

Talk about Covid-19.....

It most likely evolved from a coronavirus in the bat population, although it is currently unclear if there was an intermediate host. It is known that a wide variety of animals were sold at the seafood market in Wuhan, The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face.

The Last Word

During the week commencing the 10th of August I should like to hold a series of staff briefings in order to explain further what measures have been adopted and the reasoning behind them. Your input will also be more than welcome.

Enclosed with this copy of talking shop is a list of days and times that sessions will be held on, if you could give three options in order of preference or an indication that any one of them would be OK I can then try to ensure that no more than eight to ten people are at any one gathering, which will be held in the sorting tent for safety.

Once again I'm looking forward to seeing you all but please do not feel under any pressure to return to the shop unless you feel it is safe to do so.

P.S. During the lockdown as there was nothing else to do I've shaved my beard off, get ready for the shock.

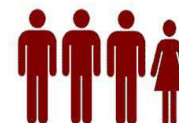
Talking Shop Issue 9

Covid-19

After what seems like forever plans are being drawn up and preparations made to re-open the charity shop as along with the other trustees I feel satisfied that with due care and attention the risk to your own and our customer's personal safety can be maintained at an acceptable level. Obviously nothing can be guaranteed and this should be borne in mind when deciding whether to return to the shop or not, should you not feel comfortable please say so, it will be understood and when and only when you desire to return, just let us know.

With the above in mind there are a number of changes to the former everyday practices that will need to be introduced and explained. Some will be obvious from what you might have experienced in other shops since the lockdown and others will be not so obvious, please don't hesitate to ask why if it is not made clear during the pre-opening briefings that will be held in the week commencing the 10th of August.

Fortunately Dr John Cormack has offered to inform and advise us as to what measures will be necessary to achieve our goal of maximum safety for staff and customers. Some of these are outlined in the next couple of pages



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In order to ensure personal safety each member of staff will be provided with a face shield and two washable face masks and although not compulsory under the current regulations please wear either or both whenever in the shop. Supplies of nitrile gloves and hand cleansing soap will also be available together with rolls of disposable paper towel.

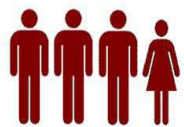
Customers will be required to wear a face covering and use hand sanitizer before entering the shop.

A large storage tent will be set up in the rear yard beside the containers and donations will only be accepted at this point, no donations will be accepted via the front door of the shop. Once taken in all goods will be placed to one side for not less than 72 hours as per suggested guidelines before sorting. Only sorted and quarantined goods will be moved into the shop for pricing and sale.

The shop floor will be marked with tape in order to encourage social distancing and customer numbers will be limited to no more than six or eight people at any one time , to be decided after the floor area has been measured.

The sales area will be staffed by only one person at a time and wipes will be available in order to sanitize the till upon changeover, nitrile gloves should be worn when handling goods and cash.

Supplies of disposable cups and spoons will be available in the



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kitchen area, with wipes for the fridge door and kettle etc. for those volunteers wishing to make a drink, however it has been suggested that some people may prefer to bring their own refreshments.

A new water heater has been purchased and will be installed in the cloakroom area together with a non-touch soap dispenser these facilities are for staff use only and customers will not be able to use them for the foreseeable future. All staff should wash their hands for at least twenty seconds on a regular basis.

Dr Cormack is suggesting that the wearing of nitrile gloves at all times and the washing of these is more effective than bare hand washing, it is also kinder to the skin.

Within the shop environment the greatest risk is clearly from customers and other staff members via airborne particles that may contain coronavirus droplets. For as long as the weather permits both the front and rear doors of the shop will be kept open in order to ventilate the building as much as possible and keep the airflow at a maximum level.

Stock, once quarantined should be safe, however it could become contaminated by an infected customer or member of staff, so please be aware and do not touch your face after handling.

Customers will not be allowed to try on any items of clothing and returns will not be accepted for the time being. The curtain in the changing room will be removed and a notice displayed beside the till to get this message across.