

Last post heartache

POST Office Counters have let down the Cleveleys sub-postmistress, their staff and the many hundreds of local residents who rely on the Runnymede Avenue post office.

Having seen the logged communications between Julie Wolstenholme and the Post Office I can reassure readers that the computers installed by Horizon on behalf of Post Office Counters Ltd have not been operating correctly since they were installed.

Despite pleas for help from Miss Wolstenholme and her staff, the Post Office did nothing to help them.

Miss Wolstenholme and her business partner were losing money due to the inability of the computer system to balance.

Things came to a head when Miss Wolstenholme reverted back to a manual system until the computer was fixed.

The Post Office promptly suspended Miss Wolstenholme and closed the Post Office with complete

disregard for all concerned.

There are many similar incidents occurring up and down the country at sub-post offices.

Post Office Counters have now terminated Miss Wolstenholme's contract and have no idea when or if a new Post Office will reopen. Miss Wolstenholme and her family now face financial ruin. I hope the Post Office management can sleep easy knowing what heartache they have caused.

**COUN JON
BAMBOROUGH**
Maitland Avenue
Anchorholme

Postmaster gets the sack

THE sub-postmaster at the Cleveleys post office has been sacked.

Post Office bosses confirmed today that they had terminated the contract of the sub-postmaster at Runnymede Avenue and were advertising to fill the vacancy.

The sub-post office has been closed since November 30 last year when Julie Wolstenholme, who ran the office with her business partner Roger Harrison, was suspended without pay for alleged breach of contract.

Elaine Tagg, retail network manager for the Post Office, said today: "The sub-postmaster's contract has been terminated and

we will now be advertising the vacancy.

"We apologise to our customers for the inconvenience."

Miss Wolstenholme and Mr Harrison were not available for comment today. But they had previously told The Gazette problems began when they refused to use new computerised equipment which they claimed was unreliable.

The nearest post offices are at Rossall Road, North Drive and Fleetwood Road.

Anyone who wishes to take over the sub-postmaster's job and can provide suitable premises should call the Post Office on 0845 6016260 for details.

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THURSDAY FEB 01, 2001

Bring back post office

IN November last year, Cleveleys people were stunned to find that their post office in Runnymede Avenue was closed.

The Post Office made a statement in The Gazette, that the closure was due to breach of contract with the sub-postmaster.

The sub-postmaster replied, that due to faulty equipment supplied by the Post Office they had resorted to other safe procedures to ensure that transactions were correctly carried out.

The Post Office refused to listen to reason that their equipment was faulty and refused any further discussion on this matter, only making statements via the press.

Meanwhile Cleveleys residents have had to struggle in windy conditions to collect pensions and pay their bills at other post offices, some having to take taxis and one old lady who couldn't afford this means, got mugged for her pension on her way home.

The Post Office is behaving like a dinosaur, and like previous dinosaurs will become extinct.

Give us back our Runnymede Avenue Post Office.

B CARTER
North Promenade
Cleveleys
Blackpool



'BRING IT BACK': Julie Wolstenholme at her post office in Runnymede Avenue, Cleveleys

BY FEB 12, 2001