

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

- 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

...Article from County Times about Powys CC's proposed 'Four Towns Hub' scheme. "Council services across Powys will be "decimated" under new plans to centre provision on four of the county's bigger towns, a senior councillor has warned. Powys County Council's cabinet met on Tuesday, July 16, to debate the principles of the Sustainable Powys scheme. The principles will provide the framework for implementing a radical shake-up of service provision, centring the council's offerings on Welshpool, Newtown, Llandrindod Wells and Brecon. Powys Independents and opposition joint-leader Cllr Beverley Baynham spoke passionately at the meeting urging cabinet members for a re-think. Cllr Baynham said: "When residents hear the words Sustainable Powys the first thing that comes to mind is the environment and climate emergency. I am not sure they realise; in this context it is the decimation of services in all but four hub towns. I am here today to ask you, to please reconsider this ill-judged proposal that is going to ostracise my community and many others throughout Powys. Unless you live in Newtown, Welshpool, Llandrindod or Brecon you will not be able to access services in your community and will instead have to travel up to one hour each way on a bus. Do cabinet members think it is acceptable for a small child to have to travel an hour each way to access a leisure centre or a library? Do you think people in poverty who cannot afford to pay for broadband will finish work and drive all the way to their nearest hub to access computer and internet services in the library? That is the reality of your proposals." She also queried whether the Sustainable Powys would lead to a two-tier council tax system with those living in Brecon, Llandrindod Wells, Newtown, & Welshpool paying a higher rate than other parts of the county who will no longer have any services. Cllr Baynham said: "As you probably realise, I am extremely distressed at these proposals. You cannot seriously consider that removing all services for all but four towns is the way forward." She believed that the changes would see people leaving Powys to access services in other counties and over the border in England. Cllr Baynham also pointed out that only Cllr David Thomas (Labour) the finance portfolio holder had taken a leading role in confidential briefings for councillors on Sustainable Powys and urged the other cabinet members to "take ownership" of their portfolios. Cllr Baynham said: "I am pleading with you as cabinet members to think of your community and the people who put their faith in you. Most of you do not live in a hub town. You have the power to stop this progressing." **n.b. A majority of cabinet members voted in favour of this!!**

THANKS

...Presteigne Carnival. So where to begin? Such a fabulous day, despite the damp start! What a fantastic turnout - car park overflowing, field full of happy people enjoying the entertainment. And what entertainment!! The feedback on Boom Circus was wonderful, what a show, and great engagement with the audience. Stiklands entertained throughout the afternoon with their circus skills, and the Exotic Animals returned to deliver another stunning demonstration/talk/hands on experience of all sorts of creatures!! The procession was just wonderful - such a hard job for the judges, so many clever and original ideas, and so many floats!! The dog show was another success with over 60 entries, watched from afar by the donkeys from Emma's Donkeys giving rides. We had dancing, singing, assault course, pirate ship, children's races, all thoroughly enjoyed by the vast number of children on the field. And the addition of the baby changing/feeding gazebo was a great hit! After a busy, busy afternoon, then into the evening music, and Head Honcho, Kickback and DJ Stef Mo who were all fabulous! The barn was bouncing, queues at the bar, food being consumed at an amazing rate, just so many people!! From the Carnival Committee, a thank you to all the acts and vendors who made it such a fantastic event, to the community stalls, to the WI for the cafe, to EG Fitness dancers, to Kinsham Line Dancers, but especially an Enormous Thank You to all the wonderful, hard working, committed volunteers who just keep going and going throughout the afternoon and evening, the true stars of the event, and we thank you so

much. See our FB page for a few random photos to get us going - more to follow!

...Presteigne Fire Station. A huge thank you to everyone who supported our open day yesterday there are too many people to thank individually! We raised approximately £3500 we just need to work out a few out goings for the final figure but either way it's an incredible amount! We have attended a lot of events in recent weeks Presteigne Carnival, New Radnor Carnival are just a couple of examples and the help and support we have received has been incredible! We've also been busy on calls recently being mobilised to various incidents from some of these events so thank you for your patience! As always if you're interested in joining please get in touch with this page for more information! Thank you!

...And just like that Ger's Burger Van is 3 years old today, 3 happy years of trading. Thankyou to all our lovely customers for keeping us going. Big thankyou to our wonderful bunch of staff and Russ, couldn't do it without you, so ...Happy birthday to us !!!

COUNCIL NEWS

...Closure of Lloyds Bank in Presteigne: The Town Council has been formally notified by the Bank that the branch will be closing in March 2025. It has been assured that a LINK cashpoint will be in place and the Town Council is stressing the need for this to have 24 hour access and has asked for more information on this and on the proposed location. More information is also being sought on the community banker assistance that is to be provided.

...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 or contact your county councillor.

...P&N Town Council - Latest planning applications in to be considered at the August meeting: 24/0887/HH and 24/0890/LBC Grid Reference: E:331642 N: 264578 Proposal: Single story rear extension with demolition of outside sheds Site Address: 2 Fold Cottages, Broad Street, Presteigne, 24/1049/DEM Grid Ref: E: 331718 N: 264017 Proposal: Former sixth form/rural studies teaching block. The building is detached and single storey. Steel framed with brick cladding externally under a profiled metal sheet roof. Floor area approx. 80m2. Location: John Beddoes Campus Broadaxe, Presteigne.

EVENTS & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

...A Picnic to investigate a Murder at Went's Meadow, Friday August 16, Went's Meadow, Presteigne. Murder starts at 3pm. Bring your own refreshments and seating. Prizes for best and worst solutions. Raffle. Entry by ticket only £3.50 from prfw.secretary@gmail.com or 07920637038. £4 on gate.

...Knill Open Gardens 2024. Sunday 25th August 1-5pm for one day only, to raise funds to keep the church. Like last year we are inviting a small number of local Artist/Makers the opportunity to have a stall, this year in The Rose Garden. You will be able to drive up very close to the pitch to drop off. You will need your own table/gazebo/chair. If you would like to sell your work at the gardens all we ask is for the small fee of £10 to be paid in advance please. Arrive early to set up then sit back and enjoy the beautiful scenery, tea and cake. Otherwise please join us as a guest. £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. 11 August- Michael Tavinator, speaker and organ. The life and music of Sandy Macpherson, *theatre organist*. 18 August -Tim Bridges. A talk on churches around Presteigne.

...Norton Community Hub - with the new Hub now in full swing, we have a superb event coming up in September. 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, and we expect them to sell fast so do hurry if you'd like to come. Tickets can be bought online directly from <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DPAI> Or you can phone Dave on 07709 603641 for further information and tickets. If you'd like to see more details about this fascinating theatre company, their website is <https://www.dontgointothecellar.com/welcome.htm>

...Walton Village Hall Events - Dates for your Diary: Autumn Talks starting at 7pm - August 17th : Radnor Wildlife Trust, September 21st : Blood Bikes by Ray Rand, October 19th : Winter care for horses and ponies by N Dodeman MRCVS, November 16th : A School in Gambia. Tickets £5 on the door. ALSO..... 5th October Games Night £2 per person BYOB, 23rd November QUIZ NIGHT £2 per person Max 6 per team BYOB

...**Play Radnor - Looking for activities over the Summer?** Play Radnor are running a series of sessions on Went's Meadow 6th August 10am-12noon; 13th August 10am-12noon; 27th August 10am-12noon.

...**Chatterbrook WI** – our meeting on Thursday August 8th at 7pm will be at Norton Hub (the former church) and include a talk about Silkworm Farming. Prospective new members and visitors from other WIs and are most welcome to join us, £4 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 a demonstration of floral art on Wednesday August 14th at 7.30 in Lingen Village Hall. We welcome the return of demonstrator Arnaud Metairie, now an 'Old Friend' of the club, with his title Floral Fantasy. The designs will be raffled at the end of the evening. Light refreshments available. Visitors welcome - £6 on the door. Further details 01544 340453.

...**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 and Exhibitions** - This year we are open for 4 days, August Bank Holiday 11am - 5pm. Friday 23rd August to Monday 26th August. Open Studios has become firmly established on the arts calendar in Presteigne. Posters and brochures will appear in shops, pubs and cafes soon, with details of how to find each venue. Open Studios is never the same in any two years running. This year over 30 artists and makers plus the Sidney Nolan Trust Youth Programme will be taking part, with many new faces and some regulars – all exhibiting new work for this season. Take this once-a-year opportunity to roam around our lovely town and call into artists' studios, workplaces, exhibition spaces and back gardens for a wealth of visual experiences.

...**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/>

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 via this link: http://eepurl.com/iyY_0

...**Look out for the August Broad Sheep** - out this week! Also online - www.broadsheep.com

...**Presteigne Festival 2024.** Booking is open for the 2024 Presteigne Festival which will bring 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 every 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*, and a short season of Welsh-made feature films. The Festival Brochure is available from venues around town or to view on presteignefestival.com – online and telephone booking is open at www.presteignefestival.com / Box Office 01544 267 800

...**Presteigne Carnival** - Huge congratulations to all the entrants and of course winners in the Country Fair Classes. What a display of entries, and such talent!! Also a Big Thank you to the judges, not an easy task at all! Winners of the sections as follows:- Home Grown Produce - John Chrimes; Home Grown Flowers - Sarah Kilby; Floral Art - Paz Clee-Powell; Cookery - Dot Griffiths; Home Crafts - Denise Heginbotham; Hobbies & Interests Pat Mather Cup - Paz Clee-Powell; Children 6 and under - Finley Bray; Children 7-14 Joe Lynn; Best in Show - Ruth Kirkby for her tea loaf, best the judge had ever tasted!! Well done every one for bringing this wonderful exhibition of local talent to Carnival.

...**Presteigne Medical Centre - please check out our new and interactive website** <https://www.presteignemedicalcentre.wales.nhs.uk/>. The new website offers: * A self-help hub - a page detailing where patients can self-refer to services such as Physiotherapy, Weight Management, Ear Wax Removal, Silvercloud, Powys Women's Health Service, Podiatry and Sexual Health. * The submission of digital administrative requests in a more efficient manner including Fit Notes requests, updating contact details, informing the practice if you are a carer and many more requests that will go straight to the administrative team * The opportunity to request a routine non-urgent appointment online during the hours of 8am-Midday every working day to save telephoning the surgery during busier hours"

...**Marches Investment Club (MIC). Interested in getting to know more about investments?** We are a small friendly investment club that meets each month in Presteigne, when we discuss new

investment ideas and the performance of our portfolio . Each member pays in £30 a month, and all are free to suggest investment ideas for the club. We are now seeking new members - you don't need to be a financial expert - most of us aren't! If you'd like to find out more, you're welcome to sit in on one of our meetings. Please reply via news@pacdg.org and our club secretary will contact you.

...The Old School (Youth Centre) in Hereford Street - looking for an affordable venue for your club or classes, children's birthday party, or perhaps to run a one-off fund-raising event e.g. table sale, music event, or as a home for a new venture e.g. IT classes or whist drives??? The Old School has everything you need, including a kitchen, multi-terminal computer suite and private parking (in addition to the Hereford Steet carpark next door) ... and work is underway to further improve our building with full double glazing, better heating& lighting etc - contact presteignedogman@icloud.com or 07766 097600

...Volunteers required for Sheep Music's Summerthing Special (Saturday 31st August 2024– 4.30pm to 11pm), Went's Meadow, Presteigne. Sheep Music are looking for volunteers to help with this event which is an ideal opportunity for anyone in the local community who would like to get involved in exchange for a free ticket e.g. General Site Stewarding, Bar, Entrance Gate, Tea Stall, Car Parking, Taking down site. To volunteer, please follow this link <https://bit.ly/SummerthingVolunteers> to complete the short form to register your interest and availability. Please respond asap and by 5pm on Sunday 11 August 2024 at the latest. More information at <https://www.sheep-music.co.uk/>

...We're over the moon to announce that the community are now officially in ownership of The Radnor Arms pub in New Radnor! Now the hard work continues as we work towards reopening the pub. See www.rahl-cbs.org for the latest news and please get in touch if you have any questions!

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>

...Cyber Clinic - free cyber law workshops, designed to help people better understand how to support children and young people to stay safe online. The next sessions will take place online and focus on protecting young people in relation to: Using AI and Being Creative Online: Tuesday 3rd September – 16:30-18:00. The workshops are primarily aimed at people in Powys, will be fun, relaxed and will assume no prior knowledge. You can find more information about each session and future workshops on our website here: <https://bit.ly/CyberLawWorkshops>.

...Knighton & Presteigne Foodbank - it's Summer, school's out but please don't go hungry. Our summer project is aimed at supporting children and families who will find it hard to provide lunch and breakfast during July and August. We can offer this additional help thanks to grant funding from the Welsh Local Grant scheme and amazing donations from our supporters. Please share the information with your colleagues, groups and any contacts you have. No need for a referral for this part of our work, people can contact me direct. If you could do with help providing breakfast or lunch during the holidays call or text Helen on 07731 524 058 or visit www.knightonfoodbank.co.uk.

...Powys CC - Cardboard recycling banks are now being removed from community recycling sites (*ed. including ours here in Presteigne*). When community recycling sites were first introduced there were no kerbside recycling collections. The sole purpose of these sites was to allow residents to recycle household items close to home. However, with the weekly kerbside recycling service now well established, card, along with other items, can be easily recycled from home. More: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/16834/Card-recycling-banks-to-be-removed-from-community-recycling-sites>

...Kington Autumn Walking Festival 2024: 18th to 22nd September. Join Kington Walks for another great celebration of walking in and around Kington and the beautiful Welsh borders. Pick up one of our leaflets around or pop in to Kington TIC. Full details on our website: www.kingtonwalks.org

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]*]

...Orbis - looking for a dedicated Senior Support Worker for our beautiful Summergil House. <https://careers.orbis-group.co.uk/vacancies/2339/senior-support-worker--summergil-house.html>

...Judge's Lodging, Presteigne - Volunteer with us at the Judge's Lodging! Great fun, meet people and be part of the team. Volunteer in our Tea Room or help keeping the House looking at its best. Tel: 01544 260650 email: office@judgeslodging.org.uk

...Presteigne Youth Project Limited (PYP) is looking for someone to join us as the secretary of the organisation, as the current secretary will be taking over as Treasurer. PYP is a limited company and a registered charity - we look after the Old School (Youth Centre) community building in Hereford Street. The role is not onerous as PYP is a small relatively uncomplicated organisation but will include: Organising meetings, preparing Agendas and taking Minutes / Ensuring that all legal requirements are met, for example keeping PYP's details up to date at Companies House and the Charity Commission / Ensuring regular reviews of policies and procedures. Email presteignedogman@icloud.com.

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

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