

# Community News



## Issue 317 August 2023

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

**NEXT ISSUE MID-AUGUST. DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS 10am Monday 14 August  
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)**

### LOCAL VENUES & ORGANISATIONS

**If you're looking for a local venue in or around Presteigne** for your club activities, meetings, events, classes etc (particularly now with the Memorial Hall being closed for a period) - go to the Presteigne Town website to view the PACDG Register of Local Venues for Hire [www.presteigne.org.uk/local-organisations](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/local-organisations). If you run a local hall or venue please check your information is included - and is up to date! You'll also find the Register of Local Organisations on the website as well as information on local walks and other useful stuff.

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

**...beware of dodgy Facebook ads offer free train travel** claiming that Network Rail is offering 150 travel cards for free. Clicking these ads will take you to a fraudulent website that requests your personal information, including bank details, to pay £3 for postage.

### TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

**...Presteigne & Norton Town Council - next full meeting** is in the Assembly Rooms on Wednesday 16th August starting this time at 6.30pm. Minutes of the July Meeting and agenda papers for the August meeting can be found on the Town website [www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council)

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

**...Read Easy - Helping adults learn to read.** Free, confidential, one-to-one help from a community-based volunteer group that provides one-to-one reading coaching to adults who want to learn to read. More than 7% of adults in England never learnt to read at school. As a result, they struggle to do some of the everyday things that most of us take for granted. Yet many people with reading difficulties are too embarrassed to seek help if it means joining a class. Read Easy provides free, flexible, confidential one-to-one coaching from trained volunteers for anyone who struggles with reading. New readers and their volunteer reading coaches work together at their own pace through a phonics-based reading programme. There are two half hour sessions a week and typically, people take one and two years to complete the course. Learning to read transforms people's lives. They improve their employment opportunities, can progress to other learning if they wish, and are able to support their children's or grandchildren's reading. Above all, people grow enormously in confidence, self-esteem and independence. Read Easy Shropshire Hills provides for adults in one of the most rural parts of the county. We have successfully developed online coaching which has allowed us to offer free coaching reaching into Herefordshire and Powys. If you are interested in referring people to our scheme please email us at [shnetworker2@readeasy.org.uk](mailto:shnetworker2@readeasy.org.uk), or phone Christine Tinker 07970 577614

...**PNCS AGM** Thursday 17th August at 2pm at The Youth Centre, Presteigne. All welcome.

...**Presteigne Festival of Music & The Arts - have your say!** The Presteigne Festival Board is keen to know if Festival activity has an impact, positive or negative, on residents, community groups and businesses and would like your help to understand how the Festival can better meet local needs and interests. They are appealing for people to respond to this brief survey and would be grateful for your help, with a chance to win two complimentary tickets to an event of your choice at the 2023 Festival. The link is <https://forms.gle/HKGKGtcb4Rz1hxLg6>

...**Presteigne Library. Calling all children aged 4 - 11!** Have you signed up for our annual Summer Reading Challenge at the Library? Read books, collect stickers, and earn a special medal and certificate when you're done - all for free! Sign up at the library now and receive your special sticker booklet.

...**PNCS Warehouse.** Although donations are greatly received could we ask that, if the bin is full, please do not leave stuff on the bin or outside - if it rains and donations get wet, we have to get rid of it all, and that costs us money. Thank you

### **EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

...**from PNCS - Five Day Art Sale** from Tuesday 1st August to Saturday 5th August at Shop No. 2, Radnor Buildings, Hereford St (opposite The Farmers Inn). We have a large collection of original works by local artists, quality prints, art supplies and art related books, all at very reasonable prices. Shop open from 10a.m to 4 p.m. - please note: Cash Sales Only)

...**The Royal Oak open mic sessions, Wednesday 19th August.** Our last sessions was great. Thanks to all who came played & supported. Let me know if you would like a slot.

#### **...The Rodd - dates for your Diary.**

\*Exhibition: Earth Photo 2023 13 July - 30 September explores images and short films that focus on the pressing issues affecting our planet to stimulate conversations about our environment and the impact of climate change. The shortlisted entries and prize-winners are presented at large-scale outdoors.

\*Exhibition: Plant Communitas, Curated by Patricia Brien 3 August – 30 September features a community of artists from diverse practices, places and different times. Together the artworks in the exhibition highlight the aliveness and presence of the plant kingdom and acknowledges that Western societies are increasingly focusing on the capacity of plants to nourish, nurture, heal and medicate.

\*Sidney Nolan Revealed Until 30 September Sidney Nolan's former home, 17th Century Rodd Court, will be used to present new and evolving interpretations of the artist's life and work. A series of new displays reveal the concept of Process as central to Nolan's artwork and expose new artworks and artefacts from the Trust's collection and archive.

\*Arts workshops and events: Scent talisman workshop with Gemma Costin, Saturday 25 August 2 – 4pm, The Rodd. This workshop focuses on participants creating an individual scent talisman. Scent is transformative for mood and emotions, the workshop explores the sense of smell by identifying over 30 different scents, and discussing which ones are pleasing, or not, which ones make hearts feel lighter, and which ones evoke memories or invoke feelings of serenity. Each participant will be able to make a small vial of personally curated scent as a talisman to take home. £25 per person Book at [www.sidneynolantrust.org](http://www.sidneynolantrust.org)

\*Free online talk - Plants and knowledges with Madeleine Kelly & Mandy Coppes Sunday 3 September, 11am – 12noon, Online. Kelly investigates the ancient technique of starch printing. She refers to the work of scientist Lynn Margulis who postulated that we are all walking communities of our bacterial origins. Coppes locates the mark of time in an object, tracing connections to ancestral lineage and documenting the moment of decomposition which reflects the transience life. They discuss the transmission of knowledge through the material qualities of plants. Book at [www.sidneynolantrust.org](http://www.sidneynolantrust.org)

\*Art Workshops for young people: Monoprinting 1 – Friday 28 July, 11 – 12.30; Monoprinting 2 – Friday 4 August, 11 – 12.30; Reimagining Sidney Nolan 1 – Friday 11 August, 11am – 12.30; Reimagining Sidney Nolan 2 – Friday 18 August, 11am – 12.30; Natural dying and costume making 1 – Friday 25 August, 11am – 12.30; Natural dying and costume making 2 – Friday 1 September, 11am – 12.30. Workshops suitable for ages 6 and upwards £6 per person. Book at [www.sidneynolantrust.org](http://www.sidneynolantrust.org)

**...Join us for a special summer storytime at Presteigne library!** Friday 25th of August, 10.30am Suitable for children aged 0 - 6. Free!

**...Open Studios Presteigne 2023 will run over the Bank Holiday weekend from 26 – 28 August**, 11 am to 5 pm daily. This year there will be over 34 artists and makers taking part in the event which has become firmly established on the arts calendar in Presteigne. Take time to wander around the fifteen venues in and around town - with a huge range of diverse and fascinating talents on display, this promises to be the biggest and most interesting trail yet. Brochures are currently being printed and will appear in shops, pubs, cafes, etc soon, with the artists' names and a map of how to find each venue (and see next issue of Community News)

**...Early Music in the Marches 2023, Friday 27th - Sunday 29th October.** As part of our annual early music weekend we are delighted to welcome back well known baroque violinist *Julia Bishop* and leading members of *Marches Baroque Orchestra* in a concert at St Andrew's Church, Presteigne at 7.30 p.m. on the Friday. The orchestra is well known for its performances, on period instruments, of masterpieces such as Bach's Passions and Handel's Messiah. In this concert of Concerti Grossi by Handel and his contemporaries they will be co-directed by Julia and Marches Baroque's principal cellist, David Hatcher. This thrilling music will be played one to a part without a conductor (as was often the practice in the 18th century), the violinists taking it turn to play the concertante parts - a rare opportunity to hear this fantastic music played in this way. Tickets £22 each to include a drink (<18s free of charge) from Annie Nethercott at [info@EarlyMusicInTheMarches.com](mailto:info@EarlyMusicInTheMarches.com). On Saturday and Sunday David and Julia (who are both extremely well known tutors in the early music world) will lead a 2-day workshop for singers and instrumentalists on Handel's Choruses. We are hoping to raise funding in order to be able to invite some music students to sing some arias and to swell the choir. Good sight-reading skills are essential. More information to follow or, to add your name to the mailing list, please email [info@EarlyMusicInTheMarches.com](mailto:info@EarlyMusicInTheMarches.com) or text [07989 091949](tel:07989091949)

**...East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in August** Tues 1st Craven Arms new bridge, 5.5 miles. Weds 2nd Around Gwaunceste Hill, 7.6 miles. Weds 9th Hay Bluff & Cat's Back, 9.5 miles. Weds 16th Stanage & Spaceguard Centre, 8.0 miles. Thurs 17th Bury Ditches 4.0 miles. Weds 23rd Herefordshire Countryside around Woolhope, 9.3 miles. Weds 30th Water Break its Neck, 8.5 miles. For more details see [www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor-group](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor-group) or call 01544 260524

**...Knill Open Gardens. Sunday 27 August** 1 to 6pm. Everyone welcome. Come along for a stroll around the beautiful Rose Garden then relax in the Walled Garden beside the stream sipping Pimms and enjoying live music. Tea & Homemade Cakes. Hot Dogs, Arts and Crafts and Live Music. Adults £5, <16s free. Free parking

## **OTHER NEWS**

**...Broad Sheep. What's On - Herefordshire & The Marches.** August Broad Sheep is out now, online - [www.broadsheep.com](http://www.broadsheep.com) and distributed at numerous venues throughout Herefordshire, Shropshire and Powys. Pick one up, they're free!

**...Stamps - a reminder.** After the 31st July non-barcoded stamps won't be valid and will incur a surcharge on delivery... Swap out forms are available in your local Post Office or online.

...**Powys Recycles - Empty plastic plant pots** CAN'T be recycled in your red recycling box, instead: Keep them for cuttings or planting seeds - Offer them on Freegle - Give them to friends and neighbours - Return them to the garden centre for them to reuse or recycle - Take them to your local Household Waste Recycling Centre

...**from One Vision School of Arts - Disney's The Little Mermaid.** Auditions are being held for our next full Company production. Auditions are open to anyone above the age of 8 who would like to take part. Ages 8 - Adults. Rehearsals- Wednesdays in Leominster. Auditions on Sunday 10th September. Directed by Melissa Kings & Ben Sheppard. Email: [info@onevisionsoa.co.uk](mailto:info@onevisionsoa.co.uk) for an audition pack. An audition workshop will take place on Wednesday 6th September- 5pm until 8pm, to give guidance and information on roles.

### **R.I.P.**

...**Geoffrey Thomas Tomkins of Presteigne** passed away peacefully at Hereford Hospital on 21st July aged 82 years. The hearse will leave his home In High Street Presteigne at 4.15pm on Thursday 3rd August for anyone wishing to pay their last respects on his final journey. Donations if desired to The Leg Club via Geoff Hall Funerals 01547 528554

**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]*

...**Lorna's, Presteigne High Street - new member of staff** needed to help Wednesday, Thursday, Friday each week. To start immediately. Reliable and hard working is key, over 18's, catering experience would be great. Please call in or PM me.

...**Warehouse Operative Required for immediate start!** part Time Warehouse Operative for a permanent position. Working from our Shobdon premises applicants will be responsible for Picking, Packing and Loading items. Working hours are flexible but ideally 9am-1pm Monday-Friday. Hourly Rate in line with NMW. To apply send CV to [jdmcarpartsukltd@gmail.com](mailto:jdmcarpartsukltd@gmail.com)

...**Powys CC - a paid Student Placement this summer holidays in our Passenger Transport Team** - 37 hours per week - fixed term contract (until 30/09/2023) - Llandrindod Wells - £10.90 per hour. Apply online via - <https://en.powys.gov.uk/view-job?id=517098bRBD&lang=USA>

...**PAVO and the Heart of Wales Line Community Rail Partnership - Development Officer** - an exciting opportunity for an individual who has enthusiasm for both rail travel and community development. For everything you need to know about the role and how to apply visit: <https://buff.ly/3OnWC1r>

...**John Beddoes Campus, Cleaner wanted** -12.5 hours per week. For further details, please contact [hr@newtown-hs.powys.sch.uk](mailto:hr@newtown-hs.powys.sch.uk)

...**Forest Coaches - freelance experienced coach drivers.** We have Mini Buses and Coaches in Bucknell and Ross-on-Wye. Drop us an email to [chloe@forestcoaches.uk](mailto:chloe@forestcoaches.uk)

...**The Ear Lady - I have a vacancy for a full time receptionist/admin assistant,** when the shop opens in Leominster. Please PM for more info or email [sarah@earlady.co.uk](mailto:sarah@earlady.co.uk)

...**Royal Mail - Postal Workers** wanted based at Long Lane Industrial Estate, Craven Arms SY7 9QA. £12.29 per hour + Overtime 1.25x the normal hourly rate. Find more information and apply here [https://www.totaljobs.com/job/postperson-with-driving-craven-arms-delivery-office-sy7-9qa/royal-mail-plc-job100851474?WT.mc\\_id=A\\_WL\\_GIMWDG\\_MP0\\_ORG\\_TJ\\_JP](https://www.totaljobs.com/job/postperson-with-driving-craven-arms-delivery-office-sy7-9qa/royal-mail-plc-job100851474?WT.mc_id=A_WL_GIMWDG_MP0_ORG_TJ_JP)

...**Full-Time Housekeeping Assistant** to join our Housekeeping Team working 26 hours per week. This includes 14 hours per week in the Laundry department and 12 hours per week as a Domestic working between 8.00am-3.00pm 4 days per week. You will be on a rolling rota of 4 days on, 4 days off. If this sounds like a role for you, please contact Samantha on 07983539330 (Recruitment) or apply online. Full-time, Permanent. £10.57 per hour

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

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