


CLUN DIVISION

# E-BULLETIN 24

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Printed, published and promoted by N.Hartin, 14 Ladywell, Bucknell SY7 0AZ

## HOW THE BUDGET AFFECTS US



### The Chancellor's measures:

- Furlough to be extended until the end of September. Employers to be asked to contribute 10% in July and 20% in August and September
- Support for the self-employed also to be extended until September
- £20 weekly uplift in Universal Credit to be extended for another six months
- Tax-free personal allowance to be frozen at £12,570 from April 2021 levels to 2026
- Corporation tax on company profits above £250,000 to rise from 19% to 25% in April 2023
- Stamp duty holiday on house purchases in England extended to 30 June
- Up to £6,000 per premises for non-essential outlets due to re-open in April
- Contactless payment limit will rise to £100 later this year
- **Pay rise for NHS staff will be limited to 1%.**

### Other facts:

UK economy shrank by 10% in 2020. Unemployment expected to peak at 6.5% next year, UK to borrow a peacetime record of £355bn this year.

More detail: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-56266773>



## VOTING BY POST

Anyone can apply for a postal vote instead of going to a polling station. To apply either ring Election Services on 0345 678 9015 or email: [elections@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@shropshire.gov.uk)

## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

**Shropshire Mind:** Telephone 01743 368647 - there is someone to take a call 365 days a year - further info on their website [www.shropshiremind.org](http://www.shropshiremind.org)  
**Every Life Matters:** [www.every-life-matters.org.uk](http://www.every-life-matters.org.uk)  
**NHS:** Telephone 111

## LATERAL FLOW TESTING IN BC

Bishops Castle Pharmacy is now doing asymptomatic testing for key workers. To book go to: <https://www.1centralhealth.co.uk/shropshireft>



## COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECK



The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.



The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.

[www.shropshirelibdems.org](http://www.shropshirelibdems.org)

# HELPING OUR ENVIRONMENT

## Shropshire Wildlife Trust urgent alert: Shrewsbury North West Road plans

The planning portal for the proposed Shrewsbury North West Road will be live on Shropshire Council's website from Monday 1st March.

We oppose the road and will object to the plans as we believe the project is a huge backward step for the county.

It will have huge impacts on the countryside surrounding Shrewsbury and financial ramifications for the whole of Shropshire.

For more information on the impacts of the road and how to take action

<http://shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/shrewsbury-north-west-road>

See film on what a disaster this plan is <https://youtu.be/waHN5GqompQ>

If you would like to communicate your views on this proposal you should contact Shropshire Council's leader Cllr Peter Nutting [Peter.Nutting@Shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Nutting@Shropshire.gov.uk)



## Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project roadside signs.

They'll be put in verges to let members of the public know why certain verges are being left unmown.

Shropshire Council have agreed to leave 10km of road verges unmown, where safe to do so, so these signs will act as an additional reminder that they are to be left uncut.

If there's a flower-rich verge near you that you would like to put up a sign in, please email

Charlie [charlie.bell@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:charlie.bell@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Latest Plantlife newsletter on Verges

<https://mailchi.mp/plantlife/spring-into-action-on-road-verges?e=ec48e91cfd>



## Stepping Stones conservation webinar

The Stepping Stones project organised the first in what they hope will be a series of Stepping Stones conservation webinars.

The topic will be 'Conservation Grazing' and will cover:

What is conservation grazing and how is it used?

Pros and cons of different grazing animals

Some local case studies

Q&A session

The first webinar will be on Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm via Zoom.

It's free to attend - book by email

to Charlie [charlie.bell@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:charlie.bell@nationaltrust.org.uk)

## Lapwing and Curlew surveyors needed!

New volunteers are also needed to help survey for curlew and lapwing.

There are four Community Wildlife Groups in the area covered by the Stepping Stones project that have been monitoring curlews, lapwings and other birds for many years. These Community Wildlife Groups are:

- Upper Onny
- Strettons area
- Rea Valley
- Camlad Valley

All are planning on starting the 2021 surveys at the end of March and need more helpers!

If you have some time to spend monitoring these iconic birds then please sign up.

If you can recognise lapwing and curlew (and preferably their calls), you can make an important contribution.

<https://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/sacwg-bird-survey-description-2021.pdf>



## Long Mynd Red Grouse project – volunteers needed

<https://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/strettons-area-wildlife-group/long-mynd-red-grouse-project/#2021>

If you have any enquiries about the survey, please contact Leo Smith [leo@leosmith.org.uk](mailto:leo@leosmith.org.uk)



## Bishop's Castle Befriending Circle

The BC Befriending Circle (BCBC), has been formed to address some of the issues of loneliness and anxiety which the pandemic has highlighted. Whilst many of us are part of an informal network of friends, neighbours, relatives and acquaintances, some people have many fewer connections and may come to the attention of the NHS primary care service because this has become a problem for them.

Rather than medicalise what is essentially a social need, a telephone-based befriending group provides an appropriately trained and supported community alternative. With the encouragement and support of Hands Together Ludlow, BCBC has gone through an accreditation process with Shropshire Council which means the Social Prescriber at BC Medical practice is able to refer patients to them. All volunteers are required to follow a training programme before becoming a befriender, which ensures that all involved – those referred and their befrienders - are properly supported.

Valerie Woodmansey, is co-ordinating BCBC and would be happy to talk about the scheme with anyone who would like to know more about what's involved. Valerie can be contacted at [valerie.woodmansey@btinternet.com](mailto:valerie.woodmansey@btinternet.com) or on 07986 237 683

## Visit Shropshire Webinar.

Recently, Shropshire Council, in conjunction with Telford and Wrekin Council, conducted a Business Impact Survey with businesses operating in the tourism sector. The results are now available and can be accessed from the following link: <https://www.telford.gov.uk/tourism/businessimpactsurveyfeb2021>

Visit Shropshire are hosting a webinar on 17 March for tourism businesses to find out more about business support grants and the Kickstart scheme. Details about this and other support from the Marches Growth Hub is available from Mark Hooper at Visit Shropshire [mark@visitshropshire.co.uk](mailto:mark@visitshropshire.co.uk)

## SpArC Stalls

The Save the SpArC charity will be hosting a number of pop up plant stalls from the weekend of 2nd April. This will start with a stall at The Cabin in Bishop's Castle with others to follow at Chirbury, Welsh Street, Kerry Rise/Kerry Green and Acton. If anyone is willing to donate plants, seedlings or shrubs for these stalls please contact Ruth on 01588 638352 to arrange collection or drop off.



**GEORGIAN HISTORY DAY**

GEORGIANS IN STONE PROJECT

**ONLINE SEMINAR**  
celebrating  
**Bishop's Castle's Georgian Heritage**  
Saturday 20th March 2021 - Login from 9.30am

**10am – 12 noon**  
Talks on the importance of churchyards by Sue Cooper MBE and their memorials by Prof Harold Mytum

**2pm – 4pm**  
Talks on the Rotten Borough of Bishop's Castle in Georgian times by David Preshous OBE and the connection between Shropshire, the slave trade and Abolition by Gareth Williams from the Weston Park Foundation

To book your place please email [info@cfea.org.uk](mailto:info@cfea.org.uk) with the subject Georgians in Stone and a link to the Zoom will be forwarded to you.

St John the Baptist Church Bishop's Castle | HERITAGE FUND | THE GEORGIAN GROUP | BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL | Let's keep burial grounds beautiful! | GOD'S ACRE

# CORRENT AND FUTURE LOCKDOWN STEPS - DRAFT PLAN

## STEP 1

8 March

29 March

### EDUCATION

#### 8 MARCH

- Schools and colleges open for all students
- Practical Higher Education courses

### SOCIAL CONTACT

#### 8 MARCH

- Exercise and recreation outdoors with household or one other person
- Household only indoors

#### 29 MARCH

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

### BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

#### 8 MARCH

- Wraparound care, including sport, for all children

#### 29 MARCH

- Organised outdoor sport (children and adults)
- Outdoor sport and leisure facilities
- All outdoor children's activities
- Outdoor parent & child group (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

### TRAVEL

#### 8 MARCH

- Stay at home
- No holidays

#### 29 MARCH

- Minimise travel
- No holidays

### EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings and wakes (6)

## STEP 2

No earlier than 12 April

At least 5 weeks after Step 1

### EDUCATION

- As previous step

### SOCIAL CONTACT

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors
- Household only indoors

### BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- All retail
- Personal care
- Libraries & community centres
- Most outdoor attractions
- Indoor leisure inc. gyms (individual use only)
- Self-contained accommodation
- All children's activities
- Outdoor hospitality
- Indoor parent & child groups (max 15 people, excluding under 5s)

### TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays (household only)
- No international holidays

### EVENTS

- Funerals (30)
- Weddings, wakes, receptions (15)
- Event pilots

### STEP 3

No earlier than 17 May

At least 5 weeks after Step 2

#### EDUCATION

- As previous step

#### SOCIAL CONTACT

- Maximum 30 people outdoors
- Rule of 6 or two households indoors (subject to review)

#### BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- Indoor hospitality
- Indoor entertainment and attractions
- Organised indoor sport (adult)
- Remaining accommodation
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances)

#### TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel (subject to review)

#### EVENTS

- Most significant life events (30)
- Indoor events: 1,000 or 50% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25% (plus pilots)
- Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50% (plus pilots)

### STEP 4

No earlier than 21 June

At least 5 weeks after Step 3

All subject to review

#### EDUCATION

- As previous step

#### SOCIAL CONTACT

- No legal limit

#### BUSINESS & ACTIVITIES

- Remaining businesses, including nightclubs

#### TRAVEL

- Domestic overnight stays
- International travel

#### EVENTS

- No legal limit on life events
- Larger events