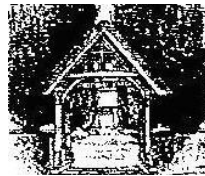




PRESTON
Church & Village News
October 2015



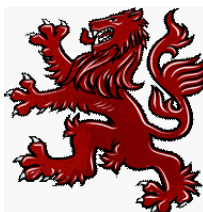
Deadline for the November 2015 newsletter is 20 October. Contact Howard Trinder ☎435339 or e-mail htrinder@btinternet.com.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 2 Oct	Harvest Auction – The Red Lion – 8.00pm
Tue 6 Oct	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Wed 21 Oct	Preston village Society – St Martin's House – 8.00pm
Tues 3 Nov	Church Cleaning 4.00pm
Wed 4 Nov	Parish Council – Village Hall – 8.00pm
Sat 7 Nov	Fireworks at the Red Lion – 7.00pm

THE RED LION



HARVEST AUCTION

The annual Harvest Auction will be held on Friday 2 October at 8.00pm. Would those donating produce for the auction bring to the pub in the afternoon. Proceeds will be shared between Preston Primary School, Colts Cricket and St Martin's Church.

FIREWORKS

This Year's Fireworks Display and Hog Roast will take place at the Red Lion on Saturday 7 November from 7.00pm. Fingers crossed for a fine, star-lit evening!

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH SERVICES

OCTOBER

SIDESMAN

READER

- 4th No Service. 11.00am Family Communion at All Saints, St Paul's Walden
4.00pm Messy Church in Whitwell Village Hall. Our 5th Anniversary
- 11th 9.30am Captain Lowle Mr Reeves
(Amos 5:6-7,10-15, RCL p.701 Gospel:Mark 10:17-31)
Intercessions: Mrs Sansom Chalice: Miss Hunter
- 18th 9.30am Mr Cole Mr Constantinidi
St Luke (2Tim. 4:5-17, RCL p.1139 Gospel: Luke 10:1-9)
Intercessions: Mr Dickinson Chalice: Mr Dickinson
- 25th 9.30am Mr Blockley Mrs Lawson
Bible Sunday (2Tim. 3:14- 4:5 , RCL p.718 Gospel: John 5:36b-end)
Intercessions: Parish Priest Chalice: Mrs Reeves

NOVEMBER

- 1st All Saints. No Service. 11.00am Family Communion at All Saints.
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

19th September. Marriage of Oliver Wills and Gemma Newell

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 am writing this about ten days before we celebrate Harvest in church, at school and at the Harvest Supper and Auction.

We had a lovely evening for the Whitwell BBQ earlier this month. There were a good number of us enjoying ourselves and catching up with one another after the summer break. This event is intended to be social not fund-raising but thanks to the raffle and the generosity of many of

you over £400 was raised and a cheque for £500 was sent to the Save the Children Child Refugee Crisis Fund. SCF is working across Europe and in the countries from which the refugees are fleeing to provide aid and support.

I think just about everyone I've spoken to recently is deeply concerned about the plight of the refugees fleeing war and danger in their home countries. Day after day on our television screens we see longer and longer queues of people, including really young children, walking long distances to try and find a European country where they will be allowed to stay. Of course opinions vary as to how to deal with the situation but as Christian people we could:

- lobby the government by writing letters or emails to MPs;
- sign a petition urging the government to do more;
- keep informed;
- donate funds to Save the Children, Refugee Action, Christian Aid or another agency;
- pray.

I have had one or two inquiries about how someone could find out about hosting a refugee family or fostering refugee children or young people arriving in the UK alone. As far as I can discover there is no organisation locally but [Housing Justice](#) is a Christian homelessness charity, providing housing for asylum seekers and refugees in London who find themselves destitute.

There are already campaign groups in some areas around the country; people living in other areas can set up their own group by [emailing Citizens UK](#). Also Dave Smith of the [Boaz Trust](#) has offered to direct anyone, who wishes to help, to a local group, wherever they are in the UK.

I'm sure you will have heard about and perhaps contributed to the collections of clothing and food that have been taken by local people including the Hub Church in Hitchin for distribution in the camp outside Calais and to refugees in other parts of France.

Please pray for the situation and you may find it helpful to use this prayer, written by the Rev'd Sam Wells, the Vicar of St Martin in the Fields in London:

Wilderness God, your Son was a displaced person in Bethlehem, a refugee in Egypt, and had nowhere to lay his head in Galilee. Bless all who have nowhere to lay their head today, who find themselves strangers on earth, pilgrims to they know not where, facing rejection, closed doors, suspicion, and fear. Give them companions in their distress, hope in their wandering, and safe lodging at their journey's end. And make us a people of grace, wisdom, and hospitality, who know that our true identity is to be lost, until we find our eternal home in you. Through Christ our rejected yet risen Lord. Amen.

With my prayers and good wishes

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.

THE PRESTON TRUST PHOTO COMPETITION

As announced last month, The Preston Trust will be running an annual photo competition with the aim of engaging all members of the community in preserving a photographic snapshot of village life. To make it as easy as possible to enter, just digital entries are required, and there are only two categories: "Preston People" and "Preston Places". Multiple entries are permitted, and will be judged in three age groups of Junior (under 12), Teen (12-18), Adult (over 18). The deadline is 31 May 2016 in time for the winners to be announced at the village day in July. The prize will be for the winning photos to be displayed on the village website plus printed, framed and hung in the Red Lion for a year after which you will be able to keep it.

We look forward to receiving your entries taken on whatever camera/phone/tablet you can lay your hands on to PrestonVillageTrust@gmail.com. So snap-up the opportunity to develop your ideas into sharp focus because next May will come round in a flash!

Full rules at www.prestonvillageherts.com/preston-trust.

PRESTON VILLAGE SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21 October at Mary Young's, St Martin's House, Church Lane. There will be a talk entitled: Hats: The history, past, present and future. Not an accessory but an essential.

HIGHWAYS FAULT REPORTING

The Parish Council would like to remind residents that they can report potholes and any other faults to Hertfordshire Highways online. Go to: www.hertsdirect.org, then on the Straight To section click on potholes or faulty streetlights. This will lead to Highway Fault Reporting which explains how to log the fault. Please remember that the more people who report a fault, the sooner it is likely to be rectified.

BEDS & HERTS BIKE 'N' HIKE

Many thanks to all those who sponsored me on the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust bike ride on 12 September. I visited 23 churches on a 37-mile round trip and raised £265. Half of this will be donated to St. Martin's here in Preston and the remainder is donated to needy churches in the diocese. *Ita Leaver*

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH 120 CLUB

The winners of the September draw in the 2015/16 120 Club (£30 each) were:

No. 4 Mr and Mrs C J Mercer

No. 120 Mr R Coles