

Dear School / Parent / Community Group / Local Business

Pennington is planning to celebrate Christmas in style by lighting up the village with over 100 Christmas trees and 3000 lights and we know that it is incredibly short notice but we (the community of Pennington) need your help to make it happen. Rev Rachel who normally puts together the displays on the hedge is unwell with Covid – she doesn't want the hedge to remain bare, so we are rising to the challenge to make it happen, and we need your help!

A volunteer in the village is busy cutting out over 100 wooden 2D Christmas Trees (each 1.2m high) which will be secured to the church hedge – from the 10<sup>th</sup> December, and the forest of trees will continue to grow as more are returned. Each of these trees needs decorating – with weather resistant materials – we would love to see your tree decorated with the spirit Christmas, paint, secured 3-D objects, laminated decorations, crochet, and of course you can add something that say "Tree by \_\_\_\_\_". If you have spaces for more people to join you either as a volunteer or as a community-based activity by all means add these too.

Where do we collect the Trees?

- The Trees will be available to collect from Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – in the front garden of the Vicarage, Ramley Road, Pennington, SO41 8HF – If you are a local school / preschool / nursery / local co-ordinator and would like several trees – then please get in touch before hand on 0777 985 2372 and we can try and arrange delivery on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Trees will need to be returned to the collection point – as soon as possible – we would like as many as we can by the 9<sup>th</sup> December, but appreciate this is short notice... so the forest will continue to grow in the run up to Christmas!

What about the 3000 lights?

- We hope to magically light the trees along the hedge this year, but we also need your help – please decorate your homes and gardens that are visible from the road... and be ready to switch your lights on on the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> December from 5pm. We can't celebrate with a street celebration this year but we can light up the whole of Pennington with your help.
- Pennington Infants School are busy this week creating lanterns that can go in windows around the village – these will be available from the 6<sup>th</sup> December from the school office (8.30-3.30) for donations from £1 – which will help school funds, they then hope to launch the event with some outdoor carols at Pennington Infants at 4.30pm (details to be shared on [St Mark's Church Facebook page](#) @StMarksChurchPennington – where the children will bring their lanterns and afterwards will hopefully see the village lit up on their journey home.

PTO...

**Christmas 2021 Only:**  
[www.penningtonchurch.uk](http://www.penningtonchurch.uk)  
**Email:** [design@renouf.co.uk](mailto:design@renouf.co.uk)  
**Telephone:** 07779852372

St Marks Church,  
Ramley Road,  
Pennington,  
SO41 8GQ



How else can we help?

Donate:

We are collecting donations: <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/PenningtonChristmasTreeFestival> - to enable St Mark's church and the community to run more events in future, we would have liked to ask local business to sponsor the trees, local residents whom the "church hedge" has raised a smile for over the last year – but due to Covid we have run out of time. So, we are hoping by sharing the link – you will be able to support us in some way.

Share:

We have attached a poster and this letter – we would appreciate it if you can share to families, children, businesses, care homes, schools and the whole community – print it and display it to encourage everyone to Light up Pennington and make it Treemondous this festive season.

Thank you so much for your support in making this happen, and for spreading the word.

Helen

