

Community News

Issue 115 mid-January 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.

The first Local Food Market of the New Year will be on Saturday 1st February including the regular February Seed Swap (there is no Food Market in January). **Town and County Councillors will also be present for the monthly Council Surgery** between 10am and 12noon - please call in if there is a local issue you wish to raise and/or email the Town Clerk, Tracey Price, on pntc@hotmail.com.

Beware some current email scams....if you get an email telling you that your TV License could not be automatically renewed, don't click on any link or reply to the email, and forward the complete email to NFIBPhishing@city-of-london.pnn.police.uk.....there's also a too-good-to-be-true email going the rounds about an award from the Warren Buffet foundation - as if! Just delete it....and of course the daily emails trying to convince you that your Netflix or Amazon Prime subscriptions have expired. So many criminal chancers out there trying to steal our data or our money! If you have any suspicion at all, just forward the complete email as below - then delete! Here are some useful email addresses to forward phishing or scam emails related to major companies:

stop-spoofing@amazon.com; abuse@bt.com; phishing@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk; phishing@netflix.com;
phishing@natwest.com; phishing@rbs.co.uk; internetsecurity@barclays.co.uk; phishing@hsbc.com.

Have you already joined Presteigne Freegle? It's like online dating for stuff.....What little changes will you be making in 2020 for a better life and to make the planet a bit happier? If you want to buy less new stuff, be active in your community AND reduce the flow of goods to landfill and incineration then it's time to join the #ReuseRevolution. Go here <https://www.ilovefreegle.org> to get started. Here's to a safe and healthy New Year! Don't throw it away, give it away! Got stuff you don't need? We'll find someone to come and take it. Looking for something? We'll pair you with someone giving it away. **And it's all completely free!**

How are the Supermarkets doing at tackling the plastic problem? Check out the @greenpeaceuk 2019 league table! <https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/news/supermarket-plastic-rises-above-900000-tonnes-per-year-despite-plastic-reduction-pledges/>. Findings from the Greenpeace UK report include: *Waitrose and Morrisons were the best performers, while Asda and Aldi were bottom of the table. *Iceland dropped from the top spot last year to seventh place this year. *Sainsbury's went from bottom of the 2018 league table to third place this year. *Eight supermarkets pumped out 58.3 billion pieces of plastic packaging. *Other leading brands failed to respond to the survey for the second year running, including Ocado, Best-One and Booker Group. Waitrose scored highly because it had reduced the amount of plastic packaging used, and is looking to scale up innovative trials to offer refill stations in store for products like coffee, rice and pasta, as well as wine and detergent. Morrisons became the first retailer to set a quantified target to increase reusable and refillable packaging. It also started its own refill trials, and made loose and refillable ranges 10% cheaper than packaged counterparts. After Greenpeace targeted Sainsbury's for its poor track record on plastics, it announced plans to reduce plastic by 50% and introduced reusable produce bags for loose fruit and vegetables. Companies at the bottom of the league table had increased their overall plastic footprint since last year and had generally made the least progress to date on trialling and expanding packaging-free and reusable solutions. You choose who to shop with !!!!

A message from Maggie to Sharppp Chatters.....I hope you all had a good Christmas. Now that it's over and the New Year is fast approaching, this is just a reminder that there will not be a Sharppp Chat chat in January. We will be back in the swing on Wednesday 5th February with the challenging Charles Grimes, who we have enjoyed twice before. Instead of economics he will be talking about our divided brain this time! 7.30pm in The Assembly Rooms. Yours in two minds (ho ho), and Happy New Year. Maggie

Do you know a friend or family member who has reading difficulties? Free reading support for adults comes to our area.....It's taken for granted that we all learned to read at school. However, many thousands of adults missed out on the opportunity as children and research shows that over 7% of adults have never learned to read. Just imagine how your life would be if you couldn't read forms or letters, follow medicine instructions, or read a story to a child? It's not too late to learn. READ EASY Shropshire Hills provides free one-to-one support from trained reading coaches in Knighton and the surrounding area. Their service has been designed to help new readers feel as comfortable as possible about taking the brave step to learn to read. A new reader is matched up with a reading coach to help them work through reading manuals at a quiet location - it's as easy as that! There's no pressure, and no targets or exams to worry about and everyone learns at their own pace without feeling rushed. If you know someone who would like to learn to read contact Amana Winchester on [07707 762653](tel:07707762653) or email shropshirehills@readeasy.org.uk. www.readeasy.org.uk

Walks with the East Radnor Ramblers in the second half of January.....

Thursday 16th January 4 miles from Wapley Hill Fort CP; Saturday 18th January 8.5 miles from Bucknell School; Wednesday 22nd January 9 miles, meet at 9.30 at Baron pub CP for car share to Aston; Wednesday 29th January 7.5 miles lay-by on A488 at Monaughty.

Walks start at 10.00am. 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

Seen in The Week...good news and going in the right direction!! - Britain's woodland cover has returned to mediaeval levels thanks to the trends for 're-wilding' and recent tree-planting initiatives, public and private. Around 13% of the country, or about 3.19 million hectares, is now forested, according to the Forestry Commission. That represents 8% of Northern Ireland, 10% of England, 15% of Wales, and 19% of Scotland. In 1919, when the Forestry Commission was established, just 5% of Britain was covered with trees.

NEWS FROM OUR TOWN COUNCIL.....PCC are hoping to put the trial one-way system on Hereford Street (from the Lugg View junction to the Police Station car-park) in place soon, hopefully in January.....following outline planning permission in 2018, the developer's architects explained that the forthcoming planning application for the land opposite to Kings Court is for 36 new dwellings of various sizes from 2 to 4 bedrooms. 30% of these would be affordable - 70% of those for sale and the remainder for rent-to-buy. Subject to planning permission, the intent is to commence the build in the summer (2020). See the Minutes of the December TC meeting for full details, including TC comments and questions, on the Town website [www.presteigne.org.uk/Town Council](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/Town_Council) or in the Library and the former telephone kiosk in Norton

NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS: there are two full Town Council meetings this month - both are open to the public in the usual way and are held in the main upstairs room of The Assembly Rooms, starting at 7.30pm.

Wednesday 15th January - Budget Setting Meeting and Wednesday 22nd January - Main Meeting - for meeting papers, see Town website www.presteigne.org.uk/town-council.

The TOWN WEBSITE is being progressively revamped and there's lots of really useful and interesting information on there - if you haven't visited it before or for a while, go to www.presteigne.org.uk

STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY....this year sees new storytime sessions at the Library for pre-school aged children and upwards. Come along for stories and rhymetime fun !! 1st Friday of each month at 10.30am at Presteigne Library.

Are you still munching your way through festive sweeties? Quality Street don't really make a fuss about this, but the coloured cellophane wrappers are *home-compostable*! #GoodToKnow #WasteNot.

Also on the recyclables front, please remember that 46 Wine Bar in the High Street is a collecting point for the recycling of all your crisp and snack packets, that the Costa Coffee cups from the Spar dispenser and all types of cardboard-based drink and food cartons (tetrapak etc, fruit juice, soya milk, tomato, soup) can be recycled through the two big collection bins at the Bring Site in the bypass lay-by, and that there are collecting boxes for old batteries in both Spar and the Library.

Dyfed Powys Police are now recruiting for Police Officers. If you know a family member/friend, anyone who is interested in joining the Police then there is further information on our website, Facebook and Twitter Social media sites. <https://twitter.com/DyfedPowys> <https://www.facebook.com/DPPolice>. <https://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk>

EPIC, Presteigne's third, and only ethical, investment club has - after its inaugural meeting in December - almost reached the legal maximum of twenty members. Only two vacancies exist so if you've been thinking about joining, you need to act quickly! Each member invests £25 per month, which gives the Club a monthly sum of £500 to invest in 'Green and Ethical' shares only. Members meet every fourth Tuesday, in Presteigne, and plan to enjoy a full and active social life as well as taking advantage of a predicted rise in the stock market. The Club's first social event, of 2020, is a Caribbean Dinner in March. Anyone interested in joining should call Jonathan Wilson on [01544 262712](tel:01544262712).

Presteigne Repair & Skill Share restarts for the new year on Saturday 18th January, 10.30am to 1pm in the Youth Centre (Old School) on Hereford Street. Bring along a broken item and get it fixed for free by our clever team of volunteer fixers. You can stay & watch, maybe even learn new skills. Anything from small electrical items: hoovers, lamps, toasters, to mending, darning, zips and buttons. Small tools, broken toys, wobbly chair legs, blunt secateurs - we'll do our best to get things fixed and stop stuff going to landfill. These Repair events aim to foster a make & mend revival, bringing people together to share skills old and new.

Hello Presteigne.....I have just started a project to enable people who need care and support to live their lives, to get help in ways, times and places that suit them. As a community physiotherapist in Powys I have seen at first hand how the lack of support can impact people. I will be helping local people use their energies and talents to set up their own businesses (community micro-enterprises), so that they can work flexibly to support other local people, creating jobs and volunteering opportunities.

If you are interested in this project, please contact me (Heather Maling), Community Enterprise Catalyst (Powys) Mobile: 07595 411945, www.communitycatalysts.co.uk, Twitter: @CommCats

For Community News readers and small business owners on the Herefordshire side of the border.....a new scheme has been launched to help businesses across the Marches meet the cost of switching to Green energy. The Marches Renewable Energy Grant Scheme can help small and medium sized enterprises get a 50 percent grant towards installing renewable energy sources. For more details see https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/news/article/924/new_green_energy_grant_scheme_launched.

EVENTS IN THE COMING COUPLE OF WEEKS...

Wednesday 15th January - 'Cuppa and a Chat' in Walton Village Hall. Every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10.30am to noon. All welcome.

Wednesday 15th January - Town Council budget meeting (see item above)

Friday 17th January - Presteigne Screen presents "Pain and Glory". 8pm at The Assembly Rooms. Spain/Fra 2019 113 mins 15. The latest from Pedro Almodovar – a more reflective film than we've been used to from Spain's most celebrated living director. But that hasn't stopped this semi-autobiographical treat from being his biggest UK hit since *Volver* (2006), or from making it into *Sight & Sound's* top 10 movie list for 2019. On screen, the film is owned by Antonio Banderas who won the best actor award at Cannes this year for this deeply felt exploration of Salvador Mallo, Almodovar's creatively blocked hero/director. Mallo finds plenty of time to brood on his past life and present ailments but, as ever with Almodovar, there's lashings of wit and warmth to draw us in.

Saturday 18th January - Presteigne Repair & Skill Share (see item above)

Saturday 18th January - it's Race Night in Lingen Village Hall. 7pm for 7.30pm start. Free admission. Food available plus bar.

Wednesday 22nd January - Town Council meeting (see item above)

Friday 31st January...Presteigne Screen presents "Bait". 8pm in The Assembly Rooms. UK 2019 89 mins 15. A real rarity – a modestly budgeted black and white film delivering a five-star punch. 'Bait' is a genuine modern masterpiece,' enthuses Mark Kermode. 'A film by, for, and about Cornwall, and I loved it!' When two fishermen brothers fall out over their own futures and the fate of their village, the traditions they have always lived by start to fracture. Martin is now a fisherman without a boat because brother Steven has commandeered it to satisfy the tourist trade. And their family home, like so many others, has been bought up by rich London incomers. Director Mark Jenkin's hugely authentic first feature digs deep into the changing times of a once-thriving village.

Saturday 1st February - Local Food Market (see item above)

Saturday 1st February - Council Surgery (see item above)

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.