

Towards Eastertide at the Poppin

After a lively Christmas we are looking forward to Easter, and warmer longer days.

Valentine's Day went well, with good sales of cards and chocs and fizz, and Shrove Tuesday with Margaret's Famous Pancake Recipe. We have kept our *Willow and Honey* scented candles from Dorsington and other luxury goods in the window for Mothers' Day, though sadly Jane's delectable chocolates are over until next Christmas. There will be some plants for sale, and miniatures of Gin and Prosecco.

For Easter there are cards and chocs and Easter Eggs, and our splendid range of drinks. And we will soon be offering *Willersley* large pies and hams throughout the year, via a pre-order form on the counter.

Because of illness and other commitments we are very short of volunteers for the Poppin. We need rather over fifty people to keep things going, and we are some six or eight short, particularly in the afternoons on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. If you are new to Long Marston, in Barley Fields or Perry Orchard or Meon Vale, and would like to help in a team of locals in the day-to-day operations of our Community village shop, then this is your chance. Meet new friends, share news, catch up on all things local, and have fun-filled laughter whilst giving back a little of your time to the community.

Do drop into the shop to express your interest, or call Wiggy Taylor on 720275. Even a couple of hours a month helps immensely.

This comes with good wishes for Easter, as we look forward to a joyous Spring, with bird song and blossom up and down the lanes. *Simon Kiener*