

Community News - Issue 30

an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group

(Editor's note - an apology to those of you who have been having difficulty reading the News because the text was not 'wrapping' properly. We've dropped our rather nice banner heading, and hopefully this has resolved the problem. If the text is still problematic however please email me on pacdg@icloud.com)

Dismayed at the news that the last local HSBC branch in Knighton is closing and wondering how you can now conveniently pay in money to your account ?..... don't worry - in case you didn't know, you can now pay in both cash and cheques at our Post Office in the Premier Store on the High Street. On checking this morning, we're told the PO will accept deposits for all major high street banks (including HSBC) and a number of smaller banks too. Cheques are sent to your bank by mail, and cash is sent on electronically. For HSBC, Barclays, Co-op, and Santander, you need a chip-and-pin debit card. For other banks, you need to take in your paying-in book. This has the added advantage of supporting and helping to preserve our local PO service !

The Healthy Friendships Group...assists people in emotional or mental distress who are living in the community to benefit from social interaction. Activities vary at each group but include boccia (seated boules), New Age Kurling, games puzzles and crafts, singing, occasional guest speakers and other events. If you, or someone you know, would benefit from this, please contact Cheryl on 07732 176410

DPCM messages from Dyfed Powys Police

.....between 17.15hrs on the 19th December and 07.20hrs on the 20th, a white Mitsubishi Canter lorry, index BX55CUA, was taken from an enclosed builder's yard in Knighton. If you have any information, please call 101.

.....Police are urging people with speech difficulties that makes it hard to communicate to join the Dyfed Powys Police Pegasus Scheme. It is a service designed to make it easier for people who live and, or work in the Dyfed Powys Police area to communicate with them quickly and easily on both the 101 and 999 numbers. Application forms are available from your local Neighbourhood Policing Team or through the police Communication Centre on 101 or through the advice section of our website <http://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/en/advice/the-pegasus-scheme/>. Registering for the scheme is free.

.....between 22.00hrs on the 5th February and 02.00hrs on the 6th, someone attempted to steal a quad bike from a farm on the A488 near Dolau. If you have any information please contact PC 927 Jones on 101.

Are you interested to get involved with the Presteigne Dementia Support group ?....this is a very active local group whose aim is to encourage Presteigne and area to be a more dementia-friendly community by enabling people with dementia to be active and included; assisting with links to relevant services and groups; supporting individuals, their families and carers; and building on existing good will and expertise. To find out more, call 01544 267 227.

Frustrated by PCC's announcement that they can no longer collect plastic bags and film, but you still want to recycle bags, film and packaging ?.....following PCC's announcement, the tendency is to think that plastic bags, film and other packaging cannot be recycled and HAVE to go in the rubbish bin. Well that's not necessarily the case and today we're sharing some ideas that will help you slim your bin even more!

1. Re-use is better than recycling, and even if you don't have a use for plastic bags, you'll probably find that **the various charity shops will gladly take any (clean) plastic carrier bags** off your hands.
2. Secondly, you can actually still recycle quite a few types of (clean) plastic packaging, just not through PCC's kerbside collection or the Bring Site. **Bread wrapping, toilet paper wrapping and plastic magazine wrapping - in fact any plastic that is stretchy - can be recycled at many major supermarkets.** So you can reduce your waste while you shop - Morrison's, Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Tesco all accept clean plastic packaging in their carrier bag recycling bins. Asda do not unfortunately. And, **if you shop online - Sainsbury, Waitrose, Ocado and Tesco will collect all your plastic bags** for you when they deliver your shopping. Remember that this only includes the stretchy type of plastic (except clingfilm). Sadly, crisp packets or any other bags that give a crinkly sound when you squash them cannot be recycled.
Types of plastic film accepted: plastic carrier bags, plastic bread bags, plastic bags from breakfast cereals, plastic wrappers from multipacks of cans and bottles, plastic wrappers from toilet and kitchen roll, plastic freezer bags, plastic magazine and newspaper wrap, supermarket loose produce bags
Types of plastic film NOT accepted: any non-polyethylene film (e.g. PP, PVC, others), bubble wrap, clingfilm, crisp packets, food and drink pouches, film lids from food trays.
[Source: WRAP's Recycle Now Site]
Maybe a cheeky thought but, if you are really frustrated with the amount of plastic packaging and small plastic bags from your supermarket, you could strip off the film and leave that and unnecessary plastic bags and packaging at the supermarket after checkout, rather than taking it home. Supermarkets may start to get the message ?!
3. Finally, if you have room to collect your plastic film and bags, rather than using your wheelie bin, you can take these to the Household Recycling Centre at Llandegley. We've checked with Llandegley and you don't need to sort or separate types of film or sheet. Maybe you can do the same at Kington and Leominster? If any of you could check this and let us know, we'll put it in the next Community News.
According to the PCC website, the Llandegley HRC doesn't recycle plastic film (for the same reasons as PCC themselves can't) so presumably this material will still go to landfill but we're checking this with Llandegley and will let you know.

Bring Site update..... the Cae Post cans & plastic container has been removed by PCC earlier than was expected so now you can only dispose of your plastic & cans via the kerbside collection system or at the nearest Household Recycling Centre (Kington, Llandegley, Leominster). PCC have turned down a request from the CoT to provide a WEEE collection container at the Bring Site to receive small electrical items, saying they have no funds available to do this.

There's now a heart defibrillator at Rockbridge Park.... a message from Dez and Vera - last year, the community at Rockbridge Park organised events and collections for an Automatic External Defibrillator and, with the help of the British Heart Foundation, the fantastic community here at Rockbridge collected almost £1000 to purchase the machine and cabinet to keep it in. The Welsh Ambulance service came to train most of the residents on its use and to assist in the placement. Now the emergency services are aware we have one, in addition to the unit at Whitton Community Hall and the unit in the Norton phone box. (ed. note - there is no fibrillator yet in Presteigne itself)

Next aim maybe....a badly-needed footpath from Rockbridge Park into Presteigne now that there is no longer a bus service passing the Park entrance !!

News bites....

- * TC is asking cyclists to push bikes through the underpass, as a resident has nearly been knocked down.
- * please don't feed the squirrels on the Warden. They're very attractive and fun to watch, BUT they are doing GREAT damage to the trees.
- * after a meeting of interested people it's been confirmed that the Carnival will go ahead this year, on Saturday 15th July A date for your diary. Great news !

A message from the Presteigne Investment Club....Presteigne's second Investment Club - the Marches Investment Club - is now full. Presteigne is the very first small town in the UK to have two investment clubs, both of which are filled to legal capacity. A waiting list for both Presteigne Investment Club and the Marches Investment Club is now in operation. Anyone wishing to join the waiting list, or find out further details about either club, should call Jonathan Wilson on 01544 262 712.

Norton Church has seen fantastic congregations for such events as Harvest Festivals and Christmas services but **needs help to maintain and develop plans for the church to benefit the people of Norton** and is looking for anyone who has talents that they are willing to share to help maintain and run the church and churchyard. Whether you're a churchgoer or not, if you value the church in Norton and think you have something to contribute please get in touch with Sophia on 01544 260089 or email sophia.thompson@gmail.com

Presteigne & Borders Floral Arts Society....demonstrations are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors very welcome, charge usually £5, or become a member and attend meetings FREE. Next event is tonight **Wednesday 8th February** with a demonstration by Janet Griffiths "Twigs and Things". Contact Avril for information on 01547 529244.

Presteigne Youth Theatre free Drama Workshops have restarted on Tuesdays 2 to 4pm, for 9 to 14 year olds, led by Pope in the Assembly Rooms. The aim is to put on a play at Easter-time. Info 01544 267 163. Promoted by MBA.

Are you a Blood donor, or thinking of becoming one ? **Blood Donor sessions will be held at the Memorial Hall tomorrow, Thursday 9th February** from 10am to 1.30pm and 3pm to 7pm, **and again on Friday 10th February** from 10am to 12.30pm and 2pm to 4.20pm. For further details call 0800 252266

Chatterbrook WI's next meeting is tomorrow Thursday 9th February at the Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm with this month's talk "My Time in the Royal Household" to be given by Lesley Wilding. New or prospective members will be welcome with more information available from 01544 267447. Members are gently reminded that 2017 subscriptions - only £39 pa !! - are now due.

A message from Rhiannon.....**the next Book Club will be on Friday 10th of February** at 2pm in the Library, and we're reading anything by Agatha Christie. Also started at the Library is our **Blind Date with a Book** promotion! Choose from our specially wrapped books and don't unwrap it until you get home. Who knows, you may just fall in love, and remember... don't judge a book by its cover!

Friday 10th February also sees Presteigne Screen's showing of 'Julieta' a Spanish film (rating 15) by Pedro Almodovar. Assembly Rooms, doors open 7.30pm for bar, coffee/tea, home baked cakes. Film starts at 8pm

On Saturday 11th February at the Assembly Rooms, Theatre Rue presents "Marilyn" a play by Gwynne Edwards based on the life and films of Marilyn Monroe. £10/£5 from Courtyard Antiques and The Workshop and www.wegotickets.com. An MBA event.

On Sunday 12th February, there will be a Musical Variety Performance & Supper in the Memorial Hall, with proceeds going to the Little People's Playgroup. Featuring local acts - Benji Kirkpatrick, Banned From The Dukes, the St Andrews Sisters, Whitton Voices, Simon Deeley, and Malcolm Hughes, hosted by Ian Marchant. Delicious 3-course supper with starter by Leon (from the Salty Duck), main course by Peter (from the Ducks Nest), and desserts by Lorraine (from Lorraine's Catering). 6pm for 6.30pm showtime. Only £15 per head, tickets from the Salty Dog or ring 01544 267720

On Friday 17th February, MBA presents Mankala, a high-energy 7-piece Afro-fusion band, 8pm at the Assembly Rooms. Tickets £10 from Courtyard Antiques, The Workhouse, and online at www.wegotickets.com. Should be a great evening so get your tickets now !

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 - or collar one of the Steering Committee in the street and tell us what's on your mind. You can also leave a written message at the Library for us - remember to include your name and a contact telephone number !

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - email pacdg@icloud.com

If you would prefer not to receive further issues of the News, please email us with REMOVE and we'll immediately take you off the the distribution list.