

Community News

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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.

What a brilliant show of daffs around Presteigne and Norton! It just gets better each year thanks to the efforts of planting volunteers and those who donated bulbs (individuals, PAC, and the Town Council). We'll be doing it all over again in the Autumn so if you can see a location around town that cries out to be planted, do please let us know by emailing pacdg@icloud.com.

Spring is a-coming and the PAC guerrilla gardeners need you ! If you fancy joining a small friendly group to do occasional community gardening & planting to tidy up and beautify some rather unloved public bits of Presteigne, just email pacdg@icloud.com or text 07766 097 600.

Had you heard that Winnie's is closing on 31st March? The shop's been part of our High Street for so long and really will be missed. We wish you and your family well, Paul - and hope that someone will take it on soon!

Wondering what to do with your old plastic plant pots ? It's still a real problem, how to responsibly dispose of surplus or broken plastic pots. It's hoped that plant nurseries will be able to receive pots for recycling in future but we're not there yet - Lyonshall Nursery says that discussions are ongoing at national level with the recycling industry to resolve this urgent problem. Some authorities will accept non-black pots for recycling, but Powys unfortunately is not currently able to accept any plastic plant pots for kerbside collection.

So what else can you do ? You can offer them on Presteigne Freecycle for other gardeners to re-use (www.ilovefreecycle.org/presteigne), otherwise you can take them to one of the Household Waste Recycling Centres, in Kington, Leominster or (the closest in Powys) Llandrindod Wells. If anybody knows of any other solution please do let us know by emailing pacdg@icloud.com.

Can you help at the Carnival in July ? Plans for this year's Carnival on 13th July are well-advanced but more volunteers are needed to help with set-up on the Friday, dismantling and clean-up on Sunday morning, and of course as stewards for the Parade or on site, manning a stall or attraction, and a multitude of other tasks on the Saturday. Be part of this brilliant community event - 'sign-up' as a Carnival Volunteer on the Carnival Facebook page, by text to 07766 152000 or email dbrhdvs6@aol.com. As a bonus, all volunteers get free entry to Carnival!

A Date for Your Diary - Presteigne Food and Flower Festival- Bank Holiday Monday 6th May, 10am to 4pm <https://www.presteigneconnect.co.uk>. A celebration of local food, producers and gardens at this family-friendly festival on Bank Holiday Monday. This year's event will again take place in and around Presteigne's town centre. With free entry and free parking, it is a great day out and an opportunity to meet local food and drink producers as well as visiting Open Gardens in Presteigne. In addition, there will be wonderful plant and garden-related stalls and lots of fun activities for children. Workshops, demonstrations and talks with live music complete the day's varied programme. FREE admission, FREE parking and PLENTY to eat and drink of course!

Does your dog miss his daily walk ? The Cinnamon Trust could be the answer if you are an elderly or terminally ill owner and need some help. Please contact them on 01736 757900. For information, see website www.cinnamon.org.uk or email volunteer@cinnamon.org.uk.

Many local older, sick or disabled people rely on Presteigne & Norton Community Support to help them with transport for all sorts of essentials but PNCS desperately needs more volunteer drivers

- if you enjoy driving and would like to make a real difference in our community, please call in and talk to Sharon in the PNCS office in the High Street, or call 01544 267961. Thank you.

PRESTEIGNE LOCAL FOOD MARKET - Saturday 6th April 9 - 1pm in the Memorial Hall.

The Market now has a wider variety of meat for customers to choose from, including goat meat which is proving very popular with customers as well as the wider world as, apart from being delicious, is extremely low in cholesterol. It also makes a fantastic curry!

Herefordshire cheeses are now joining the team of regular artisans who offer customers the best of local food.

With the arrival of Spring, gardeners' enthusiasm will be now soaring. Please visit the Seed Swap and be tempted. Or you could leave a donation in lieu of unwanted seeds. It will go to The Heritage Seed Library who have also donated a good supply of seed.

Attention young growers! The Market is holding a potato (in a pot) growing competition this year. Please come to the May Market to find out all about it and how to enter. Further details will be available during April.

The Community Cafe has been part of the Local Food Market since June 2013. It is run solely by volunteers who give both their time and goodwill and prides itself on serving Fairtrade coffee, teas, homemade cake and a relaxing place in which to share them with friends. The Cafe customers' donations are passed on to sixteen local organisations and groups. What the Cafe does is of course recognised and appreciated by the local community as well as visitors to Presteigne - and **customer's donations have now reached over £5000 !**

The Food Market, together with the Cafe, is bringing more people to Presteigne, which in turn benefits the Town. It is busier on Market Saturdays. To celebrate all this it was decided to give two of the Cafe's 'beneficiaries' an opportunity to get to know each other. The East Radnor Day Centre has invited The Little People's Playgroup to visit them very soon so as to have a picture of the event. This success has not been difficult. It is simply about people who know how to make a Community work. Well done Presteigne!

The April Farmers Market is also the place to join in the official launch of Plastic-Free Presteigne!

Efforts are well under way to encourage everyone to reduce the amount of single-use plastic in our community, and our Community Champion Cllr Beverley Baynham will be hosting the official launch. Come and visit our stall for lots of information about easy things you - individually, your business, your community group - can do to cut down your use, including what alternatives are already available locally. And if you have any ideas of your own, we would love to hear them so please do come and talk to us. If you can't make it but would like to know more, email plasticfreepresteigne@gmail.com or call/text Ann on 07734 528571

Calling all young footballers ! Presteigne Colts Under 8s are looking for any children interested in playing football next season.

There will be a few open training sessions so children can come along and get a taste of what's to come (children born between 1/9/2011 and 31/8/2012). The first training session will be on Saturday 4th May 10am on the field by the Presteigne Leisure Centre. Please wear shin pads and football boots. All welcome - just turn up on the day - training is free. Coaches are DBS-checked and have Level 1 qualifications. For information email robert.s.bird@hotmail.com

The 3rd Grand Spring Sale at the Assembly Rooms on Saturday 9th March was once again a great success raising a total of £550 for the two charities, Shelter and Help Refugees! Many thanks to all those that came (some 240+ people) and enjoyed delicious coffee and home made cakes at the pop-up cafe and browsed all kinds of fabulous items for sale, from stylish clothes, books and jumble to plants and bulbs. The Sale

organisers, Sabina Rüber and Kate Bull would like to thank everybody who came and contributed to the lovely atmosphere, as well as helping to raise such a fantastic amount for the charities.

Tuesday morning's free and want to play some netball ? Try Over-50s Netball at the East Radnor Leisure Centre. Every Tuesday 9.30-10.30am with their fabulous instructor Leanne. First session FREE then just £2.50 per session after that. Just go along on Tuesday or call 01544 260302 for information.

Can you build a simple website ? Presteigne Bowling Club needs someone to construct a new website for them to replace their existing aged platform. Site will be fairly straightforward, primarily text/photos/video with a secure members section, social media links, contact page and database, but no payment facility needed. If you can help with this, please text 07772 907203 or email presteignebowls@gmail.com.

If you live with the effects of a stroke, MS, Parkinson's, brain injury or similar, would you like to meet people with similar experiences to gain mutual support, take part and help plan activities, or just chat with a friendly face ? The Stroke Association and Powys Teaching Health Board run a regular Neuro Café at Knighton Community Centre on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 10.30am to 12.30pm. Interested ? Call Gill on 07342 049990 or The Stroke Association on 01745 508524

Saturday 30th March - Lizzie Gutteridge's Consort of 1 with 'Ma Fin Est Ma Commencement'. Assembly Rooms 7.30 - 8.30pm. Music from the time of the troubadours, building up an exotic medley of instrumental sounds through the medium of live looping. £7 from Winnies or on the door. An MBA event.

Wednesday 3rd April - Sharppp Chat at The Assembly Rooms "Risks: Why we love and fear them" with automobile safety consultant, Peter Wright. 7.30pm. How able are we to really assess risk? Flying is much safer than driving, even though it feels much riskier, yet we happily hurtle around country lanes in our cars every day. Come and find out about our illogical relationship to risk. More info maggie@pccs-books.co.uk.

Friday 5th April - Québécois band 'Le Vent du Nord' will be playing at The Assembly Rooms. Combining a great stage presence with an energetic, dynamic flair, Le Vent du Nord are one of the leading names in Québécois folk music performing original songs inspired from their tradition – a truly fabulous sound! The quintet never fail to delight crowds with their glorious mix of fiddle and foot-tapping, guitar, accordion, piano, bass, hurdy-gurdy and wonderful four-part harmonies. An MBA event. Tickets from www.wegottickets.com

Saturday 6th April - Local Food Market at the Memorial Hall and launch of Plastic Free Presteigne
See items above.

Saturday 6th April - Council Surgery at the Memorial Hall with County.Cllr Beverley Baynham and Town Cllr Chris Ruby - if you've any questions, suggestions, or need information, this is where to get it!

Saturday 6th April - Artists & Makers at The Assembly Rooms 10am to 3pm. Free entry. A selection of high quality work from local artists & makers working with natural materials: wood, stone, wool, paper and paint.

Sunday 7th April - Craft Fair @ Walton Hall 10am to 2pm. Sell your homemade crafts or come along and buy a truly individual item for someone special (or treat yourself). No charge for vendors but a raffle prize is required. For more details call [01544 350 511](tel:01544350511)

Sunday 7th April - Schubert's great song cycle "Winterreise" performed by international tenor Ilker Arcayurek and piano accompanist Martin Pickard. 8pm in The Assembly Rooms. Ilker is a finalist in the prestigious Cardiff 'Singer of the World' and regularly performs at the Wigmore Hall, Edinburgh and other international festivals. His first CD of Schubert songs was given rave reviews. He is shortly to make his USA debut. Martin is a skilled accompanist, conductor and has been Musical Director of Opera North. This will be a real treat!! Tickets £15 from The Workhouse and www.wegottickets.com. An MBA event.

Sunday 7th April - "Sunday Serenade" in St. Andrew's, a concert in aid of the Church Heating Appeal. 3pm. Join us for lovely music with Leila Basletic, Ruth Watson, Steve Hollinghurst, John Hymas, the Pop Choir, and The St. Andrew's Sisters - followed by tea and cake. £8 on the door (children & students free).

Monday 8th April - Drop-in Cancer Support Session. Assembly Rooms 9 to 11am 2nd Monday each month. Info/support for anyone affected by cancer, or support for new volunteers. Advice and time to talk over a cuppa with Macmillan Volunteer Paula. Contact 07966 571020 or Macmillan Support Line 0808 808 00 00.

Tuesday 9th April - Dewie's Quiz Night at the Royal Oak. In aid of Presteigne Primary PTFA. 7.45pm start. Teams of 4. For info and to book a table call 01544 260842

Wednesday 10th April - "The Narrow Road" powerful theatre on the journey to Easter, by Paul Birch. St. Andrew's Church. Tickets £8 from the Rector 01544 267777, or on the door. Amid the heat & beauty of ancient Palestine, a man stands on a dusty road. An extraordinary journey will take place, retracing the footsteps of Jesus through a world of miracles and madness, violence and liberation. As **The Narrow Road** is walked, this turbulent world is turned upside down and its inhabitants confronted by an unexpected and surprising vision.

Wednesday 10th April - the monthly Quiz Night @ Bowls Club. Pub quiz with a twist. Teams of 4. £2pp. Bar, refreshments. Prizes. Text Richard 07976 022828 or email richardgordon41@gmail.com to book your table.

Friday 12th April - Presteigne Screen presents "BlackKlansman" 8pm at The Assembly Rooms. It's a plot-line you couldn't invent - black infiltration of the Ku Klux Klan. But (black) director Spike Lee didn't have to get creative because this story is for real. Back in 1973 an idealistic black cop auditioned (over the phone, of course) for membership of the Colorado Springs chapter of the Klan by abusing "Blacks, Jews, anyone without pure white Ayrian blood." It's rich meat, a gift to Lee who rips into the possibilities with acid wit and anger. Our black entryist then uncovers terrorist plots at "America First!" Klan meetings, courtesy of his avatar, a white - Jewish! - fellow cop. And better still, Lee's final coda updates us to the horrors seen at Charlottesville 2017.

Friday 12th April - 'Carousel': A Herefordshire Life Through a Lens (film) Lingen Hall 7.30pm £4. Following on from audience favourites 'Stories from the Hop Yards' and 'Chewing the Cud', this newly released film delves deep into the Derek Evans photographic archive from the 1950s-1970s to bring you the stories behind his photographs of the county, from the May Fair to Hereford United, from the Fownhope Heart of Oak walk to jazz, from childhood to politics, photography and more. The 'Herefordshire Life Through a Lens' explores the huge collection of photographs and negatives of Herefordshire photographer Derek Evans, digitising the archive and creating an oral history from Herefordshire people about the memories they evoke. The collection consists of 200,000+ negatives, 790 exhibition images, hundreds of prints, scrapbooks full of newspaper cuttings, photo journals, and daily log books of the studio's activities.

Saturday 13th April - Prize & Cash EASTER BINGO at The Memorial Hall. Doors open 6.15pm for 7.30 eyes down. PRIZES 40" LED TV, £100 cash, Easter Eggs, Hampers, many other prizes. Full bar. All welcome (organised by Presteigne Bowls Club)

Saturday 13th April - Gather Round...and Sing for Fun with Marion Rowlatt 10.30am to 12 noon at The Assembly Rooms. Info 01544 260 466.

Saturday 13th April - Table Sale & Coffee Morning 11am-4pm at the Royal British Legion Social Club. £5 per table for sellers. A fund raiser for the Social Club. Contact Paul at the Social Club for more details.

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