



*Just one of the many fabulous scarecrows that can be seen in Beer at the moment!*

## Welcome and thank you!

Welcome to the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of Beer Talks! We hope you are all well and keeping safe!

This edition focuses on saying a huge **"Thank you!"** to everyone out there helping our community. As well as the much needed practical help, we also want to take this opportunity to thank those who have kept our collective spirits up with their often wacky ideas for village events and entertainment during lockdown – hats off to you too!

In this edition we don't have enough space to thank everyone, so here are just a few we want to mention today:

- Thank you to all the coordinators and volunteers for their amazing work supporting the community. Despite the lockdown easing in some ways, this dedicated team of people are still committed to remaining in position until they are no longer needed. And as usual, if you need help, who ya gonna call? Lee Reeve on 07890 948262! You are not alone!

- A special thank you goes to those helping the particularly vulnerable in our village, especially those who have gone that extra mile cooking for individuals who otherwise might have gone hungry. In particular we would like to acknowledge the incredible contributions of Nikki Oswald, Caroline Fowle, Katrina Rodgers, Suzanne Abbott and Theresa Roberts.

- Thank you to Maddy Fripp for the Care Cards initiative – this has been so well received!

- Thank you to all the local shops and restaurants that have stayed open throughout this crisis despite the many tricky issues they have faced;

- Thank you to Tom Adkin of Piccolo Plants and also James Absalom for their generous donations of plants and for supporting our community.

**THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL!**

## Notices

- **BAG has been successful in its bid for additional funding to support the village – great news!**
- **A socially distanced, Beer based family scavenger hunt is currently being arranged by some very imaginative village people. More to follow!**
- **Get growing! The first Beer Garden Gate Flower Show will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> August. A full list of classes will be available shortly and if you would like to suggest a class, please do let Annie know on 07968 157136.**

## Beer Scarecrow Festival 2020

We are enjoying a phenomenally successful Beer Scarecrow Festival this year, with over 200 entries to date and more still coming in. Absolutely amazing!

The sheer creativity of the village people has been so impressive and the accompanying captions are often hysterical!

Here's just a tiny selection of photos - apologies if yours is not featured.

Our thanks must go to Lorraine Taylor-Heddington for suggesting the festival, to Bev Giles for taking the idea forward and, of course, to all of you who let your imagination run completely wild creating the scariest and funniest scarecrows ever!

An annual event now maybe...?





## Get those needles going – again!

As promised, Beer Sewers, we have not forgotten you! Below are some crafty projects for you to get your needles into!

**Beer Hearts** – these can be knitted or sewn, then they will be ‘sold’ in the Post Office for a donation to the Hospice nurses. Head of Fun, Wendy, has knitted and sewn some

so give her a ring if you get stuck on 07760 781695. There is also an instruction sheet with this newsletter with more information.

**Ann’s bags** – these are the bags that we make for the shops in Beer so that they do not have to hand out plastic bags. The sewing requirements are approximately 17 inches by 18 inches finished size with French seams and handles long enough to hold in your hand or put on your shoulder. Ann Robinson has made more of these bags than she would probably want to

admit to! Sew contact Ann or Wendy if you want any more information. There is more fabric available at Helen’s and also Lee’s Emporium.

**Baby blankets** – we would like to continue making knitted blankets for premature babies. Details to follow.

**Call to Bunt!** – don’t forget that we still need lots of bunting made to drape over our houses and fences! You can go freestyle on this and if you make too much, please share it with your neighbours and friends!

**Call for buttons!** –please give any spares to your volunteers to collect.

## Beer Film Society

We have a bumper selection this week with films from every decade since the 1930s and some very familiar titles which you might like to revisit. The schedule is attached to this newsletter as usual.

We Are One: A Global Film Festival 29th May - 7th June

<https://www.youtube.com/weareone>

The event schedule is still to be announced. We will pass on further information when it is released.



## Beer Blazer triumph – by James Green

Last Sunday, 17th May, had been inked into my diary since the previous year – it was the date for the Beer Blazer 2020. This was to be the 9th running of the race which was first designed by Catherine Reed to raise funds for the Beer C of E Primary School.

The organising committee were determined to do something for the school even if we couldn't hold the event. With the blessing of the landowners, we decided I would run the course at the planned start time of 10am. Over the past couple years, I've stretched and contorted the route to try and produce a challenging 10-mile race.

Undaunted, and accompanied by my son Harvey, we set off in glorious weather to tackle the hills, trails, tracks and beaches of the Beer Blazer. We wanted to be able to share our travails with everyone and provide an insight into what makes the race successful. So we filmed the entire journey using a Go Pro and selfie stick (thanks to Justin Adkin and Dan Clist).

At the time of writing, editing is ongoing but we should have something viewable in the next few days. We will post it on our Facebook page when it is done. We were delighted to see supporters out on the public paths displaying their Blazer t-shirts. Special thanks to committee members Suzy EB and Richard Jackson for completing their 10-mile runs.

The journey itself was awesome. A full 2 and a half hours to hike walk and jog around the course, stopping to show the views and generally enjoying the countryside. When watching the video, it is worth noting that the winners of this race tend to get it finished in around 1 hour 10 minutes which is incredible.

To wrap this up, I'd just like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated. At the time of writing, the total stands at £1,020. Amazing stuff!