

Community News

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

Wondered what the road and pavement works at the south end of town are all about ? this is the first phase of the new inter-schools footpath and cycleway being constructed to provide a safe travel route to and between John Beddoes and the Primary School. See the route map on the Community Noticeboard at the Memorial Hall.

Presteigne's Bags for Life is motoring ahead... together we've made over 150 bags (the lion's share being made by sewing whiz Phil) from your old curtains and received donations of just over £120, some of which will be going towards helping plant daffodils around the town. We've about a dozen volunteers (some of whom make bags at home) but can always do with more. No sewing experience needed; if you'd like to help - or learn how to sew, then just drop Emma an email at emma.lilley@btinternet.com

NEWS AND AN URGENT APPEAL from Presteigne & Norton Community Support.....we've now moved into the old Flower Shop at 5 High Street, Presteigne LD8 2BA - unfortunately we have been having problems with BT setting up our existing phone, but hopefully this has been fixed by the time you read this.

Although the office has moved, for the moment all stuff for the Charity Shop should be delivered to the Drill Hall, or larger things direct to the Warehouse.

Need a Radar Key ? These are available from the Shop for only £3.

We desperately need more Volunteer Drivers...Volunteer drivers take members of our community to health and hospital appointments - being volunteers it is entirely up to our drivers how much they want to volunteer. We take people to hospitals in England and Wales, and also lots of local journeys too. Some volunteers like going everywhere, some only like local and Hereford, again you can specify what you would like to do. No qualifications are needed, just a clean driving licence, MOT and an insured car. DBS checks will be done by PNCS. We pay all volunteers mileage at 45p a mile. We also now help the Welsh Ambulance - some special training may be needed if you would like to take on these transports. Interested ? Call in to the Shop or see us on the PNCS stall at the PACDG Community Groups Fair on Saturday 28th October in the Memorial Hall. **The Warehouse would welcome anyone who can help out selling, tidying and general duties.** In particular, help is needed with delivery/collection of large items - if you have a van or trailer and can assist now and again, we can pay your petrol money.

Brilliant news in that our Librarian, Rhiannon Hooson's book "The Other City" has been shortlisted for the Wales Book of the Year award - as one of three books in the poetry category. The judges said about it: *"[The Other City] announces a stunning new voice in contemporary poetry. From the first reading these are poems which are going to consume you as the reader, and draw you back to them again and again. With their dark, compelling strength, their distinctive musical voice, and their refusal to explain or simplify, her poems reminded us of writers like Tiffany Atkinson or Louis MacNeice. Hooson is a writer who completely understands the magic, music and mystery of poetry and she draws on all the power of language to create hauntingly beautiful and unforgettable poems."* The shortlist is here: <http://www.literaturewales.org/lw-news/announcing-wales-book-year-short-list-2017/>

And you can vote for Rhiannon for the 'People's Choice' award here: <http://www.walesartsreview.org/vote-now-wales-book-of-the-year-peoples-choice/>

Thank you so much ! The Royal British Legion in Presteigne raised £385, and Lesley and Frances, both from Norton, raised £227 and £332 respectively at their Macmillan Coffee Mornings and raffles - tremendous results, and thanks to everyone who supported them !!

Want advice or to save money on your energy bills?...Citizens Advice provide free energy appointments. Book now 01686 617667. Find the best deal - grants for improvements - help if struggling to pay bills - energy efficient advice on home insulation & heating - complaints about suppliers - help for rural, older, low income & disabled customers. One-to-one appointments & home visits possible.

Presteigne Dance Club - tune up your mind and body with sequence dancing - professional tuition - friendly atmosphere - excellent dance floor in the Memorial Hall. Tuesday 8 to 10pm (Beginners), Thursday 8 to 10pm (Advanced), Saturday 8 to 10.45pm (Open Dance). Call Frank or Pauline on 01544 267370

Wednesday 18th October - Flu Clinic 9am - 12.30pm. If you are eligible (call 01544 267985 if you're unsure), get your winter flu jab at the Medical Centre. Just come along - no appointment necessary.

Friday 20th October - Presteigne Screen "The Eagle Huntress". Assembly Rooms 7.30 for 8pm. Bar/coffee/tea/homemade cake. www.presteignescreen.org.uk

Saturday 21st October - Live Music @ No. 46 Wine Bar with 'Barebacks' at 9pm

Sunday 22nd October - Open Mic @ No. 46 Wine Bar hosted by Rich & Helli Gooderson. Music, poetry, spoken word or comedy. 7pm to 9.30pm

Monday 23rd October - 'Cairo and the Western Desert 1942 - Rommel out-foxed - Espionage - Deception and Camouflage'. 7.30pm East Radnor Day Centre. Who was the *real* 'English Patient'? What was the cross-dressing colonel doing in Madrid? Why did an incompetent German spy and his belly-dancing friend fail to steal the secrets of the 8th Army? Where (and how) were 1,000 tanks and 2,000 field guns concealed in the desert before the Allied attack at El Alamein exactly 75 years ago? In an illustrated talk Roger Curtis will provide the fascinating, little-known and often amusing answers. Tickets £8 from Winnies, or reserve at (01544) 262846. All proceeds to the ERDC

Tuesday 24th October - Presteigne Evergreen Club are organising a coach trip to Abergavenny Market. We will be leaving Norton at 8.50am, and Presteigne 9.00am. The cost will be £12.00 per person, and everyone is welcome to join us. For more information please phone Judi on 267420, or Eileen on 262710

Saturday 28th October - a spectacular Black Tie Halloween event in the Judge's Lodging by the Duck's Nest and Mark Hughes from the Real Wine Company. A glass of bubbly in the Drawing Room followed by a gas-lit evening tour of the historic museum and a four-course gourmet meal in the beautifully-restored Dining Room. £80 pp. Limited to 22 people. Book your place NOW for this very special evening 01544 598 090.

Saturday 28th October - PACDG's 2017 COMMUNITY GROUPS FAIR 9.30am to 3.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Free entry. Stalls from local clubs, societies and organisations, musical & craft performances & demonstrations through the day plus food/refreshments.

Sunday 29th October - Medium Night @ No. 46 Wine Bar - Jackie Mecke 6.30pm

AND DON'T FORGET - Saturday 4th November - 'Local Food Market' & Town Council Surgery in the Memorial Hall, & 'Artists & Makers' in the Assembly Rooms 10am-3pm.

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