

Issue 355 June 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 Saturday 14th June
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

THANK YOU

...from **Hay Animal Rescue Team** - the recent table sale in Broad Street made £260 which is a lovely sum to give to the charity who are currently struggling for funds. Many thanks to Nikki, Helen & Maggie for their donations for the sale. A huge call out to Anne who let me use the space outside her house with a very grateful addition of a Gazebo. As always the kindness of the people in this town always amazes me. If you would like to visit the charity site they have a FB page, they are always looking for good homes for their animals. Thank you. Louise George.

...from **Lee Taylor** - Wow, what a super seminar that was! Thanks to everyone that gave up their time to come and support the 20th year celebration of Presteigne Karate Club, we raised £750 for East Radnor Care. A massive shout out to Al, Mick & Mal for the awesome content. Your support means everything.

...**Presteigne Community Gardeners and Presteigne Plenty** would like to thank all who supported the Plants Plus event earlier this month. It helped PCG raise enough money to move forward next year and for PP to make another donation to Presteigne & Knighton Foodbank. We were blessed with good weather and great support from everyone who donated plants, seeds and special thanks for the use of the Courtyard. The bench found a lovely new home with a great view and one Presteigne resident received second place of two tickets to an event in the August Music Festival. Many thanks to Presteigne Festival of Music for inviting us to be part of Springboard.

...**Presteigne Festival** - this week saw Alison Giles' final day as Producer at the Presteigne Festival. Over the last 14 or so years, Alison has overseen some huge changes in the way the Festival operates and has been an amazingly positive influence on the organisation, working in creative partnership with Artistic Director George Vass. She and George oversaw Presteigne's Digital Festival when Covid-19 prevented live performance and, in 2024, masterminded the organisation's first Springboard Weekend. Alison and her husband Andrew are staying in the Presteigne area and are hoping to attend a number of Festival events at the end of the summer. From the board, the staff and all others involved in the Festival, we wish Alison a long and happy retirement and thank her for everything she has done to help make the Presteigne Festival what it is today.

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

...**Latest planning information to be considered at the June meeting of the Town Council.**
PRE PLANNING CONSULTATION: OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR A MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT (COMPRISING RESIDENTIAL, NON-RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTION AND RETAIL USES) ON THE FORMER KAYE FOUNDRY SITE, PRESTEIGNE.

SCAM ALERT

...from Which? Holiday villas that don't exist. Imagine arriving in Thailand with your family after a 30-hour journey and months of anticipation, only to discover that the holiday villa you booked doesn't exist. To make matters worse, it's just a few days before Christmas. We helped a family who experienced just this after paying for a scam listing on Booking.com. Go to the Which? website to find out what happened and how to avoid falling for similar accommodation scams ahead of the holiday season.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...SAVE THE DATE! There will be a Sheep Music event on Saturday 16 August where we'll celebrate the new Community Store-Bar!

...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>

...Warden and Nature Reserve Family Day. TODAY 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 2 weeks to go. Spellbinding Swiss travelling theatre company, Nicole et Martin, will pitch their magical white tent once again on Wents 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.

...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

...Norton Community Hub: 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.

...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.

...Presteigne Floral Art Society: Flowers for Fun: in Whitton community hall. The next meeting is on Thursday June 5th, from 12 – 2.00 when the design to make will be entitled 'Flamenco'. And on June 19th from 11 – 2.00, we will be shown how to make a collage design.- this will cost £10 to include all materials needed. Please contact Sue, as below, to book a place for this. Our next meeting is on Wednesday June 11th at 7pm in Presteigne Memorial Hall. This will be a workshop to make a modern design using bamboo. Cost is £10 to include all materials. Details and to book a place, contact Sue – 01544 209300.

...Chatterbrook WI : our next meeting is on Thursday June 12th at 7pm in Presteigne Memorial hall. Visitors and potential new members will be most welcome. Our speaker will be Philip Bowen – who we have been pleased to hear twice before – this time his talk is 'The downfall of Aristocracy, the rise and fall of the stately home'. £5 for visitors, but of course no charge if you become a member at the meeting. Copies of our programme of talks and activities are available in the library. Come along and see what the WI does - For any information - call Claire on 0771264958

...The Legion Craft Group: Tuesday Craft Afternoons in the British Legion hall, Hereford Street, Presteigne are on hold for holidays, but we will be back on Tuesday June 17th, 1.00-3.00 pm for a go at crafting 'little windows'. We are a friendly relaxed group, and especially welcome anyone who has never crafted anything before! All materials supplied. Easy to make, friendly guidance, everyone welcome. £4 per session to cover hall hire and up to £3 for materials, as needed. For further information contact Margaret – mail@galliers.org.uk

...NGS - Willowbrook, Knighton Road, Presteigne. Open from June – August. Begun in 2013, yew hedges create garden rooms and vistas in this approx ¼ acre garden. Discover the pergola cottage garden planted with climbing roses and wisteria. There is a formal 'Italian' style pond garden and a double 'hot' summer border. Roses, box parterre, a rill flowing into a sunken garden. Kitchen garden with raised vegetable beds, fruit trees, soft fruit as well as greenhouses and a polytunnel. Home-made teas, adults £6, children free, dogs welcome, plants for sale. The garden also has an open day on Sunday 20 July (12-5pm). Find out more and how to arrange a visit: <https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/44495/willowbrook>

...East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in June: Sat 31st May, Above Bryngwyn, 7.0 miles. Weds 4th June, Figure of 8 south of Leominster with lunch, 9.0 miles (2 shorter options available). Mon 9th-Fri 13th June, Group walking holiday Newport, Pembrokeshire. Weds 18th June, Art, Orchids and Dragons, 8 miles. Weds 25th June, Bucknell to Leintwardine, 8.2 miles. For more details see www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or call 01544 260524

...Presteigne Repair & Share - Saturday June 21st. If you have something that needs mending bringing it along to our next session at the Youth Centre, Hereford Street between 10 and 12 midday and we will see if we can fix it. From textiles to electrical household items we have saved a lot going to landfill and saved folk from spending out on something new. This months tip: to keep your toaster working well keep it clear of crumbs etc. BUT inserting something to poke out burnt pieces etc is never a good idea, it can damage the element & is then definitely NOT repairable!

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...Norton 100 Club May Winners: 1st - £40 - No 44 - Chris Price; 2nd - £25 - No 39 - Alan Flexman; 3rd - £15 - No 63 - Andrew Pearson-Gee

...from Debs. Norton Show Sunday 3rd August. I'm looking for somebody to help me with a couple of duties I've been asked to carry out on the day!! As I have recently been elected Mayor of Presteigne & Norton Town Council & I'm currently serving as County Councillor for the Norton area. Norton Show Committee have kindly asked if I could officially open the event. So I'm asking the Parents, Grandparents & friends, if they can nominate a young helper 16 or younger that live or have strong connections to Norton if they can contact me & nominate a young person to help carry out a few duties & have a VIP day

...Presteigne Carnival. With less than 7 weeks to go until Carnival Day (12th July) we are now looking for applications for community stalls. These are free to the organisations, however we would need them/you to bring your own gazebos if at all possible. Please contact us through our FB page or ring on 07766152000. Thank you

...Presteigne Festival 21-25 August 2025. We're hugely excited to be welcoming the fabulous Castalian String Quartet to Presteigne for the first time this year. With mezzo Marta Fontanals-Simmons they premiere composer-in-residence Eleanor Alberga's new song cycle 'Glimpses, Glances' in a programme which also includes Thomas Adès and Beethoven. Full details of their two concert residency can be seen here: <https://presteignefestival.com/events/presteigne-festival-2025/>

...Sad day at Station 17 Presteigne today as it's FireFighter Jordan Hooper's last day on call with us! Jordan will be leaving the brigade after completing 7 years of service we wish him all the best for the future! We are still actively recruiting if you're interested please drop this page a message or contact a crew member!

...PSAFC AGM Wednesday 25th June, 7.30pm at Llanandras Park. Everyone Welcome. We would like some more people to join our committee at PSAFC football and social club. If you are interested or have any nominations for the following positions. Football Club Chairman - Fundraising Secretary - Social Club Chairman - Social Club Treasurer. Please email secretary@presteignestandrewsfc.co.uk. If you would like to join our committee, please come along to our AGM.

OTHER NEWS

R.I.P

...David "Barty" Bartholomew of Presteigne passed away suddenly on 25th April aged 64. Funeral Service took place at St Andrews Church, Presteigne on 23rd May.

...Jean Rosemary Morris of Warden Close, Presteigne passed away peacefully at Hereford Hospital on 1st May aged 86. Funeral service was held at Hereford Crematorium on 27th May.

JOBS & VOLUNTEERING

...Sidney Nolan Trust. Following the announcement of £244K investment from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, we are recruiting a number of new project roles. Masterplanning Consultant - Fundraising Development Consultant - Project Delivery Coordinator - Evaluation Consultant - Visitor Experience Assistant, weekends. To find out more about these roles and how to apply, please visit <https://www.sidneynolantrust.org/work-with-us/> or follow our linktree

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

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