

Ruabon News Letter 328

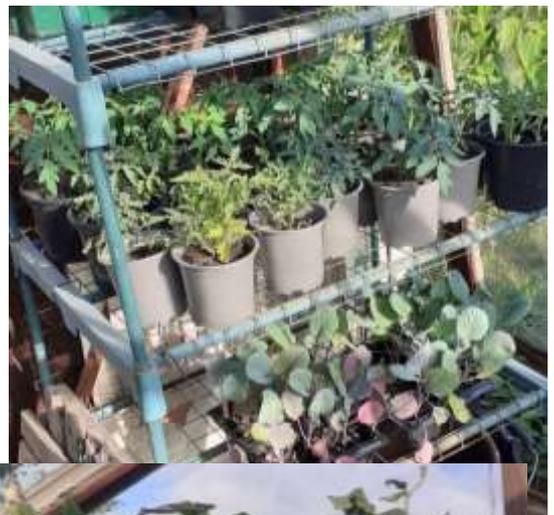
Before the Pandemic was upon us, Friends of Ruabon were presented with a generous garden token from Ruabon Station Adopter: Martin Evans, which he had won because of the way he kept 'OUR' station. It was decided to spend the token on vegetable seeds and to grow them for the Ruabon Community.

Then came the pandemic-What foresight!

Sarah Giles of Friends of Ruabon and Stephen have managed to grow a limited supply of tomato plants and green beans in their greenhouse and will be planting rhubarb and other veg in the middle planter on Ruabon Station - on each side the planters are very cheering with flowers and some wild strawberries. The planters have kept Nia Evans (FofR) busy for the past few years. More photos of Ruabon Station's planters next week. Please telephone Sara on: 07789 727413 if you would like one of these free plants,



Thank you for
these
photos Sarah.



PPE Hwb Wreccsam

PPE Hwb Wreccsam, a local 3D printing hub was, until recently was based at Ysgol Clywedog, producing protective visors for staff in Health and Care settings and supported by AVOW

On May 8th 2020 volunteers began production at a new location in Gresford after setting up PPE Hwb Wreccsam as a Community Interest Company, entirely non-profit making. The volunteers are concerned that, as more and more people start a phased return to work, they are appropriately protected to try and prevent a further spread of Coronavirus.



Their mission is simple:-
the production of protective equipment, and the equipping of front line staff, key workers and community based workers.

Volunteers in general are VERY welcome but any that have experience in fundraising, logistics, admin, marketing or social media would be especially welcome!

Currently there is a team of two and we would definitely welcome more hands on deck!

THANK YOU TO ALISON HAMLINGTON FOR FORWARDING THIS INFORMATION.



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Ruabon Community Council

**Do you or somebody you know need any help
at this challenging time?**

If you are affected by the current COVID 19 crisis

we are now able to help with

Emergency Food Packs - Available in different sizes

Family Activity Packs

*

We are all learning to adapt but if you need some extra support

Call or text: 07741 596 812 or 01978 824087

email: info@friendsof ruabon.co.uk

Facebook: Friends of Ruabon Viral Kindness

VOLUNTEERS FROM

FRIENDS OF RUABON &

RUABON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ARE HERE TO HELP FOR FREE



These are just some of the packs with the various items that are included and delivered to those who request them. Obtained and packed by Friends of Ruabon and neighbours while social distancing.



More than 800 sign 'Close Hafod Tip' Petition

A petition launched to close Hafod tip in the wake of the recent fire has already attracted more than 800 signatories.

The petition was launched by Plaid Cymru MS Llyr Gruffydd, who said "enough is enough - the people living in Ruabon and Johnstown have put up with the Hafod landfill's smells and pollution for more than a decade and it's time it was closed down.

"The landfill site was opened about 14 yrs ago, originally to take waste from Merseyside and the majority of the waste dumped there is still from England. This is a kick in the teeth for local residents as Wrexham Council leads the way in terms of recycling, with only 0.4% of its domestic waste going to landfill. None of it goes to Hafod.

"As with the Kronospan fire in January, mobile air-quality monitoring equipment had to be moved in from Swansea by Natural Resources Wales and took days to arrive. Arguably the worst of the damage had already been caused by the thick plume of smoke. Even so, within two hours, that equipment detected particulates above acceptable levels and residents were told to stay indoors with windows shut for three days (during the hottest spell of the year).

"Without wanting to alarm people, burning plastics and other waste creates dioxins and furans, chemicals that accumulate in the food chain and can cause cancer.

"The arguments about waste have now moved on and dumping plastics and other waste is being replaced by a philosophy of recycling and re-use. Landfill is unsustainable and, as has been shown here, dangerous. That's why we need other councils and businesses to rethink how they're dealing with their waste and stop using landfill."

The petition has three simple demands:

- Hafod landfill is too close to people's homes and should be closed immediately
- Independent air-monitoring equipment for future incidents should be located more strategically, with at least one kit in the North

- An independent inquiry into the cause of the fire and the management of the site should be undertaken.

Please sign and share the petition:

https://www.wrexhamplaid.cymru/close_hafod_tip

https://www.wreccsamplaid.cymru/cau_tomen_yr_hafod

Hafod Quarry- update

Assurances have been given that action will be taken against the operator of a Wrexham waste plant if an investigation rules it has breached its permit.

Clwyd South MS Ken Skates and Johnstown councillor David Bithell held talks with senior Natural Resources Wales officers this morning (Friday) after a recent fire at Hafod Quarry sparked renewed calls for its closure by local residents.

Mr Skates, the local Member of the Senedd, and Cllr Bithell - who is also Wrexham Council's lead member for the environment - had both called for a full investigation to take place and for the site not to resume operations until it had concluded.

They subsequently demanded an urgent talk after the regulator said that was not possible.

After the meeting, Mr Skates said: "As well as the fire service investigation, we were told there is an ongoing NRW investigation which is looking into Enovert's adherence to their permit and whether conditions have been breached. I look forward to the results being made public as soon as possible."

Cllr Bithell said: "We were assured that there will be a thorough investigation and appropriate action will be taken if there are found to have been breaches. We made our position quite clear in that we want to see tightened monitoring and we want to see action."

He added: "Ken and I will maintain a regular dialogue with NRW and we will continue to push for residents to be listened to."

Mr Skates previously said the fire on May 27 was 'the last straw' for local residents and called for the meeting with NRW, adding: "The Environment Minister is unable to issue direct orders as to how the site is run, so I want local voices to be heard by those who can and I will be making sure NRW understands the full scale of residents' objections to this site's continued operation."

The site is permitted to receive a range of non-hazardous biodegradable wastes such as residual waste from waste transfer stations, building and demolition wastes, mineral wastes such as excavation material from development sites and household waste.

Based on **2019** input, most of the waste (27%) comes from Wrexham (not council waste), with 21% from Merseyside; 16% from Cheshire and 12% from Shropshire.

[Economic Resilience Fund - Find out if your business is eligible for support from the next phase](#)

Businesses can now find out if they are eligible to apply for financial support from the next phase of the Welsh Government's Economic Resilience Fund (ERF).

The online eligibility checker has reopened today and businesses will be able to make applications for support from this phase of the fund by the end of the month.

The ERF is designed to support businesses, social enterprises and charities, which are not eligible for other Welsh Government and UK Government support schemes.

The next phase of the fund will enable businesses to access a further £100m of financial support. It is being targeted at microbusinesses, SMEs and large businesses of critical economic importance, which have yet to receive financial assistance from the ERF.

Economy, Transport and North Wales Minister
Ken Skates said:

"Our package of support for Welsh business has been absolutely vital in supporting thousands of firms through these exceptionally difficult times.

"Close to £200m has now been provided to businesses from the Economic Resilience Fund with all applications being processed.

"We are today reopening our eligibility checker for the next phase of funding. This will allow companies time to prepare their applications, ahead of the fund reopening for applications at the end of the month.

"The measures we have taken are in addition to the support available from the UK Government, making our package the most comprehensive and generous in the UK.

"This next phase will reach businesses, which have yet to receive funding, but we know it won't reach all those in need. We are proactively working on further options, but it is clear we need the UK Government to step up and provide the longer-term and additional funding needed to see Welsh business through this pandemic."

This latest phase will operate in broadly the same way as the first phase but with an update to the eligibility of the micro scheme. This will enable limited companies which are not VAT registered to access the fund, subject to other criteria being met.

Large businesses, which have suffered more than a 60% reduction of turnover since 1 March 2020 may also qualify for funding if they meet other conditions. A further £10m has been available from the ERF to support larger firms.

To date, almost £200m of ERF funding has been distributed to companies across Wales, supporting a wide variety of businesses to deal with the impact of coronavirus.

This includes the Development Bank of Wales' loan scheme element of the fund which has seen more than £90m offered or invested in 1,300-plus firms.

Work is continuing to develop further options to support those businesses, which have not yet been able to access help, such as start-up firms not eligible for the UK Government's Self Employment Income Support Scheme.

The eligibility checker for the next phase of the ERF is available at: <https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales>. ENDS.

Business Grants from the Welsh Government

The latest figures out today show that more than 56,000 grants have been paid to companies across the retail, leisure and hospitality sector whose property has a rateable value of £51,000 or less. These businesses are also benefitting from rates relief through the £1.4 billion package announced in March.

New applications to the scheme will close on 30 June and Ministers are urging any businesses that have not already done so, to contact their local authority about this support.

Finance Minister Rebecca Evans said:

We understand that businesses have been hit hard by the impact of the pandemic, and we have been doing all we can to ensure that businesses have access to the urgent funds they need as quickly as possible.

It has been a challenge, but thanks to the tireless efforts of local authorities and the WLGA in administering these grants, tens of thousands of businesses across Wales are already benefitting from this much-needed support.

Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales, Ken Skates added:

Our package of business support is the most comprehensive and generous in the UK, providing vital reassurance to thousands of firms across Wales at a time when they need it most.

We made a commitment to getting funds out to businesses as quickly as possible and local authorities have played a key role in ensuring that hundreds of millions of pounds has reached them.

We continue to do all we can to ensure that a good business in 2019, will be a good business in 2021.

Councillor Anthony Hunt (Torfaen), WLGA spokesperson said:

I am truly grateful to the many council workers in all parts of Wales who have acted quickly to make sure that this vital support goes to where it's needed.

- The extraordinary sum of cash support which has been handed to businesses so far reflects the extraordinary scale of the crisis. It has been a lifeline for thousands of businesses at a very tough time. I would urge any firms eligible for the scheme to apply as soon as possible to make sure they don't miss out. [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): support for businesses Business funding and support: coronavirus](#). First Published 10 June 2020



CYBER SECURITY

HMRC phishing scam

We have been alerted to a new phishing scam designed to steal personal and financial details from self-employed workers using the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS). Victims are informed via SMS that they may be eligible for a tax refund and are redirected to a website that looks like the official HMRC site but is designed to gather personal and financial information.

HMRC will never send notifications of a tax rebate or ask that personal or payment information be disclosed by email or text message. The [National Cyber Security Centre has further information](#) on dealing with, and reporting, suspicious messages of this kind.

The 'Zoom Bomb' phenomenon

Since the start of the Covid 19 lockdown, people have needed to find alternative ways to communicate with friends and family. Many are using Zoom – a popular video conferencing application that has seen a meteoric rise in popularity since the pandemic began. **However, unfamiliar users can leave themselves vulnerable to 'Zoom Bombing' where uninvited users gain access to the meeting for nefarious purposes. The attached guidance has been prepared by the National Cyber Security Centre – you can find more info on their website www.ncsc.gov.uk**

Additionally, the NPCC (National Police Chiefs' Council) have also produced some [guidance notes](#) and [tips](#) on running safe and secure meetings.

This arrived in my inbox at 16.42 today-Please verify information.

Sybil Bremner



Grow a Sunflower and make
our Village Shine



Get your Free Sunflower Seeds

tel 07985568627



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

RUABON

COMMUNITY

COUNCIL



HERE TO HELP

Do you or somebody you know need any help at this challenging time?

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 we can help with:

Picking up shopping

Collecting Prescriptions

A friendly phone call

Urgent supplies

Volunteers from Friends of Ruabon and Ruabon Community Council are here to help

We want you to know that you are not alone
Just contact us via any of the below and we will do our best to help you (for free)

Call or text: 07741 596 812 01978 824087

email: info@friendsofruabon.co.uk

Facebook: Friends of Ruabon Viral Kindness

Check phw.nhs.wales for the latest advice

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep. #ViralKindnessRuabon

YSGOL RHIWABON

Lego Competition – Week 6

Monday, 15th June 2020

This week's Lego challenge was to make a banquet table, the winner this week is...

Julia Piatek 7DRT, well done!

Mrs Wright-Davies.



In order to read the letter from the Melanie Ferron-Evans; Head Teacher of Ysgol Rhiwabon, about Ysgol Rhiwabon opening its doors once again to students, please click on the link below.

<https://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200605144301.pdf>

RUABON **WI** NEWSLETTER

NO. 8- JUNE 14th 2020

I have a song to sing you.....

Good morning, ladies,

I opened my curtains onto a new day. Yesterday we were blessed with a steady downpour of rain which was eagerly swallowed by the parched earth. What was becoming dust is now transformed into black, soft, productive soil and the heat of a few days ago lingers only in our memories. We don't know if there's more to come. We can only accept what we get, day by day, and try to prepare as best we can for the outcome. Our plans and our hopes sometimes come to nothing, and our disappointments often linger within us. Take, for instance, the failure of my sunflower seeds. After three attempts to provide a dazzling display for the village's Sunflower Enterprise, I fear I shall have to resort to plastic. Three times have they germinated, brave little shoots venturing into the outside world, loved and cared for as best I can, only to be attacked by nature's predatory forces. What is the problem? Is it a slug? Is it a bird? I see no sign of slugs but I have found compost scattered around the remains of my first sowing. Now the tiny shoots are being nipped off when I'm not looking. It's totally unfair. I suspect a cheeky blackbird but of course, we love nature, don't we? Or do we? I have sown my remaining

seeds direct into the ground, the Last Chance Saloon. Then it will be time for the plastic!

'I have a song to sing you', the opening line to a well-known song from 'The Yeomen of the Guard', words by W.S. Gilbert, music by Sir Arthur Sullivan. I have already told you a little of my time in Ghana. One of the best memories was being introduced to the work of these two gentlemen through joining a choir and performing, not 'The Yeomen of the Guard', but 'The Mikado'. It was a concert version, we stood as a choir and I didn't have to wear a funny hat. W. S. Gilbert's wit, married to the sparkling music of Sir Arthur Sullivan were, to me, an eye opener. No doubt some of you will know the songs already - 'I'm going to marry Yum-Yum' is one - and I remember the fun we all had, learning, practising and performing. I shall always be glad to have had the opportunity to take part.

Before I move on, (with something I hope that will make you smile) let me tell you how Gilbert described the lady Katisha, the baddie of the piece:-



'She could very well pass for forty-three
In the dark,
With the light behind her.'

Now that was not my only experience of singing.

'Thank God, we are a musical nation'
says the Rev. Eli Jenkins in Dylan

Thomas's 'Under Milk Wood'. Indeed. I was brought up in a musical household and was familiar with much of the classical repertoire. I had a love of singing and found the marriage of words to music to be wonderfully satisfying. I well remember my first 'public' performance. I was eight years old and in school. Lessons had finished for the day but there were still a few minutes before the bell rang. The teacher asked 'Who'd like to come to the front to sing something?' My hand shot up. 'Please, Miss,' sez I, 'I'll sing!' I made my way to the front of the class and prepared to sing 'Where the bee sucks there suck I' (Shakespeare, set to music by Dr. Thomas Arne) but had only managed one line when the bell rang. I was overcome by the stampede which then took place and I was abandoned, a 'maiden all forlorn'. I couldn't understand their lack of interest! Since then, I have overcome my disappointment. As the years went by I was able to sing in choirs wherever I went and particularly in Rhos and Wrexham. This area is fortunate to have a wealth of music and singing on its doorstep, so to speak, and when I joined the Wrexham and District Choral Society, under the leadership of Mme. Lottie Williams Parry, a new experience opened up before me. She led us into the worlds of Oratorio and Opera, monumental works full of drama and I shall never forget the wonderful sense of achievement we all felt after each performance.

Those halcyon days have gone, but what fine memories remain. I was one of a formidable phalanx of altos, unswayed by the chirruping of the sopranos or the solid underpinning of the men's sections. Oratorio and Opera are

not much performed nowadays, or not by amateur choirs. The male voice choirs still give us a lot of pleasure, long may they continue, but musical taste has changed greatly among younger people.

By the way, what a pity I didn't have a better voice! I began this letter just when the heatwave ended. My sunflowers were giving me great concern. They are now a thing of the past, eaten by a bird and beaten by the rain.

Perhaps I'll stick to something more familiar, something EVERYONE has - Tulips!

And as this year is going so fast, remember that **the four seasons are: Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper!**

Thank you once again to Margaret Williams for allowing us in to her world.

LOCAL DELIVERY MAN



Dennis Keating
Delivered to your door for free
Contact: 01778 823273

<p>Sacks of potatoes 7.5kg = £4 12.5kg = £5.50 25kg = £10.00</p> <p>We also sell New Cheshire potatoes. (Picked Daily)</p>	<p>Free Range Eggs Half dozen = £1.00 Dozen = £2.00 Tray = £5.00</p> 
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If you know of anyone who would like to receive the Ruabon News Letter each week by email (free of charge) please contact:

bremner.millhouse@btinternet.com.

This News Letter is only as good as the items received for publication. Please keep sending in your news and 'thank you.' Sybil Bremner.