

February & March 2021



News from Middletown,
Trewern, Buttington &
Hope.

Facebook: Border Gossip
www.bordergossip.com

The Border Gossip

is produced six
times a year,
December & January
February & March
April & May
June & July
August &
September
October &
November

**Also available to
read online -
www.bordergossip.com**

**Many thanks to the volunteers listed below
who deliver the Border Gossip to every
house in the Middletown, Trewern,
Buttington & Hope area -**

Kim Mountford	Tony Jones	Andrew Lloyd
David Corfield	Kath Onions	Myfeda Hamer
Olwen & Dave Morrell	Rachael Lee	Eley Hart
Sally Bailey	Vic Pugh	Maggie Connolly
Philip Hughes	Ceinwen Jones	Brian Knox
Maureen Andrew	Viv Pritchard	Ian Bradley
Kate Urquhart	Caroline Clegg	Graham Balmond
	Peter Kenyon & team	Margaret Evans
		Brenda Salisbury
		David & Liz Leigh

Copies of the Border Gossip are also available from -

The Breidden Pub	Westbury Doctors Surgery
Green Dragon	Buttington / Trewern School
Admiral Rodney	Middletown Church
Halfway House Shop	Buttington Church
	Moo's Cafe

**Deliveries co-ordinator: Kim Sulway
Email—kimschick@outlook.com**

Disclaimer

The Editor reserves the right to cut, edit or refuse to publish any contribution and does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed by contributors. Whilst care has been taken in compiling Border Gossip no liability can be accepted whatsoever for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions, or for any matter in any other way connected with or arising out of the publication of the magazine.

The Border Gossip is delivered, free of charge, to every house in the Trewern Community Council area.

The Border Gossip relies on advertising revenue and personal donations to cover the cost of printing the 700 copies which is now done by Kingsley Press, Portland House, Llandrinio, Llanymynech, SY22 6SG.

We hope you are enjoying reading the news and will

continue to send your donations to
**Marion Hayes, 4 Breidden Meadow,
Middletown SY21 8BY
(cheques payable to 'Border Gossip')**

Thank you very much to all the advertisers, especially those who have recently renewed their advert. Many thanks for all donations

A note from the BG team:

Happy New Year!

I was hoping to be able to meet up with the new editor in January but due to new lockdown rules this wasn't possible. I will hopefully be sorting this out asap.

Unfortunately due to lockdown rules, the BG team thought it was best to do an online only issue this time. Hopefully the next will be printed.

Thank you for your continued support, Kim M

The deadline for the next issue is **22nd March**

If you have any questions, stories or interesting items to put in the border gossip please feel free to contact me through the Facebook page or email me. Email is temperamental so I will send confirmation if I receive something.

Facebook: Border Gossip or bordergossip@hotmail.com

Kim Mountford



Editor

Marion Hayes



Treasurer / Advertising

Kim Sulway



Deliveries Co-ordinator

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Cabinets outside
**Middletown Village Hall
& The Cefn Chapel**

**Enter code C 1 2 3, then turn knob
firmly to the right to open.**

Any problems with either unit please contact
Gill Corfield 01938 570260 or 07753 685 260 or
Judy Evans 01938 570501 or 07751 041 350

POLICE

When it is less urgent than 999
Call 101 or 01267 222020

PCSO Gary Gwilt of Dyfed Powys
Police at Welshpool

Gary Gwilt SCCH 8054/PCSO 8054

Email: [gary.gwilt@dyfed-](mailto:gary.gwilt@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk)

[powys.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gary.gwilt@dyfed-powys.pnn.police.uk)



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Notices

Buttington Trewern CP School PTFA

We will be having an outdoor permanent clothes donation bin located in the school car park. It will be arriving in the next few weeks so please donate if you are having a clear out. It will help us to raise essential funds to support our children in school.

Thank you

Buttington Trewern Community Centre

Booking Secretary – Anne Jerman 01938 570320

Facebook: buttington trewern community centre

Weekly Events:

Monday

Playgroup

Bowls 01938 556243

Zumba 6.15 – 7.15pm

Tuesday

Playgroup

Knitting / Craft Group

Pilates Class

Wednesday

Playgroup

Thursday

Playgroup

Friday

Playgroup

Saturday

Knitting / Craft Group

Meet alternate Tuesdays at
Trewern Community Centre

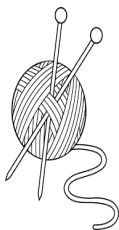
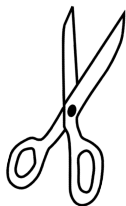
1.30 -3.30 pm
Term Time Only

Contacts:-

Margaret 570518

Linda 570529

Pam 570001



Join us for tea/coffee,
Biscuits and a chat.

We charge £1.20 per session to cover cost
of Community room
and refreshments

Ysgol Gynradd

Buttington Trewern CP School

Head Master - Colin Jenkins 01938 570283

Please refer to website for school news.

School PTFA

Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

Chairperson – Karen Williams –

07772 260 382

Secretaries – Kim Mountford 0781496476

- Kat Parkes

Treasurer – Lorraine Pryce - 07825 326 532

www.trewern.powys.sch.uk

Ti a Fi Group / Cylch Ti a Fi Welsh Mother & Toddler Group

Facebook: Ti a Fi Buttington/Trewern

Buttington / Trewern
Community Centre

Tuesdays 9.30 – 11am. £2.50 per family

Lots of toys, games and crafts for children to explore and play with whilst interacting with other children.

Children from new-born to pre-school welcome along with their parent, carer or child minder.

Refreshments for children and adults included.

Welsh and Non-Welsh speaking welcome.

Canolfan Gymunedol
Buttington / Trewern

Dydd Mawrth 9.30 – 11yb £2.50 y teulu

Llawer o deganau, gemau a chrefftau I blant gael archwyllo a chwarae efo tra'n cydweithio efo plant eraill. Croesawn plant newydd-anedig hyd at oed ysgol efo'i rhieni, gofalwr neu gwarchodwr plant.

Yn cynnwys lluniaeth ar gyfer y plant a'r oedolion. Croesawn Cymry Cymraeg a'r di-Gymraeg

Doors open from 9am

Buttington Trewern Playgroup

Buttington Trewern School

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri - 8.30am – 11am

Optional lunch club – 11am – 12.30pm ~ £5 per session

Do you have a child aged 3 to school age?

Are you looking for a fun, supportive pre-school environment for your child?

Do you want your child to learn to socialise and develop their independence while being cared for by experienced, friendly staff?

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- Funding for 3 year olds (children accepted the term following their 3rd birthday)
- 2 free sessions a week to families who are receiving income support

Contact Play Leader Jenny Knight at

buttingtontrewernplaygroup@gmail.com for more information

" Both of my children attended Buttington Trewern Playgroup and loved it. Having the chance to learn some independence and make new friends before starting school was invaluable", Mrs E Jones, Trewern.

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Bar

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Tue to Thur	12.00 - 14.00
<i>and</i>	16.30 – 23.00
Fri & Sat	Open all day

Food served

Sun	12.00 – 15.00
Tue to Sat	12.00 – 14.00
<i>and</i>	17.30 – 20.00

Local Residents targeted by Scammers

Dyfed-Powys Police wish to warn residents of scams currently prevalent in the area.



Texts and emails are being sent to lure people to apply for the Covid-19 vaccine.

DC Gareth Jordan, from the Cyber Crime Unit, said: *The text is made to look like it comes from the NHS and states 'we have identified that you*

*are eligible to apply for your vaccine' and advises you to follow a link to get more information and 'apply'. If you follow the link, you are taken to a convincing looking, but fake NHS website that asks for your personal details. After entering your details, it then requests bank/card details to check your identity. Also, **beware of cold calls and emails regarding the vaccine as scammers are also asking people to pay for it over the phone.** Remember – the vaccine is free of charge and there is no way to jump the queue by paying for a "priority slot".*

Be on your guard against an Amazon scam.

Residents are being called, sometimes by an automated message, with scammers pretending to be from the online retailing giant to say that £79.97 is owed on their Amazon account– but if they don't want to pay, they can cancel Amazon by pressing '1'.

There may also be a call that states there has been unauthorised spending on the account (often over £1,000), and again, the request is to press '1' to go through to the 'Fraud Department'.

A police spokesperson says if 1 is pressed, then the scammers will attempt to get as many personal details as possible from the victim, and then try to gain access to their bank details. For any of these types of call, it is best to hang up immediately. If you don't have an Amazon account you will know the call is fake. Otherwise, check your account online by using the app on your phone, or by typing in the correct url such as www.amazon.uk and log into your account that way to check.

Police advice:

- **If you receive one of these phone calls, hang up and block the number.**
- **Confirm requests are genuine by using a known number or email address to contact organisations directly.**
- **Do not click on links or attachments in unexpected or suspicious texts or emails.**
- **If you have received an email, which you are not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at report@phishing.gov.uk.**
- **Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to 7726. This free-of-charge code enables your provider to investigate the origin of the text and take action, if found to be malicious. An easy way to remember 7726 is that they are the numbers on your telephone keypad that spell out the word SPAM.**
- **The NHS, the police, or your bank, will never ask you to withdraw money or transfer it to a different account. They will also never ask you to reveal your full banking password or PIN.**
- **Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen victim to a scam and report it to the Police.**

see www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/news



Middletown Three Cheers

Coffee, Cake & Company

Helpers - Roz Evans, Beryl Powell, Tony Hill

Contact – Sue Hill 07761056156



Great Wollaston & Middletown Churches are inviting everyone to a coffee morning once a month in Middletown Village Hall, 10.30 till 12.00pm. This is an event organised by volunteers on behalf of the churches as a service to the community. The idea is to come along, have a drink, chat and make new friends. In 2019 it will run on the 4th Tuesday of each month. It is a free event but people are very kind and donate towards the village hall costs. All the cakes and drinks are made by the volunteers.

Future dates TBC

Please continue to support the village hall and need help to eat all

- Future Dates:**
28th April
 23rd June 28th July 25th August 22nd September
 27th October 24th November 15th December

A Chill Wind Blowing through Welshpool?

A chill wind is blowing down the high street, as shopping & banking practices change. Changes which have been accelerated by the pandemic.



W H Smith closes on 27 February, Oliver's in Spring due to retirement, Janeeva in Summer and now HSBC have announced that the last day of trading at their Welshpool branch will be 24 September.

These closure will leave large gaps in the Town Centre which may be difficult to fill in the current economic climate.. Premises vacated by NatWest bank in September 2017 remain unoccupied.



Police are asking us to review our security measures after eight thefts were reported over the past month along the Montgomeryshire border with West Mercia.

Power tools and farm equipment have been targeted as thieves step up their activity in the area, with police asking for our help to report suspicious activity. Inspector Matthew Price said: *Local officers will be targeting suspicious activity along the borders and I would also ask that any suspicious people/activities are reported to the police.*

I would encourage residents to ensure that their property is secure and valuables are protectively marked and locked away. +

*There isn't a big problem with burglary in our area. However, a lapse of security in general can allow burglars to enter your home or your outbuildings. **Taking some simple precautions to protect yourself and your property against crime can not only make you feel safer, it can also reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime:***

- **Fit strong locks to your doors and windows and make sure you always keep them fully locked;**
- **Try to make your home look occupied if you are away from your property overnight. Invest in a plug-in timer for lamps and radios;**
- **Consider installing a burglar alarm. A burglar alarm fitted properly can deter a burglar and the sight of an alarm box outside your home may be enough to discourage them;**
- **Prevent intruders getting to the back and sides of your home by installing strong fencing or gates;**
- **Never leave a spare key in a convenient hiding place such as under the doormat, in a flowerpot or behind a loose brick - thieves know to look there first;**
- **Use movement sensitive lights externally;**
- **If you are replacing or fitting new doors and windows, get ones that are certified to British Standard BS7950 (windows) and PAS 24-1 (doors);**
- **Fit a door chain or bar and door viewer (spy-hole) and use them every time someone calls;**
- **Ensure good quality locks are fitted to your shed and are securely locked. Windows should be fitted with locks.**

Middletown Village Hall

Chairman – Stuart Hughes 01938 570504
Booking Secretary – Kath Onions 01938 570286
Treasurer – Judy Evans 01938 570501
www.middletownvillagehall.co.uk

Weekly Events:

Monday

Bingo

Tuesday

Wednesday

Border Club
(2nd Wed of the month)

Thursday

Whist Drive
(1st Thur of the month)

Good Companions
(3rd Thur of the month)

Friday

Saturday

Whist Drive
(1st Sat of the month)

Garden Group Jean Dorril



01938570570

Email –
jdorril@yahoo.com

BINGO

Every Monday Night 8 pm
Middletown Village Hall

Everyone Welcome (over 18)

Bus starts from

Montgomery - 7.07 pm

Berriew - 7.15 pm

Welshpool - 7.25 pm

Trewern - 7.35 pm

Membership Fee 10p.



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We are extremely grateful for donations to ensure the Border Gossip can continue to bring you the latest news from the area.

We are very grateful for any donations we receive and thank you so much for all your support.

If you would like to make a donation please contact Marion. Every donation ensures we can keep producing The Border Gossip for you to enjoy. Thank you

Marion Hayes - marionkhayes@hotmail.com

Mobile Library Bus



Powys CC have suspended all mobile library services until further notice due to Covid-19.

Local Recycling

Paper Bank

in the car

park of Middletown Village Hall raises money for the Village Hall.



Timetable for Celtic Travel Bus Service X75 (valid from 29 June 2020, Mon-Sat, except public holidays)

The X75 service leaves FOR SHREWSBURY from:



Buttington – Green Dragon	0748	0951	1151	1351	1546	1706	
Trewern - Little Chef	0752	0955	1155	1355	1550	1710	
Middletown – Breidden Pub	0756	0959	1159	1359	1554	1714	

The X75 service leaves FOR WELSHPOOL from:

Middletown – Breidden Pub	0730 Sch	0955	1155	1355	1505	1705	1825
Trewern – Little Chef	0734 Sch	0959	1159	1359	1509	1709	1829
Buttington – Green Dragon	0738 Sch	1003	1203	1403	1513	1713	1833

Introducing a new series of online events, known as the “Monty Hour”



Are you struggling with lockdown? This might be a way of replacing some of the regular and one-off events that people are missing so much because of the pandemic.

A group of Montgomery residents have started up **Monty Hour** sessions

which are open to all who are interested in topics relevant to Montgomery and its place in the world.

The hour will usually take the format of a presentation given by one or more speakers followed by a question and answer session. Topics will be very wide ranging with the initial set including wildlife, reading, history, travel and celebrations. The first session featured a wildlife talk by Simon & Clare Boyes from Middletown.

The Zoom sessions, all taking place at 7-8pm on a Wednesday evening, can be accessed via <https://montgomery.cloud/hour>. There is no obligation to participate, just log on and enjoy the presentation. See future topics below. The schedule will be updated on the website.

03 Feb 2021	The History of Montgomery
10 Feb 2021	An Independent Wales?
17 Feb 2021	Gardening for Wildlife
24 Feb 2021	A Passage to India
10 Mar 2021	Growing Up in Montgomery
31 Mar 2021	Celebrating Passover

PICTURE: The Monty Hour logo was designed and created by Keri Castrelo Brignell.

Census 2021 will provide a snapshot of modern society

Households across Powys will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales.

The logo for the 2021 Census, featuring the word "census" in a lowercase, rounded, purple font, with "2021" below it in a similar but slightly larger font.

It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

"A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed," Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said.

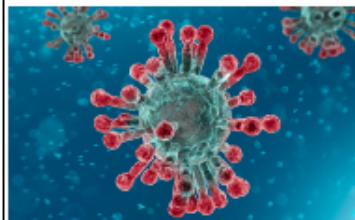
"This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That's why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them."

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

In Wales, households will also be asked a specific question about their Welsh language skills. And those who wish to complete the census in Welsh can do so both online and in paper form. There are "Cymraeg" and "English" buttons to switch between languages at any time online, and on paper you can use Welsh and English on the same form.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](https://www.census.gov.uk)



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates

Welsh Government website

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

Find detailed information on many topics including guidance on:

- How to protect yourself and others from coronavirus
- Self-isolating if there is a possible coronavirus infection in your household
- Legislation made to respond to the pandemic

Level 4 Restrictions mean that everyone must:

- Stay at home
- Meet only the people you live with
- Work from home if you can
- Wear a face covering where required
- Wash your hands regularly
- Stay 2 metres from anyone you do not live with
- Not travel without reasonable excuse.

REMEMBER *'exercise should start and finish from your home and generally, this should not involve people driving to a location away from home. Where people need to drive to access exercise, the journey should be to the nearest convenient accessible location. No long journeys should be undertaken unless absolutely necessary. The need to carry sports equipment is not regarded as a justification on its own for driving in these circumstances. Leaving your home to exercise should not be used as an excuse to undertake other activity which is not permitted. The purpose of leaving home is to exercise. Going for a walk and then having a picnic or spending a prolonged period on a park bench, for example, is not considered to be exercise.'*

Don't forget, the Border Gossip also has a Facebook page! If you are not on Facebook, no problem!! Just email us and we can put something on for you!

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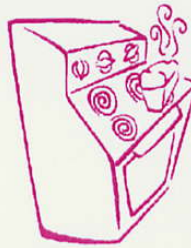
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Flicks in the Sticks



Welshpool Assembly Room in Town Hall:

7.00pm Adult: £3.50, Child £2.50

Tickets on door (Doors open 6.30pm)

Enquiries: 01938 552043 (Welshpool Tourist Information Centre)

Please contact the tourist centre to enquire about future showings.

If giving is in your blood, please help

The Welsh Blood Service is calling on readers to sign up and give blood in Welshpool as the ongoing pandemic continues to create supply challenges.

Now more than ever the service is counting on us all to save lives. **Attending a blood donor session is essential travel.** The service is based at the COWSHACC (scout headquarters & community centre in Berriew St Car Park).



Welsh Blood Service

Donating blood can only take minutes to give, but could last a lifetime for someone in need. You can find out the dates of the next scheduled sessions and book your

place through <https://wbs.wales/MyWelshpool>

Welshpool Rangers

For girls aged 14 years
& over

Meet every Thursday
Church House, Welshpool

Ranger Guide Leader

Judy Evans 01938 570501



Welshpool Guides

For girls aged 10 to
14 years

Meet every Thursday
Church House Welshpool

Guide Leader

Judy Evans 01938 570501



St Winefrides Catholic Church

Raven Street, Welshpool. 01938 555657

Father Johnson

Weekly Services - Saturday Vigil Mass - 6-30pm Sunday Mass 9am

THE GREEN DRAGON INN, BUTTINGTON - CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Due to recent Covid outbreaks the Green Dragon will be closed until further notice to protect customers and staff.

Please check our facebook page for up to date information. Stay safe, the Green Dragon team.



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DIJONES

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FRIENDLY - RELIABLE - PROFESSIONAL

COVERING POWYS AND SHROPSHIRE BORDERS



Contact us for a chat about your next project :

07495 462140

email :

djonescarpentryandbuilding@gmail.com



BUILDING SERVICES

- Renovation & Alterations
- Roofing & Lead Work
- Extensions & Garage Conversions
- Brick work, Stone work & Patios
- Dry lining, Plastering & Rendering
- 1st & 2nd fix Carpentry
- Flat roof Fiber-glassing
- Made-to-measure bespoke Joinery

VIVIENNES

Ladies Hairdressing - Open 6 Days
29 High Street, Welshpool
Tel: 01938 553227

LADS & DADS

Gentlemen's Barbers - Open 6 Days
(8am-2pm Saturday)
40 High Street, Welshpool

Do you have a business?

The Border gossip is delivered to 598 homes in the area. Why not advertise with us to reach more potential customers?

ADVERTISING IN THE BORDER GOSSIP

1/8 page - £25 for a year

1/4 page - £50 for a year

1/2 page - £100 for a year

For further information

Contact Marion Hayes:
marionkhayes@hotmail.com



Foot Health Practitioner

Lorraine Buswell

DipCFHP, MPSPract

Quality Foot care for pain
Relief and comfort

Mob: 07714 244359

Email: buswelluk@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile Service

Treatment in your own home



PILATES CLASS



Tuesdays

6.30pm-7.30pm Mixed Ability

7.30pm-8.30pm Intermediate

Buttington Trewern Community Centre

Cost: £30 per 6-week programme
(£5 per session)

Please contact Ennis Vingoe before
attending a session on:

ennis_vingoe@hotmail.com or 07803 583468



Back at it

Dave Farrow Dip FT&ST

Personal training

sports massage therapy

07964 991777

david.s.farrow@hotmail.co.uk

With the summer holidays fast approaching and lock-down relaxed, Welshpool Tourist Information Centre has re-opened with a "new look." Social distancing is in place.

As well as a wealth of useful information about Welshpool and the wider area, the TIC also has gifts for all ages, takeaway coffee/tea and train and coach tickets.

Currently open 9.30am – 3pm, Wed-Sat (may change in August & September).

Tel: 01938 552043

Welshpool Tourist Information Centre



PLUMBING AND HEATING SERVICES

Boiler Service and Repair
Boiler Instalations
Central Heating Systems
Bathroom Installations
Kitchen Installations
Underfloor Heating

**Free
Quotation**

Call 07855 670515/ 07907 462277
Email: brunantgroup@gmail.com

Local - Reliable - Professional - Trusted

When contacting businesses please make sure you mention to them that you saw their advert in the **Border Gossip!**

Our local Senedd Member, Russell George represents us, our families and our community in the Welsh Parliament. In “normal times” he holds advice surgeries throughout Montgomeryshire. During the remainder of the Winter and into Spring, he will continue to hold telephone or virtual meetings.

On Thursday 4 March, between 2.00pm and 6.00pm, he will hold an advice surgery specifically for Middletown & Trewern.

No prior appointment is required. Just telephone on the day or call in advance to book a call back time.

If a different day is more suitable for you, Russell will be happy to speak at another time that suits.



**RUSSELL
GEORGE MS**

Telephone or
VIRTUAL
surgery
appointments
available.

Please contact
me to make
appointment.

01686 610887

**Russell.George
@senedd.wales**