

KINGFISHERS COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Dear community member,

Kingfishers' Community Kitchen – “KCK”

With support and encouragement from a growing number of customers, neighbours and supporters, Kingfishers at Cretingham Country Park is looking to respond to the current evolving situation across our community in what we believe is the most practical and helpful way possible.

We are intending to use our kitchen facilities at Kingfishers to feed the most vulnerable in the communities that surround us. Our kitchen team is ready to provide home cooked, ready-meals for all those in need and we are set up to deliver to the door, at a safe distance, for all our neighbours who are in the Government-identified vulnerable class, who cannot get out or are self-isolating. We will keep the price of the meals as affordable as possible and this is designed to be a not-for-profit project.

We will try to meet needs for meals wherever they arise in our local area but are suggesting focussing primarily on the following villages: Cretingham, Ashfield, Brandeston, Kettleburgh, Easton, Letheringham, Hoo, Charsfield, Monewden, Earl Soham, Saxtead, Dennington and Framsdon and Otley.

To do this, we are going to need your help, please:

If you are an existing pub or restaurant that has had to close due to the current crisis:

We are asking you to donate whatever food you can from your fridges, freezers or dry stores to help the cause at KCK and to avoid wastage.

If you are a person with time to help:

We are asking you to donate your services to KCK. Some of you may be trained in the kitchen, some may be able to help with washing up and others may be

able to offer deliveries into the local community, whilst adhering to the latest government guidelines on public movement and distancing. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Judy Moorhouse – judymoorhouse@btinternet.com or 07725 607372.

If you are a member of the local community who feel you could donate financially:

We are looking for a group of individuals to help us fund this scheme for a period of three months, after which hopefully we will see a change in the situation. This is obviously a brand-new project, but at this stage, we are estimating the total monthly running costs at circa £5000, to include kitchen staff costs (2 ½ staff members), simple packaging, utilities and refrigeration hire. We hope that delivery costs and administration will be borne by local volunteers.

In simple terms, we are looking to meet the potentially very urgent needs of our community and to cover our costs of doing so. Claire and Matthew Thacker, as owners of Kingfishers, will be part funding this project to help our local community. We now have pledges of £4,800 towards our first month's costs. Sponsorship funding will be accounted for through a segregated bank account to provide transparency and accountability on how sponsor donations are spent. We will also apply for local community project emergency funding when this becomes available. We clearly cannot know what the level of take up will be, but it is possible that the KCK project can become at least partly self-financing in months 2/3.

Donors will be invited to take up 4 places at the first tasting menu Kingfisher Supper Club as a thank you, when this is relaunched in due course.

If you are or have immediate access to an advertising agency, media group or local influencer:

Once launched, we would ask you to promote this scheme into our local communities. We will be contacting the relevant parish councils, churches, GP surgeries and the local MP to raise awareness of KCK.

For those looking to take up the service, we will provide subsidised frozen, home-cooked complete meals, delivering 7 home-cooked frozen meals per week (in one delivery) at a cost of £25 to the individual, including delivery (for those over 70 and the recently unemployed/yet to receive new government benefits). Payment will be taken over the 'phone and we can also provide other staple supplies from our Kingfishers' Village Shop, if needed.

For anyone working within the NHS front line services in the villages mentioned above, these meal provision services will be provided free of charge.

We have already had great help from a number of sources: in no particular order, loan of refrigerators for the “village shop” from Framlingham College, offers of volunteers to cover roles from telephone ordering, kitchen work and delivery, and donations of wine to the shop from Alchemy Wines.

The weekly meal menu will vary according to available produce and ingredients and will include vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options.

Contact details for the key co-ordinators:

Claire Thacker (owner of Kingfishers and KCK project co-ordinator)

Email: claire@kingfisherscretingham.co.uk

Phone: 07809 220666

Peter & Judy Moorhouse

Email: peterjmoorhouse@gmail.com

Phone: 01728 727465 / 07767 320153 / 07725 607372

Paddy Bishopp

Email: paddy@shoutaboutsuffolk.co.uk

Phone: 07771 801324

Project KCK direct contacts:

Email: kck@kingfisherscretingham.co.uk

Telephone: 01728 685 275 (lines open Monday, Wednesday & Friday 8am – 12 noon)

<http://www.kckitchen.co.uk/>

With many thanks in advance for your support for KCK.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Thacker