

# Christmas Community News

Issue 91 December 2018 to January 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](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com) with REMOVE in the subject line and we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.*

**[ED. THIS IS AN EXTENDED NEWS TO COVER THE WHOLE OF DECEMBER & EARLY JANUARY - THE NEWS WILL TAKE A BREAK OVER CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SO THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE MID-JANUARY. THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF PAC, AND A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL !**

**Presteigne's CHRISTMAS FAYRE is back...on Friday 7th December...and it's bigger and better than ever ! This year's Fayre is jointly organised by CONNECT and St. Andrew's Church to create a Winter Wonderland in and around the church and the church hall and yard.** Starting at 3.30pm and running through to 7pm, children can visit Santa in his Grotto in the church hall between 3.45 and 6.15pm, while parents enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie, or delicious cakes provided by the Scouts (who did so well at the November Local Food Market). There will be lots of tempting food to eat, food drink and gift stalls, plants, raffles and draws, tombola, christmas trees, some adorable alpacas, and street entertainment from Mr Bamboozle, The Scrappies, and John Bray with his fire show and circus equipment. The Community Café will be serving teas and coffees and there will be lots of opportunities to sing carols in the church. The children from the Primary School will be singing at 4pm, and the church choir and St. Andrew's Sisters will also entertain you. The timetable for the events will be posted in the church. **Don't miss this fun-filled Community Event, supporting CONNECT and the St. Andrew's Heating Appeal - let's create that Winter Wonderland !!!**

**...and don't delay booking for this year's Panto on 6th to 8th December - tickets are going fast !**

**On a more down-to-earth note, Powys CC has advised that Recycling and Refuse collections for Powys householders and the council's trade waste customers will be later than usual during Christmas and the New Year.**

If your collection is due on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, it will take place as usual, but otherwise collections will take place two days later during Christmas week and then one day later during New Year week.

**Don't forget, Powys CC's public consultation (on their plans to remove the green bins at the Bring Site and instead provide a paid kerbside collection on garden waste) closes Sunday 2nd December so, if you are not happy with the proposals, complete the consultation NOW on-line at <https://customer.powys.gov.uk/article/790/Current-Consultations> and select Green Garden Waste Collection Survey - **make your voice heard !!****

**Message from Sharon (Presteigne & Norton Community Support).....thank you to the stall holders and to everyone that came and supported our 3rd Annual Christmas Fayre.** We made £1302.04, which will be match funded by Lloyds Bank up to £500. Also, we are selling Christmas Cards at the office, a competition was set up for JBS and Presteigne Primary to enter and our winning Christmas cards will now be sold at £1 each - thank you to all the children that entered. And....buy the Big Xmas Quiz and support The Circle!

**Tickets are available now for Presteigne St. Andrew's FC Christmas Draw - £100 first prize plus many other excellent prizes.** To be drawn Sunday 23rd December 2pm at No.46 Wine Bar

**Presteigne Pop Choir are looking to recruit new members in the new year.** Reading music an advantage but not essential. Repertoire consists of pop hits from the 60s to the present day. Please contact John Hymas for details. 07969 [440183/john@johnhymas.com](mailto:440183@john@johnhymas.com)

**The Library will be open on Christmas day from 10:30am to 12:30 - Join us for the Icelandic tradition of Jolabokaflokkur, the Christmas book flood!** Browse our new stock or bring your own to read, munch on a mince pie, or just pop in for a chat and a warm up! Thanks, Rhiannon

**A message from Vikki at Rose Cottage Floral Creations florists** .....we are busy getting ready for the festive season. So just a reminder to pre-order your Christmas flowers, door wreath or grave posies/wreaths. Of course we also have a large selection of flowers for you to choose from, along with an extensive range of gifts and cards. We really do value your custom by supporting the local high street. We are also pleased to announce that we have been given a 5-stars food hygiene award. We were a little unsure if we should just open our lovely tea shop & garden for the Summer months, but a few regulars convinced us to open in the winter too. We would really like feedback on this though from the wider community. We have also put a mobility ramp in the top part of the shop to make it more accessible for wheelchair and mobility scooters. Please contact us on 01544 260 600 or visit our website [www.rosecottagefloralcreations.co.uk](http://www.rosecottagefloralcreations.co.uk)

**Message from Rosamund about Christmas at The Old School, Whitton** - both Museum and Gallery Tea Room will be open Sundays & Mondays 16th to 31st December 11am to 5pm with new work being added to the Gallery and a chance to find out more about classes at The Old School. ....All enquiries [01547 550155](tel:01547550155)

### **EVENTS OVER THE NEXT 6 WEEKS**

**TONIGHT !! Friday 30th November - a Presteigne Screen film "Sweet Country"** Aust 2017 113 mins 15. 8pm in The Assembly Rooms. An original and arresting take on the age-old theme of lynch-mob anger, this time set in the Australian outback of the 1920s. An Aboriginal stockman kills a violent white landowner in self-defence, an act that provokes self-righteous outrage within the racist local community and a 'string him up' manhunt. So far, so predictable. But director Warwick Thornton doesn't allow us our usual easy assumptions as this familiar plot-line plays out. First-rate ensemble performances, fabulous visuals, intriguing flash-forwards, taut plotting & satisfying prods at the film's moral ambiguities, lift this Western well clear of routine story-telling.

**Saturday 1st December - the last PBC Xmas Giant Prize & Cash Bingo of 2018.** Memorial Hall. Doors open 6.30pm for 7.45pm start. Bar. All welcome !

**Sunday 2nd December - the Ad Hoc Theatre presents "The Unkindest Cut" and "The Confessions of Jon-Jak Crusoe"** at The Assembly Rooms.

**Tuesday 4th December - Short walk with Presteigne Ramblers** - 3.37 miles from Evenjobb Old School. Walks start at 10am - all welcome (<18s must be accompanied by an adult). Further information is available from E & S Williams on 01544 260524 at [www.powysramblers.org.uk](http://www.powysramblers.org.uk)

**Wednesday 5th December - Sharpp Chat " A Hope In Hell? - Is climate change a psychological or a moral issue?"** with Laurence Matthews, from Hay Science Café. 7.30pm St. Andrew's Church Hall. Free entry but donations welcomed to cover hall hire.

**Thursday 6th, Friday 7th and Saturday 8th December - Presteigne Players presents a revival of the 1988 Pantomime "Presteigne Goes For A Song"- at The Memorial Hall.** 7.30pm. Tickets from Winnie's. Thursday - £5 (£2 <16s), Friday/Saturday - £7 (£3 <16s),

**Friday 7th December - Presteigne's Christmas Fayre 3.30pm to 7pm** in and around St. Andrew's, the Church Hall and the churchyard. See above for details.

**Friday 7th December - Christmas Concert at Presteigne Baptist Church** 7pm, with music & song by 'Music for Heart's Ease'. Refreshments provided. FREE entry, all welcome.

**Saturday 8th December - Local Food Market 9am to 1pm in the Memorial Hall.** For those who will have had enough of travelling to find the best presents and treats for Christmas they need go no further than Presteigne. Customers to the November Market will have noticed that the best market in The Marches is still growing. The December Market will have some stalls outside, including local Christmas trees from Broadaxe Farm, a second Kotlich cooking demonstration, together with lovely cookware. Kotlich cooking isn't just for the Summer!

The wonderful food produce will be found in both the main and rear hall, the Community Cafe being in the latter, as always providing Fairtrade teas, coffee and homemade cake for customers to sit and share with friends.

**Saturday 8th December - Artists and Makers "Christmas Fair" at the Assembly Rooms 9am to 4pm.**

A selection of work from Local Artists and Makers with extra seasonal Cards, Gifts and Decorations, also with a selection of donated gifts to raise funds for the Whitton Museum Project. ..enquiries [01544 260777](tel:01544260777)

**Saturday 8th December - calling astronomers and novices! Free guided 'Dark Skies Night' at**

**Went's Meadow** 7.30pm to 9pm. Open to all (Children under 12 must be accompanied). Meet at Scout Hut.

Leigh and Helen will be there to show you the stars and help you appreciate our night sky. There will be a telescope on site on the night but please bring small torch, binoculars and telescope if you have them. Sensible, warm clothes. Event is weather-dependent - if unsure, please email Leigh at [presteignedarksky@gmail.com](mailto:presteignedarksky@gmail.com) on the day to check the event is going ahead. Donations to Presteigne Dark Skies Project welcome. NOTE there is some parking at Scout Hut but no parking on Went's Meadow itself.

**Saturday 8th December - Judges Lodging Museum Free Open Day 10am to 4pm.** Come along and visit our atmospheric Victorian museum, and at the same time see our wonderful 16 foot Xmas Tree, traditionally decorated and roaring open fires. And as a bonus, our wonderful team of volunteers are putting on a fundraising coffee morning with mince pies and delicious home-made cakes.

**Saturday 8th December - Talgarth Male Voice Choir - Christmas Concert at Lingen Village Hall**

7.30pm. A traditional concert with lots of favourite songs and carols - a lovely way to start off the Christmas festivities. Ticket £12 to include a glass of mulled wine and mince pie. Please pre-order tickets as space will be limited. [lingenweb@gmail.com](mailto:lingenweb@gmail.com) 01544 267736. Raffle donation to Hope House Children's Hospice.

**Monday 10th December - YFC Christmas Quiz at the Memorial Hall.** 7pm. Teams of 4. Raffle, bar

**Wednesday 12th December - Quiz Night at the Bowls Club.** 7.30pm Bowls Social Club on Hereford Street (opposite Little Shop). Fun general knowledge quiz, this time with a Christmas twist. £2 pp. bar, coffee, mince pies/cake ! Win big on Backwards Bingo. Text 07766 097600 or email [presteignedogman@icloud.com](mailto:presteignedogman@icloud.com)

**Thursday 13th December - Christmas Shopping Evening at The Retreat** (next to The Warehouse on the Industrial Estate) 4-8pm. Skincare, bath and bodycare, teas, mugs, fitness aids and more...Raffle in aid of Presteigne Food Bank (The Retreat is a centre for massage, bodywork, posture and movement therapies)

**Friday 14th December - a Presteigne Screen film "Let The Sunshine In"** (Fra 2017 94mins 15). 8pm in The Assembly Rooms. A very French take on modern sexual politics, in which middle-aged Parisian artist Isabelle (a luminous Juliette Binoche) searches for love among a pretty unsatisfactory clutch of men, a search that leaves her wondering if it has all passed her by. The pleasures of this film lie in its wit and lightness of touch - quite a departure for director/writer Claire Denis - and in the star turns from Binoche and Gérard Depardieu.

**Friday 14th December - CROONING AT CHRISTMAS with Stephan Hollinghurst in St. Andrew's**

**Church, Presteigne 7.30pm.** Stephen sings Songs from the Shows, Pop Standards, Easy Listening Greats and Christmas Classics: Let There Be Love, White Christmas, Moon River, On Days Like These, Luck Be A Lady, Have

Yourself a Merry Little Christmas - you name it. Tickets £10 (to include a glass of wine) from Winnies, the Rectory on [01544 267777](tel:01544267777) or email [revstevehollinghurst@gmail.com](mailto:revstevehollinghurst@gmail.com). Proceeds to the new church heating system.

**Saturday 15th December - a Full Circle DANCE NIGHT featuring Californian bluesman Guy Tortora and his Dance Band** at The Assembly Rooms. 8pm. £12 from Courtyard Antiques and 01544 267 163

**Saturday 15th December - EG Fitness and Dance presents their Christmas Showcase** at The Memorial Hall, 4.30pm. Adults £4, children <16 Free. Proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support and The Bracken Trust

**Saturday 15th December - 'Experience Christmas' and Coffee Morning at Presteigne Methodist Church** from 10.30. The story of Christmas told simply in stages around the church for you to enjoy and pause to remember what Christmas is really all about. Coffee and mince pies. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Sunday 16th December - Royal Oak Christmas Raffle. 1pm.** Tickets available at the bar £1 a go with all proceeds going to Decembers meat raffle charity of Presteigne Badgers Hockey Club. Over 60 prizes varying from several large meat hampers, joints of meat to spirits and chocolates.

**Tuesday 18th December - Drewie's Christmas Quiz - 7.30pm at The Royal Oak.** Teams of up to 4 people. £2 per person with all proceeds going to St Michael's Hospice

**Wednesday 19th December - "VOTES FOR WOMEN !" for one night only in The Assembly Rooms at 7.30pm.** An illustrated lecture by Roger Curtis and friends commemorating the first time women in Britain voted legally turns into drama when the Suffragettes and suffragists arrive, with orations, battle cries and a banner or two. They help tell the story of the struggle for women's rights let alone the vote and we hear that the Suffragettes began to fall apart in 1914 after a campaign of violence resulting in imprisonment, hunger strikes and forcible feeding, paid off by the government. The suffragists, male and female, carried on and even then it took until 1918 to get the vote for just some women. What made it happen, then? Local actors and singers entertain, amaze and tell you things you probably didn't know. Come along to boo and cheer: ideal for feminists and misogynists alike. Tickets £10 from Winnies or reserve by phoning [01544\) 262846](tel:01544262846), or on the door subject to availability. All proceeds to help pay for the new heating system in St Andrew's Church.

**Thursday 20th December - Whitton Voices Mid-Winter Concert** 6.45pm St Michael's Church, Discoed With Whitton Voices led by Sue Harris and guests, Benji & George Kirkpatrick - also joined by singer Rowan Godel. Wassails, rare carols/seasonal ditties with Merry music and Tales for the longest night. Tickets £8 [children free]. Raising funds for Help Refugees. Seasonal refreshments. Booking advised - contact [01547 550158](tel:01547550158)

**Friday 21st December - Traditional Carol Service in All Saints Church, Kinsham** at 7pm.

**Sunday 23rd December - Carol Service at Presteigne Methodist Church** at 3.30pm., followed by tea. It will be led by Adrian Williams and all are welcome.

**Sunday 23rd December - Choral Carol Service at St Andrew's Parish Church, Presteigne** at 6.30pm. The Church Choir and an expectedly large congregation will sing carols, enjoy anthems and hear the Christmas message from readings. Everyone welcome, to appreciate, too, the new heating system.

**Sunday 23rd December - Crib & Carol Service in St Michael and All Angels Church, Lingen** at 3.30pm.

**Monday 24th December - Crib Service in St Andrew's Parish Church, Presteigne** at 5pm. The ever-popular Christmas Eve event for children of any age awaiting The Day.

**Monday 24th December - Christmas Eve Midnight Communion (Traditional Service) in St Andrew's Parish Church, Presteigne** at 11pm

**[NOTE THAT THE ORGANISERS AND STALL-HOLDERS OF 'LOCAL FOOD MARKET' AND 'ARTIST'S & MAKERS' ARE TAKING A WELL-EARNED REST IN JANUARY BUT WILL RETURN IN FEBRUARY]**

**Friday 11th January - "The Bookshop" (PG) a film at Lingen Village Hall.** 7.30pm. £5/£3.50. Starring: Bill Nighy, Emily Mortimer, Patricia Clarkson. Based on Penelope Fitzgerald's bestselling novel of the same

name, The Bookshop is set in 1959. A free-spirited widow, puts grief behind her and risks everything to open up a bookshop - the first such shop in a sleepy seaside town. Fighting damp, cold and considerable local apathy she struggles to establish herself - her fortunes change for the better but this brings her fierce enemies: the hostility of the town's less prosperous shopkeepers and a vengeful, embittered alpha female. They begin a struggle not just for the bookshop but for the very heart and soul of the town. Tickets on line [www.lingen.org.uk](http://www.lingen.org.uk)

**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:pacdg@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) to [pacdg@icloud.com](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com).**

**Feel free to tweet or forward this issue to others**