



Annual Report for PC AGM 27th April 2021

SGNS is a voluntary group of local residents who help people in our community to enjoy a better quality of life by offering support with everyday tasks.  
We are guided by Community Action Suffolk.

Initially we were financed by donations:  
£560.60 County Councillor Andrew Reid  
£500 Snape Parish council.  
£345 donation from Waitrose community matters

Our second year we received a further:  
£500 from Snape PC, Donated to cover us throughout Covid, however due to very generous donations, we have yet to use.  
£250 grant from Enabling Community Budget~to purchase a wheelchair.  
£333 from Waitrose community Matters~To be used towards a Welcome Pack for all new residents to our village.

We have 22 Volunteers,; all of our volunteers are DBS checked and wear an identity lanyard, the majority have attended a Safe & Sound course and are all protected by our Insurance policy. Volunteers also have access to free car parking at Ipswich hospital.

Maria Norman is the qualified Safeguarding Officer for SGNS.

We have a committee of 6 who meet regularly.

Our primary means of contact is our dedicated phone.  
All residents of Snape were given a fridge magnet, with our telephone number displayed, and a leaflet explaining what we do.

To arrange a job request, all that a resident has to do is ring that number to speak to us, or leave a message.

We have rota for the phone holder who will answer the phone if possible, if not they will retrieve the message and respond accordingly, organising a volunteer, through either our WhatsApp group or Email.

In two years we have executed 310 jobs to date:  
Hospital and GP visits, shopping for both prescriptions and food, delivering leaflets, clearing guttering, changing lightbulbs, even retrieving something from behind an oven!  
Recently we've helped a resident complete the Census and changed the time on a clock for a resident that couldn't reach his wall clock.

Most importantly we have been, and are, a friendly face to just sit and chat and listen (Covid safe)~we don't want anybody living in Snape to feel alone.

Coinciding with our launch we started a Meet~Up~Monday (MUPM) group at The Golden Key. This was especially for people living alone to meet up for free coffee and cake and to socialise. We've had various events including a Carol concert and Christmas meal, even a sponsored Domino competition!  
We are extremely grateful to the staff at theThe Golden Key for allowing us to run this group and for their generosity in providing all drinks.

Obviously things all changed last March, however our regular attendees didn't miss out completely as they are contacted every Monday for a chat. We are aiming to start our MUPM group as soon as safely possible.

During Lockdowns we helped to finance the village larder located at Snape school and organised a 'Buddy System', pairing up volunteers to anyone who requested someone to chat to.

We've just bought a Wheelchair with a £250 grant, thanks to TJ Howarth-Cuff and Jocelyn Bond out of their Enabling Community Budget. This will be used to help residents with mobility problems, when we take them to hospital/doctors appointments as well as walks around the village and our MUPM. It will also be available for any residents to borrow for short term.

Our aim is to make sure that no one in the village goes without someone to chat to or misses an appointment because they don't have transport, or sits in the dark because they can't reach a lightbulb, making a difference to the quality of life in Snape.

Maria Norman Chair SGNS MUPM