

Community News

Issue 237 January 2021

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

...items of interest noted by observers from Wednesday's Town Council (Zoom) Meeting.

- Street light survey – PCC reviewing all their lights in Presteigne and Norton to see where they can be turned off or dimmed, and are working with the Dark Skies project, the Town Council and County Councillor Baynham on final decisions. Work to be done in 2021-22 financial year.
- Climate Crisis – Town Council report produced by Cllr. Rose Bamford on the TC's work over the last 18 months or so will be put on the Town website and on Facebook, plus probably to press.
- Welsh Water essential work – due to start in Wilson Terrace playground and Went's Meadow any day.
- Vehicle damage to herb garden/flower bed in Shoppers Carpark – to be put right by PACDG Guerrilla Gardeners and protected by boulder to avoid further damage. Cllr Bennett to supply and deliver boulder if PCC have no objection
- Poor road surfaces Stonewall Hill, Stocken Lane and Stapleton into Presteigne – pressure continues by several parties to get repairs done.
- Unauthorised felling of tree on the Warden – dispute continuing between PCC and Welsh Water. Tree to be replaced and hopefully some compensation sought.
- Xmas lights - these will stay up at least to 1st February to add a bit of cheer, and longer through February if insurance is obtained - still t.b.c.
- Large pot hole on Titley road just before The Rodd has now been filled.
- Applications are invited to go on the waiting list for Allotment plots - download application form on the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council.

Any information or questions for the Town Council can be sent to the Town Clerk by email to presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com or raised with your local councillor.

COVID

...from Powys Teaching Health Board. If you CAN take up your invitation for an appointment at a mass vaccination centre then please DO, as this will help us to vaccinate as many people as possible as quickly as possible. With vaccination beginning later this month in GP practices it remains VITAL that as many people as possible continue to take up the invitation for vaccination at mass vaccination centres. This is because mass vaccination centres use the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine, and we have reliable supplies of this in good quantities. The more people who accept the invitation to a mass vaccination centre, the quicker we will be able to vaccinate everyone in Priority Groups 1 to 4 - and then moving into all nine priority groups. You can find out more about why the Mass Vaccination Centres are a critical part of our vaccination programme on our website: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/information-about-mass-vaccination-centres/>. You can also find information about what to do if attending a Mass Vaccination Centre is not an option for you: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/are-you-unable-to-attend-a-mass-vaccination-centre/>. GP-led clinics use AstraZeneca and the deliveries are not yet in such reliable quantities as PfizerBioNTech. You can find out more information of the expansion of our

vaccination programme with a network of GP-led clinics on our website, including information about why the timetable is slightly different in our directly managed practice in Presteigne: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/all-16-gp-practices-in-powys-are-joining-the-covid-19-vaccination-programme-in-january/>

[ed. if you need to cancel or rearrange your vaccination appointment, it seems that trying to get through on the telephone can be a VERY frustrating experience. Instead do it online, save yourself worry and free up that appointment for others - go to <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/are-you-unable-to-attend-a-mass-vaccination-centre/>]

...from Powys THB. If you are aware of someone aged over 80 who is registered with a GP in Powys and who has not yet received an invitation for COVID-19 vaccination you can use the form here to notify our team: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/over-80-in-powys-and-not-received-an-invitation-to-vaccination/>. This form can be completed by the individual themselves, or by someone on their behalf. **If you are aware of someone aged 80 or over who is registered with a GP outside Powys and who has not yet received an invitation for COVID-19 vaccination**, here is information on the COVID-19 vaccination programmes in neighbouring health boards here: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/are-you-registered-with-a-gp-outside-powys/>

...from Powys THB. NHS Wales has launched a new app to support your COVID recovery. The app is available for free in both English and Welsh on the App Store and Google Play. For instructions and how to download them please visit <https://healthhub.wales> or search COVID Recovery in the App Stores

...a reminder on flu from Public Health Wales. This autumn and winter, it's more important than ever to protect your child from flu. All children aged 2-10 (age 31 August 2020) and aged 11-18 with a long term health condition, are eligible for FREE flu vaccine - see www.beatflu.org

SCAM ALERT

...Dyfed-Powys Police is warning the public of a large increase in scam phone calls from fraudsters pretending to be from Amazon stating that £79.97 is owed – but if you don't want to renew, you can cancel Amazon by pressing '1'. Or that there has been unauthorised spending on the account (often over £1,000) and again, the request is to press '1' to go through to the 'Fraud Department'. With any of these types of call, If '1' is pressed, then the scammers will try to get as many personal details as possible from the victim, and then gain access to their bank details. Unfortunately, these criminals are very adept at social engineering. Many people think that the scammers will have a 'foreign' accent, but this is not always the case. For any of these types of call, it is best to hang up, and then check your account online by using the app on your phone, or typing the correct address into your browser and then logging into your account that way and checking. DO NOT follow links if the criminal texts or emails them through – these will normally take you to fake sites that look authentic.

...from Sal. I received a text from the number [07719275046](tel:07719275046) telling me that it was Emma and she was in hospital with a broken fibula and to text her back, she is very unlucky as it seems to be happening to the poor soul a lot! I have reported it as spam but thought it would be useful to let everyone know, especially the elder residents of the parish.

...from Full Fact. A series of Facebook posts claim a 14 year-old girl is missing after being pulled into a car. These posts are entirely false and may link to harmful phishing websites.

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

...from Amanda's Bread. Julian and I plan to resume baking for delivery/collection each Thursday / Saturday *[ed. Saturday in Presteigne]* in the week beginning Monday 1st February 2021. Our home deliveries proved popular last year, so we are happy to be able to continue delivering this year. We will also aim to have a stall at local markets, as and when they are held.

...from The Retreat. The sale runs throughout lockdown, or while stocks last, with discounted prices of between 10 - 50% off the usual retail price. It includes Silvan Skincare, Pukka Teas, Elsa, Helios, essential oils, yoga mats, foam rollers and more. Everything can be locally delivered or left at the Deli or The Salty Dog in Presteigne High Street for collection. Please call or email to arrange, marian@silvanmassage.com or 07816 981454. Alternatively I can post with 2nd class postage added. Full list on the link below:

<https://mailchi.mp/3524dd85f4d6/lockdown-sale-with-up-to-50-off?e=3a89d35bbb>

...**from Lockdown Dhaba**. We've got a new website and new menus ready to order for delivery January 30th. Go to <https://lockdowndhaba.com/menu/>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...**from Alithea. Mindfulness for Resilience. 3 Free Zoom Sessions**. Not that I get out much these days...but when I do, along with most people, I spend a lot of time adhering to guidelines and waiting in queues. Although this might be challenging to our normal way of life, I have found it offers an opportunity to listen to people that I might not otherwise speak with. Several conversations outside the Salty Dog have made me more aware of a very real anxiety in people's lives as they struggle with the many challenges brought on by Covid. In response to this, and because it helps me so much I would like to offer some free Mindfulness sessions via zoom starting on February 1st. Sessions will be simple and for anyone interested in using Mindfulness as a tool for finding some inner stability. To sign up or for more information, please email me on: alitheawaterfield@gmail.com

...from Presteigne Dark Skies. Following discussions at the Town Council meeting on the 20th January 2021 the trial of "dark skies" compliant street-lighting has been re-scheduled for March 2021. Powys County Council has agreed to replace all street-lights in Presteigne and Norton with new low energy "dark skies" compliant lights, starting in the next financial year.

...**from Calibre Connections**. As hundreds of thousands of children are forced to home-school; many lack the learning resources that they enjoy every day at school. Lots of disadvantaged families do not have access to laptops and often children are having to work from their parents mobile phones or nothing at all. We need your help! We are asking businesses to donate any old laptops that can be given to disadvantaged children so they can participate properly and get the most out of their remote learning. We will arrange collection and ensure no business data remains on the laptops by completely wiping and resetting all devices. Please, if your business or anyone you know has a laptop lying around that they no longer use; put them in touch with us and we will make sure it goes to a child in need this year! 01874 640040

...**from John for anyone that has an Alexa smart speaker** in their homes, here's a worthwhile tip to remember, also pass it on to your friends and family - did you know Alexa can show you how to perform CPR - it could SAVE a life. Just say "Alexa - activate emergency CPR". But then always remember to dial 999.

...**from the Heart of Wales Line**. The new timetable will be effective from 25th January. Please check with Transport for Wales - Rail Services before you travel. Essential Travel Only. <https://www.heart-of-wales.co.uk/january-2021-timetable>

...**from Powys Teaching Health Board. Home shouldn't be a place of fear**. With the latest restrictions across Wales, it's important that those at risk of abuse know they can still get in touch with Live Fear Free 24/7. Live Fear Free. tel. 0808 80 10 800. Text 0786 007 7333. Email info@livefearfreehelpline.wales. Live chat <https://gov.wales/live-fear-free/contact-live-fear-free>

...**from the Mid-Border News. The next issue** of the MidBorder News comes out at the beginning of March and the copy deadline is the 15th February. We are launching our NEW Business Directory: just £10 for up to 40 words (excluding business name and contact details which are free). Only £36 for the whole year! Our ads are excellent value for money and if you are a community group or charity we give you free publicity. Covering Kington, Knighton, Presteigne and surrounding areas in print and online. Email info: midbordernews@gmail.com

...from Powys Recycles. Community recycling banks are not public litter bins! Using them as such is lazy and irresponsible. This type of contamination means that all the card within the banks is rejected by the recycling processors and sent to landfill. This selfish behaviour of a few irresponsible people is a huge waste of everyone else's time and effort and results in recyclable material needlessly going to waste. Please use responsibly. Thank you.

[\[ed. last Friday at the Presteigne Bring Site, one skip was full of polystyrene and general rubbish. If people continue to do this, we will lose our community cardboard waste skips !\]](#)

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...from PAVO. Powys Befriending Service is looking for Digital Befrienders. The Befriending Service aims to improve the independence of people over 50, to maintain their social networks and remain in their own homes for as long as they are able. Our Digital Befrienders provide digital companionship and support, helping to promote personal choice, increase self – respect, support existing personal skills and the development of new opportunities through online platforms and online video link applications. Digital Befrienders are also needed to help clients increase their knowledge, skills and confidence to access Befriending services online via an iPad, tablet, mobile phone or laptop to help them overcome loneliness and social isolation in their own home. This will be carried out remotely. A few hours of your time could make a huge difference. By sharing your digital skills you could transform someone's life. Interested ? please email pbs@pavo.org.uk or apply online at <https://bit.ly/DigitalBefriender>

...from Taj Mahal, Kington. Part-time delivery driver wanted. Days Available Friday, Saturday & Sunday 6pm to 9pm. Call 01544 231 999 or out-of-hours mobile: 07455 386 189

...from Tŷ Cerdd - we celebrate and promote the music of Wales and are looking for a Resident Music-creator of any genre to join our team for a year. The role is designed specifically for someone early in their career as a music-creator (although of any age), and for whom economic disadvantage has been a barrier. Application deadline: 10am Monday 22 February; Interviews: Monday 1 March & Tuesday 2 March; Start-date: Monday 12 April; Salary: £19,500. Apply here <https://www.tycerdd.org/vacancy-resident-music-creator?fbclid=IwAR2OslYidAof3xhZQOPyepL74aRv2Y4htamOxq6IKFmpcDakjk3gjnLDtLI>

...from Dyfed Powys Police. This week, we're looking for people to join our team as... Forensic Laboratory Supervisor – Police HQ, Carmarthen and (b) Crime Scene Investigator Manager – Flexible Location. Think one of these may be the job for you? Find out more including details of closing dates here <http://orlo.uk/61OfZ>. Plus...over the next few weeks, the Police Uplift Programme are holding national police careers discovery events for individuals wanting to know more about joining the police, and the support available. Interested? Take a look at the details below and register for one of these national events: Disability and Neurodiversity in Policing – 26 Jan: <http://orlo.uk/aHqz9>. LGBTQ+ in Policing – 28 Jan: <http://orlo.uk/txkiZ>. Religion, Faith, and Belief in Policing – 2 Feb: <http://orlo.uk/Bv6bJ>

...from Lloyd Engineering who are looking for the following full time employees to join our friendly team in well-equipped workshops:- 2 x Welder-Fabricator - A Workshop Operative - A trainee Fitter for machine assembly. Lloyd Engineering design and manufacture innovative screening buckets that are exported all over the world. We are a small but expanding company. Due to our location between Presteigne/Pembridge/Shobdon/Kington, a car is essential. Pls call 01544 260531 for more information, or send your CV to steph@lloydengineering.co.uk.

...from The Sidney Nolan Trust. Job opportunity! We're seeking a Visitor Experience Assistant to join our small team over at The Rodd, just outside Presteigne. Full details below, this is a weekend role, to apply please send a CV and covering letter to hollie@sidneynolantrust.org

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

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