

# Community News



## Issue 325 November 2023

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

**Next Issue - deadline for contributions 10am Thursday 14 December  
n.b. no surprise, but there will be no end-December issue!!  
email [news@pacdg.org](mailto: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](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/calendar)

### THANK YOU!

...from **Michael and Tim**. We raised £400 last Thursday at our Independence Day celebration - £200 for Foodbank and £200 for Baptist Church funds – we are so grateful to all who came and contributed so generously.

...**Presteigne Plenty**: A massive thanks to everyone who supported our stall at last week's Christmas fair. We loved chatting to you about our project and our partners at the Presteigne Community Garden, and we loved the fact that we sold out of all our preserves! We still have some of our delicious, locally sourced apple juice available. And because we know some of you were disappointed at missing out on our speciality mincemeat and cider apple butter - drum roll! - we'll be making one more batch. Come and find us at the Presteigne Christmas Grotto and street event on Friday, 15 December, 4-7pm or until we sell out (and if the Fair is anything to go by that could well be at 4.30pm so hurry!).

### TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

...**Congratulations to Cllr. Trevor Owens who was elected Deputy Mayor** for the remainder of the current municipal year at the meeting of the Presteigne & Norton Town Council held on 15th November. A former Town Mayor, Cllr. Owens was in previously in office as Mayor during 2019/20 and 2020/21 and Deputy in 2018/19.

...**Latest planning application** in to be considered at the December meeting of the Town Council. 23/1735/FUL Grid Reference: E:331285 N: 263921 Proposal: Proposed open fronted storage shed Site Address: Western Way , Broadaxe Business Park, Presteigne.

### SCAM ALERTS (from Which? and others)

...**the latest scams** - from fake Evri delivery emails to fraudulent Facebook pages advertising a Lapland holiday competition, the Which? scam tracker highlights the latest scams you need to know about this month. Our goal is to help you stay ahead of fraudsters and outsmart them. Visit the Which? website to discover the latest scams

### NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**PNCS - our Annual fundraiser the Christmas Raffle is here**, tickets are available from The Charity Shop, The Warehouse and The Office... £1 a ticket. We would like to thank all the Presteigne and surrounding area businesses, members, and supporters for donating these wonderful prizes. We are so grateful and appreciate it very much. Come and grab a ticket before they run out.... Which does happen. Thank you again for your continued support.

...**from Presteigne Plenty** - If you're looking for locally made, beautifully packaged goodies for Christmas presents then we have the answer! Come and check out our wares at this year's Christmas Fair at St Andrew's Church on Friday 24th November (2pm-6pm). We'll be selling our very popular boozy mincemeat, chutneys, some delicious cider butter, jams and pasteurised apple juice (everything made from the town's surplus fruit and veg), with all profits going to community projects, including the Presteigne & Knighton Foodbank. For more info contact: [emma.lilley@btinternet.com](mailto:emma.lilley@btinternet.com)

...**The bumper issue of Broad Sheep (Dec and Jan) is now online** - [www.broadsheep.com](http://www.broadsheep.com)  
Look out for hard copies next week - and it's FREE! It's the only guide you'll need to find What's On in Herefordshire, Shropshire & Powys.

**...Presteigne Day Centre - Please can everyone take 5 minutes to fill in the online consultation.**

As you may be aware the Day Centre has been unable to re-open following Covid, this is due mainly to a lack of a funding agreement with Powys CC. The Day Opportunities Consultation is your chance to let PCC know we need our Day Centre to re-open. Please cut & paste this link <https://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/day-opportunities-review> to complete the questionnaire

**...there will be NO RNID drop-in session at the Old School (Youth Centre) on Wednesday 27th December** because of the festive holiday. This is a change to the advertised session. The next RNID drop-in clinic will be on the 24th January 2024.

**...Crocketts - new!!! Monday Club.** We're opening every Monday night during the winter for board games, dominoes, cosiness, drinks and a great value supper menu ! Come along from 6pm onwards! See our FB page for each Monday's menu.

**...PNCS Warehouse - Fabulous dolls house and two boxes of good quality dolls house furniture.** Excellent condition. House is 22 in wide, 14 in deep and 2 ft high. £250. Please ask an assistant in the warehouse to view this. A beautiful Christmas present! Plus.... Lladro style porcelain figurine of a tiger and cubs in excellent condition, £30.

**...Broadaxe Farm Xmas Trees & Wreaths** - we are now open (from 25th November) with lots of locally grown trees and home made wreaths!!! Please make contact through our FB page or call 01544 267031

**...from Rhiannon - Presteigne Library** is hoping to extend its opening hours in the new year and will need a few more volunteers to help us achieve this! We're in need of both library and cleaning volunteers. To register an interest or if you'd like to find out more, please email [presteigne.library@powys.gov.uk](mailto:presteigne.library@powys.gov.uk) or drop into the library.

**...PNCS Warehouse - Our Christmas decorations are selling quickly!** If you are having a clear out of yours before the big day we would appreciate them. Only 5 weeks until Christmas. We have lots of unique, unusual and bargain presents. Come and take a look.

**...Love to sing? If you were inspired by the sell-out Mozart concert at St Andrew's, come and join us at Kington Choral!** We are a friendly bunch of people of all ages. Some have a broad musical background, others have never sung in a choir before. It doesn't matter, you will not be auditioned and can try us out for a few weeks before deciding. We hope of course you will stay and find you start to grow in confidence and ability. We are also seeking young aspiring singers to apply for the KCS Bursary to help fund and develop their singing - if that sounds of interest do get in touch via our website [www.kingtonchoral.org.uk](http://www.kingtonchoral.org.uk) or DM us from our FB page. Monday night rehearsals in Titley will continue to 18 December after which we take a break and resume again on Monday January 8th to prepare for our Duruflé concert in March at St Andrew's in Presteigne.

**...Radnorshire Arms Hotel - Meat Raffle Results 26th November** - Sausages/Beef Burgers - Guy; Minced Beef - C & A; Diced Beef - Louise ; Pork Steaks - Steve T; Gammon Steaks - Tim S; Rump Steaks - Jeremy; Mixed Grill - Jeremy; Pork Joint/Beef Joint - Trevor O. A big thank you to all of you for taking part! Next Raffle Sunday 3rd December 1pm. Tickets £1 so please pop in if interested!

**...Spar Presteigne** - our County Bridge Christmas hampers are now available to order! Please ask a staff member in-store for details.

**...Presteigne Bowling Club AGM** - in the Social Club Monday 11 December 7pm

**...from Kay - Art Club** at the British Legion, Presteigne. Every Tuesday 10am-12noon. £5.00. Beginners welcome - PLUS - evening 'Art for All' sessions are being planned for the Old School/Youth Centre in Hereford Street for the spring, possibly on a Thursday evening. All interested parties please contact Kay on 07724379335 or email [kayyendole@rocketmail.com](mailto:kayyendole@rocketmail.com)

**...Presteigne Library - Good news!** From December, story time at the library will be happening EVERY Friday at 11am. Pop in for stories and fun for under fives!

**...Crocketts Monday Club** - Happy Monday! We will kick off with Monday Club proper NEXT WEEK on the 4th of December 6pm to 9.30pm. We've been accumulating various classic board games including Scrabble, Taboo, Boggle and Guess Who....as well as dominoes and good old fashioned cards. Plus a hearty dinner for a tenner (will vary- think bangers & mash, chicken casserole, Monday Club sandwich & fries, etc...) FB Message or call us 01544 260017 for more info!!

**...1st Presteigne Brownies & 2nd Presteigne Rainbows** are continuing growing their numbers. It's been another busy term for our badge-mad young members - We have loved getting messy with painting, learning some new dance moves and life skills (cooking & sewing). We are pleased to announce we still have spaces available for girls aged 4-10 years old. We also have volunteer opportunities available to help out at our weekly meetings, events or even behind the scenes.

**...Sadly, 1st Presteigne Guides has had to temporarily close** due to decreasing numbers of members - If we get enough interest from young women aged 10-14 we hope to restart after Feb half-term. Please do contact me if you are interested to join. The Guides unit would also greatly benefit from another adult volunteer either as a Leader or Unit Helper. All training will be provided subject to references and DBS check. Email Amy at [amyprice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amyprice@hotmail.co.uk)

**...PNCS Warehouse** - two 5ft tall bears looking for a new home - £30.00 each.

## EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Local Food Market** - don't forget, in December the Market is on the second Saturday, meaning this month we will see you all at the Old School/Youth Centre in Hereford Street on Saturday the 9th December for your monthly goodies, alongside some Xmas treats!

...**Don't miss this year's Presteigne pantomime, 'A Christmas Squirrel'**. When Ebenezer Scrote arrives as Presteigne's new mayor with ideas of developing the town, can the locals change his mind? Can the Scratchitt family prevent Tiny Tim from shrinking away altogether? And will Mrs Thingummy find true love at last? Join colourful characters such as the Artful Codgers and Mr and Mrs Crossdresser and be transported back to a (different sort of) Victorian Christmas. Performances start at 7.30pm on Thursday 7th, Friday 8th and Saturday 9th December at the Ivor Hughes Centre, John Beddoes School. Get your tickets from The Salty Dog, High Street, Presteigne (cash only). Ticket prices: Thursday: adult £6, child £4, family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £17; Friday and Saturday: adult £8, child £5 child, Family ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £22.

...**Press Gangers at The Dukes** - What is there to do between Christmas and New Year??? Usually, not a lot but now .... come to The Dukes for an evening of song ..... and singing! Press Gangers will be there on Thursday 28 December from 6.30pm until late to entertain you with a lot of shanty, and a few Irish songs as well, supported by Big Me Up Baby with their take on popular songs in their first gig here in Presteigne. Come along for good booze & rousing shanties - be prepared to sing! Entry is FREE but a retiring collection for Welsh Air Ambulance

...**Presteigne Pop Choir Christmas Concert** - Sunday 17 December, 3pm at the Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Donations for entry and refreshments.

...**Wings of Change - full day Active Hope Workshop** on Sunday 3 December at the Assembly Rooms in Presteigne, 10am - 5pm. The workshop's central purpose is to bring us back into relationship with ourselves, each other and with the earth, motivating and empowering us to engage with the social and ecological challenges we face, leading to greater connection, resilience and hope. Please visit <https://swiftswoc.wixsite.com/wingsofchange>

...**Presteigne Church Services in the run up to Christmas** - One service for each of the churches: Thursday 14 December Carols at the Baptist Church 7pm followed by mince pies and coffee; Sunday 17 December Carols at the Methodist Church 3pm, followed by tea; on Christmas Eve Carols at St Andrew's Church 5pm; on Christmas Eve Carols & Mass at the Catholic Church 8pm.

...**Radnorshire Arms, Presteigne - New Years Eve** - tickets for sale @ £20 pp. This will include a welcome drink, canapés, dancing and a glass of sparkles to welcome 2024. Tickets from Reception.

...**Presteigne Open Studios Christmas Market** - a pop-up Artists and Makers Christmas Market in the shop in Radnor Buildings next door to the Hospice shop on Hereford Street. Open from Saturday 2 to 16 December 10 am - 4 pm daily except for Sundays & Mondays. We will be selling cards, paintings, ceramics and prints and there will definitely be some bargains to be had!

...**Christmas Shopping Evening at the Retreat in Presteigne** on Friday 15 December, 4-7pm. Silvan Skincare, Kleen Soap on Rope, Pukka teas, organic cotton face cloths, bath mitts, loofahs, body and nail brushes. Local writer and coach Henny Flynn will be here with her beautiful books on love and self-compassion - gorgeous gifts for yourself or your loved ones. Come along, have a glass of something or send your loved one with a hint...The Retreat (next door to The Workhouse Gallery) on Presteigne Industrial Estate, LD8 2UF (p.s. If you can't make our shopping evening but live locally just let me know and we can make an arrangement for you to collect at a time to suit <https://www.silvanmassage.com/>

...**Book Stall, Saturday 2nd December** 9.30am to 12.30 in aid of Medicins Sans Frontieres. Downstairs foyer of the Assembly Rooms. A wide variety of secondhand books in good condition, including hardbacks. Classics, Nature, Art, Hobbies, Novels. Ideal for 'green' presents. Come & have a browse

...**"Gather Round and Sing for Christmas Fun"** at Presteigne Baptist Church December 16th at 10.30am with Marion Rowlatt and Michael Tavinor

...**Presteigne Methodist Church - Coffee Morning** on Saturday 16th December from 10.30 until 12 in the church itself. We will be offering coffee and mince pies, a raffle, lucky dip and a warm welcome - look forward to seeing you there.

...**Music In New Radnor - Saturday 9th December**. The Mellstock Band – *Christmas in Mellstock*. Tickets £15 (under 14s, £3). Dave Townsend - concertina, fiddle, vocals; Phil Humphries - serpent, vocals; Tim Hill - clarinets, vocals; Caroline Butler - fiddle, vocals. Get into the Christmas spirit with The Mellstock Band's Christmas show. With their unique combination of instrumental music, singing and the spoken word, built around the descriptions of Christmas festivities from the works of Thomas Hardy and his friend the Dorset dialect poet William Barnes from deepest Wessex. Expect strange visitors, pious beasts, supernatural visions, harmonious song, and the curious musical instruments of the nineteenth century including fiddle, clarinet, concertina and serpent. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30 start.

... **Launch of Radnor Valley Calendar 2024 and exhibition of photos.** Friday December 1st 6.30 pm at The Hub , New Radnor. In aid of Radnor Arms Hotel renovation.

...**Presteigne Screen presents "Return to Seoul"** Kor/Fra/Ger 2022 119 mins Rated 15. Friday, 1st December. The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Doors open 7:30pm for Bar, Coffee, Tea and Cakes.



Films start 8:00pm. An impulsive, devil-may-care 20-something South Korean woman who was adopted by a French family, decides on a whim to revisit the land of her birth and her birth family. In Seoul 'Freddie', as she now calls herself, quickly discovers that reticence is the social norm in Korea, a fact that tempts her to kick over the traces, to the offended surprise of her new friends and family. She drinks too much, she is sullen and impatient, she sleeps around casually without a thought for others' feelings. But then she encounters an aunt whose simple courtesies shame her and teach her that arrogance isn't necessarily the way ahead. Buying a ticket in advance guarantees a seat. We have at least 30 seats for online purchase before each film. Seats are unreserved, so to get the best seats it helps if you arrive early. Tickets £5 at door. Buy online through our website or direct at [WeGotTickets](#)

...**Aardvark Books & Café** - We are delighted to be supporting local charity *@be\_more\_frank* at our Christmas Fair, 3rd December this year! Come along, donate to an amazing cause, listen to Christmas jazz by the Dutch Lewis Trio, and shop the 20+ stalls at our Christmas Fair! And don't forget the Christmas Open Studios in Brampton Bryan the same weekend...

...**East Radnor Ramblers - walks in December.** Tues 5th Craven Arms, Wistanstow & Flow Bridge, 5.2 miles. Weds 6th Gladestry, Newchurch, Colva, 9.6 miles. Weds 13th Kington Perambulation, 7.6 miles. Weds 20th Around Bucknell Hills, 8.2 miles. Weds 27th Hardwicke to Hay, 9 miles. For more details see [www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor) or call 01544 260524.

...**Chatterbrook WI** - Our next get-together is on Thursday December 14th at 7.00 in St Andrew's Church Hall, Presteigne to enjoy our Christmas Festivities. Members - be prepared for the usual mixed bag of entertainment! Visitors also welcome, £4 on the door. Further information 07536 979665 and see <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI>

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society:** We meet in Lingen Village hall on Wednesday December 13th at 7.30 for our Christmas Demonstration by prize-winner Donald Morgan. This is bound to be a splendid floral show and lucky raffle winners will take home his creations. Visitors, as always, are welcome - £6 on the door. The informal flower classes in Whitton Community Hall are on hold temporarily; contact the Secretary for new dates and further details on 01544 340453. See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/610659036597894>

...**Christmas Grotto, Presteigne High Street** - Friday 15 December 4 to 7pm - featuring Santa's Grotto (free entry!), hot food & drink, late night shopping. Music by Pop Choir. Organised by CONNECT.

...**Royal Oak, Presteigne - Disco Night** 9pm Saturday 2 December

...**The Pizza Girls are coming to Presteigne** Friday 8th December in the Memorial Hall carpark, serving their delicious pizzas for you from 3:15 till sold out. A % of sales made will be donated to Presteigne Primary School PTFA, school funds. Please support our school.

## OTHER NEWS

...**Flu injections** - Public health experts from PTHB are strongly encouraging those who are eligible to take up their flu and COVID vaccines in order to give themselves an extra layer of protection from serious illness this winter. Read more: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/health-board-news/give-yourself-an-extra-layer-of-protection-this-winter-by-getting-your-flu-and-covid-vaccines/>. *[ed. book injections at Presteigne Medical Centre or Pharmacy]*

...**Powys CC - are you a landlord of a domestic and/or business unit** within a town centre which needs renovating? Email us at [privatesectorhousing@powys.gov.uk](mailto:privatesectorhousing@powys.gov.uk) to find out about match funding.

...**Powys Recycles - 2023 garden waste collections** are due to come to an end by the beginning of December. Please check your last remaining collection dates for this year online: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/binday>. The 2024 service will resume next February.

**LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES** *[ed. for other jobs in our local area, log on to <https://freegle.in/presteigne> and see **Jobs Near You** column on r.h.s.]*

...**We are looking for a Cafe Assistant to join our small friendly team at Aardvark Books and Cafe!** If you are within reach of Brampton Bryan, have an interest in or experience of catering and hospitality, & are available Tuesday - Friday 10am-4pm, please get in touch!

...**Freedom Leisure - We are looking to train up some new swimming teachers!** The ideal candidate will already have the correct qualifications however there'll be training for the right candidate training. For more information please email [leanne.evans@freedom-leisure.co.uk](mailto:leanne.evans@freedom-leisure.co.uk)

...**Wild Thyme Italian** - looking for an enthusiastic and professional person for the role of front of house. Responsibilities will include greeting and serving customers, setting up the restaurant for service. Timings, nominally 10-3 for morning and lunch service and 6-10pm for evening service. Potentially up to 4 or 5 shifts a week Wed - Sat. Experience of front of house duties is desirable, including operating a coffee espresso machine and preparing other drinks and beverages. Interested? message me directly on 07854 428668 or via FB Messenger with your details. David

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

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