



# Re opening Covid-secure

Keep up with the goings on at the Nest where we are furiously  
planning for our re opening



**This is our first** newsletter and I hope you will enjoy keeping up to date with what's been going on and what we are cooking up for the future here at Partridge Nest Farm.

Towards the end of 2019 we launched our **Posh Pod** - a fully furnished superior pod complete with proper double bed with cosy bedding, TV/DVD player,

microwave and fridge, table, chairs, crockery and sofa as well as a table and chairs for 2 and a chiminea outside. Well it was a huge success and Posh Pod has seen guests from Australia and the USA as well as plenty from the good old UK. Posh Pod sleeps just 2 persons (in the one double bed) and is available from September through to early July.

It was a blustery start to 2020 with **Storm Dennis** trying to disrupt our Astro-sleepover event in February, part of the NYMNP Dark Skies festival. But we managed to have a great evening with a hearty meal and with renowned astronomer Richard Darn keeping us fully entertained with his fun facts, presentations, moon rocks, clever apps and stunning photography of the night skies in the park. The skies cleared enough at the very end of the evening for a few of us to brave the gusts (by then only a mere 50mph) to spot some familiar constellations through binoculars before the guests retired to their pod havens.

### **But another storm was brewing...**

With the cottage fully booked through the spring and summer, all the pods booked up for Easter as well as Posh Pod fully booked for most weekends through March and into April, **Covid 19** hit the world.

Our wonderful guests have been **amazingly supportive**, with most happily moving their stay's to later in the year where possible. For those who don't yet have another potential date to move to we are holding their deposits over til they are ready to rebook.

With the lockdown lengthening we looked to put something in place to reassure potential guests that they could book with confidence so we introduced our **Coronavirus Booking Guarantee** <https://partridgenestpods.co.uk> with a low deposit, later balance payment and option to move their stay for up to 12 months in the case of restrictions extending.

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### **So what now?**

We are planning to **re open on 4th July** as per Boris' 'roadmap' and, although as of today the Government has still not published its Covid-secure guidelines specifically for our type of business, we have conducted our own risk assessment.

Firstly, as such a tiny site (just x 6 pods) we don't foresee any social distancing issues with the space between units but are putting in place the following

measures **to start with:**

- A day's gap between each pod's departing guests and the next arrival, allowing at least 29 hours for thorough cleaning, disinfecting and airing of the pod between guests.
- Enhanced regular cleaning of shared facilities, focussing particularly on touch points – taps, handles, switches, surfaces etc.
- Hand sanitising stations positioned outside the shared facilities (shower rooms, 'Turvey's' & reception)
- Limited number of persons to be inside shared facilities at any one time and signage displayed to remind guests of necessity of social distancing.
- New open air dish washing station(see photo below)
- The freezer and microwave oven removed from Turvey's and housed elsewhere.
- Screen installed at the front desk of reception and a limit to number of persons inside at any one time.
- A contactless card reader for extras/shop purchases



### **And the cottage?**

As the cottage sleeps just 4 and is self contained so there will be no social distancing issues.

- We will be operating self check in
- We will have several sets of arrival info that will be rotated to ensure at least 72 hours between use.
- Hand sanitizer positioned at entry door
- Removal of maps, leaflets, etc - these can be requested
- We have plenty of sets of linen so as well as being washed at high heat, the same set will never be used more frequently that min 72hours
- Enhanced disinfection of touch points - taps handles, switches, surfaces

etc

Once again this list is not exhaustive – we await publication of the government guidelines next week.

**We hope these Covid mitigation measures will have us ahead of the game once Boris' gang publish their guidance (expected week commencing 15th June) so we can welcome guests again just as soon as we are allowed.**

### **Meanwhile what is already open in the area?**

Well our local fish and chip shop in Sleights, **Eskdale Fisheries** is open from Wednesday to Saturday, taking phone orders for collection.

**Steam Cafe, Grosmont**, is taking phone orders for its fabulous pizzas, again for collection at pre arranged time.

**Radfords Butcher** in Sleights is also taking phone orders for delivery or collection (usually same day) – they do a fantastic barbecue pack!

**Stables at Cross Butts** is offering take away Sunday lunches as well as weekday specials and breakfast baps.

And as always the **Spar** in Sleights is open from 7am – 10pm with social distancing measures in place and remains well stocked with all your general grocery and alcoholic favourites.

In Whitby **Trenchers, Cosa Nostra, Sherlock Holmes, Passage To India** are all offering take aways and every day more and more are announcing they are starting the same. Many retail shops are ready to open on 15th June..

**Dalby Forest** is open- outdoor space and toilets only

Most other businesses in Whitby and the surrounds are beavering away planning and adjusting to safely welcome visitors back and, although things will not be as they were in previous years for a while, I think the 'new normal' will soon mean happy days are here again in the beautiful North York Moors National Park and Coast.

Gavin and I miss you and hope to see you very soon and in the meantime stay safe and look after each other

Caroline

BOOK NOW



## Partridge Nest Pods and Cottage

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