

# The Link

**COUGHTON with SAMBOURNE PARISH NEWS**



**Alcester Minster Churches** at Alcester,  
Arrow, Coughton, Great Alne, Haselor,  
Kinwarton, Sambourne and Weethley

**JANUARY 2021**

**RECTOR of ALCESTER MINSTER: Vacancy. Please contact the Administrator**

**Administrator**

Tricia Berry **t: 01789 509278 m: 07840 284294**

(Monday - Friday 10.00 am - 1.30 pm)

Alcester Minster Office, Church House, 17 Butter Street, Alcester, B49 5AL (opening hours 10.30 - 12.30 Monday - Friday)

administrator@alcesterminster.org

**Reader**

Mrs P Newbold **t: 01527 458852** the\_newbolds@blueyonder.co.uk

**COUGHTON WITH SAMBOURNE CHURCH OFFICERS**

**Church Warden** Gail Laband **t:01789 764736** gail@laband.uk

**Assistant Church Warden** Mike Thake **t:07966314828** mike@thake.biz

**PCC Secretary**

Mrs Sue Swinbourne **t: 01527 457357** sueswinbourne@virginmedia.com

**Treasurer**

John McTavish, Knockmore, Sambourne Lane, Coughton, Warks B49 5HS

**t: 01789 764703**

**Coughton Flowers Co-ordinator**

Joy Hawthorne **t:01789 764577** joyandjimhomestall@btinternet.com

**Sambourne Flowers Co-ordinator**

Sandra Archer **t :01527 892837**

Please contact if wishing to make own flower arrangements for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

**Sambourne Church Booking Agent**

Debbie Lanz, **t: 07711 834716** debs.doo@gmail.com

**Family and Children Worker**

Beth Clarke **t: 07494 329638** beth.clarke@covLEC.org

**GIFT AID**

Whenever possible, please gift aid any donations made to our churches. Charitable causes can reclaim an extra 25p in the £1 from the government on donations made under the Gift Aid Scheme. The giver must have paid a tax amount that at least equals the tax being reclaimed on the donation. Please contact the treasurer.

Items of news for **"The Link"** by the **FOURTEENTH** of the month to:

Gail Smith gailsmith@aol.com **t: 07449 930480**

Whilst the Editor welcomes material for publication in **"The Link"**, they do not guarantee that items submitted will be included or will appear in a particular issue. The Editor reserves the right to edit or shorten items used. Publication is in good faith and does not imply accuracy of content or agreement with views expressed

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*CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF PRODUCTION ARE VERY WELCOME.*

## A Message from Pat Newbold

Hello everybody – Happy New Year!

Well, 2020 will surely go down in the history of the world – and will surely stay in our memories for a very long time!

I wonder what personal memories will stay with you, what will you recount in the years to come to the children who come after you. I guess my accounts of countless Zoom calls, and my pathetic attempts to try to do sermons etc for the online service – I have given up!

But all of us will have witnessed, if not experienced, the fear, the disasters, the real suffering of those close to us who have lost livelihoods, jobs, homes, loved ones. These things stay in our hearts.

We will also have seen new relationships that have started and blossomed, endless kindnesses given and received, extra miles walked every day. We should write down our personal memories in a communal diary for posterity!

As the year ends and another year enfolds, and as we look into the great unknown, it is easy to imagine that chaos reigns....

But the gospels assure us that in this tiny baby in Bethlehem, our amazing God became man, a Light which will never be extinguished has come into the world: a Light which no darkness, however menacing, will be able to snuff out; a Light that beams into chaos, and if we have eyes to see it, creates order and beauty and illuminates our path.

It is so easy to become part of the darkness, and so to spread it, as our human eyes cannot see the end of the tunnel. But there is Light and Hope!

Hope can be a funny old wish-bone sort of word – hope it doesn't rain tomorrow, hope the A46 is clear, hope the Baggies win....

But sure HOPE makes a difference: Hope that brings light and peace and security deep down in our innermost being, Hope that knows that God the Son came to earth because he loves us too much to leave us floundering. He had our weaknesses and misdeeds nailed to the Cross with Him, so that when Father God looks at us, He sees in us the beauty of Jesus.

There have been desperate times in my life, when I have hung on to God with one finger nail, drowning in hopelessness, but friends were praying, I was trying to,

and after what seemed - and indeed was - a very long time, HOPE took over and I learned He never ever leaves us and that **nothing** is impossible with God.

So take heart, talk to the God who created you, who loves you infinitely (however unloveable you might feel) and know His Hope filling your soul for 2021!

I think Minnie Louise Haskins got it about right:

*"I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'*

*And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God, that shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'*

May God bless you all with his love, his peace, his stillness and the stickability and patience to see this virus through! I can't wait for my vaccine....

*Pat*

## Alcester Minster Church Services January 2021

**03 Jan**

**Readings:**

*Ephesians 3 v 1 – 24, Matthew 2 v 1 0 12*

Epiphany	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Alcester
Gold/White	10.00 am	Plough Service	Haselor
	4.00 pm	Holy Communion	Sambourne

**10 Jan**

**Readings:**

*Acts 19 v 1 – 7, Mark 1 v 4 - 11*

Baptism of	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Alcester
Jesus	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Arrow
White	4.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Kinwarton

**17 Jan**

**Readings:**

*1 Samuel 3 v 1 – 10 [v 11 – 20]*

Epiphany 2	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Alcester
White	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Coughton
	3.00 pm	Evening Prayer	Weethley

**24 Jan**

**Readings:**

*Revelation 19 v 6 – 10, John 2 v 1 - 11*

Epiphany 3	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	Alcester
White	10.00 am	Holy Communion	Great Alne

**31 Jan**

**Readings:**

*Psalms 111*

*[or Deuteronomy 18 v 15 – 20], Mark 1 v 21 - 28*

Epiphany 4	10.00 am	Minster Holy Communion	Alcester
White			

**You must reserve a place if you wish to attend a Minster service, by emailing or telephoning the Administrator**

**Email: [administrator@alcesterminster.org](mailto:administrator@alcesterminster.org)**

**Tel: 01789 763 246**

**An On-line service is available every Sunday on the Welcome page of the Alcester Minster website  
[www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)**

### MINSTER EVENTS

**For the most up-to-date information on Minster Events please see the website calendar on the noticeboard page on the website – [www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org) or check out the**

Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on facebook?



Find details and pictures of events at

**[www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster)**



**Alcester Minster Churches at Alcester, Arrow, Coughton, Great Alne, Haselor, Kinwarton, Sambourne and Weethley**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are delighted to announce that the Reverend Katie Cross has been appointed as the next Rector in the parishes of Alcester, Arrow with Weethley, Haselor, Kinwarton with Great Alne, and Coughton with Sambourne, known as the Alcester Minster Benefice in the Diocese of Coventry, subject to the completion of all legalities.

Katie is presently Rector in the Netherexe Parishes, a rural mission community of eight parishes and ten churches near Exeter in Devon.

Katie, her husband Paul and family will move to Alcester Rectory in the Spring. We have yet to arrange a date for her institution service



Sambourne Church is open on Wednesday mornings from 10am to 12 and Coughton on Thursdays from 9.30am to 11am for prayer. Do feel free to come along to pray quietly or if you feel you need to chat with someone or ask for prayer, we are there



### **Prayer**

The Ministry Leadership Team  
would like you to pray for

the following topics:

- 1. On this Epiphany Sunday give thanks that Jesus is the light of the world and pray that the light of his love may shine in the darkness of our world today.*
- 2. Pray for God's healing touch for all those who are sick, and that they might know his peace that is beyond understanding.*

### **Baptisms**

*No Baptism services have taken place*

### **Weddings**

*No Wedding services have taken place*

### **Funerals**

*No funerals services have taken place*

*Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals from 15 October to 14 December 2020  
in connection with Coughton with Sambourne Parish*



# Studley Isolation Support Group update

May 2020 Edition 2

Now, more than ever, the community in our village are pulling together to support each other. The Studley Isolation Support Group supports all those who are isolated, alone, elderly or vulnerable. With Studley in Business and the Parish Council, we have built a core team of around 50 volunteers who carry out tasks on a daily basis. So far we have supported 165 households and undertaken over 1000 tasks. These range from shopping, prescription collection to dog walking and daily newspaper deliveries.

Nothing is too much trouble for our volunteers, and we actively encourage anyone who is having to isolate, with no close family close by to help them, to give us a call on **07933 093268** from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday.

If you have a neighbour you are concerned about then please ask them to call us. Our aim is for everyone who is vulnerable to stay safely at home. No one who should be isolating needs to do any shopping, our volunteers are shopping ninjas!

We will be here for as long as necessary, and alongside our day to day tasks we can arrange for someone to call you for a chat, drop off some books or jigsaws, post letters etc. We are here for you.

**If you need help the Contact Phone number is: 07933 093268**  
**Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm**

Please note that we operate a password system to protect you. Please do not open the door to anyone you don't know, unless they can tell you the password that YOU have chosen. There are scammers capitalising on the current situation, and we want everyone to stay safe. Always follow the Government's Social Distancing guidelines

We are still looking for volunteers, please contact us if you are willing to help..

Many volunteers are busy **sewing scrubs, bags, headbands and face-masks**. They are in need of new material (that can be washed at 60 deg), elastic & buttons about the size of a 2p. If you can help then please call the Isolation Support Group on 07933 093268.

**Arden Foodbank** is working hard to supply food parcels to our community. Anyone who is struggling can request a voucher. Parcels can be collected from the Methodist Church on Tuesday afternoons, or one of the Isolation Support Group Volunteers can collect and deliver it for you. To contact the foodbank please call 07733 551926. Food donations can be made via the collection box in the Co-Op, or by calling the Isolation Support Group on 07933 093268.

**Useful Contacts:** Samaritans 116123 24-hour helpline

Your mental health is important. For a listening ear in time of need, call Janet 07852 349361

Mental Health Matters 0800 616171, 24-hr helpline & webchat [www.mhm.org.uk/coven-try-warwickshire-helpline](http://www.mhm.org.uk/coven-try-warwickshire-helpline)

Arden Marches Churches - for help, someone to talk to, or a prayer request: Revd Kate Mier 01527 852830 [rector@ardenmarches.co.uk](mailto:rector@ardenmarches.co.uk)  
or Revd Dan Corlett 07543370637 [curate@ardenmarches.co.uk](mailto:curate@ardenmarches.co.uk)

# Local Businesses & Contacts Offering Services to the Community

The situation changes daily, so for up to date information please visit [www.enjoyablistudley.com](http://www.enjoyablistudley.com) and check out the Studley Isolation Support Group Facebook page for updates.

**Bespoke Butchers** FREE delivery over £25, or if you are over 65 no min. Tuesday-Friday. Ring 01527 852235 in the morning to check availability. Deliveries at the end of the day.

**Bruno's Bakery** min delivery £10, packed lunches also available for delivery. 01527 854652

**Mount Everest** for takeaways 6-8.30pm Sun-Thur & 5.30-9.30pm Fri & Sat 01527 850717

**Caney's Cider** deliveries. Contact: social media, website or email [canescider@gmail.com](mailto:canescider@gmail.com)

**Studley Fish Bar** for collection or delivery. Download their App or call 01527 852448  
Delivery of orders over £10 with a delivery fee of £1.75

**The Cantonese Chef** is open 01527 852021.

**Purity Brewing** free delivery over £40 [www.puritybrewing.com/online-shop](http://www.puritybrewing.com/online-shop)

**Seven Mile** Homemade frozen meals delivered on Weds & Fri. Phone Jake 07891 448749  
[jake@sevenmile.co.uk](mailto:jake@sevenmile.co.uk) See [www.sevenmile.co.uk](http://www.sevenmile.co.uk) & Facebook for menus

**Stephanie Evans** (Virtual MoneyPenny) for coordinating home deliveries if you're struggling  
07908 226633

**Fetch N Stretch** for dog walks for the elderly or key workers. Emily Smith 07713 057028

**Robert Pannifer** from Thomas Guise Solicitors for phone support 01527 912912

**Studley Florist** deliveries of fresh flowers for birthdays, celebrations, memorials or a cheer up gift. 01527 853509 Mon-Fri mornings [www.studleyflorists.co.uk](http://www.studleyflorists.co.uk) & Facebook/Insta

**Botany Bay Garden Centre** FREE delivery over £25 within 5 miles. 01527 893885

**Flutterby Heidi** Handmade cards with local delivery. [www.flutterbyheidi.co.uk](http://www.flutterbyheidi.co.uk) 07791 662348

**Happy Buffalo** personalised gifts, free local delivery [happy-buffalo.myshopify.com](http://happy-buffalo.myshopify.com) & FB

**Helping Hands** homecare services Katie 07792 172 604 [Katie.Woodhall@helpinghands.co.uk](mailto:Katie.Woodhall@helpinghands.co.uk)

**Alcester Home Care** homecare provider 01789 765468 [office@alcesterhomecareagency.co.uk](mailto:office@alcesterhomecareagency.co.uk)

**Neighbourhood Watch:** Ring the Police on 101 for suspicious activity. For a crime ring 999 & then tell Jim Bacon ([jimbacon@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jimbacon@blueyonder.co.uk)) so Jim can alert others.

Please email [info@enjoyablistudley.co.uk](mailto:info@enjoyablistudley.co.uk) if you are a local business & wish to be included online



[www.studleyinbusiness.co.uk](http://www.studleyinbusiness.co.uk)

We would like to express our thanks to everyone who has helped to create, print and deliver this leaflet.

When you talk to your neighbours (from a safe distance), ask that they keep this leaflet close at hand, for help in the coming weeks. Not everyone has access to Social Media, and they may feel very isolated, particularly if they are poorly.



[www.enjoyablistudley.com](http://www.enjoyablistudley.com)

All information is correct at time of print.

## Nature jottings from Perrymill Lane

The wet weather over the past few weeks has meant that we've continued to keep to the surfaced



lanes. Walks have now taken us beyond the ford at Coughton and along Coughton Lane as far as the B4090. This has reminded us just how pleasant is the view over the open countryside towards and beyond Alcester from the top of the rise out of Coughton.

15<sup>th</sup> Nov. Our garden received two visits from a Sparrowhawk, neither of which ended in a meal for the bird.

18<sup>th</sup> Nov. Our early Christmas present to ourselves arrived – a moth trap, which I hope will enable me report on a different set of visitors to our garden next year.

19<sup>th</sup> Nov. We spotted a Little Egret near a Heron in a field off Sambourne Lane near Sambourne Park. This is the first one we've seen near the centre of the village.

21<sup>st</sup> Nov. Graham and Elizabeth have been enjoying seeing this Little Egret together with at least three Herons for the past week.

22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. A cormorant flew overhead by the ford at Coughton. In Wike Lane a couple of Fieldfares were perfectly illuminated by the low winter sun reminding us of just what attractive birds they are.

25<sup>th</sup> Nov. Two Pied Wagtails visited our garden. They've now become quite regulars.

26<sup>th</sup> Nov. The well-berried holly tree in our neighbour's garden is proving to be a great attraction to the local population of Redwings.

5<sup>th</sup> Dec. Redwings are still feeding on the holly berries next door. I put out a niger seed feeder for the first time for many months. Last time it took some time for the birds to show any interest, but two Goldfinches arrived to feed within hours.

Embryonic catkins are now visible to remind us that spring comes after winter. Buds are also becoming more noticeable in some trees and bushes.

12<sup>th</sup> Nov. We noticed a small flock of Meadow Pipits near a barn in Coughton Lane. A yellowhammer was perched in a nearby tree. As we walked back along Wike Lane the pheasant shoot was beginning. A short distance ahead of us a startled Muntjac appeared from the woodland and ran across the road but found that there was no gap in the fence. In a panic it whirled around, shot back across the road and disappeared into the woods. On our return home we noticed snowdrops in flower in the garden two houses from us.

15<sup>th</sup> Dec. In a field beside Coughton Lane we noticed a flock of at least fifty Redwings and a few Fieldfares feeding.

17<sup>th</sup> Dec. Pat Newbold spotted 2 adult and 2 young otters at Arrow Valley Lake, very exciting!



18<sup>th</sup> Dec. A lady who lives in Coughton Lane mentioned having occasional visits to her garden from a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. These are now rare birds, so this is good news.

We may be closed over the winter but our conservation team are still hard at work carrying out the deep clean of the house ready for when we re-open in spring. During the closed months archive documents are photographed and filed, all of the brown wood furniture is dusted and museum wax is used to clean iron, steel, copper and brass which provides a protective seal for the next season.

By January we are deep into our annual clean and it's a really good time for the team to condition check each object in the collection. This includes checking the books in the Saloon which are susceptible to mould and waxing the floors which is a big job for the conservation team and their volunteers.

Our sister properties over at Baddesley Clinton and Packwood are open all year except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. There's something magical about walking in winter, from hearing the frosty grass crunch underfoot to seeing low-lying mists sweeping across the countryside, the first months of the new year are the perfect time to wrap up warm, throw on some wellies and go for an invigorating walk. Blow away the cobwebs along blustery canal paths or take a frosty stroll across the Warwickshire countryside, now is the ideal time to get outside and enjoy the outdoors.

Over at Baddesley during January (whilst stocks last), join Peter Rabbit and his friends for some winter fun on a trail around the grounds. Peter Rabbit's friends need some help finding items to see them through the colder winter months. Young nature adventurers can lend a hand to some of Beatrix Potter's well-loved characters such as Squirrel Nutkin, Mr. Jeremy Fisher and Jemima Puddle-Duck, and solve the clues to earn their special trail badge and certificate. Booking on weekends is essential, the trail can be purchased upon arrival at the shop, £2 per trail.

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coughtoncourt](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/coughtoncourt) or call 01789 400777

Follow us on Twitter @NTCoughton or 'Like' us at [www.facebook.com/CoughtonCourt](http://www.facebook.com/CoughtonCourt)

# NOTICES



The Christmas Trees on both Sambourne Village Green and Middletown Green, looked magnificent this year – thank you so much to the residents who contributed and to those who took the time to set it up.

And Pete's lantern looks amazing. Oh for the end of lockdown!



It has been rumbling in my mind whether anyone would appreciate joining a Questions Group in Sambourne and Coughton, where we could discuss our questions or thoughts about the Christian faith? Or maybe a Lent Course?

Do let us know – be good if it could be in person...



Our income has understandably been reduced, but thanks to those who have continued to give or have contributed more, we have not lost as much as we might have done. So we felt that



we should be generous to those who usually rely on our donation, and have given £300 to the Children's Society who must be missing the income from Christingle services, and £250 to the Birmingham Children's Hospital.

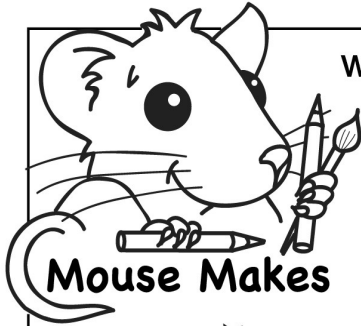
This lockdown has been a peculiar time for our Churches, but it has been so good to be able to start meeting together again, even if with reduced numbers, and we have had lots of joy in our worship. You would be most welcome to join us on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 4pm at Sambourne, and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 10am at Coughton – but do let Gail Laband or the Administrator know if you can, so we have seats reserved for you.



*Pat Newbold*

**\*Please note—Due to Covid-19 Coronavirus, this information may be out of date. For updates and opening times, please see the contact details above or on page 2**

## Junior Link



What happened after Jesus had been born in Bethlehem?

**READ Matthew 2:1-12**

Who came from the East?

Why had they come?

What were they following?

Who was alarmed by their arrival?

Who had the prophet written about?

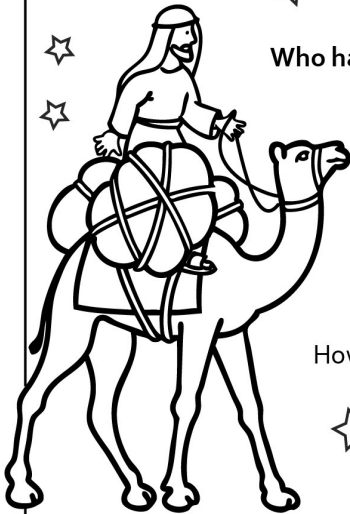
Where were they then sent?

What were they to look for?  
..... and why?

Where did the star lead them?

Who did they see? ..... What did they do?

How were they warned to go home another way?



**READ Matthew 2:13-23**

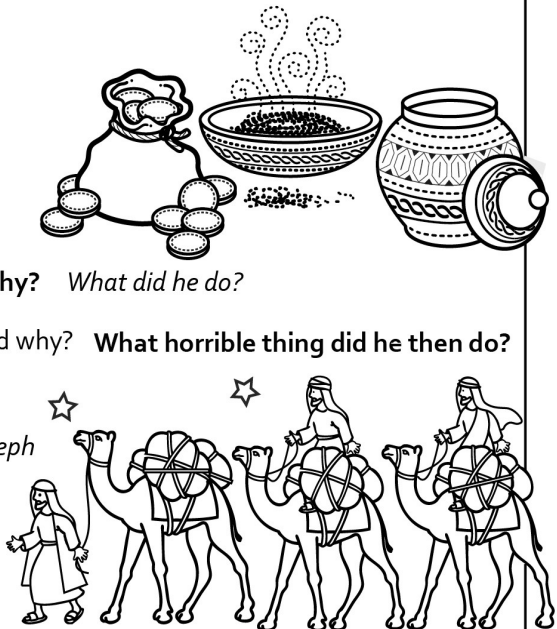
Who appeared to Joseph?

What was he told? .... Why? What did he do?

Who then became angry?..... and why? What horrible thing did he then do?

When Herod died where was Joseph told to take his family?

Where did Jesus finally grow up?





Our next meeting is on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7pm.

Our new website includes the following information and more:

Please sign up for email alerts at [www.coughtonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.coughtonparishcouncil.co.uk)

For PC information, please contact our Clerk:

Kerry Finlayson [coughtonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:coughtonclerk@gmail.com)

The winners of the December draws, with 3 prizes, were Julie Waplington from Sambourne and Lorna, the Treasurer's daughter-in-law, living in Surrey, both winning £100. Kath Spencer from Coughton was the other winner collecting the voucher for the festive cockerel.

After that excitement this month`s draw will be the first jackpot draw of 2021 for £450. The draw will be made at Sambourne on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5.00pm. Should the present restrictions change and the service be cancelled then the draw will be made by Peter Laband in his own inimitable style on facebook at 12 noon on that day.

The Organisers will be pleased to welcome any new members who would like to join the 100 Club. By doing so you would not only be helping to maintain the churches in both Sambourne and Coughton but also have every chance of winning a cash prize each month. You should contact Peter Laband (01527 893879) or John McTavish (01789 764703) to be included in the monthly bit of fun.

[illegible]



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