

Community News

Issue 221 November 2020

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

email news@pacdg.org to contact the Editor

- 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 us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents, including local area job opportunities
 - 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

...from the Town Clerk. Next Town Council meeting is Wednesday 18th November at 7.15pm. To be held online via zoom. Meeting papers and joining details available now on the Presteigne website - <http://presteigne.org.uk/town-council>

...from Powys Health Teaching Board (ed. as of Thursday 12th November) 165 new confirmed cases of Coronavirus have been reported in the last 7 days in Powys. If you have symptoms, get a test: <https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-test>, or call 119 (7am to 11pm). People with hearing or speech difficulties can call 18001 119. Source: <https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/Headlinesummary>

...from Dyfed Powys Police. Charity shops are not the right place to get rid of unwanted knives. If you can't make it to one of our amnesty bins this week, you can also dispose of them at your nearest recycling centres. Visit the Powys County Council: <http://orlo.uk/wYY0M>

...from Welsh Water - we will be working in your area. Norton Wastewater Treatment Works and the B4355 (between Norton & Presteigne). The first phase of our work will begin at the wastewater treatment works in Norton. We will begin at the start of the December 2020, and as long as everything goes to plan will be completed by the end of December 2021. We have spent a lot of time planning our work with the local authority to ensure we cause the least disruption possible. Our work will be carried out within private land and sections of the carriageway. There will be traffic lights along the B4355 while we work in the carriageway to keep traffic flowing. These traffic lights will move as our work progresses and will be in place between Dec 2020 and June 2021. To minimise disruption as much as possible, we will remove them during the Christmas period. For map/details see www.dwrcymru.com/norton-presteigne

SCAM ALERT

...from Mags. I had this one this morning: a call to my landline saying thank you for my Amazon Prime subscription, payment has been taken, and press this number if I want to query it. It came from [07024291803](tel:07024291803). It's rubbish of course! Don't be tempted - just hang up.

...from Dyfed Powys Police. We've received reports that people in our area are being contacted by fraudsters as part of a scam known as 'courier fraud'. Criminals will call you out of the blue, pretending to be police officers, and advising you about fraudulent activity on your bank account or card. They will then move to asking for personal information or even your PIN to verify who you are, before in some cases offering to collect your card from you to save you the trouble of having to go to your bank or local police station. These callers are criminals, who will try to gain your trust.

You can help protect yourself from these scams by following these steps:

- Do not engage in conversation with them
- Do not allow anyone to arrange collection of bank cards
- Put the phone down
- Block the number they called from
- Do not call any number

provided to you during the call. If you need to contact your bank, use the number on your card • Report this to us, online at <http://orlo.uk/qcP2r>, by emailing contactcentre@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk or by calling 101.

Please help us by sharing this message with your friends and family, and telling those who may not be on social media.

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET (local businesses are still adapting to local restrictions - best to check information on websites or Facebook pages)

...from The Royal Oak. Steak Night returns tomorrow (Wednesday) night from 5pm. All of our steaks are on at discounted prices and served with all the trimmings and our homemade double cooked chips. And we're back to doing Sunday lunches again this week. Tables available to eat in or free delivery/collection to eat in the comfort of your own home. Any dietary requirements please don't hesitate to ask and we can accommodate to your needs. To book message us on FB or call 01544 260842

...from Lyonshall Nurseries and Garden Centre. Hello everyone. Little update on the roses. They're here all potted up and ready to go. Fruit canes are ready also. We are open as usual 10am to 4pm. See you soon.

...from the East Radnor Day Centre. When was the last time you REALLY moved? We understand the pressures and limitations that day-to-day life currently presents, but we also know how important it is to move and keep active. Get in touch with us directly by calling us on 01544 260302 or email us at eastradnor@freedom-leisure.co.uk. You could also go online to <https://bit.ly/3msHmzy> to register your interest. Don't forget we've got a new day time class on Wednesday mornings. FIT IN 45 with Kerrie 9.15-10am. Call now to book in (01544) 260302

...from Carrie. Chip and Scan Powys. Offering pet owners a COVID secure, reliable, convenient, on-your-doorstep service to microchip your cats and dogs (young and old!) and other small pets tooand to ultrasound scan for pregnancy! Defra approved qualifications, insured and experienced. Call or message on FB to discuss your appointment 07594 434470

...from The Workhouse Gallery & Café. We look forward to seeing our customers who are out of lockdown and are happy to help those of you who are not by phone or email. Weds-Sat 10am-4pm. Call 01544 267 864 or email info@theworkhousegallery.co.uk

...from G&A Catering. Just to clarify now Welsh lockdown has finished, our opening hours are 8am-2pm Monday to Saturday. Next themed night to be confirmed.

...from The Warehouse. Don't forget we are also open now on Thursdays throughout November and December.

...from The Salty Dog. Because of the English Lockdown we will only be having fish on Fridays and Saturdays for the next month, so get it while you can.

...from Wild Card Tattoos. Well I'm pleased to say I am back open for business. (After two lockdowns with no financial support whatsoever) vouchers are available to buy starting from £5 upwards, payable via bank transfer and can be emailed for those in England. Please get in touch via my FB page if you would like to book in for a consultation or for ink.

...from Mid-Border News. Hello lovely people, thank you for sharing our request for help with distribution; we have got Presteigne covered (thank you Catherine and Emily!). However we still need someone to do Knighton; just an hour of your time putting magazines into shops, cafes and other publicly accessible places. We can get the magazines to Knighton for collection from the pick-up point. If you feel you can help, please let us know. midbordernews@gmail.com

...from Anna at Kington Arts & Crafts Markets. Just a reminder that the November Markets have had to be cancelled because of the England lockdown but the Markets will run in December. (ed. see next issue for details of December Markets)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...from Presteigne Medical Centre about FLU vaccinations for 2020/21. Due to COVID-19 Social distancing requirements the practice this year have worked closely with Powys Teaching Health Board to provide vaccination clinics from Knighton Hospital. This is to minimise risk to our patients and staff. **Please note:** Vaccinations will be available by appointment only with NO DROP IN CLINICS this year. The Appointment will be arranged by one of the practices dedicated 'Flu-co-ordinators'. The Flu co-ordinator will seek confirmation of your age as there are different clinics and different vaccines. **Patients who fall within the below eligible categories need to contact the surgery to book an appointment.**

- Anyone over 65 years of age or who will reach the age of 65 before 1 April 2021
- Under 65 in an at risk group
- Pregnant women
- Unpaid Carers

The practice are expecting further information later in the year about the over 50 vaccinations that fall outside of the eligible criteria. Once this is received the practice will update all information systems used. Please do not contact the practice to request information or a vaccination. If you have an appointment and become ill with potential Covid symptoms, please phone the Surgery for advice - please do not turn up and put other patients and staff at risk.

Please note: You will only be admitted to the clinic when it is your designated time slot. On arrival to the Hospital site there will be clear signage to access the clinic area via the reception area. A Receptionist will check your appointment time and direct you to the clinic area. **Please follow these points**

- Do not turn up more than 5 minutes before your appointment slot
- Please leave all bags and belongings in your car
- You may be required to queue within keeping of the social distancing requirements
- Wear clothing that you can remove and carry
- Use hand gel on entrance and avoid touching any surfaces
- Understand that the toilet facilities will not be available
- Understand that the clinics are for flu only, please don't ask for any other advice or information during your visit. The practice staff appreciate your support and understanding with the changes that have been made this year.

...for readers who use Knighton's Wylcwm Street Surgery. The surgery will be closed for training from 1pm on Tuesday 24th November 2020 and will reopen at 8am on Wednesday 25th November 2020 due to staff training. In an emergency please ring the surgery 01547 528523 whereupon the call will be diverted to a call handler. The nearest minor injury unit is Llandrindod Wells Hospital or Ludlow Hospital.

...from Maggie (PACDG Chair) about Dark Skies. Interesting read, especially as Presteigne is working towards being the first town in England and Wales to achieve Dark Skies status ... *Dark Skies: A journey into the wild night* by Tiffany Francis. Available online from Blackwells at £7.99 with free UK delivery.

...from The Judge's Lodging. We are throwing open our doors to artists and visitors alike later this month. A grand exhibition and sale will be held over all three storeys of our unique and historic building from November 28-29, as well as from December 4-6, when 25 artists working in a wide range of media will fill the rooms along with pottery, leatherwork, basketry, photography, prints and more. The show will be open to the public (entry £3) both at the end of the month and beginning of December from 10.30am-5pm each day. The first weekend is being aimed at visitors from the Welsh side of the border and the second weekend (once the English lockdown has been lifted) is open to all. The Judge's Lodging has been safely open to visitors this autumn and is ready to welcome everyone and only ask that visitors follow the current museum guidelines. For more information visit www.judgeslodging.org.uk.

...from Maggie (PACDG Chair) about swifts. 'Our' swifts are in Africa at the moment, if you'd like to be ready to welcome them back in April you can do two things: buy a swift box (some still available locally - contact news@pacdg.org), and get the RSPB SwiftMapper app to log where they nest. The RSBP says: "In just 20 years, more than half of our swifts have vanished

and we believe that the loss of nest sites in the roofs of buildings is at least partly responsible. By using Swift Mapper, you'll help locate breeding hotspots for swifts & protect their homes.”

...from Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup about their Christmas Holiday Club. Ages 1-12 years. Week 1: Monday 21st Dec – Thursday 24th Dec; Week 2: Tuesday 29th Dec – Thursday 31st Dec, Monday 4th Jan and Tuesday 5th Jan. Opening times 7:30am – 5:30pm. £4.50 per hour. 30 hour free childcare offer accepted. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.** Contact Sam (01544) 262130 or email info@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk by Friday 27th November.

...from Powys Community Health Council. Have you experienced difficulties accessing dental services recently? Please provide us with your feedback, good or bad we want to hear from you: <http://ow.ly/yUZR50Ca6Cm>

...from Maggie (PACDG Chair) about Shropshire Climate Action Conference videos. I attended this magnificent conference on Zoom in September, it's very encouraging to see what is going on locally. There were 3 main themes: Energy & Buildings; Transport; Land & Biodiversity. I am happy to say that their presentations are available to view again here <https://shropshireclimateaction.co.uk/conference-recordings/> There is also an opportunity to join the working groups to help make things happen, and to bring some of the ideas closer to home. Presteigne Area Community Development Group (PACDG) is also working on a Grow Local Project, do let us know on contact@pacdg.org if you'd like to be involved with this.

...from Powys CC. Reminder - Lockdown grants available! Eligible businesses and charities can apply for grants to help ease the financial impact of the firebreak lockdown. Full details <https://crowd.in/yVzt1j>

...from Powys CC. Looking for financial help? Our website lists information on a range of support options, including...Firebreak grants; Be Active Wales Fund; Self-Employment Scheme; Transforming Towns Grant; Kickstart Scheme; Bounce Back Loans. Don't miss out! See <https://crowd.in/3dNPjA>

...from the Family Information Service, Powys. Christmas Holiday Childcare for those already receiving your 3+ funded childcare. Have you applied for your holiday entitlement as part of your Childcare Offer for Wales? You can apply for up to 30 hours per week. To apply head to the link in your email confirming your term time childcare. Remember you will be allocated 3 weeks per term, you can roll these over into the next term and use them where it best suits you. Make sure you discuss your requirements with your childcare providers. See here for more info: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/7040/Holiday-Entitlement>

...from Newtown High School (and John Beddoes Campus). We have a letter to parents of year 11, 12 and 13 students regarding next summer (2021) exams season. Please see the below for more information. <https://www.newtown-hs.powys.sch.uk/main/index.php/news-mainmenu-35/school-news/989-letters-to-parents-gcse-as-and-a-level-exams-2021>

...from Powys CC. In Powys we have an urgent need for Foster Carers who can support sibling groups. To foster a sibling group, you will need; spare bedroom/s in your home, time to offer, energy, 'stickability' when the going gets tough, optimism and a sense of fun. By fostering through the Council, you will be providing a caring home for local families in your local area, with access to local 24-hour support. You will be joining a team of carers committed to making a positive difference to the lives of young people across the region. If you're interested in fostering and want to find out more our friendly team on 0800 22 30 627, visit www.powys.gov.uk/fostering or fostering@powys.gov.uk

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

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