

NEXT ISSUE MID-JANUARY... DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS 11am 15th JANUARY
email news@pacdg.org [n.b. there will be no end-December issue]

 **WISHING ALL OUR READERS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR** 

- 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

2022/23 Community Award Scheme. PACDG holds funds of just over £1100, donated for the benefit of the community, and held on trust by PACDG to arrange distribution. Expressions of Interest (EOI) are invited from local community organisations to receive small grants to assist with a specific project or the purchase of essential equipment. We welcome an EOI from any community organisation based in the general Presteigne & Norton area.

Email news@pacdg.org to register your EOI, or call **07766 097600** for information.

EOIs must be received by 1st January 2023.

[ed] **from local residents and CC representatives - Closure of our Leisure Centre!** Powys County Council's lead Administration of Liberal Democrats & Labour party members, in conjunction with Freedom Leisure, have announced they will close East Radnor Leisure Centre from the 23rd December 2022 to 31st March 2023 - when a decision will be made about its future. The proposal will see the building mothballed and no use will be permitted to anyone, not even schools. The impact, not only on Presteigne but to the wider community will be devastating to both young and old alike. Many people from the wider community, and our local schools use the facilities for soft play, swimming, fitness classes, gym, sports hall incl. karate lessons, junior netball, squash league, football groups and much much more, the list is endless and the impact not only on our physical wellbeing but also our mental wellbeing will be devastating. We must not allow this travesty to happen. The Leisure Centre opened in 1987 after a huge campaign and fund raising by the local community. If you haven't already done so, please go to change.org to sign the Petition, and forward it to friends and neighbours. The clock is ticking...**you only have a few hours to go to sign the #SaveOurPools petition before the deadline of 5pm today.** Find out all the details here <https://bit.ly/3tWjgTB>

...**Tree Hub - last session TODAY (Wednesday 14 December) 4 to 6pm** at The Old School in Hereford Street, so your last chance to collect your free tree - do go along and chat to the volunteers and they will guide you on which of our varieties to choose.

...**The changeover to Dark Skies compliant lighting will be complete by Christmas!** Powys Council will complete the conversion of street lighting in Presteigne by Christmas, finishing with the heritage lights in Broad Street. These are special lights, paid for in part by Powys County Council, part by public subscription, and a grant from Welsh Water. Once installed, they will emulate Victorian gas mantles, look splendid and help make Broad Street one of the finest Georgian/Victorian streets in Wales! A great Christmas present for Presteigne!

...**Decorated Christmas House Competition.** *We're waiting, waiting, waiting - For your entries, don't delay - We need a few more houses - To make a good display - Of Christmas cheer to look at - It's all a bit of fun - But to make people smile at Christmas - It really must be done!* **Closing date Thursday 16th** - judging on 19th pm. To enter call/text 07766 152000

THANK YOU

[ed]...**an enormous Thank You to everyone involved in the Pantomime last week** - so many people involved - writers, cast, musicians, sets, make-up, costumes, helpers - brilliant show!!!

...**St Andrew's Christmas Fayre last Friday – thank you** to everyone who came along, to all the stallholders, those who served hot drinks and mince pies, Leon who provided food in the Church Hall, Santa and his elf in their grotto, the fire juggler, the carol singers from Presteigne Primary School and from St Andrew's – and most of all to everyone who helped prepare and decorate the church and churchyard so beautifully, and those who cleared up afterwards. It was wonderful to welcome so many people to St Andrew's for this special event.

...**Presteigne Plenty** - thanks to everyone who supported our stall at the Christmas Fayre last Friday. We sold out! - and raised £198.80 which is going to the Foodbank. Thank you!

COUNCIL NEWS

Latest planning application in to be considered at the December meeting of the Town Council: [22/2057/TRE](#) Grid Ref: E: 331324 N: 264458 Proposal: Tree works application for removal of cypress tree Location: Castle Barn, 40A High Street, Presteigne Powys LD8 2BE. [22/1968/FUL](#) Grid Reference: E:330218 N: 267405 Proposal: Erection of a dwelling, formation of vehicular access, demolition of existing outbuilding and all associated works Site Address: Land Adj. Oxenbrook , Norton, Presteigne, LD8 2EN.

SCAM WARNING (from WHICH and other sources)

...**beware of this Post Office redelivery scam text** which encourages you to take action by telling you that your parcel has been sent back to your local branch. It sends you to a legitimate-looking website under the guise of charging you for redelivery. This can be very convincing, especially if you're doing a lot more online shopping in the run-up to the festive season. But remember, the Post Office will never contact you like this. [Watch our video as we delve into the scam delivery websites](#) that can appear authentic at first glance.

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**The December/January double issue of Broad Sheep is now online** - see www.broadsheep.com with hard copies out very soon.

...**the December/January issue of The Parish Magazine is now available** – thank you to the editor, Steve Bishop; Di Hammersley who organises the advertising that supports publication (and to all the advertisers of course!); to the printing and collation team headed by Chris and Marion Rowlatt and everyone who distributes copies. The bundles have gone out very fast this month! Individual copies are available in St Andrew's and our other churches, price 60p - a bargain when you see how much information & interesting articles the magazine contains!

...**from the PNCS Transport Office** - we will close on Fri 23rd Dec and reopen on Tues 3rd Jan. Please make sure any health appointments are booked before we close. Thank you

...**from RNID. Note that there will be no Hearing Aid clinic in December** but we'll be back again for our regular 1 to 3pm session in the Old School on Hereford Street on 25 January, the 4th Wednesday of each month.

...**PNCS Warehouse and Shop**. Only ten days until Christmas Day!!! but still plenty of time to get all of those extra bits and bobs you need. Don't forget The Warehouse is closing on 17 December, re-opening at our new premises on 3 January Unit 6 Presteigne industrial estate.

...**from Broadaxe Farm**. Nigel has the garden full of Christmas trees and Sonia has been busy making lots of beautiful wreaths. Pop along to see us and choose your tree and wreath.

...**Spanish, French and German lessons available** online or in your own home! I am a recent graduate in modern languages with a 2.1 from the University of Sheffield. I also have two years experience tutoring all ages and abilities. Please contact: 07399590830, darcyind@gmail.com.

...**Award-winning, locally made Silvan Skincare** can be collected from The Retreat in Presteigne or delivered in the local area. Hand cream, gift sets and many other products make lovely Christmas gifts. See the full range here www.silvanskincare.com. Please call Marian or email to place your order: 07816 981454 or marian@silvanskincare.com

...**Victoria Fish Bar. Christmas Opening Hours** - Christmas Eve 12-2pm & 5-7pm. Reopen Thursday 5th January normal opening hours. We'd like to thank you all for your continued support through a tough year for all. We wish you a very merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all of our customers

...**Workhouse Gallery & Café** - In case our normal hours aren't a good fit, we're open until 7pm this Thursday! Cocktails and nibbles will be available.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Screen - tomorrow! "The Duke"** (Jim Broadbent, Helen Mirren) Friday, 16 December 2022, 8pm, Assembly Rooms, Presteigne, LD8 2AD. Doors open 7:30pm for Bar, Coffee, Tea, Home-baked Cakes. Films start 8:00pm. Tickets £5 at door, or at [WeGotTickets](https://www.wegotickets.com).

...**Presteigne Pop Choir Christmas Concert** Sunday 18th December at 1pm - enjoy some Christmas cheer before the World Cup Final!!! in the Community Barn in Went's Meadow, with mulled wine and mince pies. FREE entry, bring your own chair. Donations welcome!

...**Crocketts presents - THE NEW YEAR SPEAKEASY!** See in the new year with us in a 1930s mobster style! Book now!! 01544 260017 info@WelcomeToCrocketts.com

...**A Christmas Pastorale at Knill Church** on Thursday 29th December 3pm. A concert of contemplative seasonal music with Ruth Watson - oboe; Leila Basletic - organ; John Hymas - violin; Marion Rowlatt - mezzo soprano with the Saint Andrew's Sisters. Works by Bach, Corelli and Berlioz followed by mulled wine and nibbles. Contact 01544 350559

...**Presteigne Methodist Church - A Christmas Pastorale** on Friday 16th December at 7pm. Tickets £10 (including refreshments) from church members or call 01547 560016. A concert of contemplative seasonal music including works by Bach, Corelli and Berlioz, with Ruth Watson (oboe), Leila Basletic (organ), John Hymas (violin) and Marion Rowlatt (mezzo soprano) with the St Andrew's Sisters.

...**Presteigne Methodist Church - candlelit carol service** on Sunday 18th December at 3pm, followed by tea. Everyone is cordially invited to join us for this rather lovely event.

...**MBA - Dave Luke & Chuck Micallef with friends.** Wednesday 28 December at Presteigne Assembly Rooms. Country, Americana and Roots classics to fill the post-Christmas, pre-New Year blues. Tickets: £10. Available from The Workhouse (cash only) or online from <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/563824>. See <https://www.midborderarts.com/whats-on>

...**Daphne's Christmas Market** - Saturday 17 December 10am - 2pm. Wild by Nature; Jesse Illustration; Penny Hughes; Graham Beadle; Autumn's Vinegars & Preserves; Yumi's Sesame Chili Oils.

...**MidWinter celebrations and Christmas Services at St Michael's Church, Discoed** - Wednesday 21st December, 7 pm. Cheering songs and merry music for the Solstice. Whitton Voices and Sue Harris featuring Benji Kirkpatrick. £10, children free, proceeds to The Refugee Council. Bookings: 01547 550158 or sumarieharris@btinternet.com. Christmas Day 9.15 am. A very short, joyful celebration. All welcome. Please tell your family and friends; New Years Day - this year the group service will be held at Discoed at 11:00 am. Holy Communion followed by the traditional reading of *The Discoed Bell* by Edward Storey and wine. See www.discoed.org

...**Christmas Services at St. Andrew's and other Parish churches**

Carol Services - Kinsham's Carol Service is at 7pm on Friday Dec 16th - Lingen is holding its Crib and Carols at 3.30pm on Sunday Dec. 18th - the Carol Service at St Andrew's Presteigne is at 6.30pm on Sunday Dec. 18th.

Christmas Eve Services - on Christmas Eve our lovely Crib Service returns to St Andrew's Presteigne at 5.00pm - also on Christmas Eve, there will be Holy Communion Services at 9.30pm in Lingen and 11.00pm in St Andrew's.

Christmas Day Services - on Christmas Day, there will be Holy Communion Services at 9.00am in Knill, and at 10.00am in Kinsham - a Special Christmas Day Service of Readings and Carols at 9.15am in Discoed - and there will be a short and very informal Family Service for Christmas Morning in St Andrew's Presteigne at 11.15am (children coming to the Family Service are asked to bring one of their Christmas Presents with them!). Everyone welcome!

...**Christmas Services at Presteigne Catholic Church** - Mass on Christmas Eve 8pm and on Christmas Day morning 9am.

...**Powys NGS - garden visiting for 2022 is finishing in grand style** with an evening opening of Tranquility Haven. Enjoy the twinkling lights on a crisp December evening in this Japanese inspired garden. Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 December 4pm - 6pm. Tranquility Haven, 7 Lords

Land, Whitton, Knighton, LD7 1NJ. Tickets can be bought in advance from our website, or simply pay at the gate.

...**MBA - Martin Harley** Friday 13 January. Assembly Rooms. Tickets £15 from The Workhouse (cash only) and www.wegottickets.com. See <https://www.midborderarts.com/whats-on>

...**Irish Music @ Daphne's** - Saturday 24 December 12 to 3pm; and Thursday 29 December 4 to 7pm.

...**MBA - "As You Like It"** Willow Globe Community Theatre Saturday 14 January. Tickets £15 from The Workhouse (cash only) and www.wegottickets.com. See <https://www.midborderarts.com/whats-on>

...**Chatterbrook WI** – next meeting Thursday January 12 at 7.30 in Presteigne Memorial Hall. This will be our New Age Kurling evening. Great fun and an easy activity for all. Visitors welcome to join us - £4 on the door. Further information 01544 267245 and see <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI>

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society** - next meeting in Presteigne Memorial Hall Wednesday January 11 at 7.30: and will be a practical workshop. All materials will be provided at a cost of £10 – just bring flower cutters. Visitors are welcome and may contact the Secretary for further details on 01544 340453. The informal flower classes at Whitton are 'on hold' until February.

OTHER INFORMATION

...**Recycle Now - have you heard the term 'Wishcycling' ?** Basically it's when we put something in the recycle bin & HOPE it's going to get recycled. We've all done that at some point haven't we? It's actually more harmful than you'd think as one wrong item can ruin whole lorry loads of recycling! And yes I know some items can seem confusing... so I'm here to tell you that now you can quickly check ANY item for its recycling credentials. Just visit recyclenow.com & check the Recycling Locator for any specific item. You can also type in your postcode & it will tell you what are allowed to recycle in your bins in your area. Handy right? No need for confusion anymore & no more Wishcycling ! Let's all do our bit for the world & our future generations. So this Recycle Week, let's all promise to CHECK before we CHUCK.

...**988 is a new phone number that recently went live to help people get help in a mental health crisis.** Similar to 911, this line is dedicated for anyone in need of mental health assistance of any kind. #SuicideAwareness call 988

...**Powys Recycles - Christmas recycling and waste collections** will move on a day during Christmas week but continue as normal over the New Year bank holiday. More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/13712/Christmas-recycling-and-waste-collections>

R.I.P.

...**Margery Olivia Weiland (Marge)** of Presteigne passed away peacefully on 20th November aged 91.

LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

...**Presteigne Little People - Nursery Practitioner / Play Assistant** - looking for a motivated level 2/3 Practitioner (Early Years) to join our growing team. Experience of working with children with additional learning needs is desirable. Willingness to undertake further fully funded training essential. Open to Job Share options. Salary from £10:25 per hour depending on skills and experience. Location: Adjacent to Presteigne Primary School. Closing date: Monday 16th January 2023. Informal visits are welcome. Please contact Ann to arrange a visit. Enquiries, application forms and job description/person specification available from Ann Wake 07734 528571 or email: chairperson@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk

...**Hadley Hargreaves - Production/Assembly Operative** to replace a long serving employee. Salary £15000 rising to £24,000 (full time post) depending on experience, both internal and external training would be provided. Location: Unit 14 Presteigne Industrial Estate, Forklift license helpful but not essential - training given. Call 01544 726006 email mikejones@hhltd.uk

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.