

Some reasons NOT to shop in Peterborough at present...

Most of us have adhered to the Governments stipulations on rules and advice, as I've said previously, I have the 'COVIDIOT' live nearby, who has from day 1 never adhered to the rules, from the beginning in/out all day long, a group of 3 and 4 of his 'mates' banging about with the old banger.....

As most of us have found other ways to shop and buy items, sometimes a visit is needed.

The queues outside 'some' of the supermarkets in Peterborough is becoming the 'norm' – and please do not think about it at the weekend.

Today (Sunday) my correspondent passed by 'Aldi Standground' the queue was around 60 at 10:30am.

Next she went to B&Q, famous for 'Queueing' – at 10:45 around 200 people in the line.

Aldi at Maskew Avenue around 50

The 'Range' at Boongate 11:15 some 50+ and finally Wickes had around 30 the quickest of the lot.

Maybe it is the beautiful weather, we are all enjoying, but shopping to most of us was never a joyful experience at the best of times, and less so now.

I understand that if you get to the Co-op in Whittlesey early there are not many there. Maybe not the choice and price, but little queueing and hardly any fuel costs, none if you walk or cycle!

Many have 'found' on-line shopping works well in most instances (nothing new in this) – 'Amazon'TM delivering a vast array of goods (not food here in Whittlesey – but you can buy 'Booze')

Many of our local shops adapted very quickly from day 1 in order to survive, and I've heard nothing but 'praise' for the owners.

There is always a negative to report, some 'hairdresser/beauticians' have allegedly have been operating when they should not be, the authorities seem as we have witnessed in Peterborough (partying) to be pretty inept in enforcement.

Finally with UK/England being one of the highest death rates from Covid-19 in the world (something we/government should be ashamed of) – locally Peterborough ranks 66th highest out of 313 authorities in England for positive testing of Covid-19, Fenland ranks 121st

I/we will be carrying on pretty more the same as before – as little as possible interaction with neighbours (got the phone/semaphore) friends and colleagues (e-mail/skype & zoom) and of course I could and have written letters - I've no aversion to joining thousands at the 'seaside' at present.

I've been for a 'picnic' in my car and never got out....
I have a booking to go to Houghton Mill on Tuesday afternoon (need to book a parking slot if you can get one) and again I plan to remain in my car.

All the jobs many have put off for years can now be addressed.

Finally as a player of 'The devil's advocate' – why does anyone 'want' to go back to work, in this – the best May weather on record, when being paid 80% of your salary (in teachers case 100%) with no transport costs, no parking costs, no lunch/food costs, most will be better off not going back to work.

Of course there are those not so fortunate – lost their job, and very little to live on, but we are lucky to have a welfare state, social support, food banks etc.

Let us all hope, that the 'infection rate' keeps falling (at least for the summer) and the COVIDIOTS do not spoil it for the rest of us....

Enjoy the sunshine (BBQ & Prosecco sounds good to me).

