

Community News

Issue 141 April 2020

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

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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 - ideas or suggestions for new hobbies, or things to do at home, especially welcome ! email pacdg@icloud.com**
- **and if you're self-isolating or need assistance in any way, you can also email pacdg@icloud.com and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.**

Reasons to feel cheerful !

"...the house martins were flying over Presteigne this morning ! (from Sally P)

"... a positive, daily antidote to the Media News. How lucky we are to have a town filled with kind and generous people, doing their best to ensure that no-one needs to feel isolated, despite the fact that we are. A huge thank you especially, to the small shops and all the volunteers helping in the town" (from Heather)

...from Combe Corner. Morning everyone...had a message from a group member about some ewes and their lambs on the road up by Coombes Moor. They may have been repatriated to their field now but if not, and anyone knows whose they are, please could you tell the owner - thanks! Hope everyone is staying safe and well

...from Pete. Listen out for the rocket at 8pm fired from Stapleton. Hoping to keep launching every Thursday at 8 to start the ball rolling. MAKE SOME NOISE for everyone doing what they can in our community and the wider world to stop the pain.

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET

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

...from B W Roberts. Easter Forecourt Opening hours:

Good Friday : CLOSED

Saturday 11th: 9am - 12pm

Easter Sunday: CLOSED

Easter Monday: CLOSED

From Tuesday 14th onwards 10am - 4pm weekdays, 9am - 12pm Saturdays.

Message or ring 01544267365 to book repairs or MOTs. Stay safe all.

...from J P Turner (for ordering deliveries). Change to our usual bank holiday opening hours:

Good Friday: 9am-3pm

Saturday: 8:30am-1pm

Easter Sunday & Easter Monday: CLOSED

...from **Weobley Ash**. We're open Friday and Saturday but closed on Sunday and Monday. Cutting more beef on Friday, plenty available, as is pork and lamb. Tel 01544 598120 shop@weobleyash.co.uk to order

...from **SPAR Presteigne**. Job Alert - Delivery Driver

We're recruiting for a delivery driver to help us get food orders out to customers living in the local area. Hit this link <https://fal.cn/37uJw> to find out more.

Please follow the instructions in the link if you're interested in the job role. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 15th April. If you know someone who might be interested in this job opportunity please tell them about this ad.

THINGS TO DO WHILE COCOONING !

...from **the Judge's Lodging**. The start of our 'Stay at Home' Easter trail! You may not be able to come and see us, but we thought we'd see just how good you are at finding things around the museum anyway. Visit our Facebook page to play.

So, 5 rooms with 5 eggs hidden in them. One photo a day for 5 days and then 5 days later, the answers. We'd love to know if you spot them all, so if you do, use the 'Haha' button - no cheating - the Judge may find out! Let's start you with the Dining Room...

Sports commentator Nick Heath will be doing a special online pub quiz at 7pm tonight raising funds for St. George's Hospital and Critical Care staff on this link <https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=5rMiemgCd2Y> (thanks Sally)

...from **The Royal Opera House** which is offering a free programme of curated online broadcasts as part of our [#OurHousetoYourHouse](#) series. Full-length productions, musical masterclasses and glimpses behind the scenes can be seen for free any time, anywhere across the globe. This will include the following broadcasts, available on demand, for free, via the our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channels:

- Così fan tutte, The Royal Opera, 2010 – 10 April 2020, 7pm BST
- The Metamorphosis, The Royal Ballet, 2013 – 17 April 2020, 7pm BST
- Gloriana, The Royal Opera, 2013 – 24 April 2020, 7pm BST
- The Winter's Tale, The Royal Ballet, 2014 – 1 May 2020, 7pm BST

Note that you watch Handel's "Acis & Galatea" today on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hmfv7TSCVck> (thanks Sally)

Beth Steel's "Wonderland" is available to watch on demand FREE on both the Hampstead Theatre's and The Guardian's websites [until 10pm on Sunday 12 April](#) as part of the **Hampstead Theatre At Home** series. *Wonderland* was originally performed in 2014 to critical acclaim and marked the thirtieth anniversary of the 1984 Miners' Strike. Directed by Edward Hall, this 'richly evocative and deeply moving' story follows both sides of the strike, as the miners fight for their livelihoods and the government for its vision of a free Britain. This is the second production from Hampstead's archive - Howard Brenton's *Drawing The Line* will be available to watch [next week](#).

The Royal Albert Home will open its virtual doors this week, as one of the world's most iconic venues comes direct to audiences from artists' living rooms with a programme of exclusive shows.

Rufus Wainwright will launch the series on Thursday 9 April, as London's Royal Albert Hall keeps the venue's spirit alive during its closure by presenting free sessions from performers' homes. The specially-curated opening week will also feature celebrated tenor Alfie Boe, indie sensation Baxter Dury and Idlewild frontman Roddy Woomble, as well as singer-songwriter Ayanna Witter-Johnson, spoken word act Toby Thompson –

performing a specially reworked version of his Edinburgh Fringe show – and cellist Peter Gregson, renowned for his reinterpretations of Bach.

On Monday 13 April, Hard-Fi frontman Richard Archer and vocalist Krysten Cummings will perform Hard-Fi hits alongside songs from their new collaboration, OffWorld.

The Hall will also present at-home versions of shows which have had to be cancelled, ensuring that the talent and practice that went into developing these events can be shared with the world. Following an enhanced screening of the hit British comedy-drama, Brassed Off on Wednesday 15 April, conductor Moritz Gnann will present Isata Kanneh-Mason and Eldbjørg Hemsing performing Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Saint-Saëns (Sat 18 Apr), before Robin Ince, Dr Helen Czerski and Steve Backshall are joined by a host of special guests for Sea Shambles (Sun 17 May).

And an upcoming programme of family matinees will include classical music, opera and jazz concerts for kids presented by performers from the venue's in-house group, Albert's Band. For full programme details, go to royalalberthall.com/rahome. To donate to the Hall, visit royalalberthall.com/support

If you have any other ideas do please let us know - thank you !

OTHER INFORMATION

...from HMRC. We are aware of scammers claiming to be from HMRC offering financial support as a result of #coronavirus. If you receive an email, text or call claiming to be from us that asks you to click on a link or give information such as your name, credit card or bank details, **it's a SCAM !**

...from PCC. With #Easter weekend on the horizon, please don't be tempted to visit Powys or make any unnecessary journeys. Our beautiful county will always be here and we will welcome you back when this is over.

...from PCC. A range of support is available to help businesses impacted by Coronavirus from the UK and Welsh Governments. The council is paying out millions in grants to thousands of Powys businesses. We're here to help you with any financial queries and to provide further information about the support available. Visit our help for businesses page for further information: <https://crowd.in/T2RyJ7>

...from the Welsh Government who have confirmed they have now reached an agreement with the major supermarkets and they now can offer an online delivery service in Wales, for those who have been classed as high risk and have been advised to self-isolate. For those in this shielded group, they will be able to access priority online delivery slots. This is good new news for those in Brecon and Radnorshire with no other support available, although this may take a couple of days to implement. This will certainly help lessen the load for our wonderful COVID-19 community groups who are all working tirelessly.

...from the Welsh Government. See this Covid-19 guidance to support housing tenants in Wales <https://crowd.in/4jpJGN>. For our Covid-19 housing updates see <https://crowd.in/OAXE1e>

Home rental firm Airbnb is to temporarily restrict UK bookings to key workers and "essential stays" because of the coronavirus crisis. *(You could say 'about time!' but I couldn't possibly comment)*

...from Plantlife (Road Verge Campaign). In these challenging times, wild flowers on our verges and waysides are an uplifting sight, contributing significantly to our wellbeing. It's been wonderful to see on social media many photos of botanical gems that people have spotted whilst out for their daily exercise; there is some solace to be found in nature.

Roads have fallen quiet as lockdown is observed, as has the drone of many councils' mowers. Councils are under considerable pressure due to the Coronavirus crisis and many have understandably reduced grass cutting down to essential management to maintain visibility and ensure road safety. There's hope that reduced cutting frequencies might be a silver lining for verge wild flowers, giving once-familiar flowers, such as white campion, betony, greater knapweed and harebell, the chance to grow, flower and set seed. As well as allowing precious wild flowers the opportunity to thrive, reducing cutting and adopting a more wildlife-friendly management regime will also help tackle the climate crisis. We'll do our best in the coming months to support councils in their efforts to improve verge management, and make sure we're doing all we can to save and protect these under-appreciated, yet abundant, strips. Hopefully this summer our verges will be awash with wild flowers and we look forward to a time when we are able to get out and fully enjoy them again. Kate Petty, Road Verge Campaign Manager. Please share this so more people get behind the [road verge campaign](#)

PACDG - the PRESTEIGNE AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP... "WORKING TOGETHER"

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.