

Community News

Issue 126 March 2020

an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Group "Working Together"

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

Editor's Note...

- **So much has changed in just the last 24 hours and is still changing as everyone adjusts ! Please contact us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents - better we receive it twice or three times than not at all ! email pacdg@icloud.com**
- **and if you're self-isolating or need assistance in any way, you can also email pacdg@icloud.com and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.**

SCAM ALERT

...there is yet another scam email claiming to be from TV Licensing, asking you to click on a direct debit link because your DD did not go through!

...and there's a similar email purporting to come from HMRC saying that there's a problem with your tax payment and asking you to click a link to get through to an advisor in the Chat Room.

Both are scams of course, and you should delete the emails without opening.

All Household Waste Recycling Centres are now closed in both Powys and Herefordshire.

Powys CC says that currently, kerbside collections of waste and recycling are continuing as normal, albeit with a much-reduced workforce.

Do you live in Warden Close ? If so, and you have a smart phone, ring John on 07969 440183 to join the Warden neighbours WhatsApp support group. Otherwise, John says that if anyone in Warden Close needs a chat or help with ordering shopping, they can help - call 07969 440183

The Town Council has set up Presteigne and Norton Covid-19 Support on Facebook which contains information on local businesses, shops etc and the services they are offering plus links to current government guidance. It also has full details on the East Radnorshire Day Centre Home Support Service (you can also phone 01544 260360 to get more information on the service provided). Essential links to current guidance can be found at the top of the Council News page on this site.

Radnor Hills are offering a supply of free soft drinks, delivered, to the most vulnerable in our community at this difficult time. Please contact sales@radnorhills.co.uk if you know of any care home, charitable or NHS organisations within 20 miles radius of LD7 1LU that could benefit from this free supply and deliver offer.

Would you like to donate a bench for Silia Wood ? Do you walk in Silia Wood and appreciate the beauty of this local amenity? The site is run by the Woodland Trust and the Trust is happy to accept donations for benches on the site. If you are looking to site a bench in memory of a loved one please get in touch with them to discuss - email dedications@woodlandtrust.org.uk

Two items seen on the Powys County Council Facebook page.

...because of the COVID-19 pandemic, PCC has a number of jobs available which they need to fill urgently. Please visit their website www.powys.gov.uk/jobs to find out more and see how you can help!

...**Emergency childcare hubs** will be operating from 13 locations across the county from this Friday (27 March), **one of which is Presteigne Primary School**. School sites in the county will remain open until Thursday, March 26 but only for children of critical workers and the most vulnerable children. The hubs, which will provide childcare to support critical emergency workers, NHS staff and social care workers as well as the county's most vulnerable children, will also operate at weekends. The hubs will operate from 8am to 6pm. **To access provision from Friday, March 27 to Friday, April 3, critical workers will need to register their child at their nearest emergency childcare hub by filling in an online form by 9pm on Wednesday, March 25th.**

As part of the arrangements, meals will be provided to children three times a day and transport will be arranged for children to get to the hubs and back home.

Cllr Phyl Davies, Cabinet Member for Education and Property, said: "The advice to parents is clear - if your children can stay safely in their home, they should. However, critical workers will still need to have safe care arrangements for their children. These emergency childcare hubs will be providing a vital service to support critical workers and our most vulnerable children. **Our school sites will remain open up until Thursday as emergency childcare facilities but then they will close and these hubs will become operational from Friday onwards.** I want to thank all professionals at our schools for their commitment during this extremely difficult period."

UPDATE FROM THE HIGH STREET

...**from the Salty Dog**. Due to the last night's announcement, we have decided to step up our order-and-collect system, and home delivery service, and in order to ensure a smooth running we now have a pre-order form which we can email to you, our email address is thesaltydogpresteigne@hotmail.co.uk

Please be patient with us as we are not an online business and a quarter of our staff is in self isolation (Annemarie). Stay safe and thank you for your support. The Salty Dog team

...**from the Pharmacy**. Please note that we're going to be closed for an extra hour at lunchtime, from 12 to 2pm.

...**from Lloyds Bank**. According to a note on the Bank doors, they still hope to be opening on Monday and Friday but, because some staff are having to self-isolate, opening hours may have to reduce.

...**from Daphne's Pizza Restaurant**. We are still open for our normal hours, but **for takeaway only** on order hotline 07377 909216. The menu is displayed in our window and on our Instagram account weekly.

...**from Presteigne & Norton Community Support PNCS**. As a result of the ongoing COVID 19 health risk, we regret that the transport office will have to close from Friday 27th March, and as we have no volunteer drivers to provide transport at the moment, we expect Transport will be unavailable for at least 12 weeks. Additionally, our shop and Warehouse have now had to close - thank you for your understanding and support.

...**an update from Freedom Leisure Centre**. As we all continue to navigate our way through these unprecedented times we would like to give you the opportunity to have access to up to 16 weeks of FREE home exercise & workouts! Our friends

at Technogym - the world renowned fitness company - have given us access to 16 weeks of exercise & workout content on an easy to navigate app. Choose from bodyweight exercises & cardio programs all designed to keep you active.

These workouts can be done at home with no equipment and are absolutely FREE during the COVID-19 disruption. To get this content for FREE all you need to do is:

Register at <https://www.mywellness.com/trainathomewithfreedom>

Download the mywellness App and sign in with registered details at the [Apple Store](#), or [Android/Google Play Store](#)

This is FREE content for EVERYONE, forward this email to friends and family and/or share the link on social media - together we can workout while the scientists work it out!

...from Presteigne Freegle. Hi there freeglers - very sadly, after the Government's announcement yesterday, Freegle will have to suspend OFFER/WANTED posts until the situation changes. We'll email you when we're back. If possible, please hold on to your stuff and post it when we reopen. There will be a lot of people who are struggling and will need things when that happens. If you were looking for something... we're really really sorry that we can't help at the moment. Communities have come together in this crisis, so let's continue that momentum when things look brighter and build on it by freegling in the future. Our earth has had a window for recovery, we can keep that open and conserve our precious resources and protect the environment. Our ChitChat section <https://aa/chitchat> is staying open. Join us here to swap hints, tips and tell others how you're filling your day. Share your knowledge and questions on upcycling, reuse, crafts, gardening, cooking, hobbies etc.

Freegle also needs your help. We are funded mostly from donations given by freeglers - no freegling means we won't be getting donations. Lots of charities and businesses will be struggling, but if you want us to be here for you in six months' time we would really appreciate you setting up a regular donation at: <https://freegle.in/paypal1>

See you on the other side! Terry

...update from the Royal Oak. After Boris' announcement tonight we have made the decision that we won't be offering a takeaway and delivery service until the current situation gets better in order to help protect us all. Stay safe everyone and see you all on the other side. We can do this. Much love, The Gorman's and the rest of team Oak.

...update from the Library. This is to confirm that in line with new government policy, the library will be closed until further notice. All books currently on loan have been renewed, and will not accrue fines. Library users can borrow ebooks and e-audio books from our free app, Borrowbox, which is available from the app store or google play, and through the Powys Libraries website. Could I ask people not to return books while the library is shut as they will block the door. Many thanks, Rhiannon

...update from the Petrol Station. After the Prime Minister's announcement last night we will be closing the repair/servicing/MOT side of the business until further notice. If you are a Key Worker and need essential work done to your car to enable you to travel to work then please contact us on 01544 267365 between 9am and 5pm. **The forecourt will remain open for fuel sales - I will seek clarification on this tomorrow but I believe it will be an 'essential service' so will remain open.** We may however need to change our opening hours slightly but I will notify customers on social media and put signs up on the forecourt if this is going to happen. Please do as asked previously and remain in your vehicle and wait to be served your fuel. **DO NOT DISPENSE ANY FUEL YOURSELF!** Thank you for your co-operation. If going out is not essential then [#stayhome](#). Stay safe everyone x Please share.

...update from PBS. From what we understand hardware stores are exempt from closure so we will be open tomorrow but from 8am and with some changes put in place. Due to new guidelines we can only have 2 members of staff at work together so we will be setting up a sterile collection point in our yard. This can be used for collections for account customers and for anyone pre-paying over the phone with credit/debit cards. No cash payments. Sorry for any inconvenience this causes. Stay safe.

...update from Sidney Nolan Trust. Based on the latest advice, The Rodd will remain closed until further notice . This means that all exhibitions, workshops and events programmed are postponed. The Trust will review this position on a monthly basis and keep our partners, audiences and community up to date with the latest information. The closure is hugely disappointing for us as we were looking forward to sharing with you a diverse new creative programme. During this period of uncertainty we will be continuing to develop ideas, partnerships and exciting plans for the future development of The Rodd. Please bear with us and visit us when we are next open. Your support will mean more to us than ever before. Thank you

...update from Arrowfield Vets. As vets, our jobs have always been about protecting animal health and welfare. We now find ourselves in a position where it is also our duty to do everything we can to protect human health, particularly those in our community who are most at risk in this unprecedented situation. Because of this we have reached the decision to stop non essential work. We will be cancelling our routine appointments, allowing us to focus on the animals who need our help the most, whilst limiting movement of individuals and potential spread of COVID-19. If you are not sure if your appointment is essential, please ring the surgery to discuss it with us. Your animal's welfare is very important to us, as is the health of everyone in our community. Repeat Prescriptions - our Veterinary Wholesalers are now only delivering every other day and we are already experiencing some medication and stock shortages. Repeat medication will be limited to one months supply, so please do not stock pile medication. Prescriptions can be ordered by email to prescriptions@arrowfieldvets.co.uk Once the prescription has been approved we will ring you to tell you your prescription is ready to collect and take payment. If you need to pick up medication, routine flea and worm treatments or food please email or telephone us at least 48 hours before to order them. We will phone you to take Payment over the phone to minimise the need of contact on collection. Repeat medication prescriptions can be posted to you but will incur a P&P fee.

...update from Victoria Fish Bar. After the latest announcement we will be closed until further notice. Thank you for your support during these difficult times.

...from Russell Fletcher, Presteigne Driving School. Unfortunately I have been advised by the government and the driving associations to temporarily stop teaching all students during this pandemic. I will be in contact with all students about lessons asap - stay safe

PACDG - the PRESTEIGNE AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP... "WORKING TOGETHER"

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.