

# Community News

Issue 231 December 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](mailto: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 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)

**BREAKING NEWS from the BBC! ... Wales will go into a level four lockdown, the highest possible, from 28 December**, with some sectors closing during the Christmas period. Non-essential shops will close in Wales from the end of trading on Christmas Eve, with the country going into a stay-at-home lockdown four days later. Close-contact services, such as hair salons, will also have to shut before Christmas, First Minister Mark Drakeford has announced. All hospitality will close at 18:00 GMT on Christmas Day. It follows an agreement by UK nations to continue to allow three households to mix between 23 and 27 December. However, Mr Drakeford told a press conference his government was advising only two households to meet in a single "bubble". The situation in Wales was "extremely serious", he said, with one in five people testing positive for the virus. More than 2,100 people, "equivalent to five full general hospitals" were being treated in the NHS with Covid, he said. [Under the recently published plans](#) people will be expected to stay at home with travel only allowed for essential reasons.

...**from Herefordshire Council. Flooding is possible - be prepared !** With heavy rainfall forecast over the next few days, please keep up to date with local flood warnings & plan driving routes to avoid low lying roads near rivers, which may be flooded. For all alerts visit: <http://orlo.uk/hylCF>

**CHRISTMAS CRACKERS** *[even in these dismal times, you have to laugh - or groan!!]*

...**from John.** *"I'm divorced. My ex-wife still misses me. But her aim is starting to improve"*

...**[ed.]** *"Apologies - I had a few Christmas jokes about unemployed people but realised belatedly that, apart from being tasteless, none of them really work".*

## THANK YOU

...**from Emma.** A massive 'thank you' to all those who bought a jar or a bottle of juice from Presteigne Plenty's stall last Saturday. We raised an incredible £403.28 for the Food Bank. 150 bottles of apple juice were sold in all - made from local fruit that might otherwise have gone to waste. We couldn't believe how generous people were, many throwing in extra donations. It was really heart-warming - a big THANK YOU to all, including our wonderful pickers & makers.

...**from the ERDC and Home Support.** What a day!! 39 Christmas Lunches delivered to all Day Centre members. Sadly we are not able to hold our annual Christmas Party so we decided to take lunch to everyone instead! A coordinated effort saw us deliver meals around Presteigne, Knighton, Knucklas, Old Radnor, Llangunllo, Llanbister Road, Bleddfa, Norton, Pembridge and everywhere in between! Thank goodness for our new jackets from Stitch - Embroidery & Print Service that kept the rain at bay! A huge thank you to Lesley and her staff at Rose Cottage Flowers & Café, and to all the staff, who enjoyed their own Christmas lunch afterwards.

**UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET** (local businesses are still adapting to changing circumstances - so check information on websites/Facebook pages)

**...from Presteigne Carnival. LAST CHANCE to enter the Best Dressed Christmas House Competition.** *'Ten of you have entered...And to you we say "You're great!"...To those who are still considering...Hurry up before you're too late!!'* Judging Sunday, 20th December once dark. Good luck and Thank you for entering, you're all stars ! Any other entries, please ring or text on 07766 152000. For those darling people who have entered the Best Dressed House Competition, just to let you know that if you see a lady with a camera on a tripod outside your house, it's the lovely Laura Shepherd, who is very kindly taking photos for us to use on FB and social media, and hopefully the Mid Wales Journal! Thank you Laura

**...from David at the Bowling Club. LAST CHANCE** to enter our Xmas Draw, which will close this Saturday 19th December - if anyone wants tickets, contact Dave Weale, Helen Weale, Jenny Freddy Davies, Sharon Duggan, Janine Johns, and Carol Hancocks, or message through our FB page. £1 each or £5 gets 2 free, or £10 gets 5 free.

**...from The PNCS Warehouse.** We seem to be having problems viewing and answering our messages. Sorry if we haven't replied but could you contact us during opening hours 10am-4pm. Our telephone number is 07496 732067. Thanks.

**...from Anna - still looking for your Christmas Tree ?** Shop locally-grown Christmas trees next weekend - all trees are grown locally in and around Presteigne so no miles involved, plus trees can be chosen and cut on site if required. Weekday collections can be arranged. Christmas trees are available to buy and order from Greenfield roundabout, Presteigne from 10 am-4 pm approximately. All trees are available for delivery for free in a 3 mile radius ,netting can be provided. Cut trees Norway spruce 4-15ft, £15-40 approximately - Potted trees with roots, Norway approx 4ft, £20 - Potted nordmans / frazers up to 4ft, £25 - Christmas tree water holders to prolong the life of your cut tree, hold up to 7ft, £15. Wholesale also available.

**...from Amanda's Bread.** We will be delivering as usual this coming Saturday to the Presteigne area, and in Christmas week either on Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd or Thursday 24th December (to be confirmed when you order). If you haven't already ordered pls contact us urgently. We need to express gratitude to all our customers for continuing to order from Amanda's Bread throughout the year. Thanks to your enthusiastic response and our little gang of local producers, we have been in a delicious whirl throughout the year that has taken us completely by surprise and quite taken our breath away! If we don't see you over the next two weeks, we send you our best wishes for 2021. Amanda and Julian

**...from G&A Catering.** Festive night THIS FRIDAY!! 12 midday - 8pm. You can book a time slot and phone orders are welcome to reduce waiting time! Our normal day menu will be available until midday this Friday - Festive night times have changed to longer hours due to the demand now the schools are closed. See our FB page for menu and details.

**...from Weobley Ash.** Great hand made Christmas cards from Marion Rowlett, 6 cards for £5 or Winter Scenes £2 each. Open 7 days a week through out December

**...from Presteigne's Barber in the Barbervan.** I will be open Christmas week Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th till 2pm, and then closed, reopening on the 7th January. Bookings only on 07977 000741.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION**

**...from Sarah about a free online event.** The Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra, performing in the Sheldonian Theatre, has recorded a special concert as a thank you and tribute to the work of the scientists at the Oxford Vaccine Group and the Jenner Institute. It includes the premiere of John Rutter's *Joseph's Carol*, dedicated to the Oxford vaccine team and performed by Bryn Terfel. A film of the concert will be streamed on the Oxford Philharmonic's YouTube Channel at **6.30 pm on Friday, 18 December**, following an exclusive first viewing for those developing the COVID-19 vaccine. Go to <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2020-12-05-philharmonic-orchestra-film-special-tribute-concert-oxford-vaccine-team> for all the details and for the link to the concert (right at the end of the article). At present [this link](#) takes you to a recording about the

Oxford Philharmonic's Beethoven Festival 2020 (which is worth watching in itself) but will include the tribute concert nearer the time.

**...DON'T FORGET. Santa will be in Presteigne High Street on Saturday 19th December** from 2 - 4pm, giving away delicious fish finger sandwiches and hot tomato soup. Situated between the Salty Dog and the PNCS charity shop, he will also be handing out the leftover presents for last year's Christmas Fair. This will be sponsored by the Salty Dog.

**...from Catherine in Norton.** GOOD NEWS! Singing is now allowed at our Carol Service. The Welsh Government is allowing the singing of carols (with social distancing and masks) This **Saturday 19th December** at 1.00pm (or Sunday if wet) in the Churchyard. Please let me know if you would like to join us. 01544 267421 or email [orourkebailey@aol.com](mailto:orourkebailey@aol.com)

**...from Debs in Norton.** What a fantastic display of Christmas lights twinkling around the Village of Norton, it's quite a sight and certainly lifts the spirit - well done everyone. And a quick reminder if you have children - Santa will be doing a quick dry run of the village on **Saturday 19th December**. He will be landing on the Mynd at 5pm. He will call if you want to let him know if you have been good boys & girls.

**...from Tessa about a town litter pick on Sunday 19 Dec.** The town could do with a bit of a spruce up, if you have an hour Sunday afternoon we shall going out in pairs from 2 pm to do just that, weather permitting! I have already spoken directly to some of you, so thank you for your kind offers and I shall confirm back to all of you individually with a time and final details if you give me the thumbs up that you can join in. Usual place for those who are regulars, 4 Hereford Street, behind the double doors, and all you need are gardening gloves or similar, stout shoes and suitable clothing, and a sense of humour - we provide the rest. Hope to hear from you! If you would like to help with the regular litter picks, call or text Tessa 07788 567631

**...from Mags (from MoneySavingExpert.com.)** The cost of postage stamps is going up on 1st January - a lot!! 1st Class will rise by 9p to 85p. 2nd Class will rise by 1p to 66p. 1st Class Large will rise by 14p to £1.29. 2nd Class Large will rise by 8p to 96p. Beat the rise by stocking up now - if you buy stamps now at current prices they'll still be valid after the rise.

**...from Powys CC. iPhone 11 Prize Draw for 16/17 yr olds.** Would you like to win an iPhone 11 with 64 gb internal memory and earpods included with charging cable? We have 2 iPhone 11s to giveaway: The prize draw is for all 16 and 17 year olds in Powys who register to vote in the upcoming Senedd Election. For more information please follow the link <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10133/Senedd-Election-2021-Prize-Draw>. For any further information or queries please contact Holly Casey - [holly.casey@powys.gov.uk](mailto:holly.casey@powys.gov.uk). Your voice - your choice

**...from Sarah at The Workhouse Gallery. A superb opportunity to rent studio / office or workshop spaces** in a highly efficient & ecological building, consisting of four rooms of which two are available to rent. One room on the first floor 5.2 x 5.1 front (car park view) £345 per month Utilities £170 p/a .. and .. One room on the ground floor 5.1 x 3.4 back (garden view) £300 per month Utilities £150 p/a. There is parking at the front of the building and internet services included, a communal kitchenette area and shared toilet. Tenants working from the studio at present are a workshop producing skin care products and a treatment room for massage. Studio 2 is next to The Workhouse Gallery group of business premises on Presteigne Industrial Estate. Phone 0749 52 49 636 or e-mail [admin@theworkhouse.wales](mailto:admin@theworkhouse.wales)

**...from Presteigne Freegle about all the waste generated over the festive season.** If you're not sure what you can & cannot recycle where you live, check your local council's website or use the Recycle Now postcode search engine <https://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling>

**...from Powys Recycles about kerbside collections and HWRC timings.** There won't be many changes to the normal litter pick and recycling arrangements this year, just re-arranging Christmas day collections (Friday 25 December to Sunday 27 December) and New Year's Day (Friday 1 January to Saturday 2 January) only. So there will be no change for Presteigne & Norton residents with a Thursday collection. Keep an eye on our social media pages for any

changes to services due to adverse weather conditions. All Household Waste Recycling Centres will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day (Friday 25 December, Saturday 26 December and Friday 1 January). Other opening days and times remain the same <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/725/Household-Waste-Recycling-Centres>

**...from PAVO. Help for Universal Credit Claimants.** Many people across the county will be facing a new reality as the country responds & adapts to the Coronavirus. [Read full article here.](#)

**...from PCC & Credu Connecting Carers. Emergency grants over Christmas and this winter** are available for Young & Adult Carers. The grants (from Welsh government) are to support Young and Adult Carers through winter 2020/21 with things like food / fuel / access to the internet / wellbeing. Please feel free to contact us if such a grant would help support you. Contact your Outreach Worker or the office on 01597 823800 / [carers@credu.cymru](mailto:carers@credu.cymru)

**...from Powys Recycles.** Keep up the MIGHTY recycling effort this Christmas to help get Wales to number one. As Wales' recycling rate reaches an all-time high, we're calling on our residents to keep up their 'mighty' efforts when it comes to recycling this Christmas. With 92% of us recycling regularly\*, Wales is a nation of Mighty Recyclers.

**...from the Welsh Government.** Did you know we convert food waste, such as vegetable peelings and turkey bones into green energy used to power homes? Our recycling rates are at a record high, but we want everyone to keep up these mighty efforts over Christmas. Here are some tips <https://gov.wales/people-wales-urged-keep-mighty-recycling-effort-christmas-help-wales-get-number-one>

**...from Presteigne Freegle. FREE TREES for schools and community groups!** See <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities>. #YearOfTheTree. Order now for delivery March 2021 via @WoodlandTrust. Schools across the UK, plus nurseries, colleges, universities and outdoor learning centres, all kinds of different groups such as resident associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides and many more. You don't need to belong to an official organisation. You could even set up a group for the purpose of planting, but you must be not-for-profit. The most important thing is that your group is willing to take on the planning, planting and care of the saplings.

**...from Powys Teaching Health Board about Care Home COVID vaccinations.** PTHB is committed to vaccinating care home residents as quickly and safely as possible. Unfortunately however, due to the limitations of transporting the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, it has not yet been possible to bring the vaccine to care homes (*because of the rural nature of Powys*). Instead, care home staff are invited to attend Mass Vaccination Centres to help protect those who live in care homes. Once other vaccines become available, PTHB will then be able to bring the vaccine to care homes in order to start vaccinating residents as soon as possible. PTHB will be in touch with care home managers once they are able to schedule in vaccinations. Please do not contact your GP regarding COVID vaccinations at this time.

**...from Arrowfield Vets. Update on pet travel to the EU from 1st January.** The UK has been granted 'Part 2 listed status' which means that there are new rules in place for travelling to the EU with your pets. The Pet Passport will no longer be valid after 1st January 2021. Instead, an Animal Health Certificate (AHC) needs to be issued by a vet. AHCs are only valid for: 10 days after the date of issue for entry to the EU - A single trip for entry to the EU - Onward travel within the EU and re-entry to GB for 4 months after the date of issue. Any questions, please email [admin@arrowfieldvets.co.uk](mailto:admin@arrowfieldvets.co.uk) and one of our certified vets will get back to you. Team AVP

**...from The Heart of Wales Line.** Final call to get your hands on the Heart of Wales Line Trail book before Christmas. E-mail [rebecca.butcher@devco.org.uk](mailto:rebecca.butcher@devco.org.uk) to order your copy. £10.95 plus £1.00 postage payment via PayPal

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

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