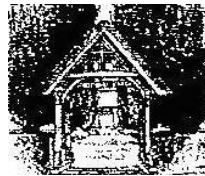




# PRESTON

## Church & Village News

### April 2015



Deadline for the May 2015 newsletter is 20 April. Contact Howard Trinder ☎435339 or e-mail [htrinder@btinternet.com](mailto:htrinder@btinternet.com).

The newsletter is also available via the village website [www.prestonvillageherts.com](http://www.prestonvillageherts.com).

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Tue 7 Apr	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Sat 11 Apr	Police Surgery – Village Hall – 10.00am to 12.00pm
Wed 15 Apr	Preston Village Society – Redroofs Back Lane – 8.00pm
Tue 21 Apr	Defibrillator Awareness Meeting – Primary School – 7.00pm
Wed 22 Apr	Preston Parish Council – Village Hall – 8.00pm
Fri 1 May	Village Hall AGM – Village Hall – 11.00am
Tue 5 May	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Sat 9 May	Primary School May Ball
Sun 10 May	Preston Trust AGM – Village Hall 11.00am
Sun 24 May	Preston Open Gardens

#### **PRESTON CRICKET CLUB**

Dear Friends. The cricket season is soon upon us and the prep behind the scenes continues to gather pace. We are very much in need of assistance with our teas, both at the Preston CC Ground and at the ground we also share at Hitchin Boys School. Our teas have wide-acclaim and are officially acknowledged by the Saracen Herts League as one of the very best teas in the entire League. We do however need more help. If anyone is interested in supporting a thriving Cricket Club providing teas on Sat or Sun in the Summer months - a keen baker maybe, someone looking to earn some money in the holidays, etc we'd love to hear from you and I'll happily just talk through things initially. Thank you! Mark Waters - 07796544683

#### **THE PRESTON TRUST AGM**

The Preston Trust warmly invites you to its Annual General Meeting on 10 May in the village hall at 11.00am. It's been an active twelve months, so please do come along if you can to hear in brief how the Trust has aimed to fulfil it's objectives over the past year, and plans for the next year. The Trust exists to enhance and preserve Preston for the benefit of all villagers, so there will be a space for you to contribute any comments or ideas you may have.

#### **OPEN GARDENS AND TEA - ST PAULS WALDENBURY**

Would anyone be able to make a cake or two to sell with the tea on Sunday 26 April? Whatever you enjoy making will be gratefully received. All proceeds to St Martin's Church. ☎ Meta 456567 or Sue 434194 for collection.

**April****SIDESMAN****READER**

- 2nd Maundy Thursday. 8pm Communion Service at All Saints
- 3rd Good Friday. At All Saints: 10.00am Children's service - 2.00pm The Last Hour
- 5th 9.30am Captain Lowle Mr Kellard  
EASTER DAY (Acts 10:34-43, RCL p.541  
Gospel: Mark 16:1-8)  
Intercessions: Mr Dickinson Chalice: Mr Dickinson
- 12th 9.30am Mrs Reeves Mr Constantinidi  
(Acts 4:32-35, RCL p.541  
Gospel: John 20:19-31)  
Intercessions: Mrs Sansom Chalice: Miss Hunter  
11.00am Family Service at All Saints.
- 19th 9.30am Mr Cole Mr Blockley  
(Acts 3:12-19, RCL p.551  
Gospel: Luke 24:36-48)
- 26th 9.30am Mr Blockley Mrs Blockley  
(Acts 4:5-12, RCL p.554  
Gospel: John 10:11-18 )  
Intercessions: Parish Priest Chalice: Mrs Hill
- May**  
3rd No Service at St Martin's. 11.00am Holy Communion at All Saints, St Paul's Walden  
4.00pm Messy Church in Whitwell Village Hall.

*If any sidesman or reader cannot make any of these dates, please try to find an alternative*

**FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS**

26th February. Funeral of Lynda Woodhams, age 58.

**ST MARTIN'S CHURCH 120 CLUB**

There are a number of ticket returns still outstanding, so the first draw has been postponed and there will be two draws in April. If you are holding a ticket, please return it with your cheque to me or your church committee member as soon as possible. We are pleased to welcome new members this year – the church needs all the help we can get to keep it in condition for future generations. There are a few unsold tickets available for anyone who would like to join this year or are willing to take an additional one.

Tickets cost £20 for the year and there will be 2 prizes of £30 each month and 3 in December.

Please contact to Richard Blockley, Lychgate House, Church Lane ☎ 457631.

**A LETTER FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST**

Rosemead 61 High Street Whitwell Hitchin SG4 8AH ☎ 01438 871658 or 01462 686808

email: [elizabethbunker@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabethbunker@hotmail.com)

Dear Friends

It has been a cold cloudy week and we probably won't be able to see much of the eclipse of the sun on Friday morning in this part of the country, but the days are getting longer and by the time you read this the clocks will have sprung forward and the evenings will be lighter. All sounds very promising as we approach Easter, the season of joy and promise.

David Winter writes of a yearly paradox as we bring flowers to the churchyard to lay on the grave of a loved one. All around are graves and headstones, reminders of the inevitable end of life's earthly journey. But it's Easter Day and from within the church we hear singing: "Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!" Perhaps we notice a few other things. We're standing among the fresh daffodils and the grass is suddenly green and growing again. For a moment we pause and reflect on the converse of an old saying: in the midst of death we are in life. That's what Easter is – an annual reminder that death is not the end of the story. Jesus' Resurrection is the defining claim of Christianity. As Christians we follow the teaching of a prophet, a holy man whose life is an example for us all to follow. But that's insignificant when compared with the most important aspect of our faith as Christians - that we put our trust in Jesus our Saviour who is alive and with us now. And we believe that through Jesus we too will move through death to the journey that lies beyond, a journey he spoke of to his first followers nearly two thousand years ago. The paradox is the heart of everything. Death is a fact, but life is greater than death. Jesus said: 'Because I live, you will live'.

We have some good news in our diocese, The new Bishop of Hertford is the The Rev'd Canon Dr Michael Beasley, at present Director of Mission in the diocese of Oxford. He and his wife and two young children will be moving to Knebworth shortly. He is to be consecrated Bishop on 14 May in Westminster Abbey and welcomed to this diocese at St Alban's Abbey on 16 May.

Our Easter Day (5 April) service is Holy Communion at 9.30am. I hope you can be there with us.

With prayers and good wishes to you all for peace and joy at Easter.

Elizabeth

### **PRESTON OPEN GARDENS DAY – 24 MAY 1.00PM – 5.00PM**

Please remember the Plant Stall when you are dividing your plants and the Preserves Stall if you are making jams or chutneys.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

The number to contact at North Herts Police for all non-emergencies (including witnessing of fly-tipping) is 101 or 01707 354000.

For removal of fly-tipping which has already occurred, call Veolia ☎ 0800 328 6023.

PC Matt Jenkins and PCSO Heather Burrows can be contacted regarding local community issues - ☎ 01438 757604

In the event of an emergency or if you witness a crime taking place please call 999.

## **POLICE SURGERY**

There will be a Police Surgery in Preston Village Hall on Saturday 11 April from 10.00am to 12.00pm. Our Safer Neighbourhood Team will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have.

## **PRESTON VILLAGE HALL - AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Committee will take place in the hall on Friday 1st May at 11.00am.

## **A HISTORY OF PRESTON IN HERTFORDSHIRE**

The first print run of 200 copies of the book "**A History of Preston in Hertfordshire**" sold out in less than a fortnight! I originally thought that an order for fifty copies was optimistic - so, many thanks for your support and for making the day of the book launch so enjoyable. It was good to see so many friends and also meet villagers past and present for the first time. My special thanks to the Preston Trust for organizing and manning the event. A reprint of the book has been ordered and will be available from 31 March 2015. Details of how to order are on the Preston History web site.

As a result of the book's publication, *The Villager* magazine (circ. 15,000 copies - distributed in Hitchin) is running a two-page article about the history of Preston in their April edition. This can be viewed on their web site for free from around 1 April 2015. In addition, the flagship magazine, *Family Tree* (circ. 30,000) has commissioned an article about the writing of the Preston History book. The Preston History website will give further information about this in due course.

On Saturday, 11 July 2015, during the Hitchin Festival, Hitchin Historical Society is organizing a local history day at the Church House, Hitchin and Preston will be represented with a stand and exhibits. Philip Wray

## **MESSAGE FROM THE WOODHAMS FAMILY**

Just a quick notice to thank everyone who attended Lyn's funeral on 26 February. Thank you for all your kind words, support and generous donations to the British Lung Foundation. A big thank you to Elizabeth for the wonderful service. And not forgetting Chenery funeral services as well.

John Woodhams, Donna, Kelly & Simon.

## **PRESTON VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Our next meeting will be held at Diane Day's, Redroofs, Back Lane at 8.00pm on Wednesday 15 April. There will be a talk by Terry Cox entitled "On the Beat 1914 – 1918" Terry gave us an amusing talk last year entitled "Dock Green to Doc Martins."

## **PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

**Defibrillators:**

In conjunction with the Ambulance Service and some local contacts, the Parish Council has been able to obtain two defibrillators free of charge for the village. One will be in the pavilion and one will be in an outdoor cabinet on one of the sheds at the Red Lion. The Parish Council are grateful to the Red Lion Board for agreeing to pay for the on-going electricity. A public awareness meeting has been arranged for **Tuesday 21 April at 7.00pm at Preston Primary School** when the ambulance service will show local residents how to use the defibrillator. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Parish Council Elections:**

All Parish Councillors have to stand for election on 7 May. Anyone interested in standing should contact the Clerk for further information and a nomination pack as soon as possible and by Friday 3 April at the latest.

**Parish Council Treasurer:**

The Parish Council needs to appoint a Treasurer from May 2015. Anyone interested in taking on this role should contact the Clerk for further information as soon as possible and by Friday 17 April at the latest.

**Parish Council Information:**

Anyone who would like to receive updates from Preston Parish Council by email should contact the Clerk to be added to the distribution list. Please note the Parish Council is registered with the Data Commissioner and information provided will only be used for the intended purpose of communicating Parish Council Matters and will not be used for any other purpose or be passed onto any 3rd party.

Margaret Trinder, Clerk to Preston Parish Council. Email: [trinderm@btinternet.com](mailto:trinderm@btinternet.com) ☎435339

**HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY**

The Constabulary is launching a new twice yearly magazine entitled 'Rural Beat'. The publication has been created for people living and working in rural areas and features the on-going police work keeping Hertfordshire's countryside safe.

Rural Beat features just some of the highlights of on-going police work in the rural community and also includes articles about rural issues and crime prevention tips to protect against typical crimes. An electronic version of the publication can be found on the Constabulary's webpages [www.herts.police.uk/rural](http://www.herts.police.uk/rural)

There is a five-strong team of police officers specialised in preventing crimes concerning wildlife, agriculture, equine issues, the county's heritage and the local environment countywide. They can be contacted by emailing [ROST@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ROST@herts.pnn.police.uk). They can also e-mail a copy of Rural Beat.