



PRESTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER December 2020

*** WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS 2020! ***

NEWS FROM CHURN BENEFICE

Churnside Benefice 'Virtual' Carol Service

Sunday 20th December 6pm

Streamed via Zoom and the Churnside Benefice Churches Facebook page

We may not be able to hold our normal carol services this year but that does not mean the carol service is cancelled. For instead of inviting you to church we are creating a carol service video that you can watch and enjoy at home. Our virtual carol service will contain carols for you to sing along to as well as Christmas readings, poems, and prayers.

Carol singing on your doorstep

Wednesday 16th December 6pm

We want to encourage everyone to get involved in joining people from across the country in singing Christmas carols from their doorstep on Wednesday 16th December at 6pm. The carols will be broadcast on local radio to help us stay in time with each other. This is a great way to bring some Christmas cheer and joy to our communities this Christmas. Please see the Churnside Benefice Churches Facebook page for more information.

God Bless and take care

Revd Jennifer McKenzie Vicar of the Churnside Benefice

South Cerney with Cerney Wick, Siddington & Preston www.churnsidechurches.org.uk

Vicar: Rev'd. Jennifer McKenzie The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney,
Cirencester, GL7 5TP. 01285 860221, vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk

CHURCH SERVICES- reminder

Please note that we are committed to opening up the other churches in our benefice when it feels safe to do so. We will review the situation as guidelines change.

Public worship is being held in All Hallows Church South Cerney to which all from across the benefice are invited to attend. If you would like to attend the service then please contact contacting Martin Gould (one of the Churchwardens at All Hallows Church)

either by e-mail, martinrgould56@btinternet.com , or telephone, 07958 962543. The main Sunday service at 10.30am is also being streamed via Zoom and if you would like the details of how to log in please contact the Vicar. All current worship resources being distributed each Sunday will continue and are available on our Facebook page and website, enabling worship following the same church service at home.

VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is currently closed. As soon as the Government lifts restrictions it will be open with COVID safe regulations in place.

The hall has been hired by Cirencester Dance Club and will be recommencing in December for various children's and young people's dance classes. Tracy can be contacted at cirendanceclub@live.co.uk

Mark of Cotswold Yoga has plans for a workshop on Saturday 5th December. Please contact Mark at mark@cotswold-yoga.co.uk for more information.

Art classes are currently postponed.

GIVE LOVE IN A BOX THIS CHRISTMAS - UPDATE

I am absolutely delighted to report that many children in the village made Christmas boxes for the charity. Anne Smith and I took 18 beautifully decorated boxes donated by Preston children and their families. I know that there were other donations from Preston along with these. MANY THANKS to all of you.



PRESTON SUPPLIERS REGISTER

The Register is now in operation and new suppliers are being added. I know there are businesses out there that we use that haven't been added to the Register. The website is <https://prestonvillageregistry.wixsite.com/mysite> and the task of adding new names - or reporting on an existing supplier so that we can collect additional information - is the instructions are very simple. If in doubt, send me the information and I will add the supplier for you. Kelly, who is masterminding the website, will also be able to help you (prestonvillageregistry@gmail.com)

The more data that we can accumulate, the more useful the Register will become.

PRESTON PARISH COUNCIL

PLANNING

For all information about planning applications please go to Cotswold District Council's website:

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning/online-planning-register/>

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - Update 33

Preston Neighbourhood Development Plan has been submitted to Cotswold District Council and is currently being scrutinised by an examiner. For further details please go to the Village website: www.prestonpc.org.uk

CDC BUSINESS MATTERS

<https://mailchi.mp/b94f7d3d20d2/covid-19-business-matters-cotswold-16-november-2020?e=0bb9353310>

Cotswold Virtual Christmas Market, Gloucestershire Growth Hub, Customs Grant Scheme and much more

CDC - LOCKDOWN SUPPORT GRANT

<https://news.cotswold.gov.uk/news/lockdown-support-grant-for-local-businesses-goes-live>

<https://what3words.com/>

what3words has given every 3m square in the world a unique 3-word address. The words are randomly assigned to each square and will always stay the same. Now it's easy to find and share any location with just three words. Over 80% of services in the UK now use what3words to locate addresses.

You can find a full list of those services that accept what3words here: <https://what3words.com/news/emergency/three-words-for-a-faster-emergency-response>. You could also use what3words to report incidents with organisations like National Grid, Network Rail and the Environmental Agency: <https://what3words.com/report-incident-locations-efficiently>.

The app is totally free to download and use, you can download it on iOS or Android

Find your what3words address on map.what3words.com

SOLAR FARM UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020

1. As most of you will have noticed, Witpit Lane was closed on 16 November. However, this has not stopped those who seem unable to observe traffic signs from still driving down the Lane. I must emphasise that when works starts on site the length of road from the A417 overbridge to the A417 Fairford Road will become part of a building site and will be under the jurisdiction of the Solar Farm contractor. Whilst it is not illegal to access this length of road any accidents could render any insurance claim invalid.
2. Therefore, you should remember that there will be no vehicle, pedestrian, equestrian or cyclist access to the length of Witpit Lane from the A417 overbridge to the A417 Fairford Road. There will be pedestrian, equestrian and cyclist access permitted to the bridleway but, as the first 100m or so is also used by the contractor to gain access to the Solar Farm site, anyone wishing to use it must obey the instructions of the construction staff.
3. Unfortunately, as many of you will have noticed, there has been a slight delay in the start of works on site but it is anticipated that work will commence before Christmas 2020.

As promised I will provide an update for our Newsletters each month but if anyone has any queries or comments please contact me at alanstonepreston@gmail.com

STAGECOACH No. 50 BUS

Those of you who use the bus on a regular (or irregular) basis will have noted that it is not passing through the Village at the moment as Witpit Lane is closed for the duration of the construction of the Solar Farm. This is despite the fact that the designated stop for the Village is the Village Hall.

Stagecoach has been asked why they have withdrawn the service without explanation or notification but no response has been received. At the moment our County Councillor, Cllr Shaun Parsons, has been asked to intervene as Gloucestershire County Council are subsidising the service, but no response has been received.

At the moment, therefore, those of us wishing to catch the bus must walk to the stop on Kingshill Lane near the Toll Bar.

DEFIBRILLATOR - HOW TO USE IT

We have been asked if and how anyone (even those who haven't received training) can use the defibrillator in the telephone kiosk.

The answer is simple - 'YES'.

In an emergency you need to call 999. If it's appropriate the operator will be able to tell you where the nearest defibrillator is located and talk you through how to use it.

Village Website

The website is being updated to comply with new legislation, so some pages may not be available for a short period of time.

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

If you receive the Newsletter by email, please can you ensure that newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk is white listed in your email set up so that it doesn't end up in your Junk folder.

If you are aware of any resident who doesn't receive the Newsletter, please ask them to email: newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk

**The Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on
Thursday, 14 January 2021 at 7 pm online.**

**The agenda will be available on noticeboards and on
the website nearer to the time. Everyone is Welcome to Attend.**

Please contact the Parish Clerk for further details and for access to the meeting.

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: Caroline Braidwood, 77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester, Glos
GL7 1BJ Tel: 01285 380040 / 07870 170823 Email: clerk@prestonpc.org.uk
<http://www.prestonpc.org.uk>

ADVENT WINDOWS IN PRESTON 2020

Several young families (and not so young neighbours) have agreed to decorate a window for the 24 days of Lent. So far there are 14 dates taken, but obviously we want there to be 24 windows. If you would like to join in, please text or write to me for information (giving a special date if you have one). Dot Warren 07980 897268

When Advent arrives - very soon - there will be one window lit in the village from 5pm on 1st December and then daily from 5pm every day of Advent. On day 2 - a second will be lit from 5pm and so forth for the whole duration. On day 24 we want to have 24 windows on display. Do please join in to make this a wonderful village celebration of Christmas!

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR 2020

In view of the current quarantine, there will be no requirement to clean the church. Please wait for further instructions once the ban is lifted and when we are all safe to move about. - regfreyne@gmail.com Tel: 655370

RECYCLING

FULL RECYCLING DATES FOR DECEMBER WILL BE

Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 23rd December

CDC DATES FOR RECYCLING OVER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR 2020/21

Food waste collection due on Wed 30 Dec will be made on **Thursday 31 Dec 2020**

Refuse and recycling collection due on Wed 6 Jan will be made on **Friday 8 Jan 2021**

Food waste collection due on Wed 13 Jan will be **Thursday 14th Jan 2021**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A recent phone scam - We are aware of residents receiving telephone calls from somebody claiming to be from "The London Insulation Company" wanting to discuss loft insulation and condensation. During one such call when challenged the male has hung up on the resident. Please be vigilant when receiving calls from cold callers and do not disclose any personal information to the person making the call.

For more information, please visit our

website: <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>

Remember, we're unable to accept reports of crime through Your Neighbourhood Alerts. If you need to report something, please call 101 or report online:

<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>. Always call 999 in an emergency.

WhatsApp group The_WhatsApp group, **solely for the use of Neighbourhood Watch**, is now well established and Dot Warren has written to those villagers who have not yet registered. As you know, we are very anxious to include most of the village. Some of you have declined for personal reasons, but please consider the huge benefit it would offer for broadcasting any imminent news quickly round the village.

Please send **your full name and address and mobile phone number** -Julie Tomblin 07973 444902. tomblinjulie@gmail.com OR Dot Warren 07980 897268 dotwarren@btinternet.com. .

UPDATE ON DOG POO SITUATION

As I have heard nothing further since last month, I sincerely hope that the matter has been dealt with. Let's hope so!

SIDDINGTON with PRESTON WI

The WI is still here even though we have not been able to have our monthly meetings. For those of you who are online, there are some good diverse classes and talks being run by Denman.org.uk at this time which are open to all - not just members. To mention just a few, these range from Mindful Yoga, preserving, felting, calligraphy to a talk on Gallows, Gangsters and Good Time Girls, Royalty in London and Art on London streets - Statues, Memorials, Banksy and Graffiti.



Not sure how things will progress with holding face to face meetings in the foreseeable future but hopefully this will be possible sometime next year. The numbers for all committee members are on the back of the programme should you wish to get in touch or have a chat.

In the meantime the Committee would like to wish all our members a *Happy Christmas and New Year and hope you all remain safe and well.*

AIR TATTOO 50TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK LAUNCH

The launch of a special book called *Air Tattoo 50 - The Story of the World's Greatest Airshow* was held in November. Available from www.airtattoo50book.com

Written by renowned military aviation expert Ben Dunnell, the book charts the growth of the Air Tattoo from its birth at North Weald aerodrome in 1971 to its current home at RAF Fairford - via some pretty spectacular airshows at RAF Greenham Common in the mid-70s/early 80.



The book's publication coincides with the Air Tattoo's 50th anniversary next year and starts the build up to RIAT 2021 on July 16-18.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

NOTE - THERE WILL BE A DOUBLE MONTH ISSUE FOR JAN/FEB 2021
Please be sure to let me have your news for January and February 2021
by **Monday 21st December.**

Dot Warren - Greystones, Preston; 01285 656105 Mobile 07980 897268;
newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk