



SHOP NEWS

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Sept / Oct 2015

NEW MANAGER!

Please welcome our new manager **Dallas Crook** who took up the helm of the Galleries Shop & Café in mid-August. He comes to us with both retail and café experience and has already made some significant improvements to our supplier arrangements and how our shelves are organised.

He is particularly keen to make sure that the shop fulfills our residents' needs and takes into account their special wishes. **"We are happy to try any new product"**, he says. If in the end it doesn't sell well enough to justify the minimum order levels then we can always discontinue it again."



Please use the suggestions book or put a comment in the **suggestions box**. It really helps if you **give us your phone number** can give you feedback.

ARRIVEDERCI VITO



We are sad to report that **Vito has decided to step down** from managing the Galleries Café as he cannot physically work at Galleries as well as in his own business Bianco Rosso, which is developing fast. So we are recruiting once again! Vito is keen to ensure an orderly transition and will stay on **until 18th October** by when we hope to have recruited someone new to work alongside Alessandro. Vito has done a brilliant job building the

Galleries Café into a highly popular and successful operation. But this is definitely not "good-bye" to Vito: he will still organise some of his **very popular special dinners**. And happily he and his family continue to live just near the shop and his pizzas and catering services will still be available to all.

SILVER FROM TASTE OF THE WEST

Two judges from **Taste of the West** – visited our cafe unannounced in August. They were in a party of four who had cooked breakfasts, and made special requests to test the quality of our service. Their conclusion: **"We loved it!"**

They awarded us a **silver badge**, now displayed in the Café, together with our **food hygiene rating of 5** which is the best you can get!



ART ON OUR WALLS

The pictures on our shop walls until **18th October** are by landscape painter **Mike Hindle** – formerly of Hinton Charterhouse - who now lives in Devon. His pictures are mixed media on paper – including some local views. Website: www.mikehindle.com .



From 18th October we will have a return visit from popular Wellow artist **Catherine Beale** who will also be showing landscapes – all watercolours – and a portrait or two. Catherine is repeating her **one-day watercolour workshops in October** – one concentrating on misted landscapes, the other on portraits. More at www.catherinebeale.com .

NEW SHOP CHARITY

We have had a terrific response to our request for customers' views on which charity the Galleries Shop & Café should support in the year to come, with 137 people expressing a choice. Four very worthwhile charities had been nominated. The winner by far – collecting **38%** of the total votes cast - is the **Alzheimer's Society**, nominated by **Alison Orme**.



The [Alzheimer's Society](http://www.alzheimersociety.org.uk) fund research into the **cause, cure, care** and **prevention** of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, to improve treatment for people today, and search for a cure for tomorrow. They run **Support Groups** for those who are affected and have also recently launched a scheme called **Become a Dementia Friend** – an initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia.

We now have their collection tins by our tills.

5P CHARGE FOR PLASTIC BAGS

From **Monday 5th October** all large retailers need to **charge 5p** for each **plastic bag** they give to customers, as part of the government's policy to reduce waste. Smaller retailers are exempt for some reason - but we also believe that too many plastic bags are used and discarded and would like our customers to get into the habit of bringing a bag with them. We have never given our customers new plastic bags, but we do usually have a stock of used plastic bags available.

In sympathy with the government policy, **we are considering charging 5p** for each of these reused bags - **not to make money, but to support that policy**. The **5p** would go into the current charity collection tin.

We will also start charging a **refundable £1** for our **"borrow bags"** in future because so many of them never come back! Over one hundred of these bags, specially made or donated by volunteers and customers, have disappeared over the past few years.



One way to always have a shopping bag with you is to purchase an **Onya bag** or **backpack** which folds very small and is easy to have 'on ya' at all times. We stock them in the shop.

OUTCOME OF OUR BEER TASTING

Our beer tasting event on **Saturday 4th July** with barbecue was very popular, and thanks to all the customer feedback received, we now stock an interesting range of local beers including

- Glastonbury Love Monkey
- Hopback Brewery Crop Circle
- Willy Good Ale Wheat a Second
- Elmers Flying Monk and
- Willy Good Ale Hopadelic.

Obviously we also still have lagers for you like Stella Artois, Fosters and Carlsberg.



FROM OUR NOTICEBOARD



Our noticeboard currently sports an advertisement from the **naked cake lady!**

It's not the lady that's naked, however, it's the cakes. **Denise Barnes**, recent arrival in Limpley Stoke who has already joined the shop volunteer team, produces beautiful bespoke **naked wedding cakes**.



MAKE SURE WE HAVE IT WHEN YOU COME

Order ahead! We can bake that particular loaf of **bread** or those chocolate **croissants** for you if you ring ahead. We can order special bread including gluten-free from **Bath Bakery** any day, or from **Berfinet** for the weekend. We can get you a particular **cut of meat** or **portion of fish** for the weekend if you tell us earlier in the week. And we can set aside a particular **newspaper** for you before it sells out ...



All these services are available to our **Reverse Credit customers** (currently some 125 households in the two villages). Signing up is easy – **pick up a form at the shop** or email **David Lindop** on dilindop@gmail.com .

UNSUNG HERO: RICHARD BLAMEY



Our shop has not been the same since **Richard Blamey** joined as a volunteer (years ago). He took charge of most of our range of wines and has his own special way of sourcing quality wines at very affordable prices for our customers.

Richard is also an **inveterate fundraiser** - name the charity and he will find a way to raise money for them: be it a picture sale, a race night, a concert, or the £100 club. Fundraising is in his blood! In addition to all that, he is a very active volunteer, always drawing people into the shop, and a great support for our staff.

Richard also serves as a trustee on the Freshford & Limpley Stoke Community Association (FLISCA) which owns the shop.

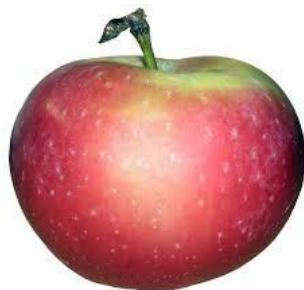


Apple Day

on Sunday 18th October

11am – 2 pm on the Galleries Shop terrace

- bring along your apples and empty clean screw-top bottles
- help us work our crusher and presses
- help fill and label bottles
- leave with your own freshly pressed apple juice!
- or just come and join in - and buy some of the most delicious and local apple juice available
- consult our Apple Bible to identify unusual apples.



To allow sufficient time for pressing and juicing please be sure to **bring your apples before 1pm.**

Everyone welcome

NOTE: If you want to organise your own apple juice pressing, you can hire our crusher, press and pasteuriser for a day for £10. [Email Gary Parker](mailto:gparker287@gmail.com) on 721251 or email gparker287@gmail.com .

Also, if you have nice **eating apples** to spare even now – why not donate them to the shop to sell? For some reason, our fruit and veg supplier is unable to get us English apples, despite the bumper apple harvest everywhere

Galleries Shop and Café – Freshford Lane, Freshford, Bath BA2 7UR

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Opening hours

Shop: Monday-Friday 8-6, Saturday 8.30-12.30, Sunday 9-12.30

Café: Monday-Friday 9-4, Saturday 9-12.30, Sunday 9-12.30

Post Office: Tuesdays and Fridays 9-1