

VILLAGE STORE AND TEAROOM UPDATE

With the major building work completed by the beginning of October, we are now in the process of the refurbishment and fitting of the store and the tearoom. There is plenty to be done; flooring, electrical, plumbing and fixtures and fittings. The security and fire systems have been installed.

Although the building work took a little longer than expected, it was absolutely essential to ensure it was completed to the highest standard. We are however still aiming to be open by mid to late November. Our dining room table is awash with brochures and information about chillers, furniture, coffee machines and shelving! There are boxes of a variety of cups, teapots and teaspoons tucked away in various places about the house.

We spent last weekend in the shop cleaning and tidying. Whilst we were in there, quite a few villagers stopped to chat and have a quick peek. We are hugely encouraged by the number of positive comments about the store and the enthusiasm for the addition of the tearoom. Thank you, and if you are passing, and we are in, please do pop in and say hello.

Last month we visited Ruby's bakery, who supplied the cakes before, and will be again for both the tearoom and store. It is a small, friendly family-run business and we had the 'terrible' task of having to taste a variety of cakes! We will continue to source local products for the store.

As the work progresses, we will have a clearer idea for the actual opening date, and will advertise this as widely as possible. With regards to staff, we have been lucky with the number of people who have approached us, mainly from the village, who will be coming to work with us. Hopefully they will get the hang of the complexities of operating the coffee machine in less time than we did!

We are extremely excited and still a wee bit nervous. Picking up the keys just the week before writing this was a great moment; it has made the vision a reality.

We look forward to meeting you all soon.

Sheree and Simon Cook