

COMMUNITY NEWS

ISSUE 344 DECEMBER 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 Saturday 14th December
email 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

...from Beverley, our County Councillor - the threat to our Leisure Centre! as many of you will probably already realised, Powys County Council's Cabinet are again coming after our Leisure Centre. I have edited the petition from last time and updated it with the relevant information. Please could you sign and share. Also if you would like to email the Cllr who is putting forward this proposal he can be contacted at - cllr.richard.church@powys.gov.uk To sign, copy & paste <https://www.change.org/p/keep-east-radnor-leisure-centre-open> into your web browser.

...The December/January issue of The Parish Magazine has been published! Copies are now available in our churches for distributors to collect, and you can also find single copies on the font at St Andrew's, to the left of the main door as you go in, or at the community shop in the High Street ... price £1. The magazine is full of information about events taking place in the area over the Advent, Christmas and New Year period, as well as interesting articles and lots of advertisements for local businesses. Thank you to everyone involved in producing the magazine and delivering it around the Presteigne group of parishes.

...Look out for the December/January double issue of Broad Sheep. Out very soon and online - www.broadsheep.com

COUNCIL NEWS

Nothing provided so nothing included!

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...Join us in St Andrew's Church for our annual Christmas Craft Fair, on Friday 29 November from 2pm. There will be a fabulous range of stalls – cakes, refreshments, tombola, candles, jewellery, clothes, bags, crafts – and lots more entertainment. For further information call Di on 01544 267857 or 07903 506297

...PRESTEIGNE PANTO 2024. Thursday 5, Friday 6 and Saturday 7 December, 7.30 pm at John Beddoes School. "Presteigne Gets Stuffed..". a panto by Presteigne Players. Tickets available now from The Salty Dog. Cash only please - Adults £8, children £6, family £22. Bring a cushion!

...the Hub at New Radnor "It Happened Here" 60 years on. Saturday 30th November 11am-4pm
Including screening of the independent film of an imagined Nazi occupation of Britain, part filmed in New Radnor and first shown in 1964 at the Cork Film Festival and Mannheim International Film Week. With legendary co-director of the film Kevin Brownlow and local participants. Tickets £15 (including buffet lunch) Tickets from eventbrite.com. For information: marianmckiggan@gmail.com

...Presteigne Plenty - Back again at St Andrew's Church Fayre on Friday 29th November from 2pm - TODAY! We'll be selling our famous scrumptious boozy mincemeat, a wide selection of chutneys and jams, and our particularly popular Presteigne-produced and pasteurised apple juice - all made using locally grown excess produce. As always, all profits go to community projects including the Foodbank. Be quick - when it's gone, it's gone!

...Christmas at Norton Hub – Join us for our "Christmas Tree of Memories" event, Saturday 7th December. Festive refreshments from 3pm with time to prepare a memorial tag for the tree, and to write and post letters to Santa in his special Norton Hub postbox. Dolau Mixtures perform at 3.30, and at 4.30 we gather round the tree for "lights switch-on", place our memorials and join Dolau Mixtures for more singing and carolling. Donations for memorial tags to be given to local good causes. For more info [07709 603641](tel:07709603641).

...Flowers for Fun: these informal classes on Thursdays, from 12 till 2.00, in Whitton hall will continue on 5th December. Open to all, £5 per session. Further details from Ann, our Secretary, on 01544 340453

...**Gather Round with Marion Rowlett** - dates for December are as follows. We will meet in the Baptist church at 11 o'clock on December 14th and 21st. The 14th is an extra practice for the Manchester Carols which we are singing as part of a "Retelling of the Christmas Story" a presentation in words and music in the Baptist church at 3pm on Sunday 15th December, followed by tea.

...**HART (Hay Animal Rescue Team). Fundraiser** back by popular demand. Friday 6th & Saturday 7th December from 9.30 to 15.30. 2 Radnor Buildings (Opposite the Library) Presteigne. Selling Bric-a-brac, pre-loved clothes, Jewellery, Prints/paintings. Featuring a Christmas Corner with lovely items for sale. Come and bag a bargain. Cash only. The charity has had a very challenging year and have been overwhelmed by animals needing to be rescued. We are also asking for any animal food donations, slip leads & cat litter to be dropped off **ONLY** during those 2 days for the animals that are currently in their care. Thank you in advance for your support.

...**The Greatest Story Ever (re)Told**. The Gospels are just the starting point for the Nativity story and don't include many of the details we all know as part of the legend. Where did they come from? Discover the fascinating ways in which the Christmas story as we know it has evolved. Some surprises guaranteed! All are welcome at this talk with readings, images and live music at 3pm on Sunday 15th December at the Baptist Church, Hereford Street. Refreshments and entrance free, donations only.

...**Presteigne Primary School - Christmas Pub Quiz** - Wednesday 11th December at Presteigne Bowling Social Club. Quiz master - Drewie. Teams of up to 4. £10 a table. Lots of prizes to be won. Christmas Fancy dress optional!! Message the ptfa page or call/text Vicky Davies on 07769113421 to book your table. All monies raised will go towards fundraising for developing the school playground.

...**Presteigne Little People's Playgroup - Christmas Market** Sunday 8th December 2024 @ Youth Centre 10-3pm. Father Christmas will be visiting from 11 to 1pm. Lots of stalls, food & a prize raffle

...**Judge's Lodging, Presteigne - Join us for our annual festive open day**, with a chance to wander the house, discover more about Victorian Christmas, and marvel at our huge tree, then warm yourself in front of one of our roaring fires, with a warm drink and slice of yummy cake. Admission totally free for all. Small charge for refreshments. This year, another special treat awaits in the morning, as we play host to Oranges & Lemons handbell trio, who will be getting us all in the festive spirit with their beautiful renditions of Christmas favourites – don't miss them...it will be magical!

...**Peter Wright will discuss his new book, "How did I get here? Memories of six decades in motorsport, and musings on the future of Formula 1 and the planet"** with motoring journalist, Mark Williams. Sunday 15th December 2024 at 3pm, in the Assembly Rooms, Presteigne. Copies of the book will be available for sale. Voluntary contribution to MBA will be appreciated. www.howdidigethere.co.uk

...**Christmas and New Year's Day at St Michael's Church, Discoed**. Christmas Day celebration 9:15am. A short informal service with mulled wine afterwards. New Year's Day 12:00. Traditional chiming of the bell at midday with a few prayers to welcome the New Year and a social gathering. St Michael's Church, Discoed, near Presteigne LD8 2NW

...**Wings of Change will be hosting a "Grief Space"** at the Assembly Rooms in Presteigne on Sunday December 1st (3 - 5pm). This is a welcoming space to have conversations about grief and loss whilst enjoying a cup of tea and a slice of cake. Grief is not limited to mourning the loss of someone who has died. We can lose many things such as our health or job, or less tangible things such as our hopes and dreams - whatever your loss it's valid to feel grief. Grief can't be fixed, but it can be helpful and healing to share our experiences and feelings with others. If the time and space is right for you, we'd love to see you there. Grace & Dorothy. For info email wingsofchange24@gmail.com

...**Midwinter Concert - Merry music and cheery songs**. Whitton Voices led by Sue Harris with Benji and George Kirkpatrick plus a surprise guest. Saturday 21st December, 5pm at St Michael's Church, Discoed, LD8 2NW. £10/ children free. Proceeds to the Refugee Council. Booking essential 01547 550158 or sumarieharris@btinternet.com

...**Radnorshire Arms Hotel, Presteigne - We will be celebrating the New Year** and you are all welcome to join in! Black & White 'Ball' dress code (as always preferred but optional). Come and enjoy the evening with us

...**Art for All at the British Legion** Hereford Street, Presteigne. Tuesday mornings 10-12. Cost £5.00. Craft group in the afternoon 1-3pm £3 plus materials £2.50 or bring your own. Aldo Art and Craft Fair Saturday 7th and 14th December tables available for craft items only or Christmas items.

...**'Held in Presteigne' ..the story of POW Camp no 48 in Presteigne**. Kinnerton Village Hall Saturday Dec 7th 3pm. Teas and coffees etc...presented and illustrated by Roger Curtis featuring some of the fascinating experiences of some of the Italians and Germans brought to Presteigne 1942 to 1948. He has done years of enthusiastic research into Camp no.48 and his talk is quite an eye opener into the logistics of POWs. Tickets are £6 available from Angela : 01547 560 132 ; kinnertoncourt@icloud.com It is a fund raising event in aid of East Radnorshire Care Ltd who do tremendous work in looking after people who need care in the community within this area.

...**The Hub, New Radnor** - Sunday 1st December Quiz Night 7 pm. Friday 6th December Knighton Chippy van outside the Hub from 6pm Eat in or take away. Sunday 15th 3pm Salon Piano Concert with Leila Basletic. Music by Beethoven and Chopin. Joined by Ruth Watson in music by Schubert and Schumann

...**Coming soon to Presteigne - TheFibreLodge.** Needle Felters, Wet Felters Spinners, Weavers, Fibre Artists & Crafters. Pop up shop opposite Presteigne Library from December 9th-21st. We will have a selection of Silk Fibre, Carded Blended Wool/Silk, Wool Batts, Angora Goat, Fibre Boxes, felted decorations and lots of colourful woolly fluffy stuff.

...**MINR - The Oneira Trio** - Isabelle Harris – flute, Elliot Kempton – Viola, Emily Harris – Harp; in the Community Hall, New Radnor - Saturday 14th December. A programme of music by mainly 20th century composers from this young, fresh ensemble of RWCMD graduates with a lyrical evening of music full of character and colour. This type of instrumental combination works beautifully in the resonant Community Hall and we are looking forward to hosting this emerging group of musicians. Tickets £15 (<14s £3)

...**Gather Round and Sing - Christmas Carols and favourite Christmas songs** with Marion Rowlett and Michael Tavinor at Presteigne Baptist church on Saturday 21st December at 11oclock. Donations to the local Foodbank.

...**Christmas Shopping Evening at The Retreat!** Friday 20th December 4-7pm. **Silvan Skincare,** Kleen Soaps, organic face cloths, bath mitts, loofahs, Gua Sha facial tools and more. Gift sets and vouchers. Skincare consultations and gift suggestions. Cards and gifts by Jessica Watkins <https://jessicaevewatkins.com/>. Come along, have a glass of something or send your loved one with a hint...The Retreat, Presteigne Industrial Estate (next door to the Workhouse Gallery).

...**Chatterbrook WI** –Our meeting on Thursday December 12th at 7 pm is a festive evening. This will be in the British Legion, Hereford Street, Presteigne, where there is adjacent parking and good street lighting. We will be making flower / foliage arrangements for a Christmas table under the guidance of Sue Hamer. There will be a raffle and festive refreshments. Visitors are always welcome to join us and see what we do - £5 on the door. Details from Claire on 07712 649458 or Margaret mail@galliers.org.uk and see <https://facebook.com/ChatterbrookWI>

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society:** The next meeting is on Wednesday December 11th at 7.30 in Lingen Village Hall. This will be a special festive demonstration by Sarah Fenton – a National Demonstrator –. Her title is ‘Tis the Season’. There will be refreshments with mulled wine, raffle of a hamper of Christmas goodies and, of course, raffle of Sarah’s arrangements. Visitors will be welcome - £10 on the door. Further details from Ann on 01544 340453

...**MidBorder Arts - The Gin Bowlers coming to Presteigne Assembly Rooms** for a dance night on Saturday 14th December

...**The Legion Craft Group:** Tuesday Craft Afternoons in the British Legion hall, Hereford Street, Presteigne from 1 – 3 pm are being well supported, but there’s always room for more participants. On December 3rd we are making Christmas wreaths, then on 10th and 17th December we have ideas for making table decorations. Easy to make, friendly guidance, everyone welcome. £5 per session to cover hall hire and up to £3 for materials, or bring your own. Further information from Libby - 01544 350333 : email – l1bby.j15@outlook.com

NEWS FROM THE HIGH STREET & LOCAL BUSINESSES / ORGANISATIONS

...**PNCS - our Christmas Raffle tickets are now on sale** at The Charity Shop, The Warehouse and the PNCS Office in the High Street - this is our Annual Fundraiser, please support us to continue our transport service.

...**KCS** - Thank you to everybody who braved the weather and came to support our performance of Messiah on Saturday in St Andrew’s. It seemed to be a great success, a packed St. Andrew’s!!, and was a fitting finale to Rob's time as our Musical Director. Our next performance will be Carols at Croft Castle on 7th December between 12.00 - 12.45 and again between 1.30 - 2.15 in the Salon. Then in 2025, under our new Musical Director Simon Harper, we’ll be singing Rossini’s ‘Petite Messe Solenne’ (Presteigne), Stainer’s ‘Crucifixion’ (Kington), Purcell singing Workshop (Weobley), Haydn’s ‘The Creation’ (Presteigne), Faure’s ‘Requiem & European Sacred Music (Presteigne), finishing off a busy year with Carols by Candlelight (Kington). See our website and FB page for dates and information. We rehearse Monday evenings in Titley - like our program and interested to join? Message our FB page or email Sandie on dsgw@hotmail.com

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

...**Presteigne Little People Playgroup - Christmas Holiday Club Booking Form.** It is very important that you fill this in by the end of November so that we can staff the nursery during this time! Visit <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/11qG3MJrtakbCtMk5MF0085fKxHFABTBYaCLGhg1Ovfc/edit?pli=1>

...Presteigne Freegle - No such thing as waste, just stuff in the wrong place....If you have too much stuff or maybe just the wrong stuff, let Freegle help you get it to where it is needed. Join Presteigne Freegle now - go here www.freegle.in/presteigne - and if you need things you'd rather not splash the cash on, then hop on over to the UK's biggest FREE online-shop. Use via our website or our mobile App. You'll be amazed at all the very useful stuff being given away where you live. Why use Freegle? We've been match-making unloved stuff with new owners for over 15 years. We keep you safe and keep it simple. But there are lots of lovely features on our website and app so you can Choose To Reuse quickly and easily and with more than 450 local Freegle communities and over 4 and a half million users - 3000+ signed up to our Presteigne area group! - you'll be able to successfully freegle wherever you are in the U.K....and no spammers and scammers like on Marketplace and other social platforms (yay!). Grab our app to use on mobile devices from here <https://www.ilovefreegle.org/mobile>

...Presteigne Primary School needs your help!! We are looking for a number of very kind local businesses or families to sponsor our upcoming 'Chocolate Golden Ticket' event we have planned for the children. To be held on the 20th December! By sponsoring a small amount of money towards this PTFA event will allow us to purchase the chocolate bars needed - or donations of standard sized Dairy Milk chocolate bars. Acknowledgment of all businesses and families that have sponsored this event will be shared following the event. This event was a big hit with everyone last year! So we are hopeful for the same support and fun this year! Please contact Vicky Davies on 07769113421 or the PTFA Facebook if you can support.

...Presteigne Fire Station - Cadets! Just to keep you all up to date with the proposed fire cadets at station 17.. Crew members who have volunteered have filled out forms for enhanced DBS checks and are awaiting confirmation! We are also liaising with the fire cadet co-ordinator to have an open evening/question and answer session early next year! We will in the future be asking for some volunteers from the public to assist us! As always thank you for your continued support of Presteigne Fire Station!

...Norton Community Hub 100 Club - November draw (14/11/24): 1st (£40) number 27-Danielle Baize; 2nd (£25) number 26 -Gary Brown; 3rd (£15) number 30 - John Wilding.

...Martial Arts - Presteigne Sports Centre on Fridays - Kids Karate 8-11yrs 5.30pm; Adults Karate 6.30pm; & Kickboxing Teens & Adults 7.30pm. If you want to get involved message for details and FREE taster sessions! Beginners are always welcome www.leetaylorkarate.co.uk

...ESCOs, New Radnor - Beautiful ready prepared gifts and hampers compostable & biodegradable clear presentation bags.. beautiful products, local honey, wildflower seedballs, local chutneys, natural beauty products. Speak to me about your custom made hamper. Just do local this Christmas!

...Knighton & Presteigne Leg Club. Worried about your legs (swollen legs, skin tears, eczema, ulcers, varicose veins)? Reynolds Room, Knighton Community Centre. Every Thursday 9.30 – 11.30. No appointments needed. Run by District Nurses: 01547 521270 or 07773 226496. Come and meet the team, have a chat and a drink

...Carini Butchers - A huge thank you to all the loyal customers of Carini's during the last 31 years. The butchers will remain the same in all but name, and we wish Gary and Team all the best with GCSE BUTCHERS. With so many High Street butchers closing across the country, we are so lucky in Presteigne to have such a great community. The Royal Welsh Agricultural Show has been in full swing this week and a beef rib was entered from our butchers- 1st Prize and Champion.

OTHER NEWS

...What to do when a Powys Minor Injury Unit is closed. If your minor injury cannot wait until the next day you can:- Use the NHS 111 Wales symptom checker online - Call NHS 111 Wales for advice - In a life threatening emergency, always dial 999. More information on MIUs in Powys: <https://pthb.nhs.wales/services/urgent-care-services/choose-minor-injury-unit/>

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

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