

Open 7 days a  
Week

Every day 9 - 12.30  
pm

Also on week days  
4 - 5 pm

# The Shop

At Bromsberrow

Post Office Open

Tuesday &  
Thursday

9.30 – 11.30 am

## SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### **Chairman's Comments**

Whilst thinking about the Community, a couple of items arrived for the newsletter. You can read about how John Wilesmith's family business has been so badly hit by the Covid pandemic and Brian Lewis, the new Chair of the Parish Council, is looking for a new Parish Councillor.

Also, as the return to school is upon us (graphically illustrated by Monica's poem), the Shop is keen to replace all the (returning) young and enthusiastic talent that we have benefitted from over the summer. Incidentally you don't need to be young to volunteer but enthusiasm would be an asset!

I grew up with the "fear" of how we were going to survive with all the free time that computers would create. But, of course, the challenge is how can we maintain and develop our Community when everybody has got so many commitments outside of the normal requirements of survival.

One positive aspect of the pandemic is that we have all been challenged about how we spend our time and what things really matter to us. I clearly recall the conversations I had, in April/May, with other Shop customers as we waited our turn to enter. While the pressure has subsided I think we would be better looking for chances to carry on those conversations – as opposed to listening to the daily BBC news that pedal fear ahead of facts (other channels available but the diet is the same).

So I would suggest we can be a stronger and healthier community if we switch a little bit of time to our local Council, Shop or treat our birds to a new table – possibly all three?

### **Shop Floor News from Marie**

The Shop, as always, stocks new lines and this month we have a tasty looking range from The Father Son Bakery – a great choice of Classic Victoria, Chocolate Indulgence etc.

The pandemic appears not to have impacted on our wine/spirit consumption and our shelves are always fully stock with a brilliant range of both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks – come on down and have a look – our range is excellent.

### **IMPORTANT**

We still need volunteers for the shop – perhaps now the children are going back to school, you could find a spare couple of hours a week to help out. To find out more, check out the website:

[www.theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk](http://www.theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk).

Or, ring 01531 650744 - or email Marie at [hello@theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk](mailto:hello@theshopatbromsberrow.co.uk)

## **Birdtable Company Revival**



The Birdtable Company supplied MSF /Countrywide Farmers for over twenty years. However, the future looked bleak for the business that was started in 1988 – designing and manufacturing all their products in their workshop. The ‘Lockdown’ meant that with few retail outlets open, the interest in poultry keeping increased and that meant we enjoyed a revival of sales direct from the public. Buoyed with this interest, we have decided to relaunch our products at the various agricultural shows in the region next year but will be testing interest at the Plant and Garden Fair on 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> September at the Three Counties Showground. Full details of our products can be checked out at [www.birdtable.co.uk](http://www.birdtable.co.uk) and please feel free to call in at Bavenhill where a warm welcome is assured!!

## **Member of the Month (MOTM)**

Congratulations to Peter Jones who is this month’s worthy winner of a £25 voucher. We are also very pleased to report that John Chandler, last month’s winner, is back home and in good spirits having escaped from the hospital – rumour has it that he tunnelled out!!!

If you are not yet a member, isn’t it time you were?

## **‘The Snug’ is Now Open**

Great news - 'THE SNUG' is open again during shop hours! We do have our new drinks machine installed and will be providing a reduced menu of cream teas and cakes. This reduced menu takes account of our busy volunteers who also serve behind the counter in the shop.

Please note, however, social distancing and wearing a mask are obligatory plus contact details will need to be taken. There will be hand sanitiser available at the entry to the shop and there is a small outside area which can also be used as a cafe.

Has anyone had any further ideas regarding using The Snug for a weekly games afternoon of perhaps Cribbage, Dominoes, Whist etc? Depressing as it is, Winter will be upon us before we know it and this could be an important issue to us all. I am sure it would pass an afternoon or two and lift our spirits!!

## Twas The Night Before School

Twas the night before school  
When all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, except for this spouse!

School bags sat by the front door with care  
She had bathed the kids and blow dried their hair  
Lunches were made and shoes had been shined  
"I hope they don't catch it" raced through her mind

The children were sleeping fast in their beds  
With dreams of reunions with all their friends  
Where classes are bubbles and tables are pods  
Their safety in the hands of the 'Government Gods'

When down in the kitchen arose such a clatter,  
Husband ran down to see what the matter was.  
Away to the kitchen he flew like a light  
His wife sat crying at the table,  
He knew something not right  
"I want them to go but I want them to stay  
I want this bloody virus to just go away"

For the first time in months, her bubble had burst  
She thought she'd feel happier  
but now she feels worse  
The 'what if's' were racing around in her mind  
Her husband hugged her and tried to be kind

We've waited for this day for schools to reopen  
But the mixture of change and fear had her  
quite frozen  
She feigned a smile and sipped on her tea  
And persuaded herself "I'll have more time for me"



But six months has passed  
The Country none the wiser  
School bags now packed with masks and  
hand sanitiser

But this is a good thing for schools to reopen  
The children deserve it, it's what they've  
been hoping  
All children have shown such resilience  
Positive attitudes and absolute brilliance!

You might feel nervous, or perhaps feel  
okay  
To release your babies back to school today  
But, whatever you feel, know it's not forever  
We'll get through this and we'll get through  
together!!



BROMSBERROW PARISH COUNCIL

## **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR**

We may be a small village, but there is still a lot going on. Could this be you, do you have leadership qualities?



Check and comment on Planning Permissions in the area.

Could you help with administering the Parish?

Engage in some of the local issues such as speeding, road safety, road cleaning, grass cutting, supervision of our quarries and perhaps contribute to our website, content, and maintenance.

Help coordinate local activities, initiatives, establishing local housing needs etc.

The Parish Council meets only once every two months, to coordinate our activities.

If you feel you can contribute to any of the above, we need you.

Please contact Brian Lewis on 07973 638328 and we can discuss it.

## **THE LATEST FROM 'DOT AND MAV'**

Mav and Dot have forsaken their usual exotic trip this year for an almost staycation of a few days in sunny Devon...

Things went well until:

"Dot, that wasn't very clever in that nice Devon Tea Shop, asking for a *Cornish* Cream Tea!"

"I know Mav, I was confused!" (as usual) "the atmosphere distinctly changed!"  
"But I was thinking about those scrummy cream teas that The Shop has!"

"Yes, Dot, they are scrummy, but are they Gloucestershire or Herefordshire cream teas?!"

"And, the other thing is Dot, you are meant to eat the cream, not plaster it all over your face - it's not moisturiser!"

"But, Mav, thank goodness we are gradually emerging from the lockdown and isn't the Shop looking good."

"It is Dot, new shelving, new produce and very interesting, affordable, "new" bits and pieces at the back of the Shop"

"Look on the bright side, it's going to be a super Autumn!"



## JENNY'S PUZZLE CORNER

How many got the August Quiz right – the result is 51181. How to work it out - take the top and bottom matches from the '0' and put them at the end – easy!!!???

Below is this month's puzzle – they are all names of diseases – have a go!!

Q1:  

Q2:  

Q3:  

Q4:  

Q5:  

Q6:   

Q7:   

Q8:  

Q9:    

Q10:   

Bonus: S 