

Ruabon News Letter 361

15.02.2021



Friends of Ruabon members and volunteers

went out on Wednesday morning, 10th February, to take on a socially distanced litter pick, in bright sunshine; but very cold weather. They travelled different routes, clearing debris behind the Park Gates, along the main road, including ditches full of rubbish, to the Ruabon roundabout. It was VERY COLD. The team was greeted by a wonderful welcome from Costa Coffee, where they were given free, much needed cups of coffee.

Roughly, 20 bags of rubbish were collected, but still more areas need clearing. Bill and Jo later collected and disposed of the bags. The team was also very happy to see the lovely comments on facebook when all these photos were published, on their return.



Coffee is being served at Costa and relaxing has begun - still with the trolleys and hoops purchased by the group, which help enormously with the collecting. Alison above with a pile of litter, she has taken these photos of: Jo, Elaine, Sarah, Jim and Mary. If anyone would like to borrow pieces of equipment from the Friends of Ruabon store, for collecting rubbish perhaps on a walk or just locally, please telephone: **07957 628551**.

There are small sizes of gloves and litter pickers for the children to join in.

Welsh Vision of Climate Change

Wales commits to net zero by 2050, but sets out ambitions to get there sooner

Last week, the Welsh Government set out its legal commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, but is pushing to “get there sooner” as it gets ready for COP26 [26th United Nations’ Climate Change Conference of the Parties] in November.

The move comes following a [recommendation report](#) by the independent Climate Change Committee (CCC) that revealed net zero emissions, previously thought unachievable and unaffordable by experts, was now possible with ambitious policy and a ‘Team Wales’ effort.

The new evidence from the CCC says greater reductions within the industrial sector will help achieve this goal, as a large proportion of Welsh emissions come from a small number of big emitters, such as Port Talbot steelworks.

The report also highlights the need for everyone in Wales to do their bit to drive emissions down, with more than half of the recommendations being partly or fully driven by societal or behavioural changes with a large reduction in the amount of energy and natural resources we use. This means government, communities and businesses working together to change how we travel, shop and heat our homes, while switching to lower carbon diets.

The report also draws attention to the inter-dependency of UK and Welsh actions and targets. The UK cannot reach net zero without action in Wales, but equally Wales needs the UK Government to step up to the challenge and ensure a swift, fair and equitable transition to a low carbon future.

Welsh Government has already announced a suite of measures this year to respond to the climate emergency and reduce the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. These changes go beyond carbon saving targets as they will benefit the health of the people of Wales and give its wildlife and natural world a chance to prosper.

These include plans on achieving cleaner air, putting an end to harmful agricultural pollution, a decisive shift away from fossil fuel extraction and towards green energy, working towards a net zero public sector in Wales by 2030, and going beyond recycling and making Wales a zero waste nation.

The First Minister Mark Drakeford has also announced the creation of a National Forest for Wales, where a connected forest ecosystem will extend the length of the country.

The recommended emissions reductions pathway set by CCC in their advice would mean Wales will meet its commitments under the landmark Paris Agreement, in a bid to limit global heating to 1.5°C. However, new science points to a much graver global trajectory, with a recent report by the United Nations estimating the world is on track to warm by more than 3°C. This is predicted to cause more destructive weather events, the displacement of hundreds of millions of people around the world, and irreparable damage to the world's ecosystems.

Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Lesley Griffiths

said: "We were the first country in the world to declare a climate emergency, but now we will use the new science to make our long-held ambition of a Net Zero Wales, a reality. While we have set our intention to achieve this by 2050 in law today, we will continue to do all we can to get there sooner. The global climate outlook is grave, and we will not shy away from stopping harmful emissions being pumped into our atmosphere and heating our planet. Business as usual is not an option.

"As with Covid, climate change will impact us all, but the stark reality remains that our most vulnerable communities will be hit the hardest. The transition towards a Net Zero Wales must be fair and just, a green and clean future which means good quality jobs and leaves no communities behind.

"Recent flooding events have painfully reminded us the havoc our changing weather is already wreaking. The science is telling us events such as these will continue to increase and intensify as our world gets warmer.

"While we are a small country, we punch big when it comes to doing the right thing. Wales was one of the worst recyclers in the world before devolution, and now it's one of the best. We were central to the industrial revolution as we supplied the world with coal from our hillsides, but now we look to a future of green energy and jobs. We also banned fracking as we knew the risks to our environment and the safety to the people of Wales were far too high.

"Perhaps most importantly, we are the first country in the world to have enshrined in law a Future Generations Act. This means that any decision the government makes today must be the right thing for our children and grandchildren, and their children too.

"These ambitious new targets to make a Net Zero Wales is the right thing to do, but not the easiest thing to do. Through Covid we have shown a Team Wales effort that has saved lives and protected our NHS, and I am calling on everyone to use the same spirit to build the Wales we want for our future generations." [Thank you to David Goodban for sending us the positive information above, also the following good news to a\) support the creative freelance sector and b\) The funding for 84 new Ambulances in Wales.](#)

Further £8.9m to support creative-sector freelancers

Freelancers working in Wales' creative sectors will receive a further round of support worth £8.9m, Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism Lord Elis-Thomas announced today.

The new round of support funding from the Cultural Recovery Fund will mean each of the freelancers already supported will receive an additional £2,500 to support them through this extended period of reduced activity.

The £63m Cultural Recovery Fund has provided essential support to sustain the arts and creative sector, with the hope organisations and individuals will be able to thrive again in not-too-distant future.

The Freelancers Fund has already supported almost 3,500 freelancers in three phases of support.

The Deputy Minister said: "The freelance sector plays a pivotal part in the Welsh economy and I am delighted we are able to provide additional support, which acknowledges the important contribution freelancers make to Welsh cultural life.

"The pandemic continues to present challenges for cultural and creative freelancers throughout Wales. We applaud their resilience and creativity during this period.

"We know we will need their professionalism, experience, enthusiasm and vision to help us come together and rebuild after the public health crisis has abated."

Some freelancers who have been supported by the fund have been able to continue their creative work during the pandemic.

Lewis Carter, an award winning indie filmmaker from South Wales released a Welsh documentary, *Best Foot Forward*, on New Year's Eve to celebrate and keep the tradition of the Nos Galan Road Races alive despite the alert level four restrictions.

He used the funding for the online release of the multi-award-winning short film, *Showdown*, which features autistic actors and is released this week.

Lewis said; "The cultural freelancer grant, meant I was able to pay fellow freelance creatives that worked on my documentary, *Best Foot Forward*, and boost the online release of my short film, *Showdown*.

"*Showdown* returns home from its international festival run having received awards from two of Wales' most prestigious film festivals, 'Cardiff International Film Festival', and the Bafta qualifying, 'Carmarthen Bay International Film Festival.'"

Angharad Jenkins from Swansea is a freelance musician and member of the Welsh folk group Calan. She lost all of her live work overnight and has used the funding to adapt her practice and to develop new skills which she will continue to use in the future.

"I've grown and moved my private teaching practice online and I've been delivering 1:1 participatory music sessions for children with special learning needs through Live Music Now.

"The biggest learning curve for me has been learning to record remotely. I've been able to work with musicians in north Wales, Scotland, Oxford and as far away as Melbourne, Australia. I've been able to offer my skills as a session musician, as well as taking on private composition commission, without needing to leave the house.

"I've also started singing and writing songs during this time. The slower pace of life has enabled me to think more creatively about my work. I am truly grateful for this lifeline, at such a worrying time. But nothing beats the experience of live music, and I cannot wait to perform live in front of an audience again."

Freelancers who have previously received support will receive a self-declaration letter, which they will need to respond to for the funding to be released. The fund will not be open to new applications but anyone who missed out on the funding originally can apply for the Local Discretionary Grant. More details are available on the Business Wales website.

In further support for the freelance sector, the Welsh Government is working with key stakeholders on a Freelancer Pledge, which will be a first for the UK.

In developing recovery plans and aspirations, the Freelancer Pledge reaffirms Wales' commitment to involving the freelance community in building back fairer.

It is an opportunity for creative freelancers and public services to forge a partnership to achieve this and for freelancers to use their skills to bring creativity and imagination to all areas of public life.

ENDS.

Ruabon and Penrycae Community Agent, Paul Tincello, has sent in this news on volunteering from Avow and also the following details of a new project to support the elderly to stay connected



HEADING: AVOW Launch 'Volunteering Passport' for Wrexham Community Response Team

Following the remarkable COVID-19 volunteer response, The Association of Voluntary Organisation in Wrexham (AVOW) are establishing a Wrexham Community Response Team.

AVOW successfully received funding from Welsh Government to develop the Wrexham Community Response Team. This initiative is a continuation of the work we have been involved with during the COVID-19 pandemic. The team will work in close partnership with regional emergency response services and local community contacts to respond to local emergencies such as flood, missing person searches or extreme weather situations and would be able to offer volunteers for the correct support to the Public and Emergency Services.

The Wrexham Volunteer Centre are now recruiting a bank of volunteers from across Wrexham County Borough. Volunteers will be able to develop a Volunteering 'passport' for the area which will include a current DBS certificate and access to a wide variety of training and qualifications, all free of charge. There will also be the

opportunity to carry out further training for more specific qualifications.

As well as ongoing training and volunteering experiences in preparation for emergency circumstances team members will be offered the chance to volunteer at one-off community events, such as fundraising or sports events, supporting voluntary organisations and community groups within the area. Wrexham's Member of the Senedd, Lesley Griffiths, said: "Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, AVOW and its team of volunteers have stepped up and done an incredible job, offering invaluable support to our local communities in these extremely difficult circumstances.

"It is fantastic to see Welsh Government funding making a positive difference in Wrexham. I hope this grant will allow our wonderful volunteers to gain even greater insight and teach them new skills, ultimately enabling them to provide even better services for people in and around Wrexham."

AVOW are developing the Wrexham Community Response Team in collaboration with Wrexham County Borough Council, local Community Councils, Community Agents and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB). The opportunity is being led by the AVOW Volunteer Centre. To apply for the opportunity please follow the link to register as a volunteer at the volunteering-wales website at: <https://bit.ly/AVOWVW> and sign-up for the opportunity to become part of the Wrexham Community Response Team at: <http://bit.ly/AvowCRTVW>.

Voluntary organisations and community groups can also benefit from this funding from Welsh Government. Any current volunteers can access the Volunteering 'Passport' and receive an up-to-date DBS (dependant on the role) and access these training opportunities. There is also additional training available for organisations such as Good Governance, How to Find a Trustee and Looking after your Assets. Further information and booking for this training can be found at <https://wrexham-volorgs-training.eventbrite.co.uk>.

For more information about the initiative and if you have any other questions, please contact Wrexham Volunteer Centre by email

Volunteer.centre@avow.org For more details please visit www.avow.org

AVOW Press Contacts: Victoria Milner; John Gallanders

E: victoria.milner@avow.org john.gallanders@avow.org T: 01978 312556

A project to help older people in Flintshire and Wrexham to stay connected has been launched

Age Cymru has launched HOPE (Helping others participate and engage) to help older people (50+) and carers be supported and able to live their lives to the fullest.

HOPE will help people with getting information and support with issues including housing, accessing services, dealing with loneliness and isolation and getting financial help and other entitlements they may need or benefit from.

Alongside this, it will help older people to take part in community activities, understand their rights, engage with professionals and have their voices heard.

The project is currently recruiting and training community-based volunteers to provide independent advocacy support to local older people and carers, allowing them to shape the key decisions affecting their lives and avoid getting into crisis situations.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer advocate with HOPE in Flintshire or Wrexham please contact Nick Hughes (Project Officer) 07943186749 nick.hughes@agecymru.org.uk

For referrals or general enquiries please email advocacy@agecymru.org.uk

Or go to our website: www.agecymru.org.uk/advocacy

Prosiect wedi cael ei lansio i helpu pobl hŷn yn Sir y Fflint/Wreccsami aros yn gysylltiedig

Mae Age Cymru wedi lansio HOPE (Helpu eraill i gymryd rhan ac ymgysylltu) i helpu pobl hŷn (50+) a gofalwyr i gael eu cefnogi a gallu byw eu bywydau i'r eithaf.

Bydd HOPE yn helpu pobl i gael gwybodaeth a chefnogaeth gyda materion gan gynnwys tai, cyrchu gwasanaethau, delio ag unigrwydd

ac arwahanrwydd a chael cymorth ariannol a hawliau eraill y gallant fod eu hangen neu elwa ohonynt.

Ochr yn ochr â hyn, bydd yn helpu pobl hŷn i gymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau cymunedol, deall eu hawliau, ymgysylltu â gweithwyr proffesiynol a sicrhau bod eu lleisiau'n cael eu clywed.

Ar hyn o bryd mae'r prosiect yn recriwtio ac yn hyfforddi gwirfoddolwyr yn y gymuned i ddarparu cymorth eiriolaeth annibynnol i bobl hŷn a gofalwyr lleol, gan ganiatáu iddynt lunio'r penderfyniadau allweddol sy'n effeithio ar eu bywydau ac osgoi mynd i sefyllfaoedd o argyfwng.

Os oes gennych ddiddordeb mewn dod yn eiriolwr gwirfoddol gyda HOPE yn Sir y Fflint/ Wrecsam, cysylltwch â Nick Hughes (Swyddog Prosiect) 07943186749 nick.hughes@agecymru.org.uk

Ar gyfer atgyfeiriadau neu ymholiadau cyffredinol, e-bostiwch advocacy@agecymru.org.uk

Neu ewch i'n gwefan: www.agecymru.org.uk/advocacy

Welsh Government invest over £10m to fund 84 new ambulances

The Welsh Ambulance Service (WAST) will receive 84 new operational vehicles thanks to a £10.9M investment from the Welsh Government.

The Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething has also announced a further £1.6m in funding to the Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) to expand the service into a 24/7 operation and establish the Critical Care Transfer Service. This is additional money following the £1.7m already given to the service. This service will support the national transfer of critically ill adults across Wales.

The Emergency Medical Retrieval and Transfer Service (EMRTS) provides consultant and critical care practitioner-delivered pre-hospital critical care across Wales. It was launched at the end of April 2015 and is a partnership between Wales Air Ambulance Charity, Welsh Government and NHS Wales.

The funding will be used to fund three specialist critical care ambulances and will see investment in equipment to support the expansion of the EMRTS service

Minister for Health and Social Services, Vaughan Gething, said: "The Welsh Ambulance Service has experienced a huge surge in demand on its services due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The funding announced today will allow the service to upgrade its existing fleet, allowing the service to deliver the best care for people in Wales.

"I'm also pleased to announce further funding which will establish a new Critical Care Transfer Service and see the expansion of EMRTS to a 24/7 operation, in partnership with the Wales Air Ambulance Charity."

Chris Turley, the Welsh Ambulance Service's Executive Director of Finance, said: "Our ambulances and response cars in Wales are some of the most modern and well equipped in the UK and this funding will allow us to continue to replace our vehicles as they reach the end of their working life

"Modern ambulances are essential in order that we can continue to provide the best treatment and patient experience possible.

"They're also important for staff who spend the majority of their working day out and about in the community.

"It's never been more important than ever to have a fleet which keeps the wheels turning on our ambulance service, and we're grateful to Welsh Government for its continued support."

Professor David Lockey, EMRTS National Director, said: "The funding has allowed us to extend our critical care provision into a 24/7 service. This, along with our partnership with the Wales Air Ambulance Charity, has helped us improve equality of access to rapid emergency-department standard care across the country.

"In addition, the funding for three specialist critical care ambulances will give us the capacity to support colleagues across NHS Wales with the transfer of critically ill patients between hospitals by road.

"We are very grateful for the ongoing support from Welsh Government, which has allowed our service to grow and make a significant contribution to critical care in Wales."

WREXHAM COUNCIL **NEWS**

COVID-19 BRIEFING NOTE – CASES STILL HIGH IN WREXHAM

February 12, 2021

Wrexham still has the highest coronavirus levels in Wales (199 per 100k population on a rolling seven-day basis).

And although the figures are going down for the county borough as a whole, they're still high and have even gone up in some areas recently. We all need to remain extremely vigilant.

The vaccination programme is rolling out at pace, and by Monday (February 15) the local health board aims to have offered an appointment to everyone in the first four 'priority groups.'

However, it's important that no-one is left behind...

AGED 70 OR OVER, OR SHIELDING?

- If you're aged 70 or over and haven't received a vaccination appointment yet, please call 03000 840004 now.
- If you're under 70 and have a letter from Welsh Government advising you to shield, you should also call this number to book a slot.

If you don't fall into either of these categories, please don't call. When it's your turn, you'll be contacted by phone or letter.

If you're aged 65 to 69, your jab is coming soon, but please wait to be contacted.

A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

Since the local vaccination centre (LVC) opened at the Catrin Finch Centre at the end of January, it's been playing a key part in the local rollout. **This also applies to the LVC at Deeside – such a bright welcome and a smile, from every staff member, even the lady who cleans the chairs when patients leave.**

The council worked extremely hard to [bring the LVC to Wrexham](#), and sees it as an important boost in the battle against the virus.

Lots of people have posted positive comments on social media about their experiences there and the health staff at the site are doing an amazing job.

You can read more about the rollout across North Wales on the [local health board website](#).

Or watch this update from Dr Chris Stockport from earlier this week.

VACCINATION IS FREE...DON'T GET SCAMMED

Sadly, there are people out there who might try to scam you with fake vaccination emails or bogus calls.

Remember...you'll never be asked to 'sign up' or pay to be vaccinated or to give your bank details or passwords.

When it's your turn, you'll be contacted by the NHS or your GP.

CORONAVIRUS LEVELS WHERE YOU LIVE

Most areas of Wrexham continue to improve, but the figures are still high, and some areas have got worse.

The areas where cases have gone up are:

- Gwersyllt West and Summerhill - 354 per 100k (compared to 321 on 5th Feb.).
- Penycae and Minera - 349 (a significant rise from 157 on 5th Feb).
- Rhos and Johnstown South - 256 (compared to 199 on 5th Feb).

This shows that although cases are falling on the whole across the county borough, it's not plain-sailing.

If you want to check the figures where you live in more detail, [visit the Public Health Wales data 'tableau'](#) and click on the 'MSOA' tab.

The virus is still mainly spreading in households between family members, [with the 'Kent' variant accounting for all cases](#).

**CLIMATE CHANGE – YOU'RE
INVITED TO AN ONLINE
WORKSHOP ABOUT OUR PLANS
TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT**

February 15, 2021

Just before Christmas we asked your views on our plans for becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 and it was very encouraging that over 500 of you took the time to let us know what you thought.

			
Buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce our Carbon Emissions from our Buildings year on year• Create Low/ Zero Carbon Buildings	Mobility and Transport <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the Electrification of our Transport Network• Promote Sustainable green travel• Street Lighting	Land Use <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilise our resources to promote Renewable Energy• Invest in Carbon sequestration	Procurement <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Embed Carbon reduction within the procurement of our goods and services- Working with suppliers to reduce our emissions

We've now had a chance to take a close look at these responses and we're in the process of finalising our plan to further reduce the carbon we create in order to make sure we make the important 2030 deadline. This will result in our Decarbonisation Action Plan and will set the scene for each of the four priorities in the Plan.

To make sure we're getting it right you're invited to take part in an online workshop on February 22 between 6 and 7.30pm where there will also be an opportunity for questions and answers.

There'll be individual sessions on our 4 key priorities:

You can read more about these priorities here:

<https://news.wrexham.gov.uk/climate-change-2020-decarbonisation-action-plan-consultation-launched/>

"HELP REDUCE THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE"

Cllr David A Bithell, Lead Member for Environment and Transport, said: "We need to ensure that our environment is protected and maintained now and into the future. Our Decarbonisation Plan is a very important tool that we will use to ensure we can help reduce the impact of Climate Change and I'd encourage as many people as possible to take part.

To register to take part in the virtual workshop. Please follow this link: <http://www.yourvoicewrexham.net/survey/1211>

You'll also need to let us know if you require a Welsh translation of the event and if you have any questions before the event it would be useful to have them beforehand".

St Mary's Church

A message from the Rev'd. Kate Tiltman:



The Church is closed for Anglican worship until we are advised by our bishop that it is safe to open again on a Sunday.

The Roman Catholics are still holding mass every Sunday at 11am.



St Mary's School, Ruabon

APPLICATIONS FOR NURSERY PLACES

If you have, or know of, a child turning three before 31st August 2021 you can now apply online for a Nursery place at St Mary's Church in Wales School, Ruabon.

If you would like to speak to us for further information, please contact the school on 01978 820979.

Online admissions must be completed by
19th February 2021.



St Mary's School, Ruabon

Sign up now – Tŷ Pawb arts masterclasses for young people aged 9-14

Wrexham County Borough Council sent this bulletin at 14-01-2021 11:45 AM GMT

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

tŷ pawb

Sign up now for Criw Celf – arts masterclasses for young people

Criw Celf offers young people (aged 9 to 14) who love art, an opportunity to take part in artist-led masterclasses during February half term over a consecutive 4 day period.



Our programme of special workshops are being delivered online via zoom with professional artists, and offer participants opportunities to develop new creative skills and understanding of visual art and craft.

Meet new friends who also enjoy art too!

Thank you to Derek Jones for this information

Join Neighbourhood Watch!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1

Visit www.ourwatch.org.uk/join and complete the online form

You will receive a email with a confirmation code, enter this code when prompted and continue completing the form

Once registered as a member, you need to join or start a scheme

To do this, log into your account by clicking on Login from our website or by entering <https://ourwatchmember.org.uk/> - Click on SCHEME ADMIN and you will be given the option to join a local scheme or if there isn't one which covers your road, then you can start a scheme by selecting the option at the bottom left of the screen.

2

3

Become an ACTIVE member/lead for your scheme and make your area safer

Talk with your neighbours about keeping your community safer and raise awareness of issues. Actively make differences in your community and work together to be more resilient.

Your Local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:

Contact details:



Neighbourhood Watch Network
is a Charitable Incorporated
Organisation (CIO) registered in
England and Wales, no: 1173349

THIS IS THE LINK FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PAGE WHERE YOU CAN REGISTER TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER. A GROUP OF PEOPLE IS NEEDED, PEOPLE TO ADMIN THE GROUP AS WELL AS PEOPLE TO ACTUALLY MONITOR THE AREA. PLEASE REGISTER IF YOU CAN HELP OUT. www.ourwatch.org.uk/join. Please also email clerk@ruaboncommunitycouncil.gov.wales too, so that we can get a group together.

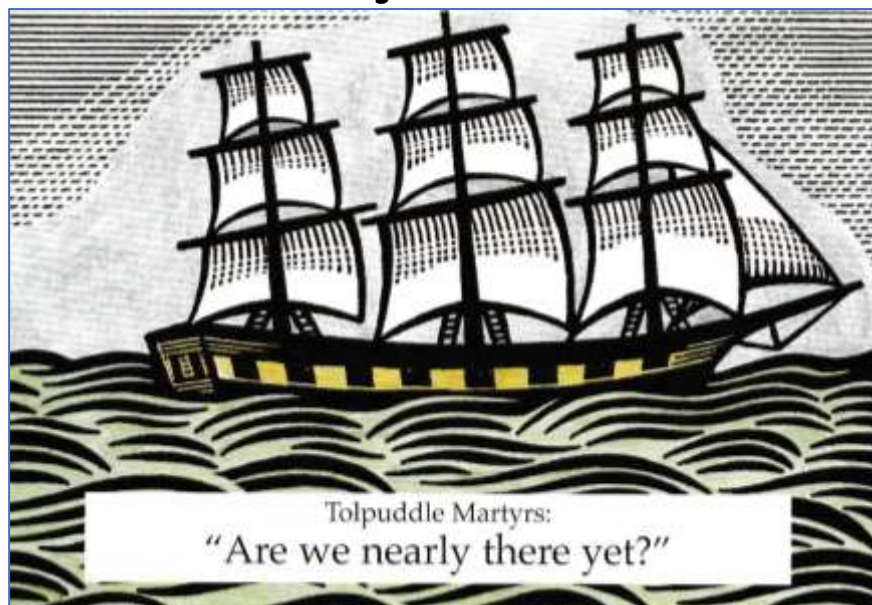


I am sure that a great many of you are aware of this company which promotes on-line courses on most subjects, which can be taken through universities all over the world.

In a 'Future Learn' email last week, courses on 'Machine Learning' were being advertised some of which were free.

All that is needed is an email to the company to request a weekly newsletter. Lily at Future Learn newsletter@futurelearn.com

Whether of an etching or a sketch, thank you, to Mike Jones
for sending in this illustration



I will risk it and say 'we are a great deal 'nearer' to the end of the danger from corona virus than we were some months ago. Spring is on its way, I can see from the snowdrops and emerging daffodils.

If you know of anyone who would like a copy of the Ruabon News Letter (no charge), please send an email to: bremner.millhouse@btinternet.com.

'Thank you' to everyone who has sent in articles and photos - our News Letter is the better for it. Sybil.