

# Community News

Issue 349 MARCH 2025



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

**Next Issue - deadline for contributions Friday 14th March 10am  
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)

...**the future of Presteigne Fire Station.** In January, the Fire Service launched a series of community drop-in sessions aimed at gathering valuable input from residents and stakeholders, to assist in identifying any issues or challenges the Service may face in the delivery of the Community Risk Management Plan 2040. As part of the engagement and planning process the Deputy Chief Fire Officer – Iwan Cray will be hosting another external webinar. The interactive webinar session will provide a platform for open dialogue, allowing community members to share their insights, concerns, and suggestions. We encourage you all to join the webinar and let us know what you think, by sharing your views to help shape the future of your Fire and Rescue Service. Monday, 10 March 19:00pm - Webinar 2. By working together, we aim to shape a modern-day Fire and Rescue Service that reflects the needs and priorities of our communities. Your input is invaluable in helping us create a safer and more resilient Mid and West Wales. For more information on the Community Drop-in Sessions or to fill in our survey online, please visit: Community Risk Management Plan 2040

## COUNCIL NEWS

**Latest planning application considered at the February meeting of the Town Council:** 25/0203/REM Grid Reference: E:332402 N: 263963 Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 24/0871/FUL in relation to reduction in size of building following ground investigation Site Address: Unit 1 Presteigne Mill, Presteigne, LD8 2HG.

...**Powys CC: Household Recycling Centre Changes.** From 1 April 2025, there will be changes to the way we all use the Household Recycling Centres, which includes booking a time slot for your visit and paying a small charge for depositing DIY waste. More information and a full set of FAQs can be found online: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/17953/Household-Recycling-Centre-Changes>

...**Old Radnor Community Council - vacancy exists for a Councillor** to serve on Old Radnor Community Council (Old Radnor/Walton Ward). The Community Council meets once a month (each third Tuesday) at 8pm. If you would like more information please contact Mrs. Tracey Price, Clerk to the Council on 01547 528575 or email [oldradnor.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:oldradnor.clerk@gmail.com) or please approach any current Councillor.

## EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...**TODAY! 'Toy Hospital' at Presteigne Library** 10 till 12noon. For children accompanied by an adult to bring along toys in need of some special attention. Torn/not working/faulty/coming apart ? We will see if we can mend them. A Presteigne Repair&Share halfterm special & its free!

...**Borderlines Film Festival 2025 runs from 28th February to 15th March.** Each year the Borderlines Film Festival, the largest rural film festival in the UK, centred on Hereford's Courtyard Arts Centre but also spread across numerous venues in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Powys, brings us a vast selection of new and old films. Presteigne Film Society participated as a venue for many years and this association continues as Presteigne Screen features three films under the Borderlines umbrella at the Assembly Rooms over consecutive

Fridays: "All We Imagine As Light" 7th March, and "My Favourite Cake" 14th March. Info/booking <https://www.presteignescreen.org.uk/>

...**Come and join Marion and Michael for Gather Round and Sing for Fun** at the Baptist church on Saturday March 15th at 11am.

...**Roger Curtis' fascinating story of WW11 POW camp no.48 in Presteigne "Held in Presteigne"** on Saturday March 22nd 3pm at Kinnerton Village Hall - teas, coffee and cake. Tickets £6 from Angela : [kinnertoncourt@icloud.com](mailto:kinnertoncourt@icloud.com) or 01547 560 132. To be collected and paid for on the door. Many prisoners descendants still live in this area and have their own stories to tell. The talk replaces one scheduled for that fateful day of December 7th when storm Darragh raged havoc with fallen trees and flooding cutting Kinnerton off. It lost power for up to 60 hrs . Fingers crossed the weather gods will be kinder this time. The talk will raise money for the East Radnor Care Centre in Presteigne.

...**Groove with Elly - new dance exercise class at the Old School!** Trial classes for 4 weeks starting 7pm Thursday 27 March at the Old School/Youth Centre, Presteigne. Groove is the easiest dance class in the world, even if you have zero coordination, no rhythm or two left feet! No previous dance experience is required. In Groove, you dance as YOU want, in unity with everyone else, following simple steps, guided by me, and it's literally impossible to make mistakes. Make it big and energetic or keep it gentle and calm, you get to choose how much energy you use. Adjustable to suit all fitness levels, and can even be done sat down. Come and have a dance, have fun and get fit. You'll never know unless you give it a go! £8 per drop-in session or £30 for all 4 sessions. Contact Elly 07792 743894

...**MBA presents 'Touki'**. Presteigne Assembly Rooms Saturday 22 March 20:00 – 23:00. Amadou Diagne has centuries of West African music at his fingertips. Cory Sez nec is a musical wanderer and uncertified ethnomusicologist. A chance encounter while busking in Bath planted the seeds of a collaboration that's been fermenting now for over a decade.

...**MBA presents 'The Beth Porter Trio'**. Presteigne Assembly Rooms 26 April – 27 April 20:00. A master collaborator, songwriter, cellist and artist in her own right, Beth Porter has integrated herself into many areas of the music world. She has been likened to Cat Power, The Beatles, REM, This Is The Kit, Penguin Cafe Orchestra, Radiohead, Sandy Denny, The Incredible String Band and The Kinks. With a classical background, a venture into folk music, and a love of simple pop songs, there's nothing quite like Beth's songwriting. It is quintessentially English yet understated and original.

...**Presteigne Baptist Church. An illustrated talk by Michael Tavinor**, to be given to the Radnorshire Society, but all are welcome. Friday 21 March. 2.30pm. 'Roman Catholicism in Radnorshire since the Reformation'. An Anglican talking about Catholicism in a Baptist chapel - is this a first!? Do come and hear this fascinating story about the history of one of our denominations in Presteigne. No charge but donations welcome.

...**The fabulous Friends of John Beddoes are hosting a Bingo night** on 22nd March at John Beddoes Campus, doors open 6.30pm , eyes down 7.30pm. Bar available, David Weale bingo caller. All proceeds raised will be used to enhance opportunities for students at our school so please come along, have a fantastic evening and hopefully win some fantastic prizes. If you would like to donate prizes for the evening (Easter egg, bottle of wine, box of chocolates), and help raise even more for our children, please bring items to the school office. Spread the word!

...**All About Heat Pumps – how do they work and do I want one?** Talks and workshop on Thursday 13th March, 7pm, at the Baptist Church, Hereford Street, Presteigne (next door to the Old School). Information from experts on heat pump systems and installation, insulation, grant funding, community heat networks, and more. No obligation – just come along and find out the answers to all your questions! PLUS - information about a possible carshare scheme. Contact: [corinnakenyonwadeld@gmail.com](mailto:corinnakenyonwadeld@gmail.com) or 07385267825

...**Presteigne Floral Art Society: Flowers for Fun:** these informal classes continue on Thursdays, from 12 till 2.00, in Whitton hall on March 6th , 20th and 27th. All welcome – especially beginners. Come along and see what we do - first session free, then £5 per session.

Our next demonstration is on Wednesday 12th March at 7pm. We will be back in Presteigne Memorial Hall, and welcome Dean Sharp with his topic 'Be Different'. The competition is Art Deco. Visitors very welcome - £6 on the door. Further details from Ann, our Secretary, on 01544 340453

...**Chatterbrook WI** : next meeting is on Thursday March 13th at 7pm in The Legion Hall, Presteigne. In a change to our advertised programme we look forward to an illustrated talk by Dick Sawle about his experiences of living and working in the Falkland Isles. Visitors and potential new members will be most welcome as the subscription year begins now, with a new programme of talks and activities starting in April - information: call Claire on 07712649458

...**The Legion Craft Group**: Tuesday Craft Afternoons in the British Legion hall, Hereford Street, Presteigne from 1 – 3 pm continue. We are a friendly relaxed group, and especially welcome anyone who has never crafted anything before! During March we will be making spring- and Easter-themed items. All materials supplied, but scissors and glue usually useful. Easy to make, friendly guidance, everyone welcome. £3 per session to cover hall hire and up to £3 for materials, as needed. For further information contact Margaret – mail@galliers.org.uk

...**Powys / Radnor WI; We are marking St David's Day** on Saturday March 1st at 2pm with a Welsh-flavoured afternoon. The event will feature The Bracken Trust Choir, singers, Dylan Thomas readings and a talented harpist. And, of course, Welsh-themed refreshments. Join us at Crossgates Community Centre - LD1 6RE – all welcome, tickets are £6 on the door: all profits are for the Bracken Trust.

...**Facial Yoga Workshop**. Friday 7th March, 10 am to 12 midday. Join Marian for this workshop and discover a facial yoga routine to relax, tone and smooth your face. Link for booking <https://silvanskincare.com/collections/workshops>. Refreshments included. Location: Silia Cottage, Warden Road, Presteigne LD8 2NL. Private bookings at a date and venue to suit you are also available on request - [marian@silvanskincare.com](mailto:marian@silvanskincare.com).

...**Borderlines Film Festival at the Assembly Rooms** - Presteigne Screen will show the following films under the Borderlines Film Festival umbrella: "All we imagine as light" Friday 7th March 8pm, and "My favourite cake" Friday 14th March 8pm. Info and booking <http://presteignescreen.org.uk/index.php>

...**East Radnor Ramblers - Walks in March** Sat 1st March Whitton and Offa's Dyke, 9.8 miles. Sat 8th March Maesmynis, Moelfre Hill and Llanynis Church, 8.0 miles. Weds 19th March Two "castles" and moorland in the Golden Valley, 7.5 miles. Sat 29th March Whitton and Litton Hill Circular, 8.3 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 Fire Station - Public/Bystander CPR**. #Defibuary is a month long campaign from the Welsh Ambulance Service to educate people about the importance of public/bystander CPR. Why is it so important? Only 1 in 10 people survive an OOHCA (Out Of Hospital Cardiac Arrest) and chances of survival are reduced by 10% for every minute CPR is delayed. More positively though chances of survival can increase by 50-70% if a defib is used within 3-5 minutes! You don't need to be trained in CPR as a 999 call handler will talk you through it. But we are lucky enough at Presteigne Fire Station to have our own training defib and dummies. So if any groups or individuals would like a demonstration or some practice please get in touch with the Station nor any crew member.

...**from St Michael's Hospice Shop volunteers** - The St Michael's Hospice Shop in the centre of Presteigne is possibly going to close. CAN YOU SUPPORT US TO STAY OPEN? We need good quality donations and VOLUNTEERS. If you can offer a few hours a week to this worthwhile cause please drop in, let us know and collect an application form ... and please come and visit us - lots of great things to buy, some on sale.

...**Presteigne Scouts - dog mess!!** Notice to users of Went's Meadow. In front of the Scout Hut on Went's Meadow the grass is covered in dog mess including on the slabs the young people use to access our meetings. Our leaders volunteer to support the community and the young people, NOT to pick this mess up. We will again be reporting this to the Council as it is the 3rd time since Christmas this has happened.

...**Evenjobb Spring Fayre**. Our Spring Fayre is coming closer and we need stall holders for this big event held on 22nd and 23rd March at £20 for a single day and £40 for the weekend. Location: Evenjobb Village Hall. Set up Time: 8:00 am - 10:00 am. Event Time: 10:00 am-5:00 pm. We need food

traders for the event, also expect sweets, chocolate and fudge, wax melts, candles, resin, crochet, and costly. (We are open to anything, the more unique the better). If interested, email me indicating what you sell and whether indoor or outdoor. Goods can be left Overnight. Email: [lyndasmith1222@gmail.com](mailto:lyndasmith1222@gmail.com)

...**Friendly donkey requested!** Is there anybody in Presteigne or environs who could loan their donkey for up to an hour? Each year, on Palm Sunday, we have an Ecumenical Walk from Presteigne Baptist Church to St Andrew's and the occasion would be made so much more meaningful if we had a real, live donkey to walk with us! We'd only need the donkey, and his/her keeper for half an hour, or so. It's Sunday 13 April, 10.20am Presteigne Baptist Church, arriving St Andrew's 10.50 and then we'd say goodbye! Any chance? Please contact Michael Tavinor [michael.tavinor@gmail.com](mailto:michael.tavinor@gmail.com)

...**Are you interested in starting a Car Club locally ?** TrydaNi, a not for profit organisation, with funding from the Welsh government, supporting local communities to create and run electric car clubs. 'Facilitating the shift away from traditional models of car ownership towards a cleaner transport future'. There are already 8 Car shares/car clubs in Powys, running successfully for a number of years. Support from TridaNi is both financial and practical. More info on 0300 373 5500 or [info@trydani.org](mailto:info@trydani.org)

## OTHER NEWS

...**Powys CC - Are your children in the correct type of car seat?** Every primary school in Powys now has a newly installed height chart to easily show which type of car seat the children should be using to stay safe when traveling in a vehicle. More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/17941/Are-your-children-in-the-correct-type-of-car-seat>

...**Dyfed-Powys Police - Our devices** - and especially our smartphones - contain more work, personal and financial data than ever before. If you are selling, giving away, or trading in your smartphone (or other device), you should erase all of this personal data so it doesn't fall into the wrong hands. The National Cyber Security Centre has put together useful guidance on how to erase the personal data from your phone, tablets, and other devices (and why it's important when you're buying and selling them) <https://orlo.uk/XN6p>.

...**Powys Teaching Health Board - new X-ray units.** The X-ray unit at the hospital in Llandrindod Wells reopened on February 14th with the unit at Ystradgynlais reopening the following Friday after having new state-of-the-art equipment installed. And the X-ray unit at Powys Teaching Health Board's hospital in Brecon has temporarily closed to have the new digital equipment installed there. While this installation work is taking place, patients who need X-rays are being redirected to another of the health board's community hospitals. The work is part of a £1.7m Welsh Government funded programme to install new X-ray units in community hospitals. The new units produce faster, clearer images and all installations are due to be finished in the Spring.

...**NFU Mutual - Code for Countryside Roads** - roads are vital to our countryside, but they also carry unique risks and see a disproportionate number of accidents. That's why we have developed the Code for Countryside Roads – a guide to make rural roads safer for everyone, from motorists and agricultural drivers to cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders. With fatal accidents on rural roads 70% higher than on urban ones, this code offers practical guidance based on expert advice and public feedback to promote safer and more respectful road use. For years, we've been dedicated to improving rural road safety by raising awareness of the hazards these roads present. Recently, we took our campaign to Parliament to highlight the dangers of rural roads & advocate making safety a top priority.

<https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/globalassets/campaigns/rural-road-safety/code-for-countryside-roads-booklet.pdf>

## JOBS & VOLUNTEERING

...**MJS Qualified Heating Engineer.** Join a fast-growing, dynamic company specialising in the Design and installation of renewable energy systems! Requirements: NVQ Diploma Plumbing & Heating Level 2 (Level 3 desirable). Installing air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps, biomass systems, and other renewable technologies. Company van, tools, and equipment provided. Competitive Salary. Ongoing training in renewable technologies. Pension scheme. Send your CV to [admin@mjsenergy.co.uk](mailto:admin@mjsenergy.co.uk)

...**Norton Community Hub - Volunteer (marketing)** - we are continuing to build our services to the local community, and we need a volunteer to help us improve our marketing capabilities, particularly through the best use of social media. If you have a good working knowledge of social media platforms, together with the creativity to introduce new ideas, then you are just the person we are looking for. This is a great opportunity for you to join a lively team of volunteers, and develop your own skills and experience at the same time. You will initially have support and guidance from our current administrator before assuming the role. For further information contact Claire 07712 649458

...**Chevron Green Services - part-time finance admin assistant** to join our small, friendly, team based in Presteigne. You can read the full job spec and apply here: <https://careers.chevrontm.com/job/cgs-finance-admin/6745> Or email [info@ChevronGS.com](mailto:info@ChevronGS.com) for more info and to apply.

**PACDG – the Presteigne Area Community Development Group ...“Working together for the Community”**

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