



# Town Centre Matters

.....an irregular newsletter from Mold Town Centre Management

January 2016

## ***Festive period...started slow with the bad weather!***

*Having now spoken with many different traders from across the town, the overall opinion of trade over the festive period has been "Not too bad and it could have been worse". Many shops did well, although a number have indicated they struggled, however, overall Mold still appears to be still holding its own.*

*Work is now underway to improve the signage into and within the town, using funding that only became available when we were able to create a town investment fund from the car park charges which had to be used for visitor infrastructure projects. The County Council have unfortunately withdrawn most of this funding for Mold as they introduced car parking charges across the County although the town still contributes more than anywhere else into the Flintshire County Council pot. Other initiatives using the same funding includes the well received Visitor Information points, new town gateways, updated town map, makeover of New Street car park, a dedicated "Mold" street cleaning machine, new and additional street lighting with the balance going towards footpath improvements.*

*Many will be aware that at long last, Business Rates are being reviewed across North Wales and the results are emerging, although the specifics will not become public until after approval by Welsh Government. I've managed to secure a visit to the town, by the principle Valuation Officer for North Wales with the VOA, who will explain what the future holds for Mold and the region at a special Mold Business Forum Traders group in Mold Town Hall. I hope as many businesses as possible will be able to attend to find out the latest developments in this important aspect of trading in the town and share their views on this and other important issues.*

*Thanks Dave Hill – Town Manager*



## **Mold Traders Group Meeting – Changes to your Business Rates** (5.30pm Thursday 18th February 2016 at Mold Town Hall)

Mold Town Council has agreed to host a meeting at **Mold Town Hall at 5.30pm, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February** of Mold Business Forum Traders Group to discover details on the recent Business Rates review for Mold.

This event is open to ALL Traders and businesses in Mold whether they are national, regional or independent; retail, service sector or hospitality and is an opportunity for Businesses to gain updates, share concerns, and explore joint initiatives that will help them in Mold to move forward.

Seven years have now elapsed since the last review of Business Rates and Welsh Government has now commissioned a review of Business Rates across Wales via the Valuation Office Agency. The VOA has now completed Mold in respect of Shops and is part way through looking at office space and business / industrial parks. Mr Richie Roberts, the Chief Valuer for Wales, has agreed to come to Mold on the above date to inform traders of findings to date and recommendations arising from the review. He will not be in a position to examine details on specific cases, but will be able to provide an early insight into what is happening and the direction business owners can expect this important business cost to take. A Q&A opportunity will be available.

Can you afford not to be there?

### **Keep in the know....**

Whilst nothing can replace Town Centre Matters..... Mold Town Council endeavours to communicate with all the people of Mold via various formats you can find the Town Council at [www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk) on Facebook, Twitter and if you wish to be included in a regular email circulation simply forward your preferred email address to Jane Evans at the Town Council on [supportofficer@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:supportofficer@moldtowncouncil.org.uk) .



## Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance

The Celtic Arms, Northop Country Park, Northop, CH7 6WA

Many Mold businesses enjoy attending the annual Mayor's Dinner Dance which this year is in aid of the Stroke Association Wales. Tickets are £34.00 per person for a 3 course Dinner, live entertainment and a great charity auction with fabulous raffle. More details available from [www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk)

Offers of suitable Auction Lots and Raffle Prizes will be appreciated – please contact Jane Evans, Town Council Support Officer on 01352 758532 or email [supportofficer@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:supportofficer@moldtowncouncil.org.uk)

### Mold Spring Clean

The annual town spring clean will once again take place over the weekend Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016, when 100's of volunteers will help spruce up the town for the coming summer.

Many Traders join in and it is hoped that this year the town will enjoy a similar take-up with shop fronts being refreshed, windows cleaned, gutters fixed. You can even get a visit from Springy, the Spring Clean mascot!

### Pancake Races

The town's annual pancake races will take place from 2pm on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February in Daniel Owen Square.

There is a special category (and prize) for town businesses to participate in this wonderful bit of traditional fun.

Teams of four are required (join in with another shop) and it will only take 20 minutes of your time – and we've even featured on TV! More details and booking forms available from Jane Evans at Mold Town Council – see [www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk)



HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU  
Gogledd Cymru diogelach

NORTH WALES POLICE  
A safer North Wales

Wish to express their thanks for the help and support received from town businesses during the recent investigation into a large group of local youths responsible for assaults, anti-social behaviour and thefts. Twelve offenders are now facing appearances in court during the coming months and most importantly, the police action has led to a substantial reduction in reported incidents for the town's Traders from this group.

Please do your best to attend Mold's Shopwatch scheme monthly meeting which takes place at Mold Town Hall at 10am (lasts maximum of 1 hour) every second Tuesday in the month – next meeting Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February. You can only benefit!

### Forthcoming Events

#### Shrove Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February Annual Pancake Day races on Daniel Owen Square

The town's annual pancake races will take place from 2pm on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February in Daniel Owen Square. Register on the day from 1.30pm on the day teams of four are required (join in with another shop or business) and it will only take 20 minutes of your time, flipping great fun! Pancakes and prizes are kindly being supplied by Spavens.

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February Traders Forum at the Town Hall, Changes to your Business Rates from 5.00pm till 8.00pm

This event is open to ALL Traders and businesses in Mold whether they are national, regional or independent; retail, service sector or hospitality and is an opportunity for businesses to gain updates, share concerns, and explore joint initiatives that will help them in Mold to move forward.

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February Mayor of Mold Charity Dinner, Dance and Auction

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February at the Celtic Arms in Northop, tickets now on sale £34.00 includes 3 course meal and entertainment, always a fantastic night with all proceeds going to the Mayor's charity, the Stroke Association Wales, with money being used to support stroke survivors in the local community.

#### 27<sup>th</sup> February St David's Day Celebrations

Music, performances and arts & crafts organised by Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint will be held on the Daniel Owen Square and Library.

#### 29<sup>th</sup> February until 13<sup>th</sup> March Fairtrade Fortnight

Promoting the use of Fairtrade food within the town, more information can be found on the Fairtrade website [www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight-2016](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight-2016)

#### 1<sup>st</sup> March Judging of the window dressing competition for St David's Day, organised by Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint

#### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March Mold Spring Clean

The annual town spring clean will once again take place over the weekend Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016, If you'd like to get involved, please contact us on 01352 758532