

Issue 354 mid-May 2025

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 Friday 30th May
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 Bowling Club - congratulations to Jo Weale** of PBC who has been selected for the Wales Ladies National team at the British Isles International Series at Llandrindod 26th to 29th June 2025 - well done Jo!

...**the May issue of Broad Sheep** - out now and online - www.broadsheep.com

...**MidBorder News** - Send us your news and events for our summer issue! If you have anything going on in June, July and August let us know asap: info@midbordernews.com

THANK YOU

...**from Presteigne Fire Station** - a huge congratulations to one of the very finest - David Lloyd - 45 years serving the community of Presteigne and the surrounding areas. A massive thank you from all, past and present, on the station for all the knowledge that you've shared with us. If you are interested in joining a great team, feel free to contact the station (45 years service is not compulsory!!)

...**East Radnor Bellringers - thanks to all ringers** who took part in special ringing to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. We rang all the bells at all three of our towers, while some also supported ringing at Kington and Clun. Many thanks to you all and we hope people enjoyed hearing our efforts.

...**St Andrew's, Presteigne** - Thank you to everyone who came to our Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meeting for St Andrew's and St Michael's Discoed last night. It was good to receive reports on the churches' year, re-elect our churchwardens Keith, Andy, Dilwyn and Lizzie, elect a new Parish Church Council for 2025-6 and thank everyone who contributes to making our community life run smoothly, including our clergy Rev Steve and Rev Debbie and all the volunteers who play such an important part in every activity.

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Latest planning applications in to be considered at the May meeting of the Town Council.

25/0477/CAC Grid Reference: E:331656 N: 264598 Proposal: Demolition of entire residential property including rear extension Site Address: The Old Laundry, Broad Street, Presteigne, Powys LD8 2AG. 25/0592/FUL Grid Reference: E:328764 N: 264045 Proposal: Construction of 3 raised glamping units, installation of sewage treatment plant, parking area, bike store and all associated works Site Address: Land At Lower Rowley, Evenjobb, Presteigne, LD8 2NL.

...**New Radnor Community Council** held its annual meeting on 8th May and Cllr. Richard Harris was re-elected as Chairman with Cllr. Giordano as Vice-Chairman. At the meeting Members considered an email from a resident expressing concerns about speeding, primarily in New Radnor village but also along the A44. Members agreed to again ask for expressions of interest in setting up and running a community speedwatch group. Anyone interested in being part of such a project should call or email the Clerk to the Council, Tracey Price on

newradnorcc@outlook.com or 01547 582575. Note such a group cannot operate on the A44 so would be for New Radnor Village only. Please reply by 4th June.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...Presteigne Repair - This month's date for Presteigne Repair is Saturday 17th May at the Old School/Youth Centre, Hereford Street. 10am to 12noon. Spread the word! Bring your broken or non-working items to see if our friendly team of fixers can mend it or get it working again. We can save you money & make sure less goes to landfill (p.s. please make sure to empty any vacuum cleaner bags and clean grass from any strimmers or mowers before bringing - thank you!)

...Grace Loveday & Henny Flynn are co-hosting a gentle and reflective walking retreat on Sunday June 1st, for anyone who is navigating loss or change, feeling stuck or simply needing time away from the pressures of life. As we walk a 4.5 mile stretch of the Mortimer Trail there'll be time to connect with nature and yourself, to share and be quiet, to reflect and write a little and participate in simple ceremony. A wholesome lunch is included. Just bring yourself, good walking shoes and an open heart. We'd love to walk alongside you. More information/booking details at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/half-day-walking-retreat-being-with-what-is-tickets-1307872504869?aff=oddttdtcreator>

...Presteigne Baptist Church. Summer Recitals and Talks - save the dates! Sundays at 3.00pm followed by tea and cake. Sunday 25 May - "With a Little Help from our Friends"..... The St. Andrew's Church choir, with invited friends from our sister churches, share their repertoire in a joyful mixture of pieces for an early Summer Sunday afternoon. Duets, trios and mixed ensembles to enjoy. Special guests - Ruth Watson and Catherine O'Rourke. No charge, but donations welcome, divided between church funds and St Michael's Hospice.

...Warden and Nature Reserve Family Day. Saturday May 31st. 2p.m.- 5p.m. Come and explore the wild and green spaces in Presteigne! Minibeast Hunt, Wildflower Trail, Meet the Heron, Bio Blitz. Free Admission- cakes and drinks or bring your own picnic!

...Dates for your Diary at Presteigne Baptist Church. "Where stories begin" Sunday 22 June - Looking both at the work of other writers and their own recently published novel Eliza Mace (with its recognisable Radnorshire setting), Sarah Burton and Jem Poster will talk about the moments of inspiration that spark new stories. "Music for a Summer Afternoon" Sunday 27 July Presteigne Baptist Church. David Stevens and friends offer a programme of chamber music including Schubert's Trout Quintet. No charge, but donations welcome, divided between church funds and St Michael's Hospice.

...Nicole et Martin at Went's Meadow, Presteigne - save the dates! Just a month to go. Spellbinding Swiss travelling theatre company, Nicole et Martin, will pitch their magical white tent once again on Went's Meadow this June - from Saturday 14 to Thursday 19 June. Funny, jaw-dropping, awe-inspiring and brilliant, their magical shows are suitable for the whole family, teenagers and adults too. A mixture of fairy tale and circus, there's something for everyone. "...opulent in imagination and wonderful spectacle. As performers they are irresistible... with their strength and agility they seem capable of anything as they fuse talent, discipline and art, and then throw in a couple of extra somersaults." The Times. This will be their fifth visit to Presteigne, where they last performed in May 2022.

PERFORMANCE DATES AND TIMES: Saturday 14 June 5pm - The Fisherman and his Wife; Sunday 15 June 3pm - Wassilissa; Wednesday 18 June 5pm - The Girl without Hands; Thursday 19 June 5pm - The Musicians of Bremen. Tickets are available online at www.nicole-et-martin.ch, at the Box Office on Went's Meadow an hour before the show, or from The Workhouse Gallery in Presteigne (cash only).

Family £30 (2 x adults, 2 x children) available only from Workhouse Gallery (not online). Adults £12, Children £8 (over 5 and under 12 years old). The show is truly memorable and suitable for audiences aged 5 years and over.

...Whinyard Rocks - Vineyard Open Weekend. Join us this July for a fun and relaxed weekend to try and buy our wines from our bar at the vineyard. Take a stroll amongst the vines, backdropped by the stunning Radnor Forest, learn about our regenerative approach to viticulture and hear all about the natural winemaking process. Bring friends, family and a

blanket to sit on and enjoy a glass over a laid-back summer's day. The weekend is free to attend and there will be food served by The Beefy Boys on Saturday 12th July and wood-fired pizza by M&S Pizza on Sunday 13th July. How to find us: The vineyard is between New Radnor & Kinnerton on the B4372. We are 'Whinyard Rocks' on Google Maps. Our what3words location is: [///nicely.cloth.racked](#)

...Date for your Diary - THE HAPPENING - Fri 29th, Sat 30th & Sun 31st August - a weekend of musical delights at the Presteigne Assembly Rooms including events for families (free entry for children). Release your inner singer at the *Instant Choir*; dance your socks off at the *Northern Soul Night*; marvel at the skills of international concert pianist Tom Poster and virtuoso violinist Elena Urioste playing a selection from their popular *Jukebox* series; chill out with Swiss folk trio *Taradiddle* - and there's more. More details available soon - to get on the mailing drop a line to sarahburton@me.com

...Groove with Elly at the Old School/Youth Centre, Hereford Street, Presteigne - Thursday evenings May 15th, and 22nd at 7pm. Contact Elly at groovekington@hotmail.com or 07792 743894. <http://www.groovewithelly.co.uk/>

...Gather Round and Sing for Fun with Marion Rowlatt on Saturday May 17th at 11oclock in the Baptist church. Songs of Sunshine and Yumminess. Donations to the Cardiff Children's Hospital.

...Mini Plant Sale and Coffee Morning - Presteigne Methodist Church on Saturday 17th May, from 10am. If you don't need any plants, then just pop in for a coffee and a chat.

...Presteigne Area Community Development Group (PACDG) AGM - at 5 Broad Street, Presteigne on Wednesday 28 May at 6pm. If you are interested to know what PACDG do, then why not come along.

...Norton Community Hub: We have some lovely events coming up over the next couple of months - hope you can join us for one or more of them. Wednesday 21st May, 7pm - **Whist Drive!** A fun evening for beginners or experienced players, all welcome. £5 includes refreshments and raffle ticket. For further info contact Ann 01544 267221. Saturday 24th May, 3-5.30 - The Hub cafe is open for a **Cream Tea Special** - a lovely way to start the bank holiday weekend! Saturday 14th June, 7pm - a very special event from the Hub, an evening of **Wine Tasting**, with Mark from the Real Wine Company. Sample and learn about Mark's specially selected wines, with a chance to buy your favourites. Tickets £15, including light bites and all samples, available from Try Booking - <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/83710> . Contact: nortoncommunitytrust@gmail.com. Sunday 6th July, 3pm. Don't miss our special celebration of summer - "**Music for a Summer Afternoon**". An afternoon of gorgeous tunes from Dolau Mixtures, with summertime goodies from the Hub Cafe. Free entry, with donations welcome. Contact nortoncommunitytrust@gmail.com. And finally - Save the date! Sunday 3rd August, from 12 noon - the Community Hub is delighted to present another fabulous **Norton Show!** A great day out for all the family. Horse events and dog show, Birds of Prey demonstration, horticultural tent, craft stalls, variety of refreshments, car boot sale, kids races, tractor run, vintage cars - and much more! Just £3 entry for all of this, with under 16s FREE! Sunday 3rd August from 12 noon, at Watkins Field, adjacent to Offa's Green, Norton, LD8 2NX. Contact nortoncommunitytrust@gmail.com or 01544 260074.

...the next Locality Network Meeting for Knighton, Presteigne and surrounding areas will be held on Thursday 12th June @ 10.30am -12pm at Presteigne Memorial Hall, LD8 2UG. Facilitated by the local Community Connector, the Network meeting brings together individuals from local community groups and organisations. The meetings provide an opportunity to discuss local health and wellbeing issues, and aims to identify gaps in services to determine future funding needs and collaborate on solutions. Meetings are held quarterly in different venues within the local area or online - anyone who is part of a voluntary organisation or community group, is very welcome to come along, have a cuppa and chat and the chance to meet with other members of the network. If you are able to join us or would like further information, please contact julie.king@pavo.org.uk

...Presteigne Warden and Nature Reserve Family Day - Saturday May 31st 2pm - 5pm. Come and explore the wild and green spaces in Presteigne! Minibeast Hunt, Wildflower Trail, Meet the Heron, Nature Hunt at the Nature Reserve. Free Admission- cakes and drinks (donations please) or bring your own picnic! Info: 01544 26786

...Lines from Dunkirk - Roger Curtis & a cast of local voice actors will present on Wednesday 4th June, the 85th Anniversary of the official last day, true stories behind the evacuation of troops from Dunkirk in May/June 1940 and how the railways took them to safety in camps in Britain. It will include performance of a relevant section from Junction X – a BBC radio play by Cecil McGivern first broadcast in March 1944. Lines from Dunkirk is an original, illustrated presentation researched and written by Roger – all proceeds to The Judge's Lodging. Mention will be made of just some of those from Powys and Herefordshire who were involved in 1940 - some of whom made it back to Britain & how exhausted and wounded soldiers were brought to Norton and Kington. Tickets £10 Judge's Lodging (01544 260650) or wegottickets.com.

...East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in May Weds 14th Hilly Country round Newchurch, 7.5 miles. Sat 17th Hay Bluff and Cat's Back, 9.4 miles. Weds 21st Gladestry to Caety Traylor, 7.6 miles. Weds 28th Brown Clee Circular, 8.0 miles. Sat 31st Above Bryngwyn - moorland and hill farms, 7.0 miles. Details see www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call 01544 260524.

...Tony's Quiz Night - tomorrow Friday 16th May New Radnor Community Hall 7.15 for 7.30pm start. Teams of 6 £2pp. Hot dogs, Raffle, Chinese Bingo. Bring your own drinks.

...Sheep Music AGM - Wednesday 21st May 7.30. Assembly Rooms Presteigne.

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...Presteigne British Legion - 'Art for All' meets Tuesday mornings 10am to 12noon and the Craft Group from 1 to 3pm.

...Work on the new Community Store is progressing well, go and have a look! We've nearly reached the target of the £5,000 to be raised from the community and many thanks to all who have contributed. If you'd like to support this project with a donation, however small – it all helps, then please go to www.justgiving.com/page/sheepmusic2025 Thanking you all in anticipation.

...Sheep Music is pleased to announce that they have been awarded over £8000 by the Community Fund to purchase new sound equipment for the organisation and local community groups. This will make a huge difference to the set up of events and allow Sheep Music to provide good quality musical entertainment in Presteigne for years to come.

OTHER NEWS

...Help the bees! If you see a bee of any description on the ground or not flying that is not on a flowering plant, it is starving! You can help. We're currently approaching the 'June Gap' - the time between when spring flowering plants stop and autumn flowers start producing pollen and nectar. You can help by mixing two parts of sugar to one part of water and offering the syrup to the bee. She (and mostly female) will happily drink from a teaspoon. You'll see its little tongue black while it drinks. It will take about 10 minutes to turn syrup into energy, but it will fly away if you help it in time. The feeling you get when you see it recover and flight is worth your time. PLEASE NOTE - This is a temporary measure and "first aid" only. Bees need diversity in their diet and need to pollinate plants in their foraging. I'm not suggesting we feed sugar to bees as a normal thing. NO HONEY PLEASE - Disease can easily spread from colony to colony through this practice and you will do more harm than good. White sugar and water only please. They can't thank you so I'll do it on their behalf. Thank you a million xx Words are like bees!!! some create honey and some leave a sting. *[ed. I took this from National Geographic FaceBook]*

...from @Martin Lewis - ENERGY PRICE CAP LATEST PREDICTIONS. The assessment period for the July energy Price Cap is 18 Feb to 16 May, so its almost over. That means predictions now are likely to be pretty close. Eon & Octopus are now predicting a 6.5% DROP (which would only put us back to roughly the same before the April cap rose) whereas EDF & BG slightly more 8% ish DROPS. Even so prices will remain far too high, and most predict

slight rises by the end of the year. If this is true as the cheapest fixes are over 15% less than the current price cap, most should compare and fix.

JOBS & VOLUNTEERING

...Maples Tearooms, Hergest Croft Gardens - casual staff. Would you like to join our team? Very busy tearoom within Hergest Croft Gardens. Message or email:
maplestearoom@hergest.co.uk

...Powys CC - several vacancies at our mid Powys recycling depot. W&R Operative (Level 2) (Loader). Rhayader on Wye. 37 hour week, 07:30-15:30. Permanent contract. £25,584 - £26,409 per annum (basic) with paid annual leave and excellent pension scheme. Closing date: 25/05/2025. <https://en.powys.gov.uk/view-job?id=791587ksRd&lang=USA>

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

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