

# COMMUNITY NEWS

ISSUE 339 AUGUST 2024



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

**Next Issue - deadline for contributions 10am Wednesday 14th August  
email [news@pacdg.org](mailto:news@pacdg.org)**

- 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](http://www.presteigne.org.uk/calendar)

## THANKS

...**St Andrew's Church - our Children's Corner** in St Andrew's is complete and has already been enjoyed by many young visitors. Thank you so much to Hilary Marchant who has been the main organiser of this and to everyone who helped her and donated furniture, cushions, books and toys. Don't forget the church is open most days (unless there is a special event taking place such as a wedding or funeral) and is a cool, quiet space for little ones to play and grown-ups to sit peacefully for a little while. You can also post a message on our prayer board. Everyone is welcome.

...**from Paul - Huge thanks to John, Jo and all the team at The Dukes** but especially Dave Luke for a great afternoon of Country Music, so lucky to have such talented musicians and great publicans willing to share with us in our little town.

...**from Deb - Community Pay back team have done a fabulous job** to the north of the Norton Churchyard. Great to be able to get to loved one's graves.

## COUNCIL NEWS

...**Powys County Council is urging people to let their voices be heard as the Welsh Government is looking for feedback on its 20mph speed limit.** Whatever your views about this issue, the Council wants to know what you think should happen next. You are encouraged to give suggestions, along with your reasons, as to why a road should change from 20mph back to 30mph, or from 30mph down to 20mph, or stay at 20mph. You need to be specific about which road and which part of it you're commenting on, and give your reasons. If you have examples of incidents, that's always useful. The deadline for your comments is the end of August. Email your views now to [traffic@powys.gov.uk](mailto:traffic@powys.gov.uk) or contact your county councillor.

## EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**Presteigne Repair Saturday 17th August** 10am till 12noon at the Youth Centre, Hereford Street. It's August but we are not on holiday! So bring along those broken / not working items that might be fixable and we will see what we can do ... for free!

...**Presteigne Festival opens next week**, bringing a fabulous line-up of performing artists to the town including RSC actor Anton Lesser (*Endeavour, Game of Thrones*) and the Piatti Quartet, pianists Huw Watkins and Annie Yim, Alice Neary (cello), Anne Denholm (harp), Rebecca Bottone (soprano), Nicholas Mogg (baritone), Paul Galbraith (guitar), the Choir of Royal Holloway and the popular Presteigne Festival Orchestra and Festival Ensemble conducted by artistic director, George Vass. Music by many of today's leading composers features in each concert, alongside works by Beethoven, Debussy, Mendelssohn, Benjamin Britten William Walton and Sibelius. Aside from its musical line-up, there is a brilliant range of other events – Nicholas Murray on the role of poetry in the world, Oliver Soden on Noël Coward, Gavin Plumley on Welsh painting, Sioned Davies on *The Mabinogion*, Peter Sutton on *Piers Plowman*, plus a short season of Welsh-made feature films. Alongside the performances and talks, talented local artisans and creators will exhibit and sell their work as part of the ever-expanding Presteigne 'Open Studios' weekend, 11am to 5pm, Friday August 23 to Bank

Holiday Monday. The Festival Brochure is available from venues around town, including St Andrew's Church and the Assembly Rooms, or to view and download from [presteignefestival.com](http://presteignefestival.com) – online and telephone booking is open at [www.presteignefestival.com](http://www.presteignefestival.com) / Box Office 01544 267 800

...**Herefordshire Art Week (H'Art)** at THE HYMNS, Walton LD8 2RA. Selling Exhibition, private view, art classes, talk by Anne Goodwin on "Wordsworth in The Radnor Valley" and exhibition dinner at The Hymns & National Garden Scheme. Garden open days Saturday 7th to Sunday 15th Sept 2024 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To book Anne Goodwin's talk (£5 in aid of Walton Village Hall) (Friday 13th September), private view (Friday 6th September), exhibition dinner (£25) (Saturday 14th September), or watercolour workshop (by Ruth Kirkby & Deb Bunker), pottery and pottery painting workshop (by Sally Hamer & Sarah Jane Harper) throughout the week. More information and bookings on the website [www.radnorshireartists.com](http://www.radnorshireartists.com).

...**A Picnic to investigate a Murder** at Went's Meadow, this Friday August 16. Murder starts at 3pm. Bring your own refreshments/seating. Prizes for best & worst solutions. Raffle. Entry by ticket only £4 on gate or £3.50 in advance from [prfwi.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:prfwi.secretary@gmail.com) or 07920637038

...**Knill Open Gardens 2024**. Sunday 25th August 2-5pm. We are once again throwing open the gates of Knill Gardens for one day only, to raise funds for the church. £5 pp on the gate.

...**Recitals & Lectures in Summer 2024 at Presteigne Baptist Church**, Hereford Street. Sundays at 3.00pm. Each event lasts under an hour and is followed by tea and cake. No charge for admission. Donations welcome. Proceeds towards the Church Restoration Fund. 18 August -Tim Bridges - A talk on churches around Presteigne.

...**Norton Community Hub** - with the new Hub now in full swing, we have two superb events coming up in September. ... Not one but two exciting events at the new Norton Hub - Firstly, a reminder that there are still a few tickets available for our intriguing one-man theatre show. Don't Go Into the Cellar! theatre company bring new adaptations of nineteenth-century literature's greatest ghost and horror stories to modern-day audiences. And we're delighted to say that this one-man show is coming to Norton Hub, with their original one-man performance of HG Wells' "War of the Worlds". Tuesday 3rd September, 7.30pm, at Norton Hub. Tickets are £12.50 each, advance bookings only, available by phone from Dave on [07709 603641](tel:07709603641) or online from <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DPAI>.

... **and there's more!** - We're also delighted to welcome to Norton Hub, Presteigne's very own **Press Gangers** - "a lot of shanty, a bit of Irish". A very special fundraising concert in aid of Cancer Research and Norton Community Hub. Saturday 7 September, 7pm, tickets £12 (includes a hot light meal) from [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)

...**Play Radnor - Looking for activities over the Summer? The last of** Play Radnor's sessions on Went's Meadow will be on 27th August 10am-12noon.

...**Flowers for Fun:** these informal classes in Whitton Hall will resume in September.

...**Walton Hall - MacMillan coffee morning** from 10am to 1pm on Friday 20th September.

Donations of cakes and local produce will be gratefully accepted. Please come and support this important charity.Presteigne Open Studios

...**Presteigne Open Studios and Exhibitions** - August Bank Holiday Friday 23rd August to Monday 26th August. Open Studios has become firmly established on the arts calendar in Presteigne. Take time to wander around the varied venues in and around the town to enjoy a huge range of diverse and fascinating talents on display. Posters and brochures will appear in shops, pubs and cafes soon, with details of how to find each venue.

...**Sheep Music presents: Summerthing Special-** Saturday 31st August at Went's Meadow, Presteigne. An End of Summer Party featuring the funkiest band in Britain STONE COLD HUSTLE, local rock and rollers POOBAHS and Brecon's greatest ever dream pop duo HONDDU. Plus live radio broadcast from Ian Marchant's Radio Free Radnorshire. Children's activities, bar and food. Gates open at 4:30pm. Tickets available from The Workhouse Gallery and The Salty Dog, Presteigne High St, or online at <https://www.sheep-music.co.uk/>

...**What's On at The Rad this August** - Every Monday night is 'Curry Club' when we offer Korma, Tikka Madras Balti & Vegetarian option. Each curry served with rice, naan bread, poppadum, chutney & mint yogurt for £12.95 - add a pint £16.50!. Plus, on every weekend in

August there will be music playing in the garden. Quiz Night is on Thursday 22 August, and Open Mic Night will be on Saturday 24th of August.

..." **Held in Presteigne**" **Roger Curtis is giving an illustrated talk on POW Camp No 48 Clatterbrune** at 7.30 on Thursday 19th September at 7.30 at the Day Centre in Scottleton Street. All proceeds and donations will go to the vital Day Centre and Home Support services run by East Radnorshire Care. As many will know, hundreds of Italian and German Prisoners of War were held in Presteigne from 1941 to around 1947 and many worked in the surrounding areas. A few stayed behind or returned to marry locally. Details of the camp, an explanation of a record of capture in North Africa, an actual letter from an Italian to his wife in Florence together with copies of official documents will be on show together with replicas of camp money and post-war documentation. Tickets at £10, payable with cash or cheque, will be available from the Day Centre from Monday 19th August between 10am – 4pm, Mondays to Thursdays. Don't delay: space is limited. Additional information on 01544 262846

...**Weobley Ash 'Rewilding' Open Day in aid of St Michael's Hospice (Hereford)**. Sunday 18th August 10 am - 5pm. Entry is Free! - Parking available onsite - £5 per car - Pedestrians and Cyclists free! Rewilding tours and talks covering: \*The wildflower meadow \*Woodland planting and plan \*Wetland flora, fauna, how & why \*Orchard, from tree to juice. There will be a Plant Sale & Refreshments available: cakes and drinks, and David will be cooking some Weobley Ash food favourites (or bring a picnic and enjoy the orchard and wildflower meadow). Weobley Ash, Stansbatch, Leominster HR6 9LW what3words :: students.funky.inflit. For further information contact: Helen & David Pickersgill on 01544 267684 or [weobleyash.rewilding@gmail.com](mailto:weobleyash.rewilding@gmail.com)

...**Walton Village Hall - A talk by Radnorshire Wildlife Trust** at 7pm on 17th August at Walton Hall for £5 pm £(SORRY - POSTPONED - new date t.b.a.)

...**East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in August** Sat 17th In the Wilds from Llynheilyn, 9.0 miles. Weds 21st Clifford, Hardwicke and beyond, 8.0 miles. Sat 24th 7 Hills Ramble from Kington, 10 miles (strenuous). Weds 28th Richard's Castle and Hanway Common, 7.1 miles. Sat 31st Elan Valley - Reservoirs and Mines, 8.0 miles. For more details see [www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/east-radnor) or call 01544 260524.

### **NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS**

...**Presteigne Screen - the new season of Screen films** will start on Friday 6 September. Sign up to their mailing list at [http://eepurl.com/iyY\\_0M](http://eepurl.com/iyY_0M)

...**Presteigne Festival 2024**. Booking is open for the 2024 Presteigne Festival. The Festival Brochure is available from venues around town, including St Andrew's Church and the Assembly Rooms, or to view and download from [presteignefestival.com](http://presteignefestival.com) – online and telephone booking is open at [wwwpresteignefestival.com](http://wwwpresteignefestival.com) / Box Office 01544 267 800

...**St. Andrew's Church** - coffee mornings in the Church Hall every 2nd Saturday from 10.30 am. (Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec). Also St Andrew's Church Christmas Fair on Friday 29th November. Anyone wishing to have space to sell their crafts to contact - [sadvert98t@btinternet.com](mailto:sadvert98t@btinternet.com) or 01544 267857.

...**What's On at the British Legion, Presteigne** - ART For All art session every Tuesday morning 10-12pm. Tables for hire once a month at ART FAIR, 1st Saturday of each month. British Legion room hire details on request for private parties, table top sales, coffee mornings etc. Contact Kay Yendole 07724379335

...**The Judge's Lodging - Adults and children are loving our Kids Trail this holidays**. Why not try it for yourself....You'll find us in Broad Street, Presteigne. Enjoy our wonderful shop and tasty tea and cakes in the tearoom. 01544 260650 [www.judgeslodging.org.uk](http://www.judgeslodging.org.uk)

...**The Warden has recently been awarded a Green Flag Community Award for the seventh year running**. A Green Flag is awarded to community managed green spaces which play a vital role in the physical and mental well-being of communities across Wales.. The Green Flag judge summed up his report on Warden: "*I really appreciated that the built, natural and social heritage of the site was both recognised and celebrated. The signage not only recognised the value of the Warden for flora and fauna today but also its role in water*

supply in years past. Just as it was connected to wider water infrastructure at that time it is now being connected to a range of habitats locally, including the uncut verges. The strength of the group is the range of connections with the town, county, and like minded bodies". Thanks must go to the members of The Warden Guardians Foundation who subscribe and support the volunteers work on Warden.

**...Presteigne Festival Box Office is now open** to personal callers at the Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Box Office Opening Times: 6-17 August | Monday to Saturday 10am-1pm; 19-26 August | Daily 10am-5pm. Online and telephone booking is also available 01544 267800 | Online booking <https://shorturl.at/XX9x1>

**...Sheep Music - Local legends Poobahs** bring their get down and boogie Rock and Roll party set to Went's Meadow in Presteigne on Saturday 31 August as part of our Summerthing Special line up. Expect a seducing mix of genres, ranging from western swing to celtic fiddle tunes; from tex-mex to Dartford delta blues. Tickets via <https://www.sheep-music.co.uk/>

**...Presteigne St Andrews Football Club - mascots & ballboys/girls.** This season we are trying different things here at P.S.A.F.C. We would like to involve the local community more in what we are doing in and around the club. First on the list is we would love to have some home match-day mascots and ball boy/girls. This will involve being our guest for home games,

walking out with the players before the game, a picture with the captain/ goalkeeper/last week's m.o.t.m. with a special mention on our social media platforms (not compulsory, and obviously only if permitted by parents). During the game the mascots would then become our designated ball boy/girl. A halftime drink and snack would be provided for the mascots. Upon the final whistle we would present the mascots with a certificate of participation, and escort them to their designated pick up place. Hopefully this will be an exciting opportunity for our younger members of the community to be involved in. We have safeguarding procedures in place, with a committee member on hand to meet and greet the candidates when they arrive at the club on match days and settle them into their upcoming duties for the day. We have set an average age range from 8-12 years old but if any children aged 6-8 years old would want to partake, and their parents would be happy to accompany their child then we would be more than happy to accommodate this. For more information on this please feel free to contact me directly via pm. Our first home game is on Fri 16th August, 7.30pm ko. But obviously we will have many Saturday afternoon games available also.

**...The Old School (Youth Centre) - kitchen needed!** As part of our ongoing programme of improvements to the Old School we really need to upgrade (replace!!) our small and very dated kitchen to better serve the various groups that use our lovely old building. At the moment however we have no spare funds to do this. We are looking for a 'white knight' - perhaps a working or retired kitchen fitter, or competent handy man to do the work (is anybody out there taking out a decent kitchen to fit their own dream units?) - or even a local company who would be willing to sponsor and carry out a kitchen refit for us. If you think you can help - or can suggest someone who can - please contact Terry on 07766 097600. Thank you!

**...St Andrew's Parish Magazine - September deadline** is looming: Wed 21 August.

## **OTHER NEWS**

**...Powys Teaching Health Board** - You can find the coming week's Powys Minor Injury Units opening times on our website: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/news/features/service-updates>

**...from Jo about Hindwell Bridge closure** - this will be closed around the clock but it will now be from the 2nd September as another bridge has been crashed into and needs to be repaired first - this is in Herefordshire but it affects all those travelling by bus and to and from Kington

**...Powys Teaching Health Board** - We are implementing some temporary changes to health services in Powys from this September. These changes affect minor injury units and community hospital inpatient services. Learn why we are implementing these changes and how they may affect you. Visit our website to read our issues paper and provide your feedback. <https://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/temporary>

**...Powys County Council - Home to School Transport Policy** updated to make it clearer and easier to understand. The new version of the policy will be implemented from September 2025

and will further align with the school admissions policy and the new school catchment maps. The updates do not alter the application of the policy but simply aim to reduce any ambiguity in the wording. Tell us what you think by taking part in our short online consultation:

[www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/home-to-school-transport](http://www.haveyoursaypowys.wales/home-to-school-transport). Closing date: 12 September 2024

**LOCAL AREA JOB & VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES** *[ed. for other jobs in our local area, log on to <https://freegle.in/presteigne> and see **Jobs Near You** column on r.h.s]*

...**The Judge's Lodging, Presteigne - Tearoom Volunteers** needed. 01544 260650

...**Royal George at Lingen - looking for a cook/chef** to join Team George! Wed pm - Sat pm - up to 20hrs, up to £15ph, chance to create and run your menu, friendly team and customers - call Jo on 07779 608355 if this sounds like you...

...**Firth Construction - looking for labourers to help on current projects:** Driving licence essential. Role will involve lodging (nightly lodging allowance paid). Must be willing to undertake a face fit test. CSCS card an advantage but we can assist if you don't currently hold one. Immediate start - email [lisa@firthconstruction.co.uk](mailto:lisa@firthconstruction.co.uk)

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

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