

# RUABON NEWS LETTER 345

12.10.2020



## Maverick (The School's Mascot)

Welcomes year 7 pupils

## Ysgol Rhiwabon



Melanie Ferron Evans, Headteacher, gets to know each pupil in every group as they arrive.



**Carole Jones**, a member of the Cleaning Team at Ysgol Rhiwabon, recently retired after **31 years** of service at the school.

Carole was presented with many gifts from her friends at the school. Carole said: *' After 31 years here I felt the time was right to retire I will miss everyone at the school very much'*



To get to know more about Ysgol Rhiwabon <https://www.vsgolrhiwabon.co.uk>

## UK TRANSPORT MINISTER TO DISCUSS RUABON STATION STEP FREE ACCESS

From a Report by Wrexham County Borough Council



The campaign for step free access at Ruabon station continues to be one of the top priorities of Wrexham County Borough Council and the Chester to Shrewsbury Rail Partnership who have worked closely over the years with the Welsh Government and MS Ken Skates to secure funding from the UK Government under the "Access for All" scheme.

Cllr David A Bithell, Lead Member for Place, Environment and Transport and Chair of the Chester Shrewsbury Rail Partnership welcomed the news that Clwyd South MP Simon Baynes has secured a meeting with the Government Transport Minister to discuss the lack of step free access at this station.

Cllr. Bithell commented, 'We are very pleased to have Simon's support for this campaign and for securing this meeting. We documented the issues at this station as far back as 2006 and have been supporting bids to have the access addressed for some time. There has been support from the local elected members in Ruabon and from the community itself including a petition which the former MP presented to Parliament in 2017.

We very much hope that we can all work together to ensure Ruabon Station finally meets the needs of all passengers and look forward to the outcome of this meeting."

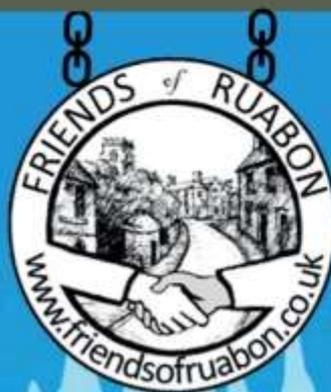


Coming Soon

Ruabon's Frost Fayre....  
*however this time its  
Virtual*

Keep your eyes peeled for more information on  
buying some amazing local made products.

If you would be interesting in exhibiting your  
exciting products, please don't hesitate to drop  
Friends of Ruabon a message and get involved.





Dear Crafters

## Exciting News about Friends of Ruabon Frost Fayre 2020

Friends of Ruabon are planning a Virtual Frost Fayre during November.

Due to the current situation we are not able to have the planned event on Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup> at The Wynnstay Arms Ruabon.

The virtual event will run in the following way:

- 1 Stall holders will need to register interest and a day in November will then be allocated.
- 2 Stall holders will need to provide either a short video of stall items or a series of photographs of items and prices then email the information to me.
- 3 The video or photographs will then be posted on the Friends of Ruabon Facebook page and circulated to as many people as possible.
- 4 You may wish to show a video of how you made your items. This can be posted too.
- 5 If you already have a website/Facebook page, please send the link.
- 6 All videos/photos/links would need to be sent in to [sarahmather13@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahmather13@btinternet.com) by October 31<sup>st</sup>
- 7 Friends of Ruabon are asking for a donation of £5 for your stall to be part of the virtual event. This can be either sent electronically by BACS transfer/ PayPal or by cheque (made payable to Friends of Ruabon) and sent to Sarah Giles at 1 The Villas, New High Street, Ruabon, Wrexham LL14 6NW.
- 8 We can assist with technical support in getting you up and running.
- 9 We hope to be able to have a 'Click and Collect' morning at The Wynnstay Arms on December 6<sup>th</sup> for customers to collect purchases. This would be by appointment and more details concerning this will be circulated in November. Alternatively, you may wish to post out purchases direct to your customers.

2020 has been such a challenging year and I know that you will have been busy with all your creative ventures. Following the success of last year's Frost Fayre, Friends of Ruabon wanted to try and do something festive for the local community. Please do take part in this exciting virtual event and don't worry about the technical aspect as we will be able to offer you some support.

Please call me on 07789 727413 if you need any further information about the Virtual Frost Fayre.

Look forward to hearing from you

Sarah Giles (Friends of Ruabon)

## Small Grants 2020

**Ruabon Community Council** is inviting local Groups and Organisations to submit applications for small grants which the Council provide to support the community each year.

Bids indicating details of how the grant will be used should be submitted in writing to:

The Clerk, Ruabon Community Council by letter to:  
The Village Hall, Maes y Llan Lane, Ruabon LL14 6AD  
or by e-mail to: [clerk@ruaboncommunitycouncil.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@ruaboncommunitycouncil.gov.wales)

All applications should be received no later than 5pm  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Signed: *H Belton*

Clerk to Ruabon Community Council"

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### A Message from Wrexham County Borough Council

Unfortunately the 'My Council House' service is no longer available. We are working towards providing a replacement service, however in the meantime if you wish to enquire about your rent, you can contact your local estate office who will be happy to help or update any contact details for you.

Alternatively you can email [housing@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:housing@wrexham.gov.uk)



## **Economic Resilience Fund - Find out if your business is eligible for support from the third phase**

Businesses across Wales can now find out if they can apply for funding from the third phase of the Economic Resilience Fund (ERF).

Economy Minister Ken Skates announced the new phase of the fund last week which will see an additional £140m being made available to businesses.

The eligibility checker will enable businesses to see if they can access the £80m tranche of the fund which will support firms with projects that can help them transition to the economy of tomorrow. It will require co-investment from companies and a clear plan about how they will adjust to the post-covid economy. Of this, £20m will be ring fenced to support tourism and hospitality businesses who are facing particular challenges as they enter the winter months.

The Welsh Government is currently working with local authorities and the Welsh Local Government Association on the detail of the £60m Local Lockdown Business Fund that will support businesses impacted by local restrictions. Further information on how to access this fund will be published shortly on the Business Wales website.

*Economy Minister Ken Skates said: “Welsh Government support has been crucial for businesses throughout Wales in dealing with the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic.*

*“Key to this has been our unique Economic Resilience Fund which has already helped protect more than 100,000 jobs.*

*“Today we are opening the eligibility checker for the next £80m of the fund so businesses can find out if they are likely to benefit. We have deliberately ringfenced £20m of this money for tourism*

*and hospitality businesses because we recognise the particular pressures they are under at this challenging time.*

*“The application process will open during the week of 26th October. We will also be providing further information on how businesses impacted by local lockdowns can access a share of the £60m we have committed for this purpose very soon.”*

The £80m worth of business development grants will be open to micro businesses, SMEs and large businesses.

- Micro businesses (employing between 1 and 9 people) will be able to apply for up to £10k on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 10 per cent.
- SMEs (employing between 10 and 249 people) will be able to apply for up to £150K on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 10% for small business (1-49 staff) and 20% for medium sized (50-249) business.
- Large businesses (employing 250+ people) will be able to apply for up to £200K on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 50%.

The Eligibility Checker for this part of the fund can be found at:  
<https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales/erfphase3>

The Local Lockdown Business Fund, worth up to £60m, will provide grants based on the Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) system to businesses who meet eligibility requirements and have been materially impacted by local lockdown. More detail will be available on the Business Wales website shortly.

Eligible Retail, leisure and hospitality businesses in Wales occupying properties with a rateable value of between £12,001 and £51,000 could access a grant worth £1,500.

A £1,000 grant will be available to eligible businesses that have a rateable value of £12,000 or less.

**ENDS**



# **PUMPKIN**

## **DECORATING COMPETITION**

**18<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Submit all photos to  
[info@friendsofruabon.co.uk](mailto:info@friendsofruabon.co.uk)**

**Submit your best pumpkin designs for your chance to win a  
fun prize!**

**Winner announced on the 1<sup>st</sup> November**



## Universal Skills: Universal Credit and Job Match

### Wrexham Library Service

has a resource which takes you through making a claim for universal credit and also through the jobs match portal. In addition to this it can also teach you basic computer skills such as using a mouse. The site has some detail about preparing for an interview, CV writing tips and more. Each section is broken down into modules and you can check to see which modules you have completed. This invaluable resource is available from the library's webpages [www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries) (follow the online services link) and can be accessed at home or in the library; **BUT**, you will need a valid library card



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**ST MARY'S CHURCH** is now holding a service of Holy



Communion every Sunday at 9.30am. We will be delighted to welcome you, please wear a face mask and observe social distancing when you come.

We can now hold weddings, baptisms and funerals in church. Numbers are limited to 30 people at the moment. Wedding bookings are being taken for 2021 onwards.

Up to date information and online services can be found on our website: <https://stmaryschurchruabon.co.uk/>

The Vicar's phone number is: 01978 824087

N Wales & NW England

**Rotary**

Passport



Wrexham Hub

Registered charity No: 1027490

This year the Rotary Passport Wrexham Hub are pleased to be donating Christmas Rainbow Bags at the local Food Banks to children aged 10 and under

***Some examples of donations we are looking for include but are not limited to:-***

Story Books

**Small Toys**

Bubble Bath

**Chocolates and Sweets**

Yoyo

**Harmonica**

Pens & Notepads



***Drop-off points in Wrexham are at:-***

Everland Fish Bar, Market Street

Happy Hedgehog Café,

Queensway

Howdens, Rhosddu Industrial

Estate

No22 Café Ty Pawb, Market

Street

Morrisons Supermarket

St Margaret's Church, Chester

## FACEBOOK

### COMMUNITIES FOR WORK ARE HERE AND READY TO HELP



Make sure you check out our Facebook page with daily updates on job opportunities, online training, hints and tips for you and the family for getting through this challenging time.



Cymunedau am waith  
Communities for Work



Look out for

- ONLINE TRAINING
- TIPS OF STUFF TO DO WITH THE KIDS
- ONLINE CRAFT/COOKING/GARDENING WORKSHOPS
- JOB OPPORTUNITIES
- LINKS TO USEFUL WEBSITES AND THE LATEST EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

For general enquiries

contact us on:

07976200413/07976200414

Or email: [cfw@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:cfw@wrexham.gov.uk)



Cymunedau am waith  
Communities for Work



## FACEBOOK

### MAE CYMUNEDAU AM WAITH YMA AC YN BAROD I HELPU



Dwnewch yn siŵr eich bod yn cael golwg ar ein tudalen Facebook gyda diweddariadau dyddiol ar gyfleoedd am swyddi, hyfforddiant ar-lein a chyngor i chi a'r teulu ymdopi drwy'r cyfnod heriol hwn.



Cymunedau am waith  
Communities for Work



Edrychwch allan am

- HYFFORDDIANT AR-LEIN
- CYNGOR AR BETHAU I WNEUD GYDA'R PLANT
- GWEITHDAI CREFFT AR-LEIN/COGINIO/GARDDIO
- CYFLEOEDD GWAITH
- DOLENNI I WEFANAU DEFNYDDIOL A'R WYBODAETH CYFLOGAETH DDIWEDDARAF

For general enquiries

contact us on:

07976200413/07976200414

Or email: [cfw@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:cfw@wrexham.gov.uk)



Cymunedau am waith  
Communities for Work



## Autumn Colours from Kathy and Mike's Garden



# Businessline



Please find below our latest, comprehensive update about COVID-19 – we have also added some additional information about BREXIT and the transition period at the end of the update.

Apologies for the length of this update, but hopefully you will find some useful resources contained within it.

## LATEST

**Rishi Sunak has just announced that employees who work for UK firms forced to shut by law because of coronavirus restrictions are to get two-thirds of their wages paid for by the government.**

You can see his speech here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpv80jqliPQ>

The scheme will begin on 1 November and run for six months.

A restrictions update, which could see pubs and restaurants shut in the worst-affected areas, is expected on Monday.

The support will be reviewed in January. Until November businesses that are asked to close can continue to use the furlough scheme.

The grants will be paid up to a maximum of £2,100 per employee a month.

The support will only apply to businesses that have to close as a result of government regulations, but as yet it is not clear which firms may have to close.

*In addition, for businesses forced to close in **England**, the chancellor announced an increase in business grants - with up to £3,000 a month paid every fortnight. The Treasury says the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will receive increased funding allowing them to bring in similar measures if they choose to.*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/job-support-scheme-expanded-to-firms-required-to-close-due-to-covid-restrictions>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-54481817>

## REMINDERS

### **Creative Industries Freelancer Grant Reminder**

The Freelancer Grant fund opened for applications on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October and is running over two phases. Individuals can apply for a £2,500 grant and are asked to check their eligibility by visiting the [Eligibility Checker](#) for the Cultural Recovery Fund before submitting an application. The fund is open to freelancers in the sub sectors of arts, creative industries, arts and heritage events, culture and heritage, whose work has direct creative/cultural outcomes.

**Please note applications in Wrexham are currently still open:**

<https://www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/covid-19-support-businesses/wales-culture-recovery-fund-freelancer-support>

### **ERF Phase 3 - eligibility checker now open**

<https://fundchecker.businesswales.gov.wales/erfphase3>

Businesses across Wales can now find out if they can apply for funding from the third phase of the Economic Resilience Fund (ERF).

- micro businesses (employing between 1 and 9 people) will be able to apply for up to £10,000 on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 10 per cent
- SMEs (employing between 10 and 249 people) will be able to apply for up to £150,000 on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 10% for small business (1-49 staff) and 20% for medium sized (50-249) business
- large businesses (employing 250+ people) will be able to apply for up to £200,000 on the condition they match this with their own investment of at least 50%

The grant fund will be open for applications from the week commencing 26 October 2020 and remain open for four weeks.

### **Job retention scheme**

*This month the government will pay 60% of wages up to a cap of £1,875. Employers will pay employers national insurance and pension contributions and 20% of wages to make up 80% total up to a cap of £2,500. For the average claim, this represents 23% of the gross employment costs the employer would have incurred had the employee not been furloughed.*

## **Job support scheme**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/job-support-scheme>

The Job Support Scheme is designed to protect viable jobs in businesses who are facing lower demand over the winter months due to Covid-19, to help keep their employees attached to the workforce. The scheme will open on 1 November 2020 and run for 6 months.

The company will continue to pay its employee for time worked, but the cost of hours not worked will be split between the employer, the Government (through wage support) and the employee (through a wage reduction), and the employee will keep their job.

The Government will pay a third of hours not worked up to a cap, with the employer also contributing a third. This will ensure employees earn a minimum of 77% of their normal wages, where the Government contribution has not been capped.

Employers using the Job Support Scheme will also be able to claim the Job Retention Bonus if they meet the eligibility criteria.

## **Self Employed Income Support Scheme Extension**

The SEISS is being extended from 1 November 2020 – find out more here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension>

## **Brexit**

A few useful resources to help with preparations for the transition period:

### **Business Support Webinars**

The UK has left the EU and is leaving the EU single market and customs union. The end of the transition period means businesses should take action now to prepare for guaranteed changes and new rules from January 2021. To support business preparations the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is hosting free webinars to help you check the new rules and understand the actions to take.

The live sessions start next week and will take place at the following times:

- [Services and investment](#) – 11am, Tuesday 13 October 2020
- [Retail](#) – 11am, Wednesday 14 October 2020
- [Automotive](#) – 2pm, Wednesday 14 October 2020
- [Metals and other materials](#) – 11am, Tuesday 20 October 2020

- [Electronics and machinery](#) – 11am, Wednesday 21 October 2020
- [Consumer goods](#) – 11am, Thursday 22 October 2020
- [Life Sciences](#) – 11am, Tuesday 27 October 2020
- [Construction](#) – 11am, Wednesday 28 October 2020
- [Aerospace](#) – 11am, Thursday 29 October 2020

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/news-and-blogs/news/business-support-webinars-%E2%80%93-transition-period>

#### **Using personal data in your business or other organisation after the transition period**

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-after-brexit?utm\\_source=910c58ac-3d77-44f2-98a9-430241bfd76&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-after-brexit?utm_source=910c58ac-3d77-44f2-98a9-430241bfd76&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)

#### **Marking, labelling and marketing standards from 1 January 2021**

<https://businesswales.gov.wales/news-and-blogs/news/markings-labelling-and-marketing-standards-1-january-2021>

**Businessline**  
**Wrexham Library**  
**Rhosddu Road**  
**Wrexham**  
**LL11 1AU**

**Telephone: 01978 292092**

**Email: [businessline@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:businessline@wrexham.gov.uk)**

**Website:**  
**[www.wrexham.gov.uk/businessline](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/businessline)**



# tŷ pawb

Marchnadoedd — Cymuned — Celfyddydau  
Markets — Community — Arts



## Tŷ Pawb Open

An exhibition celebrating lockdown creativity

Artwork from over 100 artists from across Wales and the UK

**03/10/2020 - 23/12/2020** Wed-Sat, 10am-4pm

Booking advised - visit [typawb.wales/ty-pawb-open](http://typawb.wales/ty-pawb-open)

Gallery opening times subject to change due to COVID-19, please check website for latest details

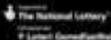
Market Street, Wrexham LL13 8BB 01978 292144

Photo credit: Estelle Woolley (Social Distance)

tŷ pawb



Wrexham Arts Council of Wales



The National Lottery  
Lleoliad Gwladfa



Wrexham Arts Council of Wales

# Ruabon Library

High Street,

Ruabon

LL14 6NH

☎01978 822002

✉ruabon.library@wrexham.gov.uk

🌐[www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries)

📘Wrexham Libraries

🐦@WxmLibraries

## Temporary Opening Hours

Monday 12.00pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday Closed

Wednesday 12.00pm – 5.00pm

Thursday 9.00am – 1.15pm

Friday 12.00pm – 5.00pm

Order & Collect Service

by

appointment only

**Have you been to your local library?**

**Go on -discover something new: there's something  
for everyone!**



# Llyfrgell Rhiwabon

Y Stryd Fawr,  
Rhiwabon  
LL14 6NH

☎01978 822002

✉ruabon.library@wrexham.gov.uk

🌐[www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries)

📘Llyfrgelloedd Wreccsam

🐦@LlyfrgellWcm

Oriau agor dros dro

Llun 12.00 yp – 5.00yp

Mawrth Ar gau

Mercher 12.00 yp - 5.00yp

Iau 9.00 yb – 1.15yp

Gwener 12.00 yp – 5.00yp

Gwasanaeth Archebu a Chasglu Apwyntiad yn unig

**Ydych chi wedi bod yn eich llyfrgell leol?**

**Dewch i ddarganfod**

**rhywbeth newydd:**

**mae yna rhywbeth i bawb!**





## John Downman

(Second Report) by Ennys Hughes

The last time I wrote about the artist John Downman (1750-1824), who was born in Ruabon and died in Wrexham. I have since found out a little more about him.

Those of you who watch the television programme: "Fake or Fortune", will know that Fiona Bruce's co-presenter is the art expert Philip Mould. He has an art gallery in St James's London: 'The Philip Mould and Company Gallery'.

I happened to look on the website the other evening and to my surprise and delight discovered that currently there are paintings by our John Downman on exhibition and for sale.

There is also information about him. " He mainly painted portraiture and the aristocratic and fashionable flocked to his studio ..... Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, and the queen of tragic actresses Sarah Siddons ".

The portrait miniatures specialist Emma Rutherford says that " In many ways he worked like a modern fashion photographer, capturing a snapshot of a moment in time.....The relaxed nature of his portraits and fast method used to capture his sitters, allowed a glimpse into the private world of the rich and famous"

His paintings were not grand oil paintings, he used a blend of black chalk and stump over graphite, with highlights of watercolour. They are personal and quite informal pictures with domestic details, and Downman hoped that such highly personalised images would "diffuse friendship and renew

Affection, even after Death; for what is represented faithfully not only delights but is ever a soothing memoir, that revives the dearest feelings".

His first studies are preserved in albums in the British Museum and the Fitzwilliam Museum.

The paintings can be seen on the gallery website and they are charming .The mystery of course is: why did such a successful painter come to live in Wrexham at the end of his life, in what was presumably, relative poverty.

I sent the information I have to the Gallery and they were pleased to receive it. I wonder if any more information will come to light?

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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](mailto:bremner.millhouse@btinternet.com).

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