

The Essington **Connection**

www.stjohnsessington.co.uk



December 2020

free on-line



We would like to send
Our Thanks and
Christmas Blessings
to
Our Readers and Contributors,
who have stayed with us during this difficult year,
to
Our Printing & Distributing Team,
who have continued to do such wonderful work,
and to
Our Advertisers,
who have given us their loyal support once again.

We are grateful to all
and hope that everyone has
a Happy and a Peaceful
Christmas.

The Magazine Committee.

<http://stjohnsessington.co.uk>



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH DIARY **DECEMBER 2020**

I am sure that readers will appreciate that the Services listed below are subject to current Government restrictions. Further information will be circulated when we have it.

Sat 5th 10.00 - 12 Noon WEB Open

Sun 6th 10.00 am Holy Communion at St.. John's
(No Service at Shareshill this week)

Sat 12th 10.00 - 12 Noon WEB Open

Sun 13th 10.00 am Morning Praise at St. John's
Holy Communion at Shareshill

Sat 19th 10.00 - 12 Noon WEB Open

Sun 20th 10.00 am Holy Communion at St. John's
(No Service at Shareshill this week)

Thurs 24th 11.00 pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at
St. John's

Fri 25th 10.00 am **CHRISTMAS DAY**
Morning Praise at St. John's

Sun 27th 10.00 am Morning Praise at St. John's
Holy Communion at Shareshill

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY TEAM

Warden: John Peterken
Tel. 01902 723157

CHURCH OFFICERS

Secretary: Mrs Hilary Southern
Tel. 01922 445265

Reader: Mrs Delphine Hipkiss
Tel. 01902 828064

Verger: Mrs Joy Burrows
Tel. 01922 407698

Parish Letter

'O little town of Bethlehem
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light:
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.'

(Philip Brookes.)

Over the last few months this deadly virus has robbed us of many of the things we cherish, not least the luxury to praise and worship in the way that we love, and which is familiar to us. As Christmas approaches, the question as to how and in what way we shall be able to celebrate it, is like many other questions at this time, rather difficult if not impossible to answer. But one thing Covid-19 can't do, is to take from us the true meaning of Christmas.

God breaking into our lives in the wondrous birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the joy and peace, and new life which the presence of Christ in our lives offers to us.

In the last few days it has been announced that a vaccine to protect us from Covid-19 could soon become available. It's for us to accept or not, depending on how we feel. This is seen as a life changer, and indeed it could well be, giving us the chance to lead richer and fuller lives. But the birth of Christ changes us in a deeper and more beautiful way than any vaccine would ever be able to do, and again there is an invitation to us all, to accept or not what God in Christ is offering to us.

The words quoted at the beginning of this article are taken from the Carol 'O little town of Bethlehem' and were written by Philip Brookes, an American vicar in 1868. The picture that he paints of Bethlehem is one of stillness and peace, but I've a feeling that then, as now, Bethlehem was probably neither, but the joy of the

visitors to the Holy Family was unmistakable, and I pray that you too may enter that same joy this Christmas time.

I am writing this towards the end of November. Today in the church calendar we celebrate Christ as King, which marks the ending of the church year. Next week we start a new year with the season of Advent, giving us a chance to prepare ourselves for all that Christmas means, which involves not only the birth of Christ, but also the promise of his return.

Christmas is about light and joy, about loving and giving, of being aware of the needs of others; and it's about worship and praise. Maybe we won't be able to celebrate in the way that we would want, but bells will still be rung, glad tidings will still be exchanged, and the hopes and fears of all the years will still be met in Christ.

I would think church services (with Covid-19 restrictions) will very likely resume early in December, and if they do, I'm sure a warm welcome awaits you.

However you spend Christmas, may it be good, and may you be truly blessed.

Keep safe and well,
With love,

Reverend Rosemary.

In addition to the names in the St John's Ministry Team, here are a couple of other numbers you can ring as a first point of contact;

Rev Rosemary Biddle	01922 419032
Sue Davenport	01922 495516
Sue Hinks-Caldwell	01922 516450

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

It is with regret that, due to the current restrictions, and the uncertainty about what will happen in December, we have had to make the decision to cancel this year's Festival.

We would like to thank everyone who had committed to taking part and hope that you have not already gone to the expense of purchasing your decorations. However, if you have, please store them away safely, as we pray that we will be able to hold the event in 2021 and that it will be bigger and better than ever.

I know that Christmas will be very different this year, but on behalf of the Social Committee, may I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a more hopeful New Year, when we can once more enjoy our social events together.



Kath Grantham
(on behalf of St. John's Social Committee)

Remember, St. John's Church can be found on:

Twitter: @StEssington, @StTots
Facebook: St Johns Church Essington
Website: stjohnsessington.co.uk

Wednesfield Rotary



*We are
so sad.....*

that Father Christmas will not be touring the streets of Wednesfield and Essington this Christmas – but he, like you, must socially distance until Christmas Eve. For 30 years we have been spreading Christmas cheer to children and adults alike. In return, your generosity has been so important and has helped support many organisations over the last twelve months, some of which are listed below:

Safety Visors (PPE) to Care Homes in Wednesfield
Garden for Nursery School in Essington
Support for Wednesfield Food Banks
Books4home to Wednesfield and Essington Schools
Crocuses to Wednesfield in Bloom
The Scout Association
Girl guiding
Financial and project support to Long Knowle Primary and Edward the Elder Schools
Alzheimer's Society
and many, many more.....

We need your help. We know we are asking a lot during these difficult times but if you could donate to Wednesfield Rotary's Charities

**text 70085 ROTO1 to donate £1 or
text 70085 ROTO2 to donate £2 etc.**

(or ROTON0INFO1 or 2 etc to withhold your consent to any
of your details being stored or used)

THANK YOU we hope to be back next year!

Dear Friends,



It is with a very heavy heart that I post my final update from Messy Tots. I have resigned from the role as CYFAM and am moving forward with my own projects.

I know I will miss Messy Tots, it was such great fun to be a part of, and a real privilege to have met so many of you in the process. I will miss the children from St. John's School and the great stories we shared in assemblies and services together.

My mission was always to bring Jesus to life in our story telling and through him, to bring children to know His father God. I hope some of those stories will stay with you and those little mustard seeds of faith we sang about every week will continue to grow.

Jesus' love is indeed very wonderful and I pray you feel His presence now and always.

Every blessing, Janette x

Essington Wood Wives Club

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Better New Year!

Hopefully we will be able to meet up soon and resume. Take care and keep safe.

Regards,

Margaret Derry (Chair)

Notice of Thanks

I would like to thank everyone who came to my husband Walter McCourt's Service of Celebration on 16th November 2019. The Church was full, showing how much he was respected.

Walter, known at "Wally", worked diligently for Essington Wood. He loved gardening and would be in the chapel garden most days. At Spring Fairs he would be outside with his stall and hundreds of plants he'd grown - and other times riding on a digger!

He wasn't afraid of getting his hands wet either. After Socials, at which he, along with Roy Sargeant and Ron Hodson, had performed a sketch, Wally could be seen in the kitchen, washing up with the ladies. No dishwasher in those days!

The highlight for him was the "Sunday School Anniversary". He would be there on the back row, singing with GUSTO, from the time Bernard Hawthorne conducted to when Paul and Stuart conducted and his grandchildren sang too.

His quote was "Faith, honesty and caring" and it influenced the way I live my life.

As for myself, I cannot remember the Service of Celebration, as I had had a breakdown and have been in a Care Home ever since, especially with this Coronavirus, but I too would like to thank people who have written to me, sending their love and prayers.

On a final note, I would like to send everyone in this "Special Village" my thanks and God's Blessings at this very special Season.

With love,

Eileen McCourt.

ESSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Has a venue available for hire that is suitable for a wide variety of functions / uses, at reasonable rates

ESSINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE **Hobnock Road, Essington, WV11 2RF**

Licensed Bar available

Catering available from The Old School Tearooms

Charges

Community Centre Hall - £15.00 per hour inc. VAT
or £120.00 per full day hire inc. VAT

Hire of the Council Chamber - £10.00 per hour

Bookings and enquiries can be made by contacting:

Louise Tipler, Acting Clerk to the Council,
01922 711608

Monday-Friday, 8.30 am - 4.30 pm
*(Please ring before you visit, to ensure that
the Clerk is in)*

Email: clerk@essingtonpc.org

www.essingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Tea Dance @ **Essington Community Centre**

Every Tuesday Afternoon
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

No partner required!



**A. LLOYD
PLASTERING AND ARTEXING**

Also Coving, Rendering and Painting
All Work Undertaken
Mobile: 07803 036215
Home No: 01922 408175
58 Hawthorne Road, Essington

Jay's Carpets

The one stop rolling
Carpet Shop!
For a free measure &
quote, with samples
brought to your home,
Contact Jay today.
You can call, text and
WhatsApp on
07957 197489

Standeford Garden Construction

EST 1954 Family Run Business
Block Paving, Tarmacing, Turfing
Slabbing, Fencing.
All General Landscaping.
We also deliver Soil, Sand, Stone, etc.
For a free quote, ring 07748 636549 or
01902 790238

Dawn's Pets and Gardens



Specialising in quality wild bird feed and feeders at very low prices.



Huge range of seasonal plants and garden sundries in stock.



Pet feed and supplies for all your pets.



Order service available for products not in stock.



Local delivery available.



Friendly service from a local family run business.

'Bottom shops', 60 Griffiths Drive, Ashmore Park, Wednesfield, WV11 2JW

Tel: 01902 659839 E-mail: dawnspets@googlemail.com

Teleview Services

Television ♦ Video ♦ Satellite
Sales ♦ Service ♦ Rentals
Also

Widescreen TV & Plasma: 24-28-32-42 inch

Call Winston on 07802 933568
or 01922 475782

ADAM & EVE'S

UNISEX SALON

71 HILL ST. ESSINGTON
Pensioners Rate Mon- Wed
Open:

9.00am - 5.00pm Tue - Fri
9.00am - 6.00pm Thurs
8.00am - 3.00pm Sat.

Tel: (01922) 406786

E. ARROWSMITH & SON

ALL ROOFING, FELT ROOFING
U.P.V.C FASCIA AND GUTTERS
BRICKWORK ETC.

VALLEYS

NO JOB TOO SMALL

185 BROAD LANE, ESSINGTON
TEL. (01922) 477754

REGISTERED PLUMBER
HATHERLEY'S
PLUMBING & HEATING

24 Hour

Emergency service,
also blocked
drains cleared

Tel: (01902) 731878

Mobile phone 07956 824381

S & L Business Services Ltd

Full Accountancy Service for the Small Business.

Specialising in Sole Traders. Self Employed.
Partnership Accounts.

PAYE & VAT Returns. Management Accounts.
Assistance in Corporate Recovery.

For all Enquiries Please Contact Steve Jones,
76 Brownshore Lane, Essington. WV11 2AG
Tel: 01922 494490 Mob: 07917 454136

Email: sw_jones@btinternet.com

SINGING, PIANO & MUSIC THEORY TUITION

07821 818519

M. COLLEY BA(Hons)
LLCM PGCE PGDip

PETE'S GLASS & WINDOWS

- Repair/Update Existing Hardwood, Softwood, uPVC Windows.
- Replacement Frames Made To Measure.
- Replacement Single or Double Glazing.
- Upgrade Your Existing Windows by fitting K Glass or Argon Fitted Units.
- Replacement Window Sills.
- Safety Glass.
- Arched uPVC Windows & Doors Supplied & Fitted.

For further details Tel: 01902 753482 or 07504 472459

ABSTRACT BLINDS
 VERTICAL- ROLLER- WOOD
 VENETIAN - VENETIAN
 CONSERVATORY BLINDS
 Free No Obligation Quotes and
 Competitive Prices
 Local Family Run Business
 Mobile: 07966 025011
 Or 01902 656688
www.abstractblinds.co.uk

Hawthorne Flowers & Home Brew

Weddings Birthdays Anniversaries & Funerals

Fresh or Artificial Flowers
 Gifts & Cards to complement your
 Flowers

Tel: 01922 402396

Email: enquiries@hawthorneflowers.co.uk
 66 Wolverhampton Road, Essington WV11 2BX

WOOD BURNING STOVE INSTALLATIONS

By Mike Kiely Heating

All aspects of solid fuel & gas work undertaken

HETAS & GAS SAFE REGISTERED

Please telephone Mike on 07968 034344

DJC ROOFING & BUILDING Ltd

All Types of
Roofing:

Firestone Rubber
Flat Roofing

20 Year Guarantee
Felt Roofing, Slating
Tiling, Repairs &
Maintenance. UPVC
Fascia & Guttering

**No Job Too Large
or Small**

Contact
Dave Cockayne:
07778 338458
or
01922 404169

B. N. NORTH & SON LTD REGISTERED PLUMBERS

PLUMBING AND CENTRAL
HEATING ENGINEERS.

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE
ON GAS, PLUMBING AND CENTRAL
HEATING



RYECROFT COTTAGE
BURNSIPS ROAD,
ESSINGTON WV11 2RE

Tel: 01922 475743
Mobile: 07889 887495

Marcus Cooper **Plumbing & Home Improvements**

Bathroom Fitting Kitchen Fitting
Floor and Wall Tiling
Free Bathroom & Kitchen Planning

All work undertaken - from replacing a tap
washer to designing and fitting a new kitchen
Phone for a free quotation

Tel. 01922 405315
Mob. 07950 850661
Kingsway Essington

Essington Mobility
Local service you can rely on

NEW SHOWROOM
OPEN 7 DAYS
AT HOLLYBUSH
GARDEN CENTRE

- Stairlifts - *Demonstration Model in store*
- Mobility Scooters - Test Drive Today!
- Rise & Recline Chairs - from £395
- Wheelchairs - *from £95*
- Walking Aids – indoor & outdoor

We now stock Wide Fitting Shoes and Slippers

Tel: 01922 413272

www.essingtonmobility.co.uk

HOMER HEATING SERVICES LTD

Gas, Oil & Combination Boiler Service & Repair

25 Years Experience
All Work Guaranteed
Family Run Business

126 Woden Avenue
Wednesfield
Wolverhampton
WV11 1PW

GAS SAFE Reg.

Tel: 01902 723849
Mob: 07831 788941

PERMANENT SEAL ROOFING G.R.P.

25 Year Guarantee on Flat Roofs
Using Fibre Glass Materials
All Types of Roofing Work Covered
Home and Garden Improvements Carried Out

For a Free Quote

Tel: David 01922 712877 (Home) 07976 414542 (Mobile)
110 Broad Lane Essington



ASHMORE GLASS

Est. 1998 (of Essington)
Suppliers & Installers of:-



UPVC - WINDOWS / DOORS / PORCHES & CONSERVATORIES

- MISTED GLASS REPLACED
- FASCIA / SOFFIT & GUTTERS
- GLASS / MIRROR CUT TO SIZE
- COMPOSITE / BIFOLD DOORS

FREE QUOTATIONS

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY & MEASURING SERVICE AVAILABLE
UNITS 27 - 29 ESSINGTON INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
BOGNOP ROAD ESSINGTON, WOLVERHAMPTON

FREEPHONE 0800 980 9620
01902 488334
01922 400029

www.ashmoreglass.co.uk

ashmoreglass@btconnect.com

IAN TAYLOR
BUILDING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
 KINGSWAY, ESSINGTON, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV11 2AH
 MOBILE: 07932 699549 OR 01922 408346
 E-MAIL : itaylor2@sky.com

GENERAL BUILDER with 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE
 SMALL EXTENSIONS / GARAGE CONVERSIONS /
 NEW BATHROOM REFITS / DECORATING / PATIOS / GARDEN
 WALLS / PLUMBING WORK / ALTERATIONS
 Free Quotations

WILLENHALL RUFC MINI AND JUNIORS

We recruit from the age of 6-18.
 We train on Wednesdays from 6.30pm
 Find us on Bognop Road, Essington
 Please call or text Michelle on 07432 028356
 or email:
 recruitment@willenhallruffc.co.uk
 for more information
 Free gift for all new members!



**PIANO, KEYBOARD, &
 MUSIC THEORY, TUITION**

All ages – all abilities

ESSINGTON

Tel: Rob, 07576 107832

A.J.SELLMAN

**Family Funeral
 Directors**

A Special Level of
 Care Since 1870

Pre-paid Funeral Plans
 and Advice

Bereavement Counselling

Funerals Arranged
 in any Area

70 Church Street,
 Cannock

St. Michael's Square,
 Penkridge

01543 502322 or
 01785 715840

sellmans@ajsellman.com
 www.ajsellman.co.uk

Mix Fitness with Friendship!
GENTLE EXERCISE CLASS

For older and less mobile people
 All welcome. No upper or lower age limits,
 all exercises can be done seated or standing

Essington Wood Methodist Church, Bursnips Road,
 Essington, WV11 2RE
 every Tuesday at 9.30 am

Refreshments available afterwards
 £3.50 per week, pay as you come

Lisa 07773 326373 lisaembrey@hotmail.com
 Fully qualified and insured. 10 years' experience

**Foot Health
 Practitioner**

For all your foot care
 Nail trimming
 Callus reduced
 Corn reduction
 Foot massage
 Including care for diabetic
 patients.

Contact Lorraine Barnes
 CFHP.MPSPract.
 Essington 07894 343773



• **Farm Shop • Butchery and Deli •**
• **Restaurant • PYO •**

Home reared, home produced and local
produce right on your doorstep!

**Pedigree Hereford Beef, Free-Range Pork and
Home Cured Bacon**

**Homemade Cakes, Pies and Ready Meals
Handmade in our Country Kitchen**

**Book to try our famous afternoon tea in our restaurant
or carvery roast every Sunday!**

Breakfast • Lunch • Afternoon Tea • Sweet Treats

• **Opening Hours •**

Farm Shop: Open daily 9 am-5 pm/**Restaurant:** Open daily 9 am-4.30 pm

**www.essingtonfarm.co.uk/01902 735724/
info@essingtonfarm.co.uk**



**Derek Mante BSc (Hons)
M.Ch.S.R.Ch. HCPC
Podiatrist/Chiropodist**

Having recently taken early
retirement from
Specialist Foot Health Services
Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
where I worked for 17 years
as Senior Podiatrist,

Now practising as Visiting
Podiatrist in your home.
Treatments for Diabetics, Arthritis,
Callus, Corns, Verrucas, Ingrowing
Toenails
(using local anaesthetics)
Foot & Toe Nail Infections.

Tel: 07929 474459
Email: derek.mante@tiscali.co.uk

CHRIS LAWLEY

Your Local
Painter & Decorator

**Over 40 Years
Experience**

Interior & Exterior

Free Estimates

**33 Wolverhampton Rd
Essington**

**Tel: 01922 712706
Mobile: 07940 492812**



Friends of Essington



Social Events - FoE Pub Quiz

Due to the latest Covid-19 lockdown, all further quizzes will take place “virtually” on a fortnightly basis from Wednesday 11th November onwards - unless notified via Twitter or the FoE website.

Time: 7.30 pm

Teams: Maximum of 6 persons per team

2021 Friends of Essington Calendar

Christmas is just around the corner, so why not purchase our 2021 Calendar? Now available from the usual outlets including the Post Office, Hawthorne Pharmacy, or any committee member.

Price: A minimum donation of £2.00, all proceeds to go towards projects in the village.

2022 Friends of Essington Calendar

The committee would like once again to extend an invitation to the community to submit photos of Essington. Seasonal variations would be welcomed for the 2022 Calendar.

Please submit pictures to the following email address:
foessington@gmail.com

Any pictures submitted will be assumed to be copyright free. We aim to place photos into a selection process by the end of August 2021.

Environmental

- You may have noticed that we have been maintaining our project areas around the village. Please refer to our Twitter account for up to date reports.

continued.....

- **Fly Tipping** continues to be a problem within the village and surrounding roads during these difficult times; so please keep up the good work of reporting issues as they occur.

Become a Member?

We are always looking for new members and would welcome anyone who would like to spend a few hours a month helping to maintain and improve our village environment. If you are interested, please contact us by email foessington@gmail.com, on Twitter [@FoEssington](https://twitter.com/FoEssington) or via our website: <http://friendsofessington.com>

**We wish all our members, supporters and sponsors a
Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

NEWS FROM ESSINGTON WOOD **December 2020**

After many years, I am writing the last article for the Essington Wood page. Although I didn't follow him directly, this page was contributed for many years by the late Geoff Allman.

2020 has not been a good year for any of us, due to Covid-19, and, at the time of writing, services have once again been suspended, after being held for five weeks without any singing.

Hopefully, if lockdowns are lifted in December, services may be able to resume.

I have thoroughly enjoyed doing this article, and I wish support to whoever writes it in the future.

J.M.L.

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Doctors Libberton, Ram & Gulati

Essington Community Centre,
Essington Medical Centre,
Hobnock Road, WV11 2RF.
Tel: 01922 470130
Open: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 6.30 p.m.
Tuesday 8 a.m. - **7.30 p.m.**

Pharmacy

Hawthorne Chemist,
Essington Community Centre.
Tel: 01922 491249
Open times: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
& Fri 8.30 am - 6.30 pm,
Sat 9 am - 1 pm

Essington Post Office

69 Hill Street, Essington.
Telephone: 01922 475379
Open Times:
Mon - Fri 6.30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 6.30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Registration of Births & Deaths

Register Office:
Cannock Chase Council Offices
Beecroft Road, Cannock,
WS11 1BG.
Tel: 0300 111 8001
Visits by appointment only.
Mon. to Fri. 9 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Playgroup

For details, ring: 01922 403255

Police contact number

Tel: 03001234455

Essington Medical Centre - Patient Participation Group

We are looking for new members.
If you are a patient and would like
to be involved, please contact the
surgery.

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE JANUARY 2021 MAGAZINE THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER 2020

Material received after this date may be held over to the next month. Also, some material may have to be held over if there is not enough space available to print it. All letters, notices of thanks, articles, poems etc. must be accompanied by the full name and address of the sender. *Material received by the Editor without this information will not be published.*

Material for publication in the next issue, please forward to :

Mrs Kate Rissbrook, Blackhalve Farm, Blackhalve Lane, Essington,
WV11 2BB Tel. 01902 732886
E-mail: stjohns_mag1@btinternet.com

All Advertising matters to:

Mr S. Bate, 86 Hill St, Essington. Tel. 01922 477002
E-mail: stanbate@btinternet.com

If you would like to receive this monthly Magazine:

(£5 for 12 issues, delivered free of charge)
Contact Mrs Bea Hammond, Tel. 01922 478753
E-mail: beatrice@bhammond.co.uk

Printed and published by St. John's Church, Essington.