

Filkins & Broughton Poggs

Witney Food Bank

On the occasions of the December and February community lunches, the lunch club members collected food items for donation to the Witney Food Bank. What we didn't know at the time, was that the February community lunch would be our last for the foreseeable future due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Many families across our area have been adversely effected by the devastation caused by the virus and we thought that members of the Filkins and Broughton Poggs communities may wish to continue the donations to the food bank notwithstanding the loss of the lunch club.

As a result, we have switched the point of collection to the Village Shop and many in our community have contributed generously to the collection.

The latest donations was taken to Witney on Monday 20th July and as such, will become our 6th full box of food items since the turn of the year.

The Trustees and volunteers at the Food Bank are incredibly appreciative of the efforts we have made in Filkins & Broughton Poggs and for those who have to access the service, we can only hope that it helps them and their families to get by.

We intend to continue to have a donation box at the Village Shop until further notice, as it not only offers the chance to help, it also keeps us shopping in the village.

So thanks to all those who have contributed in the past or will do so in the future, it's good to help make a very practical contribution to those who have need of support.

We hope you are all safe and well.

Stay safe,

Best wishes,

Moira and Don

Filkins and Broughton Poggs

Community Lunch Club

It is now almost five months ago that we enjoyed our first lunch of 2020 and in so doing moved into our third year.

So much has happened in and to the Country during those five months and we thought we might take the time to bring you up to date with our thinking on the current situation as we move into August.

The government makes changes to the rules surrounding the release of some “lock down” measures on a continuous, but apparently gentle basis, and has made no secret of its intention to tighten them again if it appears necessary. The wider view into Europe, the Americas and beyond seems to be even more fluid.

The constraints that effect us directly are ; - social distancing; individuals and groups of people deemed to be at increased and high risk of infection; and maximum number congregating in groups set at 30, (as for weddings); There may be others but we’re sure you can join the dots from the above list.

As a community lunch club it is, above all, about meeting friends and neighbours “up close and personal”. It is about inclusion and not exclusion, It is about swapping stories and anecdotes until the next time. So, we wait for something unforeseen to come along that allows for 40 or so friends to rub shoulders in the same spaces again, have a laugh and a joke and eat a lunch that has been prepared and served just for you, in total comfort and safety. So, we would welcome any suggestions that you may have that might create something similar to that which we previously enjoyed, although it does appear for now that we may have to wait for a date sometime into the future.

So, until then - we’ll watch this space.

Kindest regards

Moira and Don