

## **Ruthin Community Update**

**Week 7 Saturday 9th May**

Welcome to the seventh Ruthin weekly community update on **SATURDAY 9th May** from Yr Hen Lys in Ruthin. The update will be streamed live and recorded each Saturday at 5.30pm in Welsh and 6.00pm in English, with transcript and recordings then posted online at **[www.rhuthun.com](http://www.rhuthun.com)**

As the lockdown continues into its 8th week with at least another 2 weeks after that is important to re-emphasise the key reasons and look forward to some slight easing of restrictions next week.

As noted previously advice please make use of the various websites from our governmental, public health and public protection agencies.

**UK Government [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)**

**Welsh Government [www.gov.wales](http://www.gov.wales)**

**Clarity provided with regard guidance on when you are allowed to leave home to exercise.**

[phw.nhs.wales](http://phw.nhs.wales)

**Denbighshire County Council**

General enquiries - 01824 706000

Concerns about welfare of residents (SPOA) on 0300 456 1000

Out of Hours emergencies 0345 053 3116 **[www.denbighshire.gov.uk](http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk)**

Information on the impact of the current situation on DCC services is provided on their website, and our local members - Cllr Emrys Wynne has been proactive on FB and other means to share information as situations change. Notably today an update on the resumption of kerbside garden waste services resuming on the 18th May for subscribers.

and also **DVSC - Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council**. .  
**[www.dvsc.co.uk](http://www.dvsc.co.uk)**

Further support, funding and information is available for the volunteer and community support sector via DVSC's website and also guidance on the 5 things you can do to make a positive difference in your community during the covid-19 pandemic through their Community Action Response campaign:

It is obvious that everyone in Ruthin has been doing their bit to follow the guidelines as well as working together to support neighbours, family members and those at risk during the lockdown period. Whilst we all clap for the NHS and carers each Thursday evening, we should also clap for the community and in particular the elderly, vulnerable and also our kids - who have all been coping admirably during an unprecedented period. Well done everyone.

Across social media and via other means there have been so many stories shared of people going above and beyond to help and support the community, and it was lovely to see Pam Evans of Brynrhydd make The Daily Post this week for her morning exercise routines for her neighbours during lockdown. Well done Pam.

Yesterday marked the end of the second world War in Europe and despite the lockdown impacting National and local plans for commemorations and to celebrate peace in Europe for 3/4 of a century; it was wonderful to see people sharing their own VE day moments, whether toasting veterans with a glass of something, having an afternoon tea, or standing for the 2 minutes silence at 11.00am. I was pleased to be able to attend the Ruthin Memorial wearing the Mayoral chain to mark the silence, but it was a very lonely experience compared to usual events at the Memorial. Thank you to the couple walking their dog, and the father and son out exercising for joining me in the silence (at a safe distance).

Of particular note to mark VE day - well done to residents of Record street who have introduced some colourful bunting and last night a dramatic video display on the side of one of the houses to mark VE Day, as well as the use of an impressive rainbow during Thursday evening NHS applause. And also to the residents and carers at Trosnant who have decorated the outside of the building with bunting and from what we can see on internet posts, had a wonderful 'isolation' afternoon tea. Apologies not to mention everyones event or contribution, but a broad thank you to everyone for their efforts and participation to mark this important anniversary, and for other activities to support our community.

On that note, can I express how excitement is building about the Scarecrow festival, with many now appearing around town. There are already some wonderful examples with pertinent characters and themes, but I hope that for those able to exercise around town that you can see them for yourself, and for others, once photos of all the entries have been sent in, we will try and get an online trail for you to see them all. If you would like to enter please get making your scarecrow and display by the 17th May - a week tomorrow.

As we all look forward to when lockdown is eased, let us all work together to ensure that our community, our businesses and the town can flourish and thrive during what will be very unusual and challenging months ahead. However and whenever restrictions are eased, social distancing and other guidance will still be required, and the world and Ruthin

will be a different place. We need to support our local businesses, community groups, neighbours and service providers to ensure everyone can adapt and survive for the future. As a town we need to grasp opportunities and build on our strengths to ensure we can build a sustainable and prosperous future for everyone in Ruthin. The Ruthin Future initiative that the town council has undertaken highlighted projects and ideas that have gained the support of the community and other partners, and progressing these will be even more important for the future. These include making Ruthin a North Wales Centre for cycling and active travel - and it has been wonderful to see so many families and people on bikes making use of the quieter roads and routes during lockdown, but we need to ensure that this can continue with safe routes and facilities across and around our town. Likewise the long held ambition to make St Peter's square friendlier and more accessible for people and pedestrians, and to create a space that can be the heart of the town. We are pleased that Denbighshire County Council are supportive of this project and their Highways department have agreed to work with us to develop proposals. RTC will push for progress on this once lockdown and work restrictions are eased.

If you would like to read the various Ruthin Future documents about these ideas and many others they are available to download at [www.rhuthun.com](http://www.rhuthun.com)

Finally - as I am stood in the first major project to be delivered by Ruthin Town Council, whilst our opening has been delayed, we have still been meeting and working to develop aspects which will form the historical interpretation exhibition once open.

Led on our working group by Fiona Gale and Hub manager - Kate Harcus - our historical interpretation exhibition is being developed with input from Ruthin Historical Society and Civic Association, and will also involve local schools and community groups. Given the unique and historical circumstance of the Covic-19 pandemic - working with DCC County Archives, Yr Hen Lys are seeking stories about lockdown and this challenging time from the Ruthin Community. We will be looking to host a 'socially distanced' exhibition later in the year to showcase peoples contribution, which can be through art, poetry, writing, videos etc. Further details on how to submit and when will be shared soon, but for now please put your thinking and creative caps on and consider how you might like to share your experience of this period in history for our future community.

Thank you once again for taking the time to watch the Ruthin Community Update.

To play you out - a clip of the Rhys Meirion / S4C / Côr-ona Calon Lân performance with an isolation choir.

Stay Safe.

Thank you all for your support.