

# East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support



Highclere Society



EWH Neighbourcare



## Inside our Newsletter #28 – 22<sup>nd</sup> January

[Vaccination Experience at the Racecourse](#)

[Prescription Deliveries](#)

[Latest Local COVID-19 Cases](#)

[Message from the Surgery](#)

[Visiting Hampshire Hospitals](#)

[From the Rector](#)

[Local Businesses](#)

[Activities – Staying In](#)

[Activities – Going Out](#)

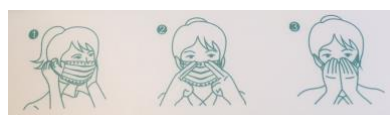
[Naturewatch](#)

[Your Photos](#)

**Neighbourcare** are here for you – one number to have:

- prescriptions delivered
- attending a vaccine / medical appointment
- shopping collected
- a friendly chat on the phone
- or someone to go for walk with

# 01635 745 600



*“Until now, I never understood why you got so excited when someone walked past the house.”*

## Vaccination at the Racecourse

Praise for the speed, efficiency and kindness of the organisation and staff at the Newbury Racecourse Vaccination Centre has characterised the response of the first people lucky enough to have received their vaccinations there.

Newbury Racecourse Vaccination Centre will cover all patients of the nine local Newbury surgeries:

- The Downland Practice
- Eastfield House
- Strawberry Hill Medical Centre
- Thatcham Medical Practice
- Burdwood Surgery
- Falkland Surgery
- Hungerford Surgery
- Kintbury and Woolton Hill Surgery
- Lambourn Surgery



It was set up to minimise disruption to the day-to-day work of practices, so they are still able to support patients when that is needed, and it is easier to manage logistics and social distancing. The Racecourse is in a central location and has good parking and access.

The Centre's start was delayed last week because it has required a lot of planning and GPs have been fitting this in around seeing patients. In addition, there has been a lack of vaccine and supply is still intermittent, so it is difficult to plan more than a few days ahead. A potential day was also lost because racing was taking place. There may be scope to still use the centre on a race day in the future and the Centre is working closely with the Racecourse to make sure they can do this safely.

15 vaccination stations have been set up which can each do 150 patients per day making 2250 vaccinations per day at full capacity.

At present there are not enough deliveries of the vaccine from the government for the Centre to be open all day every day. It is the ambition to get patients vaccinated as quickly as possible, so efforts are being made to push to get the frequency and quantity of vaccine deliveries increased. If supplies of the vaccine continue to increase in quantity and regularity it will be possible to easily catch up and overtake sites which have gone live before Newbury and the government's vaccination targets to have all those over 70 or clinically extremely vulnerable vaccinated by the 15th of February will be met.

To make the most of available vaccination resources nationally, letters inviting people for vaccination will be going out this week to any remaining over 80's and those over 70 or clinically extremely vulnerable in areas where a high percentage of the over 80 group have already received their vaccination. These letters will invite people to apply for a vaccination at one of the vaccination centres where appointments are available. They will not necessarily be the nearest vaccination centre to you.

Arrangements by GP practice will vary but for patients of Woolton Hill and Kintbury Surgeries if you receive a letter from the central NHS Hub you can do one of two things:

1. If you want to make an appointment for vaccination as soon as possible follow the instructions contained in the letter. Please remember the vaccination centre to which you may be directed could be some distance away. You may have to return to the same vaccination centre for your second dose in approximately 12 weeks' time. At present you cannot book an appointment at the Newbury Racecourse Vaccination Centre through this system as Newbury is a GP led centre and not on the list of mass vaccination sites. The only way to get an appointment at the Racecourse is via your surgery.
2. If you prefer to visit the Newbury Racecourse Vaccination Centre **do nothing in response to the NHS letter** and wait for a telephone or text message from your Surgery with an appointment at the Racecourse. The speed of vaccinations is accelerating, and it will not be too long to wait. **Please do not call the surgery.** If you are eligible, you are on the list and your turn will come.

It is not possible to give estimates of when any individual is likely to have their appointment at the Racecourse as deliveries of vaccine are confirmed on a week-by-week basis.

Entry to the Newbury Vaccination Centre is via the new bridge at the end of Hambridge Lane. Then follow the signage to Car Park 4. Once you have reached Car Park 4 you will pick up the yellow signs directing you to turn left towards the parking area between the Grandstand and the racetrack. Volunteer marshals will direct you to a parking space and the entrance. There is also a drop off point for those with mobility issues and wheelchairs are available.

If you need help with transport to Newbury Racecourse, please call 01635 745 600. At the present time this service is available for Racecourse appointments only.

On arrival you will be directed to a reception desk for your surgery and then asked a few questions about your medical history before receiving your vaccination. Afterwards, you may be asked to wait for a short while to ensure there are no aftereffects. The whole process should take no longer than 20-25 minutes and, from feedback by people we have heard from who have had vaccinations, it may well be quicker. You can find guidance on what to expect after the vaccination [HERE](#).

**Please note that all appointments are pre allocated. Therefore, do not go to the Racecourse Vaccination Centre on the off chance that you can be seen without an appointment. This will not happen, and you will just take up valuable staff time unnecessarily, delaying someone else's vaccination.**

The Centre is being staffed by a large force of volunteers alongside clinical professionals. If you would like to volunteer for any non-clinical roles, please contact [bwv.volunteers@nhs.net](mailto:bwv.volunteers@nhs.net) with your availability. However please note they are fielding so many queries it might be quite a while until they are able to get back to you.

Please remember that even after having the vaccination, it takes three weeks to become effective and you must still follow the government rules and your behaviour needs to be the same as before to help keep transmissions and infection rates down.



## Prescription Deliveries

Woolton Hill surgery is keen to minimise the number of people going into the surgery to collect prescriptions. With the rapid increase in Covid cases in the area it is vital to keep the surgery building as safe as possible for patients in need of face-to-face consultations.

**They therefore suggest that if you do not have to pay for your prescriptions, either by having a 'season ticket' or other exemption, you arrange for Neighbourcare to collect and deliver to your door.**

Our dedicated drivers collect prescriptions by prior arrangement with the surgery and are able to collect for a number of households without having to enter the building. Your prescription is then delivered safely to your door where it is handed over to you observing the recommended distancing.



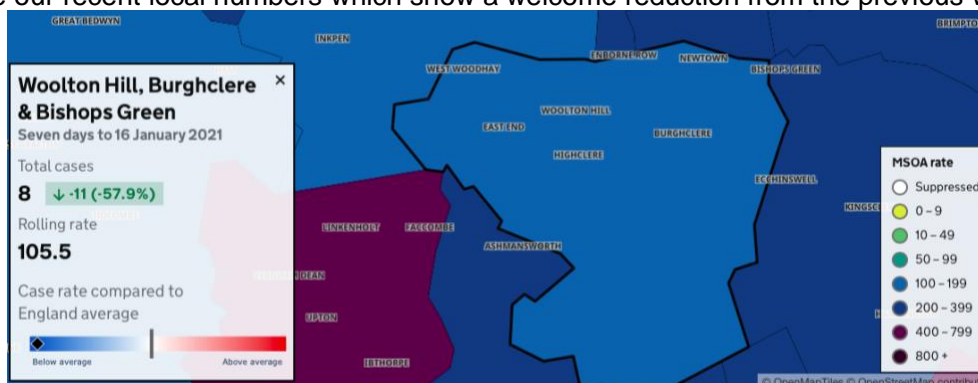
If you ring to arrange delivery of a prescription, one of our five co-ordinators will take your details and advise what day your prescription will be delivered, in most cases the next day. All you need to do is be sure to be at home from 11am for a couple of hours for our driver to deliver.

Medication is not left on doorsteps or put through letterboxes but delivered person to person. Understandably, many people have used the collection of a prescription to give purpose to their daily exercise but with the recent upsurge in infection rates it is more important than ever to stay safe and stay well so that when your vaccination appointment is offered at the Racecourse hub you are 'good to go'!

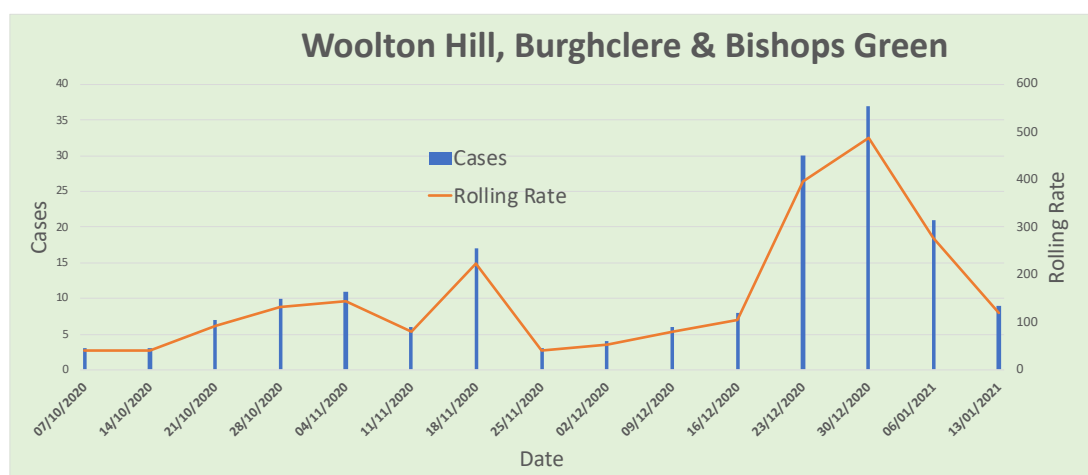
If you want to arrange a prescription delivery just call **01635 745600** or book online at [www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk](http://www.ewhneighbourcare.org.uk) by clicking the 'request a prescription delivery' button and your prescription will be delivered to your door – **free of charge**.

## Latest Local COVID-19 Cases

Here are our recent local numbers which show a welcome reduction from the previous weeks.



Following a request from a newsletter reader, we also include a graph showing the trend of the local cases since the numbers were issued by the government.



The seven-day Rolling Rates are expressed per 100,000 population and are calculated by dividing the seven day count by the area population and multiplying by 100,000.

Our recent historic information is also stored [HERE](#). The link to the original data can be found [HERE](#)

---

## Message from the Surgery

If shielding patients are attending Woolton Hill for a shielding blood test they should wait in their car and will be collected from the car park by the nurses (not to wait in the waiting room).

---

## Visiting Hampshire Hospitals

There is new guidance from Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation trust which has been received regarding face coverings at hospitals:

*“We recently updated the guidance when visiting our hospitals, asking visitors and outpatients to swap their face coverings for a surgical face mask unless medically exempt to help keep our patients, visitors and staff safe.*

*Surgical face masks offer a greater level of protection as unlike face coverings, they are manufactured to a recognised standard and provide ‘outgoing protection’. The increased protection ensures we are taking every step we can to care for everyone within our hospitals.*

*Because of this, we’re asking everyone to swap from a covering to a face mask, and face coverings are no longer permitted on any of our hospital sites in Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester.*

*You will spot our posters asking all visitors and outpatients to wear a surgical face mask, which are available at every entrance to our hospitals, and hand sanitiser is positioned next to the surgical masks at the entrances. We ask that you sanitise your hands before and after taking your mask. Please remember to socially distance even when wearing a mask and regularly sanitise or wash your hands.*

*We want to thank the local community for following this new guidance in our hospitals, and for everything they are doing to protect themselves, those around them and the NHS.”*

## From the Rector: Revd Canon Christine Dale



Greetings and blessings to you all.

It is good to know that many from our communities have already been making their way to Newbury Racecourse to receive the first dose of the vaccine. This is good news indeed - and our thanks to our local surgeries for their organization and communication. Gradually the programme will roll out to include us all. The news tells us we are at a critical stage with the virus and our support and prayers are needed for our over stretched health service who are on the front line in caring for those suffering from the virus.

As we continue to be diligent in observing this current lockdown and the 'hands, face, space' rules we are offering worship on Sundays online (*via 'zoom'*), and at 10am each Wednesday morning. For 'zoom' link details please e-mail me at [cdale001@btinternet.com](mailto:cdale001@btinternet.com).

### Sunday 'zoom' services for the rest of January:

24<sup>th</sup> January 10.00am Benefice Communion  
6.00pm Evensong

31<sup>st</sup> January 10.00am Benefice Communion

### All our church buildings are open for private prayer on Sundays.

*Churches with published opening times:*

St James',	Ashmansworth	9.30am-4.30pm
St Martin's,	East Woodhay	11am-3pm
St Michael & All Angels',	Highclere	11am-12.30pm
St Thomas',	Woolton Hill	10am-4pm

*If you visit one of our churches for private prayer please do protect yourself and others by wearing a face covering inside the building, sanitising your hands on arriving, and using a seat with a 'green tick' card marker (when you leave please turn over the card to show the red no entry sign).*

If you want to ask for prayer, please do contact Canon Marvin (254718) or me (253323). with every blessing to you all,

Revd. Canon Christine Dale  
(e-mail: [cdale001@btinternet.com](mailto:cdale001@btinternet.com), Tel. 01635 253323)



## Local Businesses

**Local Shops** The following shops and suppliers are open and offering a variety of food, takeaways and other supplies:

**Woodland Stores** (01635 253651) & **Woolton Hill Stores** (01635 253463) are both well stocked – *contact Neighbourcare on 01635 745 600 if you need a delivery*

**Fisher of Newbury** (01635 524822) has expanded the range to include dairy and bakery goods as well as fruit & veg. Next day delivery slots available – to book click [HERE](#)

**Fernworth Farm** meat and seasonal veg, collect or delivery Saturdays contact [Jo@fernworthfarm.co.uk](mailto:Jo@fernworthfarm.co.uk)

**Thatcham Refillable** household products – delivery Tuesdays. Order goods Click [HERE](#) or email [thatchamrefillable@hotmail.com](mailto:thatchamrefillable@hotmail.com), tel. 07876350137 by 2pm Mondays

The Rural Supply Company offer a one-stop click and collect service for foods from local producers. Collect from Five Bells Wickham or Hannington. Click [HERE](#)

**'Loaf to your door'** offer home delivery of fresh baked breads and pastries in our area. Order Wednesday for Friday delivery. Click [HERE](#)

**Thatcham Refillable** household products – delivery Tuesdays. Order goods Click [HERE](#) or email [thatchamrefillable@hotmail.com](mailto:thatchamrefillable@hotmail.com), tel. 07876350137 by 2pm Mondays

### Takeaways:

**Highclere Red House** (01635 255531) takeaway / delivery Tues–Sat click [HERE](#)

**Rampant Cat** – takeaways Friday / Saturday 4pm-8pm & Sunday roast lunch – order by phone 12noon - 2pm 01635 253474 For menu / special offers see [HERE](#)

**Dundas Arms Kintbury** (01488 658263) – takeaway Friday / Saturday, click [HERE](#) – ordering link only open Fri/Sat

Note: Carpenters Arms Burghclere, The Pheasant Highclere and Furze Bush Ball Hill – are all closed.

---

## Activities – Staying In

### Learn

Skills Toolkit – FREE bite-sized training modules, take individually or build up to a certificate in subjects from maths to computing to marketing click [HERE](#)

### Make

West Dean College now has an on-line hub with short courses and a link to 50 FREE short craft video tutorials, Click [HERE](#)

Free family craft activities, short clip videos from story cubes to cards to dens from The Hepworth Click [HERE](#)

### Theatre

**RSC Tales for Winter** – streaming Michael Morpurgo retelling stories of classic plays, next up The Tempest click [HERE](#)

**Panto** – stream PANTOMONIUM! until January 31<sup>st</sup> from Blackpool Grand Theatre, Digital pass £25.50 / household. Click [HERE](#)

**Ballet** – a mix of free and pay to view performances from the Royal Ballet. Click [HERE](#)

### Staying active

**Strength and Flexibility** – 5 week programme from the NHS for exercising at home, no equipment needed, Click [HERE](#)

**Exercise around the world** – Zumba Gold to 'Good Golly Miss Molly' with Linda and the ladies of Lane County Oregon click [HERE](#)

## Activities – Going Out

**Walk with purpose**, or watch from your garden - enter the **wildlife photography** competition – adult & junior categories, \*closing date extended to 21<sup>st</sup> February\* click [HERE](#)

## Naturewatch

Are you ready for the Big Garden Birdwatch weekend? Click [HERE](#) for information and checksheets.

Each year half a million people take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch and this year it is between 29-31<sup>st</sup> January.

Following on from previous years' success we will be collating those birds seen in our local gardens so make sure you are ready to spend an hour next weekend counting the birds you see in your garden.



More information will be in next week's newsletter

## Your Photos

**Please send us an image** – we are asking for your favourite local view this winter and we will include it in a future newsletter. Others would really like to see what great sights you have seen in your garden or on a local walk. Please email to [EWCleresNews21@gmail.com](mailto:EWCleresNews21@gmail.com)

Thank you for the photographs which have been sent in – please keep them coming. Nothing says that spring is just around the corner than seeing snowdrops.



Thanks to Sarah Garland for these outside her house along with Storm Christoph debris.



Sheep at Woolton Hill under a Threatening Sky – Alan Teece

## East Woodhay & Highclere Coronavirus Community Support

