

Welcome to the Autumn Newsletter from the Store Management Committee.

The Post Office

We are delighted that the Post Office service will continue. This time last year we were all wondering what would become of our Post Office. As you will all know, James took over the running of the service but it was always intended to be a temporary arrangement until an alternative was agreed.

Liz Lyon did an excellent job negotiating with the Post Office persuading them to give us a deal that we could deliver continuing the service that is currently provided.

We are now proud to tell you that a contract has been signed for the shop to take over the service as a Post Office Local+. The change over is likely to be completed before the end of January 2017.

It will look a bit different in the shop and there will be some disruption during the change-over. However, we hope to keep the shop service as normal as possible during this period and please do continue to support the shop with your custom. Pete Hobbs is our project manager co-ordinating the changeover and is liaising with Post Office Limited.

We expect that the current service will continue as normal up to the beginning of the New Year. The Post Office opening hours remain the same for the time being (9-12 Mon-Wed and 10-12 Thurs-Sat).

Advice and Guidance

We thank the following organisations who have provided us with invaluable advice for taking on the Post Office service: the Plunkett Foundation, Dorset Community Action, the Rural Shops Alliance, Oliver Letwin MP and various community shops, who recently went through the same process.

Store Opening Hours

Monday - Friday	07:00 – 17:00
Saturday.....	07:30 – 13:00
Sunday.....	08:00 – 10:30

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday - Wednesday	09:00 – 12:00
Thursday - Saturday.....	10:00 – 12:00

Achievements

Our dear old till started to play up so we replaced it with a much newer model. This one enables us to save sales statistics electronically so making it easy to analyse sales performance. The new shop signage seems to help attract passing trade with the summer months all showing an increase in turnover on last year. The shop now looks viable for the foreseeable future.

Volunteering

Many thanks to our hard working staff and volunteers who keep the shop open for your convenience day after day.

The staff and volunteers had their usual summer gathering on 10th June where they enjoyed a barbecue and refreshments on a lovely summer's evening on the patio.

As always, we are looking for new volunteers. If you have an hour or two to spare, either regularly or on an occasional basis, we would love to hear from you. While we would always welcome additional volunteers to serve customers, we also need volunteers who are happy to do one or more of the following jobs: restocking shelves, dusting, cleaning the windows, tending the patio pots and flower beds in front of the shop or delivering newsletters.

Please contact Catheryn or one of the Committee to find out more.

Shop Christmas Dinner

Here is the advanced notice that we shall again be organising a Christmas dinner for volunteers and staff at the White Hart, Bishops Caundle. Please keep Friday 16th December evening free.

Macmillan Charity Event

The *Coffee Morning*, run by Jackie and Catheryn for Macmillan Cancer Services on 29th September, has raised £120 in donations so far for the homemade cakes, freshly brewed coffee and Jon's sponsored hair-cut. Thank you Jon.

Book Swap

The readers of the village keep our book swap stocked with a regular turnover of reading material and provide a much-valued service. Come in and see for yourself.

Products

We are continuing to expand our range of local produce, our most recent line being Dorset Honey from Sherborne Castle Estate. Our other local lines include ready meals from Olive's Kitchen, Dorset Blue Vinny, Honeybun's cakes, flour from Sturminster Newton Mill, meat and pies from Else's in Stalbridge, wine from Sherborne Castle, Trent Honey, sandwiches from Fir Tree Catering, chutneys and pickles from The Keeper's Wife and jams, preserves and cordials from EuCan Community Interest Project.

A range of gifts and cards made by members of our community are also available to purchase.

The shop offers a range of grocery items, household products, greetings cards, alcohol, tobacco, confectionery and newspapers.

We are constantly reviewing our product ranges. If we are not currently stocking something that you would like to see please let us know and will always try our best to make it a stock line.

Local Producers

Thank you to everyone who donates their surplus garden produce to the shop. It is lovely to be able to offer this to our customers, who really value being able to buy fresh, locally grown fruit and vegetables. Please keep it coming.

Fresh Meat, Fruit and Vegetable Orders

We carry a small amount of stock but you can order fresh meat from us supplied by Else's of Stalbridge at the same price as in their shop. Please see Else's website for the price list. Orders can be placed the day before for deliveries on Tuesdays or Fridays.

Orders for fruit and vegetables should be placed before 1 pm the day before you wish to collect them.

Don't forget that you can order meat, fruit and vegetables in advance.

Catheryn Moving On

Sadly, Catheryn has resigned as manager having received an offer of a job in HR, her area of expertise, which was too good to turn down. She will be missed. In her time at the shop, she has made several excellent changes. She has introduced a wide range of local produce and, under her guidance, the shop has moved forward and is becoming more financially secure.

The Committee is considering the best way forward and would be interested to hear from anyone who might be interested in working as a part time shop assistant or Post Office person. To find out more, please call in at the shop or contact one of the Committee.

Bonus Ball Lottery

Our weekly Bonus Ball Lottery raises useful funds for the shop and provides a bit of fun for those who participate. The proceeds have enabled us to replace the shop computer with a faster and more reliable laptop. You can buy lottery numbers for £1 each. The winning number is the Bonus Ball in the Saturday National Lottery draw. Recently, in one multiple roll-over, a customer won £122!

Contact Us

Apart from the telephone, you can contact us via the web site: www.bishopscaundleshop.co.uk where there is an email link, or email the shop directly using the bishopscaundleshop@gmail.com address. You can also join us on social media: the shop's Facebook group is "Bishops Caundle Village Store" and if you are into Twitter, it is @caundleshop.

The Management Committee

The Management Committee currently comprises 9 members:

Chair	Liz Lyon
Vice-chair	Peter Blundell
Secretary	Lynne Coombe
Shop Representative	Dawn Loveless
Treasurer	Dee Hobbs
Other members:	Carole Blundell
	Jon Coombe
	Pete Hobbs
	Ceri Reed

**The store is here for you
Can you be here for the store?
Thank you for your custom**

Bishops Caundle Community Store