

Community News

Issue 150 April 2020

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

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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.**

GOOD NEWS ! (thanks to Richard Horlock for this advance informaton)

The Radnorshire Arms is definitely sold - it seems it was all signed yesterday or the day before - and there are already a few workmen on site - whoohoo !!! Miranda briefly met on site the new owners John & Josephine Rivers of Allworks Properties, who are hoteliers from Worcester. The firm already operates hotels in Warwick, Stratford-upon-Avon, Leeds and Wakefield, and The Godwins in Bartestree (a listed building formerly the New Inn). Local papers are now reporting on the sale, which follows on from the earlier sale of the Knighton Hotel (to a different buyer).

The return of our swifts....the swifts are returning earlier than usual this year and have already been seen down south and in Bristol. So keep a look out for these wonderful birds. They will have flown all the way from Africa to spend the summer here with us in Presteigne. You can let us know if you see one or have any nesting nearby: [01544 267997](tel:01544267997) or felt@cooptel.net (thanks to Ann for this information - ed. maybe they'll kick out the sparrows who've taken over one of our swift boxes !!)

...from Frank Cosgrove. "I wanted to support what Teresa wrote about the bluebells and say thank you to the Warden "wardens" who do so much to keep it so beautifully for us all to enjoy. Frank"

...from Roger Curtis. The May (free) email edition of the Parish News has just been issued. If you would like to be included on the email distribution, please contact Roger on standrewsintray@btinternet.com.

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET

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

News from the Bring Site. For those of you who were concerned about the overfull drinks carton recycling bins at the Bring Site on the Presteigne bypass, these have now been emptied. The cardboard skips are being emptied by PCC much less frequently at the moment so are often overflowing. You can help by not leaving cardboard by the side of the skips when they're full (because this blows around littering the street), and instead cutting up your boxes small enough to go in your kerbside paper & card recycling box.

How you can help Knighton & East Radnor Food Bank - our Coronavirus Appeal for May. We would like to thank you all for the amazing donations of cash and food to help our food bank at this exceptional time of crisis. It is highly likely that we will face an increased uptake in requests for food in the coming months, especially as the economic situation becomes clear. We are trying to build up a reserve in order to be ready to meet the demand, as indicated below.

Drop off points:

Knighton: The Co-Op (anytime), and Norton Street Baptist Church Tues/Fri 10 -11.30

Presteigne: Spar (anytime), and the Presteigne Baptist Church Thursday 10 -11.30.

We can arrange collection if you cannot get to any of these places! Call Helen on

07731 524 058 or to make a Cash Donation visit www.knightonfoodbank.co.uk

List A - Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Tomatoes, Tinned Tuna, Tinned Cold Meat, Tinned Pies/meatballs/hotdogs

List B - Tinned Fruit, Tinned Custard, Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Evaporated Milk, Longlife Milk

List C - Cereals, Tea Bags, Coffee, Jam/Chocolate Spread/Peanut Butter

List D - Shower/Bath Gel/Shampoo, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shaving Razors/Shaving Foam, Hand soap, Washing up Liquid/Washing Detergent

...from Salty Dog. Leon's Food to Order. All our meals are made fresh to order by our resident chef, Ross Mc Queen. Order any from the list below on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday before 12 noon, and collect on Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

This week's Chef's Special - Beef and Pork meatballs in a almond sauce £6.50/portion

Curries £5.00 each (serves 1 as a main course)

Steamed aromatic Basmati rice - £1.95

Paellas £8.50 (serves 2 as main course or 4 as tapas)

If you need to talk to us regarding any dietary requirements please call 01544 267729

Here is the news....." We welcome both Gareth Jenkins and Rob Evans as Joint Managers of Presteigne St.Andrews FC!!! Tom Ammonds"

...from Rose Cottage Flowers & Café. Ready-to-heat meals for delivery. See our Facebook page for Fridays menu for anyone who would like to order. Please have your orders in by 9am this Thursday for delivery Friday 1st May. Stay safe and dry.

...from Weobley Ash. Back to the rain, we've plenty of joints available (all legal !). Hereford grass fed Beef rumps, silver sides, topsides, rib joints, chuck joints, shin and braising joints. Pedigree rare breed Welsh Pork rolled shoulder and leg joints, rolled belly pork, loin joints. Meat diced, minced, kebabs, sausages, steaks, stewing, roasting, bbq, ribs, belly. Delivery available, call 01544 598120 or email shop@weobleyash.co.uk

...from Hermione at Radnor Physiotherapy. Radnor Physiotherapy is now closed. However telephone and video consultations remain available until further notice. please leave a message or phone [01544 350691](tel:01544350691).

...from Presteigne Local Food Market. No Farmers market this Saturday, I'm afraid, but endeavour to put in place social distancing to hopefully hold the June market (Saturday 6th June). Some of the regular stallholders are taking orders for delivery such as Amanda's Bread, Celia's Creams and Wegnalls Farm Butchery. Thank you for your past support and hopefully see you all for next month's market.

...from Wegnalls Farm Butchery. The sun is shining and its BBQ time! Who's interested in our £25 BBQ deal!!! 2 Packs of Pork Sausages, 1 Pack of four Pork and

Apple Burgers, 1 Pack of four Beef Burgers, 1 Pack Tennessee Belly Bites, 1 Pack of Beef and Garlic Kebabs. Drop us a message for order your now!!! See our Facebook page where you can place bulk orders for either arranged collection or local delivery, or call 01547 540253

...**from Spar Presteigne.** We're sending a big thank you to all retail workers on this #NationalSuperheroDay – you are our superheroes!

THINGS TO DO WHILE COCOONING AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**from Little Peoples Playgroup.** Today is all about letters and sounds/phonics. We do lots of work with letter sounds in playgroup to give children a head start in their reading when they enter school. In playgroup we focus on learning the letter sounds in a specific order. Here are the sounds we have focused on so far.

Stage 1 - s, a, t, p, Stage 2 - i, n, m, d, Stage 3 - g, o, c, k

Please take a look at the following YouTube videos to show you how to pronounce each letter sound - Jolly Songs A-Z Alphabet Song and Phase 2 Phonic Sound Help with Pronunciation. See our Facebook page for lots of games to help children learn the sounds each of the letters make. If children are interested in writing/drawing encourage them to have a go at copying some of the letters on a large piece of paper.

...**The full #BigBookWeekend programme is here!** With Bernardine Evaristo, Robert Webb, Neil Gaiman, Marian Keyes, Sir Tim Rice, Terry Waite CBE, Juno Dawson, Alexander McCall Smith, Luke Jennings and dozens more, there's something for everyone, brought to you by the UK's amazing literary festivals. Sign up now to watch on 8-10 May. <https://bigbookweekend.com/programme>

...**from The Judge's Lodging.** If you have ever visited us and wondered about this marvellous jar, well the recipe is in amongst the Pickles & Accompaniments that go with you 'Dinner with the Raj'. This is possibly the most asked-about object in the house! http://www.judgeslodging.org.uk/page/pickles_and_accompaniments/

...**from Virtual Quiz Events.** Join in the fun and raise money for your charity or cause at <https://virtualquizevents.com>. You determine the entry fee and find the players and we'll provide the questions. Prize money for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed quizzers, plus a 60% donation of the total fees to your fundraising pot! A great way to raise money during lockdown!

...**from BBC Hereford & Worcester.** Help mark 75 years since VE Day by hanging bunting in your windows. It's simple to do – we've asked Lance Bombardier Ben Parkinson MBE to show you how. Get involved here: <https://bbc.in/makeadifference>

...**from Presteigne Freegle.** As someone once said "We will be back!". Post and wait. Meanwhile here's a bit of retro fun <https://www.youtube.com/embed/LvmKRAbf5xM?autoplay=1&feature=oembed&wmode=opaque>

Seems like as good a time as any to finally get around to building a time-travel machine! We could all do with a Tardis in these strange times. Happy building!

<https://youtu.be/e-WSKTmWjwI>. Download free plans and instructions here via @buildeazy <https://www.buildeazy.com/london-police-box/>

...**from The Judge's Lodging.** The day has arrived...pudding time 'Dinner with the Raj' style! Every one of these is totally scrummy <http://www.judgeslodging.org.uk/page/puddings/>

OTHER INFORMATION

...from Presteigne Dark Skies. As part of International Dark Sky Week the International Dark-Sky Association have produced a dark sky friendly home lighting programme. Follow the link below to find out if your home is dark sky friendly... and if it is download the free Dark Sky Friendly Home Certificate!

And if it isn't... do something about it! Support Presteigne Dark Skies. Reclaim the dark.

<https://idsw.darksky.org/activities/dark-sky-friendly-home/?>

[eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=1c64174a-8130-4823-98fa-abc9e98fd23d](https://idsw.darksky.org/activities/dark-sky-friendly-home/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=1c64174a-8130-4823-98fa-abc9e98fd23d)

...New 100% government backed loans have just been announced to help small businesses. No interest or repayments in first 12 months and up to 25% of turnover can be borrowed up to £50K. The scheme will open next Monday, no projections needed just a 2 page self-certified online form. Payments should be made within 24 hours of acceptance. This could be a lifesaver for some Micro Companies even those that are eligible for grant money which won't get paid until June, this could fill a temporary gap. Link is here <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/small-businesses-boosted-by-bounce-back-loans> (thanks to Elsa Jones, local accountant. for this information).

...from PCC about Free school meal allowance. As an update to providing free school meal allowance, we have been processing many supermarket vouchers which are being sent to you by email. These vouchers will be sent on a fortnightly basis, the next vouchers will be emailed to you on the 4th May 2020. Click on the link to find a useful guide on how to use the vouchers <https://sodexo-engage.com/p/48OT-A0V/free-school-meals>. For those who have opted to have a bank payment and have completed the online form on the Powys County Council website these payments are being processed and will be paid into your bank account. There is currently a back log of applications waiting to be processed, this is due to eligibility checks having to be done, please bear with us. Parents/carers will only receive either a supermarket voucher or a bank payment not both. If you have any questions or have not been contacted about Free School Meals, please contact our team on 01597 826660 or email cashless.catering@powys.gov.uk

...from PCC Housing Services for tenants. If you are having to self-isolate, and are worried about your finances please speak to a Tenancy Support Officer by calling the Housing ONE Number on 01597 827464 or emailing housing@powys.gov.uk

...from PCC about children and young adults. We all have an important role to play in helping to protect children, young people and adults from harm. If you're worried about a child or adult in your community we're here to help... For information and advice for adult services visit: <https://crowd.in/hnGi1w>. For concerns around the welfare of a child or young person visit: <https://crowd.in/8Gyyg6>

...from Recycle Wales. There's lots of ways that we can do our bit to help at the moment. One thing we can do is to keep on #recycling. It provides materials for essential packaging and products. BUT it's tempting to have a big clear-out while we're spending more time at home. But that can create more rubbish and #recycling for council crews to collect. Hold on to large items such as furniture until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and services return to normal. #coronavirus #WalesRecycles #recycle #covid19 #coronavirus

...from Kirsty Williams, Wales Education Minister, I will today set out her five key principles which will determine how education will be phased in at schools in Wales.
<https://gov.wales/education-minister-sets-out-five-key-principles-schools-return>

...from the East Radnor Day Centre. Massive thanks to Ben & Kyona Griffiths and everyone involved with The Wharf Inn Speed Sheer for the fantastic donation of £1000 for the Day Centre. It's wonderful people like these who will enable the centre to re-open once we're through this terrible time. As a registered charity we are going to find the next few months challenging, but this makes it all worth while. We really can't thank you enough and everyone who was involved in making it yet another fantastic day. Thank you !!!

...from Kirsty Williams about Hospices in Wales. They will receive a three-month package of additional support to recognise that they rely on charitable fundraising for their income and have experienced a shortfall in funding during the coronavirus outbreak. Although we do not have in-patient hospice provision in Powys, we do have vital hospice at home and day services, and I have received confirmation that organisations delivering these services in the County will be supported. Further details are available here: <https://gov.wales/minister-announces-ps63-million-hospices-wales-during-covid-19-outbreak>

...from PCC. Hundreds of members of staff have been redeployed to support the council's most essential services, Powys County Council has said. The council's redeployment team has been busy mobilising its workforce by retraining and redeploying staff to help support essential services and protect communities across Powys. So far over 750 members of staff on our redeployment list whose skills are now, or soon will be, being used in areas including childcare hubs, waste and recycling collections, income and awards, social services, domiciliary care and customer services.

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

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.