



News from Middletown,  
Trewern, Buttington & Hope.

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**April & May 2021**

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## 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](http://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](mailto: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 Easter to you all,

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

Thank you for your continued support, Kim M

The deadline for each issue is

**22nd of January, March, May,  
July, September & November.**

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](mailto:bordergossip@hotmail.com)**

Kim Mountford



Editor

Marion Hayes



Treasurer / Advertising

Kim Sulway



Deliveries Co-ordinator

## Defibrillators

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)

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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*

The Sainsbury's logo is displayed in white text on an orange background. It features the brand name 'Sainsbury's' in a sans-serif font, with a white wavy line underneath it.

**Welshpool Town Centre has been dealt another hammer blow with the news that the Sainsbury's store will close in July.**

Following shortly after recent announcements that Oliver's, HSBC & Janeeva will close in the coming months and with premises once occupied by Natwest Bank, WH Smith, the Pinewood public house, Hall's estate agents, a former butchers and a charity shop standing empty this is more bad news for the town and staff employed in the retail sector.

# 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

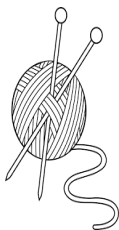
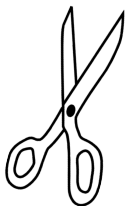
Term Time Only

#### 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](http://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?

**THEN BUTTINGTON TREWERN PLAYGROUP IS FOR YOU!**

We offer:

- A safe, secure environment with both indoor and outdoor play areas
- Excellent inspection reports from Estyn and CSSIW
- Close working links with Buttington Trewern school
- 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](mailto: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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Kevin Voice

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soot.sergeant@outlook.com

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your event in the printed Border  
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**Email: Sk9991@hotmail.co.uk  
theadmiralrodney1970@gmail.com**



### **Opening times**

#### Bar

<b>Sun</b>	<b>12.00 – 20.00</b>
<b>Tue to Thur</b>	<b>12.00 - 14.00</b>
<i>and</i>	<b>16.30 – 23.00</b>
<b>Fri &amp; Sat</b>	<b>Open all day</b>

#### Food served

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



## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.dyfed-powys.police.uk/news)

# Residents warned about council tax reduction scam

Powys residents are being warned about fake emails, letters and phone calls claiming to offer council tax reductions and refunds.

One persuasive email currently doing the rounds is disguised by government branding, the use of similar wording to government communications, and is signed "The Government Digital Service Team".



Powys County Council can confirm this is a scam and residents are urged not to click on any links or give away any personal details.

Council tax scams are all the more confusing given that legitimate council tax bills are being issued to residents around this time, so people could mistake these as being genuine. All official correspondence will address you by name at the start of the message.

Powys County Council does offer council tax payment breaks and reductions for those struggling with financial difficulties due to Covid, but residents need to apply for this on the council's website.

If you are targeted by one of these scams you can report it to Action Fraud, Citizens Advice or report the message as "phishing" to the NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) at [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)

To report suspicious text messages, forward the message to 7226. This is a free message which alerts your service provider who will then look into the origin of the text and block the number.

# 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  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month)

### Thursday

Whist Drive  
(1<sup>st</sup> Thur of the month)

Good Companions  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Thur of the month)

### Friday

### Saturday

Whist Drive  
(1<sup>st</sup> 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.



# 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 church and need help to eat all

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

## Garden Waste Collections Resume

With stickers being dispatched and bins for new customers being delivered, the 2021 garden waste recycling collections have begun.

If you haven't got round to renewing your subscription, or signing up for the first time, you can still do so anytime by visiting [www.powys.gov.uk/gardenwaste](http://www.powys.gov.uk/gardenwaste) or calling 01597 827465.



The annual subscription of £37, includes the hire of a 240-litre wheeled bin and fortnightly collections of your garden waste between 1 March and 3 December which, following resident's feedback, includes more collections than last year. A smaller 120-litre bin is available at a reduced rate for households with small gardens, or compostable garden waste sacks for those who have their residual rubbish collected in purple bags.

If you are re-subscribing for another year, you will receive a sticker to place on your green wheeled bin to help indicate to the crew that you have signed up for the 2021 collections. New subscribers to the service will have their green wheeled bin delivered by the council within 10 working days.

To improve the efficiencies of the rounds some day changes have been made so please check your collection day on your sticker or visit [www.powys.gov.uk/binday](http://www.powys.gov.uk/binday)



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# DONATIONS TO THE BORDER GOSSIP



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

A big thank you to

**\*Mike Jones\***

**\*Barry Hilditch\***

**\*Trewern Community Council\***

for your generous donations!

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](mailto: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)

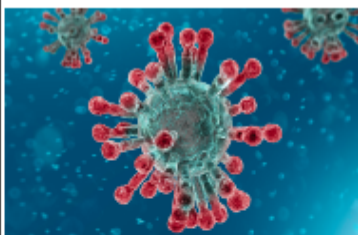
The X75 service leaves FOR SHREWSBURY from:



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



## 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
- plus all the latest announcements relevant to Wales.**

**At the time of writing (19<sup>th</sup> March) all of Wales remains at Alert Level 4. Current restrictions mean that everyone must:**

- Follow social distancing rules with people you don't live with or who are not in your support bubble.
- Wash your hands regularly
- Wear a face covering (if you are able to) in all indoor public places.
- Not create an extended household (some people may be able to form a support bubble with one other household).
- Meet only the people you live with or your support bubble indoors.
- Limit the number of people you meet socially (a maximum of 4 people from 2 households living locally can meet outdoors including in private gardens)
- Not travel outside of your local area without a reasonable excuse.
- Not travel internationally without a reasonable excuse.
- Self-isolate and get a test if anyone in your household has Covid-19 symptoms



### **What can open (from 15 March & 22 March)**

- Schools, colleges and childcare providers (informal childcare should be essential only)
- Higher Education Institutions (mix of in-person and remote learning)
- Places of worship
- Community Centres - limited opening (for example, for essential public services)
- Crematoriums
- Playgrounds and public parks
- Weddings, in venues that are allowed to be open, and funerals (ceremony limit set by venue)
- Outdoor sports courts and golf courses
- Hair salons and barbers for appointments only
- *Garden Centres*
- *Shops that remained open during lock-down can now sell non-essential retail items*

### **First Minister, Mark Drakeford, has said that if public health conditions continue to be favourable, from 27 March:**

- The stay local restrictions will be lifted to allow people to travel within Wales
- Self-contained holiday accommodation will re-open for one household
- Organised children's activities outdoors will restart
- Libraries will reopen

The Welsh Government review on 1st April will consider whether all remaining shops and close contact services can reopen on the 12th April. This is in line with planned re-opening in England.

## Upcoming elections

### **On Thursday 6 May 2021, Senedd and Police & Crime Commissioner elections in Wales are currently scheduled to take place.**

Anyone aged 16 and over living in Wales, including qualifying foreign nationals, can register to vote in this year's Senedd Elections to have a say on issues affecting Wales such as education, healthcare, housing, environment, economy and the Welsh Language. **To vote on May 6 you must register to vote by April 19 2021.**

**To find out more, or to register to vote go to [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)**

The Police and Crime Commissioner elections are different, and only those aged over 18 are eligible to vote. However, 16 and 17-year olds can register now so they can use their vote when they turn 18.

### **Voting in Person at a Polling Station in line with Covid-19 Safety Guidance**

Powys County Council is working with other councils and the Electoral Commission to ensure that everyone can vote safely in the May 6 elections in line with Covid-19 safety guidance. Anyone who wishes to vote in person at a polling station can be reassured that strict safety procedures will be in place to allow them to vote safely. You'll be sent a poll card approximately 2 weeks before the election date telling you when to vote and at which polling station. You can only vote at the polling station location stated on your card. If you do not take your polling card with you to the polling station you can still vote.

However, due to the coronavirus pandemic you may wish to consider your voting options, particularly if you are vulnerable, shielding, isolating or cannot make it to your polling station for reasons of mobility. You have the option to sign-up for postal voting so you can cast your vote from home ahead of polling day.

### **How do I apply for a postal or proxy vote?**

To find information on voting by post or by proxy (someone you trust on your behalf) and to download an application form go to [www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter) . When completed & signed, your application form should be posted to Electoral Services, Powys County Hall, Spa Road East, Llandrindod Wells, Powys, LD1 5LG (or scanned and forwarded as an e-mail attachment to [electoral.services@powys.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@powys.gov.uk)).

**The deadline to apply for a postal vote for elections on 6 May 2021, is 5pm on 20 April.**

**The deadline to apply for a proxy vote for elections on 6 May 2021 is 5pm on 27 April.**

To change any existing postal or proxy vote arrangement contact your local electoral registration office: [electoral.services@powys.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@powys.gov.uk)

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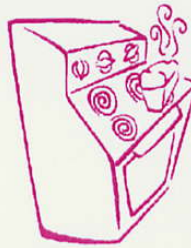
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## Flicks in the Sticks



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 service is based at the COWSHACC (Scout Headquarters & Community Centre in Berriew St Car Park), Welshpool,

Next sessions:

**Friday 16 April & Tuesday 20 April**

**12.30 – 15.30 & 17.00 – 19.30**



Welsh Blood Service

Donating blood can only take minutes to give, but could last a lifetime for someone in need.

**The safety of our donors and blood supply is paramount. It is important that you visit [www.welsh-blood.org.uk](http://www.welsh-blood.org.uk) in advance to check your eligibility to donate and to make your blood donation appointment.**

# Powys County Council

County Councillor – Amanda Jenner - 07800914446

Facebook.com/CllrAmandaJenner/ -

cllr.amanda.jenner@powys.gov.uk

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Thank you to everyone who attended the recent online meeting regarding the incinerator.

Russell and I were able to give some cautious good news...

In a statement published recently by the Welsh Gov, they have said “The moratorium on new large scale energy from waste (EFW) plants will cover those of 10MW or greater and comes into effect immediately.”

We've been calling for a EFW Incinerator moratorium for some time and so obviously this is hugely welcome. However, we have been told by the Welsh Planning Inspectorate that they are awaiting clarification on what this means for incinerator planning applications already submitted. It may be that the moratorium does not take effect until the Minister comes to make a decision at the end of the process. Therefore, the planning consultation process could still start in mid April (unless Broad Energy withdraws it). During the meeting, we talked through the process and answered some questions raised by residents. As I've said before, it is so important that if the consultation does take place, that residents again submit their views to feed in to that process through the correct channels. As soon as I have the information on this from the planning inspectorate, I will let you all know.

That being said, if this moratorium does apply to the Buttington Incinerator development, I know so many of you will be hugely relieved.

It just goes to show that you should never think something is a done deal. It is always worth raising your views with your elected representatives. Thank you to Russell George MS and Craig Williams MP for working with me on this and let's hope that this means what we think it does! Please continue to get in touch with me using the contact details above, if you have any comments or concerns about this or any other matter.



## 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.



**Are you reading this??**

**Who else is reading this??**

If you have a business, event or announcement that you would like in the Border Gossip then please get in touch!!

Email – [bordergossip@hotmail.com](mailto:bordergossip@hotmail.com)

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Gentlemen's Barbers - Open 6 Days  
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## 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?

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1/8 page - £25 for a year

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**New to running but want more?**

**Want to run the hills and trails?**

From Thursday 22nd April (covid permitting) I will be running (pun intended) a 12 week beginners road to trail to fell running course based on our lovely Breidden Hills. The course will cover most aspects of trail and hill running.

There are only 8 places available. £5 per week or £50 for the whole course.

Each session will be about an hour long, hard work, but fun and all achievable.

For further info email Dave Farrow –  
david.s.farrow@hotmail.co.uk

### Free App Makes Counting Livestock Easy



**Livestock**  
Count

A new free mobile app to make counting livestock easier has been downloaded by farmers around the world. Called **Livestock Count** the app was developed by

**gloversure, a leading mobile app and web design/development company based in Welshpool and Chester.**

More than 500 downloads were recorded in the first four days after launch with the system accounting for thousands of cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, horses and even a few water buffalo. It is being used by farmers as far away as New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, USA and India.

For more information go to: <https://livestockcount.co.uk>

Available on Android and iOS



*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**



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

## In memory of Dot Hackett

Many of you will by now have heard that Dot Hackett passed away peacefully on Tuesday 2nd March at the Llwyn Teg Care Home in Llanfyllin. I would like to say a massive thank you on behalf of the family to you the local community who played such a huge part in my Mother's life. She was eternally grateful to all her friends in the W.I. the Border Club and the Short Mat Bowls Association for all their help over the last 40 years. They were things my mother firmly believed in and to which she gave endless support, before she sadly succumbed to the cruel dementia which took away her unbounded energy and the ability to enjoy those clubs and the social interaction they stimulated. Thank you for all your kind donations to the Alzheimer's Society and I pray that you all have a blessed year ahead in these difficult times.

Martin Hackett

### Learning Welsh / *Dysgu Cymraeg*

The recent Census asked people living in Wales about their ability to speak and/or understand the Welsh language. It is estimated that about a quarter of the population can speak Welsh fluently.

**Are you one of them?**



Makers of the languages app, Duolingo, have reported a surge of people wanting to learn Welsh online during lock-down. Welsh is now the fastest growing language in the UK on the app, outflanking the likes of Hindi, Japanese, Turkish and French. The online lessons are not just used by people in Wales who want to learn the language. Duolingo says that their new Welsh learners (100,000 since October 2020) come from all over the world with more than a fifth based in America. Some even live in Antarctica.

As the pandemic eases and face to face socialising begins again, will learning the Welsh language continue to flourish?

**Over the past 12 months many people have found a new hobby or interest. Are you one of them? If so, why not tell us about it by emailing [bordergossip@hotmail.com](mailto:bordergossip@hotmail.com)**

## Zoom into online events, known as the “Monty Hour”



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.

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

<b>07 April</b>	<b>Land Use in Montgomeryshire 2021 and Beyond</b> Alison Alexander (Lib Dem MS Candidate for Montgomeryshire) & Jonathan Wilkinson (Conservative Powys County Councillor) discuss land use in the county now and in the future.
<b>14 April</b>	<b>To Be Advised</b>
<b>21 April</b>	<b>Montgomeryshire v England in 1822</b> As the cricket season begins learn how Montgomeryshire was victorious over England in 1882.
<b>28 April</b>	<b>The Circular Economy in Mid-Wales</b> What CEMW is doing in Newtown (to include recycling of tetra packs, plastic film etc)
<b>05 May</b>	<b>Health &amp; Enjoyment As We Age</b> An opportunity to hear one man's experience of retirement and to contribute your own advice and experience.

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

## **Notice from Trewern Community Council.**

Trewern Community Council have been offered some land to rent to create allotments within our Community, and there may be grant opportunities to help in setting up the space. We are looking for at least one volunteer to take this process forward. We have carried out some initial research and are considering the option of setting up as a community garden to grow produce, as this might be a simpler process. The current deadline for applying for lottery funding is the 31st March 2021, however other funding applications may be available beyond that date.

The desire to grow our own fruit and vegetables is stronger than ever and more people are enjoying the benefits of growing on allotments or at community gardens. The benefits of gardening on individuals and the environment are clear. Increased physical activity and mental wellbeing, access to fresh, often organic fruit and vegetables and well used and cared for public spaces are natural by-products of growing your own. For many, allotments and community gardens are seen as essential elements of living happier, healthier and more sustainable lives and as we work towards creating a healthier, happier and more sustainable Wales they have never been more important.

If this sounds like something you believe in, you have a little spare time and you are interested in volunteering to lead this project, please get in touch with us using our email address:

trewerncommunitycouncil@hotmail.com



**Reminder: you must complete the census by law**

Census Day was on 21 March 2021. After this date Census Field Officers will be knocking on the doors of households that haven't completed a census. If YOU have yet to complete your census form the following guidance may help you:

- 1. Lost or not received your access code for completion of your census return online?** You can request a new access code which can be sent to you by text to your mobile phone or by post. Visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)
- 2. Don't want to complete the census online?** You can request a paper form at [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk) or call 0800 169 2021.
- 3. If you need help in completing the census** there is help section on the website. Alternatively telephone 018 7461 2394 (your local regional Census Support Helpline) between 9am–1pm or 2pm–5pm Mon-Fri. Closed Sats, Suns & Bank Holidays.
- 4. Prefer to answer census questions in Welsh rather than English?** Online there are Cymraeg and English buttons to switch between languages at anytime. If you're filling in on paper, you can use Welsh and English on the same form if you so wish. It doesn't matter whether you are using the Welsh or English language version of the paper form.
- 5. You could be fined up to £1000 if you do not complete the census or supply false information.** Some questions are clearly labelled as voluntary. It is not an offence if you do not answer these.