



CERG Messenger No.5

28 April 2020

Thank you to Cumbria Community Foundation



CERG was created in response to the frequent flooding of the town and is a partnership between Churches Together, Rotary and Cockermouth Flood Action Group. More than 180 new volunteers have signed up in recent weeks to help where they can in the community.

COVID 19 followed closely behind an intense period of flood warnings and alerts and has led to a sudden and significant increase in the need for the expertise of Cockermouth Emergency Response Group. The requirements include to provide support for residents across Cockermouth rather than restricted to areas at risk of flooding. The change in the nature of requests/service needs has led us to seek a significant increase in our volunteer numbers, which we have achieved. This in turn brought about a significant increase in the work of our administration. To ensure that the group is sustainable throughout the emergency and beyond an application was made to the Cumbria Community Foundation. This was approved by their panel sitting on Wednesday 8th April.

The Cumbria Covid-19 Fund is providing much needed funds to groups across the County to enable them to provide essential services, such as food shopping, pharmacy delivery, Foodbank deliveries and many more. The Fund is helping to support the increased demand that Cumbrian charities and voluntary groups, like ours, are facing in the wake of COVID-19.

Brian Mitchelhill, Chair of Cockermouth Emergency Response Group says *"We have seen an increase in the demand for assistance across our community and the funding will help us to maintain that in these difficult times. We are totally committed to ensuring that anyone in Cockermouth can access our services. We are grateful to CCF and the National Emergencies Trust (NET) for their support. Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service also supported us through the application process."*

For a more information and a full list of funded projects, go to <https://www.cumbriafoundation.org>

Do you need help from CERG volunteers?

Self-isolating and need help with shopping please ring 07517 519377.

Other enquiries please ring Jo on 07852 599794

If you don't live in this area we can refer you to outlying groups.

Thank you to all the volunteers who continue to make this possible!

Working with and/or funded by



Contact us on: chair@cerg.org.uk or mobile: 07852 599794

Community Spirit

A message from Castlegate and Derwent Surgery

Thank you! We are overwhelmed with the kindness received from patients, volunteers and local companies during this difficult time. It is fantastic to know that we have the support of our local community and we will get through this difficult time together.

We cannot say thank you enough for all of the donations of PPE equipment that is so crucial to us and will keep our clinicians, staff and patients safe. Any further donations of PPE would be greatly welcomed as the situation continues and our stocks diminish. We continue to appeal to any local businesses that can help provide us with further supplies.

The thoughtful donation of gift bags, easter eggs, biscuits and goodies for our staff has certainly kept us going and a great pick me up.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers who have helped delivering mail, prescriptions, the installing of protective barriers within the hospital building.

Our special thanks go to the [Cockermouth Emergency Response Group](#) who are supporting us and doing a fantastic job.

Our thanks go to: PA Troll Engineers, Amy@ Nails at Halo, Trespass design team- Glasgow, Aldi, Cockermouth, West Cumberland Hospital, Hearts, baubles and fabric creations, David Curry and Philip Cottingham. James Walker, Mcvities, Dominoes Pizza, JT Atkinson, Cockermouth, Cockermouth District Nurses and [Cockermouth School](#)

- we will try our best to thank all who donate but if we do not mention you please accept our thanks, your items are greatly appreciated.



Gardening delights

Send us short gardening shares...your successes...inspiration or questions and we will include in future editions

The Lakes Home Centre have set up a Facebook Gardening Group – Gardening with the Lakes Home Centre, and are open for online shopping and delivery visit www.lakeshomecentre.co.uk for more information

Oakhurst Garden Centre have set up a system to safely drop off plants and compost.

“Good news we have one extra set of hands therefore we are catching up, but please still be patient with your requests.

We have Bedding, Alpines, Perennials, Roses, Evergreen Shrubs, Climbers, Tree’s and Hedging in stock.

We cannot unfortunately create a stock list as the plant etc revolve weekly. Please send a message or call with your requests.

If you need gardening advice please be in touch. We would need to know your position Sun / shade pH of soil if you know it, your area space and preference to appearance.

Call 01900 822180 to discuss queries, stock and make orders”

SHARE COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN COCKERMOUTH

What is happening near you?

Let’s lift others with positive shares. In our newsletter and on Facebook. Share the kindness

Want to hear more from across the Cumbria – follow Cumbria Together We Can on facebook (Together Cumbria) and Cumbria Neighbourliness Network #KindCumbria



What's cooking in Cockermouth?

What's your favourite recipe at present?

Jo from CERG – has tried these flour free brownies....

<https://www.sweetestmenu.com/flourless-brownies/>

Send us a picture of you/your cooking?

Helping the self-isolating shop:

Sainsbury's set up a system so volunteers can shop on your behalf.

Customers can visit the dedicated webpage and select how much they'd like to spend on their weekly shop, between £5 – £250. The E-Gift Card will then be emailed directly to the person shopping on their behalf, which can then be redeemed at checkout in store. If you would like to know more check out the website or contact Jo: 07852

599794 <https://www.about.sainsburys.co.uk/news/latest-news/2020/20-04-2020-sainsburys-announces-volunteer-shopping-card-to-help-feed-the-nation>

Appeal for help from businesses and organisations....

The Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership and the Cumbria COVID-19 Business and Economic Response and Recovery Group (BERRG) find out about the economic impact of COVID-19. Check out NEWS on our website or the Cumbria LEP for details

The businesses in Cockermouth that are taking orders and payments over the phone is kept up to date here <https://cockermouthonline.co.uk/home-delivery-directory/> These businesses are currently offering a delivery service:

Allison's Chemist 01900 822292

County Fruit Store 01900 822108

Harrison's Butchers 01900 823164

RTSN Huddart Supplies Pet Shop 01900 822118

The Coffee Kitchen Bakery 01900 821599

West Cumbria Farmers (WCF) 01900 822118

Caterite <https://www.caterite.co.uk/> 017687 76000 and Scales Farm 01768776514 or mob 07594263171 are doing order and collect services for households.

Contact CERG if you need help with collection. Fyne Fish Fishmongers 01900 827814

Many thanks to the volunteers who are assisting with individual requests for help, and distributing leaflets around Cockermouth. Register to volunteer: As a volunteer it is important that you are a valued member of a team. <https://www.cerg.org.uk/registration>

You will need to confirm that you are fit and able to carry out the duties assigned to you.