

COMMUNITY NEWS

ISSUE 197 AUGUST 2020

The Community News is an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group
"Working Together For Our Community"

email_news@pacdg.org to contact the Editor

- if you have any questions on what's happening - or not happening - in our community, do let us know and we'll do our best to provide an answer, or at least point you in the right direction - email the Editor
- please email us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents, including local area job opportunities
- if you need assistance in any way, email us and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.
...AND IF YOU NEED TO CHECK BACK ON PAST ISSUES FOR INFORMATION, YOU CAN SEE THESE (along with lots of other good information) ON THE TOWN WEBSITE www.presteigne.org.uk/calendar

...**from Heather.** Has anybody lost a large female black and white cat, very distinctive looking, in central Presteigne? It seems house trained, domesticated and really affectionate and used to human company and living in a house but absolutely ravenous. Large but bony and her fur was dry and wiry but is improving. She's extremely clean and I don't think there's any sign of fleas. It really suggests a well loved and well looked after pet who's got itself lost. If this sounds like your cat, contact Heather on heather.burton100@gmail.com.

...**from The Royal Oak.** We'll be unveiling the Nigel Powell memorial bench out front at 6pm this Saturday. If you are coming along please abide by social distancing and be courteous of others around you. Tables are available to reserve inside and in the garden for the evening. The garden is fully booked during the afternoon for a private function so booking is recommended.

...**from Geoff Hall Funerals. Eric Thomas Davies of Scottleton Street,** Presteigne, passed away at home on Tuesday 18th August aged 76, much-loved husband of Jane. Private graveyard service in Presteigne Cemetery on Friday 4th September at 12noon. No flowers please, donations if desired direct to the Wales Air Ambulance. Enquiries to Geoff Hall Funerals 01547 528554. For those wishing to pay their final respects, Eric's final journey will leave Scottleton Street at around 11.40am, via High Street and Broad Street and to the cemetery.

SCAM REPORT

...**phone text scam.** Beware text messages apparently sent from a bank (in our case TSB) saying that Mrs xxxxx xxxxx has been added to your mobile banking payee list and inviting you to click a link to confirm this or to correct it. Don't click - it's a smishing scam of course but maybe not so obvious to spot if it's your bank they're impersonating. Report to the bank itself - see details on their website - and also to report@phishing.gov.uk

...**and a current email phishing scam** where you receive a message apparently from one of the major on-line suppliers or from Apple or similar, saying something like...."Message to Our Customers: Due to staffing challenges related to COVID-19, we've temporarily reduced our phone support hours to 6am-12:30am EST. Chat agents remain available 24/7. We thank you for your patience and understanding." The footer to the email tempts you to sign in to your account with a link, which leads to a fake website. Report to the company - see their website - and also to report@phishing.gov.uk

...**from Ann about a suspected telephone call scam.** "A very pleasant young man called Jack called (from a displayed tel. no. 02081619770 *ed. most likely a faked number to give an appearance of legitimacy*) to say that I may be eligible for a free Medi-Alert alarm and he

needed to ask me some questions. I stopped him there, saying, sorry, but that I did not know who he was and that it may be a scam call. At that the line went dead! I thought it was very suspicious and worth warning everyone”.

Be warned !! There are several ways you can/should report phone call scams to help others: Visit www.bt.com/consumer/edw/scams to report a call on a BT phone line.

Visit Citizens Advice www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/reporting-a-scam/

(ed. the CAB say you can report all sorts of scams to them and they will forward information on to the relevant body - Action Fraud, Trading Standards etc)

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET

(things are settling down now but still best to first check information on websites or Facebook pages)

...about the Radnorshire Arms. Opening day getting closer - excitement mounting! Friday 21st at 12noon.

...from Leon's Supper Club. We will be open every Friday & Saturday evening, starting on the 28th August - the menu will be a 6 course Spanish fish and seafood tapas menu - we will also be open every Sunday for a Spanish Sunday lunch, served from 2pm till 6pm. Menus to follow - see The Salty Dog Facebook page. Bookings recommended, please contact us on 01544 262 164 or 0780 5727 486.

n.b. This will be the last Burger Weekend ... To place your order call any time between Monday and Friday this week or before 12 noon on Saturday. 01544 2621

...from Wild Thyme Italian. This week's takeaway menu is ready for your orders - see our Facebook page. Just as a reminder, the restaurant is open this week on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, lunch and evening. However Wednesday evening is fully booked except for outside tables!

...from The Hat Shop Restaurant. An update. We are open during the day 9.30 till 2pm. Evenings we will only open if pre-booked due to a staff family bereavement. We thank you for understanding at this difficult time.

...from Emily D's Bookshop - books for babies to young adults. If you are looking for gifts; birthday presents, wipe-clean, jigsaws, lift the flap, puzzle books, noisy books, height charts, flash cards, language cds, xylophone/keyboard books, fiction and much more! I have also started a Facebook book club reading the young adult fiction which is also enjoyable for grown ups! Contact me for more details [07808474288](tel:07808474288) or Facebook: Emily Douce Independent Usborne Organiser

...from the PNCS Warehouse. Lots of new items of furniture in today from a house clearance. Dining tables, wardrobe, chests of drawers, mirrors, shelves, coffee table, chairs and lots more. Come in and take a look they are getting snapped up!! We do have to quarantine these until Friday but you can buy and pay for them now. We cannot reserve anything unless it is paid for because there will be lots of interest. Pictures to follow on our Facebook page!

...from Alex Gooch Artisan Baker. It's back to normal service for us on Broad Street every Saturday morning from 9am onwards, selling pre-packed bread selections at £10 a bag, and pre-selected pastries at £10 a box.

...from Walton Parish Hall. Saturday August 22nd 1pm - 4pm Community Charity Shop Sale in Walton Hall (In aid of Walton Hall, Knill Church & Old Radnor Church). Come along & get all those bargains you've missed out due to the community shop being shut.

OTHER INFORMATION

...a Date for your Diary. Car Treasure Hunt. Sunday 13th September 10.30am start from Home Farm, Norton LD8 2EF. £10 per car. Raffle - good prizes. Bring a picnic lunch (to eat at finish). All proceeds to Norton Show. More info from Ann Price 01544 267221

...from Powys CC. From today (17 August) electric vehicle charging points are now available (live!) in a number of Powys County Council car parks. The first two locations to go live with the

new electric vehicle charging points are the Mount Street Car Park in Llanidloes and the Maengwyn Street Car Park in Machynlleth. These 'fast' charge points are capable of fully charging an electric vehicle in three to four hours, dependent on the type and number of vehicles plugged in at the time. Each car park has two charge points, each with two charging sockets, allowing four vehicles to charge simultaneously at each location. Another six locations across the county will be up and running shortly, including Church Street Car Park in Welshpool, Back Lane Car Park in Newtown, **Hereford Street Car Park in Presteigne**, High Street Car Park in Llandrindod Wells, Groe Car Park in Builth Wells, and Watton Car Park in Brecon. This electric vehicle charging project was funded by The Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) and Powys County Council and delivered in conjunction with Silverstone Green Energy. The charging points are all owned by the council and are on the Dragon Charging Network. Users will need an account with either Dragon Charging or Genie Point to access the connection. For more information on how to use the electric vehicle charge points and the charges, please visit <https://crowd.in/lc8GOJ>

...from the UK Parliament. Book your place on a FREE online talk in August exploring the history of the Palace of Westminster and the heritage collections within. Join us in celebrating 150 years of the Palace, through an online guided tour and our expert-led discussions (on Microsoft Team Viewer accessible via Firefox and Chrome browsers but not, unfortunately for Apple users, via Safari). Go to www.ukparliament.seetickets.com/ to book onto a session.

...from Mirthy. FREE online talk "The London No-One Tells You About" // Thursday 20 August at 5pm // From London's lost rivers to Nelson's second-hand tomb and on to portable toilets, Geoff Harris introduces the great city from his own offbeat angle. Don't miss this one! Limited spaces, so register now <https://mirthy.co.uk/talks/>

A summertime celestial gem - by Kenneth Rodmell. In issue 197 we learned how to identify the Summer Triangle. Now it's time to start exploring its rich offerings. You'll need to Google a picture of either the Summer Triangle and/or the constellation of Cygnus the Swan, of which corner star, Deneb, constitutes the swan's tail. Heading deep into the interior of the Triangle, you'll see an almost straight line of stars forming the swan's body. This is crossed by an enormous pair of spread 'wings' which host a vast crucifix known as the Northern Cross - itself far bigger than its better known southern counterpart. Object of today's challenge is, however, to find the star known as Albireo, the swan's 'beak'. Albireo is the classic text-book example of a double star, its components being bright gold with a dimmer blue companion. Once found (be patient!) the pairing is easily 'split' in binoculars and the contrasting colours will look simply stunning, especially through a telescope. Once seen, it's never forgotten and it's a view you'll want to share with (suitably sanitised and socially distanced) friends!

...from Presteigne Freegle. What do you all think about this? Morrisons Supermarket is planning to ditch all its plastic "bags for life" following evidence that they are being used once and thrown away. The food retailer is running a trial in eight stores from Monday, which will see sturdy paper bags offered at checkouts instead of reusable plastic bags if the trial is popular. The proposed paper bag can carry up to 16kg, has handles, can carry a similar amount of items as its plastic counterpart and is easily recyclable, the retailer added. Last year Sainsbury's said it was the first UK supermarket to remove plastic bags for loose fruit, vegetables and bakery items. Tesco said it will stop using plastic bags to deliver online groceries following a successful trial last year, saving nearly 2,000 tonnes of plastic annually. Recent figures show the number of single-use plastic bags distributed by the big supermarkets in England has fallen more than 95% since the 5p charge was introduced in 2015. Data from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs shows that the main retailers sold 226m single-use bags in the past financial year, 322m fewer than in 2018/19. An estimated 7.6bn bags a year were handed out by the leading supermarkets before the 5p charge was introduced in 2015. Only across all its 494 stores would save 90m plastic bags being used annually, the equivalent of 3,510 tonnes of plastic per year, the company said.

...from Royal Albert Hall Home. Royal Albert Home brings exclusive sessions from artists' homes to yours whilst the Hall is shut. See our website www.royalalberthall.com/tickets

for a guide to watch future shows, and also past events on demand e.g. guitar mastermind Joe Bonamassa performs an exclusive set for Royal Albert Home this Saturday 22 August, 7:30pm. These shows are all available for FREE but, if you can, please **donate to the Hall**. We rely on the income from our shows and on charitable donations to keep us going and we have no regular funding from government. Without support during this crisis, the Royal Albert Hall is at risk. First and foremost these sessions are made for you to enjoy. It's against our nature to close our doors, so we wanted to open a small virtual window to the magic that our venue creates.

...from the Welsh Government. A reminder....It's the law for hospitality businesses and high-risk settings to ask for your name and phone number in case of an outbreak. This will help stop the spread of coronavirus, so you can enjoy yourself safely. Our guidance: <https://gov.wales/keeping-records-staff-customers-and-visitors-test-trace-protect>

...from Powys CC. The road between Lloyney and Beguildy will be closed for some time as a result of damage caused by Wednesday's storm. The railway line between Knucklas and Llangunllo has also been badly damaged and undermined by flood water.

...from Presteigne Freegle. Freegle makes it easy to *not* throw things out. Freegle makes it easy to re-home your unwanted stuff. Freegle makes it easy to find things you need for free. We are part of the #CircularEconomy. You can be too! <http://ow.ly/DbOu30nyjdj>
#ChooseToReuse#ZeroWas

...from Earthwatch Europe. We need 100,000 people to register as citizen scientists and take part in planet-saving research projects. Sign up now at www.join-earthwatch.org.uk/. We need volunteers to take part in real science and help gather the big data we need in order to save our planet. The information that you give us as part of our Earthwatcher community will help identify where action needs to be taken, and what action will have the greatest impact. Find out how you can help today!

...from Powys CC. Please note that day centres for older people and day services for people with learning disabilities should remain shut for a further six months. The centres were all closed in March as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Alternative arrangements have been put in place for people who previously attended day centres and services such as the provision of care at home, supported living and in some cases, family support. Some have chosen not to receive further support.

LOCAL AREA JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...from Powys CC. We have some exciting job opportunities in Children's Services. Take a look and apply at www.powys.gov.uk/jobs

...from The Swan, Kington. Here at The Swan Hotel we have a vacancy for a bartender to join our friendly team in our newly refurbished Hotel. Hours to be discussed at interview. Experience is preferred but not essential as full training will be given. If you're interested in this role then please drop your cv into the hotel addressed to Casey Floyd.

PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group... "Working together for the Community"

You are receiving this email because you asked to receive the Community News & be kept informed about PACDG activities. If at any time you decide not to receive further PACDG emails, contact us on news@pacdg.org with REMOVE in the subject line & we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.