



COMMUNITY MEAL DROP

This is a joint initiative between the Community Café, Development Trust, Community Council, local businesses and others. It will provide a weekly 'Soup, Sandwich and Cake Goodie Bag' to elderly and/or vulnerable individuals and families in the Arrochar, Succoth and Tarbet areas.

The initiative is being supported by the Arrochar Hotel, Braeside Stores, Ben Arthur's Bothy, and the Tarbet Tearoom, in addition to a significant contribution from the Hannah Stirling Loch Lomond Trust.

If any local children or adults would like to contribute a drawing, message of cheer, word search, or similar, these would also be much appreciated. Similar contributions have been hugely enjoyed by our *Generation Communities* group and others over the last few weeks.

Additional support in cash or kind would also be very much welcomed.

Donation Drop-Off & Collection Points:

1. Ardgartan Forestry Visitors Centre

Councillor Iain Shonny Paterson is opening the old Forestry Visitors Centre at Ardgartan as the main drop off/collection distribution centre for our Community Meal Drop initiative for:

- Donations of non-perishable foods, baking ingredients, drawings, etc.
 - Monday and Tuesday 3-4pm
- Baking or fresh foodstuffs
 - Friday 10am - 12pm

2. Arrochar Community Café & Post Office (Pitstop)

The Café and Post Office at the Pitstop will also act as a drop-off point for:

- Baking/Drawings, etc.
 - Thurs only 10am-12pm

3. Pick-up service for those who cannot take donations to Ardgartan or Café/Post Office

- Mon-Thurs. Call **01301 470047** and a volunteer will arrange to collect from you

First run for the Community Meal Drop service will be Friday 24th April, and each Friday thereafter

- Goodie Bags will be delivered to households currently identified as vulnerable and those who shared in previous food distributions
- Please do not hesitate to forward names if you think people may have been missed
- Notifications should be made to Fiona Paterson (fiona.paterson10@gmail.com) and will, of course, be treated in complete confidence
- Deliveries will be made by existing volunteer support group members. Many thanks to them for all their ongoing community support
- Please call the local support line number, 01301 470047, if you wish to volunteer your services or require any other support such as medication/shopping collection, or a chat with one of our volunteers

N.B. If baking or making pictures please follow good hygiene guidelines and do not do these activities if you, or members of your household, are feeling unwell, especially with symptoms of Covid-19

If any gifts of baking can be individually wrapped and labelled it would be much appreciated – being mindful that some recipients may have allergies or intolerances.

Stay Safe - Spread Only Kindness

***T*HREE VILLAGES HALL**

As you'll all be aware, the 3 Villages Hall has been closed for the duration of the Covid-19 lockdown.

This means that we have lost our income for the foreseeable future – while many of our costs remain fixed. Trust directors are working hard to ensure that we can successfully weather this closedown: securing the building, cutting costs where we can and seeking out grants and support that may be on offer.

But we also want to use this as an opportunity to stand back and think about safeguarding the long-term future of the hall. We're looking to reorganise a bit – for example, with a new and improved website. And when (in the hopefully not too distant future) we do reopen, we want to have a vibrant, welcoming and financially sustainable Hall that's widely used by both the local community and by commercial hires.

And that's where you come in!

- **We need your IDEAS.** What do you like/dislike about the Hall at the moment? What sort of events would you like to see at the Hall that you would you come along and support? What community groups would you, or other members of your family, join in with? How can we make availability of the Hall as a commercial venue more widely known?

- **We need VOLUNTEERS.** Currently the Hall is being run and operated by a very limited number of people. When things resume, we're going to need to share the load a bit. Whether that's a regular commitment as a post-holder, becoming an event organiser, or simply putting your name down for a few hours of maintenance work here and there, we'd love to hear from you.
- **Meanwhile,** for anyone with some time to spare during local isolation who is looking to get their fresh air exercise in a different way - the plant & shrub borders and islands around the Hall would welcome attention before they become too overgrown. Only individuals or family groups of course, with all the social distancing and time-limit rules being observed. If possible, bring your own tools – but we will leave some tools we have at the side of the Community Garden area. If you're going to use the Hall tools, please bring your own gloves and hand sanitiser to wipe them down so that they're safe for others to use afterwards.

We can be contacted on trust@threevillages.org.uk for ideas and offers of help.

The 3 Villages Hall is a great asset for our community.

In its 10th Anniversary year, let's work together to ensure its future.

