

Community News

Issue 80 - July 2018

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

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WHAT IS GOING ON AT THE RADNORSHIRE ARMS !!!!! Our iconic Rad is shut with no sign of any refurbishment...so much is being said **IN** the pub, **IN** the shops, **ON** the internet (e.g. Jac o' the North's blog) and on town Facebook forums...we don't want to see the Rad deteriorate to the point where it is lost to the town !

Here is a message from our County Councillor Beverley Baynham.....*"As you will be aware the Radnorshire Arms Hotel is currently closed. There have been many rumours alleging various wrongdoings to which I have tried to get to the truth to share with you. I am in contact with Kirsty Williams AM, Chris Davies MP, Dyfed Powys Police and various officers at Powys County Council. Thankfully they have all agreed to work with me to try to establish what is actually going on. I have emailed Paul Williams direct and received a response stating that I need to put in writing that I will not share anything I am told with any third party. To this end I have refused to sign such a declaration. I am an elected representative and feel that I should be able to share this information with you. I can assure you I shall continue to try to find out the truth and share this with you when I do."*

It's good that our Town Council and PCC are on the case, and we know the local papers and media are also alerted to this now, but people are asking what they can do individually to voice their concerns. As with any issue like this, the more "noise" the authorities hear, the more likely they are to keep investigating. So if you are worried and want to support Bev's and the Town Council's efforts, you could - contact the local paper - email or write to the Dyfed Powys Police Commissioner Dafyd Llywelyn opcc@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk - AM Kirsty Williams kirsty.williams@assembly.wales - and MP Chris Davies chris.davies.mp@parliament.uk . And maybe also organisations like CADW if you think they should also be looking into this. Watch this space for updates.

Meanwhile, such a lot going on in town in July !!!!

...Dear Sharppp Chatters - a reminder that on Wednesday 4th July we have Ian Marchant as our guest speaker at the Assembly Rooms, 7.30pm. He will be speaking In Defence of Faith, and my guess is that as well as being a fascinating talk he will have tricky questions to field from those of us who may not share his convictions. This will be a popular event so get there early to make sure you get a seat. BYO drinks. *Maggie*

On Saturday 7th July, there won't be enough time in the day.....

...your local firefighters are tackling the 75 Mile Challenge with all proceeds going to The Firefighters Charity. This tough challenge starts at 9am and includes 25 miles carrying a BA set, 25 miles cycling, and 25 miles on a rowing machine all in and around the town. Support and sponsor your local Presteigne crew by making a direct pledge (see sponsorship forms in local businesses) or on our JustGiving page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/phil-morris14>

... the annual Rockbridge Macmillan Tea Party is here again - 2pm on the green at Rockbridge Park LD8 2NF. £3.50 for Drink and Cake (children £2). Free drinks top ups Donations for more cake. Tom-bola, plants, games, White Elephant & Craft stall. To donate email rosannahsaull@icloud.com or call 01547 560473

... and don't forget the Presteigne St. Andrew's Summer Fayre from 2 to 4pm - games and all the usual stalls, teas in the Church Hall, and Tower Tours - see what Presteigne looks like from the top of the church!

... **Presteigne Local Food Market is back from 9am - 1pm in the Memorial Hall.** With Summer in full swing please come and watch a Kotlich demonstration given by Trish Maccurrach who lives near Kington and knows what must be everything about this fantastic way of cooking outdoors. Trish will be bringing cooking pots for sale. Indoors will be the regular and hopefully everyone's favourite artisans so you will be able to find the great produce they bring for you to enjoy. When in need of some relaxation there is the Community Cafe serving Fairtrade coffee, teas and homemade cakes... **the Market also hosts the monthly Council Surgery** - come and talk to your county and town councillors about things that concern you

... **visit Artists & Makers at The Assembly Rooms between 10am-3pm.** Paintings, Prints, Pottery, Photography, Furniture, Silver Jewellery, Book Binding, Leather Work, Hand lettered Stone and Plant Dyed Knits in the Market Hall ... and Tea, Cake, Welsh Blankets and Vintage in the Green Room

... **and to finish the day off in style, Sheep Music is putting on an afternoon/evening community event in memory of Nicola Humphreys called Nicola's Picnic Party on The Warden from 3pm to 11pm.** Music and dancing from Black Mountain Boy, Little Rumba, Liv & Bert, Presteigne Pop Choir, New Planet Animals. Bring your picnic but there will be a licensed bar, a tea and coffee tent, and Weobley Ash will be offering a selection of hot food. As always with a Sheep Music production, the event is very much rooted in the community and will offer something for everyone, young and old alike.

... **the following weekend of course sees the 2018 Presteigne Carnival on Saturday 14th July on Went's Meadow** - see previous issue for details and the Carnival Programme which has been delivered to all households in Presteigne. If you didn't receive a Programme you can collect one on Saturday morning in the High Street when you buy your Carnival raffle ticket (between Salty Dog and the Flower Shop). It's not too late to enter a float for the parade, or enter any of the many competitions and classes - prizes and fame await you !! This is a wonderful event for the town and, weather permitting, will be a great day out but it depends on the efforts of a large number of people. **In that respect, more volunteers are needed - particularly those fit and able to help with marquee set up on Thursday evening (from 6.30pm), all day (any time) Friday to set up the field, and dismantling and clean-up on the Sunday morning - and to spare just half an hour during the course of the Saturday to join a PAC litterpicking team to keep the site tidy through the day. If you can help with the heavy stuff on Friday and Sunday please call Debbie on 07766 152000, or for litterpicking call Terry on 07766 097600.**

... **on Friday 13th July the Presteigne Wheelbarrow Race has been resurrected to raise funds for Presteigne Carnival and The Firefighters Charity.** Registration at the Leisure Centre at 6.30pm for 7pm race start. Sponsored by Holters and BCM Build. Entry £15 per barrow. Prizes: £50 Best Fancy Dress - £50 fastest men's team - £50 fastest women's team. To enter contact Dale 07772 700603. See Facebook page.

... **on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th July, the Celtic Dragons host their annual "Wood Choppers Ball" at The Woodcutters Arms** on Knighton Road. Two bands, full bar, party and dancing - everyone welcome. Contact 07472 394491. In addition a procession of motorcycles will follow the Carnival procession through town on the Saturday and then be judged in a bike show on Went's Meadow.

... **and then on the Sunday 15th July,** following on from the recent sell-out Bach's St. John Passion concert in Presteigne in May, **in The Assembly Rooms at 2.30pm, KCS invites you to sit in on a Masterclass with internationally-acclaimed soprano Julie Cooper from Harry Christopher's "The Sixteen".** Tickets £7.50 (includes refreshments) from the KCS website www.kingtonchoral.org.uk and from Winnie's.

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