

WE'RE BACK - HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!

NEXT ISSUE End-JANUARY... DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS 11am 30th JANUARY
email news@pacdg.org

- 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

...from **Christianne about flooding**. In case you are new to the area, the local roads (mainly on the Herefordshire side) are prone to flooding. There is a local Facebook group: Combe Corner Flood Watch! where local people post updates on the road conditions as they drive around. You can also go on and ask if routes are clear, or post your own updates.

[ed. Hereford Weather Watch is another very useful FB group for road flooding/closures]

COUNCIL NEWS

...**Presteigne & Norton Town Council. Next meeting Wednesday 18th January** at 7.30pm (Budget Setting). Next full Council Meeting Wednesday 25th January. Meeting papers available from the town website www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council, also Draft Minutes of the December TC Meeting. Meetings held in the Assembly Rooms and on Zoom.

...**Great news! Presteigne and Norton Town Council has bought land to create a place for nature on the edge of Presteigne**, purchased via a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (on behalf of the Welsh Government) located behind Castle Road and the Primary School, to encourage a mixed habitat and to have an area of open grassland/wild flower meadow, ponds and native trees as well as maintaining the Historic Park and Garden with more specimen arboretum trees planted to replace the ones that have been lost. The grassland will be mown annually and encouraged over time to become a wildflower meadow. Paths will be cut throughout the growing season for access. A wide native hedge along the field boundary and groups of native tree planting will cover the rest of the field with grassland between. It will be managed as a nature reserve and the intention is for volunteers to help to install and maintain it. Work on the ground to commence early in 2023, being done with advice and support from The Woodland Trust, Radnor Wildlife Trust, CADW, Llais y Goedwig and Natural Resources Wales. The scheme is part of the national forest project, a Welsh Government programme to work towards net zero by 2030. Once complete the site will be a part of the National Forest of Wales.

...**Powys CC Statement 16/12/2022 about our Leisure Centre**. We have heard and listened to the views expressed by Members and the people of Powys since the Cabinet decided earlier this week to close some of our leisure facilities between January and March. The decision was made to try and address the additional financial challenges faced by Freedom Leisure in light of the significant increase in energy cost which are compounded by the decision to remove public sector organisations from the UK-wide Energy Support Scheme from March 2023.

On Wednesday we received information about the funding that will be provided to the County by Welsh Government next year. The settlement is better than anticipated. In light of this, we have decided not to implement the decision made by Cabinet on the 13th of December to temporarily close three Leisure Centres and three swimming pools between January and March 2023. This will lead to additional pressure on our budget this year, and we will use some of the money from next year's settlement to cover the additional costs incurred this year. This will be done by drawing on Reserves this year but replenishing them next year from the increased funding provided by Welsh Government. Many of the leisure facilities across the County are in need of investment due to their age and condition. Before we spend any significant capital funds, we will undertake a comprehensive review of the facilities and we will fully engage with local communities, those who use our services and County Councillors, as well as by working closely with Freedom Leisure. To make sure that we allocate sufficient time for this comprehensive review, it will begin early in the New Year and we will share the Terms of Reference with our Scrutiny Committees. Cabinet and Scrutiny will consider the recommendations of the review in due course. There is some urgency to undertake this review to make sure that our leisure services are sustainable in the future, particularly since we expect significant cuts in public expenditure from 2025 onwards.

...from County Councillor Beverley Baynham. 2022 has been a rollercoaster of a year! I retained my role as County Councillor in Presteigne whilst Norton was separated and joined with Llangunllo. We celebrated the Platinum Jubilee with a lovely street party and had glorious weather for a fantastic Carnival. The nation mourned the loss of our Queen and we welcomed King Charles III to the throne. Presteigne was thrown into the spotlight with the protest at Labtech and then came the devastating news our Leisure Centre was closing. After swinging into action we saw a huge u-turn by PCC Cabinet who reversed the decision. We then rounded off the year with the fabulous Presteigne Panto! How good it was to return to some sort of normality. 2023 will see new challenges - we've to secure the long-term future of the Leisure Centre and battle the cost of living crisis. Who would have thought a couple of years ago so many people would be relying on food banks and having to choose between heating & eating. Let's hope 2023 will see new beginnings - and the return of Pete's Dragon! Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the last year and to everyone who has volunteered at the many community events we've enjoyed. I hope you all have a Happy New Year and if you need anything, feel free to drop me a message anytime. Best wishes to all

SCAM WARNING (from WHICH and other sources)

...Beware of 'free' supermarket vouchers on social media. These posts claim to offer free grocery vouchers, but they actually require you to sign up to play a series of games and subscriptions. This not only takes up your time, it can also cost you money and involve you handing over personal information.

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...Presteigne Medical Centre 56-Day Prescribing. From 29th November 2022, the practice has been switching eligible patients who have regular, repeat prescriptions issued by the surgery onto 56-day prescribing. For further information, please go to <https://www.presteignemedicalcentre.com/2022/12/16/56-day-prescribing/>

...from Presteigne Carnival. Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Decorated House competition:- 1st Lisa Simcock, 2 The Plantations; Joint 2nd - Rory Bennett, 4 Greenfield Road and Geraldine Fletcher, 37 Townend; 4th Vicky Davies, 59 Lugg View. The entries were wonderful again this year, a very hard job judging such lovely entries. Thank you all so much for entering p.s. Note for your diary, Carnival Day is Saturday, 8th July, 2023!

...KCS is just starting weekly rehearsals for its Spring concert in Presteigne of Karl Jenkins "The Armed Man". If you love singing and would like to join us to perform this wonderful piece of music, contact Christine on 01544 267048 or email crefousse@live.co.uk. Kington Choral rehearses on Monday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in Titley Village Hall.

...PNCS Warehouse is up and running in our new home.....up the end of the Presteigne Industrial estate in the old Weobley Ash buildingdo pop up and have a look.

...Presteigne Bowling Club Cash Bingo has restarted every Thursday 8pm at the Bowls Social Club in Hereford Street - new players welcome.

...from Crocketts. Starting this Saturday, we are proud to present a series of Barry's Burgers pop-ups. Showcasing the best local beef, cheeses and more, Barry's Burgers are freshly prepared for dine-in or takeaway. Fridays and Saturdays throughout January 6pm-10pm. Call 0154 260017 to book.

...East Radnor Bellringers. We are looking to recruit and train up new ringers in Knighton, Presteigne and New Radnor during the year. Bellringing is inclusive, inexpensive, satisfying and above all, fun! Interested? Take a look at this link for more info, or send a message through this page: <https://bellringing.org/>

...1st Presteigne Rainbows. Try Rainbows, a fun activity group for girls aged 4-7 (5 years in some areas). Girls have great experiences, make new friends and develop confidence! Simply register your daughter via <http://bit.ly/3XfISbL> and our Unit Leader will be in touch to arrange a taster session. Tuesdays in the Old School, Hereford Street, Presteigne.

...Presteigne Primary School PTFA cake sale Friday 20th January - any cakes donated will be gratefully received. We had so many cakes donated last time, you were all so generous and we were very thankful. We wouldn't be able to make as much money for the school without donations. So if anyone would like to bake some cakes for next Friday we will be very grateful.

...Treatments now available at No. 7 Clinic, Presteigne. Acupuncture, Bowen Technique, Emmett Therapy, Facial treatments (Tropic Skincare), Holistic Massage, Massage incl Acupressure, Remedial Massage, Indian Head Massage, Manual Lymphatic Drainage, Osteopathy, Reflexology, Reiki, Traditional Chinese Medicine incl Acupuncture, Chinese Herbs, & Tuina Body Therapy, Yoga class instruction & 1:1. Please contact 07969569140 for info

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...What's On at Whitton Village Hall - WI 1st Tuesday in the month; Bowls every Wednesday; Floral Arts every other Thursday in day.; Bridge club every Thursday night; Coffee Mornings 2nd Tuesday of the month. Contact Gill gill.powell@live.co.uk or 01547 560367.

...**East Radnorshire Care WARM SPACE.** A Warm Space is available on Tuesdays & Fridays each week from 10am to 3pm, at the Day Centre building on Scottleton Street, Presteigne, LD8 2BL. Everyone is welcome to drop in for a light refreshments and a chat. No need to book.

...**Presteigne Screen “Queen of Glory” (15)** - In this funny and emotionally satisfying film a young Ghanaian-American woman living in the US is faced with the task of picking up the reins after her mother dies and marshalling with her diverse immigrant family. Don't miss it! Friday 20 January 8:00pm. Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Admission £5.00 Students £3.50. Visit www.presteignescreen.org.uk for details and to book online

...**Household items not working or broken?** Presteigne Repair & Share back at the Old School (Youth Centre) on Sat Jan 21st 10.00 til 12.00 pm. Please remember to empty hoovers & toasters first if you are bringing them !

...**from RWT - Sustainable is fashionable!** We're excited to be organising Radnorshire Wildlife Trust's first ever clothes swap in collaboration with Presteigne Repair & Share at the Old School in Hereford Street, Presteigne on Saturday 18 February 2pm-4.30pm. This FREE event is taking place during London Fashion Week, but with a theme around slow fashion! Just bring your clean, unwanted clothes along - someone else might love them! Then... swap! And go home feeling great about the sustainably sourced new additions to your wardrobe! The event is open to everyone! Come and talk to our friendly Stand for Nature Wales team and the Presteigne Repair & Share team to learn about slow fashion and upcycling! We will also be offering a **FREE t-shirt printing workshop** as part of the event, led 19-year-old fashion student, Esmel! There will be two 1-hour sessions available: 2:15 - 3:15 pm and 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Spaces are limited to five people per session, so booking is essential for the t-shirt printing. If interested, please email chloe@rwtwales.org with the number of participants, participant name(s), age, and the time interval you would like to book. Find out more: <https://www.rwtwales.org/events/2023-02-18-presteigne-clothes-swap>

...**East Radnor Ramblers - programme for the remainder of January:** Weds 18th Climbing Jack Trail, Mortimer Forest, 9 miles. Thurs 19th The Haltons, Ludlow, 6.2 miles. Sat 21st Newchurch, 7.3 miles. Weds 25th Wilstone & Cardington 8 miles. For more details see www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call 01544 260524.

...**Sidney Nolan Trust CULTIVATE Youth Arts Programme (15 – 25yrs).** Forthcoming Dates: Saturday 11th February, 10am – 2pm. Cultivate is delighted to welcome back film maker Lal Davies (<https://laldaviesma.wordpress.com/>) who will work with the group on short films inspired by our work on the dismantled railway. Saturday 11th March, 10am – 1pm Exhibition time! We will present our recent work in the main gallery space at The Rodd. This session will allow us to reflect on the presentation of our work and share it with family and friends. Cultivate is FREE to attend. To sign up for Cultivate, please email Antony Mottershead, Creative Producer at info@sidneynolantrust.org

...**from RWT. Ever planted a hedge before?** If you're aged 16-24, join the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust's FREE hedge planting session in Presteigne on Saturday 21st January! Get stuck in, make a difference for your local community and wildlife, whilst also gaining practical conservation skills! No experience is necessary. Training, support, and all equipment will be provided. Book <https://www.rwtwales.org/events/2023-01-21-wild-weekends-hedge-planting>

...**Sidney Nolan Trust MAKE weekly arts and creative club (10 – 14yrs).** Runs on Mondays from 3.30 – 5 pm at The Old School (Youth Centre), Hereford Street, Presteigne. The themes which we will be exploring this term include *Interactivity* and *Nature*. Spring term 2023 dates: Monday 16 January - Monday 13 February, (Half term break - no session on Monday 20 February), Monday 27 February - Monday 27 March. Arrive from 3.30 pm (drinks and snacks available). MAKE from 4.00 to 5.00 pm - FREE to attend- to sign up email Antony Mottershead, Creative Producer at info@sidneynolantrust.org

...**Burns Night Celebration at The Hub, School Lane, New Radnor** Friday 27 January featuring poet Mac Cockburn. Haggis Supper £10 (veggie option available) includes poetry. Dessert £3. All welcome. Bar open from 6.30. Haggis addressed at 7pm. To book for food txt or ring 07870 752325

...**from Angela. Talk on pollinators, RWT Burfa Bog, Evenjobb and the RWT Green Connections Project for Radnorshire.** Kinnerton Village Hall Saturday 25 February 1 to 4pm, teas/coffees/cakes. If you would like to come along and bring a display board of your own, or just fancy chatting to others and enjoying some tea and cake – we would be really pleased to see you. The afternoon is for individuals or groups - if you would like to come, email janice@rwtwales.org or call 07949828634.

...**MINR presents Adam Khan and Clarissa Payne: music for guitar and flute.** Saturday 11th February 2023 Tickets £15. An award-winning guitarist, Adam is well known for his collaborations with other performers. This will be his third visit to MiNR. As a duo Clarissa and Adam explore repertoire from Schubert to Ravi Shankar to Stephen Goss. Tonight's programme will feature many works by women composers including Elisabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre, Chiqinha Gonzaga, Libby Larsen and Katherine Hoover, as well as pieces by JS Bach. <https://guitarflute.net/>. All performances start at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7.00 pm). Box office 01544 350268 unless otherwise stated. The concessionary price for children under 14 is always £3. Wine and soft drinks will be available at the bar: feel free to bring snacks. Please note that there is no parking available at the hall.

OTHER INFORMATION

...[ed.] apologies for the misleading item in the last News about a new 988 Help number for anyone with mental health worries. That was a USA number !!!!! To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact [Samaritans](https://www.samaritans.org) 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can call [116 123](tel:116123) (free from any phone), email jo@samaritans.org or [visit some branches in person](#). You can also call the Samaritans Welsh Language Line on [0808 164 0123](tel:08081640123) (7pm–11pm every day). See the Mind website for more information <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/guides-to-support-and-services/crisis-services/helplines-listening-services/>

...from Helen. **Help needed!** We have a nice little set of recycling bins at The Old School, meaning that residents have a local place to bring their pill blister packs, biros, ink cartridges, ink toners, and small electrical items. However, some of these items need to be taken to the HWRC for recycling as they are not collected kerbside. We are looking for just a few local volunteers who would be able to take these items (excluding biros and ink cartridges which go to Terracycle) whenever they take a trip to Llandod. We can't really carry on with this unless we get a bit of help. Please if you can help, get in touch with Helen at: hgooderham29@gmail.com

...from Lisa - **we are looking for a house to rent in or around Presteigne** from end of January onwards for a minimum of a year. Ideally 3 bedrooms & garden. Family of four. Both working full time. Please keep us in mind if you hear of anything. Thank you. Call/text 07788 264726 or email lveary@btconnect.com

...if you shop online using **Amazon Smile**, it donates a small amount from each purchase to a Charity. Did you know that you can select one of four Presteigne area charities? Presteigne & Norton Community Service, Presteigne Little Peoples Playgroup, New Radnorshire Home Support, and The Castle Mound New Radnor Trust. Select your preference and please tell all your friends. All these little amounts add up to help our local charities!!

...Now in its 3rd year!. **Enrol for the FREE MoneySavingExpert.com Academy of Money course**, in partnership with The Open University to tool up on your financial skills. If you have some downtime this festive season, why not join the 10,000s of others who've signed up to the online financial education course? The MSE Academy of Money course is #free, and covers six key areas of personal finance. Go here for full details and to sign up <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/mses-academy-money/content-section-overview>

...from **PTHB Weight Management**. If you're interested, or know a friend, family or neighbour who would like support for weight management, please visit our website for more information about our Level 2 Weight Management Service, where you can also find the self-referral form <https://pthb.nhs.wales/services/adult-and-older-peoples-community-services/dietetic-services/>. For further information, please contact: Powys.PublicHealthDietetics@wales.nhs.uk

R.I.P.

...**William Ivor Lewis (Bill)** of Presteigne passed away peacefully at Hereford County Hospital on 19th December aged 83. Funeral at St Andrews, Presteigne Saturday 28th Jan 12.30pm followed by interment in Presteigne Cemetery. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Froome Bank Residential Home. Inquiries 01547528554. Another of Presteigne's characters Billy 'Squeak' has gone!

LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

...**Firth Construction - part/full time carpenters** (would consider multi-trade) to join us on high end projects in and around the Presteigne / Herefordshire area. Rate of pay depending on experience. Send your CV to admin@firthconstruction.co.uk or send us a message on here. Previous applicants welcome.

...**Sidney Nolan Trust - Collection & Archive Volunteers** to organise and care for its extensive Sidney Nolan collection & archive. The volunteers usually work together on a Tuesday from **10am – 3pm**. For more information, visit <https://www.sidneynolantrust.org/news/> or contact Antony Mottershead at info@sidneynolantrust.org or [01544260149](tel:01544260149)

...**PAVO Job Vacancy - Community Connectors Admin Assistant!** . A great opportunity here to work with the PAVO Community Connectors Team, see website for details and to apply https://www.pavo.org.uk/news/article/news/would-you-like-to-work-for-pavo-1.html?no_cache=1&cHash=7a313767bfad469f583fa058a0a4a53f

...**Radnor Oak - Marketing & Sales Developer** based in our Presteigne office. If you would like to apply for either position, please email your CV and any relevant information to willytyler@radnoroak.co.uk

...**Lane Cottage Produce. Delivery driver** to join us for the coming season March to September. 25 hrs per week Tuesday - Friday. Experience required. Contact Mandy on 07957 761816

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.