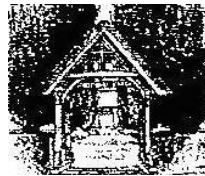




PRESTON

Church & Village News

May 2015



Deadline for the June 2015 newsletter is 20 May. Contact Howard Trinder ☎435339 or e-mail htrinder@btinternet.com.

The newsletter is also available via the village website www.prestonvillageherts.com.

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|------------|--|
| 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 |
| Wed 13 May | Parish Council AGM – Village Hall - 8.00pm |
| Wed 20 May | Preston Village Society – Hitchwood Cottage – 8.00pm |
| Sun 24 May | Preston Open Gardens |
| Sat 30 May | SG4 at the Red Lion 7.30pm |
| Tue 2 June | Church Cleaning 4.00pm |

CHURCHYARD TIDY-UP

Wednesday 13 May and Saturday 16 May. 10.00am to lunchtime. Help needed with tidying up boundaries, paths and awkward corners. Please come with tools and lend a hand!

PRESTON OPEN GARDENS 24 May, 1.00pm – 5.00pm.

We hope you will not mind being asked again to make a cake (or two) for the teas in the Village Hall? Whatever you enjoy baking will be much appreciated. Either bring them/it to the Hall on the day or leave them with Pam Stark or Liz Hunter beforehand.

Plants for the Plant Stall on the Green will also be welcome and can be left earlier in the week beginning 18 May with Meta & Hugh Reeves at Crunnells Green House.

Also **Homemade Preserves** will be on sale in the Village Hall. Margaret Trinder will be pleased to receive them on the morning of the 24th.

Many thanks, Pam, Liz and Meta

LIVE MUSIC AT THE RED LION

SG4 will be performing at the Red Lion on Saturday 30 May commencing at 7.30pm in the garden. BBQ and bar will be available.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH SERVICES

| May | SIDESMAN | READER |
|-------------|--|--|
| 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 | |
| 10th | 9.30am Mr Kellard Rogation Sunday (Acts 10:44 - end, RCL p.561 Intercessions: Mrs Reeves | Mr Blockley Gospel: John 15:9-17) Chalice: Mr Kellard |
| 14th | 8.00pm Holy Communion at All Saints Ascension Day | |
| 17th | 9.30am Miss Hunter (Acts 1:15-17, 21-end, RCL p.564 Intercessions: Mr Dickinson | Mr Gill Gospel: John 17:6-19) Chalice: Mr Dickinson |
| 23rd | 6.30pm Songs of Praise with favourite hymns and readings | |
| 24th | 9.30am Captain Lowle Pentecost (Acts 2: 1-21, RCL p.567 Intercessions: Parish Priest | Mr Reeves Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15) Chalice: Mrs Reeves |
| 31st | 9.30am Miss Hunter Trinity Sunday (Isaiah 6:1-8, RCL p. 573 Intercessions: Mr Reeves | Mr Constantinidi Gospel: John 3:1-17) Chalice: Miss Hunter |
| June | | |
| 7th | 9.30am Mr Kellard (Genesis 3:8-15, RCL p. 587 Intercessions: Mrs Sansom | Mrs Lawson Gospel: Mark 3:20-end) Chalice: Mr Kellard |

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 first two draws in the 2015/16 120 Club (£30 each) were:

March

No. 51 Ms A Jeffers
No. 69 Mrs M Trinder

April

No. 81 Mrs E H Madden
No. 108 Mrs J A Evans

A LETTER FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST

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

email: elizabethbunker@hotmail.com

Dear Friends

I hope that you all enjoyed the Easter break; as I write the children are still on holiday from school and we are enjoying the odd day of warm weather which is very welcome. Our second baptism of the year is on Sunday and the first wedding is very soon so may sunny weather continue.

We would really like good weather on Rogation Sunday which is 10 May this year; it is on this day that traditionally rural parishes would 'beat the bounds' i.e. walk along the boundaries of the parish. We are planning a walk within the parish on that day, leaving All Saints at 12 noon after the service and coffee. Last time we did this in 2013 over 70 of us walked with participants from the Hitchin Anglican churches as well as All Saints and St Martin's. Please contact me for further details.

Christian Aid Week this year is from 10-16 May. This year one of the projects is in Ethiopia where life is very tough especially for the women and children. The envelopes will be in church from 3 May and we ask you to return these to church (and hand them to the churchwarden or sides-person on duty) or bring them to the Parish Office as soon as you can and in any case by 24 May.

The new Bishop of Hertford, Michael Beasley is to be consecrated on 14 May at Westminster Abbey and welcomed to the diocese on 16 May at a special service in St Alban's Abbey. He and his wife and young family will be living in Knebworth. We hope to meet him very soon.

In June this year five young people from All Saints will be confirmed at St Mary's Hitchin. This will be a very special occasion for them and their families and for the parish too. I hope there will be a big group of people there to support them all. The service is on Sunday 14 June at 6.30pm.

Before any of this we have the General Election of course. This is not a church event but I feel very strongly that as Christian people we should use our vote. Before 1918 no women were allowed to vote and many campaigned and took great risks to persuade the (all male) government that women too were entitled to make a choice about who represented them in parliament. Women of course had particular concerns about home and family. So please think carefully about your choice and use your vote.

With my prayers and good wishes
Elizabeth

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

26 March. Funeral of Matanah Henderson, age 57.

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 PARISH COUNCIL

Village Trees: A number of dead trees on public land around the village and some dead branches have been cut down rather than being left to become dangerous. Some of the ivy that was overwhelming several trees has also been cut at its base, and the ivy leaves will gradually fall during the year, hopefully without affecting any birds that are currently nesting.

Defibrillator: The defibrillator for the village has now been installed on one of the sheds in the Red Lion car park. In case of emergency, residents should dial 999 and if it is required, the ambulance service will explain how to access the defibrillator.

PRESTON VILLAGE SOCIETY

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 20 May at Jenny Murray's, Hitchwood Cottage, Hitchwood Lane. Please share transport as parking is limited. There will be a talk entitled: Hair of the Dog, an amusing talk about sayings that we use and where they came from.

PRESTON CRICKET CLUB

The 2015 season is underway with a few weeks of friendlies planned and the league season starting the first week in May.

Please spread the word. We are always looking forward to making new friends and welcoming new players.

The Firsts this year will be skippered by Dave Fleckney helped by Max Anderson. The Seconds will be managed by Ash Catlin and Andy Riant. The Thirds will be managed by John Garnham and Tom Maxwell and Dave Saunders will Skipper the Fourths again.

Our Colts started last Sunday so please come along - we'd welcome children aged 8-15 genuinely interested to learn cricket. We are also still keen to speak to anyone interested in helping with teas. It's a great deal and I'll be happy to talk you through it. If you wish to support the Club, we have a great Lottery syndicate (£10 per month direct debit and 6 numbers and that's it). We've paid out £1000s in prize money - top prize being over £800 so far) Also, our website's updated...www.prestoncricketclub.co.uk - thanks for all your support - Mark Waters ☎ 07796544683.