

Redgrave Community Society Limited



"working for the community"

May 2019

Dear Member,

Many of you will already know that our chef Matt left on May 2nd. Unfortunately he only gave us one weeks' notice as he was offered a 'job too good to refuse' working on the Scilly Isles.

This was of course very inconvenient, and particularly ironic given that in the last newsletter I said that the biggest impact on the business was likely to come from unplanned staff changes. We have taken immediate steps to recruit a replacement and so far have had initial discussions with several promising candidates.

In parallel with this we have tried to maintain continuity in the restaurant by using agency chefs. Although this started reasonably well, unfortunately it has become increasingly chaotic with different chefs each evening, a limited and changing menu, and a Sunday lunch cancelled with 2 hours' notice because the agency was unable to provide a chef. Although the aim was to keep our customers happy, we will not do so if we carry on like this. Staff and volunteers are also being put in difficult and stressful situations.

We have therefore decided to close the restaurant until we are confident that we have a good and reliable chef in place. We will then be able to relaunch with a new menu and the objective of building an enjoyable and profitable food service.

In the meantime, the bar will of course remain open and we look forward to seeing you there.

There are a number of upcoming events which will be continuing as usual:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Kenninghall Morris Dancers | Thursday 23 rd May |
| • Alfie's Karaoke | Saturday 25 th May |
| • Ian's quiz night* | Wednesday 29 th May |
| • Games and social afternoon | Wednesday 5 th June |
| • Bikes@The Keys and the Ford Mustang Club (one for petrolheads!) | Saturday 15 th June |
| • Games and social afternoon | Wednesday 19 th June |
| • Acoustic music night | Wednesday 19 th June |
| • IT Hub in the Pub | Thursday 20 th June |
| • Ian's quiz night* | Wednesday 26 th June |
| • Alfie's Karaoke | Saturday 29 th June |

(*We won't be able to offer the usual meal options at the quiz nights, but free sandwiches and nibbles will be provided.)

Please also check the website and Facebook page for news about other events and initiatives. In particular, if you're a real ale fan look out for news about the Monday night real ale club we're planning to launch soon!

I'd also like to update you on a few other topics:

- Financial performance in March and April was good, with average weekly takings above break-even. The Easter weekend was very successful, helped by excellent weather, excellent staff and volunteers, and a very good turn out from the community.
- Takings since the beginning of May have fallen significantly. Closure of the restaurant will help us to manage costs and we hope that the reopening will get us back on track. However, please remember that your community pub will not succeed without your custom and involvement.
- The AGM is confirmed for Saturday 27th July and will take place in Rickinghall Village Hall. There will be several members whose term of office finishes at this time so please put forward any nominations by contacting secretary@redgravecommunitysociety.com or by post to The Secretary, Lilac Cottage, The Street, Redgrave, Suffolk IP22 1RY.
- We're sorry to announce that Rosie Brenton has decided to step down from the committee as her health has unfortunately continued to be unstable. We are very grateful to Rosie for her contribution both as Committee Member and Chairperson, and wish her well for the future.

If you have any questions, concerns or great ideas please get in touch via chair@redgravecommunitysociety.com.

With kind regards



STEPHEN EASON

On behalf of the Management Committee of Redgrave Community Society Limited

Stephen Eason	Chairman
Neil Smith	Vice Chairman
John Giddings	Treasurer
Julie Moore	Secretary
Andrew Dickson	
Fiona Kenworthy	
Donna Taylor	
Carolyn Ward	