

Community News

Issue 98 mid-April 2019

an information service from PAC - The Presteigne Area Community Group

You are receiving this email because you asked to receive the Community News and be kept informed about PAC activities. If at any time you decide not to receive further PAC emails, just contact us on pacdg@icloud.com with REMOVE in the subject line and we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.

A message from Richard at Presteigne and Norton Community Support...we would like to thank everyone for all of their generous donations for the Charity Shop and the Warehouse. Smaller items can be left in the metal donations box outside the Warehouse at any time. However, **please do not leave large items outside the Warehouse in the open when it is closed, as they often get damp or damaged and have to be thrown away.** Not only is this a waste of good saleable items, it also often costs PNCS money to dispose of them. So, please keep those donations coming - but bring them when we are open! We are open every day except Thursday and Sunday. Thank you.

Update on Garden waste... the disappearance of the green bins and the new kerbside collection service... Powys have said they will remove the garden waste bins from the Bring Site sometime this month, after which, if your green waste is not compostable, your options are to register with Powys for the new fortnightly wheelie-bin kerbside collection service (which has started operation this month) OR to take your garden waste to a Household Waste Recycling Site HWRC (our nearest is at Kington or, if you have to utilise a Powys HWRC, at Llandrindod).

PCC have said: *"For a fee of £35 a year we will provide you with a 240 litre wheeled bin which you can fill-up with garden waste such as grass cuttings, leaves, twigs and flowers. Or for £30 you can have a 120 litre wheeled bin which will be ideal for those with smaller gardens. Collections will take place every fortnight with collection schedule information available online. To register, visit the [Garden Waste](#) webpages, or for more information contact PCC at gardenwaste@powys.gov.uk. At present, you can only register for the service, and order and pay for your wheelie bin, online at <https://en.powys.gov.uk/gardenwaste> or by telephoning the service desk on [01597 827 465](tel:01597827465) and paying by card."* On the webpage you can also buy a compost bin which PCC will deliver free of charge.

[Ed. Note: After representations from PAC and others pointing out that many residents will find it difficult or impossible to accommodate another large wheelie bin, PCC are now looking at a multi-use bag alternative but this might not be available for some while yet. We are also pressing Powys to make provision for residents, who cannot access the internet or who cannot or do not wish to pay by card, to be able to register and pay at our local Library. Watch this space!].

Pop Choir is going from strength to strength.... but new singers (especially men !) are always welcome. We rehearse - and have fun! - most Thursday evenings in The Old School (Youth Centre) and Pop Choir performs at local events. For more info, contact John Hymas on 07969 440183 or email john@johnhymas.com.

Please support the current campaign for an all-weather (astroturf-type) pitch in Presteigne, which could be used by several groups but is especially badly needed by the very successful Presteigne Ladies Hockey Club (who currently have to practice and play all their matches elsewhere). Now a new initiative is gaining ground, actively supported by our County Councillor. To help reinforce community support for the scheme, if you haven't already done so, you could email a supporting letter to Cllr Baynham,

and/or visit and 'like' the Facebook page of the East Radnor Sports Association Astroturf Working Group at <https://m.facebook.com/eastradastro/>. Thank you !

Had you heard about the government's consultation on a bottle return scheme? It came up a few times at the Plastic Free Presteigne stall at the Food Market, and people asked for a link to the consultation. **This is the link** - (n.b. you have to scroll right down to the bottom to find the actual survey, in the box where it says "Give us your views") <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environment/introducing-a-deposit-return-scheme/> One of the key issues to consider is the scope of the scheme. The retail industry is pushing to limit it to only small bottles (the "on the go" option), which the industry considers are particularly aimed at people wanting a drink while out and about. According to environmental charities this could miss over 50% of the bottles found littering beaches and rivers, and they favour the alternative (the "all in" option) which would include all sizes and types of single use drinks container. The consultation closes on 13th May so it would be great if as many people as possible could respond.

N.B. The survey is pretty long, but it's fine to skip through the technical bits and just do the more general questions. Or if you prefer you can just email some general comments to DRS@defra.gov.uk

Presteigne is preparing for an invasion of opera this Easter as Mid Wales Opera's first ever OpenStages programme takes up residency in the town for a week of rehearsals and performances at the Judge's Lodging and St. Andrew's Church.

.....The OpenStages production of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas will provide an inspirational week of music-making and rehearsals involving professionals, students and amateur musicians, and culminating in two fully staged public performances at St Andrew's Church, Presteigne. More than 40 singers and musicians will join the company's Artistic Director Richard Studer and Music Director Jon Lyness, both local to Presteigne, for the residency week starting from Monday April 22nd and you can see the results of all their hard work during two performances at 3pm and 8pm on Saturday 27th April at St Andrew's Church, Presteigne. Tickets for Dido and Aeneas are £7 for the 3pm performance and £12 for the 8pm. Under 18s can attend for free and tickets are available from wegottickets.com and The Workhouse. More details can be found at www.midwalesopera.co.uk

.....MWO's OpenStages company will also be taking over Presteigne's historic Judge's Lodgings on Thursday 25th April from 7-9pm for an evening which they hope will 'break all the rules of classical music experience'. Stroll through the building, drink and canapé in hand and discover a treasure trove of musical delights from Bach in the cellars to Offenbach in the courtroom. The event is in aid of MWO engagement projects & The Judge's Lodging. Tickets for the Haus Musik evening are £8 from wegottickets.co.uk, The Workhouse (cash only) and The Judge's Lodging.

If you or someone in your family is currently looking for work, did you know about the Job Club which is run in Knighton but serves residents from Presteigne area as well? Angela from Job Centre Plus is at the Community Café, Knighton Community Centre, every Tuesday between 10am and 12noon, and can see people for private interviews and any queries about Universal Credit, Jobseeker's Allowance and the Employment Support Allowance. Café and Library also open, PCs booked for the Job Club. All are welcome. Further information if needed from Ruth Forrester on 07581055508.

St. Andrew's Church Hall is an ideal venue for regular use by clubs and societies as well as for events. To enquire about making a booking for talks, meetings, wedding receptions, parties and celebrations, call Jeanette on 01544 260212. (PAC note - see the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk/local-organisations for a full listing of venues in Presteigne & Norton available for hire)

Update on Home Support! A message from Bev at the Day Centre....Following the threat to close day centre's in the Autumn of 2016 Powys County Council decided to look at alternative "Day Time Activities" for the older population of Powys. Beverley attended numerous meetings & workshops throughout 2017 and she managed to negotiate contract funding for the East Radnorshire Day Centre to run a pilot project of a "Home Support" service. East Radnor Home Support was developed with Beverley at the helm, supported by the Board of Trustees. It was apparent very early into the process that additional staffing would be required and Beverley employed a Senior Home Support worker; Nikki; who works full time, supported by three members of casual staff; Sharon, Clare & Becky.

The pilot has been completely funded by Powys County Council and we are one of just three such pilots taking place throughout the county. The service is available to anyone aged 50+ who is a Powys resident in Presteigne, Knighton and surrounding areas some 10 miles from Presteigne.

The Home Support project is not a care agency; it is designed to offer low level practical support, which may be a one off or more regular, enabling people to retain their independence.

Examples of support available are :

- 24/7 Rapid Response via Careline alarms
- Monitoring telephone calls
- Assistance with prescriptions
- Essential shopping
- Assistance with forms, letters, paperwork, etc.
- Support in emergency situations
- Help with making appointments
- Signposting and easy access to other services
- The team will do their best to help you or help make contact with a relevant service who can.
- The service will be **free of charge**.

There are two strands to the service and members are able to access either one or both. The first is the low level practical day to day support and the other is the 24hr rapid response service. This, is a fantastic service that operates 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. Staff are on a on-call rota providing cover should an emergency arise. Once a member presses their care line emergency alarm it triggers a telephone call to East Radnor Home Support, the on-call member of staff then attends the persons home and provides emergency support. This could be because of a trip or fall. The staff have been fully trained to use lifting equipment and once a risk assessment has been completed the staff member will proceed to lift the member. This has reduced ambulance call outs rapidly. Naturally there will be occasions when the member is injured and lifting is not safe and an ambulance has to be called, but often we are able to assist thus saving the ambulance service and the person a trip to A&E. East Radnor Home Support went live in February 2018 and has been going from strength to strength. We now have over 150 members and the funding has been extended to 30th June 2019 in order for more evaluation to take place. It is hoped the project will become a permanent fixture but discussions are currently ongoing. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact East Radnor Home Support on [01544 260360](tel:01544260360) or visit the website at www.erdlaycentre.org. Many Thanks, Bev

A Date for your Diary.....on Friday 24th May at The Memorial Hall, there will be a Fashion Show by Colours arranged as a fund-raiser by the Norton Show Committee. More info nearer the date.

LIBRARY NEWS.....the Book Club author for April is Alexander McCall Smith. Read any book by him and come along to the Library on Wednesday 24th April to chat!!

NOTE THAT THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 19TH APRIL, SATURDAY 20TH APRIL AND MONDAY 22ND APRIL. Back to normal opening hours from Tuesday 23rd.

If you can help Knighton & East Radnor Food Bank this month - here's our May Shopping List

• Tinned Rice Pudding & Custard - **URGENT** • Tinned Fruit - **URGENT** • Tinned Meat & Pies - **URGENT**
Tuna • Corned Beef & Ham • Soups • Tea, Coffee & Drinking Chocolate • Peanut butter & Chocolate Spread •
Biscuits • Sugar • Toilet Rolls & Washing Up Liquid & Laundry Powder/Liquid • Shampoo & Shower Gel,
Deodorant, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes

Please note we can only accept food items that are well within their use-by date.

If you would prefer to give a small cash donation, this will enable us to purchase fresh milk, bread, cheese and eggs & to buy fresh vegetable/fruit vouchers to include with individual food parcels. Or you may prefer to set up a regular donation to support our work by completing a Standing Order or a Stewardship form (with Gift Aid). Ask Helen for more information, or visit our website.

The FOOD BANK is open in Presteigne Baptist Church, on Thursdays 10-11.30am.

Please put a note in your diary and look out for posters in town for our fund-raising Spring Concert at the New Radnor Hub on Saturday 19th May. Join us for lovely music followed by tea and cake. £10 on the door (children/students free) or telephone 01544 359559 to reserve seats.

Questions on the Food Bank? Contact the Manager, Helen Anderson on 07731 524 058 or email helen@knightonfoodbank.co.uk, or visit their website www.knightonfoodbank.co.uk

EVENTS FOR THE 2ND HALF OF APRIL

Thursday 18th April - Live Music @ The Dukes with Dave Luke and Chuck Micallef. 8.30pm. Country, folk, blues, Americana. £5 on the door. 01544 267318

Good Friday 19th April - John Stainer's "The Crucifixion" will be performed by local singers at 6.30pm in St. Andrew's Church. Soloists Steve Hollinghurst and Mark Simmons, organist Tim Hollingsworth, conductor Marion Rowlatt. All are welcome. Donations to the Friends of Ibba Girls School, South Sudan

Saturday 20th April - Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm in St. Andrew's Church Hall. Our hard-working volunteers welcome donations of cakes, and items in good condition for the raffle, or to be sold.

Saturday 20th April - Zani Lady's Belle Brocante at The Assembly Rooms 10am to 3pm. Contact Sue on 07968 842219 for information on future events.

Monday 22nd April - Cricket Club Easter Monday Bingo at St. Andrew's Football Club (new venue). Eyes Down 8pm. Last quickie £100 ticket / many prizes incl. bottles, hampers, vouchers

Thursday 25th April - Haus Musik @ The Judge's Lodging. See item above.

Saturday 27th April - Mid Wales Opera presents Henry Purcell's "DIDO & AENEAS" at St Andrew's Church. See item above.

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](mailto:pacd@icloud.com).

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - email text (not poster images please) at least 3 weeks in advance to [pacdg@icloud.com](mailto:pacd@icloud.com).

The Community News is published twice per month. Feel free to tweet or forward this issue to others