on Lake House Field during the recent spell of dry weather. It is likely that events due to take place soon on Lake House Field will fall victim to the current crisis.

In the meantime, Churches Together in Weaverham have set up a group to provide meals for the over 70s who in isolation.

Cheshire West and Chester Council have a dedicated support system for those most in need of help with isolation. It is on their web site as Media Release, reference number 4552. I have put copies on the Parish noticeboards for those able to get out to pass on the information to those in isolation. There is going to be more information on Facebook, Parish Council, St Mary's and Stronghold websites.

Wishing you all the best and survival through these troubled times.

John Freeman - chairman

Weaverham History Society

Hello Weaverham residents, "Wareham Russets" and electronic readers from anywhere else.

We are sorry that our programme of meetings with guest speakers (2nd Tuesday of each month at Weaverham Academy) has had to be postponed, along with our summer canal trip to Chester and our summer coach day out to Lancashire. I just mention these so you'll know what you can join in with on our return, which will surely happen when the present inconvenience is over.

In the meantime there is some fascinating historical information and pictures about our village on the Society's website at <http://history.weaverham.org.uk/>

Our thanks to the Weaverham Trust for putting together this electronic copy of the Weaverham News.

In the mean time to remind you of happier times here are a couple of photos from our extensive archive...



Local business updates...

WILLS & WILLS DENTISTRY

This week we have had scores of people call our helpline, which is open 8am til 5pm, 7 days a week. This is available to you whether or not you are registered at our practice. If needed, one of our dentists can call you back for free, with advice and a prescription service.

01606 74927. Stay safe - Wills & Wills

RECYCLING CENTRES ARE NOW CLOSED

Recycling Centres are now closed until further notice due to need to relocate staff to vital services. Residents are asked to keep bulky items, DIY waste and other waste for the recycling centre safely to one side at home until the sites reopens. Please do not put items outside a Household Waste Recycling Centre, on the kerbside or with your weekly collection. These will not be collected and will be classed as fly tipping.

GS Autos

GSAutos will still be working during the period of isolation. I can still maintain a safe distance from the customers, providing that they can leave me the key in a safe place & I always wear a pair of gloves & I will wipe all surfaces down with antibacterial wipes straight after, even the keys. Stay safe

LIME AVENUE POST OFFICE

COVID 19 TEMPORARY OPENING HOURS SHOP

MONDAY TO SATURDAY **05:30 TO 13:00**

SUNDAY **05:30 TO 10:00**

POST OFFICE

MONDAY **09:00 TO 13:00**

TUESDAY TO THURSDAY **07:30 TO 13:00**

FRIDAY TO SATURDAY **09:00 TO 13:00**

SUNDAY **CLOSED ALL DAY**

CUMIN RESTAURANT

WE ARE OPEN on FRIDAY - SATURDAY- SUNDAY only

Between 5pm - 9pm. Pick-up or delivery take out.

VILLAGE VEG COMPANY

Local northwich based

Delivering in Northwich, Winsford and surrounding area.

CHECK FACEBOOK FOR AVAILABLE DELIVERY SLOTS.

Prices as followed:

Standard veg/salad box £15

Veg box with eggs and milk (4pint) £20

Veg box with eggs, milk and farmhouse loaf £22

Fruit box £10 when ordered with any of the above veg boxes.

Please note: all boxes come with a variety of fresh vegetables and salad, any items requested will be priced individually.

To order please message the page directly or text your name, address and order along with the delivery day to:

07895 734813

CHURCH SERVICES ONLINE

The Stronghold - Forster Avenue - Sundays @ 10:30am

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTtQUkeKmkU1ycf_bZmdWDw

North Western Baptist Association - Sundays @ 10:30am

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfwbOPRkrSbtDRXE2g6t7Aw>

For the over 70s and most vulnerable who are self isolating or know others who are, we want to help!

The Stronghold church has commissioned the Hub cafe in Weaverham to prepare nutritious meals, free of charge Wednesday to Friday. Along with St Mary's on Monday to Tuesday.

We felt that the Hub should not close but continue to serve our community, just in a different way.

Please contact us at meals@thestronghold.org.uk, or text us on **07398 091 243**, with your name, person who is receiving the meal and a delivery address. We will then make contact and confirm.

We are making this service available to Weaverham area initially, but do contact us re: any special cases or for general support.

THE STRONGHOLD

The hub
It's more than coffee. It's a sanctuary.

St Mary's
Weaverham

The people of Weaverham have risen to the challenge!

My last article for the Weaverham news was in the run up to Christmas; I talked about the annual stress and rush that Christmas can bring and suggested it might be good to pause and consider the deeper reason for Christmas: The moment in history when Heaven touched Earth and God became personally involved with human life; physically present on Earth to give all that He has and is to save us from ourselves.

At the end 2019 humanity was finally realising that creation was teaching us that we cannot continue to live as we are: That unless our attitudes to comfort, convenience and communication changed, our environment would cease to support our lives. And now a tiny virus is teaching the world that we are a similar lesson our way of life is deeply flawed.

At the end 2019 we knew almost nothing about Covid19 or what it would do to our everyday lives, now as Easter 2020 arrives we are forced to stop giving us time to consider and decide to live differently.

Easter is the major Christian festival when Christians celebrate another time when Heaven touched Earth and God in person achieved a one and once for all victory, that won for everyone the opportunity to enjoy renewed and restored life with God and each other: A chance to live a better life, if we will only take it.

During His life Jesus taught from the core of His Jewish heritage that our human first priority is to love God with all that we have and are, and to love our neighbours as much as we love ourselves. And several hundred years before Jesus arrived God gave this message through the Jewish Prophet Micah (Ch6:6-8).

With what shall I come to the Lord and bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, with yearling calves? Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you? But to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

The way our community of Weaverham and the people of our nation have risen to the challenge of Covid19 encourages me. Britain is becoming Great again, just not as we would have expected or wanted.

In February the approach of Covid19 brought out our darker more selfish attitudes in some of us. But in March the arrival of Covid19 brought out the best of our humanity in the majority of us.

In the space of two weeks we learnt that despite what big business and politics has taught us for the last 40 odd years, the most important people in our society are our NHS and Social Care workers, our emergency services, our refuse

collectors, our teachers, our shop assistants and food & materials producers and distributors: the people who in our time of plenty we sadly allowed to be underpaid and undervalued.

In less than a week ~700,000 people across Britain volunteered to be NHS volunteers and people across the country and our town are choosing to be good neighbours, checking on those who might be at greater risk of the disease and its consequences.

In Weaverham a volunteer group "Weaverham Helping Hands" has sprung up and is working with Weaverham Churches Together to help where we can, including shopping and cooking & delivering a few meals for those most in need: People of no faith working with people of faith for the good of our community; for the good of each other and the good of ourselves.

In our forced physical isolation our technology is helping us to remain connected and find new ways of supporting each other and worshipping with each other.

I can only speak for St Mary's Church but while we could we rang the Church bell every morning to show that whilst public worship in church had paused for a time the church is still present praying and worshipping for the community. Our Website <http://stmarysweaverham.org/> and Messy Church face book page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/199703658116459/> keeps people up to date and signposts other worship materials, please take a look and contact us if we can help you use this time of enforced stillness.

This Easter in Weaverham the 120 palm crosses that would have been distributed in St Mary's Palm Sunday service will be available free in the CoOp and Tesco stores for anyone who wants one during the Easter holidays to help them pray and reflect on the hope of Easter.

You will also see elsewhere in this electronic version of the Weaverham News a notice from a Weaverham resident and member of St Mary's Jerry Marshall offering practical advice on starting a business to help people recover economically post the Covid19 Crisis.

Christmas 2020 will feel very different from recent Christmases because by then our understanding of life will be very different. I hope that by then we will understand that everyone in different ways is equally important in our society; Prime Minister Johnson has already said "there is such a thing as society", correcting Prime Minister Thatcher's assertion 30 or so years ago that "there is no such thing as society." Hopefully lessons learned now will be life enhancing and life lasting.

In our forced social isolation we can still love God, each other and ourselves and find new ways of showing it: we need not be emotionally or spiritually isolated.

Staying at home (consuming only what we need) painful as it is socially and emotionally, protects our NHS and ultimately saves lives. It also gives us time to stop and think about who and what is most important. That is surely a good thing.

God bless you and stay safe.

Revd Paul Withington



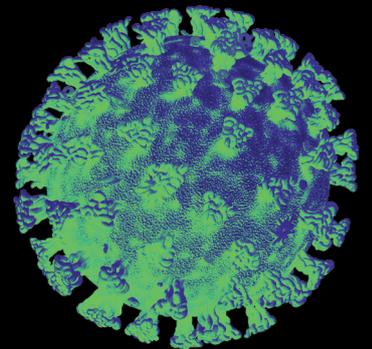
HM Government

NHS

CORONAVIRUS

STAY AT HOME

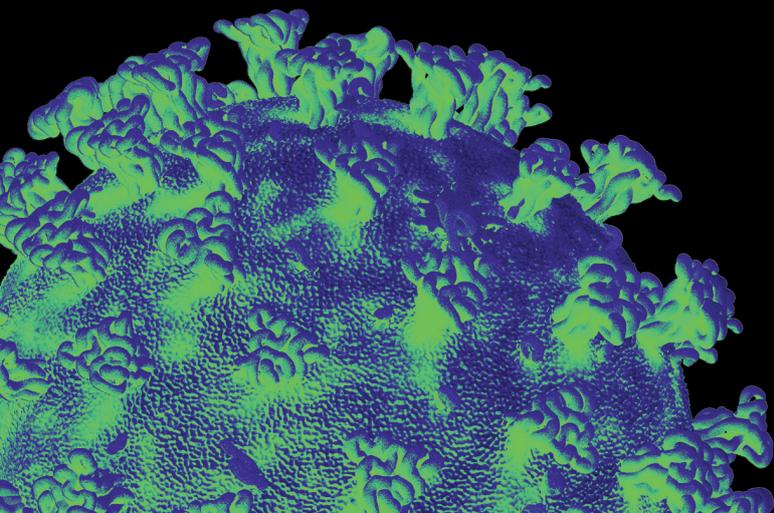
SAVE LIVES



Anyone can spread Coronavirus.

The only reasons to leave home are:

- ✔ To shop for basic necessities or pick up medicine
- ✔ To travel to work when you absolutely cannot work from home
- ✔ To exercise once a day, alone or with members of your household
- ✘ Do not meet others, even friends or family



CORONAVIRUS

**STAY HOME
PROTECT
THE NHS
SAVE LIVES**