

# Preston Parish Newsletter

Autumn 2018

Bringing you local news sponsored by Preston & Elmstone Village Society

## BEST VILLAGE in South East England

On Friday 14th September, the awards ceremony for South & South East in Bloom competition took place at the Amex Stadium in Brighton and Preston & Elmstone were entered in the village category. It was the second year we had entered the competition, last year we achieved a Silver Award, this year we went up a level and were awarded a Silver Gilt as well as being named outright winners. The photo to the right shows Jenny & I collecting our award certificate and wooden plate. Like most people I hate having my photo taken but I 'took one for the team' and was delighted to receive our award on behalf of Preston and Elmstone.

I'll be honest, we stood a fifty-fifty chance of winning (only two entries in this category) but this does not diminish what a great achievement it is for our community. We can proudly boast that we are the best village across six counties – Dorset, Hampshire, West Sussex, East Sussex, Surrey and Kent.

Judging for the awards took place in July and we took the judges on a magical tour of both Preston and Elmstone. There are some wonderful gardens and private spaces dotted about and the judges were very impressed with what they saw.

In particular, I have to mention Preston Butchers, the judges made the following comment, "The local family butchers have excelled and provided a large bed that would not look out of place if it had been provided by the City Council parks department, well done for this level of input." Well done Mark and Amanda, your flower bed is outstanding and adds a real splash of colour to the village.

Also noted was Jude and Rod's wonderful



Josie and Jenny being presented with the winning category award at South & South East in Bloom ceremony.

natural swimming pool in the Forstal. The judges said, "The natural swimming pool we were shown in one garden was extremely impressive with the water being spring fed and the pumps powered by solar power, it was worthy of a RHS exhibition garden."

The Bulb Bomb campaign was a great success too, planting 5000 bulbs was no small undertaking, but we did it together, as a community. Many people took part and helped in a number of ways and I am very grateful to the Village Society who helped organise and distributed the bulbs. Preston Parish Council should also be commended for supporting our initiative both financially and physically.

The In Bloom awards are not all about plant pots, flowers and making the place

where you live look pretty, the host of the awards said, "Bloom is about people and people who get things done". This couldn't be truer and if you think of the team work, organisation and effort our community has contributed over recent years, it is easy to see how this has positively impacted and improved our environment.

I expect we will devise more cunning plans and ways of improving our parish over the coming year and hope the community will continue to support and participate in our efforts.

Well done everyone, I couldn't be prouder of where I live and what we've achieved together.

Joise Leicester

Chair, Preston & Elmstone Village Society

## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

There are a number of public footpaths and bridleways within the Parish for the public to enjoy, and you will find details of them on the large notice board next to the bus shelter next to the village shop. These are all 'public highways' with the same public rights to 'pass and re-pass', it is just the extent of use that is different.

Whereas with roads anyone can use them whether on foot, on horseback, on a bicycle or in a car etc, public footpaths are restricted to passing on foot, and bridleways to foot, horse or cycles. Sometimes, there can be private rights too, so that, for example a farmer might use a track for access with tractors, but the public rights might be to use it just as a footpath.

Generally, the land owner is responsible for maintaining rights of way in a passable condition and it is an offence for them to be obstructed. Obviously, where routes run over farmland, there are times when a route may be difficult to pass (after ploughing for example) but you will note that routes within the parish are generally quickly reinstated by our farmers.

Where there are deliberate obstructions, action is usually taken to clear the route by Kent County Council who are the highway authority, but members of the public are perfectly entitled to remove obstructions to enable them to exercise their right of way. A public right of way can only ever be diverted or removed by a court order and so, even if a route is obstructed for some time, it cannot cease to exist.

We are very fortunate to have three 'footpath wardens' in the parish, Martin Ferber, Jude Lawson and Chris Anderson who regularly walk routes and report back. They are currently looking to set up a small working party to clear vegetation from routes particularly around the Longmete Road/The Street areas, if you are willing to lend a hand please contact one of the wardens or the PC direct. Similarly, if you have noticed a problem with the Parish network please do report it.  
Ollie Chapman  
Chairman, Preston Parish Council

## ONE GOOD DEED

It might have been worth a mention in your excellent magazine, it takes something/someone a bit special to wake me from my prolonged apathy. Some of you might know a few months ago a very nice man from the village had a heart attack in our local pub. The NHS were quickly on the scene and the gentleman was home the following day. Unbeknown to me at the time Dave and Sheila from The Half Moon thought that as Dave was trained in emergency first aid, the pub could well benefit from a defibrillator machine – costing some £1,000.00.

On June 21 they set up a Facebook donation page. Amazingly £850 was raised in less than 48 hours, with the help of locals, previous customers of Dave and Sheila and some of his rugby club friends. As I write this I understand the machine has been purchased with the pub making up the difference.

## AND ANOTHER MENTION

We are all very impressed with the various initiatives The Village Society and others make to increase all of our enjoyment in Preston. I would like to mention Mark and Mandy from our excellent local butchers who have spent time and money vastly improving the garden to the front left of the shop. The wall flowers have now been replaced with an array of summer flowers, some of which are blooming already.

WELL DONE!

Roger Garnett

## Age Concern for All

Many people think that Age Concern is just for the very elderly but did you know it caters for those from fifty upwards? A lot of people find themselves home-bound due to long term illness or disability and have little chance to get out of the house, especially during the daytime when many helpers or part time carers are at work, therefore the services Age Concern offer are invaluable to both them and their families.

We desperately need this facility to continue however, to keep this service going and for it to remain viable it would help if more people used their services.

One regular local resident in Preston brought Age Concern to my attention and uses their services on a regular weekly basis. She told me it enables her to 'independently get out of her home and meet with other likeminded individuals'. A bus picks her up from home and after a short tour of surrounding villages to pick up other people, takes her to the dedicated Age Concern centre in Sandwich. Here, a home cooked lunch is served at a very reasonable price as well as refreshments and homemade cake. There are games and activities to take part in, you can use the visiting hairdresser, chiropodist or just relax and chat to friends. At the end of the day the bus returns all home safely, rested and satiated.

If you would like to find out more, or you or your family are interested in using the services of Age Concern, please contact your local branch on: 01304 614237

Josie

## Letters to the Editors

We very much welcome contributions of news, local issues and points of interest and would like to thank all who submit articles to  
Preston Parish Newsletter.

All written content may be subject to alteration at the discretion of the editors. The views and opinions expressed in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or the publisher:

Preston & Elmstone Village Society.

Deadline for the next edition of  
Preston Parish Newsletter

**Friday 23rd November 2018**

Please email all articles to:

**josie@vfast.co.uk**

## Preston & Elmstone Village Society

Village Society meetings have rescheduled so as not to clash with WI and we look forward to welcoming you to our meetings.

We would particularly like to officially welcome Jeff and Maria to the village who move into their new house next week. They have already become involved with village life, commuting to Village Society meetings and joining other village organisations. We wish them the very best happiness for the future in their new home, which they have patiently waited to be built.

Village Society meetings are now held at 8pm in the Half Moon & Seven Stars on the third Wednesday of the month, anyone who lives in the parish is welcome to come and join our friendly, informal group.

Best wishes, Josie

P.s. We still have a few 100 Club numbers available for this year's draw, please contact Mitzie for further details: mits404@hotmail.com

## Have You Seen our New Website?

We reported in the last newsletter that our new Village Society website for the village was finally launched. We are delighted to have feedback on the website and were thrilled to receive the following comments:

*"Great website, finally we've a voice to the world! Easy to navigate website and stay connected. Now I can read about my home village when at work far away too, lovely. Thank you to all of those who have put such effort into this and all the other great projects that our little village sustains. I am proud to be a 'Prestonion'! Anthony"*

The website complements our Facebook page and this newsletter to keep you up to date with all the news, events and issues that affect Preston and Elmstone. Our website address is: [www.prestonvillage.org](http://www.prestonvillage.org) and find us on Facebook by searching for 'prestonelmstonevillage'

## Acts of Kindness

Well done to everyone in Preston and Elmstone who made an amazing effort for the South & South East in Bloom 'Village of the Year' competition. Efforts have been on-going throughout the year with the Bulb Bomb in October, watering of raised planters and hanging baskets though the summer, mowing and strimming common grass areas throughout the village, putting extra pots of flowers out for the judging in July and litter picking in autumn, spring and summer.

Many people have kept their private gardens looking tip-top and to the many volunteers in the Village Society who organised the Bulb Bomb and planted new plants we would like to say a heartfelt thanks for all your hard work and support. I hope you will agree our village looks AMAZING, and can be enjoyed by everyone who lives here. Thank you everyone for your kind help and support.

A big thank you to Gayna and Andy who renovated the bench at the top of Grove Road, have watered the raised plant boxes and mowed and edged the lawn area here too. Your efforts have really made this area very attractive and well cared for.

Another young lady who quietly gets on with a amazing contribution to the village is Anne who has looked after the plants on the green opposite the shop, even planting new plants here when some suffered and died in the heat, also watering the hanging baskets and dead-heading them.

Thank you to Martin Ferber for installing the new gate and raised planter by Court Lane and for putting up the new litter posters around the village and looking after Robinson meadow. You really are a valuable contributor to the village and we thank you for your tireless hard work.

Unblocking blocked gutters - not the most pleasant of jobs but it's a job that when it needs doing, it needs doing! This kindly gent didn't just clear his own gutters, he worked his way round The Downs and cleared lots of others gutters too with the help of his young apprentice Hubert. Tony said ' I always knew I would end up in the gutter.' Yes but in a nice way eh? Thank you Tony and Hubert.

Thank you to the kind children of Preston Primary School who grew sunflowers and left them on door steps through the village to cheer people up - what a lovely thoughtful act from our young ones.

Thank you to Martin Knight and Pat Simpson who donated funds from the former Youth Club to the Village Society and to Jenny Ralph who made a substantial donation to the Village Hall Renovation fund.

A big thank you to the lovely Trica for making the amazing cake for the Village Society.

Finally, thank you to the kind souls who accompanied me to Brighton for the South & South East in Bloom Awards.

A lovely day out spent with great company, you know who you are - and I'm still reeling from not winning the white orchid. Big Love to you.

Josie. x



Tony tackles the guttering in The Downs with his young apprentice Hubert.

## Wednesday Social Club



I have been running the Wednesday Social Club for six years and I have found myself facing one of those terrible dilemmas, when you know that you have to bring something to an end even though it's going to be really hurtful to do so. It took me 18 months to finally give in, when your helpers become impaired and so few people turn up I knew it was time for the club to end.

Our club had its last day on the 25th July and the reasons for closing the club being financial and physical (the official letter sent to Parish Council and The Community Centre is available should anyone wish to see it).

It was wonderful to look after something that gave people fun & laughter and a break from being alone. The Wednesday Social Club continued with free admittance from its beginnings and 50p for refreshments right to the end. We had some fun outings (only one was cold and wet!!) and parties at Christmas & summer. Thank you everyone for putting up with me for six years and the lovely presents on our last day. We've all decided to keep in touch and we are going to meet up for afternoon tea once a month, at Copper's Bistro at Preston Garden Centre - anyone wishing to join us just let me know. My best wishes to everyone.

Jenny Ralph

## The Elmstone 'Green Clean'

You may have seen creative notices on fences and posts around Preston and Elmstone, ones made by local primary school children, reminding us to take our litter home with us! (See photo). We also have regular Village Litter Picks such as the one held on July 7th this year. Added to these positive ventures, are the regular walks we, as a couple, do several times a week round our village and where my husband ALWAYS picks up litter as we go. So, you might imagine that our villages would be pretty tidy by now! But there always seems to be more litter every time we go out.

I am a member of and volunteer for the Campaign to Protect Rural England ([www.cprekent.org.uk](http://www.cprekent.org.uk)). And so I thought it would be fun to take part in the CPRE 'Green Clean' campaign.

A little background.....After years of campaigning, the system of charging for plastic carrier bags (in supermarkets, for example) is now in place and working well. It has cut the number of plastic bags used by some 80%. The carrier bag charge has shown that we respond well to financial incentives, changing our behaviour accordingly.

The idea now is to have a similar system to encourage us all to do the right thing when it comes to single use drinks containers. After 10 years of campaigning, the announcement earlier this year that England, is to introduce a deposit return scheme, subject to consultation, for single use drinks containers (whether plastic, glass or metal), was a huge win for CPRE in its fight against littered bottles

and cans in the countryside. Throughout September 2018, CPRE organised a series of nationwide litter picks to clean up the countryside ahead of the introduction of the system, transforming it back to a beautiful, litter-free state. CPRE says "Through the collective effort of local people and communities, who either live in or simply love the countryside, we can banish bottles and cans from our fields, hedges and parks for good."

### What did we do?

We went out and collected litter. We then recorded the quantity and type of litter we found on CPRE forms. We took photos and sent them off too. CPRE will share this sort of data from forms and photos sent in by people all over England with the Government, to make sure England gets the best-designed system.

### What did we find?

I will let the photos speak for themselves! What a haul from just two people for two or three hours walking around a few local lanes and footpaths.

So whatever we are all doing to keep our villages litter free, let's keep doing it! One little suggestion could be that..... if you do go for a walk, if you took home just one piece of litter with you, that would really help. Who knows, it could even start a fashion!!

And let's support the idea of the deposit return scheme. For if people know they can get some money back, they might get it back rather than tossing drinks containers into the hedgerows!

All good wishes

Tessa Woodward & Seth Lindstromberg.



## Preston Community Centre News

### AGM 2018

The AGM was held on 8 June. It was well attended and a resolution was passed unanimously to change the status of the hall from being a Foundation Charity to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The process of changing the charitable status has been placed with a solicitor. The effect of the change of status will be to limit the liability of the elected trustees; an important factor to consider as we move towards the demolition of the current building and the erection of the proposed new community centre.

The hall will still be run as a charity with the same overarching aims for the benefit of local residents.

### New Fund-Raising Committee

Another welcome development arising from the AGM was a number of volunteers, particularly from Preston Grange, stepping forward to take on the organisation of events to raise funds for the development of the new community centre.

It is lovely to welcome new residents who are keen to become involved in the life of the village. As well as looking at ways of raising funds through official channels, helping to write business plans to support applications for grants and other funding sources, they also hope to organise events specifically to raise funds for the development and to coordinate these with other regular village events.

Watch out for publicity for Bangers Beans and Bingo and "Curry Club" in October (hopefully to become a regular event), the Annual Village Quiz in November, a Christmas Fair and Christmas Family Disco, and a sponsored walk in January!

### Volunteers needed

Volunteers are always needed to help at events. Please contact Rhona ( email: ha-ceec@me.com) if you can help out.

### What's on?

So far September and October look really busy with something going on in the hall on most days. Remember to check the [prestoncommunitycentrekent.com](http://prestoncommunitycentrekent.com) website for information.

### Weekly Classes

There are now day-time classes on most days.

- *Terry's Painting Class*

is every Monday afternoon 2:00-4:30 pm.

- *Basma's Yoga Classes*

on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 – 7:30pm and Thursday mornings 9:30 – 10:45am.

- *Tai Chi and Qi Gong*

is with Dominic on Wednesday mornings 9:30 – 10:30am.

- *Pilates*

is on Thursday evenings with Claire 6-7pm

- *Chair-based Exercise*

is on Friday mornings 9:30 – 10:30 am.

- Finally, for the more energetic,

Jo's popular *Zumba class* is on Wednesdays 5:45 – 6:45pm.

- *A new yoga class*

has also started on Tuesday mornings between 9:30 – 11:00am with Roy.

### Clubs

All our clubs will welcome new members.

*The Short Mat Bowls Club*

meets every Monday 7:30 – 9:00pm.

*Darts Club*

meet every Fridays 2:00 – 3:00pm

Remote Control Cars

meet on alternate Sundays 11:00 am – 5:00pm

*Table Tennis Club*

We now have 3 table tennis tables and a new club is held on Fridays between 6 and 9pm. The club is open to beginners and children under 11 between 6:30 – 7:30pm and then open to more serious players between 7:30 – 9:00pm.

We need some volunteers to help with the organisation and parents to stay and support their children to learn the game. Please contact me if you are able to come along. My email is [jillmatt12@gmail.com](mailto:jillmatt12@gmail.com) or telephone is 01227722518.

### Monthly events

*Gardening Club*

meets on the second Tuesday in the month from 7:45 – 9:00pm. Our next meeting is on 11 September in the Community Centre. At this meeting we will be discussing the programme for the year ahead. Your suggestions are welcome. Membership is £10 a year and monthly meetings have a £2.00 attendance fee; this covers any speakers, seeds and plants shared with members.

Please contact me if you want to come along and join the club. ([jillmatt12@gmail.com](mailto:jillmatt12@gmail.com) or telephone is 01227722518)

*WI*

meets on the second Wednesday in the month between 7:00 – 9:00pm.

*Pop-Up Café*

is held monthly on the second Saturday in the month. The next one is on September 8. This month the opening hours will be from 10am to 12:00pm. It's a great opportunity to meet other villagers and find out what is going on.

### Parents and Toddlers

There are still slots on Monday mornings or Friday mornings after 10:30am if anyone would like to start up a group. There are still a lot of toys left over from the pre-school days which could be put out and used. If you are interested, contact me and we can discuss how to move forward.

### Hall Hire and Lettings

If you wish to hire the hall please contact our Bookings Secretary: Kath Marsden Tel 07810 871286 or email: [kathmarsden44@gmail.com](mailto:kathmarsden44@gmail.com)

## Holly's Skydive

Many of you know our lovely Holly who runs the shop but did you know it's her 30th birthday next month? To mark the occasion and raise money for a local charity, Holly has decided to do a sky dive on 18 November.

Her chosen charity is the Chalkdown Group Riding for the Disabled in Staplehurst. As a keen horse rider herself, Holly felt that raising money for this charity would enable those that are less fortunate to spend some quality time with animals that bring hope and comfort.

If you wish to support Holly's fundraising efforts, she has a sponsor form in the shop and would welcome your sponsorship. We wish Holly the very best for her skydive and look forward to celebrating her birthday at the Half Moon on Friday 26th October.

## Local Lloyds Bank to Close Next Month

A reminder that Lloyds Bank in Wingham is due to close on Monday 15th October.

Rumour has it from one of the cashiers that a mobile banking service will take over although it is likely that it will visit just once a week.

It is still unknown what shape or form this will take but at least there are plans for some type of banking facility to remain even after the branch has closed.

# First World War

## 28 Jul 1914 - 11 Nov 1918

We should never forget the men of this parish who died in WW1. Their names are on each individual poppy opposite the village shop, remember their bravery and the sacrifice they give 100 years ago as you walk or drive by.

**BROWN Albert George.**  
East Kent Buffs Age 19.  
Dod 20/10/14 Ploegsteert Memorial, Flanders. Belgium

**GRIGGS Thomas.**  
Buffs. Age 20.  
Dod 13/10/15 Loos Memorial, Calais. France

**BURTON Henry.**  
27th Highlanders.  
Dod 04/10/17 Dernancourt, Albert, Somme. France

**OSBORNE Herbert.**  
Buffs. Age 20.  
Dod 03/07/16 Theipval, Somme. France

**BURTON Percy.**  
North Hampshire Regt.  
Dod 07/08/18 Pozieres, Somme. France

**PLUMMER William James.**  
13th Middlesex. Age 27.  
Dod 01/08/17 Leper, Aeroplane Cemetery. Belgium

**CROUD Frederick.**  
Buffs. Age 18.  
Dod 15/09/16 Theipval Memorial, Somme. France

**SOUTHERN Albert Edward.**  
Buffs. Age 26.  
Dod 12/09/17 Dalhousie. India

**DADDS Thomas.**  
Buffs. Age 31.  
Dod 03/05/17 Arras, Somme. France

**SOUTHERN Alfred Richard.**  
Buffs.  
Dod 20/01/15 Dover Cemetery. England

**ELLANDER Albert.**  
1st Scots Guards. Age 25.  
Dod 28/09/18 Terlincthun, Wimille. France

**SOUTHERN Charles Edward.**  
Buffs. Age 19.  
Dod 11/04/18 Bear Road Cemetery, Brighton. England

**ELVEY Graystone Harry.**  
Royal Flying Corps. Age 20.  
Dod 03/11/16 Carnoy, Somme. France

**STRINGER Frank Frederick.**  
Machine Gun Corps. Age 20.  
Dod 14/12/17 St Hilaire, Calais. France

**GIBBS Edmund.**  
Buffs. Age 21.  
Dod 17/09/16 Etaples, Calais. France

**TUTT Stephen Charlie.**  
Buffs. Age 27.  
Dod 26/10/17 Perth Cemetery, Leper. Belgium

**GIBBS ( Davies ) Robert.**  
Buffs. Age 33.  
Dod 07/10/16 Theipval, Somme. France

**VIZE Alfred Walter.**  
Rifle Brigade. Age 28.  
Dod 06/09/18 Niederzwehren, Kassel. Germany

**GIBBS Warwick Horace.**  
Buffs. Age 34.  
Dod 13/10/15 Loos Memorial, Calais. France

**WOOD Frank Gardner.**  
Buffs. Age 19  
Dod 26/09/15 Loos Memorial, Calais. France

## Update on Preston Grange from David Wilson Homes

We are very pleased to be able to provide an update on our Preston Grange development, which, as I'm sure you will be aware, has been under construction in the village since 2016. We are onto the final stages and currently midway through building the remaining 18 three-bedroom properties, so we expect the development to be complete by early 2019.

Excitingly, 46 out of 70 households have already settled into their new homes, meaning the community at Preston Grange is starting to thrive, just like in the wider village. There has been a mix of young families and downsizers that have moved in so far, and I know they are already throwing themselves into the wider village community, whether it be attending church every Sunday or sending their children to Preston Primary School.

We have also recently opened a new play park at the development, which can be enjoyed not just by our residents, but also those living nearby. Please come and visit it next time you have a free morning or afternoon and looking to entertain the kids! There are swings, a seesaw, and a climbing frame. We held a BBQ in the play park last month, a tradition that we hope that our residents will continue in years to come.

Though we believe that community is something that needs to grow, like flowers, we think that it doesn't hurt to nurture it where we can. During our time in the village we have done lots to work with the wider community. This has included our memorable guide dog that we sponsored on behalf of Preston Primary School. The children now receive regular 'pupdates', pictures, and had a talk at the time from Laura Drew and her guide dog Atlas,

alongside meeting puppy in training Gorbey and his owner.

Last autumn, we also donated a therapy garden to Wingham Surgery, which allowed them to purchase a bench and plants to create a peaceful space that both staff and patients could unwind in on busy days.

And with a final few community sponsorships in the pipeline, we can't wait to see what the rest of our time in Preston will bring.

If you have any questions or would like to pop in and see the new homes for yourself, please feel free to visit us (our sales and marketing suite is open every Monday from 12.30pm - 5.30pm and Thursday - Sunday 10.00am - 5.30pm on Grove Road). Best wishes,

Nicola Kirby and the rest of the team at DWH Kent.

## Photography Group

Interested in Joining?



As some of you may know our local photography group, always small, is down to two since several regulars moved away and the group organiser Bruce (James Winkless) sadly passed away last year.

Pam Tong and I have had a few discussions about getting the group started again and have also chatted with professional photographer Clare Randell, who has been living in Preston for the last couple of years ([www.clarerandellphotography.co.uk](http://www.clarerandellphotography.co.uk)).

Clare isn't in a position to take over running such a group but there are times, particularly outside of the wedding season, when she would be very happy to share her knowledge with an interested group to tackle a specific theme, or organise a local field trip. It could be landscapes at sunset, portrait photography, low light photography – almost anything.

Apart from that it would be really good to exchange notes with other aspiring or experienced photographers, and maybe organise the occasional informal meet-up to discuss our work, our cameras or any aspect of photography. We're constantly on the look-out for photography related events and can keep one another posted on anything we hear about, such as local training courses (there's one starting shortly nearby), workshops, online courses and gallery and photographic shows.

If you're potentially interested in being part of this informal group, please drop an email to [events@prestonvillage.org](mailto:events@prestonvillage.org) with your name, contact details and any other relevant information, and Pam or I will be in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

Louise Perryman.

## Half Moon & Seven Stars

With the summer almost leaving and the nights drawing in, we've enjoyed a reasonable summer to the point it was almost too hot to sit in the conservatory.

With this in mind we have taken the initiative to have Air Conditioning installed in the dining area. This will also assist in the winter months in that it also heats the room when needed.

STARTED 1ST SEPTEMBER:

Weekday lunchtimes 12 til 2.30pm we have a new meal deal. Choose from the set special menu for 2 courses @£9.95 or try 3 courses just £12.95

Our amazing Tuesday nights are still great with x2 rump steaks, onion rings, mushroom, tomatoes, chips plus a bottle of house wine for just £21.75. (please reserve your table so as not to be disappointed) also applies to Friday evenings and Sunday lunchtime please on: 01227-722296

Please support your local Pub, the hub of the community, you make all the difference.

Look forward to meeting you all.

Dave, Sheila & all the family.

Find out whats on at  
The Half Moon & Seven Stars  
by seeing the full pub gig and  
events guide on Page 17

# Community News

## Exam Success at Park Farm

Park Farm Riding School are delighted to announce, following their assessment in Surrey on July 19th in the BHS Complete Horsemanship1 and Ride Safe which carry binary results (pass or fail)

OUR RIDERS' RESULTS:

NAME:	RIDING:	CARE:	RIDE SAFE:
Matilda Harris	PASS	PASS	PASS
Courtney Hopkins	PASS	PASS	PASS
Millie Inglis	PASS	FAIL (BY 2PTS)	PASS

CONGRATULATIONS

We are extremely proud of this group of enthusiastic and talented riders.

It has been a pleasure training you.

Anne and Monique



## Cancer Research Fun Run

It was a wonderful sunny day in July when I was asked to help Karen sell some flowers at Palm Bay, Cliftonville for the 'Race for Life Fun Run', raising money for Cancer Research.

So many people were there, for a very good reason. It was written on the banners on their backs for, 'my mum, for my grandad, my uncle, aunty, brother or sisters'. All was done with a smile and determination.

We sold flowers to everyone to greet the runners as they came back and helped raise £700. It was a happy day full of love and hope and a pleasure for us to join in.

Thank you for inviting me Karen.

Jenny.



## School News

### Preston Primary School Summer Fete

We asked for the weather to be kind to us for Preston Primary School summer fete and it didn't disappoint. Sunday 19th June 2017 turned out to be a scorching hot day with not a cloud in the sky. Preparations began early with setting up starting at 6.30am. By 12.00pm we were ready for the Fete to be opened by Mrs Clements (Head of School).

With the games zone, plants, tombola, cakes, face painting, bouncy castle and beer tent, to name some of the stalls, there really was something for everyone. Plenty of Dads enjoyed being cooled down on Father's Day by getting wet sponges thrown at them.

Despite the relentless heat, it was lovely to see so many local residents and parents with their families, coming to support the school. We raised over £5000 which is a staggering amount for such a small village school with just over 100 pupils. The money as ever will be spent enhancing the children's education and goes towards things such as school trips, equipment and extra activities for the pupils.

We couldn't make Preston Primary School Fete the success it is without the help and support from the local community. So a big thank you to the local businesses and individuals, who gave raffle prizes, bought raffle tickets and came along on the day.

### Preston Primary School



The school term has started with a buzz. The happy and lively school community has come together again for another year of learning. The children have all returned ready for the challenges that face them in their new class. We have many things planned for the children across the year all of which will aim to stimulate, engage and inspire all our pupils.

We welcome 18 new children to the school. Our new reception children have all settled really well and Mrs Hallett has already been impressed with their enthusiasm and curiosity.

The children in class 1 wanted to spread a little happiness and kindness within the village and therefore they grew sunflowers and decorated pots and left them on doorsteps for local residents. We hope you enjoyed the kindness :)

Last term's whole school ramble was a challenging but enjoyable one, for the first time in 5 years the children were not able to reach the stream for a paddle due to a herd of cows. To make matters worse the weather was not kind to us and it rained. However soggy children still enjoyed the walk and it's lovely to be out in the fresh air enjoying the environment.

Last term the children also enjoyed Preston University. They chose a course to study for the afternoon from a wide range and then graduated.

## Preston Bakery

Just after New Year in 1963, having recently left school, I was delivering papers in Elmstone, Preston and Santon and one of my customers was Bill Dennett, the village baker. My interview for a job took place over the hedge outside the bakery in Mill Lane. "Have you got a job yet?" enquired Mr Dennett. I replied that I hadn't and so he said "You can start here on Monday".

So began my 10 years working at the bakery. I remember turning up for work on the following Monday and smelling the freshly baked bread, which I had often experienced when passing the bakery on my way to Preston School from my home in Elmstone, and now I was in the thick of it. The coal oven was fired up between 4.30am and 5.30am by Mr Dennett and as well as bread and huffkins (Kentish flat rolls), other goodies made on the premises included doughnuts, cream spits, cherry, fruit and madeira cakes as well as meat pies. We also bought in biscuits from Crawfords or Huntley & Palmer. My starting salary was £4 per week and as many doughnuts as I could eat! It was a thriving business with 5 of us working alongside Mr Dennett and 3 vans delivering to Preston and neighbouring villages.

The flour was delivered weekly by Spillers in 240lb sacks which were stored in the loft above the bakehouse. I worked up to 60 hours a week and learned all aspects of the bakery, including learning to drive in the Morris delivery van and enjoyed meeting the customers, who I always addressed by their surname, as Mr or Mrs. In a very cold spell in early 1969 we had to borrow a tractor and trailer from my uncle, Stan Butcher of Lodge Farm, to carry out the deliveries.

One bakery van had got stuck in snow at Grove and was fully laden with bread and cakes. When we finally managed to retrieve the van, most of the contents had gone, but to our surprise there was a list pinned up with the names of who had taken what, plus a small amount of money. Most people left their doors open then and I would let myself into the kitchen and leave the bread on the table, but one funny moment was when a customer had locked the



door and pinned a note to it saying "Baker, the door key is in the bread bin, let yourself in". The bread bin had been left on the doorstep, so anyone could have let themselves in.

I had great respect and admiration for Mr and Mrs Dennett who worked extremely hard to make their business a success and I am also pleased that Tim and Fran who now live in the Dennetts' former home, have tastefully restored the bake house and kept the oven, which had latterly been converted to oil fired from coal.

Ken Butcher



## Elmstone Book Swap

For those of you who enjoy a good read, you may wish to involve yourself in a new Book Swap initiative being set up using Elmstone's telephone box in Padbrook Lane.

The box has recently been restored, having been formally adopted by the Parish, and fitted out with some recycled shelving to take books and magazines. The idea is for anyone to bring along a few books and/or magazines that may be of interest to others, place them on the shelves inside the box, and enable anyone else to then borrow, read and return them if they wish.

Mark and Debbie Jenner, who live at Hollyhocks, opposite the phone box, have volunteered to be the daily custodians of the service, keep it tidy and

help create the space required. Mark said "Previous Parish Council Secretary Frank Pinnington was instrumental in gaining our adoption of the phone box, and his family have said how fitting the book swap idea is, considering Frank's love of books.

We hope this facility will provide an opportunity for all of us to share good reading matter, so please contribute and make use of it if you can". Please note if space dictates we will pass on "slow movers" to charity.

Designed in 1935 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and introduced in 1936 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of King George V, our phone box has also been formally registered as a listed building. Mark Jenner

## theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Adelaid Hoodless' speech at a Farmer's Institute meeting in Storey Creek, Ontario, Canada inspired two local women farmers, Erland and Janet Lee to hold the first ever WI meeting in 1897.

The movement brought women from isolated communities together and offered them the opportunity to share their respective expertise in home economics, childcare and farming.

The first meeting in the UK was held in Llanfairpwll on Anglesey on 16th September 1915. Much like in Canada, this developing organisation had strong links to farming, with members at the time being asked to help with the growing and preservation of food to support the war effort. The WI came to Kent in 1917 and was initially one Federation but was divided into the East and West Kent Federations in 1919.

Now the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK, with more than 212,000 members, the WI in East Kent celebrates its centenary in 2019. Then as now, the Women's Institute has no affiliations with any political parties and is for women of all ages.

As a member of the WI you are entitled to attend any of the clubs that the local Federation has to offer, such as the Lace Maker Guilds, Needle Craft Guild, Spinners Guild and the Environment and Natural History Group.

The East Kent Federation arranges various outings and activities throughout the year and the National WI has a residential college in Oxfordshire which offers residen-

## Preston with Elmstone & Stoumouth WI Why you should join us!!



The lovely ladies of Preston with Elmstone and Stoumouth WI

tial and day courses for members and non members (at an additional cost).

The Preston with Elmstone and Stoumouth WI has been running for 71 years with the first meeting taking place on 12 February 1947 under the auspices of President Mrs J. Samuel. The WI celebrated its 70th birthday, last year with a 3 course supper and one of Betty Glen's infamous cakes and we were entertained by Dave Copland and his ukulele band.

Preston w Elmstone & Stoumouth WI are part of the Wingham group and have twice yearly meetings with members of the other five WIs in our group. The WI business is conducted first, followed by an expert speaker or activity with of course refreshments.

Moving forward we are not all jam and Jerusalem, but we do uphold the WI

traditions, we are a relaxed group of ladies and these are some the activities we have done this year: - a craft and cookery evening, visited Salmestone Grange in Margate with a tour of the house and chapel followed by afternoon tea, held a garden party in a member's beautiful garden, taken part in the Inter WI craft and cookery competitions (Bake Off eat your heart out!), and had an evening meal in a local hostelry.

Other regular activities include a table tennis afternoon every Friday in the Preston Community Centre.

With the East Kent Federation celebrating its centenary year in 2019, we have an enhanced programme planned. We welcome any new members and of course their ideas for activities and the future development of the WI.

We hope that the WI in Preston, Elmstone and Stoumouth will continue for another 70 years, so help us to achieve this by coming along to one of our meetings and see for yourself what the WI is all about.

Why don't you come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 10th October in the Preston Community Centre at 7.30 pm

Contact President Dot Saxby 01227 668060 or Vice President: Penny Cornet 01227 722513 if you would like to come along or just come anyway you will be most welcome.

Doreen & Maria



The first WI meeting in the UK, held in Llanfairpwll on Anglesey, Wales, on 16 September 1915

## Preston Garden Centre

Four years ago on the first of September, Preston Garden Centre welcomed its new owner Sarah to the business. The garden centre was already a thriving business and had a great reputation due to the hard work and dedication of its previous owners Tim and Fran Offord.

Sarah and her manager Rachelle have a long standing friendship of over 30 years and run the business together. They both previously worked in retail and were keen to maintain the good reputation of the garden centre by continuing to provide top quality plants, shrubs and trees as well as expanding the business by adding new stock lines.

The staff at the garden centre are friendly, knowledgeable and very helpful, and are happy to assist you in finding specific plants as well as answering all your gardening questions and enquiries.

A wealth of garden sundries from bulbs and seeds, gardening tools and equipment, hard paving, statues, water features and fire pits, as well as a huge range of garden furniture, decorations, gifts, curiosities and pots can be found.

I must say, it is all displayed in a most attractive way and even just wandering around is a relaxing and pleasurable experience.

New products and stock are arriving all the time and are waiting to be revealed, so make sure you pop in on the run up to Christmas to buy your Christmas Trees, gifts and decorations.

The addition of Copper's Bistro to the gar-



A delightful sight welcomes visitors to Preston Garden Centre

den centre in February this year is a real asset to the village and surrounding area. It provides the perfect family friendly place to relax after a wander around the garden centre or can be enjoyed as its own specific destination.

There is plenty of seating both inside and outside. The Bistro is set in a light and spacious atrium with an attractive wood burner as its centrepiece and if you fancy some al fresco dining, there is a sheltered outside courtyard and copper leaf fountain. Copper's Bistro is the perfect place to meet with friends, have breakfast, lunch or social get together; it has free WIFI and is wheelchair friendly.

Food is freshly cooked to order with daily

specials to enjoy, you can just drop in for coffee and cake or enjoy a full three course meal. You can call the Bistro directly to book a table on 01227 728580

Sarah and Rachelle would like to thank customers and staff for their patience whilst the building works were carried out for Copper's Bistro and for everyone's support, enthusiasm and loyalty to the garden centre in the four years they have been running the business.

Preston Garden Centre is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and 10am to 4pm on Sunday's and Bank Holidays.

A warm welcome awaits all, why not visit and see what you could discover?

Josie



The stunning interior of Copper's Bistro with outside courtyard through the doors



## Parish Councillors' Contact Details

Ollie Chapman	721162	Jill Matthews	722518
Jude Lawson	722184	Trevor Bradley	721015
Michael Hooker	720144	Alwyn Pidgen	728533
Douglas Kiely	07803 231008		

**Clerk: Jean Swan 01304 842908**  
**Email: prestonparishclerk@outlook.com**



**H**ow time flies by! In September I will have been your Parish Council Clerk for a Year!

In this time, I have come to realise what a busy village Preston is and what a great community you have. The Village Society and Village Hall play a key part in village life and for any newcomers they are a good place to start to get involved, make friends and settle in.

Oliver Chapman (Chairman) and I took a tour of the village on our push-bikes, essentially to photograph all of the Parish's assets to compile a detailed register. I would definitely recommend this; Preston and Elmstone are quite beautiful.

The Parish Council continue to hold their meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month (except August) at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend, the meeting starts with a fifteen-minute time allowance for parishioners to contribute with information, ideas they would like to see happen in the village or to raise any concerns that they feel the Parish Council should be aware of.

Since the last newsletter:

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2017/18 has been submitted to the external auditors. Details have been posted on the Parish Website.

All of the Allotments have now been taken by residents of the Village.

Work has begun on the pedestrian link

and traffic calming scheme in the village, this should make it easier and safer for pedestrians with prams and pushchairs or zimmers to access the shop, whilst still allowing space for cars to park on a short-term basis.

The Parish Council have received, from PROW, the confirmed Order relating to footpath EE486 (Deerson Lane).

Cllr Kiely has attended the DDC Plan Workshop, the aim being "To transform Dover into a leading town in the region and regenerate the District so that economically and socially it equals or out-performs the region." Cllr Kiely will be reporting on this at the September meeting.

Eight parishioners have volunteered to form a Speed Awareness team, with the hopes of installing an interactive speed sign. The first informal meeting was held on August 15th. Trevor Allison will head the team and liaise with the Parish council to ascertain the best sites for an interactive sign as well as managing moving the sign and the collection of data. Thank you.

Two new multi-use bins will be installed along the footpath that crosses The Forstal and Court Lane. It is hoped to encourage dog walkers to clean up after their pets.

Three volunteers have come forward to monitor the footpaths and bridleways. Please report any excessive vegetation or obstructions to the Parish Council.

Cllr Pidgen has been involved in the A257 Groups "Plan" and has represented Preston at all of the meetings.

Finally, the Parish Council were pleased to donate funds to The Village Society for flower planters in preparation for the South and South East in Bloom judging. Josie and her team have worked hard to prepare for this and whatever the outcome of the competition, the rewards are there for all to enjoy. Thank you to all those who have helped.

jean swan,  
Parish Clerk

### Handy Person Required

Preston Parish Council need the services of a Handy Person to carry out maintenance work to the play area, painting and minor repairs.

The work can be completed over a period of time as and when suits, experience would be good but is not essential. Payment terms to be discussed.

**Please contact the Clerk:**  
**e-mail prestonparishclerk@outlook.com**

**Telephone 01304 842908**

## Preston Speed Awareness Group

### Speeding

The Preston residents who live on the main road through the village are only too aware that speeding traffic is a serious issue. The Parish council asked for volunteers to become involved in the management of a SID Speed Indicator Device. I am sure you will have seen the one used in Wingham.

### Funding

The Parish Council has the necessary funds to purchase the SID. It can be moved to specific locations throughout the village. The locations in question have to be approved by the KCC Traffic & Network

Solutions team. Once these sites have been agreed an order can be placed to purchase the SID. It will require mounting poles to be located at the approved sites.

### SID Types

There are two types of SID, the Mini type and the advanced type. We have elected to go for the advanced SID package. It has a larger display and also has incorporated SLOW DOWN. The SID is activated by any vehicle that is travelling faster than 35 miles per hour.

### Data recording

The device also records the data of any

vehicle that exceeds the 35mph trigger speed. The data will be downloaded in an EXCEL format that can be used for traffic analysis.

### Progress to date

The speed awareness group has prepared a briefing which will be put before the Parish council's next meeting on Friday 7th September. The group is confident that we will be given the green light to instigate a site visit. Once this has been agreed, an order will be placed under the KCC Traffic systems maintenance contract.

Trevor Allison  
Preston Speed Awareness Group

## The Friends of Elmstone and Preston Churches

OPEN AFTERNOON, ST. MILDRED'S

Sunday 10 June

This was a lovely afternoon with good weather and a steady stream of visitors enjoying cream teas and delicious homemade cakes, as well as the various stalls along the path with plants, pottery, bric-a-brac, cards, beeswax products, local apple juice and books. In the Church, there were beautiful flower arrangements, which included some from the wedding the day before. There was also a display of local art. Our bell ringers kindly joined us and welcomed people to give bell ringing a try.

We would like to thank the stallholders, Derek Hougham-Griggs, the bell ringers, all those who helped with the event in any way, and all the visitors who came and supported us. The event raised £370 for Church funds.

FAMILY HARVEST QUIZ AND SUPPER

Saturday 29 September

This event will be held at the Preston Community Centre, 6.30 for 7 pm start. We welcome teams of up to 8 people, £5 for adults and £4 for children. This will include jacket potatoes with various toppings and apple crumble. All crockery and cutlery will be provided. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. We would especially like to welcome families. There will be a special quiz round for the younger ones.

To book a table please call in person at Preston Village Shop, or telephone Elizabeth Timms on 01227 722704, advising your name, number of people wishing to come and a contact telephone number. Don't worry if you don't have a full team as we will be able to put people together to make one.

We look forward to seeing you.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT ST MILDRED'S CHURCH, PRESTON

Saturday 15th December 2018

Last year we held a very successful inaugural Christmas Tree Festival at St Mildred's Church in Preston with 12 local groups and businesses taking part. It culminated in the result of the 'peoples vote' with top place being shared by Junior Church and the Gardeners Society.

Could you be the 2018 winner?  
If you or your organisation would like to take place this year you will need to install your decorated tree in the church between 2pm and 4pm on either Thursday 13th or Friday 14th December. The church will then be open on Saturday 15th December between 11am and 1pm for everyone to admire the trees, see a great collection of cribs, have some refreshments and, of course, to vote for this year's 'peoples choice'. Please provide a real or artificial tree (no taller than 5 feet) decorated and hopefully illuminated by battery operated lights. If you are interested in participating please contact Alison Stone on either Alison.stone3@aol.co.uk or 07740 185327 ASAP. PLEASE DO SUPPORT THIS COMMUNITY EVENT

## News From the Belfry

The wedding season is drawing to an end as far as ringing is concerned with the last wedding on the 8th September.

We'll have rung for 13 at Preston and 4 at Wingham, with 5 at Preston and 3 at Wingham in August alone.

Luckily our new ropes arrived before we got too busy which gave us a chance to hang them and then 'run them in'.

Although they were pre-stretched, they were incredibly 'springy' to start with and covered us in lint from the sallys and rope fibre from the ropes.

St Mildred's open afternoon on the 10th June kept us busy with lots of 'have a go' ringers and yielded a couple of potential new ringers.

I'll keep you posted on their progress. In the mean-time we've still got room for more learners or lapsed ringers.

Brian Covey

*(Lapsed ringers' will always have a special place in my heart Brian!)*

## Health

### Yoga in Bed to Start the Day?

**How do you start your day? Avoid back ache this autumn with an easy 3 minute yoga routine.**

As the mornings become darker and the weather cooler, it's tempting to hit the snooze button and snuggle back under the covers. However, a few simple yoga stretches first thing can help keep the spine mobile and allow you to rise and shine a bit more enthusiastically- especially if you're not a morning person. Try it for yourself! On waking, curl yourself into a ball, bringing your knees to your chest and your forehead towards your knees.

Take three breaths here, before lowering your head and legs.

Inhale as you stretch your arms up and overhead, resting them behind you as you stretch the length of your body, pointing your toes away from you.

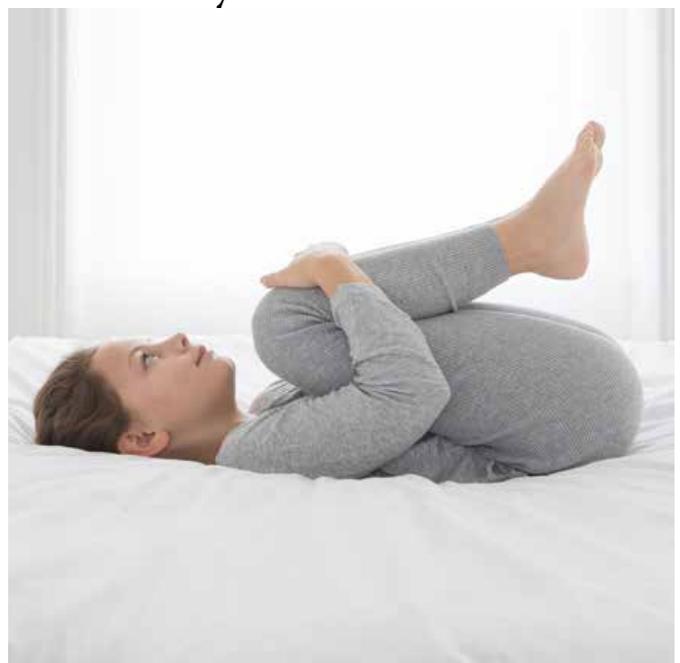
Take a few deep breaths here.

At this point you should be ready to leave your bed.

Bring yourself into a table top position (on all fours), coming into 3-5 rounds of cat/cow - inhale as you look up and slightly arch the lower back, exhale as you press the ground away, rounding the spine - this is one round.

Wishing you all a healthy and mobile autumn,

Basma, Simply Therapies



**WILL YOU BE  
PRESTON & ELMSTONE'S  
PUMPKIN CARVING  
CHAMPION?**

**WINNER RECEIVES A SILVER CUP  
& FULL BRAGGING RIGHTS  
FOR A YEAR**



**To enter, just leave your pumpkin  
outside your house by 5.30pm on Halloween**

Sponsored by Preston & Elmstone Village Society

**Have you got what it takes to be Champion?**

**W**ho will scoop the prize of Pumpkin Carving Champion this year and can Elmstone hold onto the trophy?

Although this competition is just for fun, it is a fiercely fought competition between Preston and Elmstone and the only time we do battle. Once a year we get to decide who's best and then when it's over, we're best friends again?

The dreadful judges will fly in on their broomsticks and decide who is 'The Champion' and if you wish to take part, please leave your pumpkin out on your door step by 5.30pm on October 31st.

There are full bragging rights for our four runners up and the Silver cup goes to the winner to keep for a year, until we prize it from their tight grip for next year's competition. Good luck everyone.

**Trick or Treat**

**W**e love the Halloween high jinks but could trick or treaters please respect that not everyone is willing to take part? If there are Halloween decorations and pumpkins visible then it probably safe to knock, otherwise please be respectful of those that do not wish to join in. Thank you.

# Halloween Party

SAT 27TH OCT

6.30-8.30pm - Everyone Welcome

FREE ENTRY

## PARTY GAMES

Apple Bobbing

Find the Eyeballs

Musical Scary Statues

Bumps-in-the-night

Unlucky Dip

Prizes for

**FANCY DRESS**

under 6

under 14

over 14

COME AND WARM UP AFTER TRICK OR TREATING

WITH HOT POTATOES & BEANS AND SPOOKY HALLOWEEN GAMES

PRESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Sponsored by Preston & Elmstone Village Society

# Village Events

## Autumn Village Litter Pick 13th October

How does our Parish remain looking so clean and tidy despite having a main road cutting through the village?

Well, the answer is local residents volunteer to pick the litter and rubbish up three times a year. This community event has a real impact on maintaining our lovely village and as we all enjoy the village, why not join in and help keep it tidy?

We would be most grateful for as many people as possible to help. Simply meet us in the village hall car park at 10.30am on Saturday 13th October to collect gloves, bin bags and pickers and split up into groups to make sure all areas of the parish are covered. We then meet back at the car park after half an hour or so to collate all the collected rubbish for disposal.

The more help we have, the quicker the rubbish that has accumulated and spoils our lovely parish is collected. Please don't just leave it to other people to keep our village litter free, come on join in!

Everyone is welcome, family groups and supervised children too.

Josie

### GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG ADULT CARERS

COSTA COFFEE SHOP, HIGH ST CANTERBURY, KENT.

1st Tuesday of every month 12pm to 2pm.

EAST KENT COLLEGE, BROADSTAIRS, KENT.

3rd Wednesday of every month 12pm to 2pm.

YOUNG ADULT CARERS ART GROUP.

My Gallery, Dover Smart Project,

3 Waterloo Crescent, Dover.

Every Monday 4pm to 6.30pm.

Carers Support. 80 Middle Street, Deal, Kent CT14 6HL.

Telephone 01304 364637 or

Email: YACS yac@carers-doverdistrict.org

Friends of Elmstone and Preston Churches

## Family Harvest Quiz & Supper at Preston Community Centre Saturday 29th September

6.30 for 7pm start

Tickets from Preston Village Stores or 01227 722704

£5 (children £4) including supper

Bring your own drinks and glasses

## Bangers & Bingo

Saturday 6th October

at Preston Community Centre

£4 per adult £3 per child

(includes sausages, baked potato and beans, bring your own drinks)

Tickets on sale at the Village Shop

CASH PRIZES plus RAFFLE

Doors open 6.30 EYES DOWN 7.00

EVERYONE WELCOME - BRING THE FAMILY!

Contact: Jane on 07562 014623 for more info.

This is a fund raiser for the Community Centre. Charity No: 302819

## Parish Council Meetings

Are held on the first  
Wednesday of every  
month

at 7.30pm in the  
Community Centre  
and are open to the  
public to attend.



**HAVE YOUR  
CAKE AND  
EAT IT**  
WE ARE  
MARCILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT

Come join us for

'The World's Biggest Coffee Morning'

on Friday 28th September

11-2pm @ 2 Thatch Cottages, The Street, Preston.

All Welcome! Please come along for a cake and a coffee/tea, Sheila and

Mitzie. Our Text2Donate is JAM NKY8 to 70550 to donate £5

See Facebook, 'The World's Biggest Coffee Morning' for further details

# Half Moon & Seven Stars Gig & Events Guide

## October

Saturday 20th October - live music with the fabulous M'Larki  
Friday 26th October - "Shameless" & Holly, our local shopkeeper's special birthday celebration

## November

Saturday 3rd November "Nosh n Knowledge FUN QUIZ NIGHT"  
Friday 9th November - Live music, "Normans Daughter"  
Friday 17th November - Live Band "Old Town Soul Band"

## December

Saturday 22nd December - Annual village meal with Music in the Bar. Join us for either and book to avoid disappointment as this is always a fun night.  
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY - FREE admission and live band 'Shameless'  
Taxis and and pre booked taxis available from midnight

## Finance

### Make 2018 a Less Taxing Year

**The run-up to the end of the tax year provides 'use it or lose it' opportunities to help secure your financial future and pay less tax on the inheritance you leave your loved ones.**

Over a decade since the financial crisis, the world is still a very uncertain place. Despite this, investors have enjoyed the benefits of a strong run by stock markets around the world.

However, it would be wrong to believe that market shocks are a thing of the past. From uncertainty over Brexit to the threat from North Korea, there are many risks that pose a challenge to investors now; and any number of unforeseen factors in the years to come.

But these are beyond our control; they cannot be allowed to prevent us from planning our financial futures. Indeed, we will give ourselves the best chance of achieving our financial goals if we focus on what we can control: how and where we invest our money, how much tax we pay, the size of our retirement fund, and how much of our estate passes to our family free of Inheritance Tax (IHT).

#### ISAs

ISAs have become one of the most popular ways to save, principally because they are simple and readily accessible.

The substantial increase in the ISA allowance to £20,000 was a very welcome step in encouraging individuals to invest for their future. However, as interest rates in the UK remain near record lows, money being held in Cash ISAs is failing to achieve the very basic objective of keep-

ing pace with inflation. The result is real losses for savers.

Those who are investing their ISA allowance for the long term – in assets offering the scope for attractive levels of income and capital growth – are giving themselves a better chance of maximising the tax-saving opportunities on offer.

Individuals yet to use their ISA allowance, or with accumulated ISA savings, need to carefully consider their options to ensure that they are maximising this valuable opportunity to generate tax-efficient capital and income for the future.

#### Pensions

Saving into a pension is an even more attractive prospect than it was a few years ago. This is because there is much greater freedom for taking benefits; and pension savings can now be more easily left as part of a tax-free inheritance. However, the advantages extend further than just drawing benefits and passing money on to loved ones: the government still rewards savers by giving them tax relief on their pension contributions.

For every 80p you contribute to a pension, the government automatically adds 20p in tax relief. Higher earners can claim extra tax relief through their annual tax return, meaning that a £1 pension contribution can effectively cost just 60p.

While tax relief is seen as a means to encourage pension saving, there's no guarantee that the higher rates of tax relief will be maintained into the future.

Those wishing to make their retirement plans a reality should consider fully uti-

lising their annual allowance for this tax year to make the most of the tax breaks on offer. Unused allowances can be carried forward, but only from the three previous tax years. This financial year is the final chance for pension savers to use the allowance for 2015/16: if it is not used by 5 April 2019, it will be lost forever.

#### Inheritance Tax

There are few more confusing – or unpopular – taxes than IHT. However, there are a number of exemptions that allow individuals to reduce future bills.

Perhaps the best known is the annual gifting allowance, which gives individuals the opportunity to remove £3,000 of assets from their estate immediately (£6,000 if they use the previous year's allowance as well).

Taking steps to reduce your taxable estate by topping up a child's pension or Junior ISA could go a long way to providing them with an invaluable head start in life. Make this year's £3,000 gifting allowance count – and carry forward last year's, if you haven't used it already.

It's a time of the year when individuals and couples are given an opportunity to put their long-term plans back on track by using reliefs and allowances that would otherwise be lost. Nevertheless, this requires some knowledge and expertise. That's why you should speak with a financial adviser to better understand how you can gain maximum advantage for this year and the years to come.

Karen Wright, Wright & Shadwell

## Preston Garden Centre



NOW OPEN  
**COPPERS  
BISTRO**

Breakfast served to  
11.30am everyday

**Open to 4pm Mon - Sat  
Sunday menu to 3pm**

*Pop in and try our delicious  
food, freshly prepared  
to order by our chef*

The Street, Preston. CT3 1ED  
01227 722250  
[www.prestonnursery.co.uk](http://www.prestonnursery.co.uk)

## 100 Club

Monthly local prize draw to raise funds for the  
community. New Draw starts in August.

**1st Prize £25, 2nd Prize £10**

**June winners**

32: H. Bradley

68: M. Lemm

**July winners**

12: C. Hole

63: Irene

**August winners**

08: T. Allison

52: Jane c/o shop

**Congratulations to the winners**

## Wright & Shadwell FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Investments & Savings
- Retirement Planning
- IHT & Succession Planning
- Pension Sharing on Divorce
- Family Protection
- Overall Holistic Advice

For personal and business financial advice  
contact: **Karen Wright on 01227 722922**

Or Email: [info@wrightshadwell.co.uk](mailto:info@wrightshadwell.co.uk)

The Heathers, Elmstone, Preston,  
Nr Canterbury, Kent. CT3 1HH



Our newsletter comes out every three months, but in the meantime you want to find out more details of whats happening in our parish as well as up-to-date Village Society and local news, check out our Facebook page. Don't forget to 'like' us and share us with your Facebook friends.

Our Facebook address is:

**prestonelmstonevillage**

Our Website address is:

**[www.prestonvillage.org](http://www.prestonvillage.org)**

## PUTRIGHT PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

ALL ASPECTS OF HOME MAINTENANCE  
UNDERTAKEN INSIDE AND OUT

Small jobs no problem, reasonable & reliable,  
**FREE estimates and Senior Citizen discount**

Painting & Decorating - Pointing & Brickwork Repairs  
Guttering Cleaning & Repairs - Tiled & Flat Roofing Repairs  
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# Jodie's Autumn Recipe



## End of Summer Courgette Salad

I made this salad for friends during the football frenzy this summer; it was so quick and easy, yet delicious, I thought I must share it! It's quite a summery salad but I am forever the optimist and I'm hoping for a long summer.

This salad is so versatile, you can omit the rocket if you haven't got any, or add different herbs such as Thyme or mint, and you can even throw in a little chilli.

Ingredients:

3 courgettes - For best results use courgettes in their prime, nice and firm and not too big.

25 grams of pine nuts

Good handful of rocket

Parmesan cheese (or try Feta if you don't like Parmesan)

3 tbsp olive oil

1 lemon - juiced and zested

1 tsp honey

1/2 tsp Dijon mustard

Method:

Whizz together the oil, lemon juice and zest, mustard and honey. Season with pepper. Be sure to taste and add more of whatever to get the dressing to your liking. Set aside.

Gently toast the pine nuts by heating them in a frying pan (no oil) until they are golden. Put to one side.

After top and tailing the courgettes, thinly slice them lengthways using a potato peeler or mandolin if you have one.

Toss the courgettes in the dressing, add to your salad bowl then gently mix in the nuts, rocket and shaved parmesan (to your taste). Serve and eat soon after.

(This salad is great on its own, or makes a good side salad; try it with white fish or sliced mozzarella).

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# What's on this Autumn?

## September

- Fri 28th World's Biggest Coffee Morning, 11- 2pm, 2 Thatch Cottages  
Sat 29th Harvest Quiz & Supper, 6.30pm Preston Community Centre

## October

- Sat 6th Bangers & Bingo, 6.30pm Preston Community Centre  
Sat 13th Village Litter Pick, meet 10.30am, Community Centre car park  
Sat 20th Live band, 'M'Larki' at Half Moon & Seven Stars  
Fri 26th Live band, 'Shamless' at Half Moon & Seven Stars  
Sat 27th Village Halloween Party, 6.30pm, Preston Community Centre  
Wed 31st Pumpkin Carving Competition

## November

- Sat 3rd Fun Chat & Chew Quiz night, Half Moon & Seven Stars  
Fri 9th Live band, 'Norman's Daughter' at Half Moon & Seven Stars  
Fri 17th Live band, 'Old Town School Band' at Half Moon & Seven Stars

## December

- Sat 15th Christmas Tree Festival, St Mildred's Church  
Fri 21st Village Christmas Party, Preston Community Centre  
Sat 22nd Annual Village meal, Half Moon & Seven Stars  
Mon 31st New Year's Eve Party, Half Moon & Seven Stars

Wishing everyone an award winning autumn. From all your friends in the Preston & Elmstone Village Society



The winter edition of Preston Parish Newsletter will be available from the first week of December 2018