

Community News

Issue 242 February 2021

The Community News is an information service from PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group
"Working Together For Our Community"

email news@pacdg.org to contact the Editor

- 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 - email the Editor
 - please email if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents, including local area jobs
 - if you need assistance in any way, email us and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.
- ...AND 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

[ed. If readers on the Herefordshire and Shropshire side of the border could keep me updated on important Covid (and other) developments affecting them, that would be appreciated and can be passed on - as a Welsh resident the information I'm getting is mainly from Powys - thank you]

Trying to find someone to paint your house, do your garden, prune trees, plumbing, picture framing, ceramics repair etc ? We are building up a register of local trades and services and may well be able to point you in the right direction - email news@pacdg.org.

...from Powys Highways. n.b. Temporary Road Closure: B4357 at the Whitton end of the Whitton/Knighton road from 22nd to 26th Feb (9am-5pm), for traffic calming works.

...from Circle friends of David West of Caenbrook Meadow who will be buried quietly at Offas Orchard, Gladestry on February 23rd. He and his wife Vi moved here from Stourport 20 years ago. They were stalwart volunteers & supporters of the Old Garage, as the Warehouse was known in its earlier years, helping with sales & sorting. Two of the first day members at the Circle, they remained regular & committed attenders up to the last session at the Youth Centre, celebrating 8yrs in early March 2020. Our thoughts are with Vi & her family.

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

Town Council (Zoom) meeting TODAY : Wed 17th February 2021 at 7.30pm. Meeting papers are available on the Presteigne and Norton website now - <http://presteigne.org.uk/town-council>. *[ed. this includes the Town Clerk's Report for February. To contact the Town Council for any reason, you can email the Town Clerk on presteigneandnortontc@outlook.com]*

Latest planning application in: 21/0122/FUL Grid Reference: E:330992 N: 264115 Proposal: Erection of two houses and associated works (part retrospective) Site Address: Plots 2 And 3 Silia Meadows , Slough Road, Presteigne. To be considered at the Feb meeting of the T.C.

COVID

...from Powys THB. **COVID-19: A guide for adults in British Sign Language.** This video explains about the COVID-19 vaccination, who is eligible, and who needs to have the vaccine to protect them from Coronavirus. <https://youtu.be/yqR1T9Xxf8Q>. **Our reserve list for people in Priority Group 5 (people aged 65-69) in the week ending 20 February is currently OPEN** for short notice appointments in Bronllys, Builth Wells or Newtown for people who meet the criteria. You need to complete our form once each week (it opens at 9am every Friday for appointments the following week) <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/age-65-to-69/are-you-able-to-attend-a-mass-vaccination-centre-appointment-at-short-notice/> **The latest PTHB weekly newsletter about progress on COVID-19 vaccination in Powys is now available:** <https://pthb.nhs.wales/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccination/covid-19-vaccination-newsletter/covid-19-vaccination-newsletter-15-february-2021-html-version/>. **Rising COVID-19 cases in Powys.** The number of positive cases of COVID-19 has been rising sharply in Powys in the last week. This has occurred at a time when cases have been falling elsewhere in Wales, ranking Powys as the third highest rate of positive cases of COVID-19 in Wales, and the

highest percentage of tests returning a positive result. This rise in cases has also coincided with the sombre news that over 200 people from Powys have now died following a positive test for coronavirus.

...from NHS England. On Monday we started the next phase of our vaccination programme, with people aged 65-69 and the clinically vulnerable now being offered the jab. If you are over 70 and haven't had your first jab yet, speak to your GP, book a slot online, or call 119. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

THANK YOU

...from Presteigne Fire Station. Well done to our Gaffer! *[ed. Stuart Weale]* 25 years is an amazing achievement. The dedication and commitment you have shown has been second to none. Thank you!

SPAM / SCAM WARNINGS

...from Sal who received (and reported) a phishing text saying “ NHS: Records show that you are eligible for a Covid-19 relief grant. Please follow the link to calculate your claim [uktaxclaim.xxx.](#)” *[ed. There are so many of these phishing scams it's hard to keep track but, if you get one like this, don't click the link or reply, report to 7726 and delete.]*

...from Sarah who on Thursday had a scam phone call using Presteigne code and number trying to get us to go onto computer!! When I cut the call off, immediately received another phone call, again showing a Presteigne code but different number! I normally don't pick up to strange numbers but was caught out by local one! *[ed. We've also had a similar call pretending to come from a Ledbury number - it's really concerning that scammers have the ability to mimic a local number on the call display - has anybody else experienced this ?]*

...from Don about an email scam....headed: 'Royal Mail Delivery Failed'. “Please keep your eye out for this. When I copied and paste the item number into Google it came up with a known scam! Stay Safe”. It went something like this: -Hello (my email address) -Your Parcel Number #64702687637123# is on the way -Your Package is stopped at our post -A £2.95 shipping cost have not been paid -If shipping cost is not paid, the package will be returned -Pay Now >> <http://info-royaldelivery-gb.mgifinc.cxx> -Package Information: etc etc *[ed. many variants on this for different courier companies - forward to report@phishing.gov.uk]*

...from Herefordshire CC & West Mercia Police. Romance Fraud. Protect yourself and your money by thinking twice about if requests for help are genuine. Criminals will disguise their requests for money by dropping it harmlessly into conversation. They'll appear vulnerable, emotional and in desperate need of your help. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money. #RomanceFraud #Fauxmance <http://actionfraud.police.uk/fauxmance>

...from Dyfed Powys Police. Until we break the stigma around reporting **romance fraud**, the true scale of this cruel crime will not be clear. We want everyone to know they can contact us in confidence and we will listen without judgement. <http://orlo.uk/I2MDA>

...from Colin. Over the past few days, I've had a number of calls on my mobile, all from different 07768 numbers. **A recording claims to be the National Crime Agency**, saying that my National Insurance card has been involved in fraudulent activity. My NI number will be suspended and I will be arrested if I don't press 1. I suggest you hang up, and call 101 to add the number to the Dyfed-Powys Police *[or West Mercia Police]* list.

...from Dyfed Powys Police. Received a Facebook Message asking “is that you?” Do not click on the link. Do not enter your Facebook User ID and password. It's a scam. Facebook users have been receiving a message claiming to have found a video or image with you featured in it. By clicking the link, you'd be taken through a chain of websites that have been designed by scammers to take as many details as possible from you, and in some cases infect your device with adware or other malware. Your details are then in the hands of criminals. More info on fraud and cybercrime >> <http://orlo.uk/JBDGm>

UPDATE FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND THE HIGH STREET (local businesses are still adapting to changing circumstances - so check information on websites/Facebook pages)

...from Jenny. Do you need a bit of help with domestic care, general cleaning, household chores including shopping and collecting prescriptions ? I'm NVQ qualified in Health & Social Care. Friendly and caring service. Call Jenny 07837 043732 or email jenwren1971@gmail.com

...from Chilvers Country Supplies. Lambing time is fast approaching if not already underway for some of you! Organisation is key for a less stressful lambing season which is why we've got all of the essentials here at Chilvers Country Supplies, Presteigne. Call into the shop, call 07798 928909 or drop us a message on FB for more info on our products or for a copy of our competitively priced lambing price list.

...from Rose Cottage Café. See our FB page for the full menu for Friday's takeaway menu and also the day service menu. Next afternoon teas on Mother's Day 14th March. 01544 260600 or 07903 778645.

...from Mark at The Real Wine Company. Our Friday wine tastings via Zoom is back! And this time you won't only meet the winemaker, but we will also pair a dish with each tasting (and share the recipe with you beforehand). Watch this video to find out more > <https://youtu.be/tTDBaBseE5s>

...from Leon's Food to Order. This week's Meal Deal - order Gambas Pil Pil and get a free portion of garlic fried rice. Order online or phone 01544 262164 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and collect between 9 am and 5.30 pm on Thursday, Friday or between 9 am and 4 pm on Saturday. All of our Food to Order dishes are easy to reheat, assemble and to transport. Submit your online order on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, collect and pay for your food between 9am and 5.30 on a Thursday, Friday or Saturday. 01544 262164 Thank you so much for your amazing support for last week's Valentine's Day Food to Order.

...from Pippa at Lockdown Dhaba. On the menu this week, my personal fave Saag Paneer... This is what I always order when eating Indian food in a restaurant or takeaway. Saag Aloo for the vegans, and a new side dish, Chana Dal. See info@lockdowndhaba.com for menus and to order now for delivery on Saturday 27th February.

...from Weobley Meats & Farm Shop. Reopening Friday 19th Feb. Good news, we're opening for business again this coming Friday from 9am. You can pre order for collection, we have a full range of Pork, beef, lamb, mutton, chicken & chicken fillets. Extra-aged beef steaks - fillet, rump, ribeye and sirloin that couldn't find love for Valentines. We look forward to seeing you all soon. Email orders to shop@weobleyash.co.uk

...from Jessica Fallon's School of Dance. If you love to sing and dance then come and give panache dance fitness a go. Easy follow along routines, keep fit at home, lift your mood and fun. Tuesdays 6.30pm on zoom. First rehearsal free. Great music from stage and screen. Send a message on FB for your free code

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY & OTHER INFORMATION

...from Helen at the Presteigne Plastics Project PPP. *We now have a bin in The Warehouse for empty Ink Cartridges of any sort - these will be collected and sorted, those that can be sent for refilling will be and the rest will be recycled. Inkjet cartridges take up to 1,000 years to breakdown naturally! *At the moment we are organising a recycling scheme for coffee pods and hopefully also a collection point for empty tablet blister packs for recycling. To receive the February and future PPP Newsletters & for more PPP info, email hackland31@btinternet.com

...from Presteigne Freegle. Please let your neighbours and friends know about us. Join up today ow.ly/DbOu30nyjdj. Freegle* is a great way to save money and connect with lovely locals during these tricky times. We make it easy to help each other with the added bonus of keeping stuff out of landfill. The 20 most popular items listed on #Freegle are the essentials of life! Whether you have excess stuff you don't need or are looking for things you do need, we are here to help!

...from Pete Smith. Why we are where we are. To the young lady in Presteigne who dropped her face mask this morning which blew off down the road in the wind. When asked if you would me like to chase after it, your reply that “it doesn’t matter, I’ve got another in my bag” was, spectacularly, the wrong answer. Who exactly do you expect is going to pick up your used piece of PPE??

...from Powys Libraries. Did you know....? You can order a bag of books from your library. Visit <https://en.powys.gov.uk/libraries>

...from the Fire Service. It's very cold....but a reminder to keep your chimney/wood-burner clean. Chimney fires are all too common at this time of year and most are preventable. Regular inspection and cleaning of flues will help prevent fires within chimneys. Here are some top tips for safer chimneys: * Keep chimneys and flues clean and well maintained by using the services of a registered 'sweep' * Make sure embers are properly put out before you go to bed * Always use a fire guard to protect against flying sparks from hot embers

...from Anna, our PCSO. The theft of dogs is something you will undoubtedly have seen in the media nationally. We are fortunate that we have not yet had any reports of such crimes locally, it is however important you stay vigilant and follow these tips to keep your dogs safe: *Never leave your dog alone in a car or outside a shop *Keep your dog on a lead where possible, otherwise keep them close and ensure they have a good recall *Ensure your dog is microchipped and is wearing a tag with up to date contact details *Keep a current photograph and note any distinguishing marks *Keep garden fences secure to avoid escaping and prevent access *If your dog is having a litter of puppies be extra vigilant and avoid advertising on social media. Report any suspicious activity relating to the sale, purchase or theft of dogs to Police either online or via 101. For further advice, please contact your local PCSO Anna Bowen on: anna.bowen@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk

...from Marches Makers. After careful consideration, the Marches Makers Festival - "A Celebration of Makers and Making" - has had to be postponed until this August bank holiday 28-30th August 2021. We warmly invite you to visit Kington during the Festival to join in and experience this creative celebration.

...from Herefordshire CC. Laptops for schools | We're pleased to announce that we've released a further £650k in funding to schools so disadvantaged children & young people in Herefordshire can access their lessons from home with improved digital connectivity & equipment: <http://orlo.uk/8nngD>

...from Powys CC. Are you interested in Adoption and want to learn more? Why not sign up to Adoption Mid & West Wales' next information evening? 4th March, 6:30pm, Online adoptionenquiries@ Carmarthenshire.gov.uk, <https://bit.ly/3gWYKuJ>

...from Presteigne St Andrews Football Club. After months of the club being in limbo, it has finally been confirmed that the 2020-21 season for the first team has been cancelled. To be fair to the FAW and the various governing bodies, it was only fair they give it every chance, but since the turn of the year it had become glaringly obvious to everyone in local football at our level that the season was not going to happen.

...from UK Public Health - a reminder. If not treated urgently, a person is at higher risk of death or disability if they take a stroke than from COVID-19. Act **F.A.S.T**
F = Face - Has it fallen on one side? **A** = Arms - Can they raise them? **S** = Speech - Is it slurred? **T** = Time - If you notice any of these signs, call 999. More info - pha.site/ActFAST

...from Powys CC. Register now for fortnightly Garden Waste Collections. Sign up now at: <https://crowd.in/8cE0lr> or call 01597 827 465

...from Kew Gardens. Take a Virtual Visit. Immerse yourself in the beauty of Kew Gardens, by visiting one of the virtual tours accessible through its website. Travel to the tropics, the desert and the mountains without leaving the house <http://orlo.uk/P2aoM>

...from **Wyeside Arts Centre. This Week At Home.** Click the link for online shows and activities to help with lockdown boredom - <https://mailchi.mp/wyeside/this-week-at-home>

...from **Julie. FREE children's audio- and e-books.** Amazon's audiobook-seller Audible has released [a collection of audiobooks for free](#), which it says will be available "for as long as schools are closed". Books include *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *The Secret Garden* and *Timeless Tales of Beatrix Potter*. This is an amazing freebie. For even more material, Powys and most English libraries allow access to a vast catalogue of adults' and kids' e-books and digital audiobooks for Free via a brilliant app called [Borrow Box](#). You can borrow up to seven audiobooks and seven e-books at a time from a selection of hundreds.

...from **PAVO. The Powys Well-Being Development Fund is open** to constituted voluntary groups, charities and social enterprise to support the expansion or development of new activities that improve the physical and mental well being of Powys residents. The funding is to help groups get activities up and running in the spring and early summer. The total fund available is £33,000 - no limits have been set on the amount that can be applied for as the panel will make a decisions based on the best use of the available resource. Complete applications must returned to [grants\(at\)pavo.org.uk](mailto:grants(at)pavo.org.uk) by no later than **12 p.m. on Thursday 25th February 2021**. Please click [HERE](#) for your application form

LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

...from **Presteigne Primary School looking for a Midday (Lunch) Supervisor (Special) position.** 5 hours per week, weekdays, term time only. Interested? **Closing date 23rd February.** Visit www.powys.gov.uk/jobs to find out more!

...from **Heart of Wales Line. We're recruiting !** An exciting opportunity is available for a creative, proactive and self-motivated individual to join the Heart of Wales Line Development Company Ltd. to deliver a wide range of community engagement and promotional activities for the Community Rail Partnership. For more information and how to apply visit: <https://www.heart-of-wales.co.uk/recruitment>. **Closing date 5pm Monday 22nd February 2021.**

...from **Powys CC. Rehabilitation Officer for People with Sensory Loss.** 37 hours, permanent. The Rehabilitation Officer (ROSL) is the only specially trained professional who is qualified to both assess for and provide rehabilitative input for single or dual sensory impaired people of all ages including children. **Closing Date: 22/02/2021.** For more information and to apply visit www.powys.gov.uk/jobs

...from **the ONS. Now hiring for Census 2021.** Apply now for temporary roles. Search 'Census Jobs'. Read more censusjobs.co.uk

...from **Powys THB. We are recruiting a team of COVID-19 Immunisers in Powys.** Do you know someone who is: able to work confidently with patients in a care environment; educated to Level 3 NVQ/QCF in a health care discipline; a good communicator and motivated & enthusiastic. If so, let them know about these great opportunities in Bronllys, Newtown, Builth Wells to create the future: see the PTHB website for Health Care Support Worker recruitment <https://pthb.nhs.wales/working-fo-us/current-jobs/>. **Closing date: 21 February 2021**

PACDG - the Presteigne Area Community Development Group ... "Working together for the Community"

If at any time you decide not to receive further PACDG emails, contact us on news@pacdg.org with REMOVE in the subject line & we'll immediately take you off the mailing list.