

Community News

Issue 229 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.) Looking for someone to do urgent house and garden repair & maintenance, or odd jobs? We regularly receive emails asking for help. The main sources of information are the trades adverts in the Parish Magazine, and cards on the PACDG noticeboards by Spar and at the Memorial Hall, or on the noticeboard in Norton. Contact Roger on standrewsintray@btinternet.com to receive the monthly Parish Magazine. However, if you're still stuck, email us on news@pacdg.org and we may well be able to point you in the right direction....and, if you've had a good experience with a local tradesperson, please do let us know so we can help others - email news@pacdg.org.

...**from the Town Clerk.** Information on the forthcoming Welsh Water works in Presteigne and Norton can be found at the link below (please scroll down to below the standard covid-19 information: <http://presteigne.org.uk/town-council/council-news>)

...**from Debs.** This year has been a difficult year for so many. Charities have also been hit hard. Over the next couple of weeks, with all the Christmas Cards you have coming through the door please take a few moments and cut off the stamps before recycling the envelope. The East Radnorshire Day Centre / Home Support will love to have the used stamps. Put those in a bag or envelope in the ERDC post box, ditto any used ink cartridges (suitably sealed). But anyone in Norton is more than welcome to pop them in to my post box by the gates at 3 Mynd Row.

...**from Leon at Connect.** Our community Christmas tree in the High Street needs some TLC, let's make it look amazing, so, if you have any spare Christmas decorations, bring them down and hang them up, please.

...**from Presteigne Carnival about our Best Dressed Christmas House competition.** Entries pleaseNow is the time to get them in....To not enter is just a sin....Get those lights out, get them lit....Otherwise you may feel like a total ... idiot for not entering this shiny competition! Go to our FB page or call/text 07766 152000. Judging on 20th December.

THANK YOU

...**from the Royal British Legion.** This year we raised the magnificent sum of £3058.00 for the Poppy Appeal. As the Appeal organiser I would like to thank everyone who supported the appeal this year. Because of the Covid 19 restrictions we were down on previous years, this was due to the fact that many of the collecting points were closed for the duration of the Poppy Appeal. Added to this we were not allowed to collect from House to House or have a manned stall in Presteigne High Street as planned. Once again THANK YOU one and all

...**from Sarah.** Please include a big 'thank you' for the Community News which has been an invaluable channel for local messages and a morale booster throughout the epidemic - I'm sure everyone would join in thanking you, along with the heroic efforts of carers and other health professionals, the shopkeepers and staff, the shopping queue marshals and everyone else who has put themselves out to help others - you have all made a big difference. Best wishes, Sarah
[ed. thanks, Sarah - it's good to be appreciated and know the CN has been of help in these difficult times]

...from Presteigne Local Food Market. The Stallholders, Committee, and Stewards would like to say a very big Thank You for your continued support throughout this year, adapting and complying with all the rules and regulations set upon us. It has been a very difficult time for us all and we are extremely grateful to be able to supply you with our lovely local products but, most of all for the support of our customers! You have boosted our morale in these uncertain times.....THANK YOU! Remember - there'll be no January Market, so see you all in February!! We wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy, safe New Year

SCAM ALERT

...from Jo. I just got an automated call on my mobile saying they were from Amazon and someone had placed a £1000 + order on my account - press 1 if that was me OR press 2 to speak to someone about cancelling it. It came from mobile [07812 229104](tel:07812229104). I hung up and checked my account as I thought rubbish. Please let people be aware. Thanks Jo.

***[ed. a reminder:** You can **report scam texts** by copy & pasting the content to 7726. You'll then be asked to enter the scamming phone number. This free-of-charge short code enables your phone provider to investigate the origin and take action. To **report a scam phone call** to your house phone, you can enter the details on the BT website <https://www.bt.com/consumer/edw/scams/>. To **report a scam call to your mobile**, contact your provider and/or report the details to report@phishing.gov.uk. To **report a scam email**, forward the complete email to report@phishing.gov.uk. As so much stuff is being ordered online in the run up to Christmas, Amazon scams are proliferating. **Report scam/phishing emails** by forwarding or attaching the suspicious email to: stop-spoofing@amazon.com as well as to report@phishing.gov.uk*

...from Powys CC & National Trading Standards. Throughout December 2020, the Friends Against Scams Team are running a Scamnesty (a scam mail amnesty) campaign aiming to encourage everyone in the UK to send in any unwanted scam and nuisance mail that they receive into the National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team completely free of charge. Send mail (no need for a stamp) to: NTSST, FREEPOST, MAIL MARSHALS

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET (local businesses are still adapting to changing circumstances - so check information on websites/Facebook pages)

...from The Workhouse Gallery & Café. The final 6 for this week's '12 Ideas for Christmas' gifts: we have haberdashery, books, patterns and sundries, hand knitted children's jumpers and booties, clever reversible dresses and trousers for little ones, and lanterns fit for a Christmas Kasbah!

...from Weobley Ash. Christmas Trees Offers. £5 gift voucher with 6ft tree @ £27.95. £8 gift voucher with 7ft tree @ £36.95. Plenty of trees to look at, can open and re-net if required. Plus hand-made local Christmas Wreaths in store, all one size but various styles @ £14.50 each. Open 7 days a week throughout December

..from Rose Cottage Flowers & Café. See our FB page for Friday's menu for this week and don't forget we are open in the cafe Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 3.30pm for brunch, lunch, coffee, tea, cakes and scones. Afternoon tea vouchers now available to purchase in the cafe.

...from Jonathan. Presteigne's Pop-Up Christmas Shop popped up on Friday and will open every day - except Sundays - until it Pops Down on Christmas Eve! It's in Presteigne's Barber Shop, next to St. Michael's Hospice Shop, and contains all kinds of Christmassy Goods and Gifts. Local authors, artists and craftspeople have brought their products in for us to sell. YOU, too, can bring new, or homemade, items in to sell as well, receiving 50% of the sale price, with 25% going towards the running costs of the shop & 25% to St. Michael's Hospice. Come on in for a unique Presteigne Gift, support local producers and give to our very own St. Michael's Hospice. All in one Pop-Up Christmas Store. For further information call 01544 260800

...from Amanda's Bread. We are continuing to deliver on Saturdays to the Presteigne area, alongside attending local markets. This coming week we shall be at Knighton Market on Saturday morning. If you want to place an order for Saturday 12th December, get in touch asap

using the contact details below. (If you miss the Monday deadline, still get in touch and we will supply your order if we can. Let us know if you plan to collect from the market when you place your order, otherwise we'll deliver as usual, thank you. Do spread the word about these local markets! See below for contact details.

...Hampers from Amanda's Bread - a choice of 3 different hampers containing a range of local produce. Order by Monday 14th December for delivery / collection in week beginning Mon 21st December. Get in contact for further details - email : asimpsonatkins1@gmail.com, phone/text [0775 993 9526](tel:07759939526) or [0771 870 4814](tel:07718704814)

...from Wild Thyme. Our opening hours for this week and next are daytime only, as we are operating within the Wales restrictions, Friday and Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. We hope to be open for evening bookings in the week before Christmas.

...from the Workhouse Gallery & Café. From today we are unable to serve alcohol in the café in line with Welsh restrictions. We are also limiting café table size to 4 customers per table to maintain safety and keep within current regulations. Thank you for your support and patience.

...from The Warehouse. Great news, we are now able to take your donations once again! Thanks to everyone for bearing with us for a few days. It has given us the opportunity to catch up and clear the backlog.

...from Beth about Lloyds Bank opening hours over the festive period. Monday 21st December open as usual 9.30-3.30 / Friday 25th December closed (Christmas Day) / Monday 28th December closed (bank holiday) / Friday 1st January closed (bank holiday) / Monday 4th January open as usual 9.30-3.30p

...from Chilvers Country Supplies. Christmas Opening Hours: 21st to 23rd - Open as usual; 24th - Open 9am-1pm; 25th to 28th - Closed; 29th to 31st - Open 9am-1pm; 1st to 4th - Closed; 5th onwards - Open as normal (9am-5pm). We recommend that any pet, equine & livestock feed that may be needed over this period is ordered early to avoid disappointment. We will put in our final feed order on 16th December so please let us know before then - phone Dan on 07798928909 / Emma on 07937166897 or call into the shop on the Presteigne bypass!

...from the Royal Oak. This will probably will be our last takeaway Sunday roast offering until sometime after Christmas/New Year. Free delivery is available to Presteigne and surrounding areas or collection from the pub on Sunday morning. Get in touch to book your hassle free roast dinner T: 01544 260842

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...from Ken. Don't miss the opportunity to see the annual Geminid meteor shower which is predicted to reach maximum activity on the night of December 13/14 and, as a bonus, moonlight won't intrude this time around as it'll be in the 'new' phase.

...from Beth. Presteigne Primary School PTFA are holding a cake sale Saturday 19th December next to the Salty Dog (Leon's) to raise much needed funds - so please come along and support us by buying some delicious cake and getting into the festive spirit! Cake donations also gratefully accepted, and we will also be selling raffle tickets - see you all there!

...from Lou at Knighton Community Market. Our next two Knighton Christmas Markets will be held on Saturday 12th and 19th December from 9.30 until 12.30pm at Knighton Community Centre. The hall will be filled with beautiful crafts and food items for you to buy for yourself or as a gift for loved ones. Covid safety measures in place and face masks have to be worn. For more info please call Lou [07805722237](tel:07805722237). Shop local - support a small business.

...from Anna for Kington Markets. Just a reminder that the Kington Art and Craft Christmas market will be on this Sat 12th December and the following Sat 19th 9.30 - 3pm at the Market Hall. Come along and support local artist and crafters. Something for everyone.

...from Powys Teaching Health Board. The COVID-19 Vaccination Programme has begun today (**Tuesday**) in Powys. The first people in Powys to be given the new vaccination have

received their first dose at Bronllys Hospital. Hundreds of health and care workers from the county are booked in for vaccination this week and thousands more are booked in the run up to Christmas as part of this milestone development

...from Presteigne Freegle. Festive ways to reuse loo rolls! Find free things you need and give away things you don't need, here <http://ow.ly/Ui2k50Cwugb>. Plus...tell everyone about your festive #community event! We have 3000+ local members awaiting your news - just click here to get started <http://ow.ly/bicF50CAAuS>

...from Powys CC. There's still time to have your say on Council Tax premiums on periodically occupied properties. Have your say today: <https://haveyoursay.powys.gov.uk/corporate/council-tax-premium-on-second-homes>

...from the Dyfed Powys Police & Crime Commissioner. Have your say on policing priorities and funding. Police and Crime Commissioner, Dafydd Llywelyn, is looking ahead to 2021/22 in terms of setting policing priorities and the annual police budget / police precept. We have developed an online survey for you to share your views; an opportunity to influence these important policing decisions. See the following links: - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9H2Y3DB>. The survey opened on Monday and ends Sun 3 Jan 2021. Thank you for your time.

...from Ann - A reminder that people on low incomes who have coronavirus or have been told to self-isolate are able to apply for a £500 Welsh Government payment through Powys CC. The new self-isolation payment scheme has been designed to encourage people to stay-at-home by removing any financial barriers to self-isolating. The scheme is open to anyone receiving Universal Credit and other specified benefits, who has to self-isolate because they have coronavirus or have been told to by Test Trace Protect. There will also be a discretionary element for those who do not meet the criteria but who face financial hardship as a result of self-isolating. The new bit is that the grant can now be used to stay away from work when caring for children who have to isolate usually when in contact with another child at school. Trying to prevent low income working parents from sending children to school and potentially spreading covid infection. Apply at <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/9957/Isolation-payments>

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...from Powys CC. Next year will see the 2021 National Census and jobs are available to help deliver the census. For more information about jobs with the 2021 Census, please visit <https://www.censusjobs.co.uk/>

...from Lloyd Engineering who are looking for full time welder-fabricator to join our friendly team in well-equipped workshops. Due to our location between Presteigne/Pembridge/Shobdon/Kington, a car is essential. Working hours are 07.30am to 5.00pm but overtime will be available and expected during busy periods. Salary will be based on experience. Please call 01544 260531 for more information, or send your CV to steph@lloydengineering.co.uk

...from WeCareWales. Have you registered for our online learning resource yet? You'll have the chance to put yourself in the shoes of a real-life Social Worker and answer questions to see if you have what it takes to work in social care www.WeCare.wales/a-question-of-care-intro/

...do you know someone who is looking to kick-start a career in coaching or teaching? The Stride Active PE Apprenticeship programme provides a fantastic opportunity to earn as you learn, alongside gaining excellent experience working in schools & is aimed at anyone aged 17+ with an interest in physical activity & working with children. Apply today - download an application form here: <https://strideactive.org/education/pe-apprenticeship/>. The deadline for applications is 13th Dec for a January start. For information, email hello@strideactive.org

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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.