



The latest news and updates from Kirkoswald Community Shop



A Very Busy Three Months

We have been astounded at how busy the shop has been since we opened its doors on 1st July. Besides a regular and steady stream of locals, we have been visited by many 'staycation' holidaymakers and a number of shareholders from various parts of the UK. We have been thrilled to receive many compliments about how well stocked the shop is. We are always pleased to receive feedback as that helps us to provide the stock that customers want.

We welcomed a new manager in August, Karen Bouch, pictured left. Karen is local and has a wealth of retail experience in general and produce stores. She is thoroughly enjoying her role, saying 'it is a very satisfying if very busy job. Each day brings fresh supplies into the shop, all of which need recording onto our EPOS (electronic point of sale) system. I am especially enjoying contacting potential new local suppliers and their response has been tremendous'.

The prime tourism season is now behind us and we are pleased that sales are holding up well in September and, thus far in October. Our weekly turnover is averaging £2,750 presently, which is broadly in line with our Business Plan.

Local And Fresh

Karen has been busy enlarging and enriching the range of locally supplied foods. These now include coffee, cheeses, sandwiches, jams, spices and sauces, traybakes, pies, flans and meats as well as breads and cakes. We have just started stocking Heskett Newmarket Beers - a popular community-owned brewery and pub locally based in North Cumbria.

We pride ourselves on our range of fresh and local produce.

Since we opened in July we have sold more than 195 kilos of bananas, 360 pork pies and £1,400 worth of locally made sandwiches and cakes

STOP PRESS

We are pleased to announce that the flat above the shop has now been let, bringing in another revenue stream.

Make A Bid

We have had donated to us for sale, this beautiful hand-carved garden or wall feature.

Dan Watson, a talented local stonemason, has hand-carved this unique rose in beige sandstone for us to raise money to support the shop. It measures 40x40cm and is 10cm deep.

It is a truly stunning piece of carving with a guide price of £100.

Please contact Ruth on 07756 803037 with your offer. Buyer collects.



Preparing for The First KCS Christmas



Happy Christmas to all our shareholders and customers!

We are planning to celebrate Christmas at the shop by offering locally produced seasonal goods.

These will include; hand-carved wooden bowls and spoons, Christmas decorations of wood glass and wool, paintings, cards and other ideal gift items such as calendars featuring local landscapes. And we must not forget crocheted Santas!

We shall also be stocking seasonal produce including handmade chocolates, local gin and wreathes.

Community Shop Society News and Updates

Each and every one of our 630 shareholders should have received their share certificate, pictured right, by now, as they were sent out in August.

If you have not received your certificate please let our Secretary, Paul Mills, know at: secretary.kirkoswaldshop@gmail.com

Finally, we are seeking help from anybody local who can assist with admin and book-keeping and Company Secretarial roles, as well as more volunteers to help us to sustain and hopefully increase opening hours.



OPENING HOURS – SHOP

Monday – Saturday: 8am–5pm

Sunday: 8am–1pm