

Community News

Issue 228 December 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 if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents, including local area jobs
 - 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

...ed. correction to recycling item in Issue 227. Contrary to the advice quoted to keep the tops on glass and plastic bottles for the kerbside recycling, Powys Recycling wants us to separate the tops from the bottles. Then all metal and plastic caps and tops should go in our red boxes. My mistake in wrongly attributing the FB information to Powys Recycles when it actually came from a different body Recycle Now. Apologies for the confusion, and thanks to both Sarah and Phil for raising the question!

...and there also seems to be a problem with the Pharmacy Survey link in the last issue...try this link <https://www.pccevents.co.uk/pcc/frontend/xt/xtTsurveyPage.csp?pageID=1301415> or get to it via this nhs link <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/your-views-on-pharmacy-services-in-powys/>. Thanks to Phil for spotting this.

...from the Welsh Government. UPDATE. Wales' coronavirus regulations have been amended to prohibit travel to and from tier three areas in England; level three and four areas in Scotland, and the whole of Northern Ireland. BUT new travel guidance still strongly advises people in Wales NOT to travel to other parts of the UK with lower levels of coronavirus e.g. tier one and two areas in England *[ed. which includes Herefordshire & Shropshire]* unless really necessary. <https://gov.wales/first-minister-announces-latest-coronavirus-travel-restrictions>

...from Catherine about Norton donations for Foodbank. "Helen suggested that we have a food bank donations box in the Church porch. Agreed - a box is now by the door ready for donations - that will be collected and taken to a main collection point. Appropriate festive food/goodies would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support."

...from Gill at Presteigne Pharmacy about flu vaccination. Take up has been good but we still have plenty of flu vaccine in stock for patients aged 50 to 65 years, or patients 18 years to 65 in at-risk groups. Appointments available. Call in or call 01544 267000

...from Powys Teaching Health Board. Coronavirus Testing in Powys - Week Beginning 7 December 2020. If you have symptoms, get a test at Mass Drive-Through Testing Centres in Brecon & Newtown, local Testing Unit in Builth Wells, or with Home Testing Kits. See www.gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-test, call 119 (18001 119 for those with hearing or speech difficulties), www.powys.testing@wales.nhs.uk

THANK YOU

...from PNCS. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets and helped us with our Christmas Grand Prize Draw. We had 64 prizes. We raised a huge £1000.00. Also a big thank you to Lloyds Bank and Vodafone for your match funding. We really do appreciate each and everyone one of you for your continued support to carry on with our much needed community support scheme in a very difficult year for everyone. Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

...from East Radnor Day Centre. Many thanks to Helen and her team who've provided the meals for the Day Centre for the last 5 years. We all wish her very well in her new adventures!

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET (local businesses are still adapting to local restrictions - best to check information on websites or Facebook pages)

...from The Salty Dog. Lovely polystyrene boxes for free, at the Salty Dog, first come first served! See our FB page for photos.

...from Presteigne Tyres. If you have seen the weather you will of seen the snow is on it's way. Snow tyres on the shelf and ready to go. Give us a call to book in 01544 267240.

...from The Bleddfa Centre. We are open, we can assure you, as little 'retail' galleries are allowed to open, just not heritage ones. We are sad for our fellow venues, but are pleased to be able to welcome you at Bleddfa bleddfacentre.org

...from The Rad. A quick update! We cannot sell any alcohol over the next couple of weeks, however, we have decided to stay open as normal with the restricted opening times. Our Opening times are: Monday & Tuesday - CLOSED; Wednesday to Sunday- 12:00 till 18:00 (Food Service times: 12:00 till 17:00). We do advise strongly, if you wish to come and dine, please book a table to prevent disappointment 01544267536. Our rooms will still be open for residents who wish to stay with us!

...from The Workhouse Gallery & Café. The 12 ideas for Christmas... Each week in the run up to the 25th of December we will share 12 ideas for gifts... This week for our first 6 ideas we suggest: beautiful dried hedgerow wreaths from forij, the best copper scrubbers - gentle but efficient, fancy matchboxes with vintage prints, aprons designed and made at The Workhouse, desk tidies made from circuit boards, an amazing variety of glues and pastes, and ornate bags made by a woman's collective.

...from Presteigne Building Supplies. Christmas Opening Hours - Thursday 24th 7.30am-1pm. Closed Friday 25th through to Saturday 2nd Jan. Open Monday 4th Jan 7.30am-5pm. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us during this very difficult year. Merry Christmas. Stay safe

...from Weobley Ash Meats. Pubs and restaurants are starting to re-open and this is putting real pressure on turkey and whole bird poultry. PLEASE place poultry orders asap, we will not have whole birds available to walk in customers if not pre ordered. Other beef, pork, lamb and turkey crowns need to be ordered by 16th December. Order forms are available at www.weobleyash.co.uk or call the shop to place your order. Thank you.

...from East Radnor Leisure Centre. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Don't let Christmas get in the way of a good workout! Join in December and only pay £10 with nothing more to pay until 2021! We are also throwing in another offer for you! Join our swim school now in December and pay just £5 until 2021. Call the centre on 01544 260302 or email us at eastradnor@freedom-leisure.co.uk for more information

...from G&A Catering. We are now open FRIDAY NIGHTS 5-8pm (From this Friday). Opening times: Monday: 8-2, Tuesday: 8-2, Wednesday: 8-2, Thursday: 8-2, Friday: 8-2 and 5-8pm, Festive night Friday 18th!!! 3-8pm

...from Leon's Supper Club. Chicken and chorizo paella, yummy! enough for two people for just £6.00, plus Slow braised pork cheeks, cooked in a Oloros sherry sauce, delicious! find them on our website www.thesaltydogpresteigne.com or just call me on 07805 727486.

...from the Royal Oak. Once again the Oaks doors are shut. We hope to have some kind of festivity in the pub this Christmas but we are now in the hands of Mark Drakeford. Stay safe everyone. Hopefully we will see you all again soon

...from Arrowfield Vets about Avian Flu. (Today) the chief Veterinary Officers for England, Wales and Scotland have announced new measures to protect poultry and captive birds. From 14th December, it will be a legal requirement for all bird keepers to keep their birds indoors and take appropriate steps to keep them separate from Wild birds. You are advised to follow the strict updated biosecurity measures in order to limit the spread of and eradicate this highly

infectious disease. Bird keepers are advised to be vigilant for signs of disease and seek prompt advice from the surgery if you are concerned. For more advice please see the following link GOVUK <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-influenza-bird-flu-national-prevention-zone-declared>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...from Presteigne Carnival. Don't forget our Best Dressed Christmas House Competition!

Christmas is coming, the Christmas lights are on, so get your houses decorated, before the time is gone! Entry is FREE. Be imaginative, go mad for Christmas! Get your entries in, judging is 20th December. Thank you again to Spar for the prize of a Christmas hamper. Message us on FB or ring/text on 07766152000.

...from Presteigne Artscene. Exhibition and Sale at The Shed, Green End, Presteigne from tomorrow, Friday 4 December. Pottery, needle-crafts, original paintings and prints, raku ceramics, jewellery, Christmas present ideas, greetings cards and more. The exhibition at The Shed will include local artists and artists from across the Midlands, all the way west to Pembrokeshire and even further across the sea to Southern Ireland. Friday 4th - Sunday 6th December and Friday 11th - Sunday 13th December. Open: Friday & Saturdays 10 - 4pm, Sundays 11 - 3pm

...about Imperial College's Christmas Children's Lecture. We would like to invite you to Imperial's Children's Christmas Lecture which this year is being held online. The lecture will take place on Tuesday 8 December 2020 at 17.30 - 18.30. Join Professor Sanjeev Gupta on a journey to Mars, to search for evidence of ancient extraterrestrial life! Find out how geologists use robots to explore the Red Planet and work out what the Martian landscape looked like early in our closest neighbour's history. Do rock records on Mars show that life was possible in the planet's ancient environments? How is evidence preserved in rocks on Mars? Join our Children's Christmas lecture to find out! The lecture is aimed at 11-16 year olds and together with the Q&A session will last for one hour and it is free to attend. To register your place, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3905142456656298509>. You can share this link with your colleagues, students, friends and family so that they can register too.

...from Powys Teaching Health Board. We have begun inviting health and care workers in Powys to book for COVID-19 Vaccination. <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/covid-19-immunisation-programme-beginning-in-powys/>. Carol Shillabeer, CEO of Powys Teaching Health Board said: "This is the day we have been waiting for for many months. Whilst there is still work underway, we believe that we are within a week of having quantities of the first vaccine delivered to Powys. "The information we have been working with indicates that, because of the specific characteristics of the first vaccine (Pfizer/BioNtech vaccine), we need people to come to the vaccine rather than be able to take the vaccine out to people. "This means that priority groups for the first vaccine will be health and care staff, particularly those in patient facing roles, and as we understand the details of the regulatory approval we will expand as quickly as possible to people in care homes and people over 80 years old. This decision is guided by Government and by the JCVI (Joint Committee for Vaccination and immunisation – a UK expert body on vaccine). "We want to be ready to vaccinate as soon as the vaccine arrives and so I can now confirm that the booking system is now live for health and care staff across Powys to book. "As soon as we are in a position to proceed with wider vaccination of members of the public we will communicate this widely throughout Powys. Please do not contact your GP or pharmacist regarding the COVID vaccine at this time." Invitations to health and care workers in the first phase of this vaccination programme are being sent to them by their employer. Appointments will be offered in Bronllys and Newtown in the first instance.

...from Powys Recycles. Christmas shopping, black Friday... the amount of cardboard we are getting through is huge! The good news is it can all be recycled. Please remember to put all your paper and card into your blue recycling box to be collected each week. Cut your cardboard up but if its just too big to fit in the box, please take it to one of the Household

Waste Recycling Centres or your local Community Recycling Site *[ed. e.g. our Bring Site on the bypass - but please flatten all boxes before putting in the skip to maximise capacity - thanks!]*

...from Presteigne Little People's Playgroup. News from ... Rhiannon at Presteigne Library. Available from the library now, Christmas book bags! Containing a selection of children's Christmas books, plus some seasonal games and colouring sheets. To order, please email presteigne.library@powys.gov.uk

...from PAVO. Our latest Health & Wellbeing Bulletin is now out - to view and sign up to receive it direct by email go to <https://mailchi.mp/pavo/healthwellbeingbulletin011220?e=4be6b4aa0d>

...from Presteigne Freegle. Are you making your own wreath this year? Here's 15 ways to reuse old stuff and make something festive. Find free things you need and give away things you don't need, here <http://ow.ly/Ui2k50Cwuqb>. Remember it's not waste until you waste it!

...from Powys Teaching Health Board. We are now able to offer "virtual visiting" in all our inpatient wards for all our patients, their families, loved ones and carers in all. This means that we can enable families and loved ones to keep in touch under the restricted visiting rules due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The scheme uses mobile devices to offer video and audio calls to help you stay in touch during COVID-19. To book a call, please speak to the ward staff in the first instance. More information: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/virtual-visiting-in-powys-teaching-health-board/>. We have also updated our visiting arrangements to reflect the new national guidance from Welsh Government published on 30 Nov. Find out more about our visiting arrangements at <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/visiting-arrangements/>

...from Powys Recycles. When visiting the Household Waste Recycling Centres, please make sure you are able to sort out all your waste quickly and easily into the relevant recycling banks when you get there. No mixed bags of recycling and rubbish will be allowed – you will be asked to leave and return later with them pre-sorted <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/7744/A-to-Z-of-waste-and-recyclable-items>

...from Rachael at Hear to Help. Some Action on Hearing Loss services are currently suspended, but where possible we will continue to support people who are Deaf, have hearing loss or Tinnitus. Please see our website for further information or email us at wales@rnid.org.uk. Alternatively, you can contact us via the Information Line on tel number [0808 808 0123](tel:08088080123), by text phone on [0808 808 9000](tel:08088089000) or by SMS on [0780 0000 360](tel:0780000360). Thank you

...from Recycle Now. As more and more people recycle their cards and wrapping paper at Christmas, avoid sending cards and gifts with glitter. **If it's glittery, it can't be recycled.** A lot of supermarkets have been moving away from glitter in their own-brand Christmas products and taking steps to ensure they offer recyclable options - keep an eye out for those!

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Are you able to support the COVID-19 mass vaccination programme in Powys? Direct link to this opportunity is: https://powys.volunteering-wales.net/vk/volunteers/my_opportunities_info_ur.htm?PID=10160133. PAVO are recruiting Wayfinder Marshalls to support the vaccine rollout in Powys. Go to: powys.volunteering-wales.net - Register your details as a volunteer - Search for the 'Powys Mass Vaccination Meet and Greet Marshalls' and join the opportunity. For more info contact PAVO: 01597 822191 volunteering@pavo.org.uk

...from the Bleddfa Centre. Bleddfa is seeking a p/t cleaner for its holiday cottage and office. Please email hello@bleffacentre.org. Thank you!

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

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