

Community News - Issue 33

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

DON'T FORGET TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE TOWN COUNCIL ASSETS & SERVICES CONSULTATION WHICH ENDS ON 7th MARCH. YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR REPLIES ON-LINE (via the Town website www.presteigne.org.uk) OR ON PAPER FORMS AVAILABLE FROM WINNIE'S, SPAR and the LIBRARY.

ALL RESIDENTS OF VOTING AGE CAN REPLY TO THE CONSULTATION BUT THERE SHOULD ONLY BE ONE RESPONSE PER RESIDENT.

Where a household has only one email address, or has no email and can only make an on-line submission using a friend or neighbour's email, the Town website will allow two or more eligible residents to respond giving the same email address.

PLEASE DO MAKE THE TIME TO SUBMIT THE CONSULTATION - IT'S SIMPLE AND EASY TO DO AND IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR TOWN.....and remember, if you submit your answers on-line, you also stand a chance of winning a substantial cash prize !

DID YOU KNOW ?..... (information from Heather about The Warden in Presteigne)

The Warden is the site of a motte and bailey castle, believed to have been built back in the mid-11th century and, as such, is classed as an ancient monument, meaning that only minor works can be carried out there.

In the 18th century, the Harley Family turned The Warden into public grounds with flower beds and, on the motte and bailey, constructed Presteigne's bowling green. In 1805 The Warden was presented to the people of Presteigne. At present, The Warden is owned by Powys County Council, who have agreed to renew stone on the pathways, install new picnic tables, renew steps and the main handrail. They have also agreed to produce a management plan so that the volunteers can fill in and do jobs for which the council doesn't presently have the funding. This will include management of the brambles, cleaning up the leaves, and general maintenance of the trees.

We are a new committee - Vice Chairperson Angie Bromfield, Treasurer Lizzie Somerfield, James Somerfield, and myself, Heather Lewis, as Chairperson. We have 12 volunteers (including ourselves) who meet on a Thursday morning to keep the brambles confined to current areas, and keep the paths clear. We have also opened up the View Points which were obscured by branches - we can always find something to do !!!! As new volunteers, we still go by the name of 'The Warden Guardian Foundation' which was formed by Mr Jim Bell who dedicated his retirement years to the Warden, although we are now all trained and insured by Powys County Council and have signed up to their volunteer scheme. PCC also supplies our tools and safety wear.

A message from Pete at The Duck's Nest....we are re-opening as a restaurant tomorrow, Shrove Tuesday, the 28th of Feb! You guessed it - a whole night of pancakes. Small ones - thin ones - ones with crispy meat - ones with succulent fish - sweet ones - American ones - french ones. PANCAKES! The Drunken Duck has been great and it has been lovely to have some time off - so thank you everyone, I really have appreciated the support! We had a very successful Valentines Night Wine tasting to launch our new wine list supplied by Mark Hughes at THE REAL WINE COMPANY - they are based on the new trading estate in Presteigne and have some remarkable wines in stock!

We are returning to our normal opening hours on 28th February, Tuesday to Saturday 6pm - 9.30pm. The Bistro Menu will run from 6pm - 8 pm and will change often !! The a-la-carte Menu will run from 7pm - 9.30pm and will change monthly. These will be our hours for 2017 !! Call to make a reservation on 01544 598 090 or visit our website www.theducksnest.com

Don't miss the PRESTEIGNE LOCAL FOOD MARKET this Saturday 4th March 9 – 1pm at the Memorial Hall Presteigne....(a message from Ann) New producers are due to join the regular and popular artisans. Please come and see what a wonderful range of local produce on offer. We hope to have another Seed Swap this month for customers to bring their unwanted seeds to swap, or to give a small donation to the Heritage Seed Library for any seeds they take.

The Community Cafe will be there too, providing Fairtrade coffee, teas and homemade cakes. As well as providing a nice place for people to sit with friends, and supporting the Market traders, it regularly passes all its proceeds to the following local organisations:- Youth Club, Play Group, Air Ambulance, Community Support, Day Centre, The Circle, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, Rainbows and Brownies, First Responders, Food Bank, St Michael's Hospice, Guides.

In parallel to the Food Market, the Town Council holds its monthly Surgery in the Memorial Hall, usually attended by the Mayor and one other Councillor.

And then visit the **Artists and Makers at The Assembly Rooms on Saturday 4th March, 10am to 3pm.....** local artists working with wood, stone, silver, semi-precious stones, paper, paint, linen, wool and silk. This year they will be showcasing new work from a different artist each month - for March the featured artist is Michael Hancock, Printmaker. For details contact Rosamund 01544 260777

A big thank-you to the generous anonymous resident who provided the lovely new bench recently installed by the TC at the Norton bus stop. If you have thought about providing a bench in memory of a relative or friend, or just for the benefit of the community, please do email us on pacdg@icloud.com or contact the Town Clerk direct on pntc@hotmail.com.

Dyfed-Powys Police DPCM messages..... Officers are appealing for information in relation to the theft of two off-road Honda 125 motorcycles taken from a barn in the Knighton area. The offence occurred sometime between 17:00hrs on the 20/02/2017 and 08.00hrs on the 21/02/2017. If you have any information relating to this crime, please contact PC 862 Ballard on 101..... recent data from the NFU puts quad bikes as the number one item stolen in rural communities as they're valuable, portable, and have few distinguishing features. Consider installing a tracker device, immobilise when not in use, and lock them in secure buildings using ground anchor plates and chains for extra security, and consider investing in marking kitsdo you know much about cyber crime and staying safe online, and how to keep your computer updated and secure ? Action Fraud and Get Safe Online provide generic information that can assist in enhancing your knowledge but also staying safe online when using the internet. Follow us on Twitter

@Radnorshire NPT to keep updated with current scams and staying safe online, and ways to assist in preventing cybercrime. TO SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THESE POLICE MESSAGES DIRECT, GO TO www.dyfedpowyscommunitymessaging.org

The Velvet Violin cabaret - the New Orleans band Dirty Bourbon River Show bring their blend of big brass circus rock to Presteigne Assembly Rooms on Sunday 5th March. Dirty Bourbon River Show's musical influences stretch across gypsy, punk, rock and traditional New Orleans brass. The result is a blast of truly new and entertaining energy in the musical landscape. Their live shows pair exuberant lyrics with complex, harmony-rich songwriting and orchestration. They switch instruments mid-show (sometimes even mid-song), they all sing (except the drummer, of course) and they have a penchant for theatrics (fireballs, group chants, stomps and whiskey pours!) "A circus-like barrage of sound serving as entrance music for a magical mystery tour of whiskey-soaked French Quarter back alleys," – Rory Callais, OffBeat. The Velvet Violin is the monthly music cabaret from the organisers of the Full Circle festival in Presteigne. Sunday 5th March at The Assembly Rooms, Broad Street, Presteigne 7pm. Tickets £15 from Courtyard Antiques in Presteigne or 01544 267163

We'll continue to keep you informed about local events and happenings, but **did you know that the Town website also carries a Diary of Local Events ?** There are also back numbers of all Community News issues in case you need to catch up on something, plus lots of other information on local facilities organisations and businesses, accommodation, planning applications, Town Council minutes of meeting, and much much more. **Visit the Town Website at www.presteigne.org.uk**

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 - or collar one of the Steering Committee in the street and tell us what's on your mind. You can also leave a written message at the Library for us - remember to include your name and a contact telephone number !

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - email pacdg@icloud.com

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.