

Pitton Community Shop Update – October 2026

WE ARE OPEN!

Our new shop is open! It has been wonderful to see so many local people popping in for groceries, coffee and cake. We apologise to those who weren't able to get a seat in the café at certain times over the past few days but are absolutely delighted that it has been so busy. We have already increased the cake order!



Volunteers

Our volunteers have been amazing and are already stepping up to create a friendly space that people feel comfy in, by recommending products, chatting to visitors and keeping the shop and café running while the Post Office beds in. If you would like to volunteer in the shop please contact Holly Osborn by email (assistant-manager@pittoncommunityshop.org).

Products

We have had lots of feedback on produce, and your comments are always welcome. Thank you to those who specifically commented on the deliciousness of the local smoked trout, the Lyburn cheese and Clarendon venison. We will continue to provide good quality local produce where we can, as well as everyday staples. Your feedback will help us to decide on what is stocked in future so please do let us know what is missing.

Post Office

The Post Office opened on Monday and if you've been in the shop you may have seen the Post Office trainer providing support to staff and volunteers. Our postmaster and team have been through intensive training and are now working hard to put the learning into practice.

Newspapers

We expect to start newspaper deliveries and stock papers in the shop from the 13th October. Magazines are expected a few days after that. If you already had papers delivered by Rachel, we have the information we need to restart your deliveries. If you would like a new order or change your delivery then please email accounts@pittoncommunityshop.org or call into the shop. We will accept vouchers in the same way as Rachel did so please bring your vouchers to the shop when you can.

The shop is open on Saturday and Sunday mornings so there will be no requirement to leave papers outside the shop for collection. Please come into the shop to collect your

papers. If you have any questions about newspaper delivery please send an email to accounts@pittoncommunityshop.org.

Staffing

We are pleased to welcome Laura Kidd to the shop team. Laura has been employed as cleaner and will work up 8 hours per week to keep the shop looking its best.

Information for Members

As a member of our community benefit society you qualify for a 10% discount on selected goods in the shop. Please provide your name and ask for your discount card at the till if you have not yet collected this. Please note that the discount card is to be used strictly by the named member.

Grand Opening

The grand opening event on the 2nd October went very well. Van Gore first paid tribute to Rachel whose shop has served the community for more than 20 years. Rachel was presented with many gifts and cards, and we all wish her well in her retirement. Van also thanked the people who have given so much of their time to make the shop a reality.

Brian Cudby then thanked all the Board members and the many people and organisations who made the shop possible. It is the biggest community project in over half a century, and we are all very proud to have been part of it.



Simon Brown presented Brian Cudby with a vintage postmaster hat (we are not saying he is a vintage postmaster) in recognition of his new role and the fantastic job he has done leading the project. Brian then handed over to John Glen our MP, who stressed the importance of the achievement not just for today but for future generations in the local villages.



John Glen then cut the ribbon and declared the shop formally open. We could not have asked for a better turnout for the launch or more support from people in the local community.

Thankyou!
We hope to see you there soon!

Lorna Taylor
On behalf of Pitton Community Shop

