

Community News

Issue 145 April 2020

an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Group "Working Together"

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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

- **Please contact us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents - ideas or suggestions for new hobbies, or things to do at home, especially welcome ! email pacdg@icloud.com**
- **and if you're self-isolating or need assistance in any way, you can also email pacdg@icloud.com and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.**

(Ed.) I guess we'll all be outside again tonight at 8pm waiting for Pete's rocket from Stapleton to start the clapping and noise to show our appreciation and respect for all health and other key workers, and our wonderful band of volunteers here in Presteigne & Norton.

*But there's also a popular movement to do something similar tomorrow while also commemorating Beethoven's centenary (born 1820). You can add your support to musicians and singers around the world who will be performing from their windows or outside on the street at **5pm tomorrow Friday 17th April** - if you have a CD or download - throw open your windows - turn up the volume - and share a recording of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" dedicated to the people in society who need a musical pick-me-up at this time: NHS and care staff, other key workers, and any of our neighbours who feel isolated in their homes.*

SCAM WARNING

...PPE scam. Some residents are receiving unsolicited emails purporting to offer quantities of PPE equipment of all sorts for sale/delivery, which appear to be provided by a genuine company. Please don't be tempted to altruistically purchase items to donate to local hospitals, care homes or care providers etc. **THIS IS A SCAM !**

...from Presteigne Life facebook group. BE AWARE ! 07974 428871 - just had this number ringing on a national insurance scam. Be careful folks. Even in these torrid times there are still (choose your expletive) about!

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET

(things keep changing so, best first check information on websites or Facebook pages)

...from Carini, Butchers. We can now provide a pre-order and delivery service (Fridays only) in Presteigne. Payment by cash or cheque on delivery. Order by phone to 01544 260026 before 4.30pm on Wednesday for delivery on Friday. Thank you - stay safe!

...from Mark, The Real Wine Company. Fed up with running out ? or with disappointing wines ? Why not take a regular delivery. Hassle-free wines. Enjoy a voyage of vinous

discovery. See our website www.therealwineco.co.uk . Email me on mark@therealwineco.co.uk or call me on 01544 267314.

...from Weobley Ash. Store open and full of produce, great selection of vegetables and fruits, dry goods, pasta, flour, crackers, dairy, bread and oils. All our own lamb and pork. Local grass fed Hereford beef in stock, all cuts available. Beef boxes to order. Free parking, no queues, cards taken, shopping local at its best, open 9-1 for walk-in. Delivery service available & order and collect from 1-5. Call 01544 598120 or email shop@weobleyash.co.uk

...from Lloyd's Bank. Great news! : The bank will be open in Presteigne this Friday (tomorrow !) from 10am to 2pm, for essential banking only, then Monday and Friday 10am to 2pm in subsequent weeks. They will be operating a one-in-one-out system and people will need to adhere to social distancing rules at all times. But at least people can access the bank.

...a reminder on Parking in the High Street: A big thanks to everyone who is queueing so patiently for the High Street shops, it really does relieve the stress on the shop staff. Just one more thing please..... If at all possible, please avoid parking directly outside the shops that remain open. Easy access makes it so much easier and quicker for the delivery vans bringing in our essentials, and for the volunteers picking up the deliveries going out to the vulnerable, and also means they can keep to the recommended 2m distance if they don't have to trundle too far along the street. Parking is fairly easy just now (!) so if you are able to, your help with this would be really appreciated. Thank you.

...seen in the local paper about Mangar. Mangar Health, based in Presteigne, was asked to supply emergency lifting cushions to frontline NHS staff, including those stationed at the new hospital in London. The company's lifting cushion is used by ambulance trusts across the UK and is a key piece of equipment used by paramedics. CEO Simon Claridge said: "The production team has been working extra weekend shifts to get the equipment produced and distributed to ambulance workers".
<https://www.herefordtimes.com/news/18381687.medical-supplies-firm-ups-output-nhs-nightingale-hospital/>

THINGS TO DO WHILE COCOONING !

...from Hampstead Theatre at Home. Three shows to watch FREE on line on the Hampstead Theatre and The Guardian websites over the coming weeks (*thanks, Sue, for this information*)

"Drawing the Line", Howard Brenton's sweeping epic is available to watch on demand on demand until 10pm Sunday 19 April. *Drawing the Line* was originally performed in 2013. Directed by Howard Davies, this incredible story follows Cyril Radcliffe, the man at the centre of Britain's chaotic partitioning of India in 1947, and 'gives a vivid picture of the pressures of the time' (*Guardian*).

"*Tiger Country*", written and directed by Nina Raine, was first broadcast in 2014 and follows a team of NHS doctors and nurses during a typically busy shift in a London hospital. Available from 10am Monday 20 April until Sunday 26 April 10pm.

"*#aiww: The Arrest of Ai Weiwei*", written by Howard Brenton and directed by James Macdonald (*Wild*), was first broadcast in 2013 and tells the surreal, hilarious, and terrifying story of the imprisonment of prominent Chinese artist Ai Weiwei. Available from 10am Monday 27 April until Sunday 3 May 10pm.

...**weekly dogman cryptic quiz.** Exercise your little grey cells. Free by email every Wednesday. Just for fun - no prizes - just a warm feeling for solving the clues. Sign up by email to presteignedogman@icloud.com.

...**from The National Trust. Our guide to birdsong and bird spotting.** After the long winter, migrating birds return from milder climates to spend the summer in the UK. Find out how you can spot and identify these feathered friends in your garden or on a walk, or learn how to help the birds where you are, whether you're in a town, city or the countryside. You can also discover how to identify different birdsong. Enjoy the chorus of birdsong wherever you may be, and share videos and photos with loved ones to connect others to what you hear. Though others may seem far away right now, hearing birdsong together can bring a sense of peace in turbulent times. Why not video call a loved one in your garden to experience this together?www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

...**from The National Trust.** Blossom is still bringing beauty to streets and gardens all over the UK. Take part in #blossomwatch on our social media, share pictures of your neighbourhood in bloom, and [learn more about this unifying seasonal moment](#).

If you have ideas, do please let us know - thank you !

OTHER INFORMATION

...**from Pete Smith about the rocket signal to start off the Thursday evening 'salute to key workers'.** *"I'm about to order rockets for the next 30 weeks. This will cost £100 + delivery. I'm happy to pay that as they have given me a very good deal. I wondered if anyone in town would like to donate a bit to be able to upgrade and make a better impact particularly when the weather is not as quiet as it is now? To upgrade I need another £200. Could you put it in the bulletin please, just in case someone thinks it's worth it. Keep up the good work. Best wishes. Pete."*

If you would like to help with this, you can call Pete on 01544 267810.

...**from multiple sources.** A company called Night Sky Lanterns is advertising Union Jack sky lanterns which they want people to release every Sunday evening to 'show support for the NHS'. They say (of course) that part of the proceeds will go to the NHS. This has been taken up by some people to promote on social media. There are lots of wonderful ways to show support for essential workers during coronavirus. Sky Lanterns are NOT one of them. They kill and harm animals. They are a slow fire bomb that start fires and damage crops. They litter our countryside. **Please ignore social media campaigns to release a sky lantern to show support for the NHS.** The intent was good but it's a bad idea ! www.powysthb.wales.nhs.uk/coronavirus. There are several petition campaigns to get sky lanterns banned - see change.org and also <https://countrysideonline.co.uk/care-for-the-countryside/sky-lanterns>

...**from Public Health Wales.** Being on a bike does not make you immune to catching or spreading #coronavirus. Cycle safely. Avoid popular routes. Stay 2m apart from others. Do not cycle with people from other households www.phw.nhs.wales/coronavirus

...**from Powys County Council.** Belong to a voluntary group or organisation? There's support and funding available for the voluntary sector during #COVID19. Read more <https://crowd.in/GHOj4n>

...**from the Welsh Government.** The £500m Economic Resilience Fund to provide extra financial support for businesses and charities during #COVID19 goes live **TOMORROW**

on 17 April and will be in high demand so get checking if you're eligible! Criteria and how to apply <https://crowd.in/JNQmVQ>

...from Powys County Council. Update on Free School Meal Allowance. Parents and carers of entitled free school meal pupils have started to receive supermarket vouchers via email. The email will have a colourful Free School Meals heading and a link to Vouchers Shop Exchange where parents / carers will be able to redeem their voucher. This is a genuine email so if you are a parent or carer of entitled free school meal pupils then please look out for it. Parents / carers will then receive a Free School Meals email every fortnight. If you have not had any contact from our team and your child is in receipt of free school meals, please contact us on 01597 826660, or email cashless.catering@powys.gov.uk

...from Freegle. This is handy! Learn to grow fruit and veg from scraps via @The_RHS <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zb3rcqt>. Gardening is another pastime that people are learning to love again during the #Covid19 #lockdown , and it can double up as a way of keeping the larder stocked up. All it needs is some recycling, and a little patience. Your vegetables are a solid source of nutrition and a strong suit of any meal. They may look like something you cook once and enjoy - but it's possible to keep some back from the plate and regrow it as new produce. Guy Barter, chief horticulturalist at the Royal Horticultural Society has some expert advice on which items you may currently have in the cupboard that can come around again.

...from The Big Issue. Due to the coronavirus outbreak, Big Issue vendors are no longer able to sell on the streets, so to ensure The @bigissueuk survival and to support their vendors, they've launched new ways for you to buy the mag and support them and vendors. You can now subscribe to the magazine! Go to bigissue.com or download their new app on the App Store. *(thanks Maureen for this)*

...from a family in Bleddfa. We've had all our push bikes stolen in the night. If anybody sees 2 adults bikes and an older, age 10/11 boy's bike anywhere, please let us know on Caryn Lewis' facebook page. Have reported to police. Boys, brand TEAM, fluorescent orange; Lady's, pale blue and white ; Men's, black and red.

PACDG - the PRESTEIGNE AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP... "WORKING TOGETHER"

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 - simply email pacdg@icloud.com.