

An initiative in Rimpton about Covid-19

Just a note to say that several of us who live in Rimpton have been wondering how to take similar action to other villages nearby, to increase our accessibility to one another. It's particularly relevant today after the Prime Minister's statement last night with very severe restrictions for all of us, about when we can go outside our home.

In this distressing situation, which may go on for some time, and in which we are thrown back on our own resources, with many feeling besieged by anxiety, it is vital that we strengthen the bonds of community at a very local level, and be increasingly imaginative in support and care for one another. Physical isolation is clearly necessary for now, but we human beings find life in belonging together!

We know that people do already look out for each other in Rimpton, and there is much neighbourly support. We also have an excellent web-site (perhaps you will have seen current information on Covid-19 on <http://rimpton.net/coronavirus/>) and a very good local news email network (if you don't know of it, contact John Townsend thecoign@uwclub.net)

But as an extra 'layer' of support and information, several of us wanted to put together a 'hard copy' flyer to distribute around the village, to be in touch particularly with those who are self-isolating, and to give names and phone numbers of people locally who are happy to help with specific tasks.

The kind of tasks that we think might be useful are: shopping, collecting prescriptions, tech help, dog walking, or simply being at the end of a phone for a chat. We don't all need to offer all of these! Just ones we feel comfortable with. Other kinds of community support may well emerge as we go along.

This is a work-in-progress and we hope to produce the flyer next week. We have some names already, but more would be brilliant. If anyone feels they can offer help with any of the above, please phone or email Sam Woodhouse 850915, samwoodhouse09@gmail.com or Penny Gatrill-Smith 851641. And please say which of the above support you are willing to give.

It would be great to hear from you.
Keep well.