

Community News

Issue 239 February 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

The latest issue of The Lugg Blogg is now out "One Year on...with the hope of brighter days ahead" - go to <https://www.luggblogg.co.uk/blog/one-year-on> - plenty to cheer in the form of Presteigne Panto, the Tour de Presteigne and more...Intro by Pete plus contributions by Alex Dufort, Sabina Rüber, Alexia Tucker, Dani Davies, Jessica Eve Watkins, Helena Watt, Andrea Gilpin, Pete Smith, Catherine Beale, and The Lugg Blogg Quiz.

[ed. There's so much good stuff in this issue but I particularly enjoyed the trip down Memory Lane with Alex's compilation of Presteigne Panto songs over the years, especially Myles & Salt in the 2010 Panto "Bennett's Shop Window" song - it is just brilliant !]

...and so is the latest (email only) issue of the Parish Magazine 2021. If you have information for future issues these are the deadlines for copy and artwork: Wednesday 17th February (March issue); Wednesday 24th March (April issue); Wednesday 21st April (May issue); Wednesday 19th May (June issue); Wednesday 23rd June (Jul/Aug issue); Wednesday 18th August (September issue). The Editor says "We welcome announcements (remember them?) and appreciate contributions from anyone and everyone from our churches and parishes, groups, schools, the Town Council, our friend in Lingen, our gardener and our occasional nature-noter. We include requests for support from community groups and charities. We hope to inform and entertain you." If you'd like to be added to the email list for future issues, please email Roger Curtis, Editor at standrewsintray@btinternet.com

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

...**Latest planning application in:** 21/0083/FUL Grid Reference: E:328743 N: 265752 Proposal: Change of use from Barn to a two storey dwelling Site Address: Barn At Ackhill Farm, Presteigne. To be considered at the February meeting of the Town Council.

...**Climate Crisis.** The Town Council acknowledged the climate crisis in May 2019 and formed a Working Group to produce a policy and initial action plan. It has recently approved a report on the various matters that it has managed to undertake since then. The full report can be found on the Presteigne website - <http://presteigne.org.uk/town-council>. The Council's climate crisis working group will be meeting in the coming weeks to review the Council's policy on climate change, to update it considering further items for the action plan.

[ed. I've received emails from two readers over the last week asking if the Kay's site can be used as a solar energy farm - see this item from the TC's Climate Crisis Report "Extensive work was carried out by members of the TC to investigate the possibility of using the old Kaye's factory site as a solar farm to supply the towns electricity. It was discovered that the electricity infrastructure is not currently compatible with this type of project (although in private ownership)."]

COVID

...**from Powys THB.** Covid vaccine appointments for people aged 65-69 are due to take place from mid-February and you will be contacted nearer the time. **BUT we have now opened a secondary reserve list for people age 65-69** who may be able to attend a mass vaccination

centre in Bronllys, Builth Wells or Newtown at short notice - particularly if you may be able to travel safely to a vaccination centre if there is snow. **The first call for short notice appointments is people aged 70-74 and those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, apply:** <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/age-70-to-74/are-you-able-to-attend-a-mass-vaccination-centre-appointment-at-short-notice/>. **But if you are 65-69 you can now join our secondary reserve list:** <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/age-65-to-69/are-you-able-to-attend-a-mass-vaccination-centre-appointment-at-short-notice/>. *[ed. does anyone know if a similar scheme is operating in Herefordshire or Shropshire? If readers resident on the English side of the border have any useful information please do let me know, email news@pacdg.org - thanks]*

...Mobile Testing Unit moves to Knighton as part of rolling programme. The rotation of mobile testing units across Powys continues with both units moving to two new locations in Machynlleth and Knighton **from Monday 1 February**. The Knighton unit will be located in Bowling Green Lane Car Park in Knighton, from 10am-4pm daily. Residents are reminded that mobile testing is by appointment-only and provide a drive-through service. All testing units are available by appointment only for people with symptoms. These are: a new continuous cough, high temperature (fever), loss of or change to sense of smell or taste. Appointments can be booked through the UK Government national booking portal, either online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test, by phone on 119, or 18001 119 for people with hearing or speech difficulties. This is also the way to request a home testing kit.

SCAM ALERT

...from NHS UK. The COVID-19 vaccine is free of charge on the NHS. We will never ask for: * your bank account or card details *your pin or banking password *copies of personal documents to prove your identity such as your passport, driving licence, bills or pay slips. If someone does....it's a scam !!! Report by email to report@phishing.gov.uk or by text to 7726 - and delete or hang up.

...from Helen. Please make others aware. I have just discovered fraudulent activity on my bank account for a very considerable amount of money (despite not losing my card) The Fraud department have advised 'checking my bank account daily' even though I'm not out and about as much as usual spending. I would have spotted sooner and prevented the scammers from getting such a large amount. Other pointers they said 'try not to use ATMs you don't usually use', 'go in branch where possible'. 'On line shopping - check when completing order for the secure padlock sign' etc. And 'report anything that looks suspicious no matter how small'. That's the only way to stop these people. Helen

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

...from Presteigne Local Food Market. Looking forward to your valued support, as always, on Saturday, Feb 6th. The Food Market, operating under Covid safe regulations, will be outside the Memorial Hall from 9am-1pm. Stall Holders present, selling their local products and produce will be; Survival - Fletcher's Honey - Alex's Chocolates - Amanda's Bakery - Khesh's Indian Delights - Hay Charcuterie - Wegnall's Farm Butchery - Celia's Cosmetics - and Planet B for your eco-friendly products and refills! HOT DRINKS available to purchase.

...from Leon's Food to Order. This week's Food to Order Meal Deal! <https://mailchi.mp/6d2a4aa22cd2/this-weeks-leons-food-to-order-meal-deal-paella?e=8310709b6b>

...from Lockdown Dhaba. On the menu this week, aubergines mashed with potato and spices, paneer with peas and semiya - vermicelli pudding. Order **Monday - Sunday**, for delivery Saturday 13th February by email to info@lockdowndhaba.com

...from the Mid-Border News. Hello all you talented people. We are redesigning our front cover. We need a photograph! A beautiful view or landscape would be nice. The bad news: we can't pay you - we're a non profit and have no budget. But we will credit you and link to your

facebook page, website etc. The magazine is in print and online and comes out at the beginning of March; the copy deadline is 15 February so if you'd like to see your work on our new front cover get in touch asap! email midbordernews@gmail.com

...from Mark at The Real Wine Co. We've got six more Friday night tastings lined up and we'd love you to join us 19th Feb / 26th Feb / 5th March / 12th March / 19th March / 26th March. Don't worry if you can't join us, you can still enjoy our tasting videos - email: mark@therealwineco.co.uk

...from Weobley Ash Meats. Chicken kebabs back by popular demand. Sold individually. Pork and beef kebabs coming next week. Great in the oven or under the grill. Fruit and veg arrived. Chilli, ginger, cauliflower, cabbage, savoy Cabbage, carrots, broccoli, Leeks, onions, swedes, potatoes, grapefruits, Pears, apples, Satsumas and bananas. Call 01544 598120 to reserve

...from Rose Cottage Flowers and Café. See our FB page for the takeaway menu for the coming Friday, or call us on 01544 260600. Afternoon tea orders for Valentines Day now being taken. Have also included the day service menu for this week - any enquires for this please phone the Day Centre on 01544 260267.

...from Amanda's Bread. Julian and I shall be back baking to order next week, with deliveries on Saturday 6th February to the Presteigne area. Unfortunately, we will not be at Presteigne Farmers market Saturday this month. If you would like to put in an order please email asimpsonatkins1@gmail.com asap, ideally by the end of Monday 1st February, thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...from 1st Presteigne Scouts & Beavers. Can anyone who would like to return to Beavers Cubs and Scouts when we can please complete this form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DdUj4RtbXpYRhQkBblbUixlIjBbaVAdidZx9-Sg6sM>

...from Rosie. How have communities (offline and online) helped to tackle loneliness during the Covid-19 pandemic? How could critical work to tackle loneliness be better supported? Your opinions, ideas and experiences will be key in making sure important learning from this difficult time can be used to make positive changes moving forwards. Please make your voice heard, by completing this 20 minute survey before Friday 5th February 2021: https://socsi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dh94JPOvKvnwtRr. This research is being carried out by the Wales Centre of Public Policy (wcpp.org.uk) funded by the ESRC and Welsh Government. The WCPP brings together evidence, people and expertise to help inform policy-making in Wales. To find out more about the research, watch this video: <https://youtu.be/NHlwxFXrFHc>

...from Powys Recycles. Registration for the 2021 garden waste recycling collection service is now open. Residents across Powys can now subscribe to this year's easy, clean and simple garden waste recycling collection service offered by PCC, by visiting www.powys.gov.uk/gardenwaste or by calling 01597 827465. The annual subscription of £37, includes the hire of a 240-litre wheeled bin and fortnightly collections of your garden waste between 1 March and the 3 December. With 20 collections, the service works out at less than £2 for each full bin of material collected and recycled. A smaller 120-litre bin is available at a reduced rate for households with small gardens, or compostable garden waste sacks for those who have their residual rubbish collected in purple bags. Residents who already benefited from using the service last year will be contacted shortly to remind them to re-subscribe for another year. Once registered for 2021, they will receive a sticker to place on their green wheeled bin to indicate to the crew that they have signed up for another year. New subscribers to the service will have their green wheeled bin delivered by the council within 10 working days, so make sure you sign up early to benefit from all the scheduled collections starting from the beginning of March. Residents not subscribing to the service will still be able to compost their garden waste at home or take it to one of the five household waste recycling centres in Powys.

...from Jane Johnstone about the Dental Provision Crisis in Powys - Resident's Survey. Thanks to everyone who has responded to our survey. It's really important we get as many

responses as possible. Llandrindod Wells Town Council has developed a survey regarding Dental Provision within Powys. Survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/THZRC3W?fbclid=IwAR2c-MqbV0VfFLia2Hp766Lwqbk2RNjCnYXpiS2csC4CoQdlnxb7Clj3Yc>. This is part of the Council's campaign for improved provision within our county. Please can you share this with all your contacts and friends from within Powys and ask them to take a little time to complete this. Their comments could make a difference! Statistics resulting from this survey will be sent to Powys THB and Welsh Government as soon as a significant number of surveys have been received. We envisage this as an on-going campaign for several months.

...from Powys CC. Did you know that we have a wide range of equipment available to help people live independently at home, including pendant alarms, door sensors and home monitoring systems? You can find out more in these animations at <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10016/Help-to-live-at-home-through-the-use-of-technology>

...from Powys CC calling Young musicians in Powys! If you're between 18-25 you may be able to access the Youth Music Incubator Fund, which is offering grants of between £5k and £30k to help with careers in the music industry. More details at <https://crowd.in/RmBpWD>. Closing date for the current round is Feb 5th.

...from Natural Resources Wales. Live in Mid Wales? Interested in woodland creation and want to know more? Or do you have a great new idea on how to create more woodland in Mid Wales? Then this event is for you! Our Mid Wales Area Statement Team is holding an ideas pitch event **on 5 February** where people from across Mid Wales will be sharing ideas. Click the link to learn more and book your place <http://orlo.uk/Fwdb1>

...from Presteigne Freegle. Please give away your unwanted furniture so it gets to those who can reuse it locally - better than just chucking things out and it helps those who need a hand right now. 450 free sharing groups around the UK await you and your stuff!. Go here <http://ow.ly/sLbD50DkFui> to join your local area group. Equally if you are in need of household essentials please scan your Freegle listings - you are bound to find much of what you need!

...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, I am offering 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: alithea.waterfield@gmail.com

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...from Presteigne Artscene. Paid extra work available for a medieval costume drama by Working Title Films Ltd. Filming Ludlow, Tretower & Gloucester. March - May 2021. Free to apply - open to all over 16 yrs. Apply: castingcollective.co.uk/castle. All looks and shapes and sizes welcome. No experience necessary.

...from Rob at Castle Ring Oak Frame. We are looking for a timber framer to join us in our workshop located in beautiful woodland close to Presteigne. Want to know more? Take a look at our website which will give you a good idea of who we are and the kind of work we produce - <https://www.castleringoakframe.co.uk/>. If you think this could be you, please get in touch with me at castleringoakframe@gmail.com.

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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.