



Another beautiful poster to look out for around the village – thanks Shirley!

Welcome!

Welcome to the 10th edition of Beer Talks! We hope you are all well out there and keeping safe.

Our key message this week is that we still have lots of food and other essential supplies if you need them. Just go to Lee's Emporium (Haddon, Barline) or contact the school.

To help us find out what

other items you and your family need at the moment, we have put a white board up in Lee's Emporium for your suggestions. Please let us know how we can help.

Don't forget that your community coordinators and volunteers are also still available to support you, so please contact them if you need anything.

Notices:

- We'd like to wish Sylvia Aplin a belated 80th birthday!
- Don't forget it's **Beer Karaoke** evening on Saturday 23rd May from 18.00. This time all the songs have been selected by individual local residents. Full details will be available this week on Beer's social media;
- Remember to get your scarecrows ready for Saturday 23rd May as well. Quite a few are already on display which is really lovely!
- If you have any ideas for village events or crafting suggestions, please do let us know;
- We are now collecting for a leaving present for Debbie and Dave from the Beer Village Stores. If you would like to contribute there is a donation bucket at Beer Pharmacy.

Beer Care Cards

Just a reminder that Maddy Fripp is waiting for the last 20 or so Beer Care Cards to be returned before she can start distributing them. If you could let Maddy know when she can have them that would be great.

Maddy also says that if more people want to take part in the Care Cards initiative then she can add a few more homes to her list. If you are interested, please contact Maddy directly on 07796 9302230 or email maddyfripp@gmail.com

Thank you!

Sew what next?

Now that we have a temporary hold on scrub bags, what is my next sewing, knitting or crocheting project I hear you ask? Well, as it happens, we do have a couple of lovely projects ready now for you to get your needles into...

Firstly, for experienced sewers (and that counts me out), there are face masks. If you are interested, please contact Kim Vine for details on kimvine@icloud.com

Secondly, we all know that Beer has a big heart and so we are now sewing, knitting, crocheting and felting padded hearts like the ones shown at the top of the page. These hearts can be any size, any colour and can be just individuals or in a chain. You can also embellish them yourselves or the wonderful Barnards' Buttoneers will embellish them for you.

Street coordinators will collect the hearts from you and the Post Office/Rock Villa has kindly agreed to display the hearts which will be on sale for £2 or more. All donations will go to Seaton League of Friends for Seaton Hospice Nurses at Home.



Examples of Beer hearts



Bramble, Head of Fun



Can you tell what animals Lauren is taking for their morning walk? And yes, they are real!

BEER FILM SOCIETY

BAG would like to thank Beer Film Society for their listings of 'Films on TV'; we know this has been a very popular addition, but we realise that the list covers Saturday to Friday, so some films will have been missed by the time the newsletter is sent out.

Unfortunately, the Film Society are unable to produce midweek to midweek listings as they only receive the TV information on a Friday or Saturday each week. However, they have very kindly offered to email the recommendations on a Saturday to anyone who would like to receive the information directly - please email Ros Stephenson at ros.stephenson161@gmail.com and she will be happy to add you to the circulation list.

Positive thoughts on lockdown

At the start of the COVID-19 lockdown I was more than happy to help and as I think I must have been the first to respond, I became the Beer Action group coordinator for Clinton Rise and the surrounding houses. I am aware that some people don't know where that is exactly but I want to well and truly put us on the map! Essentially we are 'the folks who live on the hill', to the East of Beer, and are a cul-de-sac of 14 houses.

We are predominately 'blow-ins' and there are only two houses used as second homes. The populace is made up of retirees who all knew each other before this, at least enough to wave or say hello and who also play an active part in village life in many different ways.

At the very beginning two couples were 'caught out' in their second homes and a family of four, due to house sit at Chris Pickles' house still came to stay. They have all stayed on and become part of our micro community!

Almost immediately I was able to set up an email and WhatsApp group with those neighbours who have the capability. The WhatsApp group has become very popular and has led to almost daily conversations, sharing news, information, offers of help for shopping, jokes, videos, photos, answering queries and problems, debates about the green bins(!) and we have managed to organise two birthday cake 'meets' and the VE day street party (all with mindful social distancing of course). And, of course we have all turned out for the weekly NHS clap.

I feel that this coming together can only be a positive thing. The friendliness, helpfulness and caring that we have all experienced in our little enclave during these last eight weeks bodes well for the future. Long may it continue on Clinton Rise, as in all parts of Beer, as something good always comes out of something bad.

Ruth Bullock, Clinton Rise

Allotment Update: 15th May 2020

After some unsettled weather in late April and early May, and 6.6 mm of rain on 5th May, we've had ten days of drought conditions on the allotments. If it goes on much longer, we may need to organise a Live Aid concert to relieve the sufferings from failing crops, for those who can't water by hand. The 9th was the warmest day of the year so far, at 23.0 C, but have seem some arctic (well, chilly) conditions at night, with a minimum of 1.2 C recorded on 12th at the East Beer Weather Centre. That, along with some cold northeast winds, will have checked the progress of early planted runner beans and courgettes, but wise heads such as Tony S are biding their time, and waiting until it properly warms up.

For those who obeyed the rules of Percy Thrower and sowed last November, the broad beans are looking

good. First pickings now imminent, and they have to be one of the best late spring vegetables when harvested young. However, the pesky black army had already made an appearance, so rather than drench with chemicals, best to start nipping out the tops.

Early planted tatties now showing some flowers, but really need a good dose of rain. If the dry conditions continue for much longer it might be worth digging some early, they might be on the small side, but a plate of new Beer potatoes cooked with mint and dripping with butter is Heaven on Earth, much better than you know what!

Looks like enough of the parsnips have germinated to provide something for the Sunday roasts in the autumn and winter, although still pretty patchy where waterings' not been done.

Crofty has promised to make enough available for wine-making early next spring, rumour has it he's gambling with them on the Futures Markets due to a possible scarcity.

Pumpkins should start growing away properly now, especially with the warmer temperatures forecast through the next week. With his eyes on the coveted prize at this year's show, I hear Kim is going to use G4S as security around his plants, although a certain D Trump has come up with some good wall-building suggestions. Rumour has it that seeds from last years' heaviest category winner have been for sale on the black market around the village, this is a serious crime, and offenders are likely to be punished by transportation to Seaton for three years.

Keep digging, and most of all, enjoy your gardenin'!

Old Compost Heap