

# Community News

## Issue 309 April 2023

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



**NEXT ISSUE MID-APRIL. DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS 10am 13th April !!!**  
email [news@pacdg.org](mailto:news@pacdg.org)

- 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 - email the Editor
  - please email if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents, including local area jobs
  - if you need assistance in any way, email us and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.
- ...AND 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](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/calendar)

...**Update on our Sleeping Dragon.** Today, after totting up the figures on the old abacus I'm happy to say that we are through the £4,000 marker. Together with the sponsorship deals done so far, although we still need more donations from individuals and businesses alike to meet our targets to both return the Dragon AND leave a small legacy fund for future maintenance, assuming that donations will continue quietly as they are at present, we can activate the process to bring the Sleeping Dragon back. So to that end I will move the skeletal steel frame back into my workshop now to make necessary alterations before refurbishment can commence. You will be able to follow the process here <https://www.facebook.com/presteignedragon/>. And if you feel inspired enough to donate you can donate here <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/sleeping-dragon>. If you wish to donate offline or would like more information, email me at [presteignesleepingdragon@gmail.com](mailto:presteignesleepingdragon@gmail.com), or phone 17735354623 or 01544 267810. Lastly but not least, many many thanks for all the donations both on and off line, all with a passion to see the Sleeping Dragon return. And finally, in the interests of you not missing out on the opportunity to be part of the final chapter of the Sleeping Dragon, now would be a really good time to contribute to that end. Many thanks and best wishes. Pete.

...**The April issue of Broad Sheep** will be out very soon and online - [www.broadsheep.com](http://www.broadsheep.com)  
Look out for it!

...**MidBorder News.** Here is the link to the online edition of the magazine [https://issuu.com/midbordernews/docs/midborder\\_news\\_spring\\_2023](https://issuu.com/midbordernews/docs/midborder_news_spring_2023) - the print edition has been distributed and is in your local shops, cafes, pubs, libraries etc.

...**update on the big recycling wheeled bins for cartons at the Bring Site** - these will be removed w/c 3 April BUT Powys now accept the following EMPTY CLEAN containers via the kerbside carton collection, in your RED recycling box; Food and drink cartons - Pringles tubes - Paper based gravy granule containers with metal ends - Paper based hot chocolate/coffee containers with metal ends - Other paper based containers with metal ends. Unfortunately PCC cannot at the moment accept paper laminated coffee cups - these will need to be disposed of via the wheelie bins at home, or street litter bins for those who are out and about.

...**Hi-speed Broadband update - Broadway Partners** - the Presteigne & Norton project is progressing as planned. Our survey and design partners will start a full survey of all the Openreach telegraph poles and underground ducts in the Summer. On our current trajectory we are aiming to start our network build in late Summer/ early Autumn. Some news on an update to our most popular package - do not worry, the cost has not gone up, but we have increased the speed available to 150 Mbps for £19.99pm

### THANK YOU

...**from PSAFC football Club - our Defibrillator** is up and ready for any emergency. Money raised by last year's Easter draw helped us afford this. Thanks to everyone who supported it.

...**from Charlie** a MASSIVE thank you to all of you that took time out to go and see the garage sale day households. I know the rain came down (Just now) but it was great to see everyone while the weather was good. You are all stars and Presteigne is awesome!

...**from PACDG: Big thanks to the Daffodil Group** who planted up the verges a few years ago. What a lovely display all around Presteigne and Norton, and so many varieties. A great reminder of our area's extraordinary historical links with this lovely flower - a fine article can be found on the town website <https://www.presteigne.org.uk/some-history-presteigne-and-norton>

### COUNCIL NEWS

...**Powys CC - Presteigne road & pavement works:** (a) the stretch of High Street pavement between Daphne's and Victoria Fish Bar is being widened permanently (b) a more prominent No-Entry sign is being installed on Hereford Street by the Police Station.

...**P&N Town Council has a small grant fund** to award a limited number of small grants to local organisations for projects relevant to the Climate Crisis covering matters such as energy use, environmental concerns, the enhancement/protection of biodiversity and the natural environment. Grants are generally for a maximum of £250 if made during the year but larger projects may be considered if submitted by the end of November. To apply or for an initial chat to discuss your proposal, contact the Tracey Price, Town Clerk [presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com](mailto:presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com) for an application form or download a form from the Council page on the Town website - [www.presteigne.org.uk](http://www.presteigne.org.uk)

...**some items from the recent P&NTC Meetings: Roundabouts:** Radnor Hills had agreed to sponsor and maintain the Greenfield Road Roundabout during 2023; a quote for attending to the other roundabout has been received from Caring for God's Acre: Radnorshire Wildlife Trust has indicated a willingness to renew its lease for The Withy Beds on expiry. **Dark Skies/Lighting Update:** The working group met in early March and the draft application to the International Dark Skies Association was very near to completion. The County Council had seen the proposed lighting policy and is in principle willing to add this to its own lighting policy as an Appendix – this will mean that future developments will need to refer to the policy and should ensure that the lighting continues to conform into the future. Since the meeting calculations on the carbon and financial savings had been carried out and these are estimated as 4.5 tonnes of CO2 reduction per year. 54kw saving per night. 19,710kw per year. If the cost was taken as 0.33p per Kwh, it would result in a £6,500 saving per year. The Clerk added that the projected unit cost for the County Council had since been confirmed as 42p per unit, increasing the estimated saving to £8278. **Nature Reserve Update:** Community Engagement Weekend held and successful. Large number of Trees planted. 150 people had subscribed to a mailing list to be kept informed. Various Photographs of prominent and important local trees taken free of charge by Alex Ramsey. Possible future use to produce a calendar. Future events – tree planting 26th March and pond planting 23rd April. Ponds now filling with water nicely. Possible purchase of two-wheel tractor type machine and various attachments to assist with ongoing maintenance. Agreed subject instead of cut and collect machine subject to lottery approval. Shed adjacent to site available for storage. Clerk to look into insurance costs. Opening Day 3rd June. **Tree Hub:** 189 trees given out so far in March with one session still to complete. **Review of Bus Routes/Stops:** Following raised/agreed in meetings with PCC: By pass shelter to be cleaned. Low usage of the Sergeants Bus and problems with connections e.g. to Llandrindod or Hereford. Lack of a direct bus to Llandrindod. Hereford Street stop currently on the wrong side of the road – to be moved. Townend Stop – bus stop markings to be put on road, stop to be marked. Remove old timetable box in Station Road. Timetables to be supplied for Clerk to circulate. Timetable for x11 to be put at bypass shelter. **Community Broadband Scheme Update:** Broadway Partners is intending to proceed in Presteigne & Norton on a commercial basis, surveying currently planned to start early Autumn

...**next P&NTC meeting will be Wednesday 19th April**, 7pm, Assembly Rooms. See Town website [www.presteigne.org.uk](http://www.presteigne.org.uk) from 13th April for meeting papers and Draft March Minutes.

### **SCAM WARNING (from WHICH and other sources)**

...**Amazon Prime scam.** Scammers are impersonating Amazon to get access to your device - the fraudsters tell consumers that their Amazon Prime subscription is increasing in price or expiring. If you say you want to cancel, you'll be asked to download remote access software such as AnyDesk. This is a genuine program that fraudsters sometimes use to exploit victims. Once you download the program, the scammer will be able to access your device and steal your information or install malware.

...**Lego giveaway scam.** Fraudsters are using fake Lego branding to offer a £735 Lego set for only £3 in dodgy Facebook posts. To participate in this 'giveaway', victims are asked to play games where they have to choose the right box to 'win'. The fraudsters set time limits to create a sense of urgency and pressure the victim to act quickly. Once the victim has 'won' the prize, the fraudsters ask for their bank details to make a nominal payment – another tactic used to obtain sensitive personal information - enter your details and you hand them to the scammer!!

### **NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS**

...**local start-up Shanty Band is looking for a fiddle and/or accordion/squeeze box player** to join the group. Email the Editor at [news@pacdg.org](mailto:news@pacdg.org) to be put in contact

...**Royal British Legion.** AGM to be held on the 2nd of April at 11 o'clock at the Legion Club, if you care for your local club please attend !!

...**The library's extended opening hours have now come to an end**, and we have returned to our normal opening hours: 10-1, 2-5 on Tuesdays, 1-6 on Wednesdays, and 10-1 Fridays and Saturdays.

...**Foodbank in Presteigne.** Are you struggling to buy food & essential items? Do you need help due to a crisis or waiting for Universal Credit or Working Tax Credit payments? Are you finding it difficult to afford laundry and personal hygiene products? Foodbank has opened a new Outreach Service providing support for families in the Presteigne & local area at The Old School (Youth Centre), Hereford Street, LD8 2AT. Open each Friday: 1.30 - 3.00pm. For more information, to apply for a food parcel or to drop off donations, contact Helen on 07731 524 058 email: [helen@knightonfoodbank.co.uk](mailto:helen@knightonfoodbank.co.uk).

...**1st Presteigne Scout Group are looking for volunteers** to come and help smarten up and make improvements to our Scout Hut Monday 8th May 10am – 5pm. If you have DIY, cleaning, building skills or just bags of enthusiasm, please get in touch, or come and help. Stay for a thank you BBQ after. Contact: Ann Dodd [07539272171](tel:07539272171) email [1stpresteignescoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:1stpresteignescoutgroup@gmail.com). Jobs that need doing: Refreshments! Painting inside and outside; Building the fire pit; Hedge and grass strimming; Building compost bin and bug hotel Install swift boxes; Pressure wash/clean patio; Deep clean kitchen, hall floor, inside hut; Sort and record activity and camp stores

...**Kington Golf Club:** Our Ladies' New to Golf Taster Sessions are starting in April. Come along and learn a new skill on our beautiful Academy Course, with our PGA Professional. Fresh air, exercise and new friends! **FIRST 3 SESSIONS ARE FREE!** Please register your interest via [pro@kingtongolf.co.uk](mailto:pro@kingtongolf.co.uk) or call us on 01544 230340 extension 1.

...**New Radnor Community Broadband Scheme.** All is proceeding as planned with surveyors STL expected out and about in the next few weeks and with a planned build start date of 25th July. Completion and connection for 95% of properties is scheduled by 8th November. Full details about this will be released in due course with voucher sign up due to happen in May/June. Residents may keep their current copper phone line or transfer their number to Broadway's digital service (this change to a digital phone line will be happening to almost everyone anyway over the next couple of years).

...**Clwb Clonc Llanadras. Do you speak welsh or are you learning welsh?** We are starting a Clwb Clonc/Welsh chat group at The Workhouse, Presteigne on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month, from 10.30am - 12.00 pm starting 8th April. If you are a Welsh speaker or learning Welsh (any level) you are very welcome to join us. For further information phone Jo on 07842 781714

...**from Amy - Presteigne Brownies & Rainbows.** We would love to welcome some more young girls into our local Rainbows unit (4-7 year olds) that meet alongside Brownies (7-10 year olds) on a Tuesday night 5:15-6:30pm. We have fun trying out new things each week whilst making friends - plenty of spaces available in the new term with two free taster sessions to see if your daughter enjoys it.

...**Presteigne Memorial Hall. Website is now LIVE!** Pop along and have a look at online bookings, hire information and event notices. [www.presteignememorialhall.org](http://www.presteignememorialhall.org)

## EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Pop Choir Concert** - Saturday 1st April (yes, really!!) at Presteigne Assembly Rooms. Doors open 7pm. Free entry - donations welcome. Bar, tea/coffee.

...**Presteigne Local Food Market** - Saturday 1st April. Memorial Hall 9 to 1pm.

...**MBA events in early April** - ME AND MY FRIENDS Supported by Liz Ikamba. Friday 7th April, 7.15 pm. Doors open 6.30 pm. £12. JODY WHITE. Sunday 9th April - 3pm, doors at 2.30pm. £7. Jody speaks to local writer Ian Marchant about his debut book Chimera with a Q&A and a musical interlude from guitarists Jon & Rob. Pentabus presents ONE OF THEM ONES by Charlie Josephine Saturday 15th April, 8 pm. Doors open 7.30 pm. £12.50 (Under 25's free, limited numbers).

Tickets for MBA events available from The Workhouse, Presteigne or online at WeGotTickets

...**PSAFC home games:** Saturday 1 April (ko 2.30pm) Presteigne Res v Hay Res: Saturday 8 April (ko 2.30pm) Presteigne Res v Felindre: Saturday 15 April (ko 2pm) LEAGUE CUP (Semi finals) Newcastle v St Harmon and Hay Res v Presteigne Res

...**Presteigne Repair & Share** Sat 15th April at the Youth Centre in Hereford Street. 10am til 12 noon. Broken & non working household items fixed for free. Don't bin it! Bring it along & we'll see what we can do! At this session we are also collecting unwanted/old hand tools, *gardening* or *specialist*, to go to Tools for Self Reliance in Crickhowell. Tools, refurbished if necessary, at a workshop in Crickhowell, are either sent to Tanzania if they are useful there, or sold here to fund the work. Info at [tfsrcymru.org.uk](http://tfsrcymru.org.uk)

...**PSAFC Easter Quiz.** Maundy Thursday 6 April at the Clubhouse. Teams of 4 - £10. Trophy & prizes. Raffle, refreshments, bar. To book, call/text Haydn 07905 285686, Meg 07376 970499

...**Spring is Coming!** Recital - mezzo soprano Marion Rowlatt and pianist Michael Taviner give a recital in aid of the Friends of Friendless Churches (FFC) - music by Handel, Vaughan Williams, Colin Cowles, Quilter, Bach, Haydn, and a talk by FFC's director, Rachel Morley, in St Andrew's Church, Presteigne, 3.30 pm on Sunday 16 April. Tickets £10 to include tea & cakes, from The Salty Dog, from Marion [01544 260466](tel:01544260466), at church services or on the door (Under 16s free)

...**Village Art Clubs at the Assembly Rooms** in Presteigne. Sign up and join in. Started Tuesday 21st March 10am - 12noon with a 4 week 'taster' term at a cost of £58.00 per person (such good value and refreshments included!) classes open to adults of all abilities. Eloise offers professional tuition in any medium. Let them teach you to be the artist you've always wanted to be! For details 07938 563716 or email [villageartclubs@gmail.com](mailto:villageartclubs@gmail.com) or visit their website - [www.villageartclubs.co.uk](http://www.villageartclubs.co.uk)

...**Music for Team Cleo.** Lunchtime concert of classical music. 1pm Friday 21st April, St Andrew's church, Presteigne. Come along and enjoy the sound of strings in our wonderful church and at the same time support a very worthwhile charity. Hilary Summers, 'cello, and members of Sounds Interesting will be playing to raise money for the children's brain tumour charity Team Cleo. One of our musicians tragically lost her daughter to brain cancer and has set up this charity which aims to raise awareness of the early signs of a brain tumour in children. Contemporary classical music by American-



born local composer, John Charles Hyslop:- String Quartet no.3 and Neolithic Suite for 3 Violas. This piece of music depicts a journey on foot along the ridgeway to an event at the Hindwell Enclosure near Walton featuring songs & dances that could have been popular 5000 years ago. Free entry. Donations.

...**Cultivate** - next session Saturday 1 April a FREE creative programme for 15 - 25-year-olds run by the Sidney Nolan Trust. Cultivate meets regularly once a month. If you have an interest in contemporary art and making and would like to meet like-minded young people, please get in touch at [info@sidneyolantrust.org](mailto:info@sidneyolantrust.org). No previous artistic experience is required and you don't have to attend every session. The group meets at the Sidney Nolan Trust, The Rodd, near Presteigne, LD8 2LL. For some spring/summer dates, the group will be working at Berrington Hall, near Leominster HR6 0DW. Free transport from The Rodd will be provided as well as lunch – we always eat well! How to get involved: <https://www.sidneyolantrust.org/learning/cultivate/>

...**Chatterbrook WI** – next meeting Thursday April 13th 7.30 in Presteigne Memorial Hall - speaker is Miranda Capecchi, Road Safety Officer for Powys, who will give an illustrated presentation on this important topic. This is the start of our new membership year, so a good time to consider joining us. Non-members also welcome - £4 on the door. 07536 979665 <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI>

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society**: our AGM will be on Wednesday April 12th 11.45 at The Corners Inn, Kingsland, followed by a lunch. The informal flower classes in Whitton Community Hall continue on Thursdays 12-2pm. £5 charge per session. Contact the Secretary for dates and further details on 01544 340453. See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/610659036597894>

...**The Hub, New Radnor**. Sunday April 2nd Quiz in aid of the Radnor Arms renovation. 7 for 7.30 £2 per player. Chinese bingo and raffle bar open.

...**The Hub New Radnor**. Saturday 15th April Workshop with Alison Spalding Somerset Quilting 10-12am The Hub New Radnor. To book phone 07867 472615

...**Sheep Music and Mid Border Arts present The Golden Fleece**, a one-day festival of psychedelic pop, alternative folk and a little bit of funk with a spoken word stage and kid's activities throughout the day. Saturday 20 May at Went's Meadow Barn, Presteigne, 2pm – 11pm. Line up: Islet, Sweet Baboo, Johanna Warren, The Breaks, Eaten by Lions, and Walk, Torc and Punc. Bar and good food. Tickets £20, Under 12s free, available at The Workhouse Gallery, and at [www.wegotickets.com/event/576725/](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/576725/)

**Volunteers needed for The Golden Fleece**: follow the link below and complete the short form to register your interest and availability - <https://forms.gle/B5yaev59Ht4Ct3Z48>. Latest 4 April please!

...**East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in April** Sat 1st Huntington Circular, 8 miles. Tues 4th Titley Circular, 4 miles. Weds 5th Glascwm, 8.3 miles. Weds 12th Long Mynd Ramble, 8.1 miles. Sat 15th Offa's Dyke Path south, 7.5 miles. Weds 19th Weobley, 7 miles. Thurs 20th The Garth, 4.5 miles. Weds 26th Beacon Hill from south, 7.5 miles. [www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor) or call 01544 260524

## OTHER INFORMATION

...**Citizens Advice Powys in Knighton Community Centre** are offering a video link appointment with a CAB adviser every Tuesday 10am and 1pm - a private upstairs room, computer access and help with starting the interview. All interviews by appointment only, phone 01547 428088 or drop in on Tues or Thurs mornings, message our Facebook page, or self-refer to the CAB contact line 0345 6018421.

## R.I.P.

...**Richard Hurlock of Presteigne** passed away suddenly on 17th February aged 72.

...**Arthur Edward James of Townend, Presteigne** passed away peacefully at Hereford County Hospital on 10th March aged 93.

...**Phyllis Mary Lewis of Presteigne** and formerly of The Tan House, Stansbatch passed away peacefully at St Michael's Hospice on 7th March, aged 89.

**LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES** [ed. for other jobs in our local area, log on to <https://freegle.in/presteigne> and see Jobs Near You column on r.h.s]

...**Knighton Town Council - Town Clerk/ Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)** Hours: 20 - 26 hours per week, including some evenings - contact [Knightontowncouncil@outlook.com](mailto:Knightontowncouncil@outlook.com) or visit the Knighton TC website at [www.knightontc.wales](http://www.knightontc.wales). Email full CV and cover letter no later than 31st March 2023.

...**Kay Construction - agricultural and industrial building erectors, cladding teams and individuals** for large current and upcoming projects with working away from home required at times. Daywork/ hourly and price work available. Teams based in Hereford & Presteigne. For enquiries or information, email [s.kayconstruction@outlook.co.uk](mailto:s.kayconstruction@outlook.co.uk) or call 07794236654

...**PBS - HGV Delivery Driver/Yard & Shop assistant**. Full time with HGV class 2 license required. Call in or email for application form

...**John Beddoes Campus - Piano teacher** wanted. Contact Mr Burrows 01544 267259

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

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