

RUABON NEWS LETTER 499

19.11.2023

PART ONE

Remembrance Service Attendances

Ysgol Rhiwabon attended two local Remembrance Services on 12th November.

At the Cefn Mawr Service, Elsie Davies-Bottomley and Kowren Davies, Year 7, laid a wreath on behalf of Ysgol Rhiwabon students, staff and governors.

Whilst in Ruabon at St.Mary's Church, Issac Hughes and Sam Brown, Year 11, laid a wreath on behalf of Ysgol Rhiwabon students, staff and governors.

Remembrance Service Attendance

At the Cefn Mawr Service, Elsie Davies-Bottomley and Kowren Davies , Year 7, laid a wreath on behalf of Ysgol Rhiwabon students, staff and governors.



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Two weeks to go. 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

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Complex.

with a:

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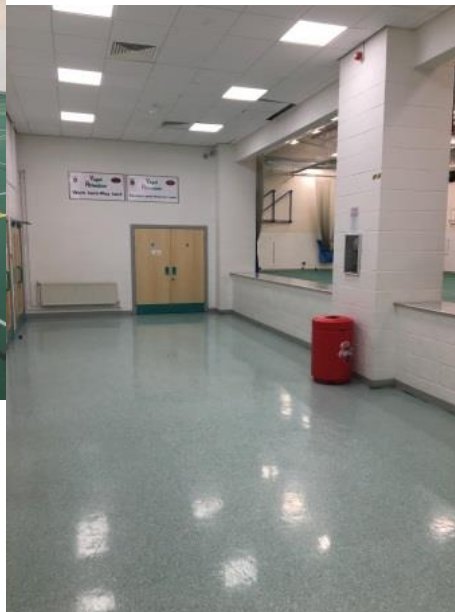
Available Evenings and weekends.

Birthday party options available

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Football, Nerf, Netball and Cricket.

Contact: Ruabon 01978 822978 or Chirk 01691778666



The Snowman

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NEW Sinfonia **LLANGOLLEN**
INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

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The Snowman:

Refugees from Ukraine will lead, sing and perform with NEW Sinfonia in these concerts.

Each concert will culminate with a performance of the quintessential festive film, The Snowman, with the music performed live by NEW Sinfonia.

They have the twin aim of promising a truly magical experience for families at Christmas with a message of peace and reconciliation.

This follows our critically acclaimed White Flower (Lleisiau Llan) concert at the Llangollen Eisteddfod in July.

The White Flower concert in July was amazing and promoted our ethos of peace and reconciliation.

This message is as relevant as it was when we started our Eisteddfod in 1947. We are delighted to be continuing our partnership with NEW Sinfonia this Christmas. These concerts are not to be missed and we believe people will have a magical experience whilst remembering those who don't enjoy the peace we do in the UK.

The Days of Premature Hearing Loss are Finally Coming to an End.

With recent leaps in technology, hearing aids are becoming more discreet and affordable than ever to people across the UK.

According to research* 42% of people over 50 and 71% of people over 70 suffer from hearing loss. Many don't even realise that hearing loss is affecting them.

If you struggle to pick out words, or find loud places difficult, then a hearing aid may be able to help you.

Now, with the latest designs and world-class aftercare, there's a **simple solution to hearing loss.**

You Could Be Eligible For These Hearing Aids!

Click on your year of birth to get started

- [1928 . 1929 .1930 .1931 . 1932. 1933 .1934 . 1935 . 1936](#)
- [1937 . 1938 .1939 .1940 . 1941, 1942 .1943 . 1944 . 1945](#)
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- [1973 . 1974 .1975. 1976 . 1977. 1978 .1979. 1980 . 1981](#)
- [1982 . 1983](#)



Technology to improve quality of life

The most common causes of hearing loss are age and prolonged background noise. Over the course of our lifetimes, the fine hairs inside the ear gradually die off or are damaged by sound waves, becoming less sensitive.

If you've worked in a loud environment such as a factory (or you're a fan of heavy rock music) there's a high likelihood your hearing may have been affected. For all of us, hearing loss is a natural part of the ageing process, but luckily there are some highly effective ways to counter it.

On average it takes 10 years for people to address their hearing loss, even though 1000s of over-50s could benefit from a hearing aid.

"People don't realise you can arrange a hearing test for free"

If you are affected by the stress and frustration of hearing loss, providers are now giving their customers the opportunity to try their hearing aids

before committing to the purchase, through free trials or money-back guarantee deals

No longer the chunky pieces of plastic your grandparents might have worn, hearing aids are now as sleek and well-designed as any other modern gadget. One recent development is the [invisible hearing aid](#), which slips discreetly into your ear and amplifies sound – but not background noise – without anyone noticing but you.

[You Could Be Eligible For These Hearing Aids! Click on your year of birth to get started](#)

* hearclear

Who should I work with?

One trusted and effective free online service is [HearClear](#). We'll find market-leading hearing specialists in your local area who can provide you with exactly the right type of hearing aid for you.

Invisible hearing aids are growing in popularity across the UK, with thousands of people each year relying on [HearClear](#) to help them find a hearing aid specialist.

Say hello to better hearing with an invisible hearing aid!

Here's How You Do It:

1. Tap your location on the map below
2. Answer a few simple questions, and we'll match you with the best-suited hearing specialists in your local area.

[Click Here To Get Started](#)

*NHS England, Department of Health. Action plan on hearing loss. 23rd Mar 2015
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/act-plan-hearing-loss-upd.pdf>

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Protected status for two Pembrokeshire food and drink businesses

The Pembrokeshire Beach Food Company and Velfrey Vineyard are celebrating after joining a list of Welsh producers in seeing their products awarded protected status.

First published: 17th November 2023. Last updated: 17th November 2023.



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Velfrey Vineyard has been awarded Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) for its Velfrey NV Traditional Method Sparkling Brut and 'Rhosyn' 2021 Traditional Method Vintage Sparkling Brut Rosé wines.

Based at The Old Point House in East Angle Bay, the Pembrokeshire Beach

Food company has been given Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) status for its Welsh Laverbread.

The PGI and PDO schemes protect the name of a product which comes from a specific region and follow a certain production process.

Velfrey Vineyard, located near Narberth, is the current Food and Drink Wales Small Drinks Producer of the Year. Established in 2016, Velfrey has over 4,000 vines planted across three acres, and is a family-run vineyard which prides itself on attention to every detail.

The wines are made from three grape varieties, notably Pinot Noir, Seyval Blanc, and Solaris. The vineyard is run by husband-and-wife Andy and Fiona Mounsey along with their son Ryan and his wife Sophie.

Andy Mounsey at Velfrey Vineyard said:

We are delighted to have been awarded PGI status for wines made from grapes grown in our Pembrokeshire vineyard. Not only does this provide assurance to our customers about the wines' provenance and quality, it also allows us to proudly proclaim on the labels that this is Welsh sparkling wine.

Our NV sparkling brut has been selected by a panel of distinguished judges from Wine GB as one of the UK's top 100 wines, while our newly launched Rhosyn is getting both plaudits and orders from highly knowledgeable sommeliers.

It's fantastic that wine from Pembrokeshire is achieving this kind of recognition.

In 2010, Café Môr was started by Jonathan Williams who has a passion for seafood. In 2012, after establishing the business, it attracted investment and became part of the Pembrokeshire Beach Food Company.

Laverbread is made from cooked laver (seaweed) which has been plucked by hand from the Welsh coastline and is rooted in Welsh history as a vital source of nutrition.

Welsh Laverbread was awarded PDO status in 2017 to celebrate its inherent ties to Welsh seascapes and communities.

Jonathan Williams at The Pembrokeshire Beach Food Company said:

Laverbread is an important part of Pembrokeshire food history and we are absolutely delighted to receive this status.

We currently use laverbread in our seaweed butter, Lobster Welsh Rarebit and even in our Welsh cakes.

PDO status means consumers have the confidence knowing they are eating the genuine Welsh product. We will continue to ensure it is cooked to the highest of standards so people from near and far can enjoy our Welsh laverbread.

Rural Affairs Minister, Lesley Griffiths said:

It is great news two Pembrokeshire food and drink businesses are seeing their fantastic products deservedly awarded protected status.

Laverbread is a Welsh delicacy and Jonathan and the team's hard work and commitment to producing a high-quality product from our beautiful coastline is being rightly recognised.

Wales also produces some of the finest, most globally recognised innovative wine. The Welsh wine industry is thriving and Velfrey Vineyard is an important part of this success.

A huge congratulations to both companies.

First published: 17th November 2023. Last updated: 17th November 2023.

Ruabon Christmas Church Services December 2023

St Mary's Church Ruabon

Sunday 3rd December

Christingle Service 4pm

Sunday 17th December

Carol Concert and Nine Lessons 5pm

Christmas Eve Crib Service 4pm

Christmas Eve Mass 8pm

Ruabon Methodist Church

Sunday 17th December

Carol Concert Service 4pm

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR**



Council Tax

A key goal in making these fairer is that the changes do not seek to increase the overall amount of Council Tax raised, and any redesign should raise the same amount of Council Tax across Wales as the current system would.

The current system is twenty years out of date, and it is unfair, with people living in homes in the lowest Council Tax bands paying a relatively higher amount of Council Tax in relation to the value of their homes, than people who live in higher value homes.

The consultation includes different potential approaches designed to make the tax fairer, including adding new Council Tax bands, changing the tax-rates charged for each band, and reviewing discounts and reductions.

The consultation also asks about the pace of change people would like to see. The earliest date for any changes coming into effect is 1 April 2025. However, changes could be deferred until the next Senedd term, or introduced in stages.

In parallel with this work, the Valuation Office Agency, is preparing to carry out a proposed revaluation of all 1.5 million homes in Wales to ensure valuations are up-to-date and in line with current property values.

Under Welsh Government plans, revaluations would happen every 5 years to ensure people are paying the right amount of Council Tax in relation to the value of their property. This also provides an opportunity every 5 years to keep looking at the tax bands and tax-rates, so we can keep making it fairer.

While property prices have generally increased, this does not mean that Council Tax bills will automatically rise. Many people's bills would stay the same after reforms and some would fall.

The Welsh Government's 3 proposed approaches are:

- minimal reform: a revaluation of properties to check they are up-to-date but keeping the current 9 bands and tax-rates. This would bring the current system up-to-date and result in a small move in the direction of fairness
- modest reform: a revaluation plus further reforms to the tax-rates charged for each band, to spread Council Tax more fairly. This means bills for households in lower band properties would fall, and bills for

those in the highest band properties would rise. This would address both the outdatedness of the current system and also its unfair, regressive nature

- expanded reform: a revaluation plus further reforms including additional tax bands and changes to the tax-rates. This approach would see the number of bands increase from 9 to 12, adding 1 band at the bottom for the lowest value properties in Wales, and 2 more bands at the top, for the most expensive properties valued at over £1.2 million. This would be a decisive move in the direction of fairness

The Institute for Fiscal Studies has released an independent report today, providing illustrative examples for how the 3 approaches could look in different parts of Wales and for different types of households.

Nearly half of households in Wales currently receive a discount or reduction on their Council Tax bill, through the numerous discounts and exemptions, and our national Council Tax Reduction Scheme. This will not change because of this work.

Minister for Finance and Local Government, Rebecca Evans, said: We are asking people to help us shape the future of Council Tax in Wales. Achieving a fairer Council Tax will be one of the single most beneficial actions this government can take towards making Wales a more equal nation. The benefits will be felt in the pockets of many households. This is not about raising more money from taxes and changes are not going to happen overnight. We see this very much as being a gradual process and that is why we are also asking for views on the pace of change.

This work is being carried out in collaboration with Plaid Cymru, as a part of the Co-operation Agreement commitment between the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru.

Plaid Cymru Designated Member Cefin Campbell said: It is widely recognised that Council Tax is outdated and long overdue for reform. This consultation is asking for the views of people across Wales on what a Council Tax could look like in the future and how we can make it fairer. While change is needed, it will take time meaning bills will not change immediately. We are consulting not only on what needs to change, but when the changes could come into place.

RELATED

- [Council Tax\(Sub-topic\)](#)

- [A Fairer Council Tax: phase 2.](#)

First published: 14th November 2023. Last updated: 14th November 2023

Llyfrgell Rhiwabon Library

Be sy 'mlaen! What's on!

Pob Wythnos/Weekly...

Dydd Llun/Monday

- Chwarae a Darllen Duplo/Duplo Play & Read 1.00 – 2.00
- Siarad Cymraeg 1.45 – 2.45
- Clwb Lego Teulu/Family Lego Club 3.30 -4.30

Dydd Iau/Thursday

- Quiet Hour 9.15 - 10.15

Dydd Gwener/Friday

- Gwau a Sgwrs/Knit & Natter 2.00 - 4.00
- Ail ddydd Mercher y mis - 2nd Wednesday of the month –
- Crefftau Creadigol /Creative Crafts 2.15
- Trydydd dydd Mercher y mis - 3rd Wednesday of the month
- Amser i Gofio /Time to Remember 2.00
- Dydd Mercher olaf y mis - Last Wednesday of the month –
- Ruabon Readers 2.00 - 3.00
