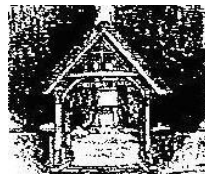


# PRESTON

## Church & Village News

### February 2017



Deadline for the March 2017 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**

Sat 4 Feb	Community Book Swap – Village Hall – 10-11.00am
	Neighbourhood Plan Drop in session – Village Hall 10-11.00am
Tue 7 Feb	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Thurs 9 Feb	Wine tasting – The Red Lion 8.00pm
Wed 15 Feb	Preston Village Society – Langcliffe, Butchers Lane 8.00pm
Sat 18 Feb	Community Book Swap – Village Hall – 10-11.00am
Tue 7 Mar	Church Cleaning 4.00pm

#### **RED LION – BUILDING WORKS**

The Red Lion are pleased to announce that building works will commence on 1 February. The toilets and kitchen will be rebuilt to provide a larger kitchen, toilet block with disabled facilities and a private entrance for the managers accommodation. There will be a small limited menu on offer from 29th Jan (☎459585 for details). The work is due to take just over three months but the kitchen will be fully operational before Easter. The pub will remain open but the only access will be from the front. Temporary male and female toilets will be located in the car park.

#### **PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL: APPOINTMENT OF CLERK**

Preston Parish Council would like to appoint a clerk to the Parish Council from 1 May 2017. This will be a paid position for 7 hours per week at a minimum of £8.60 per hour. The possibility of starting earlier and the exact rate of pay will be agreed with the successful applicant who will have a high standard of literacy and good computer skills with knowledge and experience of using a range of software. This will include Word, Excel, Adobe Acrobat and use of the internet. A new laptop and printer/scanner will be provided.

The Clerk is the main contact for the Parish Council for all organisations and all matters relating to our Parish. The work includes attending and preparing minutes from Parish Council meetings, 9 per year, and circulating documents to the Parish Councillors

Training and support will be provided. Interest and enthusiasm are as important as formal qualifications.

For further information about the role and how to apply, please contact Margaret Trinder, Clerk to Preston Parish Council: ☎ 435339, email: [trinderm@btinternet.com](mailto:trinderm@btinternet.com).

Closing date for applications is 9.00am on Monday 20 February 2017.

## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH SERVICES

FEBRUARY	SIDESMAN	READER
5th 10.00am	Andy Cole (1 Cor. 2:1-12, RCL p.68 Intercessions: Hugh Reeves	Danny Rowland Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20) Chalice: Di Blockley
12th 9.30am	Meta Reeves (Deuteronomy 30:15-end, RCL p.70 Intercessions: Doreen Sansom	Sue Griffiths Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37) Chalice: Meta Reeves
19th 9.30am	Malcolm Lowle (Genesis 1:1-2:3,RCL p.82 Intercessions: Alec Dickinson	Richard Blockley Gospel: Matthew 6:25-end) Chalice: Alec Dickinson
26th 9.30am	Liz Hunter (Exodus 24:12-end, RCL p.89 Intercessions: Meta Reeves	Richard Gill Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 ) Chalice: Liz Hunter

## MARCH

1st 8.00pm	Holy Communion at St Martin's Malcolm Lowle (Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 and 2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10, RCL p.97	Ash Wednesday Hugh Reeves Gospel: John 8:1-11)
5th 10.00am	Malcolm Lowle (Genesis 2:15-17, RCL p.105 Intercessions: Elizabeth Bunker	"All Saints" Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11) Chalice: Carolyn Hill

**NB From November 2016 until March 2017 inclusive the service on the first Sunday in the month will be held at St Martin's Preston at 10am. There will be NO SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS'.**

*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 2016/17 120 Club (£30 each) were:

No. 40 Mr AG Hardy  
No. 103 Mrs W Wood

## A LETTER FROM OUR TEAM VICAR

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

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

Dear Friends,

Since I wrote last month we have celebrated Christmas and it was good to see so many of you at our services at St Martin's and All Saints again in 2016.

Early in February the nation marks the 65th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne when we will once again give thanks for her life of service to the people of this country and the Commonwealth.

In church life the second half of January always includes the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and in 2017 the theme is Crossing Barriers. This theme can be interpreted in a good number of ways but they are all likely to need courage and boldness. 'Do not be afraid' were words uttered by Jesus on more than one occasion during his ministry. The world needs courageous people who will break down walls, build bridges and open doors to new ways of life. With the fall of the Berlin Wall Germany experienced how a seemingly insurmountable structure could be brought down. The fall of the Wall provides a symbol of hope that with the love of God, nothing is impossible.

And, in marked contrast, one more anniversary this year - the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October of the start of the Reformation. It was not Luther's intention that his protest should lead to schism in the Church. This German priest and theologian, Martin Luther is reputed to have nailed to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg his 95 Theses, condemning the practice of buying indulgences. Certainly Luther wrote a letter to a number of bishops and his friends protesting at the practice which was becoming widespread, and he included the 95 Theses with his letter. And so began ...

With my prayers and good wishes to you all

Elizabeth

### **OPEN GARDENS DAY – SUNDAY 28th May – THE 26th YEAR!**

The second Bank Holiday Sunday in May as usual. Many of our lovely Preston Gardens will be open to admiring visitors again. If you have never opened your garden before but would quite like to this year, we will be delighted to hear from you. Do remember that visitors are looking for variety rather than perfection and 'wild' areas can be just as interesting as designer borders!

Liz (☎433859), Pam (☎422315) or Meta (☎456567)

### **PRESTON VILLAGE SOCIETY**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 February at Chris Hardy's, Langcliffe, Butchers Lane at 8.00pm. Linda Thackray will give a talk entitled: Working with a rare breed: Suffolk Punch.

### **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 4 March from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Our Safer Neighbourhood Team will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have.

### **PRESTON HISTORY WEBSITE**

The following articles have been recently uploaded: Mary Turl - the story of Preston's postwoman 1965 - 1980; Preston's first nurse/midwife - Elizabeth Phillips and The Preston recollections of David Peters. These pieces have several new photographs to illustrate the text.. Also, scores of new historic newspaper stories featuring Preston and its folk have been added. The Preston History website has now had more than 28,000 unique visitors and has in excess of 1,000 hits each month.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN DROP IN SESSION FOR CHILDREN**

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would like to invite children under 10 years, accompanied by an adult, to bring their pictures to the Village Hall on Saturday 4 February between 10.00 and 11.00am. This is the same time as the Community Book Swap. Copies of their pictures can then be put on the Preston Parish Neighbourhood Plan website.

### **PRESTON NEWS SERVICE**

We have had a fantastic response to the launch of the PNS with more than 80 people registering in the first week to make this a very viable service for the village. The details of the service have been distributed to all the houses so we look forward to many more people joining the scheme. If you wish to share any news with other villagers please email [prestonvillagestrust@gmail.com](mailto:prestonvillagestrust@gmail.com) If you haven't yet joined - DONT DELAY, EMAIL TODAY!

### **EVENING OF GASTRONOMY AT PHC**

#### **Food & Wine Event Friday 24 February 7.30pm**

You are warmly invited to join us at PHC in Old Hall for an evening of fun and interactive food and wine based quiz, plus musical entertainment. Also included is a delicious, freshly cooked hot supper and numerous tastings. Tickets £20 per person and teams can be up to 10 people. If you wish to order tickets please email Elizabeth at [emadden@princessshelenaCollege.co.uk](mailto:emadden@princessshelenaCollege.co.uk) .

### **RED LION - WINE TASTING**

On Thursday 9th Feb - Colombier Vins Fins Ltd will be holding a Wine Tasting Evening at the Red Lion commencing 8.00pm and costs £12 per person.

Enjoy a glass of fizz on arrival and then jump into 10 sumptuous wines to try - many of which aren't available on the high street. The evening won't be a formal tasting session but a "blind taste" and a chance to sample the wines at your own pace and leisure.

Bring a pen - a competition will also be run we're told . Please call the Red Lion to book your place ☎459585.