



April 2024 News Update for CBS Members

It's nice to see signs of spring, but despite the brave efforts of daffodils, primroses, tulips and lovely spring blossom, the weather remains unpredictable and at times still grimly wintry! To put you in the right mood you can buy from our beautiful selection of plants on display outside the shop, to the right of the main door, supplied by Wendy. We would also like to request plants and produce for the donations stall to the left of the main door - new stock is always welcome.



Recent reports of the "hottest" months ever are met with wry smiles on our grey and windblown island, but if excessive rainfall is one of the outcomes of a warming planet, then we have plenty to worry about and we are doing our bit to reduce our environmental footprint. Our newest items are from an eco-friendly company called Green, and include laundry sheets that are hypo-allergenic, contain "no-nasties" and are effective yet gentle and simple to use – just put the sheet (it's like a small slip of paper) in with your washing and it dissolves instantly. No plastic packaging.

Meanwhile, after a few hiccups around Christmas, we have changed to a more reliable milk supplier. Milk, butter and cream (clotted and double) now come from Trewithen Cornish dairy, delivered by J&R Foods. As a bonus J&R also deliver fresh vegetables on order, so we are able to offer a wider range of fruit and veg. We are also getting fresh sourdough bread from Braziers (our coffee supplier!), which you can order from the shop – it's too expensive to offer as regular stock. And if you haven't done so already, do think about switching to the refillable milk option to reduce our use of plastic bottles.

Hopefully many of you will have seen the smart new Roadwater Shop jute bags, which look good and are eminently practical – strong and of good capacity. Also new are our specially commissioned map-mugs, trays and a selection of local footpath maps, so there is no excuse for getting lost. These all make lovely gifts, or you can just enjoy them yourself.



Local company Kendle Farm is now only delivering their meat products once a week on a Thursday, so to be sure of your supply of high quality, delicious sausages, chops, steaks, mince etc, please ensure you order by Wednesday evenings.



Talking of deliveries, this photo gives you an idea of the chaos involved when a huge new delivery arrives and staff and volunteers have to keep serving customers while storing and entering the supplies in the till system! Credit to all involved.

The café is also gearing up for summer, with new tasty treats, including enormous cheese scones served with butter and pickle, as well as the ever-popular cream teas. A selection of soups will also still be on the menu, for a healthy light lunch on chilly days. And of course, we are still offering loyalty cards that give you one free hot drink for every eight purchased.

We are pleased to welcome Jon Kitteridge (and Colin the Cat) as the new tenants in the flat above the shop, which we rent out as part of our business. He moved in on 1st April after redecoration and a few essential repairs had been carried out.

We have just said farewell to our wonderful postie, Colin Tennant, who retired from Royal Mail after 23 years working in this area. We invited him to a morning of coffee and cake where Julia presented him with a gift of £440 collected in the shop from our grateful community. Happily, this is 'au revoir' rather than 'goodbye' as Colin will be up and down the road to the hills working on his new gardening business and will be calling in for refreshment and chat on his way through. We wish him every success.



Finally, we come to the not-so-good news that Simon, our treasurer, who has kept our finances on the straight and narrow since 2021, is stepping down, due to increased work commitments. Simon has committed to continuing to support the committee with advice and regular updates on the accounts until a replacement is found, and will of course provide a comprehensive handover briefing. We would appreciate any suggestions/offers for a suitable person to fulfil this essential role. The person would ideally have business and accountancy experience, with the ability to provide a broad view on good business practice, combined with an understanding of the nuances of running a community owned and run enterprise. If you know of such a person, or you feel you might be that person, please contact Cherry on cbroadwater@gmail.com.

Once again, many thanks to staff, volunteers and customers for all your hard work and support.

Mary, Cherry, Di, Karl, Sheila, Claire and Bruce

