

RUABON NEWS LETTER 498

13.11.2028.

PRESS RELEASE

Ken Skates MS | Clwyd South

08/11/23

for immediate publication



**Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament**

Wrexham-Flintshire Enterprise Zone could be a 'game-changer' for region.

Former Welsh Economy Minister Ken Skates believes a joint Wrexham and Flintshire Enterprise Zone could be a 'game-changer' for North Wales.

The Clwyd South MS welcomed yesterday's announcement by his successor Vaughan Gething that the Welsh Government is backing the bid. But the final decision – and funding – rests with UK Government Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove.

During a statement in the Senedd yesterday (Tuesday), Mr Gething said: "It is important to note the UK Government will still need to make a decision on the support it will provide to Investment Zones in Wales as part of the Autumn Statement process. However, I can confirm the Welsh Government Cabinet has met to discuss the proposals that have been in development.

"As a result, I have written to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities following our constructive engagement to indicate our willingness to use our devolved levers and expertise to support Investment Zones in Wales.

"Based on our analysis of opportunities for growth in high-potential clusters we agree that there is a clear case for two Investment Zones in

Wales. Our preference would be for one Investment Zone in South-East Wales and one in North-East Wales, covering Flintshire and Wrexham.”

Mr Skates said: “Minister, on behalf of Members across parties in north Wales, can I thank you for this announcement today. You have already delivered for the people of north-west Wales with the agreement over the freeport, which is immensely important for the economy of Anglesey and Gwynedd, and right across north Wales for that matter.

“Today, you've delivered for the communities of north-east Wales with the announcement of a successful bid by regional partners there to help ensure that Wales, along with the south-eastern cluster, can continue to keep pace with those sectors where we are strongest.”

Mr Skates recently spoke at an event at Theatr Clwyd in Mold to back the cross-party campaign, along with business leaders, councillors and fellow Labour, Conservative and Plaid Cymru MS's. He was one of six Members of the Senedd to sign a joint letter of support to the Welsh and UK governments backing the Wrexham and Flintshire bid.

He said: “I believe there's huge potential, through an Investment Zone, to play to our strengths in advanced manufacturing and the creative industries across two local authority areas which are the engine of the regional economy of North Wales and the Mersey Dee area.

“Economic growth in Wrexham and Flintshire, in terms of jobs created, is far higher than both the Welsh and UK average, so something special is happening in this region. We want to make sure we turbo-charge it – and we do that through an Investment Zone. It could be a game-changer.”

Investment Zones already exist in parts of England, where £80m in funding for each will be used over five years for innovation, infrastructure and skills and training projects in the sectors being targeted.

A local consortium including Airbus and JCB; the North Wales Business Council and Wrexham and Flintshire councils; Wrexham University and the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) Cymru, based in Broughton, is spearheading the bid – and believes it can help leverage and secure an additional £1.7bn in investment.

In the Senedd yesterday, Mr Skates said the wide-ranging support for the Wrexham and Flintshire bid ‘demonstrates the value of collaboration, both across political parties and across institutions’.

He added: “Minister, finally, would you also agree that we now need swift agreement from the UK Government over the two zones along with assurance that equivalent funding will be made available to those zones as is happening across the border in England?”

The Minister concluded: “The decision on whether to provide the funding and reserved levers to support Investment Zones in Wales now rests with the UK Government.

“For our part, we have indicated a willingness to work towards ensuring devolved and local tax levers are available to Investment Zones and to work in partnership with the UK Government on delivering a package of investment support, subject to the agreement of plans from each Zone setting out how the support will be used to deliver net benefits for the people of Wales.”



Please find attached a press release from Ken on yesterday’s announcement that the Welsh Government is backing the bid for a joint Wrexham and Flintshire Enterprise Zone.

The photograph shows Ken with Sam Rowlands MS and Ashley Rogers, Chief Executive of the North Wales Business Council, at the recent Theatr Clwyd event.

Please credit Mandy Jones.

Kind regards,
David

(David Goodban, Office Manager)

PRESS RELEASE



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



A Healthier Wales Health and social services news

"Help Us to Help You to get treatment as fast as possible this winter" – Head of NHS Wales

As winter approaches and demand on GPs and emergency care services rises, NHS Wales' Chief Executive Judith Paget is reminding everyone of the different services available across Wales for quick and quality treatment.

First published: 6th November 2023 Last updated: 6th November 2023

The Welsh Government's 'Help us, Help You' campaign highlights the other local services and health professionals working in NHS Wales, that are available to ensure those with urgent care needs can be treated quickly - without needing to go to their GPs or nearest emergency department.

NHS Chief Executive, Judith Paget said:

If you're unwell, injured or have an urgent care need, there are many ways to access the NHS in Wales instead of through emergency departments. This includes the NHS 111 Wales online and telephone service, mental health helplines, pharmacists, minor injuries units, and more.

So now it's easier to get care, help and advice for new or existing conditions, without even leaving your home or workplace.

Our GPs and emergency care services are going to get busier as we head into the colder months and we want to ensure that people are getting the right treatment, in the right place, at the right time.

We can all play a part in reducing this pressure on our emergency care

services, by considering whether we need to attend emergency departments (A&E) or the GP or if these other options might provide the best treatment option for us.

Urgent Primary Care Centres (UPCCs) and Same Day Emergency Care Services (SDECs) are now up and running across multiple sites in Wales, as a result of the Welsh Government's 'Six Goals for Urgent and Emergency Care' programme - helping to safely prevent trips to emergency departments or hospital admissions.

UPCCs treat people with urgent primary care needs on the same day, and SDECs help people access diagnostics and treatment for emergency care needs and return home on the same day.

Both UPCCs and SDECs do not operate as walk-in-clinics but can be accessed via a GP or emergency unit referral.

Approximately, 10,000 people are accessing UPCC services every month and around 14,500 people with emergency care needs, who would have otherwise needed a hospital stay, were treated, and discharged by SDECs in the last 3 months.

Rachel Lee, Clinical Board Director for Primary, Intermediate and Community Care at Barry Urgent Primary Care Centre said:

There are a number of Urgent Primary Care Centres in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan to help patients receive the right care, from the right place, first time.

UPCCs were introduced to improve access to same day care for patients with a range of urgent non-complex conditions. Patients may be booked into a UPCC by their GP practice or redirected by NHS 111 Wales or the Emergency Unit where they will be assessed and appropriately managed within eight hours.

More than 35,000 UPCC appointments were made available last year, helping patients access urgent same day care quicker and reducing the number of attendances to busy emergency departments.

Expert advice and guidance is also available 24/7 via the NHS 111 Wales free helpline and website.

With 76 symptom checkers online and highly trained call handlers, the NHS 111 service can resolve a person's care needs over the phone or direct them to the right place, to get treatment fast and fitted to their

needs - which may not always be a GP or emergency department and could be a pharmacy, minor injury unit or opticians.

Around 70,000 monthly calls are made to 111, with only 11% of callers being referred to an emergency department.

People with urgent mental health needs can access a mental health professional without a traditional GP referral, via the NHS 111 Wales 'press 2' service. Since its launch last year, 8 in 10 callers have not needed further advice or treatment from an emergency care service – with 97% of callers reporting lower levels of distress after the call.

Judith Paget added:

An urgent care need, means someone probably needs help in the next 8 hours, and emergency care means someone needs help right away.

The NHS 111 Wales helpline and website are quicker alternatives for those with urgent care needs and should be the first port of call - unless people have a life threatening or serious complaint.

Additionally, 99% of pharmacies in Wales can provide advice for and treat a range of conditions which would otherwise be treated by GPs or other NHS services, through the national common ailment service (CAS).

Between April 2022 and March 2023 this service has reduced pressure on GPs and saved around 200,000 GP appointments.

Conditions: a pharmacist can provide advice and treatment to include:

- sore throat
- conjunctivitis
- acute back pain
- nappy rash
- constipation and many more

First published: 6th November 2023 **Last updated:** 6th November 2023

[FW: Ymgysylltiad Porth Wrexham Gateway Engagement](#)

Dear Councillors,

We are pleased to let you know that that public engagement for the next stage of the Wrexham Gateway Transport Hub is now live and can be accessed by clicking on the link below.

haveyoursay.tfw.wales/wrexham-gateway-transport-hub

A Transport Hub at Wrexham General railway station is a key part of the wider Wrexham Gateway regeneration proposals. Transport for Wales are working in close collaboration with Wrexham County Borough Council to develop options for the hub that align with the plans for the wider Wrexham Gateway regeneration area.

The engagement will run until 19th December 2023.

In addition to the engagement there will also be three events where the public can find out more about the project. All three events are of a drop-in format where staff from TfW and their appointed consultants (WSP) will be present.

- Tŷ Pawb (Tŷ Pawb, Market St, Wrexham LL13 8BB) on **14th November**, 14:00 – 18:00
- Wrexham University Room B10 (Mold Road, Wrexham, Wales, LL11 2AW) on **15th November**, 09:00-14:00.
- Wrexham General Station (Station Approach, Wrexham, LL11 2AA) on **29th November**, 09:00 - 19:00.

We would welcome your support in promoting the engagement and the events with your constituents.

If you have any questions about the engagement or the project more broadly, please do get in touch.

Best Wishes,
The Project Team

Annwyl Gynghorwyr,

Rydym yn falch o roi gwybod i chi bod ymgysylltiad cyhoeddus ar gyfer cam nesaf Hyb Trafnidiaeth Porth Wrecsam bellach yn fyw a gellir cael mynediad ato drwy glicio ar y ddolen isod.

dweudeichdweud.trc.cymru/hyb-trafnidiaeth-porth-wrecsam

Mae Hyb Trafnidiaeth yng ngorsaf reilffordd Wrecsam Cyffredinol yn rhan allweddol o gynigion adfywio Porth Wrecsam. Mae Trafnidiaeth Cymru yn cydweithio'n agos â Chyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam i ddatblygu opsiynau ar gyfer yr hyb sy'n cyd-fynd â'r cynlluniau ar gyfer ardal adfywio ehangach Porth Wrecsam.

Bydd yr ymgysylltiad yn rhedeg tan **19 Rhagfyr 2023**.

Yn ogystal â'r ymgysylltiad ar-lein, bydd tri digwyddiad mewn person lle gall y cyhoedd ddarganfod mwy am y prosiect. Mae'r tri digwyddiad ar ffurf 'galw heibio' lle bydd staff o TrC a'u hymgyngorwyr (WSP) yn bresennol.

- Tŷ Pawb (Tŷ Pawb, Stryd y Farchnad, Wrecsam LL13 8BB) ar **14 Tachwedd**, 14:00 – 18:00
- Ystafell B10 Prifysgol Wrecsam (Ffordd yr Wyddgrug, Wrecsam, Cymru, LL11 2AW) ar **15 Tachwedd**, 09:00-14:00.
- Gorsaf Wrecsam Cyffredinol (Ffordd yr Orsaf, Wrecsam, LL11 2AA) ar **29 Tachwedd**, 09:00 - 19:00.

Byddem yn croesawu eich cefnogaeth i hysbysu'r ymgysylltiad a'r digwyddiadau gyda'ch etholwyr.

Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiynau am yr ymgysylltiad neu'r prosiect yn ehangach, cysylltwch â ni.

Dymuniadau Gorau,
Tîm y Prosiect

Ruabon Community Group Meeting 14th August 2023 – Minutes

Present: Angie Cunningham (Community Agent), Julie Haslam (Freedom Leisure), Sarah Giles (Friends of Ruabon), Helen Howard (Ruabon Library), Debbie Williams (Library Services Officer & Chair)

Apologies: Dawn Hughes & Julie Reeves (Ruabon Medical Centre), Sarah Clark-Lewis (PCSO), Alyn Thomas (Clerk, Ruabon Community Council), Dilys Bates (Ruabon Library)

Matters still outstanding from last meeting:

- **FAO:** Cllr Davies – is there any news on a road sign for the medical centre and library? Is it possible to get a staff only parking sign for the library?

- Would it be possible to send updates from groups/organisations/individuals who cannot attend the meetings so we can have a comprehensive set of minutes please?

Matters arising from this meeting:

1. Update from Community Agent:

- Angie has now been in post for 6 months and she is getting more referrals from other agencies such as the local health board and Age Concern, these referrals cover most of Ruabon.
- She is meeting more clients and is attending more back to back meetings which means a lot of time is spent collating information to report back to her manager.
- The weekly Coffee Morning at the Bowling Club is continuing but transport is a problem.
- The Rainbow Foundation is now managing Community Agents in other new locations such as Llay and Acton.
- The Community Inclusion Grants scheme from the council has been suspended for the time being.
- Angie would like to start a Dementia Friendly music group but needs more instruments, particularly ukulele's.

2. Friends of Ruabon update:

- FoR have been conducting monthly litter picks and have so far collected 80 bags of rubbish this year. These litter picks are supported by Keep Wales Tidy.
- FoR have monthly meetings which are open to all. The Saturday meetings are held in the Bridge End Inn at 10am and the Wednesday meetings (on the alternative month) are held at St. Mary's Church Hall at 7pm.
- The number of people on the committee has reduced this year due to difficult and sad circumstances, but new volunteers are always welcome.
- FoR also have a Facebook presence.

3. Freedom Leisure:

- Chirk leisure centre are providing free swimming lessons to children doing Wave 1.
- FL are attending many summer fetes promoting their Drowning prevention scheme.

- FL have updated their 60+ membership scheme providing the first months membership free of charge. They have been able to do this by working with Sports Development.
- There is a special membership for people who are on unemployment benefit.
- FL provide coffee mornings and include other local charities such as Nightingale House and Hope House, as well as MacMillan. They allow the attendee to choose where their money is donated.
- Anna is now permanently employed at Ruabon high school to manage the Freedom Leisure side of activities after school hours and weekends and will develop more activities as time goes on.

4. Ruabon Library:

- After several years working at Ruabon Library, Dilys Bates will be leaving at the end of August, so some group activities will be done slightly differently in the library. Groups will continue to meet but they will be more customer led, rather than staff led.
- The Welsh learner's discussion will continue to meet, new members are very welcome.
- Time to Remember (the reminisce group for people with Dementia and their carers) will now be led by Angie, the Community Agent, but will still be supported by library staff.
- The adult Craft Group have decided they would like to continue their crafting and will bring all of their own supplies, again new members are always welcome.
- The library is currently under financial constraints and there have been many articles in the local press and Wrexham.com regarding the purchasing of new books. The library has lost 15% of its book buying budget but as it commits its book buying spending at the start of each financial year, this has allowed them to continue buying until the end of March 2024, it just means that there will be some smaller differences to the way it operates.
- As a result of the current council financial constraints the library may not be able to supply refreshments to all of its groups in the future, but they will look at ways this can be accommodated with each group individually.
- All other weekly and monthly groups remain the same.

No update from Health Centre

No update from the Church in Wales
No update from the County Council
No update from Community Council
No update from Community for Works+
Any other business:

If you know of any group/organisation/society who would benefit from attending these meetings, please let the library staff know.

**We would like to thank our colleague Dilys at Ruabon library for all of her hard work over the years, it has been a pleasure to work with you and we wish you every success in your new role.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 20th November, 3.00pm at Ruabon Library

All 214 mobile speed camera locations in North Wales during November 2023



Enforcement of 20mph speed limits is edging closer in
 Northwales

- Bookmark

Go Safe Van in North Wales

Speed limits in built-up areas in Wales were reduced from 30mph to 20mph on 17th September. The Welsh Government has since indicated that, following a three-month bedding-in period, enforcement will [begin on 17th December.](#)

However, several 20mph fixed speed cameras have been installed across North Wales already, and mobile camera sites identified too. The locations of these speed cameras can be found

To enforce the lower speed limit – essentially in any area with streetlights – the [Welsh Government](#) has given the GoSafe partnership £2.55m this year, plus an extra £600,000 for “[20mph](#) roadside engagement”. This includes the use of both fixed roadside cameras, mobile vans and or GoSafe officers.

[Motorists driving ‘too fast’ across iconic Snowdonia bridge with 5mph speed limit](#)

Mobile vans use a “speedscope” that can be trained on vehicles up to 1km away – though GoSafe says most of its work is carried out far closer. Offending drivers are given an image showing the time, date, speed, distance, site coding and direction of travel.

The minimum penalty for speeding is a £100 fine and three penalty points on licences. Some drivers can opt to attend a Driver Education Course instead, at a cost.

GoSafe's safety camera map has now been updated to show the locations of mobile speed cameras in North Wales this month (November 2023).

Transport for Wales bus route changes which will hit students

[Wrexham](#)

- B5102 Llay Road, Cefn-y-Bedd to Llay
- B5373 Gresford Road, Llay (30 mph)
- B5102 Croeshowell, Llay
- A483 Rossett
- B5445 Marford Hill, Marford
- B5445 by the Red Lion Public House, Marford

- All Saints Aided School, B5373 Clappers Lane, [Gresford](#)
- B5425 Llay New Road, Llay
- A525 Ruthin Road (nr Bodhyfryd, Maes Maelor), Bwlchgwyn
- A525 Ruthin Road, Bwlchgwyn
- B5430 Old Road, Minera
- A525 Ruthin Road/High Street, [Coedpoeth](#)
- Moss Road, Summerhill
- Gwersyllt CP School, Dodds Lane, Gwersyllt
- A525 Ruthin Road
- Acton Park School, Box Lane, Wrexham
- Jeffrey's Road, Acton
- Borrass Park Infant and Junior Schools, Borrass Park Road
- Cefn Road (near to Ceiriog Road)
- A525 Kingsmills Road
- A539 Pen y Lan, [Ruabon](#)
- Ysgol Penycae Juniors, Copperas Hill, Penycae
- Ysgol Penycae Juniors, Afoneitha Road, Penycae
- B5605 Ruabon Road, Johnstown
- A539 Llangollen Rd, Acrefair
- B5605 Park Road, Rhosymedre
- Bridge Road South, Wrexham Industrial Estate
- A525 Marchwiel

- Eyton Controlled Primary School, Bangor Road, Eyton
- B5070 [Chirk](#)
- A5 Halton
- A539 Station Road, Overton
- A525 Whitchurch Road (near Bank Farm), Bangor on Dee
- A539 Penley
- A539 Penley Village
- A525 Whitchurch Road, The Chequer

Go Safe's camera map also shows the location of fixed cameras, red light cameras, speed-on-green cameras and average speed cameras.
Find out what's happening on the roads near you

WHAT ENFORCEMENT WE PROVIDE

We are responsible for fixed speed cameras, red light cameras, average speed cameras, and mobile enforcement cameras.

These cameras help us to encourage people to drive within the speed limits and keep everyone using our roads safe. Our most successful cameras are the ones that see the least number of offences, not the most.

Our mobile enforcement cameras can detect speed offences, mobile phone offences and seatbelt offences. They can look for all of these offences at the same time, although we do run operations to focus on specific offences throughout the year.

WHERE THE CAMERAS ARE:

We use Welsh Government guidance on where we place every camera across the country. How and when we use the cameras depends on the history and road safety problem at each location. They may be placed in areas where speeding is a concern, where there is a history of road casualties, or in areas surrounding schools or road works.

We also respond to your community concerns. We complete surveys where communities have told us that speeding drivers are making their roads more dangerous for everyone.

You can see where all our cameras are on our Homepage.

For full details of the collision criteria for placing cameras please see [Welsh Government Guidance](#) and [GoSafe Site Criteria 2014](#).

At times, the stench gets so bad, residents complain it makes them gag. It lingers on cold mornings, causing people to cough and sneeze. People say it smells "gassy" and insist - tongue only partly in cheek - they're afraid to light a match.

A [Wrexham](#) motorist passing on [the A483](#) this week saw fire engines and wondered if there had been a mains gas leak. At times, residents more than two miles away can catch a whiff. Even pets are not immune: one owner reported her dog "going demented" at the rancid smell that cloaks the former mining village of Johnstown throughout the year. "I drove through the village the other day wondering if anyone ever hangs their washing out to dry," said Nicola Thomas from Ponciau. "It's the kind of putrid smell that penetrates clothing." Causing the foul odour is a controversial landfill site that was approved just as Wales was on the cusp of a recycling revolution. Granted by the Welsh Secretary on appeal in July 1995, the site made use of the area's old Hafod clay pit. Despite strong opposition, dumping began in 2006. Six years later, campaigners lost a legal battle to limit the site's 55-year lifespan: with a capacity of 5.5m cu metres, the great stench isn't going away any time soon.

Now, with a new operator in place, no one's quite sure where it comes from. [Wrexham Council](#), which has a 68% recycling rate for household refuse, says it sends very little to landfill.

Meanwhile, residents in Johnstown, Ruabon, Ponciau and [Rhos](#) continue to suffer. Sulphurous odours from the site, often likened to rotten eggs, can also be detected in Penycae and even as far as Rhostyllen. People worry about house prices and some [A483](#) drivers wind up their windows as they pass by, just 300 metres from the site.

“Every time I go past there it makes me retch,” said one motorist on social media. A Ponciau woman said the “awful” seems to have worsened lately. “I’ve never had it smell so bad,” she said. “It knocked me sick.”

Aerial view of the Hafod landfill site showing its proximity to homes

Residents are angry that so little appears to have been done to curb the nuisance. “It’s purely disgusting and far worse lately,” said another woman. “So annoying when it’s not even our rubbish being dumped there.”

When the site opened, protesters raised petitions, travelled to Cardiff and blocked dumpers arriving at the site. Later, more than 95 families took legal action claiming their health had suffered and they were unable to open windows and doors. Lawyers insisted residents had been “exposed to an unacceptable level of odour”.

Wrexham councillor David Bithell, local member for Johnstown, said things had improved over the last 17 years as mitigation measures were put in place. With smells rising again, however, he’s lobbied the site manager at current operator Enovert and enlisted support from Clwyd South politicians Ken Skates and Simon Baines.

Do we have to get rid of our rubbish somewhere? Should landfill sites be located away from homes?

Share your thoughts in the comments below

“At times, things have got better,” said Cllr Bithell. “But Enovert is putting in new gas wells at the moment and is working higher up on the site, which may be encouraging smells to disperse.

“It’s worse when the **weather** is colder, and seems to peak in the mornings – nightshift staff suffer when they return home. When it’s wetter and warmer, the smell seems to get better. “But it can be horrendous. It’s so frustrating for local people who have had to put up with it for almost 20 years. There should be proper monitoring on site, and action taken when needed.

“In Wrexham, we’re trying to recycle as much as possible and for local people, it’s disappointing they’ve been left with a

landfill legacy. We should be moving away from dumping waste in a hole in the ground and trying to be more sustainable.”

Plumes of smoke from a fire at Hafod landfill site in May 2020 (Image: @r77ulr)

In late May 2020, a major fire ravaged the site and [residents were warned to stay indoors](#). At the time, site operator Enovert said Hafod accepts only non-hazardous wastes.

Nicola Thomas, a former mental health carer, once worked at a rest home a third of a mile from the tip. Sometimes the stench was unbearable, she said. Nicola is now an industrial cleaner, a job which takes her into some of Wrexham’s grimmest places.

“Some of these factories smell pretty bad but they have nothing on the tip, honest to God,” she said. “The odour is like an open sewer and it lingers: catch a whiff and you can still smell it hours later. It doesn’t matter if there’s rain, sun, hail or snow, the smell is just there all the time.”



Announcements

The Welsh Government has today announced that 27 woodland sites will join the National Forest for Wales network.

First published: 8 November 2023

Last updated: 8 November 2023



15 of the sites are the first to join the network since the [National Forest Status Scheme](#) launched in June, which has enabled a wider range of woodlands to become part of the National Forest. These could be small urban or community woodlands, private land or farms, or large areas of land owned by local authorities, charities or timber-producing woodlands.

The 15 sites cover an area of nearly 800 hectares, varying in size from the Erlas Walled Garden in Wrexham to larger woodlands like Wentwood in south east Wales.

Natural Resources Wales has also proposed 12 areas of the Welsh Government Woodland Estate which will join the network, adding nearly 24,000 hectares. These join the 14 sites that are already part of the National Forest.

In 2020, the First Minister announced plans for the National Forest for Wales, to create areas of new woodland and help restore and maintain some of Wales' ancient woodlands.

First Minister Mark Drakeford said:

I'm really pleased to see how so many communities are getting involved with the National Forest. The expansion will contribute towards creating a continuous woodland stretching from north to south, west to east, bringing long-term environmental, health and well-being benefits to all corners of Wales.

The National Forest will create an enduring asset, similar to our Wales Coast Path, which provides many benefits, not just for our population today, but for generations to come.

Congratulations to the new woodlands on becoming part of the National Forest and helping us deliver this important ambition, which will change Wales's landscape for the better.

Julie James, the Minister for Climate Change, said:

"As the National Forest for Wales expands, so will its network and community. Granting National Forest status recognises the hard work so many people and organisations, including many volunteers, have invested in creating exemplar woodland spaces.

I'm pleased to welcome the new woodlands to the National Forest, which will help to support biodiversity and fight climate change, while creating real opportunities for people in Wales to re-engage with trees, woodlands and nature.

Dominic Driver, Head of Land Stewardship for Natural Resources Wales, said:

The need to aid nature's recovery is urgent and creating and enhancing woodlands is one of the best things we can do in Wales to respond to the climate and nature emergencies.

The National Forest for Wales will play an important part in contributing to that response, in a way that works for both people and nature.

We're really pleased to be able to work with and help support the Welsh Government's plans and play our part in helping to create the National Forest in Wales. We're delighted that 12 more of our forests and woodlands have been announced today as part of the sites that will join the growing National Forest for Wales network.

The National Forest for Wales belongs to us all and we encourage woodland owners to speak with our dedicated team of liaison officers who will be able to offer valuable support and guidance.

First published: 8th November 2023. Last updated: 8th November 2023



Wayne Jones, the Landlord of The Turf pub in Wrexham

The popular Turf pub at Wrexham's [Racecourse stadium](#), has had to shut due to a fire, after the marquee was also broken into.

Landlord Wayne Jones said the pub will be shut until further notice.

The double blow hit The Turf, as it continued to enjoy popularity around the world through the Disney+ documentary series

+ "Welcome to [Wrexham](#)", after the club take over [by Hollywood stars Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney](#).

Ruabon Field Club

Members will welcome **Jill Burton** to give a talk on Tuesday 21st November at 2pm in St. Mary's Church Hall.

Jill's subject will be:

Lord Howard de Walden

of Chirk Castle



[Thank you to Dawn Hughes Loydd for passing this on](#)



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Strut Safe is a free UK-wide phone line. If you're walking alone, our volunteers will be a friendly voice to keep you company and help you feel safe until you are through the door.

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singing starts at 7pm
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email: hello@choirsforgood.com
for more info.



**SCAN
ME!**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE

www.choirsforgood.com/join



The Rainbow Foundation

MUSIC MEMORIES

Come and join in singing, playing, making, and enjoying musical memories at this FREE session.

An inclusive and dementia friendly hour singing some well known songs from the past and making your own accompaniment with a variety of shakers, and percussive instruments provided.

No need to book, just drop by.

**TUESDAY 14TH
NOVEMBER**
1:30PM - 2:30PM

Ruabon Village Hall
Maes Y Llan Lane
Ruabon

FREE



Canadian War Museum
6th November at 2:58 PM

Each year, students across the country submit artwork, poetry and essays to the Legion National Foundation's Annual Poster and Literary Contest.

This year, the Canadian War Museum is proud to exhibit the winning entries — eight posters and two literary pieces.

This poster is by Vlada Paschenko, from Provost, Alberta. She was the winner in the category Senior - Colour Poster. Find the exhibition in the CWM's lobby, near the gift shop.

<https://www.warmuseum.ca/.../legion-national-foundations.../>

Both of these posters have been sent in by Daniel Williams.



**Thank you to everyone who has sent in items for the News Letter
Sybil (Bremner)**