

Welcome to Genie's 'Public Information' newsletter

Please forward this email to anyone you feel may also like to receive these newsletters

Covid-19. This issue suggests you think about vulnerable neighbours as well as yourself and your close family. It also lists some useful websites.

Neighbourhood Watch encourages protecting the Isolated and Vulnerable during the Covid-19 Outbreak

In this issue:

- you are encouraged by Neighbourhood Watch to look out for others in your community who may need assistance
- you will find a list of useful websites which are the best places to find the latest information and advice
- you are encouraged to keep in touch with local social media, including Genie, in order to keep abreast of events

You can find all the latest information here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

You may like to see below, where you can find more advice from Neighbourhood Watch about various steps you might like to take in order to protect yourself and your community, especially anybody known to you who is **frail or elderly and may need support if they are told to self-isolate** or may have problems obtaining essential supplies.

There are also links to websites where you can obtain more information and suggestions on how you can stay connected with the community.

At the end you will find a link to a PDF file which gives you all the links in one place.

From Neighbourhood Watch:

10 ways you, as a Neighbourhood Watch supporter, can protect yourself, your loved ones and your community:

1. Meet with household members, other relatives, friends and neighbours to discuss what to do if a COVID-19 outbreak occurs in your community and what the needs of each person will be.
2. If your neighbourhood has a website or social media page, consider joining it to maintain access to neighbours, information, and resources. Alternatively, share phone numbers and email addresses, particularly with those who are isolated or vulnerable.
3. Consider establishing a 'buddy' system within your community to ensure everyone stays connected to COVID-19 related news services and can receive support safely, such as essentials deliveries.
4. Plan ways to care for those who might be at greater risk for serious complications.
5. Choose a room in your home that can be used to separate sick household members from those who are healthy.
6. Learn how to self-isolate. Guidance can be found on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>
7. Create a list of local organisations that you and your neighbours can contact in the event that one of you needs access to information, healthcare services, support, or resources. Consider including organisations that provide mental health or counselling services, food, and other supplies.
8. Create an emergency contact list of family, friends, neighbours, healthcare providers, teachers, employers, the local public health department, and other community resources.
9. Learn about the emergency operations plan at your child's school or childcare facility, and your employer's emergency operations plan.
10. Practise everyday preventive actions including regular handwashing.

Where to obtain more information

- The NHS provides guidance on how to wash hands: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands/>
- The World Health Organisation provides guidance on basic protective measures: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention provides guidance on handwashing for families: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/handwashing-family.html>

Please note: whilst we encourage you to follow advice from UK Government we are also sharing links to organisations such as the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, an agency which works 24/7 to protect the safety, health, and security of America from threats here and around the world. Some of our key points above have been sourced from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/get-your-household-ready-for-COVID-19.html>

The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention also published (14 February 2020) Interim Guidance for Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Homes and Residential Communities which you may find useful: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html>

From Genie:

You may also like to know about these links:

[Common questions about coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): latest information and advice - GOV.UK](#)

[NHS 111 Online - About coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

Beware of visiting websites giving false information, or scammers who may try to obtain your personal information. Here is a useful BBC link to the fake news you should ignore: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51735367>

Stay Connected to Your Community

As suggested in the Neighbourhood Watch advice above, joining websites or social media pages in your local neighbourhood is a good way to stay connected to the latest information and resources. Now is therefore a great opportunity to ensure that you and your family and neighbours are signed up to receive the latest information in a timely manner.

As well as suggesting that people sign up to Genie (<https://www.genienews.org/mc4wp-form-preview/>), you can also follow Genie on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/GenieNewsOrg>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/genienewsorg>) to get all the latest news.

Other local social media include the 'Goring and Streatley community focus' group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/855430741179562/>), the 'Streatley-on-Thames village' group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/270376576877418/>), and the 'South Stoke Village online' group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/southstoke/>).

Finally, if you are posting relevant local news on social media, then do also remember to tag @GenieNewsOrg so that we can share/retweet as appropriate.

Finally, [here is a link to a PDF file containing all the links mentioned](#) - you may find it helpful to have all these in one place.

**To comment on any of these stories please email contact@genienews.org
To send in news items, use news@genienews.org**

Public Information reports on important, or sometimes urgent, news relevant to a particular village or cluster of villages. There is no specific publication schedule, as it goes out 'as and when' the information justifies a newsletter. **If you have any important news or information you would like to submit to Genie for consideration, please email it to the editor using news@genienews.org.**

If you like receiving this information and feel that others will benefit, **please forward to others** and encourage them to subscribe. Also, to ensure you consistently receive the e-mails it is suggested that you either 'whitelist' subscribe@genienews.org or **add us to your contact list**.

More details on Genie newsletters [here](#).