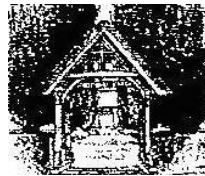




# PRESTON

## Church & Village News

### February 2015



Deadline for the March 2015 newsletter is 20 February. 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 3 Feb	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Wed 18 Feb	Preston Village Society – Pryor House – 8.00pm
Sun 22 Feb	Quiz in the Red Lion – 7.30pm
Tues 3 Mar	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Sat 9 May	Primary School May Ball

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The affordable houses being built in the village are nearing completion. Anyone interested in one of the properties, either to rent or to buy on a shared ownership basis should contact Jaz Cousins at Howard Cottage Housing Association ☎ 01462 683307 or email:

[jazcousins@howard-cottage.co.uk](mailto:jazcousins@howard-cottage.co.uk).

Applicants have to meet one or more of the local connection criteria to be eligible for one of the affordable housing properties. The criteria are:

- has lived for 6 out of the last 12 months or for 3 of the last 5 years in the Parish of Preston.
- is currently employed and has been continuously employed for a minimum of 12 months in the Parish of Preston.
- has an immediate adult relative (including a parent, sibling, or adult child) who is currently a resident in the Parish of Preston and has been a resident in the Parish for the past 5 years.

Alternatively, for further information, contact Margaret Trinder, Clerk to Preston Parish Council: [trinderm@btinternet.com](mailto:trinderm@btinternet.com) or ☎ 01462435339

### THE RED LION

The next quiz will be on Sunday 22 February starting at 7.30pm. Proceeds to support the Albany Bassets.

Nothing special happening on **Valentine's Night** but all are welcome to come along for a romantic evening and enjoy some really good food ☎ 459585.

## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH SERVICES

### February

### SIDESMAN

### READER

1st No Service at St Martin's. 11.00am Communion Service at All Saints, St Paul's Walden. 4.00pm Messy Church in Whitwell Village Hall.

8th	9.30am	Mr Blockley	Mr Reeves
		(Col. 1:15-20, RCL p.499)	
		Gospel: John 1:1-14)	
		Intercessions: Mrs Reeves	Chalice: Miss Hunter

15th	9.30am	Mr Cole	Mr Constantinidi
		(2 Cor. 4:3-6, RCL p.502	Gospel: Mark 9:2-9)
		Intercessions: Mr Dickinson	Chalice: Mr Dickinson
	11.00am	Family Service at All Saints.	

18th Ash Wednesday. 8.00pm. Holy Communion in the Lady Chapel at All Saints.

22nd	9.30am	Captain Lowle	Mrs Lawson
	Lent 1	(Genesis 9:8-17, RCL p.507)	
		Gospel: Mark 1:9-15)	
		Intercessions: Parish Priest	Chalice: Mrs Reeves

### March

1st No Service at St Martin's. 11.00am Communion Service at All Saints. 4.00pm Messy Church in Whitwell Village Hall.

6th tba Women's World Day of Prayer at Pirton

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

### ST MARTIN'S CHURCH 120 CLUB

The winners of the January draw in the 2014/15 120 Club (£30 each) are:

No. 38 Mrs P M Loustau

No. 82 Mr D I Walker

## 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

Today as I write it is just three weeks since we celebrated Christmas, the birth of the Prince of Peace and it was good to worship with many of you at St Martin's and All Saints. We sang, we prayed, we listened to readings and I hope the music and the candlelight helped all of us to capture the joy of Christmas and remind us of God's love for us all.

During the first week of the New Year, events in France and subsequently in other countries too, have reminded us starkly of how wickedly human beings can behave. Archbishop Justin wrote that our response to such demonic violence should be twofold - love for those who suffer and virtuous action against evil. It has been hard for us all to come to terms with the way that the freedom we enjoy, and have taken for granted, in this part of the world has been so abused.

In the church year the first week of January includes Epiphany when we mark the arrival of the wise men to worship Jesus, the new-born king, and then at the start of February, this year on the first day we celebrate the occasion, 40-days after his birth, when Mary and Joseph in accordance with Jewish tradition, take Jesus to the temple. We celebrate Candlemas at All Saints at our Family Communion service (first Sunday in the month) which in February and March is at 10am an hour earlier than usual.

Looking ahead now, Easter is early this year so Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, is in Half Term week. We shall have a Soup lunch in Whitwell Village Hall from 12.30pm on 18 February. We hope you and your family will be able to join us.

We are running Lent groups in 2015 and this time we are using the York Course Praise Him! – Songs of Praise in the New Testament. *This course explores five different Songs of Praise from the New Testament, looking at what they tell us about God and Jesus but also reflecting on what they tell us about ourselves and our faith.* The participants on the course CD are David Suchet, Archbishop Justin Welby and Sister Wendy Becket. The afternoon group 2-3.00pm followed by tea and the evening group 7.45-8.45pm will both run on Wednesdays beginning on 25 February. Venues to be confirmed.

With my prayers and good wishes to you all

Elizabeth

## 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.

### **PRESTON TRUST SAFARI SUPPER - 2015**

Calling all you intrepid Safari adventurers. The Preston Trust Safari Supper will be held in Preston Village in May/June this year (date to be confirmed.) For those of you who are unaware of how this works, in its simplest form, you have your starter in House A, whilst there, there will be an envelope on the table addressed to each couple there and not to be opened until the meal is eaten. After opening you will be sent to the House B for your main course (unless you are hosting). Finally we will all congregate somewhere to meet up for deserts and the rest of the evening

Tickets will be £10 per couple. We will be raising money for the nursery and Preston Primary and also for the Trust itself.

Please contact Hannah Constantinidi ☎ 01462 441950 or

email: [PrestonVillageTrust@gmail.com](mailto:PrestonVillageTrust@gmail.com)

### **\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\* PRESTON SCHOOL MAY BALL 9 MAY 2015**

Preston Primary School are organising another of their fantastic May Balls this year to be held on Saturday 9 May 2015. Tickets are £50 each and can be purchased individually or by tables of 10 or 12. This black tie event will begin with a sparkling reception followed by a four-course dinner and then dancing to live music. This year we are hoping to raise enough money to finance much-needed new IT equipment for the school.

If you would like to purchase tickets for the Ball or would like further information, please contact Abi Waters ☎ 01462 421275 or by email [abiwaters7@gmail.com](mailto:abiwaters7@gmail.com).

### **PRESTON'S COUNTRY LANES**

Following an accident on Charlton Road, residents are reminded of the following (including an extract from the Highway Code):

The country lanes in and around Preston are popular with horse riders and cyclists because of their scenic beauty and challenging hill climbs.

Remember to slow down to first or second gear and overtake as if you are overtaking a car.

Allow these riders plenty of room and accelerate away slowly and steadily.

Don't speed off as this frightens horses and agitates cyclists.

### **PRESTON VILLAGE SOCIETY**

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 February at Rosemary Brenham's, Pryor House, The Green. Paul Brenham will talk about his time as Dept. Lord Lt for the County of Hertfordshire, together with a film of the Queen's visit to Hitchin

### **FRIENDS OF ST MARTIN'S PUB QUIZ**

The Friends of St Martin's Committee would like to thank everyone who supported their pub quiz in the Red Lion on Sunday 18 January. This event raised £113 which will go towards the upkeep of the church.