

# RUABON NEWS LETTER 520



## Teulu Cymru: Support for Families in Wales

Being a parent is the most rewarding job in the world, but it can sometimes be the hardest.

[Teulu Cymru](#) is there to help, and hopefully make things that little bit easier.

If you're looking for information on childcare or financial support, Teulu Cymru can help. There's advice from experts, as well as tips and other information to help you along the way.

### Teulu Cymru provides information about:

- childcare and local family support
- parenting tips and advice
- family finances

Croeso i'r teulu, welcome to the family!

Follow the link below for full details –

[https://www.gov.wales/teulu-cymru,](https://www.gov.wales/teulu-cymru)

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## Quarry Bank Mill Trip

Friday, 26th April 2024

Year 8 and 9 students have spent the day learning about the cotton mill in Quarry Bank Mill.

Students experienced the Apprentice House where 90 children slept and ate after a 12 hour day in the mill.

They saw the different stages of manual cotton production, and then how it changed with the Industrial Revolution and the invention of machines, with students experiencing the noisy conditions that these children worked in.

One National Trust volunteer remarked that the students were excellently behaved and a credit to the school and their families.



## REME Visit

Tuesday, 23rd April

Thank you to [Royal Engineers](#) (REME) for based challenge to Year 9

The challenge highlighted important life skills such as teamwork, communication and problem solving.

More information on the REME is below

<https://www.army.mod.uk/who-we-are/corps-regiments-and-units/corps-of-royal-electrical-and-mechanical-engineers-reme/>

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## **THE BRITISH ARMY**

EXPLORE ARMY JOBS

Protecting the nation by being ready to fight and win wars on land

2024

[Electrical and Mechanical](#) delivering the STEM pupils.



## Song for Wrexham Project

On Friday, 19th April 2024:

Year 7 students took part in a work shop with the beatboxer, Song for Wrexham competition.

Students produced lyrics for a rap about the school and the community.

Students will be taking part in a series of workshops in the next few weeks and will be creating more lyrics and perform and record their compositions.

If their song is successful in the Song for Wrexham competition the school could win £1,000 worth of music activities or tuition.

The winning song will be professionally recorded and performed by the school at the Wrexham Co-operative Summer Gala Concert, held at the William Aston Hall in July.

The students involved had a fantastic afternoon, and enjoyed the



session.



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## Employability Skills

Tuesday, 16th April 2024

Year 11 pupils learnt about employability skills today, gaining valuable knowledge and understanding of what to expect at an interview, and the skills they need for future success.

Thank you to Alex & Lucy from [Hafren Dyfrdwy](https://www.hdcymru.co.uk/) for sharing their skills, knowledge & experience.

More information can be found at <https://www.hdcymru.co.uk/>



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## National Office for Care and Support formally launched

**The Minister for Social Care, Dawn Bowden has welcomed the launch of the new National Office for Care and Support, which marks another important step towards a National Care Service in Wales.** First published: 22 April 2024 Last updated: 22

April 2024

With a focus on innovation, improvement and transformation of adult and children's services, the [National Office for Care and Support](#) forms a major part of the Welsh Government's longer term goal to strengthen social care arrangements at a national level.

The launch of the national office is the first part of the phased plan to implement the National Care Service, which is a shared priority in the Co-operation Agreement between the Welsh

Government and Plaid Cymru.

The National Office for Care and Support will primarily focus on supporting the Chief Social Care Officer for Wales in their role, delivering a National Care Service for Wales, and implementing the National Commissioning

## **Framework for Care and Support in Wales.**

### **Newly-appointed Minister for Social Care**

#### **Dawn Bowden said:**

The number of people aged 85 and over in Wales is projected to increase by more than 65% over the next 20 years – it is to be celebrated that we are living longer but it also means we need to radically rethink how we care for our older population.

The launch of the National Office for Care and Support is another important milestone in our ambitious journey to create a National Care and Support Service. It will be crucial to help guide the sector as it drives improvements in access to care and the experience of service users.

It will also play an essential role in the integration of health and social care, working closely with the NHS Executive to ensure Wales' health and social care system is fit for the future.

Albert Heaney, Chief Social Care Officer for Wales, said:

The national office will bring together the 22 local authorities, involve people who use social care services, their carers, the workforce, professional bodies, and key partners to work together to delivery national priorities, quality standards, particularly in relation to commissioning of care and support services.

It will help me, as the chief social care officer to direct resources where they are most in need and benefit the most vulnerable, driving improvement in the national delivery of social care in Wales to achieve better and more equitable outcomes, access, and service-user experience.

Plaid Cymru Designated Member Cefin Campbell said:

As our society gets older we need to look carefully at how we care for our oldest citizens and provide a system that works for everyone and is free at the point of need. The establishment of the National Office for Care and Support is a small but important step in delivering this vision.

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# Family Fun Day

St Mary's Church Ruabon

## 18th May 2024

Starts at 12:00 Noon

**Teddy Zip Wire From The Tower  
Glitter Tattoo's  
Guess The Name of The Teddy  
Cake Stall  
Tours Up The Tower  
Tombola  
Punch & Judy Show  
+ Lots More**

# FREE ENTRY

A Small Charge Will Apply For Activities

Hot Dogs & Refreshments Available

## Everyone Welcome!

All Proceeds Raised From Refreshments &  
Activities Go Towards  
Church Maintenance & Organ Fund

Some exciting news from:

## FRIENDS OF RUABON

Our Fete this year will be on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June, from 1pm on the recreation ground in Ruabon.

There will be lots of activities for children and families, because we want to make this a fun and memorable event with something for everyone.

The pitch fee for stall holders is £7.50.

Tables, chairs and gazebos need to be provided by the stall holders this year.

We are looking for a various range of stalls so you may wish to consider:

crafts, cakes, plants,  
vintage table top sale items  
and games

You will be able to unload on the field and then park cars on the carpark near to the ground,

There will be plenty of people to help with your set-up.

Please email: [sarahmather13@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahmather13@btinternet.com) if you are interested in having a stall or wish to help and support in a different way.



Girls laugh,  
learn and  
expand their  
horizons  
for ages 10 to 14

**Guides**

1st Ruabon  
Guides



**We help all girls know  
they can do anything**

At Guides, all girls are welcome  
to enjoy our fun-filled space,  
where she'll make good friends,  
learn to be herself, explore what  
she loves and do stuff she's  
never done before!

**We have spaces in our group**

Meeting  
day

**Thursday**

**Join our Guides group**  
[girlguiding.org.uk/joinus](http://girlguiding.org.uk/joinus)



## 20mph: Transport Secretary Outlines Plan for Targeted Change

TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2024, 13:00

**The Welsh Government will listen to the people of Wales and work with councils to deliver targeted change to the implementation of 20mph, Cabinet Secretary Ken Skates has said.**

In a speech outlining his transport priorities to the Senedd, the Cabinet Secretary pledged to put the voice of Welsh citizens at the heart of decision making on transport while setting out a three-phase plan on 20mph.

Alongside a national listening programme, the Welsh Government will work jointly with local authorities to prepare the ground for changes, revising the guidance on which local roads can be exempted from 20mph.

The revised guidance will be published in July, with Councils expected to start detailed consultation on changes from September.

## **This is part of a three-phase plan which includes:**

- **A Genuine Programme of Listening to People.**
- Between now and July we will listen to citizens; to bus drivers, emergency services, the police, to young people, vulnerable people, to businesses and to councillors in county, town and community councils, in order to understand their perspectives on road safety in residential areas.
- **Work in partnership with key bodies to prepare the ground for change.**
- Councils are already looking at local roads where changes might be needed. As part of our listening programme, we will encourage people to get in touch with their local council to tell them where they think 20mph should be targeted. Alongside this, the Welsh Government will revise the exceptions guidance, again by working in partnership with councils
- **Deliver the necessary changes on the ground.**
- Once local authorities have worked with communities and new guidance is finalised, highway authorities will be able to commence the process of adjusting speed limits on relevant roads. We expect this process to begin from September.

### **The Cabinet Secretary said:**

*“We’ve started by listening. I have been clear in all my conversations that we will put communities at the heart of our thinking and will listen to people.*

*“As I have already said there is growing consensus on safe speeds in communities that we can build from. We continue to believe 20mph is the right speed limit in places such as near schools, hospitals, nurseries, community centres, play areas and in built-up residential areas.*

*“The principal objective of the policy is to save lives and reduce casualties on our roads. What I am doing now is listening to what people want for the roads in their communities, and pressing ahead with refining the policy and getting the right speed on the right roads. .”*

Over the next months the Cabinet Secretary is encouraging people in Wales to let their council know where they think 20mph could be better targeted.

### **The Transport Secretary added:**

*“Ultimately, the degree of change in each of our 22 local authority areas will not be determined by me and the Welsh*

*Government, but by the public and by councils as the highway authority for most residential roads.”*

*Information on how people can contact their local authority will be available on the Welsh Government website. -ENDS-*

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## Written Statement: Update on the Development of a Deposit Return Scheme

- **Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs**
- First published: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Last updated: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

In working to deliver on our commitment to securing a stronger, fairer and more sustainable future for Wales, we have been working to develop a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) for drinks containers in line with the commitment to bring forward a scheme in *Beyond Recycling*, our circular economy strategy, and *Net Zero Wales*, our emissions reduction plan.

Wales is already a recycling nation; our recycling performance is the highest in the UK and amongst the very best in the world. Our track record of delivery has been underpinned by clear long-term goals, consistent policy, a progressive regulatory regime and sustained investment – supported by successful partnership with industry and with our Local Authorities.

Building on our success to date, we are committed to continuing our journey, recognising both the environmental imperative of the climate and nature emergency and the economic importance for resilience and competitiveness in a decarbonising global economy. Following the recent introduction of our Workplace Recycling Regulations, the implementation of a DRS for Drink Containers in parallel with the introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging is an important next step.

International evidence shows that a DRS is an extremely effective way to capture drinks containers so that they are not wasted and can go back into the economy. By doing so, not only is it effective in tackling emissions and dramatically reducing litter, but it also reduces the need to extract raw materials and the damage that can cause, supports reuse and the recycling of materials and reduces the energy needed in manufacturing. By securing high quality source separated recyclable materials and potentially reusable containers, it can be a crucial enabler of a more circular economy, benefitting producers and

consumers, creating new economic opportunities, and reducing reliance on volatile global supply chains.

I am therefore pleased to be making a joint statement along with the Ministers responsible for the development of the scheme in England, Northern Ireland and Scotland on the progress that has been made in developing shared positions to maximise the interoperability between our respective schemes.

From the outset, the Welsh Government has sought to work in partnership with the other governments to develop a coordinated approach to a DRS. I therefore welcome the agreement we have reached following intensive work in partnership with our counterparts in the other UK nations to agree a clear framework for interoperability across a wide range of areas which will collectively underpin our schemes. These include on the deposit level, the size of containers in scope, an exemption for low volume products, registration and reporting, labelling and return points.

We have also agreed to delay the implementation of DRS in Wales in line with the other nations so that the UK schemes will be brought in at the same time in October 2027. In doing so we have collectively recognised the call from industry and drawn upon learning from international schemes emphasising the need to provide sufficient time for industry to prepare and the infrastructure to be put in place. However, with the announcement today underlining the commitment from all four nations to progress with a scheme and setting out the detailed areas of interoperability, I would underline the need for industry to now begin preparations at pace.

In the meantime, as a government we will continue to prepare for the implementation of a DRS in Wales. In progressing our scheme our intention remains to bring forward a scheme that is in line with our commitments covering PET plastic, aluminium, steel, and glass. The Welsh Government has been consistent throughout, and our position has not changed – and remains consistent with the position we consulted on jointly with the UK Government, to which an overwhelming number of respondents (86%) supported the inclusion of glass. It also remains consistent with the final scheme design, agreed and published jointly with the UK Government following the consultation and is consistent with the Scottish Government's preferred approach.

I note with regret that the UK Government has not responded to industry calls for consistency in the materials covered by reevaluating its decision to diverge away from the previously agreed common approach. We respect however that in this devolved area it is a matter for the UK Government to determine what form of DRS works best for England; just as it is our responsibility to determine the form of DRS for Wales. I also acknowledge that the very different context

in England means that considerable gains in recycling can still be achieved from a narrower and less ambitious scheme. Even if questions around its effectiveness in supporting a transition to net zero will remain.

For Wales, our already world class recycling puts us in a different position, necessitating a more ambitious approach if we are to justify the significant investment and change of consumer behaviour a DRS requires. It also puts us in a unique position, with no other examples where a DRS has been introduced into an already high recycling nation. I reiterate that Wales's baseline and landscape is different to our UK counterparts. Our Well-being of Future Generations Act also requires us to look beyond the short term and ensure our decisions are evidence based.

The evidence on glass is clear. With over 50 successful international examples of DRSs where the overwhelming majority include glass as standard. Not only should Wales not have to settle for less than the international best practice standard, but it is essential if we are to continue to make progress against our baseline and ensure the scheme will be effective in supporting the transition to net zero.

Having looked at international schemes such as those in Finland, Estonia, Denmark, Lithuania, the US, Canada and Australia, it is striking that the best examples not only include glass but are already supporting the reuse of glass bottles. As alluded to in the title of our circular economy strategy, *Beyond Recycling*, and underlined by our programme for government commitments, supporting a move to more widespread reuse is a necessity if we are to be able to move to a circular economy and transition to net zero. With the best international DRS schemes already supporting up to 60% of glass bottles to be reused, this transforms what is the most energy and carbon intensive material into the most sustainable current option. Bringing win-win benefits to both businesses and consumers alike.

Excluding glass whilst all other materials are included therefore not only risks there not being a level playing field, which may result in producers changing material for less environmentally friendly and higher carbon options, but also excludes what is currently the most sustainable potential option. It also risks hampering the ability of the glass sector to transition and remain competitive, with high quality source separated material being crucial to delivering to increasing recycled content against the legal requirements that will be in place in any event. Fundamentally it also adds complication for consumers - with one scheme covering all material types being far simpler. The question around putting glass in is when, not if, and with Wales being prepared to take these

steps on glass in, and supporting a pathway to reuse, we can provide invaluable learning for our neighbouring countries.

Whilst our preference remains the aligned scheme previously agreed, I note the threat the UK Government have made to repeat their actions in Scotland by using the Internal Market Act to restrict our ability to go further and impose a watered-down DRS on Wales. The Welsh Government supports the proper regulation of the internal market, which we agree needs to be protected. However as shown by international examples of different approaches to DRS being delivered within a single market - including by small nations with porous borders - delivering different schemes that are responsive to the different contexts in our respective nations is eminently feasible.

Moreover, the history to date in this very policy area is one where devolved Governments being able to use the tools of devolution to innovate has added significant value to the UK as a whole. In Wales we are rightly proud of the fact that we were the first in the UK to bring in the carrier bag charge. Its overwhelming success having seen it adopted by the rest of the UK and highlighting that piloting approaches in devolved areas can add significant value to the UK as a whole. The approach to the bans on single use plastic is another more recent example where the devolved Governments within the UK are driving change and in a DRS context, last week I announced the positive outcome of a world first full-town digital deposit return scheme trial in Brecon.

The misuse of the Internal Market Act as a means to restrict devolution is not about the market – as evidenced by the UK Government’s refusal to re-examine its decision to diverge from what was the common position. Our objection to the Act lies in the fact that it is open to abuse as it places all the power with the UK Government and goes far beyond the structures needed to ensure economic and regulatory cooperation between the nations of the UK. Innovation is a key part of a successful common market; it does not serve the interests of the UK as a whole to stifle Wales’ ability to innovate and seek to tie it to the lowest common denominator. The Internal Market Act should not be used to seek to impose policy on devolved governments, regardless of our own policy aims or very different domestic context.

Going forward, the Welsh Government remains committed to working positively and constructively in partnership as four nations to deliver DRS across the UK as we have done throughout. In addition to the range of areas where we have collectively agreed the interoperability arrangements published today, to further maximise alignment we will be drawing from the UK Government’s legislation for England and Northern Ireland in now drafting the legislation for the Welsh scheme.



In parallel we will continue our preparations, working in partnership with local authorities, producers, retailers and other businesses to progress the scheme as a key part of our move to a circular economy. In addition, as well as continuing our work trialling the potential for a digital approach as part of a DRS, we are working with industry to bring forward a pilot for reuse drawing on the evidence from successful examples we have seen working in countries similar to ours.

Our aim is to bring forward a scheme based on international best practice, which will not only help tackle the blight of litter but will also support our drinks industry to transition and be resilient and competitive in a decarbonising **global economy. Fundamentally, it must also be effective in helping to tackle** the climate and nature emergency by learning from the known solutions which are being delivered successfully elsewhere.

Wales is already a recycling nation. To be effective our Deposit Return Scheme must help us to take a further step forward. The Welsh DRS can expect to be groundbreaking as the first scheme of its type implemented in a nation already achieving high recycling rates.

[First published 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Last updated 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024](#)

## Library News for the week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> April



Wrexham Library Information service and Wrexham Carnival of Words would like to thank everyone who attended their recent literary festival. It was a great success and we had some very positive feedback. We'd also like to thank all of the authors, sponsors, interviewers and participants for their amazing efforts and support. We look forward to seeing you all next year!

### Tir na n-Og Scheme

Every year, schools and book clubs across Wales take part in the Tir na n-Og Shadowing Scheme, with the Readers' Choice Award for the book that receives the most votes from children and young people. If you'd like to read any of the shortlisted books, we have them on display at Brynteg Library. You can also take part in the Tir na n-Og treasure hunt whilst visiting the library – the clue cards are hidden amongst the shelves!

### Knit and Natter

Knitting isn't just about creating new cardigans or socks; research has found it can reduce depression and anxiety, slow down the onset of dementia, distract from chronic pain and can lower your heart rate by 11 beats per minute. Throw in a dollop of a good old natter in a comfortable and relaxed environment and you could be on your way to improving your health and wellbeing. Wrexham Library have started a new Knit and Natter group, they meet every Monday 2-4pm and knitters of all ages and abilities are welcome. If you'd like to join a Knit and natter group but can't make this date then sessions take place in Cefn Mawr, Coedpoeth, Ruabon and

Rhos libraries on a weekly basis. So whether you're a beginner or an experienced knitter why not join these groups, where a warm welcome and a cup of tea awaits you?

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**Steven Gardner**

23<sup>rd</sup> April at 10:36 AM ·

This is the first memorial statue to the late Queen Elizabeth II.  
It was unveiled on Tuesday at Oakham, Rutland  
on what would have been her 98th birthday.



## John Short

25<sup>th</sup> April at 10:52 PM

### The Adventures of Mr Brodie

A beautiful sunny day at Souter Lighthouse, one of my favourite walks. The cafe was empty so we popped in for a coffee and a snack.



(bacon may have been involved).

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If EVER you need to contact a person who is Extremely Clever at finding out what is wrong with your computer, then I can honestly recommend:

**Mr Chris Williams.**

(Who is also a very kind and considerate Gentleman).



Based in Rhos, Wrexham

- Business User Support
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01978 846 967 or 07815 478 664  
chris@cw-cs.co.uk www.cw-cs.co.uk

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Hello Everyone,

It will probably be necessary for me to repeat the article for the “Plans for the targeted changes to the 20 MPH”, in order for everyone to be able to put their own reasons as to whether changes should take place or not.

Thank you,

Sybil (Bremner)