

Good news stories

The COVID-19 pandemic is a new and uncertain time for all of us and will affect our mental health in different ways. While it's important to stay informed, there is extensive news coverage about the outbreak which can cause additional stress and anxiety. And with all the media 'noise' going on, it's easy to miss some of the more positive news stories that are happening.

So we'd like to take this opportunity to share good news stories we've seen in the Royal Borough over the past few weeks. Below are just some of the stories we've received from our volunteering groups across the Royal Borough, demonstrating the power of displaying care and kindness to those in need.

“ The Datchet Corona Group is supporting an elderly resident of 80+ years, who recently had surgery and was distressed and in need of help with accessing food and medicine. Thanks to the Group's support, the resident is now happy and content and is able to take walks around her garden. ”

“ 'My mum's a resident in the borough and I have been really worried about her, especially as one of her neighbours has recently self-isolated. I was really impressed with the information on the Royal Borough's COVID-19 community page with its simplicity and content and I was able to quickly find my mum a group to support her with her shopping (as I live in Wolverhampton). I want to thank RBWM for looking out for my mum! She is now being taken care of by a local group.' ”

“ Posties in our area are playing their part. ”

Posting letters each day means our posties become aware of anybody who needs help. One local postie found out that one of their residents had recently been bereaved and so put them in touch with the local resident's association. The association is providing support to the family including a candlelight vigil in memory of the person who lost their life. ”

“ Magpies in the community has received nearly 200 calls through it's hotline since it was launched at the end of March. The Magpies are currently receiving between 10 and 15 new calls a day where support is needed. Their 90 volunteers are providing support to residents in both Maidenhead and Windsor with befriending, shopping, dog walking and collection / delivery of medication. ”

There are approximately 35 residents receiving ongoing support through a volunteer. 16 fantastic volunteers monitor the helpline from 9am - 5pm, seven days a week. ”

“ Windsor Foodshare has nearly 65 volunteers supporting 130 residents with 60 food parcels a week, on top of food parcels from the West Windsor Hub and meals/parcels provided by the Windsor Homeless Project and Driven Forward. This is a big jump from some 40 food parcels/meals delivered pre COVID-19. ”

“ Maidenhead Foodshare has nearly 100 volunteers who have delivered over 300 food parcels in just four weeks, this is double the usual delivery. Volunteers are delivering to more than 80 streets to those in need who live in Maidenhead. ”

“ Rotary Bridge Maidenhead has over 40 volunteers supporting 150 households, including supplying 22 families with weekly free food parcels as their children usually receive free school meals. Support includes shopping, prescription collection, dog walking etc. ”

“ The newly created Royal Borough community response hub has registered 687 volunteers and has matched 335 of these to local groups providing support. ”

“ The Maidenhead Mosque has continued to drop off food to vulnerable families and is working with Maidenhead Magpies Project. They have 35 volunteers and are supporting 50 families by delivering regular food packages. ”

“ The Lions of Windsor are supporting Foodshares with non-perishable items such as pasta, rice and long-life milk. ”