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We hope that all within the Parish are keeping well and in good spirits. We are aware of very few confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our local area, despite the reported higher concentration in areas of Hampshire. Let's hope that this is because of the community's excellent commitment to current restrictions and social distancing, which we now know will continue for at least another three weeks.

We have about 50 households in the Parish who have registered for support, each of whom have been paired up with volunteers who are providing a range of assistance, which has been enormously appreciated. Some residents have now received letters advising that they are on the NHS Shielded List with a reinforced need for self-isolation, and we encourage anyone in need of assistance to register with the Support Group. A massive thanks again to all of you who are providing support, and to those poised to assist we may be asking for your help soon.

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## **COMMUNITY INFORMATION**



We are continuing to update the Parish COVID-19 Community Support webpage with the latest information - accessed via the button below. COVID-19 updates and information from [Hampshire County Council](#) and [Test Valley Borough Council](#) can be found at these links, and we have been getting a feel for other community support groups in the local area. A COVID-19 Hotline has been set up by TVBC, run by their community services partner, Unity, however they are encouraging use of parish support groups where these have been established. Unity have been helpful to us during the past week in alerting our Support Group of prescriptions ready for collection.

We have received a letter of authority from TVBC to be issued to all volunteers which can be used to verify the need for travel over the lockdown period. We will be sending personalised letters by email to all volunteers who have been paired with those seeking support.

[Parish Community Support Webpage](#)

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**PRESCRIPTION COLLECTIONS**



We are aware that prescription collections are a common task for volunteers and sought feedback in the previous newsletter to assist in developing an improved collection and delivery system. Several pharmacies in Andover are now trialling a delivery service by volunteers from Andover direct to vulnerable residents at their homes, and this may be expanded to other pharmacies in the future during the lockdown period. This is in its early stage and customers will be advised if they are in scope. We will remain aligned to the trial and provide updates when received.

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## PLANTS FOR PEOPLE



Hopefully you all received plants from the Kirton Farm Nurseries (The Hairy Pot Company) last week. A huge thanks to Nicki Crosthwaite-Eyre for initiating the plant drop with the Nurseries and also to the many volunteers who rallied to the call for help at short notice and distributed plants across the Parish. It was a pleasure to read the ensuing appreciative emails which captured the joy that plants can bring to our lives. Like many other nurseries Kirton Farm have struggled in the current situation and have expressed their thanks for the donations which have been received. If you are still considering a donation this can be made via the link: <https://www.kirtonfarm.co.uk/plants-for-people>.

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