

Issue 327 January 2024

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 Tuesday 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

****Presteigne Memorial Hall Needs You****. Following the temporary closure of the hall, due to urgent maintenance and safety concerns, the works are nearing completion. However, there is a requirement for a change to the current Trusteeship (Powys Council), and for both a Board of Trustees and a Management Committee to be formed. Can you help? Many hands make light work, as well as skills that can ensure the future success of the hall as a much loved community resource. **A public meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th January at Presteigne Youth Centre (Old School) in Hereford Street at 7:30pm**. Please come and support your Memorial Hall... and please spread the word to friends and neighbours!!

THANK YOU!

...**Deli Tinto - a huge, huge thank you to all our customers for your support in 2023**. It has meant so much, in one of the most challenging years small businesses (and individuals) have faced financially. We love being part of Presteigne life and we're so lucky to have such a fantastic high street, let's keep it going this year. With lots of best wishes to you and your families, we look forward to welcoming you for more chats and laughter... the Deli Tinto Team; Mary, Jan, Pete, Leila, Wendy, Jane and Emma (and a small ask, please, when you see our posts on Insta or FB, please like and share

...**The Circle has said farewell to Carole Brick** at the end of 2023 with huge appreciation for the role she has played in guiding this successful project over the past 5 years and extends a warm welcome to Tina Fenton who has replaced her as coordinator. This group is open 10am onwards every Tuesday morning at the Youth Centre (Old School) in Hereford Street, and will be celebrating its 12th year in 2024. The Circle morning starts with a cuppa and time to chat followed by various activities such as exercise, music, singing, games, quizzes and talks in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Every other week a soup lunch is provided. No charge (although donations are always welcome).

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

...**Ever thought of growing your own fruit and veg but don't have the space?** Did you know that P&N Town Council has an allotment site at the bottom of Went's Meadow? Tenancy renewals are due in March so now is the time to put your name on the waiting list if you are interested. Application form on the Council website www.presteigne.org.uk. Any questions please get in touch.

...**Self-employed person wanted for occasional street cleaning duties**. See TC page on the Town website for details and to apply.

...**PNTC meetings in January:** Budget Setting meeting - Wednesday 17th January 7.30pm; full Council meeting Wednesday 24th January 7.30pm in the Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Draft December Minutes and papers for January meetings are available on the TC page of the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk

SCAM ALERTS (from Which? and others)

...**Fake polymer notes circulating on social media.** A reader recently contacted us after they noticed a trend of people selling fake polymer banknotes on Facebook pages. We looked into this, and found that some of these pages are likely outright scams, and anyone who sends a payment is unlikely to receive anything in return. [Go to Which? to find out more about counterfeit cash](#) on social media and get advice on how to check your banknotes are genuine.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Screen presents “ Five Devils”** Friday 19 January (France 2022 103 mins 15). The Assembly Rooms. Doors open 7:30pm for Bar, Coffee, Tea and Cakes. Films start 8:00pm. An intriguing psychodrama with a magic-realist plot from French writer-director Léa Mysius. Unhappily married Joanne (Adèle Exarchopoulos, *Blue is the Warmest Colour*) and Jimmy live a simple life in a quaint village near the French Alps with their young daughter Vicky. But this is no ordinary girl. The child has a superhuman sense of smell so potent that she is able to transport herself back in time and witness scenes from an individual's past at the merest scent of a person's clothing or possessions. And so, when Jimmy's sister Julia arrives to stay after a decade away tensions grow as Vicky checks in on key moments of her aunt's and parents' troubled history. Buy tickets with [WeGotTickets](#). 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. We can accept contactless card payments at the door.

...**Presteigne Repair** - next Saturday 20th January 10am to 12.00 noon at the Youth Centre, Hereford Street. We are back again (every 3rd Saturday of each month) ready to fix those household items that have broken, stopped working, need mending or in need of a bit of an MOT! Our fixers' skills include sewing, sharpening, mechanical, electrical and glueing etc. Please, empty hoovers beforehand. Free, although donations are appreciated towards the hire of venue, insurance and other overheads. Assistance dogs only inside please. [01544 267997](tel:01544267997) or [260766](tel:01544260766)

...**from Michael. ‘Confessions of an Ecu-maniac’.** Next week is the traditional Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Revd. Michael Tavinor offers us an illustrated talk entitled ‘*Confessions of an Ecu-maniac*’ – reflections on Christian Unity over 60 years. In it, Michael speaks of his work with different Christian communities over the years. The talk is [on Wednesday 24 January at 2.00pm](#) in the Baptist Church, Hereford Street and will be followed by afternoon tea. All the four churches of Presteigne are invited to attend but it's not limited to members – everybody is welcome.

...**East Radnor Ramblers - walks in January.** Weds 17th Three Trails, 8.5 miles. Thurs 18th Orelton, Portway & Ashley Moor, 4.3 miles. Weds 24th Titley, Rushock circular, 7.6 miles. For more details see www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call [01544 260524](tel:01544260524)

...**Concert at St Andrew's Presteigne** - We have a real treat coming up at St Andrew's early next month when the Chelys Consort of Viols and Helen Charlston - Mezzo Soprano present their consort programme 'The Honour of William Byrd' at 3.30pm on [Friday 2 February](#). The viol consort's last visit to Presteigne with the Fieri vocal consort a couple of years ago was extremely enjoyable, and we are really privileged that their guest this year will be Helen Charlston, who is one of the country's most remarkable young singers ... her recent recordings and concert performances have been highly praised, particularly her album Battle Cry, with the oboe player Toby Carr, focusing on the stories of strong women such as Dido and Ariadne. Tickets priced £22 will be available on the door or can be ordered in advance from [07989 091949](tel:07989091949) or info@EarlyMusicInTheMarches.com

...**Presteigne Screen presents "The Five Devils"**. France 2022 103 mins 15. Friday, 19th January. The Assembly Rooms, Broad Street, Presteigne. An intriguing psychodrama with a magic-realist plot from French writer-director Léa Mysius. Doors open 7:30pm for Bar, Coffee, Tea and Cakes. Films start 8:00pm. Tickets £5 at door. Buy online through our website or direct at [WeGotTickets](#)

...**Music in New Radnor MINR - The Kassia Trio**. Saturday 10th February. Music for two saxophones and piano. Tickets £15 (under 14s, £3). New Radnor Community Hall. All performances start at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7.00 pm). Box office 01544 350746 / 07493 940683 unless otherwise stated (please note: these are different to previous seasons). We can now take card payments on the door. Why not join our facebook group...

...**Crocketts 'Samba Sunday'** - 21st January 6 to 10pm. Latin American menu & specials - and live Latin music from Simon Deeley and James Chadwick. For info, menu and bookings call 01544 260017 or email info@welcometocrocketts.com

...**Presteigne Carnival - The next carnival meeting** will now be on Tuesday, 23rd January at the Radnorshire Arms at 7.30. This has been delayed to allow as many as possible to attend the Memorial Hall public meeting this Tuesday at the Youth Centre. If anyone is interested in knowing more about the carnival, please come along on the 23rd, we'd love to see you!

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**Thursday, the 11th January 2024, Presteigne and Norton was officially certified as a Dark Sky Community** by Darksy International. *It will be the first dark sky community in mainland England and Wales!!* Founded in 2021, the International Dark Sky Places Program is a non-regulatory and voluntary program to encourage communities, parks, and protected areas worldwide to preserve and protect dark sites through effective lighting policies, environmentally responsible outdoor lighting, and public education. When used indiscriminately, artificial light can disrupt ecosystems, impact human health, waste money, energy, contribute to climate change, and block our view and connection to the universe. Presteigne and Norton Dark Sky Community now joins more than 200 places worldwide that have demonstrated robust community support for dark sky advocacy and strive to protect the night from light pollution. Learn more by visiting www.darksy.org/conservation/idsp, or Dark Sky International: <https://darksy.org/news/presteigne-and-norton-is-certified-as-the-first-international-dark-sky-community-in-wales/> and BBC Wales: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-67941824>

...**Regular activities in the Old School (Youth Centre), Hereford Street**. Monday - MAKE (Sidney Nolan), Youth Club; Tuesday - The Circle, Rainbows/Brownies, Guides; Wednesday - Playgroup Play 'n Stay, Sarah Williams Yoga; Saturday - Local Food Market, Presteigne Repair. For information or to hire the Old School for your events, classes, meetings etc email presteignedogman@icloud.com.

...**The Judge's Lodging** - countdown to Half Term opening..... Saturday 10th February. 10.30am to 4.30pm. Bring your family for a lovely afternoon out. Tearoom, gift shop and children's trail.

...**Radnorshire Arms Hotel - our next Quiz Night**, first of 2024, Thursday 18th January - call in or telephone to book your table now.

...**Deli Tinto - beautiful fresh bread & pastries**. We also get bread from Boulanger Artisan Bakery, delivered Saturdays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays... orders taken

...**MJS Energy - Installing an air source heat pump**, coupled with the boiler upgrade scheme grant, might cost you nothing! Check out the details below and reach out this week for more information. #EnergyEfficiency #HomeUpgrade

...**Dementia Support Group** - We offer support and information to individuals who have Dementia and their families/friends/carers [01544 260766](tel:01544260766) or [267227](tel:01544267227) Also the library has a good selection of relevant books.

...**The Circle - A social event held every Tuesday morning** from 10am at the Youth Centre in Hereford Street. All are welcome. An opportunity to meet with other people, in a friendly & supportive atmosphere. Refreshments and various activities, including chair based exercises,

games, quizzes, singing and music. A soup lunch is served every other week. Co-ordinated by Presteigne & Norton Community Support assisted by volunteers. PNCS office: [5 The High Street](#), tel [01544 267961](#)

OTHER NEWS

...from Sports Powys - Calling clubs in Powys. Please be aware that any clubs planning to apply for the #BeActiveWales Fund this financial year need to do so by Wednesday 31 January 2024. Any applications made after this date will not be processed until April and will be counted in the 2024-25 round of funding. Get in touch : sports.development@powys.gov.uk

...Powys Recycles - Due to a vehicle breakdown, we are currently unable to empty the cardboard recycling banks. We are working to get this resolved as soon as possible. In the meantime, please recycle small bits of cardboard in your blue recycling box and take larger, flattened boxes to the Household Waste Recycling Centres. Please do not leave waste on the ground.

...Powys CC - Pension Credit: Are you missing out? Did you know that it is estimated that around 80,000 pensioners across Wales are entitled to Pension Credit but are not claiming it? More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/15247/Pension-Credit-Are-you-missing-out>

...Powys CC - Draft budget published. Difficult decisions are needed in order to balance Powys County Council's budget for 2024/25, Cabinet has warned today as it publishes its draft budget. More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/15278/Draft-budget-published>

...Powys CC - Applications are now open for the Chweched Powys Sixth form! Apply now for September 2024. Please consider submitting applications by Friday 9th February 2024. <https://powys6.cymru/>

...Farmers against Misinformation - Not everyone realises, please let people know. To all walkers/ countryside users. If you happen to come across a sheep lying on it's back with its legs up it is 'cast'! Please be so kind as to tip/roll them back over- if left like this they can die as they cannot get up! Especially important this time of year as most will be carrying lambs!

R.I.P.

...Ken Marsh of Presteigne passed away suddenly on 26th November aged 76 Years. Funeral Service will take place at St Andrews Church, Presteigne on [Monday 15th January](#) at 12noon followed by interment at Presteigne Cemetery. Family Flowers Only. Donations if desired to Wales Air Ambulance. For further information contact A.W.Hughes & Son 01544 267778.

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]*

...Mangar, Presteigne - production staff to join our team at our facility based in Presteigne. This will be a permanent role. With the working hours; 08:30am – 5pm, Monday to Thursday and a 1pm finish on a Friday afternoon. If you think this sounds like a suitable position for you, please send your CV to debbie.jones@winnicare.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.