

RUABON NEWS LETTER 381

05.07.2021



Cefn Druids FC support local school

Cefn Druids FC are supporting their nearest local secondary school through the donation of football clothing for use by students within the Sport Department.

At a recent meeting, Jayson Starkey, Head of Coaching and Youth Development said,

" We are delighted to be able to support the students of Ysgol Rhiwabon with the donation of football clothing for use in sports. We work closely with the school and know many of their students through their involvement in our academy and summer camps".

Pictured receiving the donation on behalf of the school is Giles Evans, Business and Community Manager, who said,

" We have partnered with Cefn Druids for many years now and our local football club are proud to be associated with them.

Our Sports Department will be delighted by the continued support from Cefn Druids ".

Pictured are - (from left to right)

Giles Evans, Business and Community Manager at Ysgol Rhiwabon
Liam Jones, Active Young People Officer, Wrexham County Council.
Jayson Starkey, Head of Coaching and Youth Development at Cefn
Druids AFC. End of Release.

For all information about Ysgol Rhiwabon go to:

<https://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk/>

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Cambria Maintenance Services are recruiting now for new apprentices in North, South and West Wales

As part of Cambria's commitment to making a difference to people's lives, homes and communities, they are pleased to be offering the following apprenticeships:

- Electrical
- Heating & Plumbing
- Maintenance

For more information, visit the website: <https://www.cambria-ltd.co.uk/> and sign up to the Virtual Open Event (all information is on the website).

Any queries, please contact careers@wwha.co.uk

FULL BUSINESS RATES DISCOUNT CONTINUES IN WALES

The Welsh Government is reminding retail, leisure and hospitality businesses in Wales they won't have to pay any rates until April 2022 as full discounts in England come to an end tomorrow (1st July).

In March, the UK Government announced its 100 per cent retail, leisure and hospitality rates relief holiday would reduce on June 30, with a 66 per cent discount coming into effect for the rest of the financial year.

In Wales, the Welsh Government has extended the full 100 per cent discount for all businesses and charities in the leisure and hospitality sectors until April 2022. Retailers in properties with a

rateable value of up to £500k will also continue to receive full discounts on their rates for the remainder of the year.

The £380m package is providing small and medium sized businesses in Wales struggling to cope with the impacts of the pandemic a much-needed boost. It operates in addition to our permanent relief schemes which are providing £240m of relief to ratepayers across Wales this year. **Minister for Finance and Local Government, Rebecca Evans** said:

"As bills start to land in England, we're reminding retail, leisure and hospitality businesses in Wales they won't need to pay rates until April 2022.

"We've listened to the sectors and want to help shops and venues get back on their feet. Even though these businesses can now open, the difficulties of the last year, coupled with the restrictions that remain in place, mean many would still struggle to pay even some of their usual rates.

Minister for the Economy, Vaughan Gething said *"Our 100% rates relief discount is a vital part of the economic support package we've made available to help businesses across Wales, giving them the breathing space they need to focus on recovery. "Since the start of the pandemic, we've backed Welsh businesses with £2.5bn in support, which has helped protect in excess of 160,000 Welsh jobs which might otherwise have been lost.*

"We will continue to do all we can to back Welsh businesses" ENDS

Messages above and below have been passed on to the Ruabon News Letter to ensure residents and readers have a clear knowledge of what is going on – thanks to David Goodban: Goodban, David (Staff Cymorth yr Aelod | Member Support Staff) <David.Goodban@senedd.wales>

NEW £10M GRANT SCHEME TO HELP PEOPLE STRUGGLING TO PAY THEIR RENT DURING THE PANDEMIC

A new £10m grant will be introduced this month to help people in private rented accommodation who are struggling to pay their rent because of the pandemic.

The Tenancy Hardship Grant is designed to support people who have fallen behind on their rent by more than eight weeks between 1st March 2020 and 30 June 2021.

The grant is designed to help people stay in their homes and prevent them losing their tenancies.

Minister for Climate Change Julie James, who is responsible for housing, said: "Throughout the pandemic, we have taken unprecedented steps to tackle homelessness and support people to remain in their homes.

"The new Tenancy Hardship Grant is the latest in this range of measures and will help people in privately rented homes who have fallen behind on their rent because of the pandemic.

"I understand the stress and worry people will be experiencing if they have fallen behind in their rent. We also know that once someone falls behind with their rent it can be increasingly difficult for them to catch up without support.

"We also know that if they are made homeless, the impact on them and their families is huge - so too is the cost to public services of dealing with homelessness.

"This grant helps to prevent homelessness by helping people address their rent arrears and keep their tenancies."

People living in private rented accommodation who have developed rent arrears as a direct result of the pandemic may be eligible for the grant. Rent arrears may have been the result of a loss of income due to furlough, a reduction in work or because they were only able to claim Statutory Sick Pay when ill with Covid-19.

The grant, which will be administered by local authorities, will be open to people who are not receiving housing-related benefits. It will replace the Tenancy Saver Loan, which was introduced in December 2020. Anyone who received a loan will have that loan converted to a grant.

People who are eligible can register their interest with their local authority immediately and grants will be processed from mid-July.

Julie James added: "We have made significant steps to reduce homelessness over the course of the pandemic, supporting more than 10,000 people into accommodation since the beginning of the pandemic.

"To maintain this momentum, we will continue to provide vital funding to local authorities to prevent homelessness and to support people living in temporary accommodation to move into their own permanent and secure homes.

"I urge anyone who is struggling to pay their rent - even if they're just starting to have difficulties - to contact their landlord or agent and organisations like Citizen's Advice or Shelter Cymru so they receive the right advice and support.

"Our goal is to prevent homelessness, and ensure where it does occur that it is rare, brief and unrepeatable." ENDS



Politicians welcome progress on Welsh Labour's Young Person's Guarantee

Local Members of the Senedd have welcomed an announcement outlining the steps the Welsh Labour Government is taking to deliver one of its key election pledges.

In the Senedd on Tuesday (June 29), Economy Minister Vaughan Gething issued an update on the Young Person's Guarantee - an ambitious programme intended to provide everyone under 25 in Wales an offer of support into work, education, training or self-employment. To ensure young people's voices are at the heart of the development of the guarantee, the Minister 'will hold a national conversation' with young people over the summer.

The Welsh Government will also enlist the help of Working Wales to become the gateway into the Young Person's Guarantee - building on a proven strong and successful model of delivering careers guidance and signposting support. From September 30, they will have a team in place to start to track and monitor the offer as it develops. The progress has been applauded by local Members of the Senedd. A joint statement from Hannah Blythyn (Delyn); Lesley Griffiths (Wrexham); Jack Sargeant (Alyn and Deeside) and Ken Skates (Clwyd South), along with newly elected North Wales MS Carolyn Thomas, said: "At the Senedd election in May we stood on a platform that promised to ensure that no young person would be left behind as a result of the pandemic. We are extremely pleased that our Welsh Labour Government is already taking the initial steps to deliver this key commitment to the people of Wales.

"As young people navigate their way into the world of work and decide what they want to do next, this support will be crucial to start and potentially change their story.

"It is more important than ever that young people are supported to gain the skills and experience they need to succeed, whether that's in employment, education or starting their own business. This will make a real difference in North Wales."

The Welsh Government has already launched a pilot scheme in North Wales to help young people secure employment and help employers fill their vacancies. Support will also be available through Business Wales to help young people overcome barriers to start-ups and increase the sustainability of new ventures.

Speaking in the Senedd chamber, Economy Minister Vaughan Gething said: "With this guarantee, I want to ensure that there is no lost generation in Wales.

"The young person's guarantee is a key part of our efforts to help young people enter and navigate their way into and through the world of work. I'm committed to giving young people the support that

they need, supporting their journey as they leave school, as they move into or leave college or university and supporting those that are facing unemployment or even redundancy.

"We know that our young people hold the key to Wales's future success. It's their talents, skills and creativity that are essential to ensure our country's growth and competitiveness. As a nation, we still face huge challenges now and when the pandemic is finally over."



Deputy Leader, Cllr David A Bithell will be overseeing the lead member role for Health and Adult Social Care following the recent resignation of Cllr Joan Lowe from the Executive Board. (Joan represents both Ruabon South and Penycae).

Cllr Bithell, said: "This is a key lead member role and the earliest the new appointment can be confirmed is at the September meeting of full Council. I will be overseeing this area in the meantime and will be working closely with officers to ensure that everything runs smoothly until a new appointment is made.

"It's essential that there is no gap in such an important area of work and I look forward to working with new faces in the coming weeks who can all be assured of my full support and cooperation until we can have a smooth and efficient handover of responsibilities to the new lead member."

"THE MERSEY DEE ALLIANCE" PROPOSES A PATHWAY FROM COVID RECESSION TO GREEN GROWTH IN A £400MILLION STIMULUS PACKAGE PROPOSAL



Guest Article - Mersey Dee Alliance

The Mersey Dee Alliance, representing the interests of the unique, cross border, functional economy in Flintshire and Wrexham in North Wales and Cheshire West and Chester and Wirral in the Northwest of England today launched a transformational plan for a £400m Fiscal Stimulus Package for the

Mersey Dee Economy. The proposal has been submitted to Ministers in the UK and Welsh Governments.

Councillor Mark Pritchard, Chair of the Mersey Dee Alliance said, "The MDA economy has been hit hard by Covid 19. Our GVA has contracted by 15%, equivalent to £3.5bn of the pre-pandemic, £22bn value of the economy. Thousands of jobs have been lost. Deeds not words are needed now to deliver an urgent fiscal stimulus to the MDA economy to save jobs and secure the future of our world class, manufacturing industry cluster.

Our proposals to the UK and Welsh Governments will create and safeguard 5000 jobs and generate £1.2bn of net economic value in a short space of time."

The package aligns with UK Government priorities to strengthen the union, deliver "levelling up" and implement the 10-point plan for a "green industrial revolution".

We will meet the needs of future generations with inclusive and sustainable growth as required by the Welsh Government's Future Generations Act."

Councillor Louise Gittins, Leader of Cheshire West and Chester Council said, "I am passionate about climate change and sustainable growth. The MDA Fiscal Stimulus Package will accelerate investment in switching from carbon-based fuels to renewables and greener fuels like hydrogen, with carbon capture and storage for initial phases of hydrogen production.

We are proposing a major investment in cycleways and public transport to reduce carbon and noxious emissions from cars. Our Active travel proposals will enable delivery of a strategic cycling corridor linking Birkenhead to Chester and Ellesmere Port, and from West Kirby through to Deeside in Flintshire, removing barriers and opening-up employment opportunities.

Councillor Stuart Whittingham, Wirral Council and Vice Chair of the MDA said, "Businesses and residents of the MDA area do not see a border between England and Wales. They just see enterprise, supply chain, employment and leisure opportunities in an area with an integrated economy and close cultural ties. That's why there are

153,000 inter regional journeys both ways over a 24-hour period per day

Our economy will prosper more with a strong partnership between the UK and Welsh governments. The MDA Proposition is not only an opportunity to maximise sustainable and inclusive growth but also an opportunity to develop a positive partnership between the UK and Welsh Governments.

The Mersey Dee Alliance is a high performing partnership between Councils, businesses and universities. We are a model partnership that the UK and Welsh governments can build on."

Ian Roberts, Leader of Flintshire County Council said "We have worked with neighbouring local growth partnerships to develop our proposals. The MDA will continue to work closely with the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, the Cheshire and Warrington LEP and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. We will avoid duplication and complement the programmes of our partners.

"Flintshire supports this package as the home of Airbus. We must do everything we can to support our excellent manufacturing firms who provide skilled work with good pay."

Councillor Mark Pritchard concluded, "The MDA economy faces big challenges to recover from Covid-19 and to adjust to "net zero" operations. We have made transformational and innovative proposals to meet those challenges.

We want to get things done and we will work creatively and flexibly with both governments to deliver investment from multiple sources at pace. This will include seeking some investment via a future fiscal event with provision made for the MDA in the Comprehensive Spending Review to be announced in the autumn of 2021.

(Let us all hope that a relatively small amount of this revenue could be made available to fund the desperately needed and long-awaited equipment for step-free access at Ruabon Station. (Sybil Bremner.)

Ruabon Bowling Club



This photo is of the newly formed (this year) Veterans team at Tuesday's match against Ponciau Park, - it was a tight game but unfortunately Ruabon lost 6-4 on aggregate. That said Ruabon are 4th

in Division 5, just 10 points from the top, so for their first season, and for some bowlers a first time playing competition bowls, they are doing incredibly well. They are really enjoying playing as it gives them something to look forward to, but they are also enjoying the social side after over a year of isolation.

If anyone would like to join in (you have to be over 50yrs), please contact Paul Tincello on 07841 688820, who has been passionate about Ruabon Bowling Club since he worked with others for its regeneration several years ago.

Wrexham Pairs League (Mondays)

Ruabon A won 5-3 at home to Llay A on 21st June

Oswestry League (Tuesdays)

Ruabon A won at home 9- 1 to Plas Kynaston A on 21st June

Wrexham Saturday League

Ruabon A won 11-3 away to Coedpoeth A on 26th June



Friends of Ruabon have continued with litter picking, started many years ago and always welcomes residents and friends. This particular litter pick was part of Keep Wales Tidy, organised by Shane Hughes for the whole of Wrexham. It is a pleasure to note that the Mayor of Wrexham, Ronnie Prince and Mayoress Sunanda also joined in with tidying Ruabon.



AVOW Virtual Volunteer Marketplace

Reply-To: volunteer.centre@avow.org



Following a short break, the monthly AVOW Virtual Volunteering Marketplace events will again take place at 10am on the first Tuesday of each month, the next 3 meetings being:

Tuesday 6th July

Tuesday 3rd August

Tuesday 7th September

These meetings are a place for volunteers and organisations to meet directly (via Zoom) to chat informally about volunteering roles and suitability. It is a great chance to find out a little bit about what volunteering involves, and to chat to several organisations at one time.

To register for the Zoom meeting, please go to the following link:

<http://bit.ly/AvowVVMp>

We look forward to meeting you, and hopefully, to helping you to find a great new volunteering role!!

Kind regards, The Volunteer Centre.

Thank you to Alison Hamlington for passing on this information.

[Wrexham Museum Courtyard Café](#)



There is a new seating layout and menu in the Courtyard Café, but the same great service and location as ever! Let's hope for a sunny few months-when you can dine outside if you wish.



What's new in Ruabon Library this week?

Join in the summer fun with this year's Reading Challenge

"Wild World Heroes"

Arriving in Ruabon Library and online! Pack your bags and head to Wilderville, an awesome place where Wild World Heroes do lots of things to make their town better for the people and animals who live there. Join Carys, Marcus and Callum, Faiza and David and their friends to discover how you can make a difference to the environment too. Collect your packs and read a minimum of two books over three visits to the library to collect your rewards. We have stickers, a certificate and a great bag as your reward for completing! What are you waiting for?

To make an appointment to browse or order and collect

telephone 01978 822002

or email ruabon.library@wrexham.gov.uk

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12.15 - 4.45

Thursday 9.15 -1.00