

# Community News

Issue 122 March 2020

an information service from PAC - the Presteigne Area Community Group

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## Editor's Note...

- \* in these really challenging times, we'll be sending out the Community News as needed to advertise help and services available in our immediate area and to pass on information useful for us all.**
- \* Do please contact us if you see or hear of anything that will be of help to other residents - better we receive it twice or three times than not at all ! email [pacdg@icloud.com](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com)**
- \* and if you're self-isolating or need assistance in any way, you can also email [pacdg@icloud.com](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com) and we'll pass on your message to people who can help.**

*We're hearing so many lovely reports already about informal support groups in some streets using WhatsApp or Facebook groups or just by calling round or telephoning, and individual acts of support and kindness. This is Presteigne & Norton after all, but well done to everyone who is being so kind to friends and strangers - we're in this for a long haul it seems but let's keep up the good work by not succumbing to the panic buying seen on the News. Panic breeds panic....!*

**A message from our County Councillor Beverley Baynham.** Dear residents, I wanted to reach out to you to let you know what Powys County Council is doing in this time of crisis. All day-to-day business has been suspended and only essential work is being done. Staff are working from home wherever possible and a skills audit has been done with all staff to ensure there are enough people to cover front line services.

As you can imagine a huge amount of work has been taking place in the schools service but more so in social services. All care providers have been asked for information regarding their staff levels and their service users and a weekly Skype meeting is taking place with care agencies to offer support and information.

I believe we have a fantastic community here in Presteigne & Norton, and we have the East Radnor Home Support working to support people within it. But, we need to be sensible and we need to stay safe. Social distancing is of paramount importance, if it is not necessary then please think twice.

Please be assured I am working very hard to help the vulnerable in our community but if you need anything at all then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes to all and stay safe. Beverley [cldr.beverley.baynham@powys.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.beverley.baynham@powys.gov.uk)

**THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM SHOPS AND BUSINESSES AROUND TOWN - THE SITUATION IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING SO PLEASE CHECK THEIR FACEBOOK PAGES OR WEBSITES FOR UPDATES.**

**...from Presteigne Little People Playgroup.** The Playgroup is open next week for child care only for children aged 2 years to 12 years. The 3+ free education 10 hours has been closed by Government until after the Easter holidays.

Families in receipt of 30 hour child care offer can apply for up to 30 hours a week starting next Monday 23rd March as normal holiday club arrangement. They should

email [gofalplantpowys@cerdigion.gov.uk](mailto:gofalplantpowys@cerdigion.gov.uk) to make the request for a place (Ceredigion manages this on behalf of Powys). All enquiries for childcare to discuss availability: [info@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk](mailto:info@presteigneplaygroup.co.uk). many thanks, Ann

**...from ERDC.** The Day Centre is closed until further notice - but by an agreement with Powys County Council, we have been able to redeploy some staff onto the Home Support project to meet the increased demand.

**...and about Prescription deliveries.** As from Monday, Home Support will be taking over all the prescription deliveries from Presteigne Pharmacy as we have fully trained staff able to handle medication.

**...and about Home Support.** Home Support is an established service run by the East Radnor Day Centre. We offer a variety of services such as essential shopping, a prescription delivery service, telephone monitoring calls, welfare checks and any help as necessary. The service is fully funded by Powys County Council.

Following the outbreak of Covid-19 Coronavirus we will be offering this service to the wider community. We have a team of fully trained Support Workers (some of whom have been redeployed from the Day Centre to help with demand), who will take every precaution to keep you and themselves safe. We have plentiful stocks of PPE.

**...We will also be offering a Meals on Wheels Service.**

If you are concerned or need any assistance please contact us and we will do our best to help you. WE WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER 24/7 RAPID RESPONSE TO CARELINE. Contact....Home Support: 01544 260360; Day Centre: 01544 260267

emails [homesupport@erdaycentre.org](mailto:homesupport@erdaycentre.org); [care@erdaycentre.org](mailto:care@erdaycentre.org)

The Home Support service has already seen a jump in new referrals with seven taken in the last two days alone. We are able to complete this process over the telephone so there is no unnecessary face to face contact. I would encourage people to sign up even if they do not use the service as at least it is here for you then if you need it. In this time of uncertainty the East Radnor Day Centre / Home Support is here to help you.

If there is anything you are worried about or need help with then do please let us know.

**...from Presteigne Carnival.** We've reluctantly decided that Presteigne Carnival 2020 planned for 11th July cannot go ahead this year. There is just too much uncertainty over the progress of this virus, the restrictions it might still impose on us all, and the availability of all the various providers, vendors, acts, and volunteers. So, instead put Saturday 10th July in your diaries for Carnival 2021 and maybe, just maybe, if circumstances permit we may be able to organise a Fun Day for the town later in the summer - let's hope !!! We all need something to look forward to.

**...from Presteigne Guides.** All girl guiding unit meetings are suspended until further notice. For more information on girl guiding and the Coronavirus please see <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/>. Stay safe and will see the girls hopefully later in the year. Karen Kirkham, 1st Presteigne Guides

**...from Age Cymru.** Need someone to talk to ? Anyone in Wales over the age of 70 can register with Age Cymru, free of charge, to receive a regular telephone call from the charity, in English or Welsh. All you have to do is call the Age Cymru Advice Number on 08000 223 444 or email [enquiries@agecymru.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@agecymru.org.uk).

**...from East Radnor Ramblers.** Ramblers have suspended all walks at least until the end of May. Watch this space !

**...from Music in New Radnor MiNR.** We had a splendid final night of the 2019/2020 season with the Alaw Saxophone Quartet. We had a small audience, but the quartet were well worth the effort - we wish them all well for their musical careers. We are now planning for the 2020-21 season. In the light of the current uncertain climate, we are still going ahead with all plans and will continually assess the situation as it changes. All being well, we will email subscribers again in September with a full season's programme of events. To be kept informed and added to our emails, please contact us and 'like' our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Music-in-New-Radnor-320724924692644> Stay safe, keep well. With all best wishes from Mary, on behalf of team MiNR.

**...from Presteigne & Norton Community Support PNCS.** The Circle lunch club & drop-in has unfortunately had to cease and will remain closed until further notice. For the moment however, our Charity Shop is still open, but for limited times throughout each day, every morning except Friday. Mother's Day gifts are in stock, as well as cross-stitch patterns, craft items and plenty of books and DVDs to keep everyone, including the little ones, entertained.

**...from two school teachers posting on Presteigne Life's Facebook page.** "I am a secondary school teacher so, if, while you're home schooling or remote/digitally educating your children, if you need assistance with understanding something that has been assigned for your child, or if you need more resources, just give me a shout. Message me on anything you may need. However small it may seem to you"

**...from The Royal Oak.** We wanted to take the time to say we will be continuing to open as normal until told not to do so by the government. Your and our staff health is of utmost priority and on top of normal cleaning routine we will be taking extra measures to adhere to government guidelines. In addition we'll be:

- using a fresh glass for every drink.
- requesting payments by card or contactless as much as possible.

Steak night tomorrow 🍖, Fish Fryday 🐟🍷 on Friday and Mother's Day lunch on Sunday are all currently still going on as planned and can all be had as takeaways if you wish to avoid being inside of the pub for sustained period of time. We are doing takeaway roasts this Sunday with the option of a pudding as well. All we need is for you to drop off some plates or arrange for us to collect some before Sunday. We can have it ready for collection at lunchtime Sunday or we are able to deliver in Presteigne if you can't get out. Payment to be taken over the phone to save risks of handling of cash. Booking is essential as we have a lot of bookings already. tel. 01544 260842. We are monitoring the situation closely as it's changing day by day and will keep you all informed of any developments. Stay safe everyone, we will get through this.

**...from B.W. Roberts Garage.** We are still open for fuel, MOTs, servicing and repairs. We ask that you do not dispense your own fuel but wait for someone to come and serve you, please be patient in case they are on the phone, or busy elsewhere, they will get to you as soon as they can. This will minimise unnecessary contact with the fuel pump handles, a surface that would have the potential to be touched by A LOT of people otherwise. If you are self isolating but need your vehicle repaired or tested then please give us a call and we will arrange to collect it for you. Thanks. Stay safe everyone

**...from 46 Wine Bar.** Due to the ongoing situation surrounding the Coronavirus and the governments new guidelines around the hospitality industries we are making a few changes for the next week or so to our opening times.

We will be working on reduced opening hours: Thursday - 3pm - 11pm; Friday - 3pm - 11pm; Saturday - 3pm - 11pm; Sunday - 10am - 6pm

We have also made the decision to put all food service on hold for the time being. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. We will continue to update you all as the situation continues to develop. Our main priority is to protect our customers as well as our staff. We will have extra measures put into place to ensure your safety, including extra cleaning measures. Please look after yourselves and others where you can and stay safe

**...from Victoria Fish Bar.** Starting this evening we will now be offering a free delivery service within the boundaries of Presteigne, between 6pm and 8pm. Please phone 01544 260565 to place your order. You will then be given an estimated time of delivery. Payments can be made by either cash or card upon delivery.

**...from EG Fitness & Dance.** Although EG Fitness and Dance has cancelled all classes, Emily is releasing videos via Facebook that adults and children can do at home. The videos are easy to follow and routines can easily be adapted to the individual's mobility and fitness level, including being seated. Please visit Facebook: 'eg fitness and dance'. This is free for everyone in the community, whether or not you have previously attended Emily's classes.

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](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com).

We're happy to help publicise community and charity activities and events (but only for events in the immediate Presteigne area) - email text (not poster images please) at least 3 weeks in advance to [pacdg@icloud.com](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com).

The Community News is published twice per month. Feel free to tweet or forward this issue to others. 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](mailto:pacdg@icloud.com).