



CLUN DIVISION

E-BULLETIN No 20

From Nigel Hartin

07583 962292 or email nigel.hartin@shropshire.gov.uk



New lockdown rules for England

Main restrictions from Tuesday 5 January



Stay home - only leave for work, essential shopping, exercise or medical appointments



Exercise allowed outdoors once a day, in your local area. You can exercise with your household, support bubble, or one other person



Schools closed except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Universities and colleges closed



No household mixing indoors or outdoors unless in your support or childcare bubble



Non-essential shops, leisure and entertainment venues closed



Pubs and restaurants closed, but takeaway food permitted

Information courtesy of the BBC and Gov.uk. Correct as we go to press



GRIT BINS

Are your grit bins empty?
Contact Nigel on 07583 962292
nigel.hartin@shropshire.gov.uk

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UNIVERSAL CREDIT

The impact of Covid-19 is affecting many people and households in different ways including financially. If you need to check potential eligibility for Universal Credit, including support with housing costs, the following link will help to determine eligibility prior to submitting an application: www.entitledto.com

HM Government **NHS**

Got any coronavirus symptoms?

Book a test now, even if you don't feel too bad.

Use the NHS COVID-19 app or go to gov.uk/coronavirus

High temperature New continuous cough Change/loss of smell/taste

**STAY ALERT
CONTROL THE VIRUS
SAVE LIVES**

Loneliness Grant

The link below takes you to a new grant announcement of £4m to tackle loneliness, it is aimed at community groups such as book clubs, walking groups etc. The link also includes suggestions on how to help alleviate loneliness.

Grant applications open on 5th January. All details are in the link

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/community-groups-tackling-loneliness-to-benefit-from-4m-fund>

www.shropshirelibdems.org

PANDEMIC GRANTS

If someone has been told by NHS Test and Trace Service that they must self-isolate and stay at home then they may be eligible for a £500 **Test and Trace Support Payment** to help financially during their isolation period.

For the most vulnerable households that have been affected by the pandemic and are struggling to pay for food or other essential bills there are discretionary funds available including an **Emergency Fund** made available through DEFRA and a **Winter Grant Scheme** funded through the Department for Work & Pensions to help those residents in Shropshire that are most in need. Between them, these funds will be able to help the most vulnerable with the cost of food, energy and water bills and other essential outgoings.

For more information about these please follow this link:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/benefits/what-help-can-i-claim-from-the-council/covid-test-and-trace-support-payments/>



RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

29th- 31st January

Enjoy an hour with nature and discover the wildlife on your doorstep Spend an hour counting the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park, then tell the RSPB what you saw. It really is that simple! For more details go to:

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

Bishop's Castle Business Park

The news that the Business Park is finally to be developed in Bishop's Castle, with an expected opening date of Spring 2022 is a great confidence boost for our local businesses wishing to expand, as well as for the wider economic development of the area. Local businesses and traders interested in new business premises, either on the park or elsewhere in Bishop's Castle, are asked to register their interest with Rob McKay at Enterprise House. Rob can be contacted on 01588 638038 or by email info@enterprisehouse.org.uk

Heart of Wales Line - Rail Service Update

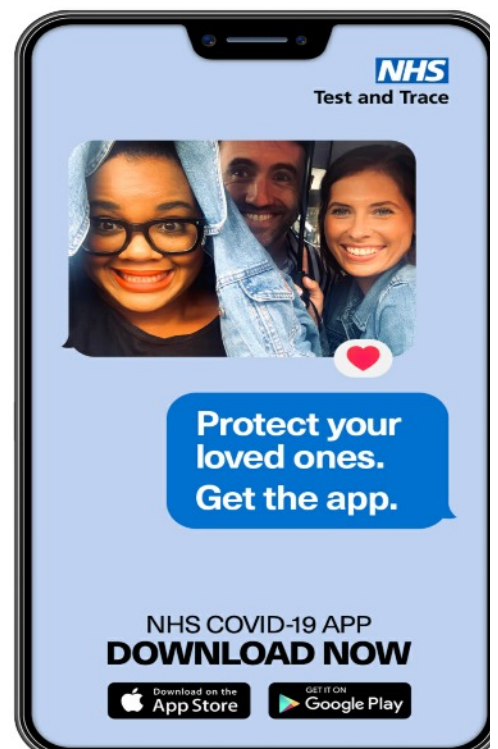
The UK rail industry's winter timetable change came into effect on Sunday 13 December. On the Transport for Wales network there are a number of changes to departure times to provide customers with more consistency moving forward.

Rail services on the northern section of the Heart of Wales Line, between Shrewsbury and Llandrindod/Llanwrtyd, have seen an increase from two services a day in each direction to four services a day in each direction.

Hopton Heath will continue to be omitted from the timetable as Covid-19 risk assessments identified several stations across the network where, due to short platform lengths, it is not possible to maintain a safe distance between the conductor and customers. A "dial-a-cab" option will remain available to passengers at this station.

The onward passenger journey to Swansea is supported by a rail replacement bus service whilst Network Rail continue to restore the railway following the freight derailment. The rail service will be reinstated once this work is completed, although Tfw are still facing challenges as a result of Covid-19 and will release further timetable information as the work at Llangennech progresses.

Please check journey plans before travelling as timetables are subject to change: <https://tfwrai.l.wales/travel-safer/our-current-timetable>



INTERACTIVE COVID MAP

See link below to interactive map illustrating cases by post code: <https://coronavirus-staging.data.gov.uk/details/interactive-map>

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NEW MANAGER FOR ENTERPRISE SOUTH WEST

Enterprise South West Shropshire has appointed Rob McKay (below) as its new Company Manager. Rob has taken over from Mike Ashwell, who retired in November after 25 years leading the company and its support for businesses and community services in the region. Rob has lived near Bishops Castle for the last 20



years and worked in a range of Senior and Executive roles in organisations delivering Specialist Residential Services, Training, Education and Community services; he has extensive experience leading business development and growth.

Enterprise South West Shropshire is a Social Enterprise and its base at Enterprise House in Bishop's Castle is the focal point for its activities. The company has a 25 year track record of supporting the economic and social development of the South West Shropshire and offers workshops and offices for rent, business development advice and support as well as administration and IT support services to a wide range of businesses, charities, community

groups and the general public.

In addition, ESWS maintains and supports local and regional business and community websites, and provides IT technical support and training. Its village outreach service provides a wide range of equipment for hire to support local events and businesses. ESWS also manages local facilities such as the Bishop's Castle Library, the SpArc Centre Theatre and the Artificial Sports Pitch.

Contact details

T: 01588 638038 e: info@enterprisehouse.org.uk or www.enterprisehouse.org.uk

