

New Look Store

As a regular customer at the store, you will know that we have transformed the store making it more open, easier to find products and increased the shelf and storeroom capacity. The work was done by volunteers from the committee, community volunteers, alongside Post Office Ltd., Colsar Electrics (Colin) and Deft Install (Tim). Special thanks to Colin and Tim who enabled us to keep trading with minimal disruption to trade during the change-over.

Thank you to all of our customers who bore with us during the change-over. We hope that you still found what you needed.

Most significant is that the Community Store is now responsible for running the Post Office services. This has taken Jackie and two of our volunteers away from shop duties and consequently we are short of shop assistants which is why we are, regrettably, having to close early at the end of Tuesdays. It would be a great help if you could spare an hour or two each week. Why not come in, have a chat, give it a try and see how you like it? Training is provided and we aim to fit the tasks given and shift time to the volunteer's skills and interest. We have welcomed some new volunteers and some 'returners' in recent months, but still need more.

Shop A.G.M.

This is scheduled for 9th May at the Village hall. Please take the opportunity to hear first-hand how the shop is doing and let us know what improvements we could make or products that you would like us to stock.

A.G.M.

**Bishops Caundle Community Store and
Post Office**

Village Hall

Tuesday, 9th May at 7:00p.m.

Shareholders

You may already be a shareholder in the Community Store. If not, and you would like to be, please ask at the shop. Shares cost £5 and give you the right to vote at the AGM.

Easter Time

Easter is coming and we are stocking up with Easter Eggs as well as your favourite chocolates, delicious biscuits and cakes.

You can see our range of Easter greetings cards to celebrate this special time of the year. These are available alongside our extensive range of greetings cards for all occasions.

We are always adding new lines which can save you making that special journey into town. We stock quality fresh meat sourced locally which you can also order in advance, as well as fresh fruit and vegetables. The ordering of your fresh Christmas turkey proved popular last year – it saved customers that last minute trip to the butcher's shop and cost customer no extra. We can place orders for your weekend meats to be delivered to the shop on a Friday, if there is sufficient interest.

Easter Opening Times

Store

Good Friday, 14th April 08:00 – 10:30
Saturday, 15th April 07:30 – 13:00
Easter Sunday, 16th April 08:00 – 10:30
Easter Monday, 17th April 08:00 – 10:30

Post Office

Good Friday, 14th April Closed
Saturday, 15th April 10:00 – 12:00
Easter Sunday, 16th April Closed
Easter Monday, 17th April Closed

End of an Era

John and Lynne Coombe have decided to leave the committee. But don't worry, you can still catch up with them as usual when you collect your Sunday newspapers. John and Lynne were part of the team that set up the original Community Store and have been highly supportive of the store throughout. I'm sure you would join us in offering our warmest thanks to John and Lynne for their efforts over the years.

We welcome Bill Watts to the committee to inject some business ideas into our plans.

Post Office News

Now that the shop is running the Post Office, we gain commission for every transaction. You can use us to pay into your own bank and to withdraw cash as well as for postal services, car tax etc. We also sell One4All gift cards which can be used in a very wide variety of high street stores so are useful to give as birthday presents.

Jackie works in the Post office for four mornings a week and we welcome Glynis to the shop; once her training is complete, she will be there covering the other two mornings. Carole and Liz are both trained so are available to cover when necessary. Ceri is about to start the training process. Our normal opening hours are 9-12 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 9-11.30 on Wednesday and 10-12 on Saturday. As mentioned previously, this has taken staff and volunteers from shop duties so we would welcome some more help in the shop.

If you are going abroad this year, you might like to consider getting your holiday cash from us (we can sell you Euros over the counter or order other currencies for delivery within a day or two). Another option is the Post Office Travel Money Card which you can load with up to 13 different currencies before you travel, and can top up or keep an eye on the balance through a mobile phone app while you are away. Ask us for more details.

Your Favourite Products

If you haven't visited us recently, please drop in and look around. If we don't stock your favourite products, please let us know and we will see if we can obtain them at a reasonable price.

Popular Local Products

We like to support local suppliers and have a range of local items available.

We are very happy to review our range of products to suit if there is sufficient demand. Please tell us if you know of other products that would complement our existing range.

Locally Made Gifts

Looking for an unusual gift? We stock Bayleaves Bags made in Bishops Caundle by Carol West. These bags are very attractive and no two are the same! Made from hard wearing cotton fabric these handy bags are more beautiful than a plastic carrier bag and much longer lasting.

We also stock wooden gifts, such as candlesticks and bowls, made by our local wood turner, Colin.

Book Swap and Lottery

Now that we do not have the mobile library, our book swap is proving more popular than ever. Come in and have a browse.

The Bonus Ball Lottery is running well. If you would like to know more about it, please drop in or contact us by 'phone or email.

Social Media

The store not only has its own web site <http://www.bishopscaundleshop.co.uk/> (where you can find a local 5-day forecast) but also a presence on Facebook and Twitter(@caundleshop). Jackie, Ceri and Glynis are taking on the role of editors and will be posting photos and items of interest for you to *Like* or *Share*. If you use social media, ask Jackie, Ceri or Glynis how you can join in.

Future Plans

We are applying for funding from the National Lottery so that we can make a few further improvements to the shop. We need a new chest freezer for the store room and are considering renewing the flooring and updating some other equipment. If we can squeeze it in, we would like to provide a table and a couple of chairs so that customers can sit to enjoy their hot drink (and maybe, a cake or biscuit!)

Thanks Again

Believe it or not, your Community Store is beginning its 7th Year of trading. We are very proud of what the shop has achieved and we know that for many the store is an essential service and a social focus. Many a time friends and neighbours bump into each other at the shop and stop for a chat.

If you are a regular shopper at the store, thank you for your continued support, and through it, your support for the community. It makes a huge difference to the viability of the store. Without you, the store would cease to exist. Several customers have commented on how many of our prices are comparable to, and in some cases lower than, those in the supermarket.

If you have friends and neighbours who are not in the habit of using the store, please pass on the word about our great range of products. They might be surprised at what can be bought there at very reasonable prices!

**The store is here for you
Can you be here for the store?**

Bishops Caundle Community Store