

F.O.P.W.A.

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**Broadway House and
“the Hut” volunteers’
NEWSLETTER
No. 47**

March 2021

BROADWAY HOUSE NEWS

This time last year we had just announced that we were suspending our day-time opening of Broadway House “*probably until after the Easter Weekend*”.

A year later there is no prospect of us re-opening by Easter 2021!

National Lockdown Restrictions

Step 2 of the government recovery “road-map” starting on 12th April will see the opening of non-essential retail premises, but hospitality venues such as Broadway House will only be allowed to serve table-top out-doors.

Step 3 starting on 17th May will enable indoor hospitality venues to open with table service, but.....

In the small print of the guidance notes it says that while most businesses are able to re-open, that will only be permitted with Covid-19 secure guidelines in place and the “rule of six” still in place.

Those guidelines applied in Broadway House will mean -

- Track and trace and temperature check as visitors arrive
- Hand sanitiser used and face masks worn (except when actually eating or drinking)
- Allocated seating places, and no mixing or mingling with other visitors
- Table service - no visits to the counter
- Good ventilation - windows open

Leave by another door - the fire exit

Step 4 from 21st June will see all legal limits on social contact and some other restrictions removed. Before Step 4 begins, the government will complete a review of social distancing and other long term measures in place to cut transmissions and perhaps so called vaccine passports (probably for larger indoor venues).

When will Broadway House re-open?

21st June is probably the earliest we can realistically hope to re-open.

Any earlier will involve all the changes described in Step 3, and also -

Extra volunteers (minimum three) to manage the (i) entry rules, (ii) tables waiting service, and (iii) kitchen duties.

A limited menu with no choice of biscuits nor helping yourself to sugar (only wrapped biscuits and sugar sachets)

Probably one price for everything to avoid giving change (and does anyone carry coins any more - that’s something else to be thought about?)

Special rules for access to the toilets

Hard plastic chairs replacing the soft fabric ones

Books and magazines that might harbour the virus removed

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Putting all those thoughts together, we've decided that it really is not worth trying to make all those changes just to open in May one month before all the restrictions may be lifted. **So that is why we are planning to re-open on 21st June.**

We understand the disappointment that many will feel that we are not re-opening sooner, but let us hope that waiting just a little longer is worthwhile so that we get it right.

Looking ahead to 21st June re-opening

Sadly we know that we have lost some of our "regulars" and we are all a year older. So the question we need to ask is -

All things considered, do you expect to be willing and able to resume being one of the team of volunteers as you were last March?

Over the next couple of months, we will be looking at the Broadway House volunteer rota asking if people would still like to be involved, how often and if there are any new people you know who wish to join the team.

If you can answer those questions now (**see tear-off slip below**) fine, otherwise I'll be in touch by phone, letter or email individually.

The result of that review will allow the Trustees to decide the days and times that we will be able to reopen.

In the meantime, we shall be preparing Broadway House for action, getting the new kitchen ready and re-stocking the stores. With the easing of covid restrictions, we can arrange for you to pop in and see how things are looking if you would like to.

"the Hut" NEWS

The latest news is that we are planning to re-open for July, August, September and October.

"the Hut" was fully booked this year with nearly all the 2020 reservations "rolled over" to 2021.

Sadly for April, May and June reservations, we have had to repeat the "cancel and refund" or "roll-over" option.

We are discovering that some of the 2020 groups have closed because of the effect that covid has had on them. By contrast some of the residential and care homes were so disappointed last year, that now they are desperate to have their day at the sea-side and are already booking coaches.

Let us hope for some lovely hot summer sea-side weather as good as last year.

Don't hesitate to contact any of us if you would like to talk about anything from this Newsletter.

In the meantime - take care and best wishes.

Richard.

Please complete and return to 14, Princes Gardens, Felixstowe IP11 7RH
or phone 01394 278061 or email richolland1@btinternet.com
Broadway House re-opening plans

(please delete whatever is not applicable *)

* **Thanks, but I've decided not to carry on, so please take me off your volunteers list.**

* **Yes I would like to come back as a volunteer when you re-open ***

* **I am available - one session every week, fortnight, month or***

* **My best day(s) are - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday**

* **Session times - Morning / Afternoon / Either morning or afternoon**

My name.....