

Community News

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an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group

Did You Know ?

....our Fire Brigade is currently carrying out FREE home fire safety checks and will replace any non-functioning fire alarms for you FREE OF CHARGE. Call Freephone 0800 169 1234 or visit www.freesmokealarm.co.uk

.....with local bank branches closing, we can still do our day-to-day banking for all the UK's major banks at the Post Office in the Presteigne Premier Store (or any Post Office branch) including cash withdrawals, cash deposits, cheque deposits, and balance information. Business customers may be subject to some account fees. Ask at the counter in the Post Office for details

Welcome to another newcomer to Presteigne High Street - Bell Antiques - who have moved into what used to be the PBS premises in Scottleton Street, across from the garage, just up from the Royal Oak. Bell Antiques specialises in period furnishings, maps, prints, and lots of other beautiful items. Call in to browse and say hello to Andrew, Lance and Olivier.

....in addition to the activities of PACDG'S guerrilla gardeners around town, others deserve a **big thank-you for helping to brighten up the town** - just look at Annie's Garden on the roadside edge of the Bowling Green - brilliant, Annie !

(from Gaby)....Museum mourns loss of great actor and friend....The Judge's Lodging museum, the award-winning historic courthouse and judge's accommodation, has been hugely saddened by the passing of Robert Hardy, a wonderful actor, great mind and staunch supporter of them. Mr Hardy lent his voice to the museum's atmospheric 'eavesdropping' audio tour, which leads enthralled visitors through the gas-lit world of an unusual Victorian household, taking the role of Richard Lister Venables, Chairman of the Magistrates, and as such is the highlight of the tour. In 1997, he lent his presence to the opening of the building as a museum, when he processed through the streets of Presteigne in an 1860s horse-drawn carriage, flanked by the local police, who gamely wore Victorian uniforms, and the local cadets, who took on the duties of the Victorian javelin-men, protectors of visiting judges.

Left at the Youth Club over the past few weeksone grey adjustable metal/plastic walking aid/stick.....and two small soup/cereal dishes + green & white tea cosy. Collect from Community Support office open Mon-Fri 9.30-12.30 tel. 267961

A message from Mandy....the Wednesday Zumba classes have been discontinued - my only class now at the Memorial Hall is the Low Impact Exercise session on Thursdays 10 -11 am. Contact Mandy Harrison on 01544 387958 or 07538218273 or email mandys.mail@virgin.net

Congratulations to Fiona Preece, Lisa Veary and Simon Dixon for being co-opted at PNTC's July's meeting to fill the three Town Councillor vacancies.

Wednesday 16th August - Wildlife Roleplay session at Presteigne Library 2-4pm. It is a free session run by Jenny for anyone >6 years who would like to become

more familiar with insects, birds and mammals associated with Hawthorn. "Creatures" (puppets and head-dresses) will be available for scripted interviews. All welcome. It's educational and fun!! See website www.beetlesandbees.co.uk
Thursday 17th August - the PNCS AGM at the Memorial Hall 2.30pm. All welcome. A strawberry tea will be served afterwards

Friday 18th August - 'The Mouthpiece of the Gods' 7.30-9pm, The Assembly Rooms. John Kenny's solo lecture and demonstration tells the ongoing story of the reconstruction of the Carnyx, the iconic Iron Age Celtic instrument, and the evolution of the great family of lip reed instruments. Kenny's passion is the unique interface between musical archaeology and contemporary performance and recording. John is an internationally acclaimed trombone soloist and also plays jazz. 7.30pm Tickets £12/£9 from the Presteigne Festival Box Office

Saturday 19th August - Music@The Dukes, Michael Chapman 8.30pm, £5

Sunday 20th August - Norton Show. See previous issues for details.

Thursday 24th to Tuesday 29th August - Presteigne Festival. This is proving really popular this year, with the Box Office reporting brisker business than ever before for its season of music, film, literature and art - so book early to avoid disappointment !! The programme embraces music by J S Bach, Beethoven, Berg, Lennox Berkeley, Brahms, Frank Bridge, Duruflé, Haydn, Nielsen, Poulenc, Schubert and Vaughan Williams. We also have a celebration of the work of artist Sidney Nolan and a first late-night event, *Memoirs of a Pear-Shaped Life*, a witty salute to Erik Satie. Actor Christopher Good narrates and pianist Anne Lovett plays Satie's haunting music including the *Gymnopédies*. Ian Marchant talks about his new book tracing the story of the counter-culture. To complement this, we will screen three movies - Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless*, *Performance* starring Mick Jagger and the unforgettable *Bonnie and Clyde*.

To see the full programme and to book, go to www.presteignefestival.com, phone [01544 267800](tel:01544267800) or drop into the Assembly Rooms Box Office open 11am - 2pm until August 19th, then daily 10am - 5pm from August 21st - 29th.

Saturday, Sunday and Monday 26th, 27th, 28th August - Presteigne Open Studios 2017. Presteigne has long been known for its vibrant music and arts scene, and this year artists of all disciplines will be opening their doors to visitors, during the Presteigne Festival at the end of August. A huge range of different media will be both on show and demonstrated, from metal and stone sculpture, to installations, to paint and clay. Some will be working in their own studios, whilst others will be sharing the Old School in Hereford Street, where they will be demonstrating their various skills and talents.

The artists will open their studios 11am-5pm on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Don't miss this opportunity to see the work of a diverse and select group of artists. Maps of the art trail will be available in many venues in the town and around the county. THE ARTISTS: Susie Arbuthnott - Painter; Sara Bamford - Metal Sculptor; Ann Campbell - Sculptor; Justine Cook - Installation Artist; June Coveney - Painter; Simon Dorrell - Painter; Tony Hall - Potter/ Sculptor; Lois Hopwood - Painter; Ruth Kirkby - Botanical Illustrator; Alison McGregor-Grimley - Painter; Lottie O'Leary - Sculptor/ Stone Carver; Celia Perceval - Painter; Alex Ramsay - Photographer; Antonia Spowers - Sculptor; Richard Studer - Painter, Printmaker; Gill Tenant-Eyles - Ceramicist

For more information, visit the Facebook page - Open Studios Presteigne. Also Twitter and Instagram.

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) - mail pacdg@icloud.com. Feel free to tweet or forward this to others. If you would prefer not to receive further issues of the News, please email us with REMOVE and we'll immediately take you off the the distribution list