

Community News

Issue 157 April 2020

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

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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

- **Please contact us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents - email pacdg@icloud.com**
- **and if you need assistance in any way, email us and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.**

...When you next walk up to the Warden or to Went's Meadow for your daily exercise or dog walk, take a look along the south side of the bypass between the turning down to the garage and the finger post....and delight in the magnificent show of wildflowers along the banks. The wild flowers have been labelled to raise awareness of the beauty and diversity of a local verge, guerrilla style! This is a small but very special remnant of nature. Also of historical interest and connection is that it's a bit left over from the old railway line, that's why it remains so species rich.

...from Rebecca Preedy. *Has anyone been missing a cat since around Feb time ? I originally thought this one was mine but mine has returned. Longhair tabby, grey/brown/black/white with white chest and white front socks. Call 01547 540157*

...from Rose. *"I can't get over how wonderful our local shops and restaurants have been during this crisis. They have adapted so quickly and well to the situation by finding new ways to work and to provide for us - even developing new services that would usually take months of research and testing! We're so lucky to have our High Street shops with such committed and caring staff and volunteer helpers, drivers etc - I hope we can support them by continuing to use our High Street as much as possible after this terrible crisis has passed."*

...from Barbara Roberts (Sew Presteigne). *"Thank you for all sharing we have only got about 100 bags left, as today 520 bags went out. Thanks to Chris Niblock for taking 300 scrub bags for Powys Ambulances crew and also taking them to hospitals around the county from SEW PRESTEIGNE."*

...from Diana & Phil. *"Yesterday we were cycling along the bypass. Initially we used the cycle paths, but then saw people walking ahead of us including someone with a young child. We moved onto the road in order to maintain the 2 metre social distancing from the pedestrians. A driver passing us slowed down and shouted at us out of the window; we think she was saying that we should be on the cycle path. We were quite upset at this, as we had good reason to be on the road – which in any case is not out of bounds to cyclists at any time! Please can we ask drivers to understand that cyclists may have good reasons for being on the public road rather than the cycle path."*

...Home-made masks for those who need them. Volunteers have been busy making fabric masks – they're non-medical-grade masks and so they're not proven to protect you but the idea is that they may help prevent the spread of the virus if they're properly used. If you want a mask, or know someone who needs one, please pick up from the

box outside Spar (on the steps, to the right). We'll try to keep it topped up but since it relies on volunteer help we can only do our best! If you'd like to help with mask-making please email emma.lilley@btinternet.com, or simply make your own...

...**How to make your own masks**: we've been making simple rectangular masks from close-weave fabric with a layer of J-cloth between – see the following youtube link for instructions: <https://youtu.be/4FB--BOyTiU>

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET

(things keep changing so, best first check information on websites or Facebook pages)

...**about our Bring Site**. Please note that the British Heart Foundation Book Bank at the Bring Site is **closed** until further notice, because it is full and cannot be emptied until lockdown is lifted.

...**from Emily George**. Stretch and tone class! Starting next week via the zoom app, Thursdays at 6:45-7:15, £2 per person, please let me know if you'd like to book on! email egeorge95@icloud.com

...**from Weobley Ash**. Bbq boxes, from £45. Pork Chinese kebabs, sausages, burgers, steaks and bread rolls. Order only, 01544 598120 or PM us

...**from Spar Presteigne**. We're open as normal for essential shopping on VE Day bank holiday. Our opening hours (normally 0700 to 2200) can be found in the About section of our Facebook page. We hope everyone has a happy and safe day at home. Thank you for your continued support.

...**from B W Roberts, Garage**. We are open today Thursday from 10-4 but CLOSED tomorrow (Friday 8th May) for the VE Day bank holiday. Open again Saturday 9am-12pm. Have a lovely weekend.

...**from Wegnals Farm Butchery**. Traditional Pork Sausages available. 10lb bags £25.00 Freshly made. Available this week and taking orders for next week.

...**from The Hat Shop**. Today's lunch was Steak and onion pie, mash & veg followed by rhubarb crumble and custard. Tomorrow will be Chicken Kiev and Black Forest gateau!

THINGS TO DO WHILE COCOONING AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**from Presteigne Freegle**. We love this film @reusebecause! "Reuse Because You Can't Recycle The World" made by our friend @stayvocal. Got a spare hour? Get super inspired by this documentary covering a myriad of creative #reuse projects across the USA. <https://youtu.be/FcZd2tfi2vg>

...**from Presteigne Arts Scene**. The Hay Festival Digital 2020 online festival is completely free and will run from 18 - 31 May. Browse the programme and, if an event interests you, click the Register link to save your spot. The programme of events is online now on this link: <https://www.hayfestival.com/m-156-hay-digital-2020.aspx?skinid=1¤cysetting=GBP&localesetting=en-GB&resetfilters=true>.

...**from The Royal Albert Hall Live**. We're opening this little place back up for a special concert to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. A huge global audience is set to tune in and watch tomorrow evening. Where will you be watching? www.royalalberthall.com/ve75

...all about native plants. Check out @wildflower_hour on Twitter every Sunday night 8-9pm - pictures and chat about native plants - and some very clever people who can name them (*thanks to Mags for this*)

...from Presteigne Carnival about the Poster competition. A week or so ago we advertised our Carnival Poster Competition for children (see our Facebook page or issue 149 of the Community News for full information). **Well now it's open for Adults too !** So dust off your colouring pencils/watercolours/design program, and show us what you can create. This category will be for anyone 16+ and you can win family entry and an afternoon tea in the Carnival cafe at Presteigne Carnival 2021! The only rules are:

1) The poster must be A4

2) The following wording must be included - Presteigne Carnival 10th July, 2021

The poster can be in any medium (pens, pencils, collage, produced on computer) - let your imagination go wild! All entries to be posted to: Tim Shallcross, Maypole Cottage, Norton, Presteigne LD8 2EL

Please include the name, age and contact details of the entrant. **CLOSING DATE:** All entries must be received by 11th July 2020. **GOOD LUCK!**

...from Presteigne Primary School to all pupils. We would love to see how you all celebrate VE Day during lockdown. Feel free to send us your pictures at the teachers' email address and let us know that you're happy to share and we will put them all together and share our celebrations at the beginning of next week! Have a super weekend... No more home schooling for this week! Enjoy the sunshine and stay safe !

...from The Judge's Lodging. Bananas! Not how we are feeling, but what we've found today whilst browsing our collection - according to this booklet, 'the culinary possibilities of bananas are endless'. We'll just leave you with a few recipes here - see our Facebook page - (there are 128, if you want more!) - enjoy your holiday weekend and if you have any bananas at home, well...

OTHER INFORMATION

...from Boots Pharmacies. From today, victims of domestic abuse will be able to access safe spaces at Boots pharmacies consultation rooms, where they can contact specialist domestic abuse services for support and advice. The scheme is in response to the desperate situation facing many victims who are isolating with perpetrators during lockdown. (*thanks to Debbie for this*)

...from Crowd PPE Powys. Are you a community volunteer? Do you work in a care home or the care sector? Are you a home carer? Do you work in a food bank? Do you deliver medications/food to shielding members of the community? Our orders are open to anybody that requires PPE to work, or support individuals. If you are currently working without face shields, or your supply is low, please get in touch so we are able to ensure that you are fully protected while supporting others.

Our request form takes 30 seconds to fill in: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7XKkSlITqiWeLM1oe92ROh_jgsZWp_Q8cKpnk_iZvdmsnUQ/viewform

...from PCC (taken from the County Times). There is enough personal protective equipment (PPE) in stock for Powys County Council staff to use during the coronavirus pandemic. Head of adult services commissioning, Dylan Owen assured councillors at the cabinet meeting that the authority had "sufficient stock," as he explained how the authority had been helping care homes in the county during the pandemic. Mr Owen also explained that some workers were now "embedded" with voluntary organisations &

private firms, to help ensure residents receive the care they need. He explained that on March 16, Social Services had gone into emergency mode to concentrate on five key areas. These included supporting care homes, supporting home carers, helping people with substance issues, transferring people home from hospital, & safeguarding. Mr Owen said: "We have been working very hard to support all of our care providers, in order to ensure that they are ready, able & well equipped to provide the services that we commissioned from them." Mr Owen added that PCC had block booked beds to "maximise capacity" in care homes as the authority prepared for a "potential surge" in coronavirus cases. Mr Owen continued: "We have been providing PPE & have sufficient stock of that across the county. "In order to support these services we have redeployed hundreds of members of staff. "We have a number of our council staff working inside the voluntary & private sector to ensure that these homes are sustainable & are safe."

...from Greenpeace. You don't need a garden to grow your own veggies, just a sunny spot in your home! Find out how in our handy guide, it's full of tips on growing your own food. Sign up and get yours: <https://act.gp/3fjyOIB>

...from Dyfed Powys Police. We've all adapted in different ways to play our part in preventing the spread of #COVID19. The vast majority of people continue to stick to the restrictions, and for that we say a big THANK YOU. As we lead up to another bank holiday weekend, it can be easy to become complacent and relaxed but our message is clear – nothing has changed, we all still need to play our part. Our patrols continue night and day right across our area. Please, only leave home for one of the reasons you'll find at gov.uk/Coronavirus

...from Powys Health Teaching Board. The first locations for new mobile testing units in Powys have been confirmed. These units are for symptomatic critical workers referred by their employers, and to provide even more testing to the care home sector in the county. Find out more at <http://www.powysthb.wales.nhs.uk/news/52502>

...from the Welsh Government. Our VE Day plans have had to change because of coronavirus - but that won't stop us from paying tribute to a remarkable generation. This Friday Mark Drakeford, First Minister for Wales will be:- speaking to veterans online - leading two minute silence.

...from PAVO - would you like to receive the weekly PAVO News ? Our latest round up of news regarding and relating to COVID19 is now 'live'. If you would like to receive this weekly bulletin please [Subscribe Here](#)

...from Herefordshire Council. The Leominster HWRC will re-open on Saturday 9th May **but for essential use only** - 'essential' means you must **only** visit if waste or recycling cannot be stored at home safely or disposed of safely by other means. By this we mean if the waste cannot be stored without causing risk of injury, health or harm. There is no other reason the journey will be considered a legitimate purpose for travel. If you can temporarily store your waste or recycling in a way that does not pose a risk to yours or other's safety or human health, then you must do so - see the website https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200138/rubbish_and_recycling/893/coronavirus_information_for_waste_and_recycling/2 for full information.

The other household recycling centres including the Kington site will remain closed for the time being, until available staffing resource will permit these sites to reopen as well.

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.