

Watch the birdies! It's springwatch in Headley

Customers hooked on great tit family captured on camera inside store's bird box

By LAUREN ABBOTT

newsdesk@newburynews.co.uk

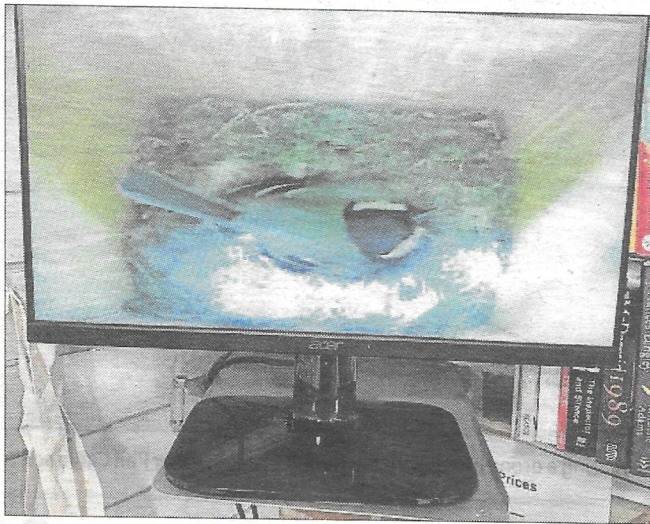
THE antics of a young bird family has attracted an avid audience after the goings-on inside their nest was broadcast live to a village shop.

Customers visiting the Headley with Ashford Hill Community Shop were offered some unique entertainment while grabbing their essentials after a camera was hooked up to the inside of the store's very own bird box.

The *Springwatch*-style live stream, broadcast on a monitor inside the shop, showed the box had been taken over by a great tit who had built her nest and laid eight eggs inside last month.

The great tit's arrival fol-

The community shop is owned by local villagers and while there's always a welcome for new customers there is just as big a welcome for visiting feathered friends



Live stream of village bird box inside Headley with Ashford Hill Community Shop and, right, the bird box

lows that of a blue tit visitor who moved into the bird box last year.

As well as the live broadcast inside the Thornford Road shop, volunteers also kept villagers up to speed as to the progress of the new mum and her hatchlings with updates on the community shop's Facebook page.

Community shop volunteer Roger Missing explained: "After extensive feeding sessions five hatchlings success-

fully fledged this week.

"According to the Big Garden Birdwatch the great tit is the sixth most popular bird in England.

"The community shop is owned by local villagers and while there's always a welcome for new customers there is just as big a welcome for visiting feathered friends.

"There is already local anticipation for a second brood, if not for next year's arrival."

