

The Essington **Connection**

www.stjohnsessington.co.uk



March 2021

50p



March
2021

Dear Readers,

Well, we now have the Government's "road map" for the next few months, which will hopefully guide us back to some sort of normal life.

The full document ("Covid-19 Response - Spring 2021", to give it its proper title) is 68 pages long and, yes, I've read them all!

It was a little disconcerting that, as far as I could see, while the resumption of regular services in church fails to get a mention, the re-opening of nightclubs specifically does....! Perhaps that is vital information for some people.

Anyway, until services can begin again, there is information in the Church News Bulletin on how you can worship online. See page 19.

The March 2020 Magazine was, of course, the last one to be printed before the first lockdown was imposed. So many events were planned for the village - my own choir was due to perform in the Church in April.

It has without doubt been a very strange year, but, if evidence were needed, not only that life has gone on, but that people have been doing wonderful work, just look at page 21 to read about the award recently given to Karen Peach Robinson, Lay Reader at Shareshill, and her husband. Well done to them both.

Kate Rissbrook.

Services at Essington and Shareshill.....

.....are suspended until further notice due to the Coronavirus, and any changes will be notified via the notice boards etc.

The St. John's Team

For enquiries regarding:

Weddings	Mrs Mary White	01922 478853
Christenings	Mrs Delphine Hipkiss	01902 828064
Funerals	Mrs Joy Burrows	01922 407698
Use of WEB Annex	Mrs Kath Grantham	01902 732041
Safeguarding	Mrs Sue Davenport	01922 495516
Patronage & Stewardship (collecting money)	Mrs Sue Davenport	01922 495516
Reader	Mrs Delphine Hipkiss	01902 828064
Secretary	Mrs Hilary Southern	01922 445265
Verger	Mrs Joy Burrows	01922 407698
Church Warden	Mr John Peterken	01902 723157

<http://stjohnsessington.co.uk>

Parish Letter

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are just entering the season of Lent, that special time in the Christian year when we remember our Lord Jesus Christ's suffering and trials in the wilderness as he prepared himself for the difficult task which lay ahead.

We too have faced difficult times in the past year, how often did we follow the example of our Lord and pray to our Father God for ourselves, and for everyone who was suffering as a result of the pandemic? I would like to share with you a few verses from one of my favourite psalms, number 121, I have taken this from the King James bible and, although this version is sometimes quite difficult to read and understand, I just feel that the language is often more beautiful than some of our modern versions of the bible, particularly in the psalms -

v 1-2 *'I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who made Heaven and Earth'*

v5- 8 *'The Lord is thy keeper, the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil, he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and for evermore.'*

These words remind us that, wherever we are, the Lord is with us and will take care of us throughout our lives, whatever difficulties or dangers we face. This thought has been so important to us all since almost a year ago when we first felt the effects of the pandemic. Little did we know then just what difficult times we would experience or how our lives would

change in so short a time.

For me, and probably for many of you, the first real impact was felt on 22nd March. The first lockdown actually began a few days earlier but that date was significant because not only was it the first Sunday that our places of worship were closed, but also it was Mothering Sunday. During the previous week we had been bombarded with news and information about what we should and should not do, the main one being, 'DO NOT visit your mothers'. So, parents, grandparents, children and grandchildren were left with just one option – only see each other through the window, how awful was that?!

Mothering Sunday is actually a Christian Festival dating from the 16th century, and is always celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. It actually has no connection with 'Mother's Day' which is an American tradition celebrated in May, although in recent years the two seemed to have merged into one, and it has become increasingly difficult to find a card which actually says 'Happy Mothering Sunday'.

Although it has long been the day that we celebrate the love which mothers and their children have for each other, its origins had more to do with the church than with mothers. Traditionally young people working away from home, usually on large estates as servants and farm workers, were given one day off to go home and celebrate and worship in their parish, or 'Mother Church' where a special service would be held. Inevitably this also meant seeing their own mothers, and they would gather wild flowers from the fields and hedgerows to give to their mother, which is where this tradition originated, and why we give bunches of Spring flowers to everyone in church on this special day.

This year, Mothering Sunday falls on 14th March, and at the time of writing we do not know how we will be able to celebrate, and our own Mother Church of St. John's will be not open for the traditional service. There will however be a service online that you are invited to view on the Church website. But, whatever we are doing, we can give thanks for our mothers and our churches,

which will eventually open again so that we can join together in praise and worship and, wherever we are, we can pray for better times ahead.

We know that some of our prayers have already been answered, vaccinations are being given at a rapid rate, infections are falling and most people are playing their part to bring an end to the suffering we have experienced. So we must continue to pray and to have faith in the living God and in our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world, and, even if we only go for a walk on Mothering Sunday, instead of meeting inside a church, remember these words from, Matthew 18 v20 -

*'For where two or three gather in my name,
there am I with them'*

Kath Grantham.

St. John's Registers

Church Service & Burial at Essington Cemetery

1.2.21 William Sambrook (72)

Church Service & Burial in St. John's Churchyard

19.2.21 Beryl Kempson (90)

Church Service & Cremation at Bushbury.

24.2.21 Barbara Hayward (86)

Church Service & Burial at Lawn Cemetery

3.3.21 Bessie Cain (91)

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

Rev Rosemary Biddle	01922 419032
Sue Hinks-Caldwell	01922 516450



Gwen Chilton,
who has lived and worked in the village of
Essington for 63 years, is 90 on 20th March.

Congratulations to a very special and much
loved lady, from all her family. xxx

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

ESSINGTON HOME & GARDENS

**PAINTING,
CARPENTRY,
ELECTRICAL,
PLUMBING,
LANDSCAPING.**

Call James 07393 307638
Evening 01922 401756

THE 1911 CAFÉ

Your Community Café and Hub at The Essington Community
Centre. Open Monday to Friday 9-3 Saturday 10-3

With a wide range of hot and cold food and drinks

All day breakfast, takeaway, afternoon tea

Catering also available for events

Visit our Website www.1911cafe.co.uk, Call us 01922 408900

or 07958788911 or Email us hello@1911cafe.co.uk

The 1911 Café, Essington Community Centre,
Hobnock Road, Essington, Wolverhampton, WV11 2RF.



1911
C A F E

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
BURSNIPS 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

We are Moving.....

Still the same great service!

Tel: 01922 413272
www.essingtonmobility.co.uk

Showrooms now in Leamore and Hednesford

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

TOP QUALITY SEASONED LOGS

Suppliers of premium quality well-seasoned logs. All our logs are air dried and stored indoors, 17% moisture.

PARK NOOK LOGS Tel: 07715 497426

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

***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

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

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

STUART MACEY

Your Local
Painter & Decorator

Over 30 Years'
Experience

Interior & Exterior

Free Estimates &
Quality Work
Guaranteed

95 Hill Street, Essington

Tel: 01922 478837
Mobile: 07729 046766

NEWS FROM ESSINGTON WOOD

March 2021

Sadly, due to the present restrictions regarding Covid-19, there is no news as such. We are all hoping that the restrictions will be eased soon.

In the meantime, here is a little more of the history of Essington Wood.

The Licence referred to previously (and still lodged in the Bloxwich Circuit safe) was signed by Josiah Tildesley, Draper of Willenhall, a Trustee of the building.

There is a strong oral tradition that this original building was round, but no documentary evidence has been found to this effect.

From 1863 to 1885, Essington Wood was in the Walsall and Willenhall Circuit. The new Chapel was stated as containing 120 sittings and consisted of the main Chapel only. The Vestry and Primary rooms (now the present Chapel Buildings) were added in 1926 to replace various outbuildings.

The new buildings were designated "Wesleyan Chapel" which was registered on 3rd September 1883.

In October 1919 it was registered "for Solemnizing Marriages therein" - the first place of Worship in the village to receive such a licence.

Around this time there are oral traditions of open air meetings on a farm waggon outside Bluebrick House, Hobnock Road, with an orchestra accompanying the hymn singing from time to time.

J.C.



Friends of Essington

Social Events - FoE Virtual Pub Quiz

Due to the continued Covid-19 lockdown, all quizzes are taking place “virtually” on a weekly basis. Congratulations go to Quizmaster John, who has carried out this tradition throughout the Covid-19 period. Well done to you!

Date: Every Wednesday
Venue: Essington FoE Quiz Page
Time: 7.30 pm

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 continue to 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

Just before this lockdown period, we started to do our yearly bird box renovation at Brownshore Lane Pools. We managed to clean out a large proportion of existing boxes, but unfortunately we were unable to finish the work due to Covid restrictions. The pools have, however, enjoyed the installation of a number of bat boxes. These have been built and installed by a kind Essington resident, Scott Brown (along with friends formed from a support bubble). Thanks, Scott, and keep up the good work!

continued.....

Friends of Essington continued.....

Become a Member?

We are always looking for new members and would welcome anyone who would like to help 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>

News Bulletin from St. John's Church

Another month rolls by and have things changed? Well, for quite a few they have. The vaccination programme has begun and many people are working hard to get it to as many as possible as quickly as possible, so at least the prospect of a safer future can now be contemplated.

There are also people working hard behind the scenes to keep the church buildings going so that, when things improve, we can resume using them. One of the people who have worked so hard for the church (both buildings and people) is just coming up to her 90th birthday on 20th March. Gwen Chilton has filled many roles at St. John's and is still very fondly remembered by a great many people. Many, like myself, sang and prayed alongside her in church and came to feel honoured to be considered her friend, others worked with her and have memories going back decades. It is stories like Gwen's that are the real history of the church in Essington.

Thank you to those who read the appeal for money in last month's magazine. I have to say that we really need a

whole lot more to secure the future of the church. Have a look at the Just Giving page on the website. It really is safe and easy to use. And we get the extra 25% Gift Aid if you are paying income tax.

Meanwhile the true meaning of “a church” is the people who worship together. There is now a way you can join in some worship online. The link is https://youtube/w7ls_CeJ8Wk

This link is on the website too. Do have a look even if you have not regularly (or ever) come to the church. It is the first in a series and is about worshipping for real people of all ages. And like ordinary TV, if there are bits you don't like, you can fast forward and, if there are bits you really do like, you can replay them. God certainly won't mind. If you have any suggestions for things to be included, or would like to take part yourself, let me know on johnpeterken@virginmedia.com - the more the merrier!

The process of finding the next vicar continues. The Church of England is in dire financial straits nationally. This will inevitably have an impact on new appointments. The good news is that the local church activity in Essington parish, a reflection of the community spirit that has shown itself so well recently, has not gone unnoticed. We are confident that the post will be advertised soon. (This is not something we can do on our own from Essington, there is a framework of meetings with people from the diocese in Lichfield which we have to follow.)

So, settle down comfortably with a cup of tea, coffee or something stronger, and be prepared to sing or laugh or join in a prayer as you watch your own online service at St. John's.

Wear your daffodil and unite in memory...

Marie Curie, the UK's leading end-of-life care charity will this year celebrate their 35th annual Great Daffodil Appeal, which is held every March across the UK.



The money raised from this appeal enables the charity to continue their vital work providing care and support to people living with a terminal illness and their families.

The coronavirus continues to have a devastating effect on Marie Curie's fundraising, as activities up and down the country have had to be cancelled. This year will be even more special as the charity encourages the nation to come together to reflect, grieve and remember for a National Day of Reflection. Tuesday, 23rd March 2021 will mark one year since the UK first went into a nationwide lockdown and Marie Curie is inviting the nation to unite and remember those who died and show support and solidarity for those who have been bereaved. The charity knows how important it is for people to grieve and the emotional and psychological impact that not being able to say goodbye properly and grieving in isolation can have.

Due to the pandemic, Marie Curie won't have their normal collections on the street, so donations are more important than ever. To support the Great Daffodil Appeal, you can donate at www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil or you can buy your daffodil pin at a number of high street stores.

Congratulations.....

to Karen Peach Robinson, Lay Reader at our sister church in Shareshill. She and her husband were awarded Carers of the Year 2020 for the Midland Area.



(Credo Care is an independent fostering provider specialising in the care of children with disabilities, complex medical needs and learning difficulties.)

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 APRIL 2021 MAGAZINE THURSDAY 25th MARCH 2021

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.