



PRESTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER April 2021

NEWS FROM CHURN BENEFICE

This Lent I decided once again to give up chocolate which has proved to be particularly challenging this year. I am therefore really looking forward to eating an Easter egg or two on Easter day. I have no idea what they do to the chocolate in an Easter egg, but it always tastes extra delicious to me. Though it is quite possible that it tastes so delicious because I have not eaten it for a while. Whenever I visit the shops at this time of year, I am always amazed by the variety of different Easter eggs there are on sale and I always enjoy deciding which ones to give to my family and friends to mark this special celebration.

For Christians Easter is the central point of the Church year and my favourite day of the Christian calendar. Even though we may be celebrating Easter a little differently once again this year as we continue to live in the midst of a global pandemic what we celebrate remains the same. Easter is still a joyful day of celebration when Christians remember the resurrection of Jesus, the triumph of light over darkness. Easter is about new life, new beginnings, hope, and the power of God's unconditional love.

I wish you all a happy and joyful Easter.

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

OYEZ! OYEZ! A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES! Saturday 25th September 2021

Hoping for some nice autumnal weather, the PCC and Village Hall have decided to hold the Fete at Church Farm on Saturday, 25th September.

Offers of help and ideas for new activities are welcome.

After the great success of last year's plant sale, it is the perfect time to start taking cuttings, sowing seeds, dividing perennials, while keeping some extras for the stall.

Maybe we could involve some of the families to establish a Children's Corner with toys for sale, other stalls and games etc

There will be more details in the next Newsletter.

CHURCH SERVICES- until lockdown for meetings inside is ended

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 Martin Gould (one of the Churchwardens at All Hallows Church) either by e-mail, 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.

SOLAR FARM UPDATE

Unfortunately we have no definitive news from the Contractor regarding a start on site date. However, they have advised that they hope to be able to provide us with the information by the end of March.

The Witpit Lane road closure will be reinstated about a week before they start on site.

As previously noted if you have any queries or concerns please contact Alan Stone on alanstonepreston@gmail.com.

RECYCLING DATES FOR APRIL

FULL RECYCLING WED 14TH; WED 28TH APRIL
FOOD WASTE WEEKLY FROM WED 7TH APRIL

VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall AGM will be held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 6th April via zoom. Everyone is invited to attend and share their views and ideas about our Village Hall. Anyone wishing to attend, please email Chris Sutton (chris.sutton88.cs@gmail.com) and she will send you the link to join.

We hope that we will be opening the Village Hall to organised Children's activities after April 12th. We await Government decisions.

DO WE WANT TO START A PRESTON HISTORY GROUP? - continued

I am pleased to say that I have had some response to the idea of a Preston History Group. And I was hoping that some families would participate and the young ones could be given the chance of developing an interest in their surroundings. If you would like to know more, please send me your details and, if there is enough interest, I could take it further.

CHURCH CLEANING AND FLOWER ROTA FOR 2021

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.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

WhatsApp....the neighbourhood watch group has been set up to quickly share information and hopefully keep us safe. If you see suspicious activity in the village or are perhaps aware of a new scam please let us all know.

If you are not already included and would like to be, please send your name and address and mobile number to myself or Dot.

tomblinjulie@gmail.com 01285 641111

STOP PRESS As I am writing this, I can report that a white van drove dangerously through the village this morning. A member of the community had the presence of mind to take the number and report to the police. The number plate did not match the van. I know that we are constantly seeing delivery vans of all shapes and sizes crawling through the village looking for addresses, but please keep an eagle eye out for anything that looks suspicious.

THE BOOK SWOP - latest arrivals

Here are some new additions to the Book Swap recently.

EDITOR'S COMMENT I can highly recommend, in particular, the Alan Furst novel.



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 36

REFERENDUM

We are now approaching the Final Phase of the Neighbourhood Development Plan – the **REFERENDUM**.

The Steering Group has worked hard to try to accurately represent your views, as discussed at the original meeting in the Village Hall in May 2017.

The Plan has now been thoroughly scrutinised by a Planning Examiner and as a result it has been necessary for us to modify some of the Policies, but we believe that we've remained true to our original aims.

This final phase gives the people of Preston the opportunity to consider adopting the proposed Plan so that it will become a legal reference document for planning decisions within Preston up to 2031.

The **Referendum** will take place with elections on **6 May** for the County Council and the Police & Crime Commissioner.

The Referendum Question will be:

Do you want Cotswold District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Preston to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

It is **IMPERATIVE** that everyone votes. If the majority of people who vote, vote YES then the Plan will be adopted and used by Cotswold District Council in responding to further planning applications. If the majority of people who vote, vote NO then the Plan will have no status as a legal reference document.

If you wish to see the final version of the Preston Neighbourhood Development Plan it is available on the Village website: www.prestonpc.org.uk and also on CDC's website: <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning/preston-neighbourhood-plan/>

KNOW YOUR RISK OF TYPE 2 DIABETES

The Diabetes Prevention Programme is a behaviour change programme where people learn about, diet, physical activity and strategies to improve their overall health, all aimed at reducing their risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes.

Normally, people access the programme through their GP however, due to the pandemic and for a limited time it is possible to self-refer via the Diabetes UK 'Know Your Risk Score' – a check list of questions that can determine a person's risk factors.

The risk tool can be accessed via the link: <https://riskscore.diabetes.org.uk/start>

Or contact: **Amy Partridge**, Service Coordinator, Xyla Health and Wellbeing.

Mobile: 07773040373

RUBBISH

As so many of us are out about locally for our daily exercise, please can you keep an eye out for rubbish. Please pick it up and take it home to dispose of in your own bin.

Our thanks to those who have suggested this and are already doing so!

ARE YOU FED-UP WITH DOING THE SAME OLD WALKS?

Walking in Gloucestershire www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos is the website for you! With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

For more information contact: John Harris

www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos

email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL – CASUAL VACANCY

Due to the resignation of Regine Freyne, the Parish Council has a vacancy for a Councillor. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact any Member of the Council or the Parish Clerk. clerk@prestonpc.org.uk

YOUR NEW POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

Kim Collins, PCSO 249305

Cotswold Neighbourhood Policing Team

Gloucestershire Constabulary, Stow on the Wold Police Station, Stow on the Wold
GL54 1AB Force Control Room – 101

www.gloucestershire.police.uk

For real time alerts, so you know what is going on in your area- sign up to:

www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk

ELECTIONS – THURSDAY, 6 MAY 2021

Deadlines for registration and absent voting applications:

To register to vote – by **midnight 19 April**

To apply for a postal vote – application forms must be received by **5pm on 20 April**

To apply for a proxy vote – application forms must be received by **5pm on 27 April**

Details of key dates and processes can be found at:

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections-and-voting/current-and-future-elections/>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S RECYCLING CENTRES SET TO MOVE TO SUMMER HOURS

Gloucestershire County Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) will be switching to longer summer opening hours a week earlier than planned.

The centres are currently experiencing high levels of demand, which is believed to be due to the recent spell of fine weather. To help meet the increased demand, summer opening hours will come into effect from **Sunday 21 March** instead of Sunday 28 March. They will be open from 9am to 5pm, instead of the shorter winter hours of 10am to 4pm. Visitors to all household recycling centres need to pre-book their visit. Social distancing is required on site and to minimise queues and waiting times the number of booking slots available is limited.

You can find out about the HRCs and book a time slot online

at www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/household-recycling-centres-hrcs/car-and-van-bookings-for-hrc-visits/

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Please watch the noticeboards and the website for details. It will depend on advice current at the time whether this meeting will be held remotely or in the Village Hall.

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 the
ANNUAL MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL on Thursday, 13 May 2021.**

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

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



VILLAGE LITTERPICK March 2021

'Didn't we do well?' Many thanks to all the wonderful folk who turned up to help with this year's clean up. Look at some of the litter we picked. Who could believe how many cans of beer are being consumed on the edges of our lovely village? And there was even a huge mattress tipped over a field gate. Next year there will be a celebratory brunch after in the Village Hall and so be sure to put the date in your diary when the date is announced.

THE POO SAGA

Until we can resolve this issue (and we are trying our very best), please watch very carefully, especially if you have young children, and be aware of any poo left around your house and street outside.

HOW ABOUT A JUSTGIVING PAGE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE VILLAGE?

Had you thought, with all the kind deeds and offers around the village, especially on the WhatsApp Community group pages, that it would be a great idea to have a Justgiving page where we can put a small donation for each transaction? The fund would soon build up - and it has been suggested that our first project could be to raise money for the Village Playing Fields.

I am sure, even if you do not use the space, that you will agree it is of huge benefit to our community to have a safe place for our families to relax and play.

Please let Julie Tomblin or me have your views and ideas about a Justgiving page.

PRESTON SUPPLIERS REGISTER

REMINDER Please add your favourite companies

I know there are still businesses out there that we use that haven't been added to the Register. The website is <https://prestonvillageregistry.wixsite.com/mysite> and the instructions for adding new names - or reporting on an existing supplier so that we can collect additional information - 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.

KEEP THE REGISTER TO HAND - ON YOUR DESKTOP or iPhone.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Please be sure to let me have your news by email or in writing for May 2021 by **Monday 26th April**. Dot Warren - Greystones, Preston; 01285 656105 Mobile 07980 897268; newsletter@prestonpc.org.uk