



OurSHOP

Manager Jillian Fawcett



Hi Everyone!

It doesn't seem more than a few weeks ago it was Christmas and today we have just celebrated Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Day. Mothers' Day is at the end of the month and then - Easter. (We already have a range of Mothers' Day cards in stock.)

At Christmas we sold the *OurSHOP* calendar - very successful. Thank you Don and Heather for sourcing the old photos. and my friend Steve for taking, as near as possible, the same photo at the same angle as the original. The feedback has been good - undoubtedly one of the best calendars so far. For next year we could introduce the 'Then and Now' theme, with photos from different parts of the village. All suggestions welcome.

We have had to say goodbye to Lisa as she is moving back to Scotland. We are lucky to have found a replacement for Saturday afternoons in Rachel who started this week. We hope she stays with us for some time.

I attended the Hunts' trade show at Yeovilton recently with many suppliers to check out and lots of products to try! As a result we now have in stock three kinds of 'Kind' bars at £1.50: all gluten-and dairy-free and high in fibre with plenty of nuts. They contain no artificial colouring agents, flavouring or preservatives. Also new is KEFIR fermented yoghurt, full of good bacteria, and Green Cola which tastes almost the same as Diet Coke but which is sweetened with stevia and contains no aspartame. The cola retails at 69p, the same as normal coke. I have many more ideas for new products and hope to attend the Best of the West Show in Exeter. These shows are a brilliant way of meeting new suppliers and finding new things that I hope you will enjoy.

ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW IN STORE

Barry was delivering a donation of mistletoe to the back of the shop accompanied by a dog. I asked him if it was his and he said no. The dog raced around the shop so I found a length of string to act as a lead and took it outside to see if anyone was looking for him. Eventually his owner came running up the road. It transpired that the dog had been spooked in Jubilee Wood and sought help at the shop. Sensible beast!

Last week, and with the help of my granddaughter, I set up an Instagram page for *OurSHOP* and this week a very helpful customer introduced me to hashtagging! Each week I shall add a few photos to show what is going on in the shop. I am learning. This adds to our Facebook page and the website. Please have a look, 'like' and share as much as possible. The more people know about *OurSHOP* hopefully the more will visit and that must be good for business.

A big thank you to everyone - staff, volunteers and customers - who all help to make the shop a happy place to visit.

Jillian

NEW!



A healthier alternative chocolate bar for £1.50 - in three varieties



Green Cola at just 69p



Magnum Ice Cream in new flavours



SUPPLIER of the MONTH

in pasta



Fresh pasta with its sauces,
Focaccia and other Italian
delicacies all handmade locally
using only local or Italian ingredients.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Christmas has long gone and spring is in the air and with it has come the Annual Members' Meeting. A big thank-you to the 50 members who attended the meeting in the village hall on Friday 15th February to hear that the shop continues to thrive, with another year of significantly increased sales. I am very pleased to say that this trend has continued into the New Year, with shop sales up a very pleasing 3.7% on budget and no less than 7.8% on last year. Well done to Jillian and the team!

At the AMM, the members elected Mike Shaw to the Management Committee. Mike has already proved his value to Our SHOP by taking charge of our new website; it's worth a look - www.ourshophinton.org.

Our current issue seems to be the state of our chillers, which have been giving problems lately. First it was the fruit and vegetables chiller which tripped out the circuit over a weekend and led to a loss of stock and now as we speak we are having problems with the milk chiller. It's disappointing that such relatively new items are proving unreliable. At this time of year, with many people away in warmer climes to escape the winter, there is great pressure on the volunteer team. Surely there are some more of you out there who would enjoy a couple of hours a week in the shop, where you will meet almost everybody in the village in a short time? It's great fun!

David Clements

Sauvignon Blanc from South Africa

A crisp and fruity white wine, scoring 4 out of 5 stars.

Offered at £9.99 by Ocado.



Just £6 a bottle at OurSHOP!

With Easter just a month away we are busily stocking up with all things chocolate and scrumptious



Top marks for OurSHOP

Early in March we were once again awarded the highest rating by the Food & Safety inspector.



