

Ruabon News Letter 352

30.11.2020

£340m Support for Welsh Businesses as New Coronavirus Rules Announced

A set of new targeted restrictions in the hospitality and leisure sectors, together with a £340m support package, has been announced by First Minister Mark Drakeford.

The new measures are being introduced as cases of coronavirus accelerate in Wales once again, eroding the gains achieved during the recent firebreak period.

From Friday, pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes will have to close by 6pm and will not be allowed to serve alcohol. After 6pm they will only be able to provide takeaway services.

Indoor entertainment and visitor attractions must also close.

First Minister Mark Drakeford, said:

"Unfortunately, the virus is moving incredibly quickly across Wales and is eroding the gains we made during the firebreak period. We now need to take further steps together as a nation to protect people's health and slow the spread of coronavirus."

"This virus - and this pandemic - continues to be full of unpleasant surprises. It thrives on our normal human behaviour and all those places and opportunities where we come together."

"It underlines why we need to take further, targeted action now. We will focus these changes on places where we meet and where coronavirus thrives, drawing on recent evidence"

from the UK SAGE group of experts about what interventions have had the biggest impact on the virus."

The Welsh Government is making a further £340m available through the Economic Resilience Fund to support businesses affected by the new changes to the regulations. It will include a specific fund to support hospitality and tourism businesses.

The new Welsh Government support is split into two funds: a £160m Restrictions Business Fund and a £180m sector-specific Economic Resilience Fund grant scheme.

The Restrictions Business Fund will enable eligible businesses in the hospitality, tourism and leisure sectors which pay non-domestic rates (NDR) to access grants of up to £5,000.

It is estimated around 60,000 businesses, with a rateable value of under £150,000 will receive this support.

Businesses not on the NDR system, will be able to continue to apply to local authorities for the Lockdown Discretionary Grant of up to £2,000.

In addition, hospitality, tourism and leisure businesses will be able to access a **sector specific Economic Resilience Fund grant scheme**.

Small and medium sized businesses meeting the criteria could receive up to £100k. Larger Welsh-based businesses could receive up to a maximum of £150k.

This part of the package is expected to support up to 8,000 businesses in these sectors and a further 2,000 in the related supply chains.

More information about the funding and how it can be accessed will be published on the Business Wales website in the coming days.

Economy Minister Ken Skates said:

"These are incredibly difficult days for businesses and these decisions have not been taken lightly.

"We expect today's £340m announcement to support tens of thousands of businesses and help protect many more jobs and livelihoods. It must also be remembered that UK Government support is also available to businesses.

"We will continue to do everything we can to support our firms and our people through these challenging times."

FREE FLU VACCINE now available for
OVER 50s across WALES

From next week [Tuesday 1 December] NHS Wales' free flu vaccination will be available for anyone aged 50 or over, it has been announced.

Earlier this year the Welsh Government committed to the roll-out of Wales' largest ever influenza vaccination programme to protect people from the risks of flu.

The Welsh Government secured nearly 460,000 additional vaccines for 2020/21 and these are currently being made available to all GP practices and community pharmacies in Wales.

Those aged 50 and over should now expect to be contacted by their GP practice or can contact their local pharmacy to arrange a vaccination.

By mid-November more than 750,000 vulnerable people, NHS staff and schoolchildren in Wales had taken up the offer of a free flu vaccine. Of those aged over 65, 70% had

also been vaccinated - levels substantially higher than during the same period last year.

The Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething, said,

"This winter more and more people in Wales are taking-up the offer of a free flu vaccine. We have made great progress to protect the most vulnerable in our community and a further 460,000 people in Wales will now be able to benefit from the protection the vaccine offers them and our NHS services."

"Extending the flu vaccine to everyone aged 50 or over will help prevent more people becoming ill and reduce pressure on the NHS this winter. I would urge anyone who is eligible to follow the example of the huge numbers of people vaccinated already and have the vaccine."

The Chief Medical Officer for Wales, Frank Atherton, said:
"Everyone who is eligible for a NHS flu vaccine can be confident about having it to protect themselves and those around them this winter. Rolling-out the vaccine to all over 50s will protect them and others in our communities in every part of Wales and help protect the NHS this winter."

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board **TAKEN OUT OF SPECIAL MEASURES**

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board is to be taken out of special measures, the Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething has confirmed today (Tuesday 24th November).

The health board will be de-escalated from special measures to targeted intervention with immediate effect.

Services including maternity and out-of-hours, have already come out of special measures in 2019.

Vaughan Gething said: "I have decided that Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board will come out of special measures and move into targeted intervention. My decision is informed by the advice I received following a meeting between the Chief Executive of NHS Wales, Healthcare Inspectorate Wales and Audit Wales.

"We have seen improvements across the health board and have greater confidence that it will make further progress. Throughout the pandemic the organisation has worked hard to play its role in caring for people affected by the virus. During what has been an unsettling time for public health across the world, I'm pleased to announce this positive news for North Wales and NHS Wales."

Local Member of the Senedd, Ken Skates, said:

"Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, NHS staff in North Wales have worked heroically to help protect people.

Today's welcome news that BCUHB has come out of special measures is recognition of how the health board has managed the pandemic and implemented significant improvements.

"The work of improving health services in North Wales will continue and today's announcement will provide very welcome assurance to patients and staff that Betsi Cadwaladr is heading in the right direction."

The Health Minister added: "I want to thank everyone at the health board who has contributed to improving services. The progress has only been made because of the

commitment and hard work of our staff. Whilst there has been improvement, there are still areas of concern such as mental health and the health board fully recognises there is still further work to do. Targeted intervention is still a heightened level of escalation that requires significant action on the part of the health board.

"The Welsh Government has committed a further £82m per year over three-and-a-half years to support the health board as it enters a new phase under targeted intervention and continues its ongoing work to improve. This substantial investment will be used to improve unscheduled care; build sustainable planned care, including orthopaedics; and deliver improvements in mental health services."

FOUR NATIONS AGREE NEW RULES FOR THE FESTIVE PERIOD

A broad set of UK-wide measures to help people come together with their loved ones during the festive period, in a way that is as safe as possible, have been agreed by the governments of the UK's four nations.

Speaking after a meeting of the four governments, the First Minister of Wales, Mark Drakeford said:

"This has been a very long and difficult year for everyone. All our lives have been turned upside down by the coronavirus pandemic.

"Everyone has done so much to help control the spread of the virus and to save lives. But that has meant many sacrifices, including not seeing family and close friends. We are all looking forward to Christmas and a chance to spend some time with all those we hold dear.

"Today, I met the First Ministers of Scotland and Northern Ireland and Michael Gove, from the UK Government, and I'm pleased we were able to agree a common four-nation plan for the festive period."

The text of a joint statement issued by the four UK governments:

As 2020 draws to a close, we recognise it has been an incredibly difficult year for us all. We have all had to make significant sacrifices in our everyday lives, and many religious and community groups have already had to change or forgo their customary celebrations to slow the spread of coronavirus and save lives.

This cannot be a 'normal' Christmas. But as we approach the festive period, we have been working closely together to find a way for family and friends to see each other, even if it is for a short time, and recognising that it must be both limited and cautious.

Even where it is within the rules, meeting with friends and family over Christmas will be a personal judgement for individuals to take, mindful of the risks to themselves and others, particularly those who are vulnerable. We need everyone to think carefully about what they do during this period, balancing some increased social contact with the need to keep the risk of increased transmission of the virus as low as possible. This is particularly important when considering those who are vulnerable, and before deciding to come together over the festive period we urge the consideration of alternative approaches such as the use of technology or meeting outside.

In this context, the four administrations have reached agreement on a single set of UK-wide measures to help

people come together with their loved ones in a way that is as safe as possible.

Today we have agreed that:

- Travel restrictions across the four administrations and between tiers will be lifted to provide a window for households to come together between the 23rd and 27th of December.
- Up to three households can form an exclusive 'bubble' to meet at home during this period. When a bubble is formed it is fixed, and must not be changed or extended further at any point.
- Each Christmas bubble can meet at home, at a place of worship or an outdoor public place, but existing, more restrictive rules on hospitality and meeting in other venues will be maintained throughout this period.

It is important that everyone respects and abides by the rules of each nation wherever they choose to spend the festive period. Where there are any variations in our approach, these will be communicated by each administration accordingly. Further guidance will be provided in due course.

The winter holiday period is a time often spent with family and friends, with schools and offices closing and people travelling over the bank holidays. Many have already begun making their plans, and we are today providing clarity to help people make the right choices for them, and enjoy time with those closest to them while staying within the rules to protect us all.



Ruabon Community Council



Christmas in Ruabon 2020

**Ruabon Community Council
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ONLINE EVENT
Launches on Facebook 4th December 6.30pm**

**St Mary's Church Ruabon
VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
Launches on Facebook 4th December**

Friends of Ruabon NON STOP SANTA TOUR

**5th December Ruabon
8th December Black Park
& Rhosymedre
9th December Pen-y-Cae
10th December Plas Madoc
& Acrefair
12th December Cefn Mawr
13th December Johnstown**

Plus

**Friends of Ruabon
Virtual Frost Fayre**

**View all stalls on
Facebook**

**ALL TOURS
EARLY EVENING**

**For your safety
due to Covid-19:**

- * **No Stops**
- * **No Sweets**
- * **Wave from
your doorstep**



**Further Details
Call Sarah
07789 727413**



YSGOL RHIWABON



Hot Chocolate Friday reward with the Headteacher.

Hot chocolate, cream & marshmallows are the order of the day as rewards to pupils for various examples of excellent work, behaviour & dedication.



Certificates presented by the Headteacher.

There WILL be a Christmas Tree Festival in St Mary's Church this year!

We would like the trees to come into church during the week
beginning Monday 30th November so that they are all there by
Saturday 5th December.

Please keep your trees to no more than 5ft tall, and they can be decorated to advertise your group or business.

Once the trees are in place they will be videoed and put on social media so everyone can see them.

Please let me know whether you would like to put up a tree, thank you. (katherinetiltman@gmail.com).

St Mary's Church



The Church is now open again for Sunday services at
9.30am every Sunday.

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

The Vicar's phone number is: 01978 824087 and her
email address (katherinetiltman@gmail.com).

News from Ruabon Library



Take a look at Elliot's Book Nook!

Mwynhewch eich darllen Nadoligaidd gan Lyfrgell Rhiwabon!

Enjoy your festive read from Ruabon Library!

“Whether it’s a festive family saga, or a murder mystery is your favourite book.

If James Patterson is what you’re after, or just can’t cook.”

If you, too need help with your poetry skills,

Ruabon Library is open for Order & Collect...

You can email ruabon.library@wrexham.gov.uk, or phone 01978 822002 with the books you would like to order, or complete an online form via www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries, where you can also browse the library catalogue.

Staff will do their best to get your order as quickly as they can and will contact you to arrange an appointment. An appointment is needed for both collection and returns at the moment.

The staff will be more than happy to make a selection for you, or your children if you’re undecided. Give us a call, we are happy to help!

Oriau Agor Dros Dro/Temporary Hours

Llun/Monday 12.00 – 5.00

Mawrth/Tuesday Ar gau/closed

Mercher/Wednesday 12.00 – 5.00

Iau/Thursday 9.00 – 1.15

Gwener/Friday 12.00 – 5.00



**Canolfan Darganfod Gwyddoniaeth
Science Discovery Centre**

COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

A piece of art will be constructed in the walkway by Henblas Street entrance by a local artist using as many ideas submitted from the community as possible.

All entries featured in the artwork will be invited to a special evening unveiling event.

A **Star Entry** will be chosen and receive a £20 gift voucher for our shop.

SUBMISSIONS WELCOME FROM ALL





Community Art Competition

A piece of art will be constructed in the walkway by Henblas Street using as many ideas submitted as possible.

How to enter? Draw a picture of your favourite interactive exhibit at Xplore! remember to include yourself in the drawing too. Drawings can be black & white or in colour and should be drawn in pencil, pen, crayon or felt tip. We are looking for A4 basic line drawings only.

Hand your drawing into a member of staff or email a copy of it to projects@xplorescience.co.uk.

Submissions welcome from all

Make sure to submit your work before **17/01/2021** for it to be considered.

All entries featured in the artwork will be invited to a special evening unveiling event. A **Star Entry** will be chosen and receive a £20 gift voucher for our shop.

Please include your name and contact email on your submission



Even more good news from Derek Jones:

- 1 The Ty Pawb Gallery is now open again and the Ty Pawb Open Exhibition is on show. I attach details and the link to find out more and FREE to attend booking details are at www.typawb.wales
- 2 Ty Pawb Friday Night Music is being live streamed at 7.30pm from the Ty Pawb Facebook page which can be viewed here <https://www.facebook.com/TyPawb>
- 3 Xplore have launched a Community Art Project for their new location between Henblas Street and Chester Street. Details are attached and their web site address is <https://xplorescience.co.uk/>

Given all the positive and encouraging news, we are becoming more hopeful that WSO music will be able to resume in 2021... possibly in May... but we are not getting beyond ourselves just yet.

Live Music Showcase remains on hold and a further discussion will take place in January as to what options may be to resume the Thursday lunchtime concerts. Derek Jones +44 7889 379591

A Message from Friends of Ruabon:



THANK YOU to everyone who nominated anyone for the cream teas, **nominations are now closed!**

❤ We managed to deliver 93 this time around, here's a text we received from someone who's

Mum lives in Ruabon:-

"You've made my Mum's day, thank you, she's quite overwhelmed!"

We certainly hope we bought a little enjoyment to the lives of those 93 residents! 😊

SENT IN BY ALISON HAMLINGTON ON BEHALF OF FRIENDS OF RUABON



Schoolchildren asked to design **First Minister's Christmas card**



The winning card will be sent to the Queen and US President-elect Joe Biden.

First Minister Mark Drakeford is asking budding young artists to enter this year's Christmas card competition. The winning design will be chosen by the First Minister and used as his official Christmas card.

The First Minister sends his Christmas card to thousands of people around the world, including to the Queen and to the President-elect of the United States, Joe Biden, and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris.

While rainbows may not be traditionally associated with Christmas, the children, who must be aged seven to 11 to enter the competition, are being asked to pay tribute to the efforts of critical workers during the pandemic by using their imagination to incorporate the colourful symbol into their design.

First Minister Mark Drakeford said:

"I'm looking forward to seeing my desk, which is usually piled high with work papers, covered in brightly-coloured designs and festive rainbows.

"We all need a little cheering up after a difficult year and a rainbow never fails to make me smile. I'm really looking forward to seeing the results of the children's imaginations in my post bag!"

Entry Guidance

- The closing date for the competition is **Wednesday 2nd December**
- The competition is open to school-aged children in years three to six (age seven to 11)
- The design could include a rainbow and a Christmas star
- All entries should be to a maximum size of A4 (210mm x 297mm) and can be in portrait or landscape orientation

- All entries should be "flat" - no uneven surfaces, no cotton wool, glitter etc.
- Bright, vibrant colours reproduce well
- Dark backgrounds should be avoided
- If you want to include text on the artwork then please ask your teacher for help with translation or use Google Translate. Here are some standard phrases too: Nadolig Llawen- Merry Christmas / Cyfarchion y Tymor- Season's Greetings. Please put Welsh first followed by English.
- Please include the person's name and contact details with the entry
- Please note that unfortunately we will not be able to return any entries.
- Images made on a computer device can be sent by email. Non-digital designs can still be sent by email - please take a clear and well-lit photograph of your hard-copy design, but please keep the original artwork so you can send it in if you are successful.
- Email your entries to cabinetcommunications@gov.wales or by post to: First Minister's Christmas Card competition, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ.



Messages from: Dave Williams of CALON fm:

1. "I have recorded an interview with Claire Holliman from: TOTAL TRI TRAINING. It will be broadcast just before Christmas in the week beginning 21 December.
2. Thanks to Rachel Chamberlain from "Rise And Shine" Day nursery.
3. Back on Monday at 9am with Sarah Giles from "Friends Of Ruabon" and at 12-1pm at lunchtime with Katharine Wilding from "Angel Feathers".
4. Next week: Gem Jones from "Designed To Smile", Sarah Griffiths chatting about her health and beauty business, Karen Edwards from the Salvation Army and Deb Sima from North Wales Air Ambulance.

Eloise Pinchera, Head of Research and Evaluation at Social Change UK, a social research and campaign company specialising in behavioural insights and behaviour change.

We are currently working on an important project on behalf of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) and Betsi Cadwaladr Public Health Team (Public Health Wales NHS Trust).

The project: **"Healthy Weight in Childhood" Research**

The project is research work focused on healthy weight in childhood across North Wales. This is an important area of focus. It will enable us to generate a greater understanding of behaviour, attitudes, motivations, influences, needs, barriers and experiences towards healthy weight in childhood. This will be used to:

Enable the public health team to better understand and engage with children and their families with healthy weight messages; and

To support the development of a comprehensive package of support for parents and guardians of those children identified as overweight or obese.

Survey with parents and guardians

A key part of the research work is a **survey with parents and guardians of children aged 5 to 18 years old**. The survey will help us to understand parents' views and experiences about healthy weight in childhood. It will explore their attitudes, motivators and influences towards healthy weight management. The survey will examine the potential barriers and current behaviours that may be inhibiting a positive behavioural outcome.

The results from the survey will be used to help inform the insights overall. It will guide the next stage of the research which will be focused on gathering deeper understanding about people's views and experiences through either one-to-one interviews or online focus groups.

How you can help

The survey is available in both Welsh and English with the survey links below:

Welsh language

survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/childhoodweightCymraeg/>

English language survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/childhoodweightEnglish/>

We would really appreciate your support

To share the survey with parents and guardians, you can simply copy and paste / share the text below:

Take part in this 10 minute survey to share your views on healthy weight in childhood and help NHS Wales in developing their services and support to families across North Wales - you'll be in with the chance of winning a £100 book voucher as a thank you for taking part!

Welsh language

survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/childhoodweightCymraeg/>

English language survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/childhoodweightEnglish/>

If you have any questions on the above, or would like further information about the project overall, please contact Eloise Pinchera: eloise@social-change.co.uk (0207 186 1980).

Many thanks in advance for your support.

Eloise Pinchera; Head of Research and Evaluation

New Lincoln HQ; Phone: 01522 775060

29 - 31 Mint St, Lincoln, LN1 1UB, London

Phone: 020 7186 1980.



Wrexham Symphony Orchestra



Dear Friends and Supporters

Well we are nearly at the end of November 2020 (yes it is 2020!) and **we should be** enjoying musicians from the Royal Northern College of Music for our Live Music Showcase in Ty Pawb and

preparing for the Orchestra's final concert of the year on Saturday with Stephen Threlfall who led our memorable Royal British Legion Armistice Commemoration in 2018.

The news that broke on December 31st 2019 about a virus circulating in Wuhan province in a remote part of China was, at the time, of little significance as many of us were focused on the New Year celebrations and looking forward to 2020 after all the challenges around the B_____T word.

Many of us were just relieved that we could start the New Year and not wake up every morning to the news programmes and endure the 24/7 rolling news programmes where there was only one topic in the headlines. When we got to the wild and 'Storm Jorge' night of February 29th and the occasion of our President's Annual Concert with our guest soloist Luke Jones, we could not have imagined that live music performance would come to a juddering halt for the very first time in our 51 years of performing for our audiences in Wrexham and the surrounding area.

So much has changed since that concert and whilst it remains fondly in the memory for so many, for a number of our Friend Members, the really bad weather of that night prevented them from joining with us on that occasion. So 2020 will go down as the 'unfinished year'; quite an appropriate phrase in the world of classical music I guess. Our concerts in May, June and July were all cancelled due to the Covid 19 situation. This Saturday should have seen the launch of our 52nd season with a wonderful programme of music which included the always popular and much loved Dvorak's 9th Symphony - 'For the New World', together with Korngold's Sea Hawk and Samuel Barber's composition Knoxville 1915. We will create the programme from the You Tube library and post it to the Orchestra's Facebook page and also on The Virtual Concert Hall Facebook page.

For those of you who do not have access to these platforms here are the three items in the programme - just click the links below to access them:

Korngold: Suite from Sea Hawk:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sKY5ovdwGo>

Barber: Knoxville 1915

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQzaFJZ8CuE>

Dvorak: Symphony No 9 From The New World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hL8xdcaX7o>

Note: This link is a debut performance by the San Paolo Symphony Orchestra at the BBC Proms in 2012 and includes a few additional bonus (encores) pieces too

We have had some more positive and encouraging news these past few days and whilst we cannot be certain when and if the vaccines will be approved for use, they do offer us hope that they may finally be able to start to protect us from this deadly virus. Sadly, this has not come in time to enable us to perform in February 2021 so it is with a great sadness that I have to inform you that the President's Annual Concert has been cancelled. At the present time we are remaining hopeful that our concert in May will be able to proceed but we will not be clear about that until the New Year. When we receive further guidance from the Welsh Government we will make the decision about the May concert, which also dependent on us gaining access to the William Aston Hall so we can rehearse in good time. We will of course keep you all informed and updated as soon as we are in a position to do so.

So 2020 has been a year like no other - I cliché I know; but it is the reality and whatever we may reflect on about our year, one thing remains certain as indicated in this quotation from one of our favourite composers, Gustav Mahler *'It should be one's sole endeavour to see everything afresh and create it anew'*. We have all missed our music and we have a gift for you all at this special time of the year; a time of giving. The Gustav Mahler Society has funded

the production of some Mahler songs in a virtual performance and I am delighted to be able to share this with you:

It is his '**Knaben Wunderhorn**' and is performed by the international mezzo soprano Caitlin Hulcup together with her husband, the tenor and musicologist, Florian Thomas. The accompanist is the international Canadian concert pianist Dr Carson Becke.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxD3nrXTZ-jz-sJijcxaR4-IiTjvPngls>

We are encouraged by the increasing number of virtual performances which we can enjoy; but there is no replacement for the sheer beauty of a live performance for both orchestra and audience. As the famous quote shares *'It's the things we play with and the people who help us play that make a great difference in our lives'* and finally, this quotation by Roy Ayers *'The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers.'* I could add that we the audience are the appreciative recipients of the message.

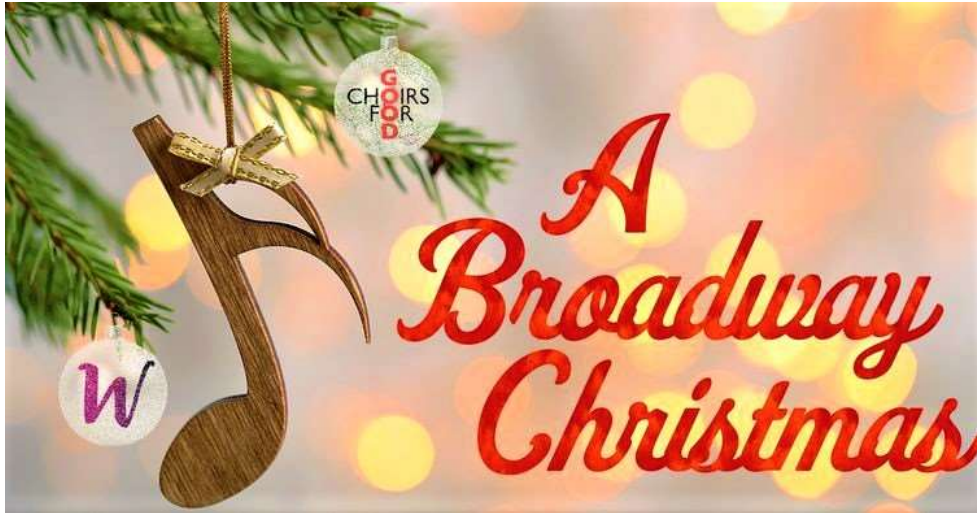
On behalf of the President, Professor Maria Hinfelaar, Chairman, Matthew Ellis and all the members of the Orchestra, we wish you, your families and friends, a safe and blessed Christmas and a New Year of hope and in the expectation that live music will once again, be the food of love and pleasure. Thank you for your loyalty and support - it has kept us all going during these last 9 months or so. Given all the positive and encouraging news we are becoming more hopeful that WSO music will be able to resume in 2021... possibly in May... but we are not getting beyond ourselves just yet.

Live Music Showcase remains on hold and a further discussion will take place in January as to what options may be to resume the Thursday lunchtime concerts

Regards

Derek Jones [+44 7889 379591]

Hello everyone! Have you ever
wanted to sing with an
orchestra?



"Choirs for Good" and the incredible The West End of Wales Orchestra are teaming up to bring you a special virtual performance of some of Broadway's most famous Christmas songs. We welcome singers of all abilities and it's super easy to get involved! Follow the link below for more information or email hello@choirsforgood.com for more information.

Here is a link to their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/choirsforgood/>

Please support this wonderful initiative with a special programme of music especially for Christmas 2020.

Thanks, Derek Jones.

RUABON COMMUNITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY AGENT

It has been a challenging year for everyone, and this is set to continue into the rest of 2020 and 2021. If you or a relative or friends are experiencing loneliness, isolation, anxiety - or just simply a lack of contact to help with everyday life, particularly if you are over 50, then help is available.

Supported by the Ruabon Community Council, the Community agent works with over 50's in Ruabon providing easy access to a wide range of information to help people make informed choices about their present and future needs.

**HELP - SUPPORT - SIGNPOSTING - ADVICE -
GUIDANCE - ASSISTANCE**

Are you or someone you know looking for free confidential, information and advice on local services?



You are not sure who to turn to and you live in Ruabon? Or if you just want to chat about your concerns or an issue? The service is free!

Just contact your Ruabon Community Agent Paul Tincello using the contact details

below:

Telephone: 07947 530140

Email: communityagentruabon@gmail.com

£60,000 pot gives power to people over cash seized from criminals



A £60,000 fund will give "power to the people" to decide who receives cash seized from criminals in North Wales.

The "Your Community Your Choice" scheme was launched to reward local

crime busters across the region and North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner Arfon Jones is urging community groups to bid for a share of the pot.

Up for grabs are three grants of up to £2,500 for groups in each of the six counties of North Wales and three grants of up to £5,000 for organisations working in three or more counties.

This is the eighth year of the scheme which is organised by the police and crime commissioner in conjunction with North Wales Police and the North Wales Police and Community Trust (PACT).

Over that period a total of £310,000 has been awarded to 106 projects working to support the priorities in the commissioner's Police and Crime Plan which sets out a blueprint for policing North Wales.

Entries close on Friday, December 11, with the Your Community, Your Choice entry form available on the Police Commissioner's website, North Wales Police website and PACT website.

A shortlist of applicants will be chosen by a special panel with the winners being decided by a public vote.

The cash for the awards comes partly from money seized by the courts through the Proceeds of Crime Act with the rest from the Police Commissioner's Fund.

Commissioner Jones, a former police inspector, said: "These awards are important because they involve the community and the communities decide where the money can best be spent. It gives power to the people.

"A lot of what we fund is aimed at providing something for young people to get involved with in their spare time rather than being tempted to commit crime or indulge in anti-social behaviour.

"We want to support communities so they are able to take responsibility for their own areas.

"Smaller community groups like them can do a great deal to make communities safer, reduce crime and reduce re-offending, It also sends a good message to the communities because it shows we are listening to them."

His message was backed by Assistant Chief Constable Sacha Hatchett who said:

"This is the eighth year of the scheme and it has been a great success because it gives the public and local communities the chance to have a stake in how local issues are addressed and how we together tackle crime and disorder.

"I get particular satisfaction that part of the funding comes from the proceeds of crime, so that money is taken out of the pockets of criminals and their ill-gotten gains by the courts and is put back into community initiatives.

"It's turning bad money into good and it's making a real difference because it is local people who recognise and understand their local issues and how to solve them.

"Policing is part of the community and the community is part of policing and this scheme is a positive way of building trust in policing."

"It's great to see those relationships flourish because without the community we won't know what's going on, without the community we don't get intelligence, and we can't solve crimes."

PACT chairman Ashley Rogers added: "Your community your choice is a really valuable way of supporting communities and putting the choice of which projects are supported in their hands."

"It's a very democratic process which is why I think it's been such a long running and successful scheme."

"At a time when community groups are struggling for funding, I was delighted that the Police and Crime Commissioner and the force increased the size of the funding pot by 50%."

"It's a lovely project to be involved with and you can directly see the benefits from the funding in strengthening our resilient communities."

Completed applications must be returned by e-mail to
yourcommunityyourchoice@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

by 5pm on the closing date of Friday, 11th December

For more information go to:

North Wales Police - www.north-wales.police.uk

Police and Crime Commissioner's - www.northwales-pcc.gov.uk

North Wales Police and Community Trust - www.pactnorthwales.co.uk

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 do keep sending in your articles and 'THANK YOU'. Sybil Bremner.