



Edenbridge Town Council



NEWSLETTER July 2020

Community Care and Support during COVID-19 crisis



COMPETITION TIME

EDENBRIDGE IN BLOOM is our spring/summer prize competition. So get your gardening gloves on and bring your garden or allotment into its finest shape, then sit yourself down with a well-earned cuppa and enter our colourful competition. We can't wait to see your beautiful blooms! The categories are:

Best Garden

Best hanging basket display

Best allotment

The winners from each category will receive Coolings Garden Centre vouchers:

1st prize £20 * 2nd prize £15 * 3rd prize £10 * 4th prize £5

To enter: send in no more than four photographs with a short description of up to 200 words, your name, address and contact number by **Monday 20 July, 5.00 pm**. Entries will be short listed, and may be visited; social distancing and PPE will be adhered to. The winners will be announced at the end of July.

Send to: Community Warden, Edenbridge Town Council, Doggetts Barn, 72A High Street, Edenbridge TN8 5AR or email communitywarden@edenbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Since the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic, Edenbridge Town Council has been actively working with Sevenoaks District Council co-ordinating the Care for our Community

in Edenbridge. With the help of our amazing volunteers we have helped over 230 people with regular shopping, medication collections, phone buddy, and general errands. Throughout these challenging times the Town Council has maintained its office services with staff adapting to working from home and also in the office. With lockdown restrictions now being lifted, we are stepping back from our immediate response service and focusing more on other projects. However, should there be a spike in cases, the Council will return to the Care for our Community.

If you are someone who is still having to isolate and needs support, please see over page for other ways where help is now being provided.

Exciting news: Residents can look forward to a new leisure activity as Town Councillors are planning to install an Outdoor Gym and multi-use game activity wall in Stangrove Park. The project is now out to tender on Contractfinder. It will feature equipment that can be enjoyed in all weathers, in a location central to the town.

The Town Council is in the process of updating sections of street lighting it provides in Edenbridge. In the latest phase of an on-going replacement programme since 2017, a further 31 lighting columns are being replaced this year. You will start to notice that in the evenings many streets in town will be a brighter place to be.



Coronavirus – Finding a New Normality

If you are in receipt of Government provided food boxes and medicine deliveries, you will continue to receive this support until the end of July.

This will give time to prepare for new advice that you can visit shops, including supermarkets, as you did before the shielding programme commenced, provided you follow social distancing. It is recognised that, for some, this adjustment will take time. Seven supermarkets have given access to priority supermarket slots, and these will continue beyond the end of July for those already signed up for support.

Advice for anyone yet to register for support, is please do so online at GOV.UK or call 0800 028 8327 **before the end of July** so that support can reach you in time.

NHS Volunteer Responders: Support will be available through the NHS Volunteer Responder Scheme beyond the end of July. NHS Volunteer Responders can support you with:

Collecting shopping, medication (if your friends and family cannot collect them for you)

A regular, friendly phone call if you are shielding

Transport to medical appointments

Please call 0808 196 3646 between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm to arrange support or speak to your health care professional for transport support. More information is available at www.nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk.

Prescription collections If you do not have the Government delivery service, and after the end of July, you still need your prescriptions delivered there is a service that would be useful, especially for anyone needing monthly or weekly repeat prescriptions: Pharmacy2U is an online prescription delivery service. They give flexible delivery slots and send re-order reminders. Once you set up your membership you will not only get your prescriptions delivered to your door, but will also have access to advice from online doctors for minor ailments. You should always see your own GP for anything else. Follow the link below to access their website: www.pharmacy2u.co.uk or www.boots.com/online/pharmacy

BACK TO THE SHOPS

The Town Council is pleased to see residents shopping in the local high street. Many shops will be re-opened by the time you read this newsletter. All of the supermarkets now seem to have delivery slots available, which will make life easier for many. There are some colourful photos being posted on social media of fruit and veg boxes being delivered by John Beany, and tempting pictures of steak produced by Allmans Butchers. The ice cream man has featured too, and the pubs offering takeaway meal have had their meals highlighted online as well. Residents have been asking about the reopening of some of the shops and restaurants, and of course the Thursday Market. It's good to know they have been missed.

If we continue to use these shops and services they will do well and other new business may find the High Street could be a good place to open premises.



Eden Valley Museum News

While the museum is currently closed, the team have been very active online, both on the website and on social media.

The museum's website www.evmt.org.uk has plenty of new content, with an object of the month looking at the particular history of an item from the collection and digital versions of current and past exhibitions. Also, the Collections Manager has put out a request for older photographs and objects for an upcoming Bonfire Night Exhibition later in the year. If you have any memories or objects you can contribute you can contact Miranda on collections@evmt.org.uk. Everyone is currently working hard to make adjustments necessary to protect staff, stewards and visitors, and there should soon be more news about reopening in the near future.



BRIDGES is planning to reopen their doors if all preparations go to plan and look forward to welcoming visitors. Contact details: mary@bridgescentre.org

Reporting anti-social behaviour and crime. Should you see any anti-social or suspicious behaviour or be concerned that a crime may have been committed, contact the Police using telephone number 101; alternatively contact Kent Police via their web-site at www.kent.police.uk.

999 (or 112) should be used if a crime is being committed or if you feel that you are under a threat of harm.

This includes, fast bikes, cars, quad bikes which has increased in Edenbridge during the recent lockdown - if you witness any of these, and think there is an immediate danger call 999, alternatively report this on 101.