

Redgrave Community Society Limited



"working for the community"

January 10th 2020

Dear Member,

Happy New Year. I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and were able to spend some time in the Cross Keys. You will be pleased to hear that sales in December were the best we've had since opening as a community pub, as shown in the graph below. Takings excluding VAT were £27,573, which is £3,000 more than forecast in the business plan.

Much of this success is of course down to Heidi and Michael. Bar sales were excellent, including one week where we sold more beer than in any previous week – 873 pints in total! Michael's food continues to be very well received, with the pub gaining 17 five-star TripAdvisor reviews since he's started with us.

We've had some excellent events in the pub, including several very busy parties, discos and band nights. Community carol singing led by Huan and Jamie was a great evening which I'm sure will become an annual event. The pub also hosted two live broadcasts just before Christmas from Radio Suffolk and Radio 5 Live, talking about the importance of retaining village pubs as a community hub.

Cross Keys food & drink sales/month (exc. VAT)



Upcoming events

January and February are traditionally the quietest months of the year in the pub calendar, but we need to ensure this is not the case at the Cross Keys. Please visit your community pub as much as you can for a drink, a meal or for one of our organised events. Business will of course be improved and you will enjoy being part of the pub community. Remember a community pub is not just for Christmas!

If you like folk music do come along and listen to the Acoustic Music Night or join in with the Rum Smugglers folk session – these are always very pleasant evenings in the pub. Ian's quiz night needs no introduction, but for January we also have a beer tasting and beer quiz on Monday 20th. If you haven't already signed up there are a few places still available. (By the way, if you are a CAMRA member please remember to vote for us to be included in the next Good Beer Guide.)

On Friday 31st Redgrave-based band Walkway will be playing in the pub. Walkway have supported Status Quo and The Darkness, so it will be quite a night! Themed food evenings are being planned by Heidi and Michael, and a Valentine's Day menu is already available.

The full list of events for January is as follows:

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|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Coffee Morning | Tuesday 14 th |
| • Games and Social Afternoon | Wednesday 15 th |
| • Acoustic Music Night | Wednesday 15 th |
| • IT Hub in The Pub | Thursday 16 th |
| • Beer tasting and quiz | Monday 20 th |
| • Ian's quiz night | Wednesday 29 th |
| • Rum Smugglers folk session | Thursday 30 th |
| • Walkway | Friday 31 st |

All events are advertised on the new sign on The Knoll, in the parish magazine, and on Facebook (www.facebook.com/crosskeyspubredgrave), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/KeysRedgrave>) and on the pub website (<https://crosskeysredgrave.co.uk>)

Volunteering

The pub would not function without volunteers. Over 40 people give their time and expertise to support the pub in many different ways, but we could always do with more. Volunteering is a very rewarding thing to do, as it helps you meet other people, make new friends and feel part of the village community.

We will shortly be publishing a list of volunteering opportunities, so if you are interested in finding out more please email volunteering@redgravecommunitysociety.com.

Shares for Sale

Information about buying shares is available in the Cross Keys bar and enquiries are invited. Further support will be appreciated and help us to achieve our goals. Please let us know if you would like to buy more shares, or if you know of potential new members who may be interested.

It's a very simple process:

- Request a "Share Application Pack" (email secretary@redgravecommunitysociety.com or write to: Secretary, Redgrave Community Society Limited, Lilac Cottage, The Street, Redgrave, IP22 1RY)
- Return the application form with your cheque (or on-line payment confirmation)
- Confirmation will be sent to you with information about the issue date etc.

The first batch of new shareholders has already been welcomed and we will be announcing the next issue date shortly, so get your application in soon.

Short Term Loans

A number of members kindly provided loans for the Society to assist with cash flow in 2018. These were discussed at the AGM and in a subsequent Newsletter (1st November 2019). The Lenders confirmed they will be happy to have their loans repaid to enable anyone else to take over the loan on similar terms (5% p.a. for 12 months, renewable).

If you are interested in taking up this offer please contact the treasurer, John Giddings, by emailing johngidd1@btinternet.com

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large 'S' and a long horizontal stroke for the 'e'.

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	
Donna Taylor	
Carolyn Ward	