

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## ISSUE 296 JULY 2022



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

**NEXT ISSUE MID-AUGUST... DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS midday 15th AUGUST**  
email [news@pacdg.org](mailto: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](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/calendar)

...from **PACDG** – producing this Community News email newsletter is just one of the things PACDG does. We're facilitators - our aim is to marry up people who have ideas with those people who will set ideas in motion. We also maintain the Community Noticeboards and Tourist Information Boards, as well as the Registers of Community Groups, Local Venues, and Local Trades and Services. We support several Project Groups with advice and assistance, insurance, and bank account access. PACDG currently has a small steering group, and we're always looking for new ideas and volunteers to help us with all these activities. If you think you'd like to join us, please get in touch for a chat to find out if it's for you. We are particularly keen just now to find someone who can help with our publicity, communications and IT, but we'd love to talk to you about joining us in any capacity. Contact Annette at [admin@pacdg.org](mailto:admin@pacdg.org)

### THANK YOU

...from **Rory**. It's taken me a while to learn to count past 10, but I can finally announce the amazing total that's been raised for Presteigne Fire Station Co-Responders fund from The Spine Race... An outstanding £2173.65!! Thank you to everyone who donated online, gave cash donations, had a go on my 'Guess my finish time' game and chucked their spare change into the jar at Victoria Fish Bar Presteigne which contributed an incredible £197.49. A fantastic amount which will be used to benefit the local community immensely. Thank you!!

### LOCAL COUNCIL NEWS

...a warm welcome to three new co-opted Members for the Town Council - **Juliet Gray, Jem Poster, Mark Price**. There are still vacancies for the Norton Ward. Please email [presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com](mailto:presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com) if you would like more information.

...[ed.] If you've been wondering about recent work on the river bank immediately below the allotments at Lower Went's Meadow, Presteigne, the work was to prevent further erosion of the bank and so help reduce damage to the weir.

...please complete this **Presteigne and Norton Investment Plan Survey** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MBJFX58>. Powys Council has commissioned Rose Regeneration to produce an Investment Plan for Presteigne, Norton and the surrounding area. Rose Regeneration has created this survey to help the development of an evidence base of need and demand from inhabitants in the area. Please note that any references to Presteigne below includes Norton and the surrounding area. We want to hear from you how you think Presteigne might benefit from inward investment in order to build on its strengths and to realise its full potential as a thriving and sustainable market town. The survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes for you to complete. We will treat all responses as highly confidential and will release the results over the course of the Summer. Thank you very much for your input.

...**Powys Child Poverty Task Force launched**. A task force that will tackle child poverty in Powys has been launched, the county council has announced. More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/13048/Powys-Child-Poverty-Task-Force-launched>

...next Town Council meeting **Wednesday 17th August** at The Assembly Rooms. For Draft Minutes of the July meeting and papers for August - visit [www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council)  
...**Councillor Surgeries are held on the first Saturday of each month** (excluding January) from 10am to 12pm in the Memorial Hall alongside the Farmers Market. No appointment necessary. Please call in to discuss any concerns you may have.

### **SCAM ALERT (from Which? and others)**

...**Surprise, surprise – scammers taking advantage of surging costs.** At this difficult time, we're all looking for the best financial advice and any cheeky discount we can get our hands on, but please remain vigilant. Fraudsters are trying to capitalise on this, from supermarket giveaways to petrol gift cards – [make sure you know what to look out for](#).

...**\*Sound the klaxon\* another round of Covid scams incoming.** A spike in cases of the Omicron variant has led to scammers sending out text messages asking you to order a test. The text includes a link that could download adware or spyware onto your device. All official Covid guidance can be found on the government [Gov.uk] and NHS [NHS.uk] websites. [Find out more](#) about the dodgy URL to look out for.

...**Sign up to Which's Scam Alert service** by visiting their website.

### **NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS**

...**Presteigne's Ethical Investment Club EPIC now has a vacancy for one new member.** EPIC meets monthly on a Tuesday evening. Interested ? Email [c3utler@googlemail.com](mailto:c3utler@googlemail.com)

...**August issue of Broad Sheep is out this week** and online soon! [www.broadsheep.com](http://www.broadsheep.com)

...**from Rose Cottage. Important notice** - since 18th July Carla is no longer selling flowers but will continue to sell cards and gifts. There will be no change to the Cafe x

...**from Rolly and The Circle.** The Circle was picked recently for one of the Welsh Water Community Grants award in areas they have been working in, which is much appreciated. This follows on from the work done in Norton & Presteigne in renewing the sewage treatment plant. The Circle is a drop-in project run by PNCS and meets at The Old School (Youth Centre) in Hereford Street on a Tuesday morning. All are welcome to come & find out more & share refreshments & join in activities in a welcoming & social setting. For info tel 01544 267961

...**from Barbara - YOGA for everyone** – no experience needed. Assembly Rooms Presteigne. Thursday mornings. Starting 1st September 2022. 9am to 10am or 10.30m to 11.30am. Pre-booked only. £10 per class in advance. Maximum of 10 students per class. To book your place contact Barbara 07717 470890 or [barbara@nashrockshouse.com](mailto:barbara@nashrockshouse.com)

...**now in Presteigne, The Great British Apron Company.** Purveyors of quality themed & personalised aprons for gifts or trade. Master chef or Disaster chef we have an apron for you!

...**from Presteigne Ladies Hockey Club** - desperately seeking umpires for the 22/23 season after the retirement of Percy Steele. This will have a huge impact on our Prem 2 games if we can't find a replacement. If you think you can help or you fancy giving umpiring a go and would consider undertaking a level 1 umpiring course then please please get in touch - we will pay all costs incurred to cover the course. Umpires will be paid per match and we are happy to pay for travelling expenses. Cross border umpires would be most welcome. Thank you in advance

...**from Emily - a reminder about children's summer activities at East Radnor Leisure Centre** - sports camp, crash course swimming lessons, mermaid tails sessions, bouncy castle, soft play. Call the Leisure Centre for more information [01544 260302](tel:01544260302)

...**from Mandy - dance exercise**, toning sticks/dumbbells (optional). Thursday's 10-11 am at the Memorial Hall, Presteigne. Contact Mandy 07538 218273, [mandys.mail@virgin.net](mailto:mandys.mail@virgin.net)

...**Yoga Practise at Community Barn**, Went's Meadow, Presteigne with Sarah Williams. Time 9-11am. Cost £6 pp. All welcome, please bring a mat, blanket, filled water bottle and any yoga props you like to use. Do contact me for further information or just come along on the day. Sarah on 07900911194 or email: [squi.fwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:squi.fwilliams@gmail.com)

### **EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

... **n.b. change of date for the Walton Hall Plant and Produce sale from Saturday 13th August to SUNDAY 14th AUGUST** 1 to 4pm - contact K Peachey 01544 350 511

...**Presteigne Local Food Market** - Saturday 6th August, Presteigne Memorial Hall 9-1pm. Local produce from: Planet and Plate and Weobley Ash Apple Juice; Marches Mushrooms; Brassington's Meats; Presteigne Honey; Chocolate from Continuum Conceits; Jean's Plants; Indian food from Khesh; Vegetables from Hare Hill Farm; A Taste of Cheesecake; and more. The Community Café will be serving hot drinks & home made cakes - all donations to local causes

...**Mid-Wales Opera's "Puss in Boots"** Fri, 28th Oct 20:00 - 22:00. St Andrew's Church, Presteigne. Mid Wales Opera's fifth SmallStages tour kicks off a Fairy Tales season with Catalan composer Montsalvatge's beautifully crafted one-act version of the familiar tale featuring 5 singers singing in English, and 5 players, with a second half featuring a cabaret style collection of popular and entertaining musical items. Tickets £15 from <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/551651>

...**MBA/James Rowland's "Learning to Fly"** Sat, 10th Sep 20:00 - 22:00, Presteigne Assembly Rooms. A new show from James Rowland featuring his captivating mix of theatre, comedy & music. James tell the story of a remarkable friendship he made when he was a lonely, unhappy teenager with the scary old lady who lived in the spooky house on his street. It's about connection, it's also about her last wish: to get high once before she dies! Tickets £10 (£7 for 14-18s). The Workhouse (cash only) or <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/5516>.

...from **Chatterbrook WI** - Our next meeting will be on Thursday August 11th in Presteigne Memorial Hall. This month it is an **open meeting** with botanical artist RUTH KIRKBY speaking about her 'Passion for Art'. She will have some of her well-known cards for sale. Members meet at 7.30 as usual, visitors very welcome at 8 pm, £7.50 on the door - includes cheese & wine or soft drinks. We have a great programme of talks and activities underway - copies are available in Presteigne library. Visit <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI> or call 01544 267245

...from **Presteigne Floral Art Society**: next demonstration Wednesday August 10th at 7.30 in Presteigne Memorial Hall - theme is On a Summer Day, & floral designs will be raffled. Visitors, £6 on the door, new members always very welcome. Our Thursday flower-arranging classes at Whitton are now on hold until September. For details contact the Secretary on 01544 340453

...from **Norton Community Trust** - **don't miss our Craft Fair** on 29th August Bank Holiday Monday, noon till 5pm, on Went's Meadow. FREE ENTRY (but donations always welcome!). Presented jointly with Norton Show, all proceeds to Norton Community Hub \* Crafts \* Vintage Cars \* Horticultural Tent \* Car Boot \* Dog Show \* Archery \* Children's Entertainer \* Bar \* Refreshments, and lots more! Entry forms for Horticultural Show from Salty Dog, Rose Cottage, Elda's, Lorna's, Chilvers, Library. For more details contact Chris Price 01544 267898

...**East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in August**. Tues 2nd Aug Bircher Common, 5 miles. Weds 3rd Aug Downton Castle from Leintwardine, 10 miles. Weds 10th Aug Leominster/Berrington, 8.5 miles. Sat 13th Aug Bishops Castle, 7.5 miles. Weds 17th Aug Shobdon Airport Breakfast Walk, 8.5 miles. Weds 24th Aug Gladestry South, 8.5 miles. Weds 31st Aug Llanbedr/Paincastle, 9/10 miles. Further info [www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor) or from 01544 260524

...**Presteigne Repair is back** on Saturday 20 August 10-12noon in The Old School in Hereford Street. Note: there's NO Repair session in September, but back again on Saturday 15 October.

...**The Dog Show is back as part of the Norton Craft Fair** on 29th August on Went's Meadow. For more information please contact Ann Price 01544 267221

## OTHER INFORMATION

...from **Annie at Discoed**. 3 generations of the same Ukrainian family have come to live at Upper House, Discoed, bringing with them a wealth of skills that they would like to offer for hire. They have varying competences at speaking English but start lessons this week and, in the meantime, make good use of 'Google Translate' on their phones. **Mykhailo** is very keen to continue the work that he has already thrown himself in to at Discoed. Having mowed and strimmed two large gardens and the churchyard since he arrived three weeks ago, he'd be happy to take on any gardening work within the Presteigne area. **Natalia** has established her sewing room and is already fulfilling orders to make clothes, curtains etc. and to undertake repairs and alterations. She also does the most beautiful traditional Ukrainian embroidery, bakes delicious bread and knows a great deal about the medicinal properties of plants. **Andrii** is (as I understand It!) an electronics engineer with expertise in the motor industry - his

particular interest being in electric cars. Until he finds proper employment to make use of his skills, he can repair computers and carry out small electrical jobs in the home etc. Just ask and he will be able to tell you whether it is up his street. He has his own (electric) car and will consider anything. **Tanya** had her own interior design business in Ukraine and has maintained contact with her suppliers there, where fabrics and trimmings etc. are cheaper than in the UK. She and her mother worked together to make curtains, bedspreads, cushions etc. for the business and are keen to offer the same service here. They are happy to welcome you to Discoed or to visit you at home. Just ring me or email me or Tanya for an appointment. Please don't hesitate to ask about any job, however small; someone is likely to say 'yes please'. Annie 07989 091949, [Annie.Nethercott@BTConnect.com](mailto:Annie.Nethercott@BTConnect.com), [tanyaprehon@gmail.com](mailto:tanyaprehon@gmail.com)

**...from Jonathan. Fancy diving in the Caribbean?** A group of Presteigne folk are off to St. Vincent and the Grenadines for a diving holiday in December. Would you like to join them? No diving experience is required - most of us have never dived before. If you're interested in the possibilities, then we have just a couple of spaces left. Please call Jonathan on [01544 260800](tel:01544260800).

**...from Powys Recycles. If you are recycling shredded paper**, please remember it needs to be contained in a paper bag/envelope/wrapped in paper, to stop it spilling out. It cannot be recycled (and will be left behind) if it is in a plastic bag!

**...from Dyfed-Powys Local Policing Team.** Sign up to LLAIS today to receive all the latest news, updates, and information from your local policing team in Dyfed-Powys, direct to your email inbox! choose from categories such as crime appeals, advice, events in your area, and more. We'll also ask for your address so that we can make sure you only receive updates when they're relevant to you, and from your local officers. <https://llais.wales/>

**...from PCC - electric vehicle charging points are now available in a further five Powys County Council carparks** increasing the council's electric vehicle charging network to 13 sites, located in: Beaufort St. Car Park, Crickhowell; Oxford Road Car Park, Hay-on-Wye; Bowling Green Lane Car Park, Knighton; Dark Lane Car Park, Rhayader; Heol Eglwys Car Park, Ystradgynlais. The 'fast' charge points are capable of fully charging an electric vehicle in 3 to 4 hours, dependent on the type and number of vehicles plugged in at the time. For a full list of PCC electric vehicle charging points, info how-to-use & charges, visit [Electric Vehicle Charging](#)

**...Dentist check-ups in Wales are being cut to once a year instead of every six months** ostensibly to allow practices to take on up to 112,000 new NHS patients a year. But the British Dental Association said the plan looks like it's "been cobbled together on the back of an envelope". What do you think about the change? <https://bbc.in/3PEkw70>

**...from Siân. Looking for a new home** in Presteigne or surrounding area. Need 2 beds and a garden. Rent or buy (budget around £180,000). Open to considering all possibilities - eg skill swap / rent with view to buy / house sit. Please contact - Siân email [wildandfree@live.com](mailto:wildandfree@live.com)

**...Welsh Gov's 'It's for Them' Campaign about why we're leaving verges to grow longer.** More information: <https://gov.wales/road-verges-and-amenity-grasslands-supporting-wildlife>.

## **LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES**

**...Radnor Hills are recruiting.** Would you like to join Radnor Hills as a FLT driver? Training will be given to suitable candidates. Must be able to work night shifts. Competitive rate of pay + discounted benefits. Contact Graham 01547 530220. Other vacancies [www.radnorhills.co.uk](http://www.radnorhills.co.uk)

**...Presteigne Little People needs 2 new Apprentice Nursery Practitioners** to start September 2022 (12 months with extension subject to satisfactory progress) as full-time or part-time apprentices working towards becoming fully qualified level 3 nursery practitioners. All training given. Those looking to upskill from Level 2 childcare or related qualification or experience very welcome to apply. Location Presteigne Primary School. Closing date 17 Aug. Pay from £9.50 ph. Enquiries, application forms, job description & spec available from Ann Wake 01544 260695 or [chairperson@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk](mailto:chairperson@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk)

**...Powys Recycles - we are Hiring!** Multiple positions available for drivers and crew members across Powys. Good rates of pay, plus opportunities for overtime. Full training and uniform provided. Top performing service making Powys a leader in recycling. Friendly and committed team. Good work/life balance, plus early finish on Friday. Apply now [www.powys.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.powys.gov.uk/jobs)

**...Kington Medical Practice - Admin/Reception Apprentice.** To apply, email CV before 12 August to [kington.reception@nhs.net](mailto:kington.reception@nhs.net)

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

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