

Community News

Issue 330 March 2024



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

Next Issue - deadline for contributions 10am Thursday 14th March email 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

...**Presteigne Library - Exciting news: the library is extending its opening hours!** As well as our normal opening hours, we will be trialing a new Thursday afternoon opening from the beginning of March. Drop by between 3 and 5pm to browse and borrow, we'd love to see you there supporting your library!

...**from PACDG: We've been tidying up the big noticeboard by the Memorial Hall**, and hope it now looks a bit prettier without all the old rusty staples. We removed some very old posters as well as the remains of those that get ravaged by the weather – it's surprisingly windy on that corner and catches the worst of the rain. If you notice that something of yours is missing, don't worry it hasn't been vandalised – please feel free to put up fresh posters. The board is for everyone to use for every type of event, group, etc. We try to keep it up to date (but if you are able to remove yours once it's past the event date we'd be ever so grateful!)

COUNCIL NEWS

...**Presteigne & Norton Town Council. There are currently two vacancies** on the Town Council, one for Norton Ward and one for Presteigne Ward. Could you join us and contribute to your community? Closing date 31st March. Please feel free to get in touch if you would like to find out more via presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com or via Facebook Messenger.

...**Grants for shop front works in Presteigne High Street** - there will be a meeting for traders on Monday 4th March 2024 at 6.30pm at the Assembly Rooms (Green Room). Officers from Powys County Council will be in attendance.

...**next P&N TC meeting** Wednesday 20th March at 7.30pm in The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Meeting papers and Draft Minutes from the February meeting can be seen on the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk from 14th March.

...**Powys County Council New Planning Service:** PCC's Duty Planning Officer telephone line went live on Monday 26th February to assist with all general planning queries offering free, general planning advice and support. This service is available by telephone Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays) from 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 4pm. Contact 01597 827272.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Screen & Borderlines Film Festival present "Anatomy of a Fall"** (France 2023 151 mins 15) £5.50. Friday 1 March. The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. A whodunnit? A suicide? An accident? Buy tickets with [WeGotTickets](https://www.wegotickets.com). Buying a ticket in advance guarantees a seat. We have at least 30 seats for online purchase before each film. Seats are unreserved, so to get the best seats please arrive early. We can accept contactless card payments at the door

...**Presteigne Local Food Market** - Saturday 2nd March 9am to 12.30pm. Presteigne Youth Centre/Old School, Hereford Street, LD8 2AR. Delicious fresh local produce including cakes, bread, pies, meats, mutton, honey, chocolate, vegetables, mushrooms, herbal cosmetics, eggs, indian food, apple juice, cider. Contact email cmbrassington55@btinternet.com
Website <https://www.facebook.com/presteignelocalfoodmarket/>

...**Music at The Hub, New Radnor** - Saturday 2nd March Phil Ram and the Manana Kids with DJ Andy Cox and support. 8pm at The Hub, New Radnor LD8 2SS £12. Part of the Radnor Arms Fundraiser Share Offer Launch.

...**Presteigne Screen & Borderlines Film Festival present "The Nettle Dress"** (UK 2023 68 mins U) £5.50. Friday 8 March, The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. An acclaimed documentary, seven years in the making, built on love for a deceased wife. Textile artist Allan Brown harvests nettles, strips them of unwanted fibre (and their sting!) before spinning and weaving them into cloth. This screening includes the short film *Jill, Uncredited*. Buy tickets with [WeGotTickets](#). Buying a ticket in advance guarantees a seat. We have at least 30 seats for online purchase before each film. Seats are unreserved, so to get the best seats it helps if you arrive early. We can accept contactless card payments at the door

...**Date for the Town Diary. " The Hidden Gardens of Hereford Street"** Sunday afternoon 26th May. Six gardens in Presteigne open in aid of St. Michael's Hospice.

...**The Mother Line: A Writing Workshop with Julia Daggart**. March 16th, ground floor of Presteigne Assembly Rooms 10am - 4pm £40. Pre-registration required at www.craftedessence.com. Writing can be a great tool for self-exploration as well as a craft we polish and hone. This workshop is a playful exploration of our varied and changing relationships with mothers, mothering energy, mother earth and creative expression. Writers of all stripes are welcome. Lunch not included.

...**Flicks in the Sticks at Lingen Village Hall** - "And Then Come The Nightjars", the story of friendship between a Devon Farmer and a vet who is assigned to cull his precious herd of cattle. Friday 15th March. 7.30pm. Tickets £5 adult, £3.50 children. Bar & ice creams. 01568 770920.

...**The Radnorshire Arms Hotel, Presteigne - events in March**: We are welcoming all mothers to be spoiled to a **Mothers Day Carvery** on Mothering Sunday the 10th of March. We have a **Quiz Night** every third Thursday of each month - in March that will be the 21st March and the proceeds always go to a local charity. Last month with the **Meat Raffle** and the quiz, we raised £319 for the Firefighter's Charity. This month we are donating to Presteigne Little People Playgroup. With Easter around the corner, weather permitting, we will also invite little people to join in an **Easter Egg Hunt** here at The Rad. Watch this space for more details.

... **Lingen and District Gardening Club** - next meeting is on Tuesday 5 March at 7.30 pm at the Lingen village Hall. This month's subject is from Gareth Davies, an enthusiastic grower and welsh judge of Fuchsias. Membership is £20, £30 for couples at same address. Visitors welcome at £4.

...**MidBorder Arts - events in March** at the Presteigne Assembly Rooms: "**Andy Skellam**" supported by Benji Tranter and Presteigne's own Iris Rei on Saturday 2nd March, 8pm. Doors open 7pm. £14. Concessions - £8. Andy is a Bristol based, alt-folk musician and his poetic and highly visual lyrics and warm unaffected voice are accompanied by Bill Frampton on bass and Pete Warner on drums. All proceeds go to Medical Aid for Palestinians. Tickets available from wegottickets.com and midborderarts.com. "**Francesca Ramsay talks to Jo King about her book Pinch Me**". Saturday 16th March, 8pm. Doors open 7.30pm. £5. Intimate, impassioned and full of humour, PINCH ME follows art historian Francesca Ramsay's far-reaching journey in search of answers to one of life's most complex and essential questions: What does it mean to feel real? Tickets available from midborderarts.com. **Home of the Free gig with Jakey Boy Hughes and Jessica Rising**. Saturday 23 March, 8pm. Doors open 7pm. Tickets - £12. Under 25's - £8 (limited tickets). A night of original songs and classy interpretations in the country-folk genre. Tickets available from midborderarts.com

...**MINR Music in Zena Radnor presents "Pedwar Bones**. Saturday 9th March - an evening with Pedwar Bones. Tickets £15 (under 14s, £3). No, not a ghost story, but our first student platform concert since the disruption of the pandemic. The ensemble will be showcasing the endless capabilities of the trombone with a glorious mix of original pieces and arrangements, ranging from the 16th to the 21st centuries in a programme that will have something to please everyone. This includes composers as diverse as Thomas Tallis and Henry Mancini, plus a

piece recently commissioned for the group which will be first aired in the concert before being taken on to other venues.

...**Chatterbrook WI** – Our meeting on March 14th at 7pm in St Andrew's Church Hall, will feature an illustrated talk by Gail Jones from the Powys Open Gardens Scheme. Visitors are most welcome to join us - £4 on the door. We also welcome prospective new members, as the new programme year begins. Further information 07536 979665 and see <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI>

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society**: We meet in Lingen Village hall on Wednesday March 13th at 7.30. Our demonstrator will be Brenda Howells with the welcoming title ' Goodbye Winter, Hello Summer'. Visitors, as always, are welcome - £6 on the door. Contact the Secretary for further details on 01544 340453. See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/610659036597894>

...**Flowers for Fun**: Maybe you would like to know how to arrange flowers? Join our friendly group to see what we do - at Whitton Community Hall on Thursdays 7th, 21st, 28th March from 12 – 2 pm (April dates to follow) . Come for a coffee and a chat – all welcome -£5 per session but first visit free! Phone Sue on 07368350379 for more details, or just come along.

...**East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in March**: Weds 6th March, Painscastle Circular, 10.4 miles. Sat 9th March, Ireland Moor, Bryngwyn Hill, Alt Dderw & Red Hill 9 miles. Weds 13th, Ridges & Gutters 8 miles. Thurs 14th, Hergest Ridge Circular, 5.5 miles. For more details see www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call 01544 260524

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**from Beth at Presteigne Methodist Church - a threat to our church!** - it has been decided that any Methodist church with a membership below twelve people will have to close by the end of March 2025. We have eight members and so are under threat. We have a few alternatives such as try and recruit more members or join with other churches to make up the tally of twelve. Neither look very hopeful as I write this. If you will miss our presence in the town and have Methodist leanings, perhaps you would consider looking into membership. For more information please email Lynne Owens tel 01544 267253

...**WinnCare (Mangar) - you are cordially invited to the launch of our Community Chest project in Presteigne.** Thursday 29th February 3pm to 5pm - reception - factory tour - presentations - afternoon tea and bubbly. Unit 2, Industrial Estate, Presteigne LD8 2UF. Please confirm attendance by email to debbie.jones@winnicare.uk.

...**Old School/Youth Centre - lost property!!** Blue adult anorak (with red poppy) left in Youth Centre October 2023. Also black adult fleece jacket with red trim left in the building a long time ago!! If not claimed shortly, both will be sent to the Charity Shop. Call/text 07766 097600

...**from Kay - Art for All** is every Tuesday morning 10am -12noon at the British Legion in Presteigne. Contact kayyendole@rocketmail.com for more information.

...**Read Easy Shropshire Hills celebrates 5-year milestone** helping adults learn to read Just imagine how your life would be if you couldn't read letters, follow medicine instructions, or read a new recipe? Yet, for many people, who missed the opportunity of learning how to read at school, this is the reality they face every day. Free, confidential, one-to-one help. Read Easy Shropshire Hills, a local volunteer organisation, has been helping adults who struggle with reading for the last five years. During this period over 35 adults have taken the brave decision to come forward and join their confidential, one-to-one coaching programme. They are paired with a trained reading coach and work together through reading manuals, in private, at a time to suit them both. It's as easy as that and its free! What's important is that everyone can learn at their own pace without feeling rushed. There's no pressure, or targets, or exams to worry about and no reminders of what it was like at school. Read Easy now offers coaching beyond the Shropshire Hills area to cover Shrewsbury and its surroundings, North Herefordshire and East Powys. They also offer coaching online which means that the service is accessible during the day and outside working hours. Learning to read as an adult is life changing. If you know someone who would like to learn to read, contact Steve Gibbon on 07707 762653 or shcoordinator2@readeasy.org.uk

...**Save the date 28th July for Norton Show** - thanks to Roger Watkins for use of his field.

...**The Royal Oak - Restaurant and takeaway open** from Tuesday to Sunday 5pm to 9pm for order call us or order online to click on link.<https://royaloak-presteigne.co.uk/>

OTHER NEWS

... **If you struggle to get around and use a car, you could get a Blue Badge.** A Blue Badge lets you park closer to your destination. It can also help you stay active and independent. The badge is usually valid for three years. You will need to re-apply for a Blue Badge at the end of the three years. Apply for a Blue Badge: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/bluebadge>. You can also complete your application over the phone with a member of our dedicated Blue Badge team: 01597 827466. They will arrange for you to send your evidence to us or have it verified at one of our libraries. You can request a paper application form at a library or by contacting the Blue Badge team: bluebadges@powys.gov.uk. The council no longer sends out renewal letters, but you can reapply up to 12 weeks before your old one expires.

...**from Powys CC - Register now for fortnightly Garden Waste Collections.** Sign up at: www.powys.gov.uk/gardenwaste

...**Presteigne Primary School - Car Parking:** The Town Council has had several complaints about inconsiderate and/or illegal parking outside the Primary School. Please walk or cycle to school if you can and if not please park considerately so you do not inconvenience residents or prevent access for the emergency services. Half hour parking permits are available from the school for the shoppers car park to enable those that have to drive to park safely within a few minutes walk from the school. Please also do not leave engines running if you are on site waiting to pick up your children. Idling increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air. These fumes contain a number of harmful gasses including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as well as a range of other harmful gasses including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases

R.I.P.

...**Andy Leavis of Presteigne.** The funeral service for Andy will be held at St. Andrew's Church in Presteigne at 12 noon on Thursday 29th February followed by a private cremation.

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.]

...**The Men's Shed in Knighton are desperate for a Treasurer.**....duties are not onerous but if they can't get one they might have to close which would be very sad. The Men's Shed is located in Knighton but has members in both Presteigne, Knighton and surrounding area. If you can help, please contact John at 07925357782 or email mensshedknightonatgmail.com

...**Pentre Farm - Volunteers wanted.** Sunday March 17th. Volunteers Day, fun for all the family included. We have been very lucky to have 3 enormous piles of woodchip delivered and now all we need is 20 people with wheelbarrows to help us get it under the climbing frame before the weeds take over. Kids welcome to come and play while the grown ups help me push a barrow or 2. Even better if you have a barrow and a shovel you can bring along. We also have painting / staining the stables and pavilion that would be a huge help if its dry enough. I will even make sandwiches and refresh you with drinks. Please register your interest via this link if you can come so I can keep an eye on numbers and dietary requirements. <https://bookwhen.com/pentre/e/ev-sjlb-20240317110000>

...**Penny Morrison Ltd are looking for an experienced lampshade maker** to be based part time in their warehouse in Presteigne. For full job description please email careers@pennymorrison.com

...**Lyonshall Nurseries - two job opportunities for immediate start.** Shop Assistant Part-time 24 hours. Monday, Wednesday & Thursday. Garden Centre Assistant Full-time 40 hours. For further details, job description & application form, see our website information <https://www.lyonshallnurseries.co.uk/vacancies>

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

To unsubscribe, email news@pacdg.org with REMOVE in the subject line & we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.