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# **Essington Parish Council**

## **Street Buddy Scheme**

The Scheme started on 26<sup>th</sup> March and, after a slow start, has steadily picked up and to date (22<sup>nd</sup> April) we have carried out over 80 separate requests for assistance.

They range from shopping trips, collecting and delivering prescriptions, dog walking, posting cards and parcels, to collecting and distributing fresh produce from the Salvation Army at Hednesford and Marks & Spencer at Hilton Park Services on the M6.

This produce was distributed at very short notice to local Care Homes and Cherry Tree Court.

We can put you in touch with Essington Farm, who can supply a meat and vegetable box.

We can also assist with access to cash.

We have also been dealing with requests for assistance from the food bank and delivering food parcels.

So, if you need any assistance at all, please get in touch by telephoning 07398 091136.

Many thanks to our Co-ordinators for manning the phone (even over Easter and the Bank Holiday), and to our network of Local Street Buddies without whom the Scheme could not operate.

***Chris Steel***  
***Essington Parish Council***

## Around the Village - The Church

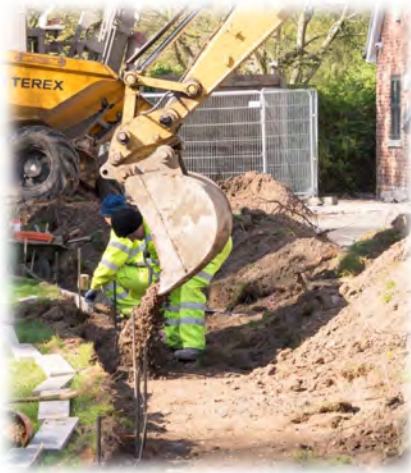
Don't you just love it, when an idea comes together? If, like me, you can remember the A Team, then this is just the time to use that quote.

At a time of great emergency this community, like many others in the country, has shown itself to be creative, determined and compassionate. A winning combination in any circumstance. Some of us have had more connection with our neighbours, friends and family than in a very long while. The various volunteer services, organised to help those infirm and poorly, or younger but isolated, have proved successful.

All those involved, organising and delivering, deserve our gratitude.



And there is light at the end of the tunnel. Many will have noticed the work being done in the churchyard. Alan Degg's men, who have been working on important civic



contracts, have found a window of opportunity to get on with the church drive.


The grass has been cut back to create greater space for parking. You will remember that the Hall is going to be sold and that includes the carpark space around it. Not only will there be a nice, newly surfaced drive but the

edging and markings will make far better use of the space and also make it much safer.

The new WEB annex is now on display as the hoardings have been removed. Soon the access ramp will be built at the entrance and then all we will be waiting for is the opportunity to start using it!

How lucky we are that in this crisis the spirit of the risen Jesus is showing itself in so many people around us.

**Keep safe, keep being kind and thoughtful!**

	<p><i>Usually, we would give information in the May Magazine about arrangements for Christian Aid Week.</i></p> <p><i>This year, of course, collections and events cannot go ahead. But Christian Aid Week has moved online! Have a look at <a href="http://christianaid.org.uk">christianaid.org.uk</a> where there is information on how to donate - and there's even a daily quiz!</i></p>
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VE DAY

75TH

ANNIVERSARY



On Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 Britain will be commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, when the guns fell silent at the end of war in Europe.

Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, most VE Day 75 events and street parties, including our own Essington Royal British Legion party, have had to be cancelled or postponed, but there is still a way to mark the occasion, share your pride in our country and honour the men and women of World War 2.

Below is an extract from the [veday75.org](http://veday75.org) website:

“We are encouraging everyone to undertake the ‘Nation’s Toast to the Heroes of WW2’ at 3.00 pm on 8<sup>th</sup> May, from the safety of their own home, by standing up and raising a glass of refreshment of their choice and giving the following ‘Toast’ –

“To those who gave so much, we thank you”, using this unique opportunity to pay tribute to the many millions at home and abroad who gave so much to ensure we all enjoy and share the freedom we have today.

With my very best wishes,

***Bruno Peek LVO OBE OPR  
Pageantmaster VE Day 75.”***

Also, have a look at the [bbc.co.uk/makeadifference](http://bbc.co.uk/makeadifference) website, for instructions on how to make your own bunting. That’ll keep the children occupied for a bit....!!

***Ed.***

*It was 80 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1940, that Winston Churchill gave his first speech in the House of Commons, having taken over from Neville Chamberlain, saying, “I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat.”*

## 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  
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### 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 JUNE 2020 MAGAZINE THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MAY 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:**

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