

Community News

Issue 331 March 2024



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

**Next Issue - deadline for contributions 10am Saturday 30th March
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

...See the current issue of Broadsheep for a touching tribute from Pete to two of Presteigne's best - Annemarie Roberts (The Salty Dog) and Andy Leavis (Courtyard Antiques). Featured in the March issue of Broad Sheep - pick up a copy from our pubs, shops, Library or read online at www.broadsheep.com.

...MidBorder News - Here is the link to the online edition of our Spring issue (https://issuu.com/midbordernews/docs/midborder_news_spring_2024) which has two extra pages. We received so much content that the print edition just didn't have space for it all. We've got a terrific interview with Ali Allen from the Walking Hub; a fascinating article – first of four – about the much loved Oxford Arms pub in Kington (now a community cic); a brief history of Knighton by Old Peculier; Presteigne Dark Skies status; an update from The Sleeping Dragon (Presteigne) and lots of local news and events. We also have a rather sad but necessary article about the misuse of rat poison: beloved dogs have died and we are trying to raise awareness of this problem. It's good to see the lengthening days of spring: the birds are singing, the woodpeckers are drumming, there will soon be lambs in the fields and a green haze of hawthorn buds in the hedges. Our lovely cover photo by Laura Shepherd Lens. Photography says it all. Best wishes, Annie.

...from Richard Wilding - just a quick heads up to Norton village dog walkers. Lambing season is underway which means ewes and lambs will soon be appearing in the fields around the village. Fields that were empty yesterday may NOT be today so please keep dogs on leads to be safe. Thanks. *[ed. this applies of course to all the fields around the Presteigne area]*

...Presteigne Parish Magazine - reminder that our copy deadline is Wed 20 March.

THANKS

...from Presteigne Firefighters. A massive thank you to everyone who supported our car wash at Radnor Valley School on the 2nd! Despite battling against the elements we raised an impressive £593.59 which will go to The Fire Fighters Charity and Friends of Radnor Valley School! A big thank you to #autoglym for supplying the washing materials, Group Manager Phil Morris for coming down and helping and to school members who supported in various roles!

...Radnorshire Arms Hotel - In February we have collected £245 for Presteigne little people's! Thank you to everybody that helped us raise this fantastic amount. This month our chosen charity will be East Radnorshire Care Centre.

COUNCIL NEWS

...Presteigne & Norton Town Council. There are currently two vacancies on the Town Council, one for Norton Ward and one for Presteigne Ward. Could you join us and contribute to your community? Closing date 31st March. Please feel free to get in touch if you would like to find out more via presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com or via Facebook Messenger.

...next P&N TC meeting Wednesday 20th March at 7.30pm in The Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Meeting papers and Draft Minutes from the February meeting have been available on the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk from 14th March.

...New Radnor - BT Full Fibre Broadband Update: 86% of the numbers needed have now pledged their connection voucher. Just a handful more needed to guarantee the scheme will go ahead. Have you signed up? Could you talk to a neighbour and check they are aware of the scheme? If you have pledged via the BT website remember you will get an email from the Government asking you to confirm. It should arrive a few days after you sign up. This is a vital part of the process! Not eligible for a

voucher/live more remotely? Please do get in touch with us at the Council. We are keeping a list of those missing out and pushing as much as possible to get others connected. Tell your neighbours, we need to get the last few properties needed.

SCAM ALERT

...Dyfed Powys Police. Have you received a message on What's App from friends or family members urgently needing help or requesting assistance to pay a bill? Stop to think, is this really them? Does this request seem unusual? Try contacting the person via their old telephone number, fraudsters will often contact you claiming to be this person on a new number. Try calling their landline or their spouse/another family member to establish if this request has genuinely come from them. Do not make any payments until you have spoken to your friend or relative via telephone or in person. For more information about the campaign and how to keep yourself safe from fraud visit <https://orlo.uk/h0b6J>

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...this afternoon!!! Evenjobb Village Hall. The Radnorshire Society are holding a talk by Ivan Monckton at 2pm on Thursday 14th March in Evenjobb Village Hall LD8 2SD on the joys and importance of local history. Everyone welcome. No charge. Afternoon tea to follow. Ivan will outline his own local discoveries including rare flints but also how the Evenjobb and Barland group work to find out their local history and what they have discovered.

...Presteigne Firefighters - Our 2nd car wash this year is in a couple of days on March 16th 10:00-14:00 at the recycling layby in Presteigne! All money raised will be split between The Fire Fighters Charity and Presteigne Young Farmers Club! Please support us if you can! We hope not too many tractors turn up! Thank you!

...The Mother Line: A Writing Workshop with Julia Doggart. March 16th, ground floor of Presteigne Assembly Rooms 10am - 4pm £40. Pre-registration at www.craftedessence.com is required. Writing can be a great tool for self-exploration as well as a craft we polish and hone. This workshop is a playful exploration of our varied and changing relationships with mothers, mothering energy, mother earth and creative expression. Writers of all stripes are welcome. Lunch not included.

...Flicks in the Sticks at Lingen Village Hall - "And Then Come The Nightjars", the story of friendship between a Devon Farmer and a vet who is assigned to cull his precious herd of cattle. Friday 15th March. 7.30pm. Tickets £5 adult, £3.50 children. Bar & ice creams.

...The Radnorshire Arms Hotel, Presteigne - Quiz Night Thursday 21st March and the proceeds always go to a local charity.

...Flowers for Fun: Maybe you would like to know how to arrange flowers? Join our friendly group to see what we do - at Whitton Community Hall on Thursdays 21st, 28th March from 12 – 2 pm (April dates to follow) . Come for a coffee and a chat – all welcome -£5 per session but first visit free! Phone Sue on 07368 350379 for more details, or just come along.

...Walton Village Hall AGM April 23rd 2pm (open to the public) followed by OGM. If you would like to join our committee please come along. Spring Clean April 30th 2pm Volunteers wanted!! Also: Craft Afternoons 1st & 3rd Tuesday every month 2-4pm. Come along and do your craft with other crafters. £3 per session inc refreshments. Book & Jigsaw Swap 2nd Wednesday every month 10am - 1pm. Hundreds of books (& jigsaws) to swap or buy. Refreshments available including homemade cakes. Walton Village Hall will be in the Kington Community Shop from Wednesday 29th May. Donations of goods and volunteers for the shop required (more info next month). Tel: 01544 350 511 for more details, or contact a committee member.

...Small-Scale Rewilding: A talk with Janet Barker of the Radnorshire Wildlife Trust at Presteigne Library. Find out more about bringing nature back to your garden or other small space. 27th March 2pm. Free.

...Presteigne Library - Drop-In IT Session. Need help with a new device? Concerned about internet security? Want to know how to spot a scam? Drop in to the library on Saturday the 23rd of March between 11am and 1pm and your questions will be answered!

...Presteigne Community Garden - to kick off our second year at the Community Garden we're organising an Open Day on Sunday 24th March 1.30-4.30pm so that people can come and visit the site and see what a wonderful resource it is, also to share thoughts on how the site could be best used for the benefit of the community. We have been successful in applying for a grant to purchase a new greenhouse, so the next major job will be to prepare a base for this. We're thrilled to have been awarded this money and the addition of a greenhouse will really make a difference to our growing potential. Please come along to the Open Day and see what a wonderful resource we have been gifted and share your ideas on what potential it offers.

...Royal Oak, Presteigne - We have something a little exciting coming to the Royal Oak!! Wednesday 20th March- 6pm-10pm, Peter Dykes one-to-one Psychic Readings! £30 per person for 30 minutes of reading. Ring or message the Royal Oak to book your place.

...**Remember it's Presteigne Repair & Skill Share** coming up on Saturday March 16th. 'Don't Bin It Bring it' and see if one of our clever volunteers can help fix it! Household items for Repair, the Youth Centre, Hereford Street 10 till 12 noon. Please empty hoovers beforehand. Assistance dogs only inside.
...**Norton Hub Open Day - Monday 1st April** (Bank Holiday) 10am - 4pm Come and see what we have been doing for the past two years. !! Morning Coffee & Cake and Afternoon Teas. All welcome.
...**Borderlines Film Festival at the Assembly Rooms** - Presteigne Screen's final film under the Borderlines umbrella will be: Typist Artist Pirate King, TOMORROW Friday 15th March, 8 pm UK 2022 108 mins 12A. A road movie like no other. Tickets £5.50 at door or buy online at WeGotTickets <https://www.wegottickets.com/event/602945>. Seats are unreserved, so to get the best seats it helps if you arrive early

...**East Radnor Ramblers - more Walks in March: Thurs 14th** Hergest Ridge Circular, 5.5 miles. Sat 16th Discovery Centre Circular, 7.5 miles. Sat 23rd Gilfach Reserve, Moelfryn & Esgair Dderw, 9.2 miles. More details www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call 01544 260524

...**Flicks in the Sticks at Lingen Village Hall "Edie"** starring Sheila Hancock and Paul Brannigan. Edie's husband passed away and her daughter tries to send her to a care home, but Edie has other ideas and goes on an adventure to climb a Scottish mountain, it's never too late!!!! Friday April 19th at 7.30pm. Adults £5.00 Children £3.50. Enquiries 01568 770920. Bar and Ice Creams. There will be an interval during this screening

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**from Kay - new weekly Art for All classes are starting up on Wednesday evenings** 7.30 to 9.30pm in the Old School (Youth Centre), Hereford Street, Presteigne commencing Wednesday 3rd April. £5. Contact kayyendole@rocketmail.com for more information / book.

...**Norton Hub 100 Club Draw - February Winners** : 1st Prize (£40) number 31 - Tim Bevan; 2nd Prize (£25) number 4 - David Owen, 3rd Prize (£15) number 63 - Ferdy Pearson-Gee

...**Experienced Mathematics Teacher offering private tuition** with availability for students taking GCSE and A Level. Please message me on 07549 25338.

...**Tai chi classes beginning/restarting in Presteigne after Easter.** Anyone interested should contact Paul Newman at paul@indetail.org for further information.

...**from Debs - Norton Community Hub is nearly open!!** £220,00 has been spent on the adaption of the former St. Andrews Church, Norton. As yet it can not be hired out as a few little things still are awaiting the final hurdle ie the connection of the sewage & the path to the building. An Open Day is planned for Monday 1st April so residents of Norton can finally see the work that has been done to enable this building to live on in the heart of the village for many generations to come. Keep an eye out for updates & booking information from May 2024 in the very near future. www.nortonhub.uk

...**Pentre Farm - Volunteers wanted. Sunday March 17th.** Volunteers Day, fun for all the family included. See previous Community News issue for more information. Please register your interest via this link if you can come so I can keep an eye on numbers and dietary requirements. <https://bookwhen.com/pentre/e/ev-sjlb-20240317110000>

...**Presteigne Screen presents 'Fremont'** at the Assembly Rooms Friday 22 March 8pm. Shot in scintillating black and white, this drama is a delightful exploration of the immigrant experience for Afghani girl Donya (a superb Anaita Wali Zada). A former US army translator, she has fled to Fremont, California, in the wake of the Taliban's return to power in her homeland. Life is safe but lonely and dull, despite Fremont's sizeable Afghan community, so leading her to make gentle but mildly risky moves, including the posting of her own messages, such as "desperate for a dream" along with her name and number, inside the fortune cookies she has helped to make in the Chinese factory where she works. "Sweet and sneakily powerful," says Variety magazine. USA 2022 91 mins 12A. Doors open 7.30 pm. Tickets £5 on the door or in advance <https://www.wegottickets.com/event/602946/>

...**The Sidney Nolan Trust opens its 2024 visitor season on Saturday 23 March** with Painting With Light, an exhibition of early digital artwork created by Sidney Nolan and his contemporaries. It explores the dawn of digital art including famous names such as David Hockney, Richard Hamilton, Lea Lublin and Larry Rivers. Exhibition Dates: 23 March – 11 May. 2024 Season: 23 March – 28 September. Opening times, Tuesday – Saturday, 11.00 – 16.00. Please visit www.sidneynolantrust.org for full details.

...**Radnorshire Arms, Presteigne - Calling all little people!! Join our Easter egg hunt. 31 March** 11am. Bring your basket, find the Easter eggs and join in the fun. Bring your parents along and enjoy a delicious Easter Sunday carvery.

OTHER NEWS

...**from a fed-up parent** - I have noticed so much dog mess round town recently - please can people pick up after their dogs. Walking with young child it is so frustrating constantly pointing out dog poo it is like negotiating an obstacle course! This week there were two to 'obstacles' watch out for on the school

road where so many children walk down - it's not good if a child walked it into the classroom. I also wheeled my pram through some on the high street yesterday. Cleaning it out of the tyre treads is a hard job then I have to put it either in my house or my car. I have a one year old who puts everything in their mouth so wheeling the germs into my house is awful. Please have some consideration for others!

...Have a Blue Badge? Did you realise that, although Blue badge holders may park on single or double yellow lines for up to three hours **IF** it is safe to do so, you **CANNOT** do so within 15 metres of a junction **OR** where there are restrictions on loading or unloading – indicated by yellow kerb dashes and/or signs on plates. This applies to Hereford Street alongside St Michael's Hospice Charity Shop between the Assembly Rooms and the Farmers Inn, and possibly elsewhere in Presteigne. If you ignore this, even as a Blue Badge holder, you are liable for a heavy fine! Many Blue Badge holders aren't aware of this - be warned!

...To all walkers/ countryside users - If you happen to come across a sheep lying on its back with its legs up, it is 'cast'. Please be so kind as to tip/roll it back over; if left like this they can die as they cannot get up. This is a common problem and especially important this time of year as most 'cast' sheep will be carrying lambs, hence struggle to get to their feet.

...Powys CC - Would you like information on domestic energy saving grants funded by energy companies for improved insulation or heating systems? Visit <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/14595/Powys-Energy-Saving-Scheme-ECO4-Flex>

R.I.P.

...Garet Cogger of Presteigne passed away on 11th February 2024 aged 65. Funeral Service was at St Andrew's Church on 13th March followed by burial at Presteigne Cemetery.

...Glenys Millichamp of Presteigne. The funeral will take place on 26th March at 10.15 am at Hereford Crematorium for family and anyone who wishes to join them, followed by a service in Presteigne Saint Andrew's Church at 12am the same day. Family flowers only. Donations to Air Ambulance, Community Support and Presteigne St Andrews Church. All welcome for refreshments at the Radnorshire Arms after service

...Edward John Powell 'John' of Warden Close, Presteigne. Former proprietor of Woodside Garage, Knill. Passed away at Worcester Royal Hospital on 15th February 2024 aged 75 years.

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]*]

...Herefordshire Council - we're hiring! Wanting to change career or just looking to start something new?. For opportunities in social care visit:<https://orlo.uk/0iHwS>. For other positions across Herefordshire Council, find out more & apply here: <https://orlo.uk/hNXUz>

...Lyonshall Nurseries - two job opportunities. Are you, or you may know someone, looking for a job in a garden centre? We have a Part-time shop assistant position - 24 hours (3 days a week) & a Full-time Garden centre assistant post available. For further information please look on our website where you will find job descriptions & application forms etc. <https://www.lyonshallnurseries.co.uk/vacancies>. Closing date end of Friday 15th March

...The Bateman Arms, Shobdon - a new chef to join our team , please contact us via Facebook, call in or email us mike@thebatemanarms.co.uk

...Presteigne Rainbows & Brownies - Become a Unit Helper or Leader. Are you able to spare some time on a Tuesday evening in Presteigne to help our young members build confidence, create lifelong friendships and learn new skills? Our members love coming to the weekly sessions where they can be themselves, have fun, try new things and earn some awesome badges along the way but without more helpers we can't offer the full range of activities. We can offer some taster sessions, so you can see what we get up to and decide if you'll enjoy the role. Email Amy at amyprice@hotmail.co.uk

...Presteigne Tyres - Vehicle mechanic/MOT tester (class 4 & 7) Monday to Friday 8-5, Well known family run business, Salary from £31,000 per year, 28 days annual leave, Numerous employee discounts. What are you waiting for!! Message or call 01544 267240 for more info

...LUX windows - Self-employed window fitter's mate required. Experience an advantage but not essential - full training will be given. Driving licence and own vehicle essential in order to travel to Staunton on Arrow. Please send CV or enquiry to mike@luxwindows.co.uk

...Boulangier Artisan Bakery - Trainee to learn and assist with all aspects of working in the bakery. Duties include mixing doughs, shaping loaves and baking alongside producing laminated pastries-croissants etc, as well as cleaning and washing up. Must be able to start early (4am) 2 days a week. Minimum 22 hours per week initially over 4 days. Experience not essential but some kitchen/bakery work an advantage. Occasional opportunity to work market stalls. Applicants should be physically fit and able to work swiftly. CV and covering letter to hello@boulangierartisanbakery.com.

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

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