

Community News

Issue 117 mid-February 2020

an information service from PAC - The Presteigne Area Community Group

You are receiving this email because you asked to receive the Community News and be kept informed about PAC activities. If at any time you decide not to receive further PAC emails, just contact us on pacdg@icloud.com with REMOVE in the subject line and we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.

February Food Bank Shopping List...we have a good supply of most store cupboard items **& we don't need** baked beans, pasta, spaghetti, kidney beans or chickpeas, but **we do need** the following -

- Tuna • Corned Beef & Ham • Tinned Meat & Pies • Tinned Rice Pudding & Custard • Tinned Fruit • Coffee & Tea • Jam, Marmalade, Peanut Butter & Chocolate Spread • Sugar • Toilet Rolls & Washing Up Liquid & Laundry Powder/Liquid • Shampoo & Shower Gel & Deodorant • Razors & Shaving Gel.

Please note we can only accept food items that are well within their use-by date. We are open in Presteigne Baptist Church, on Thursdays 10-11.30. If you would prefer to give a small cash donation, this will enable us to purchase fresh milk, bread, cheese and eggs & to buy fresh vegetable/fruit vouchers to include with individual food parcels. You may prefer to set up a regular donation to support our work by completing a **Standing Order or a Stewardship form (with Gift Aid)**. Ask Helen for more information, or visit our website www.knightonfoodbank.co.uk

Current Scams to be wary of....

...People are reporting receiving recorded message phone calls purporting to be coming from the Mastercard/ Visa department of your Bank, advising you of a suspicious payment of £600 (or other sum) to an overseas account and asking you to 'Press 1' to cancel the payment. This is a scam so just put the phone down.

...and some lucky people are receiving an email saying that Lottery Jackpot winners in Ireland want to give you lots of money (as if!) - just report and/or delete without opening.

...the old 'car wrap' scam is back where you receive an email purporting to come from a reputable drinks or other company (or maybe from a friend's hacked email address) offering you a decent sum of money each month for agreeing to have your car 'wrapped' with their advertising images and blurb. If you show interest, you'll be 'accepted' and sent a cheque for a large amount of money, asked to deduct your 'fee' and then make payment (by wire transfer or other electronic means) of the balance to a (fake) company to fix the advertising on your vehicle. The cheque bounces, your payment goes to the scammer and you've lost your money ! Report and delete the email without opening.

Spotted or experienced a problem and need to report it to Powys County Council ? For a quick result, the best way to do this is to report it online at <https://en.powys.gov.uk/816/report> - it's simple to do and you can track/get feedback when the problem has been resolved. Whether it's potholes or a dead animal on the road, a faulty streetlight or fly tipping, blocked drains or overhanging trees, bin non-collection, abuse or fraud, road signs or abandoned vehicles etc. etc., use the link above to report it.

Walks with East Radnor Ramblers....

Sat 15th Feb 10 miles from Bryngwyn Church; Weds 19th Feb 7-8 miles from Craven Arms Stn for train to Shrewsbury at 09.46am; Thurs 20th Feb 4 miles from lay-by near Stowe church; Weds 26 Feb 7 miles from CP behind Eardisland War Memorial; Sat 29th Feb 9 miles from Clun Community Centre CP.

Walks start at 10am. Everyone welcome!. Under 18s must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Further information at www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor or from E and S Williams on 01544 260524

Community Orchard Pruning at Went's Meadow on Sunday February 23rd from 11am. Andy Dodgson is giving a hands-on class in the art of pruning apple trees. Come and learn how and in the process help us get Went's Meadow Community Orchard into shape for the new season. All welcome: bring your secateurs, loppers, pruning saws (if you have them). The session should last a couple of hours and will hopefully – weather willing – be fun!

Calling all gardeners ! Lingen and District Gardening Club meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month except August. We have a selection of talks and visits, the annual subs are £15 and £1 per meeting. The talks are at the Community Hall in Lingen and start at 7.30 pm. The remaining programme for this year is:

<u>Tuesday 3rd March</u>	Talk - The evolution of walled kitchen gardens
<u>Tuesday 7th April</u>	Talk - Plants for spring and summer including new varieties
<u>Tuesday 5th May.</u>	Garden visit to Shobdon Court
<u>Tuesday 2nd June</u>	Garden visit to Cwm Weeg, Dolfor
<u>Tuesday 7th July</u>	Garden visit to the Walled garden, Worcester
<u>Tuesday 1st September</u>	Talk - Climbing and wall plants
<u>Tuesday 6th October</u>	Talk - Cranesbill geraniums (TBC)
<u>Tuesday 3rd November</u>	Talk - Chinese gardens and the Chinese landscapes
<u>Tuesday 1st December</u>	AGM followed by Demonstration - a Christmas table decoration from your garden

New members are welcomed. Enquiries can be made to Alvin Botting on 01544 267463

Following up on John D's message in Issue 116 about snowdropswe must have planted getting on for half a tonne of daffodil/narcissi bulbs over the last couple of years and still have some space for further planting round the town... but the Galanthus (snowdrops) are well in bloom now and John's idea was that we might spread some of those to improve the showing for next year. They are best split up and moved, post-flowering, while still "in the green" soooo... if you have thriving clumps of snowdrops and would be happy to split and donate some bulbs in late Feb/early March, just after they've flowered, please let John know by emailing us at pacdg@icloud.com, then we can get them planted this spring.

RECYCLING HINTS from residents

....don't forget, if you have small household electrical or electronic items that just can't be repaired by the lovely Repair Presteigne volunteers this Saturday, these (including electrical leads/plugs/extensions and computer leads etc) can be disposed of for recycling via the WEEE collection box at the Bring Site, saving you a trip to the Household Waste Recycling Centre.....**if** they are small enough to fit through the slot. If too big, then you'll have to take them to the Kington, Leominster, or Llandrindod HWRCs unfortunately (don't leave them at the Bring Site, that'd be flytipping!).

....whether you've inherited a stash of old photographs or are simply having a clear out, it is important that you do not put your photographs and negatives in your recycling bin - they have to go in your wheelie bin. It is dependent on the actual images, but before you get rid of them you might like to consider some of the following options to pass them on... Could the photographs be of historical interest? Ask your local history society to see if they could be useful to their research... What about other family members, especially the younger ones? They might find them of interest in years to come... Are they photos of friends? They might like to keep them... Check the ads in local newspapers – look out for announcements along the lines of "We want your old photos" ...Go online and see if there is any interest on sites like Freegle... Make a collage using them.

A message from Glenys - "The Presteigne Crafty Ladies Club are at present not able to meet due to members various health problems and have suspended their meetings until further notice. We have been unable to meet since Christmas and there are difficulties for the future or until the warmer weather. Thank you Glenys Roberts". We'll let you know if/when the Crafty Ladies Club restarts.

A message from Helen to Food Bank Supporters & Donors...."On behalf of all the families and individuals who received food parcels at Christmas, Knighton & East Radnor Food Bank would like to say thank you. As a result of the kindness from Churches, social enterprises, community groups, music groups, food markets, schools, Brownies plus individual supporters, we were able to provide food, toiletries and Christmas gifts to 51 adults and 57 children & babies, between Christmas and New Year. As a small independent crisis food bank, we rely on donations of basic store cupboard food, toiletries, pet food and financial support from the local community, in order to keep open. As well as the Knighton area, we offer a food bank service in Presteigne and surrounding villages. Our volunteers give their time so generously, working in the food bank, collecting the donated food, as well as overseeing the project as committee members, all of which keeps this valuable service operational. The food bank provides a much needed safety net for claimants of work or disability benefits, including Universal Credit - particularly as the latter are required to wait at least 5 weeks for their first payment but in our experience, the delay can be much longer. However, we also receive requests for help from working families and self employed workers or those on zero hour's contracts. It could be the loss of a job, the break-up of a relationship, loss of their home, sickness & disability, or the receipt of a huge fuel bill; the result can be devastating for individuals and families. Imagine if you are the mum of 4 children and your partner is off work due to illness. There is not enough money to cover food, rent, utility bills, toiletries or nappies. Or perhaps you are experiencing a severe mental health breakdown and your claim for Universal Credit has not been processed 9 weeks after you put in the claim? Then you pluck up courage to come to the food bank - you haven't money for food, or electric and you are cold, unwashed and very unwell. Then, quietly & in confidence, you choose food you can enjoy, plus toiletries, washing powder, fresh dairy produce and a voucher to obtain fresh vegetables & fruit. Those we help do not have a voice, or put their name in the newspaper - but I know they would thank you for donating to our food bank & for ensuring they keep their dignity in desperate times". Yours, Helen (on behalf of Knighton & East Radnor Food Bank Committee). Reg Charity No: 1172353 www.knightonfoodbank.co.uk
p.s. In addition to the numbers fed at Christmas and New Year (33% from Presteigne) we have also fed an additional 92 adults and 77 children at the Presteigne FB from Jan 2019 - Nov 2019. When you consider we give them at least 3 days worth of food & toiletries, that is a lot of stuff being donated in your area !!! and works out at 828 meals for adults and 693 meals for children.

Don't miss Half-term fun at The Judge's Lodging Saturday 15th to Sunday 23rd February. For the first time ever, The Judge's Lodging will be open for half term and will have activities based around traditional toys around the house, plus special sessions at 11am, 12pm, 2pm and 3pm each day, when you can explore real old toys from the town's collection. The pop-up Welsh tearoom will be open too. Open 15th - 23rd Fe, Sat-Sun, 10.30am-4.30pm. For more info go to: http://www.judgeslodging.org.uk/events/half_term_fun_-_toystoystoys/

Want to help the British Hedgehog Preservation Society ? The Camden Brewery have produced some minature pubs for hedgehogs! Hedgehog populations have declined by half in rural areas and by a third in urban ones in the last 20 years so they need all the help they can get. If you can't get your hands on one of these cute mini pubs (available @CamdenBrewery) you can support @HedgehogSociety in other ways #BritishHedgehogPreservationSociety. The funds and awareness that this collaboration raises will help us to help hedgehogs.' For more info on how to help hedgehogs, go here <https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>

LOCAL EVENTS IN THE 2ND HALF OF FEBRUARY.....

Saturday 15th February - Repair Presteigne 10am to 12.30pm at the Youth Centre. There are 4 good reasons to fix stuff: money, environment, climate change AND... satisfaction! So bring your broken things and our clever volunteers will do their best to fix them. We are starting a bit earlier at 10 o'clock, as more and more people are coming along. Not sure it's all about and what we can do? Come along and see for yourself!

Saturday 15th to Sunday 23rd February - Half-Term Fun @ The Judge's Lodging (see item above)

Sunday 16 February - MBA presents "A Box of Light & Dreams" by Emergency Turtle at The Assembly Rooms 4pm - 6pm. Three Mid Wales artists create the perfect afternoon of entertainment with riveting storytelling, hauntingly beautiful music and evocative shadow puppetry. The show combines storytelling by Kama Roberts, shadow puppetry by a brilliant visual artist James Jones Morris and live music and song from Jim Elliott. The show tells of Welsh and international folk stories. Suitable for the whole family. Though very little children might find it too long and complex, older children and adults will get equal enjoyment from this magical show. £8/ £4.50 The Workhouse (cash only) & wegottickets.com.

Thursday 20th February - Chatterbrook WI - Musician Catherine O'Rourke will lead a short workshop - music and singing for all! in the Memorial Hall. 7.30pm. New members will be very welcome, a year's chatterbrook WI subscription is £43, or visitors may join us for £3 for this meeting. Refreshments available afterwards. Contact mail@galliers.org.uk or 01544267245.

Friday 21st February - pHub Night at the New Radnor Community Hub. 6.30-11pm. Bar open and simple suppers served. 01544 350559

Sunday 23rd February - Georgian Polyphonic Singing Workshop in Presteigne from 2.00 to 4.30pm including a break for Georgian refreshments. Mzia will be teaching two new songs, one of which is a Georgian Orthodox Easter chant. £10 per head. Places are limited to 15. Email Mzia asap on mziag@hotmail.co.uk.

Sunday 23rd February - Community Orchard Pruning at Went's Meadow (see item above)

Thursday 27th February - Film Night "The Tower of Dreams" at the New Radnor Community Hub. A Barrie Gavin film about French composer Charles Kowchlin. 7pm 01544 350559

Friday 28th February - pHub Night at the New Radnor Community Hub. 6.30-11pm. Bar open and simple suppers served. 01544 350559

Saturday 29 February - MBA presents "ALAW" at The Assembly Rooms. 8pm. Oli Wilson - Dickson, Dylan Fowler and Jamie Smith, three leading musicians who bring a wealth of experience to a shared passion - the traditional music of Wales. Whether unearthing rare gems or reimagining a well loved melody they treat their music with a deftness and sensitivity that is thoroughly absorbing. From stirring song to driving jigs, combined with powerful song writing and original tunes - they communicate their music with relaxed humour and a genuine affection that is truly infectious, and makes for a wonderful musical experience. £12 from The Workhouse (cash only) & wegottickets.com

Saturday 29th February - "Painting with Light" at The Sidney Nolan Trust 6pm. Pupils from four local primary schools, in collaboration with multimedia experimentalist Rebecca Smith (Urban Projections), have created new digital artwork in response to Nolan's computer graphics and the hundreds of polaroid photographs that Nolan took in his lifetime. Work created during the project is presented through a series of roving projections using Rodd Court and surroundings as a canvas.

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 - simply email pacdg@icloud.com.

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - email text (not poster images please) at least 3 weeks in advance to pacdg@icloud.com.

The Community News is published twice per month. Feel free to tweet or forward this issue to others 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 - simply email pacdg@icloud.com.