



# PRESTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER January & February 2021

**\*\*\*ALL GOOD WISHES FOR A SAFE AND PEACEFUL 2021\*\*\***

## **NEWS FROM CHURN BENEFICE**

Light has the power to bring about transformation, something we are perhaps more aware of in these long dark winter evenings. Christmas lights bring a sparkle to our homes, candles make a birthday cake a treat for someone's special day, a night light can help us to feel safe and secure and the twinkly stars in the night sky can guide our way. It has always amazed me how even a little bit of light can make a real difference, dispelling the darkness, showing us the way, and filling us with a sense of hope.

Light is an important symbol within the Christian faith as Jesus is understood to be the light of the world. A light that came to dispel the darkness, bringing gifts of hope, joy, peace, guidance, and love. To remember that Jesus is the light of the world and that God is always with us, candles are lit as part of worship and are often used as a focus for prayer. The Bible also encourages us to be light in the world as we show others kindness, love, and compassion. Through our actions we can bring light into the life of another and even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference to someone else and help build a better world.

God Bless and take care.

*Revd Jennifer McKenzie Vicar of the Churnside Benefice*

South Cerney with Cerney Wick, Siddington & Preston [www.churnsidechurches.org.uk](http://www.churnsidechurches.org.uk)  
Vicar: Rev'd. Jennifer McKenzie The Vicarage, Silver Street, South Cerney,  
Cirencester, GL7 5TP. 01285 860221, [vicar@churnsidechurches.org.uk](mailto: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, [martingould56@btinternet.com](mailto:martingould56@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** (Editor's comment - check this information in the light of new rules)

All being well, Cirencester Dance Club will be recommencing classes on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. If you have children or young people interested in joining please contact Tracy at [cirendanceclub@live.co.uk](mailto:cirendanceclub@live.co.uk)

Bridge Football Academy will be hiring the hall to commence inclusive classes for children 4-5pm on Monday afternoons. Please contact [nick.housden@bridgefootballacademy.co.uk](mailto:nick.housden@bridgefootballacademy.co.uk) for more information.

### **ADVENT WINDOWS IN PRESTON 2020**

Well! What a brilliant time we have had. I am so grateful to all the cutting-out, painting and designing families who have more than pulled out all the stops to make a glittering welcome to Preston! A big heartfelt thank you for all your support. I hope that you will all be able to continue lighting your windows at twilight daily until the end of the Christmas Season (right up till 12<sup>th</sup> night on January 6, if you would like)

I am planning to put together an archive of all the 2020 windows which I will send to both the Parish Council and the Preston Community websites in due course.

### **SIDDINGTON with PRESTON WI - repeated for Jan/Feb 2021**

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 **very Happy New Year and hope that you all remain safe and well.**

## **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 34**

Following submission of our Plan to Cotswold District Council, we have received some queries from the Examiner and these have been responded to. We now await the Fact Check Report which we hope to receive early in the New Year. For more information please go to the website: [www.prestonpc.org.uk](http://www.prestonpc.org.uk)

### **Christmas and New Year Waste Collections**

- Food waste collection due on **Wednesday 30 December will be made on Thursday 31 December 2020**
- Refuse and recycling collection due on **Wednesday 6 January will be made on Friday 8 January 2021**
- Food waste collection due on **Wednesday 13 January will be made on Thursday 14 January 2021**

### **DECEMBER NEWSLETTER FROM OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME**

#### **COMMISSIONER**

The newsletter is available to download [here](#) or via our website, <https://www.gloucestershire-pcc.gov.uk/in-tandem-december-2020/>

### **DEMENTIA AND ALZHEIMERS**

If you are caring for vulnerable people, including those with Dementia or Alzheimer's, support and advice and support can be accessed from:

Alzheimer's Society Tel: 0300 222 1122 or [www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk)

Age UK Gloucestershire Tel: 01452 422660 or [enquiries@ageukgloucestershire.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ageukgloucestershire.org.uk)

### **ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE**

Please be advised of the following temporary road closure:

#### **3/177 Ampney St Peter to Driffield**

This Road will be closed on the **25th January 2021**, to allow contractors, working on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council, carry out drainage works.

If you require any further information regarding this closure, please contact the office on 08000 514514.

## **SOLAR FARM UPDATE**

As promised I will provide an update for our Newsletters each month but if anyone has any queries or comments please contact me - Alan Stone - at [alanstonepreston@gmail.com](mailto:alanstonepreston@gmail.com). There is no update before Christmas, but I would like to send an update in January to advise all when work has started on site.

## **ASH DIEBACK PROJECT**

Gloucestershire County Council has launched the Ash Dieback Project to start to tackle the effects of Ash Dieback within the county, as our immediate concern will be to protect users of the Highway and County Council land from the danger posed by numerous dying trees. The general consensus currently is that up to 95% of ash trees in the UK may eventually become affected by the disease.

Ash dieback is a disease that causes leaf loss and dying branches, and can lead to the death of a tree. The disease attacks ash trees quickly and there currently is no prevention or treatment.

Ash trees are very common in Gloucestershire and cutting down any tree is a huge loss to our county's biodiversity, but this is something we must do to stop more trees becoming diseased.

GCC crews are carrying out essential work around the county to remove the unsafe trees that are infected with ash dieback.

**Private Landowners** - Privately owned ash tree/s that are within falling of the highway which are considered to be an imminent risk to highway users will be identified, we will write to the landowners advising them of their reasonability and required action to be taken within a stipulated time period.

For more information about ash die back please visit [www.forestry.gov.uk/ashdieback](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ashdieback)

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

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

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

I hope everyone has received a leaflet from Gloucestershire Constabulary regarding home protection. It contains some very useful information on how to protect your home. If you would like a copy please let me know. (Julie Tomblin 01285 641111)

#### **Protect your password in 3 easy steps....**

- 1 Create a separate password for your email account
- 2 Use 3 random words
- 3 Turn on two-factor authentication (2FA)

#### **Scam Warning - Fake PayPal Emails**

Criminals are targeting specifically people selling online, sending emails purporting to be from PayPal. The emails trick victims into believing they have received payment for the items they're selling on the platform. Typically, having received the email, the victim will ship the item to the criminal. This leaves them without payment and no longer in possession of the item. Scammers may have negative feedback history or may have set up a new account to avoid the history. Do not be persuaded to send anything unless you can verify the payment.

Don't click on links in suspicious emails. Never respond to messages asking for your personal details or supposedly from a close friend in dire straits asking for financial help.

A PayPal email will address you by your first and last name, or your business name and will never ask for your password, bank account or credit card details.

**WhatsApp group** The\_WhatsApp group, **solely for the use of Neighbourhood Watch**, is now well established. If you are not a member of the group, please consider the huge benefit it would offer for broadcasting any imminent news quickly round the village.

If you wish to be added, please send **your full name and address and mobile phone number** -Julie Tomblin 07973 444902. [tomblinjulie@gmail.com](mailto:tomblinjulie@gmail.com) OR Dot Warren 07980 897268 [dotwarren@btinternet.com](mailto:dotwarren@btinternet.com). .

### **CAR BATTERIES AND THEIR HABIT OF FAILING**

I know that I brought this up in the summer, but many of you still haven't been far afield. Just remember to check your battery if you haven't driven for a while.

### 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](mailto:regfreyne@gmail.com) Tel: 655370

### PRESTON SUPPLIERS REGISTER PLEASE ADD YOUR FAVOURITE COMPANIES

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](mailto:prestonvillageregistry@gmail.com))

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

For example, when you are thinking of having your car valeted after all the mud and rain, don't forget that there is a £5 discount for Preston residents. Ask me for the code (Dot Warren 07980 897268)

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Please be sure to let me have your news for March 2021 by **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**.  
Dot Warren - Greystones, Preston; 01285 656105 Mobile 07980 897268;  
[newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk)

And to end - a quotation from my favourite book for gently raising the spirits -  
*The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*:-

*"When the dark clouds come ..... Keep going."*