



PRESTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER March 2020

NEWS FROM CHURN BENEFICE

As I write this, I am sat at my desk in the Vicarage being bathed in the warm winter sun as it streams through the study window. After the recent storms with their strong winds, hail and rain it is lovely to see the sunshine once again. It may only last for a short time and it may even be gone by the time you read this, but I will appreciate the sunshine while it lasts. There is something about the winter sun that, even though it is cold and wet, its light brings with it a lovely warmth. The appearance of the sun in winter seems to make people feel better, brighter and happier as it brings with it a sense of hope. Hope that winter will not last forever, hope that summer is on the way, hope that things can improve, hope that there is always light.

As I sit and appreciate the sun shining through the window and surrounding me with a sense of warmth I am reminded of the love of God. That warmth of the sun is like being wrapped in God's unconditional love as we are held in a comforting hug. As a Christian I believe that God loves each and every one of us unconditionally and forever. For me it is a love that sustains me through the difficulties and challenges of life. A love that brings me joy, peace, security, light and hope into my life. A love that enables me to flourish and grow as a person.

God Bless

Revd Jennifer McKenzie - Vicar of the Churnside Benefice

The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney, Cirencester, GL7 5TP Tel: 01285 860221

Churchwardens All Saints' Preston: Alister Painter (650624);

St Peter's Siddington: Allen Howe (657933) Mike Painter (650624)

CHURCH OFFICE: 01285 862632 Tuesday & Thursday 9.am-1pm Answerphone otherwise.

E-mail: office@churnsidechurches.org.uk

PRAYERS: The streets and areas in the Churnside Benefice (South Cerney, Cerney Wick, Siddington and Preston) to be prayed for in all our churches during March are Trenchard Gardens, Upper Siddington, Upper Up and Willow Grove. The prayer board inside the main door of All Hallows Church may be used for personal prayer requests, which will be relayed at Morning Prayer daily.

PRESTON CHURCH KEY

Please call Scilla Chester-Master if you need to know where the key is stored. Tel: 653066.

CHURCH DIARY MARCH 2020			
SUNDAY	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Pr
1 st March 2020	11.15am	Family Service	Sidd
1st Sunday of Lent			
SUNDAY	9.30am	Holy Communion	Pr
8 th March 2020	6.00pm	Benefice Youth Group	SC
2nd Sunday of Lent			
SUNDAY	11.15am	Holy Communion	Sidd
15 th March 2020			
3rd Sunday of Lent			
SUNDAY	9.30am	Mothering Sunday Service	Pr
22 nd March 2020	11.15am	Mothering Sunday Service	Sidd
4th Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	Benefice Youth Group	SC
Mothering Sunday			
SUNDAY	10.00am	United Benefice Service	Sidd
29 th March 2020			
5th Sunday of Lent			

The Benefice Lent Course - Seeking Shapes for Living - will take place from the week of 2nd March 2020 and will run throughout Lent. There will be a daytime course on Mondays (starts 2pm on Monday 2nd March at the United Church in South Cerney) and an evening course (starts 7.30pm on Tuesday 3rd March at All Hallows Church). All are very welcome.

*All services in the benefice can be viewed on the Churnside Benefice website
www.churnsidechurches.org.uk*

LIGHTHOUSE This is a relaxed space in which to be creative, explore faith and enjoy lunch together. All Hallows Church South Cerney. For further information please contact the Church Office.

SIDDINGTON with PRESTON WI

Thursday 19th March-Rachel Brindley; Cirencester Food Bank



A talk by Rachel Brindley on Cirencester Food Bank, part of the Trussell Trust working to combat hunger and poverty across the UK by providing emergency food and support to people in crisis.

As usual visitors are welcome. There will be tea, biscuits and a raffle.

We will be meeting this month at Elizabeth Way Meeting Room, Siddington at 7.30pm.
 Please contact Ann on 01285 641469 for more information.

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 30

HAVE YOUR SAY ON PLANNING POLICIES FOR PRESTON!

The Parish Council has completed its first draft of the Preston Neighbourhood Development Plan.

We now need to know what YOU think of our policies and proposals.

To see the Plan

Go to the Village website: www.prestonpc.org.uk

Hard copies are available to view at the Village Hall and the Church or contact

Tony Warren (656105), Julie Tomblin (641111) or the Parish Clerk (380040)

You can make your comments online via the Village website www.prestonpc.org.uk

If you would prefer to make your comments on paper, blank forms are available in the Village Hall or by contacting Tony, Julie or the Parish Clerk clerk@prestonpc.org.uk

The consultation is open between 24 February 2020 and 5 April 2020.

Responses in hard copy should be delivered to Tony Warren at Greystones, Julie Tomblin at the Pigeon House or the Parish Clerk at 77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester. GL7 1BJ

There are only 9 questions and it should only take 3 minutes!!



VILLAGE CLEAN UP

Saturday, 21 March at 10.30 am

Come and help us collect litter to keep the Village clean and tidy.

Meet at the bottom of Church Farm drive at 10.30 am.

Gloves, bags and litter pickers will be provided.

FREE VOUCHER FOR SOUP SATURDAY FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS!

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 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, 5 March 2020
at 7 pm in the Village Hall**

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>

VEHICLE SPEEDS IN PRESTON VILLAGE

The Parish Council has been concerned, for some time, about vehicles speeding through the Village.

Therefore they are currently investigating the possibility of introducing devices to monitor vehicle speeds through the village. The owner of any vehicle caught exceeding the speed limit of 30 miles per hour is liable to prosecution.

Will Residents please ensure that they adhere to the legal speed limit through the village to ensure they are not likely to be prosecuted. Residents should also warn their friends.

In order to assist in reducing vehicle speeds through the village it would also be helpful if drivers did not park on the pavements. For two reasons: 1) it restricts the width of footpath available to pedestrians, particularly those with push chairs and shopping trolleys and 2) parking on the road instead reduces its width which should have the effect of making vehicles slow down to pass the vehicle. This particularly applies to builders and delivery vehicles. So please ask these drivers to park on the road adjacent to the footpath, not on it.

PIMMS AND HYMNS - Saturday 18th January IN AID OF ERITHOKA-UGANDA

A big Thank you to all those who came to support this event. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The charity is thrilled to report that the magnificent sum of £600 was raised. For further information about the work of this charity, please contact Anne Smith (Tel: 01285 658767 Mobile: 07931398121

VILLAGE HALL

DIARY

Art Groups continue on Monday afternoon 1-3pm and Thursday morning 10-12noon. There is plenty of room for anyone wishing to join with either of these groups. Please pop in to meet Fiona and join in at no cost for your first time or contact Cathy at artinpreston@aol.com or ring on 01285 655325

Yoga continues on Wednesday evening. The new 'term' commences on Wednesday 26th Feb for 6 weeks. There are two classes for all abilities. Please contact Mark at mark@cotswold-yoga.co.uk if you are interested in joining.

First Friday Coffee, biccies and books will be on **Friday 6th March from 10:30am** please drop in for a coffee, chat, meet your friends and neighbours and exchange a book if you wish. Please let Dot Warren (01285 656105) know if you need any help in coming to the Hall.
SEE POSTER BELOW - LOOK OUT FOR THE APRIL DATE ON THE VILLAGE HALL NOTICEBOARD OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE HALL.

The last **Soup Saturday** of this winter is on 21st March 12-2pm. Come along and enjoy a bowl of hot soup and bread and a cup of tea or coffee. Soup Saturdays are always popular. Get there early to be sure of your choice of soup!!

Editor's note: The February event was a huge success with many residents attending to enjoy the most delicious offerings of soup. Scottish shortbread was very popular too. So there was nothing left but empty soup pots and biscuit tins! Many thanks to Karen Thornton and her super-efficient attending staff!

Village Hall AGM Friday 27th March 5pm. If you can spare half an hour or so please drop in to the AGM. We'd love to hear your ideas and thoughts on events for the Village Hall and your feedback. We are also on the lookout for new members for our committee. If you are interested, please contact a committee member, or come along on the 27th.

SOUP SATURDAY - 21st March



This is your last chance this winter to come along and enjoy Soup Saturday in the village hall!

Usual format, noon till 2.00pm, just turn up for a lovely bowl of homemade soup and lots of time to catch up with neighbours and friends.

If you are new to the village - do come along and get to know people - we are a very friendly bunch!



THE NELSON TRUST - REMINDER - WARM WINTER CLOTHES URGENTLY NEEDED - IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Brunswick House in Gloucester, is run by the Nelson Trust for women in trouble - just out of prison, just off the streets, in abusive situations etc. They constantly need warm clothes. If anyone has a coat or sweater or woolly hat or scarf to spare (OR warm children's clothes), please let Scilla know on 01285 653066. It is the most wonderful organisation and deserves all our support.

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER REMINDER If you are aware of any resident who doesn't receive the Newsletter, please ask them to email: newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk giving their name, address and email address in order to be added to the distribution list.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Please be sure to let me have your news for April by **Tuesday 24th March 2020**.
Dot Warren - Greystones, Preston; 01285 656105; newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS FROM OUR COORDINATOR - JULIE TOMBLIN

If you are aware of any suspicious activity in the village, or a scam caller is repeatedly bothering you, please let us know Julie 01285 641111 or newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk.

The police emergency 999 or non-emergency 101

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - Village coordinators who are available to help you are.....

Michael Dyson, Rex Canton, Alex Beadle, Reg Freyne, Andrew Mckechnie and Dot Warren



Phone Scams - North Cotswolds

Police are still receiving calls where the public are being targeted for phone scams. The main one is an alleged call from HMRC asking for tax to be paid or a warrant for your arrest will be issued. They then ask you to press "1". Please do not press "1" and hang up immediately. If you are able to get a caller identification number report this online at: <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

The other scam is allegedly from EE phone company asking for payment as the last phone bill was unpaid. The caller is looking to obtain card and bank details. Never give you card numbers or bank details over the phone.

Thankfully no one has lost any money with the above reports.

Many thanks
PC 2201 Nick Westmacott

Message Sent By

Nicholas Westmacott (Police, PC, Cirencester)

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR 2020

Below is the current rota, but please let Mrs Freyne know if you are unable to cover any of these weeks. Anyone else who can spare an hour once or twice a year to help to keep our church beautiful, should contact - regfreyne@gmail.com Tel: 655370

<u>Church Flower and Cleaning Rota for the next three months</u>		
March	LENT - NO FLOWERS Mrs Warren Mrs Cameron MOTHERING SUNDAY Mrs Freyne - Posies xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	1 st 8 th 15 th 22 nd 22 nd 29 th
April	Mrs Mingins/Mrs Thornton CHURCH DECORATION FOR EASTER EASTER SUNDAY Mrs Mingins/Mrs Thornton	5 th 11 th 12 th 19 th 26 th
May	Mrs Cooper Mrs Jones	3 rd 10 th 17 th 24 th 31 th

Cotswold-Yoga

New term starts
26.02.20 - 01.04.20

Preston Village Hall
 5.30 - 6.45pm
 7.00 - 8.15pm

For more details, please
 contact Mark:

T: 07771 644469
 E: Mark@cotswold-yoga.co.uk

All
 Abilities
 Welcome

W: www.cotswold-yoga.co.uk

