

Community News

Issue 233 January 2021 - looking forward to better things !

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 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

All of Wales is at Alert Level 4. See what this means: <https://gov.wales/alert-level-4>
Herefordshire and in Shropshire are now in Tier 3. See what this means: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-3-very-high-alert>

...from the Welsh Government. We know it's hard, but stay home for your nan. Stay home for your child. Stay home for your community. Stay home for your town. Your team. Your mates. Stay home so the NHS doesn't get over-run. And stay home to save lives. Whatever your reason, #StayHome and together, we'll keep Wales safe.

...from Gill at Presteigne Pharmacy. A reminder for flu vaccinations for residents aged 50 - 64 years and at-risk patients. We have just a few vaccinations remaining which we would like to put to good use. Call in to the Pharmacy or call 01544 267000.

THANK YOU

...from David at Presteigne Bowling Club. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated prizes and bought tickets for our Xmas Draw - congratulations to all the winners - a full list can be seen on our FB page.

...from Connect. On behalf of all the traders in Presteigne, we would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and to say thank you, thank you, thank you ALL for supporting your local businesses and for your understanding and patience this year. Also, a huge thank you to all the volunteers who stood outside the shops helping us to stay safe. Looking back to March, who would have thought that we would still be facing restrictions especially during the festive season, a time when we share goodwill with family and friends. Now we face 2021 with hope in our hearts and remember that we may not have been on the same ship, but we are definitely in the same boat. Take care and stay safe - Connect.

...from Kim and the Primary School PTFA. A big thank you to everyone who donated to and bought tickets for the Raffle and goodies at the PTFE Bake Sale. We raised a wonderful £240 from the Bake Sale and £92 from the raffle - all the money will be going straight to the school.

SCAM ALERT

...from Trading Standards. SCAM ALERT - CORONAVIRUS VACCINE. We are hearing further reports across the country of people being contacted out of the blue with offers of a coronavirus vaccination. THESE ARE SCAMS. Criminals are exploiting the current situation to attempt to steal personal details and your money. The NHS is currently offering the COVID-19 vaccine to people most at risk from coronavirus. These people will be contacted by the NHS. NO PAYMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE VACCINE. There has been a surge worldwide of vaccine related phishing email scams. We expect to see an increase in these. Phishing emails seen have contained malicious files that installed malware, or links to bogus websites to obtain the victim's information. Protect yourself from vaccine-themed phishing campaigns by checking the email addresses on incoming messages and be alert to hyperlinks that contain

misspelled domain names; be aware of highly emotive language designed to manipulate you; do not supply login credentials or personal information in response to an email; monitor key financial accounts regularly; and keep software and apps updated. Report all scams to us via Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133 *[ed. and also to report@phishing.gov.uk]*

...from Frances. A dangerous fake NHS text has been circulating, telling people they're eligible to apply for the COVID-19 vaccine. It states that "we have identified that you are eligible to apply for your vaccine" and advises you to follow a link to get more information and 'apply': The link looked like this (<http://uk-application-form.xxx>). This URL takes you through to an extremely convincing fake NHS website that asks for your personal details, and eventually bank/card details in order to 'check your identity'.

...from HSBC. Bogus text messages are being sent to HSBC customers about possible unauthorised activity on their account, asking them to review details through a link. DO NOT click the link to access the site or provide any information. For more information around texts we may send, please visit the HSBC website.

...from Gareth. A new scam I think. I recently received an email purporting to be from DVLA claiming to have found irregularities in my current profile. It goes on "You are required to update your profile to its latest form to avoid termination of your motoring license". Obviously I declined this request and have reported.

[ed] a reminder - report all suspicious emails by forwarding the mail to report@phishing.gov.uk.

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

...from The Royal Oak. Well 2020, to say it has been a strange year would be an understatement. We would obviously love it all to end so differently with everyone bringing in the New Year with a few beverages at the pub, but the main thing is that everyone is safe and well. We are hopeful that 2021 will be a better year and we'll have some "normality" back. Here's to good health and happiness and we look forward to seeing you all again when we can. Happy New Year from all of us at The Oak.

...from The Workhouse Gallery & Café. A new day, a new dawn and soon to be a new year... Nature is providing some glorious natural firework displays and hopefully (eventually) the year ahead will bring change. Wishing you a Happy New Year!

...from Bea's Care Services. Due to unforeseen circumstances I currently have a few spaces. Call me for a chat 07816 370853

...from Weobley Ash. Happy New Year. What a year its been, thank you for all your support and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year. We are closed at present but reopen this Friday 8th January. You can still pre order by calling 01544 598120 and leaving a message, email us at shop@weobleyash.co.uk or PM us on Facebook.

...from G&A Catering. Hello all, We hope you've all had a very Merry Christmas!! With just five days until we open for the new year (Mon 4th Jan). The G&A Catering team would like to ask you for your help in making sure we are keeping everyone as safe as possible, so can we please ask... you wear a face mask when ordering, paying and collecting food from the counter... you stand back behind the barrels when waiting... you keep 2 metres from other waiting customers. Thank you all, we look forward to seeing you soon!

...from Marion at The Retreat. NEW YEAR'S SALE! I am taking the opportunity to clear the shelves and am offering the products below at discounted prices of 20-50% off the usual retail price. Please call or email if you would like to arrange local delivery or collection from The Retreat, or receive by 2nd class post (added) marian@silvanmassage.com or 07816 981454

...from Victoria Fish Bar. Happy New Year. Hope you've all had a good Christmas. We are back open (*from Saturday*) and now will be opening on Wednesday as well. New opening hours: Wednesday-Saturday 12-2pm & 5-9pm, Sunday 5-8pm.

...from Freedom Leisure. We wish all our customers a very Happy and Healthy New Year. We all look forward to what we hope to be a better 2021, with our leisure centres open and our teams back doing what they do best - delivering an outstanding community leisure service.

...from Lyonshall Nursery & Garden Centre. Happy New Year! We wish all our customers the best for 2021. We will re-open on Saturday 9th January

...from Arrowfield Vets. We would like to wish all our patients and their owners a very happy and prosperous 2021. A big thank you for your continued patience, support and understanding through these unprecedented and difficult times. Stay safe, Team AVP

...from Wild Card Tattoos. Well 2020 certainly has been a strange year, let's hope 2021 is better and I get to open again soon. Thank you to all of you who have been for ink, returned for more ink, liked and shared my page #supportsmallbusinesses.

...from The Salty Dog team. A very, very happy new year to all our wonderful customers, thank you all for supporting us during 2020, we look forward to seeing you soon, take care.

...from Presteigne Bowling Club. Happy New Year!!! To all our member and followers, thank you for your support in 2020! At times we didn't think we would see a bowl on the green but we managed to get games in! Look forward to seeing you all again in the Spring!

...from Andy Price. A Happy New Year to you all, and welcome back to Logs & Maintenance - let's hope 2021 is a better year for us all, I am now taking your orders, and will resume delivery from Mon 4th Jan. I have seasoned hardwood in stock and more being del in over the next couple of weeks. There are three ways to order, either by - pm, or mob on 07976584404 or if you prefer to call of an evening 01547560476 - thanks for your continued support. Andy

...from No. 7 Massage and Osteopathy. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and hopeful New Year. We would like to thank everyone for their support and kindness during the last year. Number 7 will remain open during the tier 4 lockdown in January and we will continue to practice with a simple and safe approach in the clinic, providing much needed healthcare. Claire Williams, Massage Therapy 07969 569140. Richard Hughes, Osteopath 07961 352056

...from ERDC. Happy New Year from everyone at Home Support. Special thanks to the staff that have been on call over Christmas & New Year. We've responded to 5 emergency call outs via Care Line and delivered over 30 meals these last few days!

...from Wild Thyme Italian. Happy New Year to everyone!!! Just a reminder to say we'll be restarting our preordered takeaway service next Friday and Saturday 8th and 9th of January.

...from Lesley at Rose Cottage Café. So on to the new year, see our FB for Friday's menu for food to reheat at home. As well as this I am back doing hot lunchtime meals for the day service Tuesday to Friday and this week it's Cottage pie, Roast ham and parsley sauce, Chicken, bacon and leek pie and Pork and sausage casserole all with potato and veg and a homemade dessert. For more info on the day service meals call 01544 260267 or 01544 260360.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...a reminder ref Primary School Admissions – if you need to apply for a place in Reception at Primary School in September 2021 (for learners born between 01/09/2016 – 31/08/2017) you need to complete an online application NOW at en.powys.gov.uk/article/1158/Applying-for-a-School-Place by the deadline of Friday 8 January 2021. Or contact admissions@powys.gov.uk

...from the Friends of Norton FB site. To all members and friends of Friends of Norton, the admin team would like to wish you all a safe and Healthy New Year. If 2020 has shown us anything it's what a wonderful community we live in, where friends and neighbours alike stepped up and did everything to keeps us as safe as we possibly could. Stay safe one and all, until we can join together again in safer times - all the very best for 2021

...from Powys Recycles. We understand that we all have extra waste over the festive period but please use your community recycling sites responsibly. Our already stretched teams are

trying to empty the banks as often as possible, but excessive contamination and fly-tipping of rubbish is making their jobs very difficult and time consuming. If the sites are full, please return with your recycling another time, or take to one of the household waste recycling centres. People caught dumping waste can expect to receive a fixed penalty notice or face prosecution.

...from Presteigne Freegle. What to do with Christmas Trees? Do the right thing! Give away unwanted festive stuff via your local Freegle group, go here to do that <https://www.ilovefreegle.org>. Find your local real tree recycling service via Recycle Now - go here to do that <https://www.recyclenow.com/what-to-do-with/christmas-trees-1>

...from Presteigne's Dark Skies. Dark Skies lighting expert Kerem Asfuroglu, talks about dark skies lighting and Presteigne's Lighting Masterplan at the recent Mayo Dark Sky Festival. <https://youtu.be/LGfiXR6Njg>

...from Powys CC. Has 2020 got you thinking about starting a family through adoption? If you have considered Adoption and want to learn more, why not join Adoption Mid & West Wales's next information evening on 7th January @ 6:30pm. <https://crowd.in/B1lJfe>

...from Presteigne Freegle. Here's a great list of 20 environmental documentaries worth watching! Find out how to watch them and what else you can do to be kinder to the planet. <http://ow.ly/iqXy50CWRd1> p.s. they're not all depressing! There's lots of great information and inspiration in there too.....and a great way to while away some wintery days.

...from the County Times/Welsh Water. For update on the £8 million Presteigne wastewater upgrade project underway in Norton and Presteigne see <https://www.countytimes.co.uk/news/18979618.presteigne-waste-water-system-get-8m-cash-injection/?fbclid=IwAR1UHcQ0G8RYPyGFjyYWufDuaxl57tpcdWEx6jZLoqsNaLAVopNV-ow9Ihw>

...from John Beddoes Campus. Start of Spring Term 2021: Year 7, 8 and 9 - Wednesday 6th January; Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 - Monday 11th January. These are the current dates of return, as instructed by Powys County Council. We will update if any changes are made. https://www.newtown-hs.powys.sch.uk/main/images/news2021/letter_to_parents_311220.pdf

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...Want to help out in the current emergency ? Powys urgently needs Mass Vaccination / Wayfinder Marshalls to sign up to help steward at the vaccination programme in Powys. It won't happen at the speed we need it to unless we all get behind it. Please register as a volunteer should you have time to spare in coming months. As a member of the Powys Mass Vaccination - Wayfinder Marshalls team, you will provide guidance to visitors face-to-face at several points of the site. You must be over 16 years old (*ed. and, according to information from Emma, 69 years old or under*). Applicants will be shortlisted. Expenses paid. Registration open now to Wednesday 31st March 2021. **Please use this link to register** https://powys.volunteering-wales.net/vk/volunteers/my_opportunities_info_ur.htm?PID=10160133

...from Maggie. The Barber's premises (opposite the Library) is available in the New Year. Fully set up as Barber's Shop. Full-time or part-time Barbers considered. Alternatively the shop could be used for a different business. Please call or text Maggie on [07952 982746](tel:07952982746)

...from WeCareWales. Ever wondered if you have what it takes to work in Care? A career in care can seem a little daunting, but with our online learning resource, you can dip your toe into the water first. You'll have the opportunity to put yourself in real-life social care scenarios and answer questions about how you would respond to find out if the career is right for you. www.WeCare.wales/a-question-of-care-intro/

PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group ... "Working together for the Community"
If at any time you decide not to receive further PACDG emails, contact us on news@pacdg.org with REMOVE in the subject line & we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.