

## Community Updates due to C19

### 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Some community groups responding to the C19 emergency are on;

<https://covidmutualaid.org/local-groups/>

### SOFEA community larders

We are emergency mode atm.

Here are current larders

- Monday Marlborough Club Didcot 2.30 - 5pm
- Monday - Thursday Didcot Box Larder
- Tuesday Rose Hill community centre 3 - 4pm
- Wednesday Blackbird Leys Community Centre 3 - 5pm
- Thursday Turnstyle Wallingford Box Scheme Larder
- Thursday Aspire Oxford Box Scheme Larder
- Wed Berinsfield Berin Centre 2.30 till 5
- South Abingdon carousel Friday 3.30
- Thame starts next Thursday

### DAMASCUS

We are still connecting with young people and those most vulnerable via social media, video calls and doing live Q&A sessions.

We are reassessing the situation on Monday to see if it will be possible to do street work. We will keep you in the loop with any updates.

### Faringdon

Community Support Group

[https://www.facebook.com/Faringdon-Volunteer-Community-Support-112705407019397/?\\_tn=kCH-R&eid=ARDJqW\\_NfphOyP974dD2W3A5sFHdpxagroBY-5D1WL46f5GqYU9afHiHtkJbuqT\\_vEE9hzn3r2r0C2d9&hc\\_ref=ARRePyKObmE-RvfPMDh4btuZH4ubL5gwrsgNs18oUDKcqPYDzFkiK9MNujkfBXsJLi0&fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/Faringdon-Volunteer-Community-Support-112705407019397/?_tn=kCH-R&eid=ARDJqW_NfphOyP974dD2W3A5sFHdpxagroBY-5D1WL46f5GqYU9afHiHtkJbuqT_vEE9hzn3r2r0C2d9&hc_ref=ARRePyKObmE-RvfPMDh4btuZH4ubL5gwrsgNs18oUDKcqPYDzFkiK9MNujkfBXsJLi0&fref=nf)

### Oxfordshire Youth

Oxfordshire Youth are here to support anyone that works with children and young people and one of the ways we are doing this in the current circumstances is by creating a Facebook group for people to share their approaches, ideas, questions, tools, resources and learning on how to maintain contact and support to young people throughout this period. There are already some resources up and if you'd like to be added please add me as a friend on Facebook: David Ox Youth and then send me a DM asking to be added to the group.

For more on our approach to maintaining our support to young people and communities please read the following statement from our CEO: <https://oxfordshireyouth.org/blog/stay-safe-stay-well-and-stay-connected/>

### **Wantage**

The Mix are closing as of Monday and are looking for alternative venues for the community fridge. Ray Collins is co-ordinating some community support like doing people's shopping so they don't have to go out: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Ray-Collins-Charitable-Trust-1652816691653879/>

### **Active Oxfordshire**

Info out there about staying physically active.

The page is <https://www.activeoxfordshire.org/how-to-stay-active-while-youre-a>

### **Citizens Advice –**

telephone advice only at present 0300 330 9042 (Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm). Contact there is Joseph Mailler [joseph.mailler@osavcab.org.uk](mailto:joseph.mailler@osavcab.org.uk)

### **Abingdon Corona Community Response Group**

– new group set up to co-ordinate help for people self-isolating. You can see what they are doing on their FB page, but if you need to contact them use [abingdoncoronaresponse@gmail.com](mailto:abingdoncoronaresponse@gmail.com) At this stage they are mainly concentrating on getting the volunteers in place then leafleting homes to tell people who to contact – my guess is that they wont be actually delivering much support till next week.

### **Healthy Abingdon**

<http://www.healthyabingdon.org.uk/coronavirus.htm>

### **Study Higher**

Study Higher are all wfh at the moment but still operating 100% ish as best we can. This is going to be a good time for new thoughts & projects for the students in the schools that I work with. We are also aiming to develop a really smart instagram age so a project of ours is about researching what young people look at, what attracts them & what we can do to keep them inspired about education.

If anyone wants to fire ideas my way or has thoughts on how Study Higher could work with the young people they work with please drop me an email.

## **Aspire**

Aspire continues to support its clients, just mostly at a distance. As and when things change, I'll certainly let you know.

## **DWP**

We realise that you have many questions around processes for people who are self-isolating and our services that may be impacted due to the Corona Virus. We are now prioritising our activity around new claims and payments and are working hard to get clear guidelines out to you around the changes, so that you can better support your clients.

Moving forward it is likely that some of our Partnership Team will be supporting front line services within Jobcentres but when this happens we will have in place a system to respond to urgent customer issues and let you know what that process is.

Just a reminder that The Understanding UC page below is being updated regularly with information

<https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/>

Touchbase-

<http://news.dwp.gov.uk/dwplz/lz.aspx?p1=MApDUyMDg5M1M5ODA0OkFFQTkzNkM5RkZGMkQzNkE1MzUyRDRGRjkxMDY2Q0Uw-&CC=&p=0>

## **Preston Road Community Centre**

We are intending to continue with Foodbank on Wednesdays from 1pm to 2:30pm for as long as we can staff with volunteers.

We have also agreed with the blood donor service that we will facilitate collection days at short notice at the centre.

Other than that, in compliance with government guidelines, no other groups are meeting at the Community Centre.

## **Abingdon Community Fridge**

Just to confirm that the Abingdon Community Fridge is running but in response to Corona & low food supplies we are having volunteer manned sessions only and open for one hour 1030-1130 (subject to food availability). The volunteers are splitting up the food available & passing out to people in bags to ensure people have a fair share of what is available. There is currently no direct access to the fridge

using the buzzer system. Volunteers will let people in one at a time to collect a fair share of what is available. This is to comply with social distancing measures & to try and minimise and potential impact on the vulnerable clients of the well being centre. The Surplus food from the supermarkets is very low right now & we are adding updates to our Facebook page daily.

### **SSAFA**

SSAFA - The Armed Forces Charity will be supporting the Armed Forces community even if there won't be so much face to face working as we are all having to adapt to the current circumstances.