



COMMUNITY

MATTERS

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2020

Community Matters

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A new world

It is unprecedented. Never, in living memory, have we experienced this.

The whole fabric of our society – our economy – seems to be torn apart and turned upside down.

Poverty and hunger are now affecting those who would have only heard about it on the news many months ago. Redundancies, job losses, the closure of businesses and corporations, large and small, has devastated our community.

It's a new world, a new economy, a new beginning. And we have come together like never before – to help each other.

From food deliveries, to shopping, to delivering medicines and household necessities; from individuals to local businesses and organisations; from government to local council, to tax and rate payers; everyone has played their part – lifting those who need a lift, bring comfort and sustenance to those in need.

Thank You to all those who stepped up.

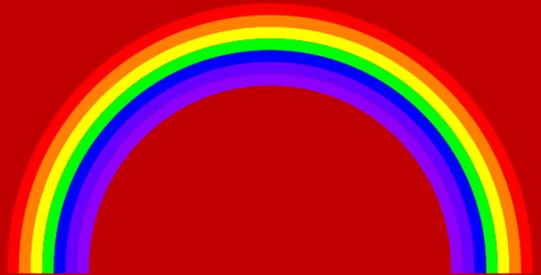
Community

We want to thank those who got involved; and we want to support those who have suffered.

Now that we are less isolated, we want to make sure that there is help available for the growing number who now need our help.

We dedicate this booklet to those who stepped up to help – and those who put themselves in harm's way to make sure that others were OK.

And by publishing and distributing it, we hope to raise valuable funds to help those who need it in the aftermath of the 'Coronacrisis' we all faced.



Thank You for your support.

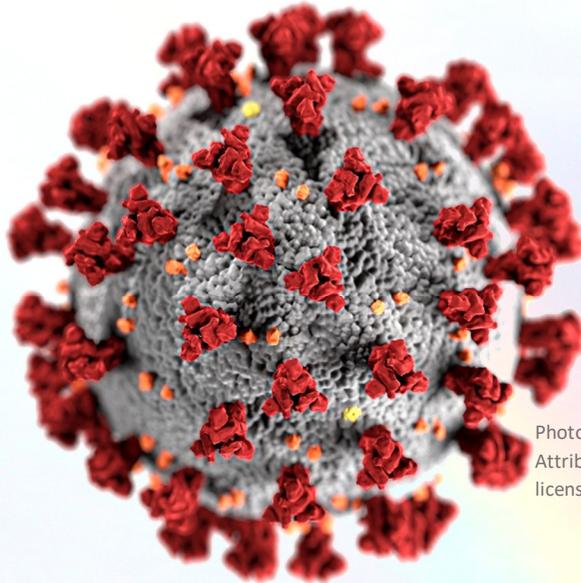


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A fluffy ball of badness

It might look pretty, but the death and destruction it caused is anything but.

You can Get the latest NHS information and advice about coronavirus (COVID-19), a new illness that affects your lungs and airways on the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For most, the disease is minor, for others it can be fatal.

Like the common cold, the virus first infects the cells lining the throat and the airways, making its way into your lungs.

Here, it can lead to a more serious when the immune system, trying to destroy and drive out the virus, causes damage to the lungs themselves, leading to difficulty breathing, respiratory distress and ultimately the risk of death.

We're in a war

We're in a war against the virus – man versus microbe, the most intelligent and complex species on the planet against a simple and tiny fat-enveloped particle containing RNA – the building block of protein.

And thanks to this tiny particle, "we are facing a human crisis unlike any we have experienced" according to the UN Deputy-Secretary-General.

We're in a war – and this was the response of the UK government when facing our last war, World War 2:

Keep Calm and Carry On!



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CARRY
ON**



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**“EXPERTISE
IS THE MANTRA
OF MODERN
MEDICINE.”
AMERICAN AUTHOR AND
HOSPITAL SURGEON**

As always, the NHS has responded impeccably and professionally.

Not only do they keep calm and carry on, but they rise to the challenge, with competence and self-effacing capability; unflappable and unflinching in fortitude. Read more in ‘NHS SOS.’

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DEALS**

SAVE TODAY





"ONE CANNOT **THINK** WELL, **LOVE**
WELL, **SLEEP** WELL, IF ONE HAS NOT
DINED WELL."

VIRGINIA WOOLF, BRITISH AUTHOR



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A Community Response

So many people stepped up to help, and so many local organisations and businesses. We have included some of them here within these pages, to say Thank You for their tremendous support.

Our fervent wish is that – as they have blessed others in their giving and their dedication, generosity, and unstinting hard work – that they are, in turn, blessed in their work, in their organisations, and in their homes.

Please support them, as they have supported their community at a time of real need.

In one project alone, around 6 local chefs worked together to prepare



over 3,500 meals over a period of nearly 10 weeks.

The meals were prepared at a local church and distributed along the North



Wales coast by 7 volunteers a day, six days every week. Families in Colwyn Bay and along the coast from Rhos-on-Sea to Towyn received hot meals prepared for

**“IT ALWAYS SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE
UNTIL IT’S
DONE.”**

10 **NELSON MANDELA**

them six days a week – all completely free of charge. Others called in to collect their meals at the church.

It was a Herculean effort on the part of so few people, but it just shows you what can be done when a few people come together in unison, with a specific goal and a determination to make it work. But normality returns, and as volunteers get back to their normal day to day duties and work, the project came to a natural close.

The need remains and is likely to increase.

Whilst this particular project ended, the need for help remains and is likely to



increase. No doubt, many organisations will struggle in the near future. We read of many, already, who have had to close down – many hotels and restaurant chains, for example. At the time of writing, it looks as though this could be the tip of the iceberg.

Many others continue to struggle on, and we seek to support those in our local community, especially those independent, or family businesses that have served us well and continue to do so. They need our support – so let's #KeepItLocal.

[continued on page 13]



The Toad

Pub & Dining



Food pub of the year 2009 Conwy
County Borough Council Award

01492 532726

the.toad.cbay@gmail.com

West Promenade,
Colwyn Bay,
Conwy,
LL28 4BU

Other projects – including the FoodShare programme, which was run alongside the meal delivery programme, is set to continue for some months to come, and for the foreseeable future.

Other initiatives, such as the local Food Banks, have also seen a huge increase in demand for their support.

Both the FoodShare and the Food Banks will need our support in the future. All it takes is an extra item or two in your

shopping every week – make it a regular habit – and it will help to alleviate hunger in many in your local community.

It's not just about food.

And it's not just about food – often households are having to make the choice between heating and eating – but what if they have no electric or gas to cook the food they've been given? Or to have a hot shower, or warmth in the colder times ahead? The FuelBank initiative is a 'God-send' to many.



“I HAVE HEATING, I HAVE LIGHTING, I HAVE FOOD ON THE TABLE – MY WIFE IS **HAPPY. SHE WON'T REMEMBER THIS [SHE HAS ALZHEIMER'S] BUT **I WILL NEVER FORGET**. YOU'VE BEEN A **GOD-SEND**.”**

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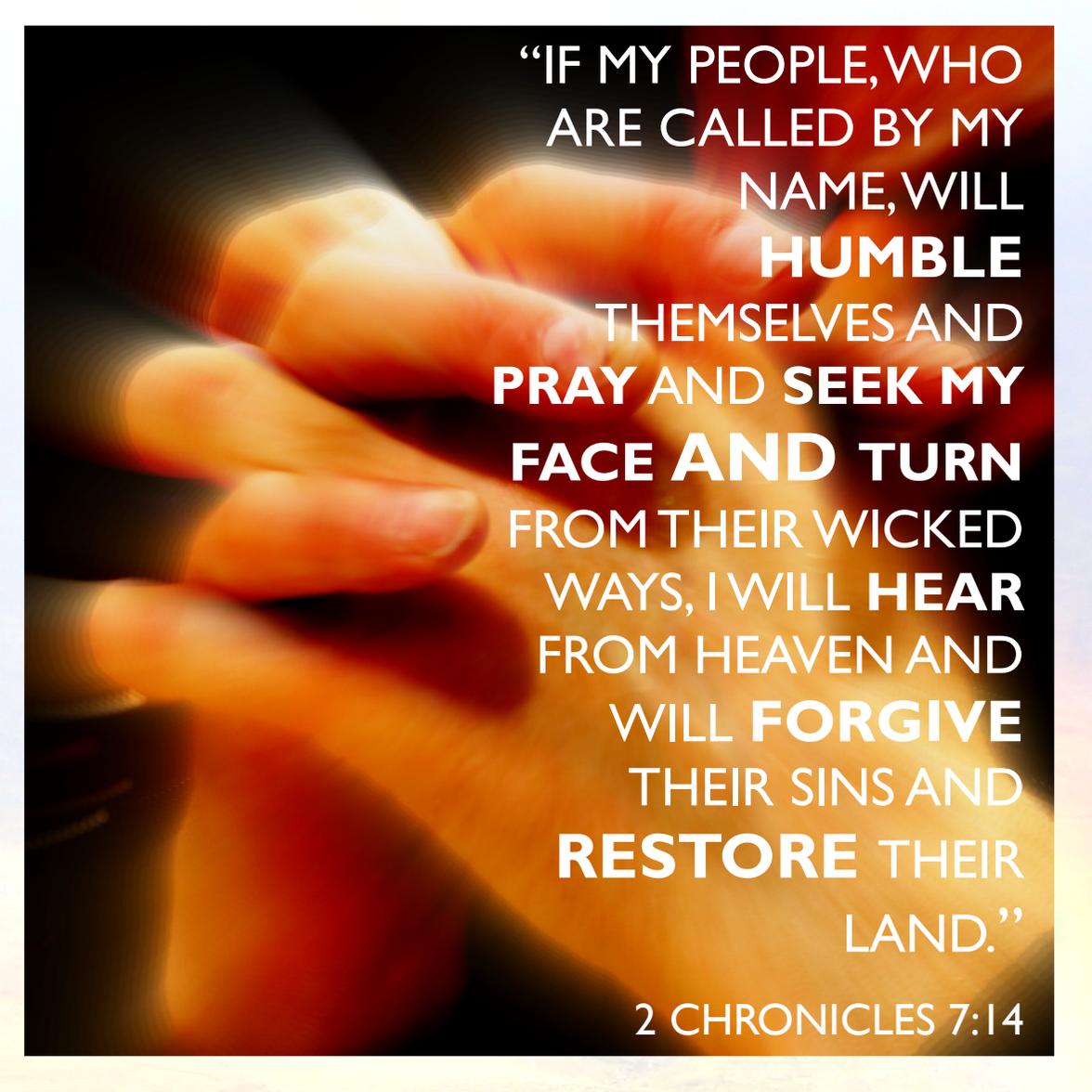
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“TOO OFTEN WE UNDERESTIMATE THE **POWER** OF
A **TOUCH**, A SMILE, A **KIND WORD**, A LISTENING
EAR, AN HONEST COMPLIMENT, OR THE
SMALLEST ACT OF CARING, ALL OF WHICH
HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TURN A LIFE AROUND.”

— LEO F. BUSCAGLIA



“IF MY PEOPLE, WHO
ARE CALLED BY MY
NAME, WILL
HUMBLE
THEMSELVES AND
PRAY AND SEEK MY
FACE AND TURN
FROM THEIR WICKED
WAYS, I WILL **HEAR**
FROM HEAVEN AND
WILL **FORGIVE**
THEIR SINS AND
RESTORE THEIR
LAND.”

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

Hope in God

It has been a difficult time for many. Especially those who have had to self-isolate and stay away from family and loved ones. Social distancing and self-isolation are alien to our nature – we are, after all, social animals. We work better in community with each other. Yet, for our own health and for the survival of those at higher risk from this epidemic, we were called to keep apart.

In March, we were told to [stay at home](#), and for many that has been a real challenge and has undoubtedly led to a legacy of mental health issues that have yet to be unravelled. We all need hope in our lives, but yet, as early as towards the end of the same month of March – barely a few weeks into the lockdown – the BBC news reported, *“[Hope](#) – we’d almost given up hearing that word. It’s unusual to see the word Hope!”*

Yet here we are – having lost a large number of people over the last few months – emerging once again out of lockdown, into a brave new world and a “new normal.”

We still have social distancing – a term that we had never known before – and whilst we would love to give everyone a great big hug, we are told to stay safe by limiting the number of people we have physical contact with – only within a limited social “bubble.”

How long this will carry on? God only knows. And God does know.

Questions have been asked of God.

Many have considered – for the first time perhaps – whether there is, in fact, a God. And what sort of God is He? How can He let this all happen? How can He just sit back and watch as innocent people die – good people, those who are on the front line helping, and others who have stepped into the front line to help at a time of need, when they could simply have stayed at home with the rest?

These are difficult questions that even the most faithful struggle with. There is no easy, no simple, no straightforward answer.

Others have faced their mortality afresh, realising how fragile our world is, and that our very existence upon this planet can be jeopardised by a germ too small for the naked eye. The greatest threat to humanity is, perhaps, not the atomic weapons, not global warming, nor anything we can see with our own eyes; but a tiny germ that can traverse across continents and across the globe with ease, bringing an invisible threat to our lives and livelihood.

Maybe now is a time to pray, seek God’s face, to humble ourselves and to turn away from our wicked ways – so that He may hear our prayer and restore our land?



“WE HAVE ALL KNOWN THE LONG
LONELINESS AND WE HAVE
LEARNED THAT THE ONLY
SOLUTION IS **LOVE** AND THAT
LOVE COMES WITH
COMMUNITY.”

DOROTHY DAY, SOCIAL ACTIVIST AND CHRISTIAN

Community Matters

Does it matter to you?

Community Matters to us, but does it matter to you?

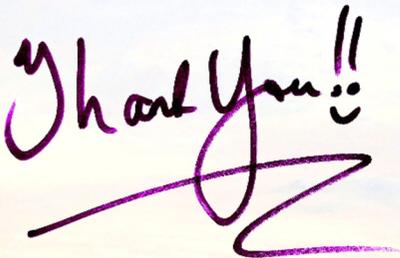
These booklets are published in order to raise much-needed funding for your community. Proceeds are used to support charities and organisations that help with poverty, hunger and homelessness in your community.

Will you help?

You can subscribe to receive your quarterly copy, either to you postbox or to you inbox – you can choose to receive a published copy in the post, or receive an online copy sent to your email address.

Either way, you will be helping to make a real difference in people's lives, and in the community you live, helping those struggling with poverty, hunger and homelessness.

Because ... community matters.



Thank You!!

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Thank You for reading 'Community Matters.'

It is something we take for granted. And now, more than ever, we need each other more than ever before!

Over the last few months, we have experienced the greatest threat to our community and our day to day lives than ever before. The whole fabric of our society – our economy – seems to be torn apart and turned upside down.

Proceeds from the sale of this booklet will go towards supporting the welfare of those in our community who are struggling and suffering. Our aim is to make a real difference in people's lives – and in the community you live – because Community Matters.

Proceeds from donations and sales will be administered by Misfits Ministries with the charity Missions of Hope – charity number 1168490

Please support the advertisers inside. They have all helped us in some way throughout the year, and through the recent pandemic. Thank You.

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