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**EDITORIAL CONTENT – David Russ Column**

**The BIG 1**

After reaching the ‘one year to go to the Ryder Cup’ mile stone, it is time to give ourselves the final push.

One thing is clear, Newport is preparing for arguably the biggest global event Wales has ever seen. Roads are being altered; buildings are slowly back on the rise and we have been issued with a £800,000 grant for the restoration of the transporter bridge, but this ‘all systems go’ attitude is happening at a time of uncertainty.

There is uncertainty with our economy. Some people are uncertain about the time for recovery, but in my opinion we have finally entered a period of stability and I am quite positive about the future.

We have a great opportunity to boost some hard earned money into our economy from the Ryder Cup, money that we could benefit from long after the event has passed. A great example of Ryder Cup success was when it was last held in Europe in 2006 at the K-Club in County Kildare, Ireland. Research has shown that almost £100m was pumped into the Irish economy and there is nothing stopping us aiming for the same results.

Terry Matthews was quoted last week as saying the people of Wales have perhaps been slow to grasp the enormity of it all and to an extent he is right. We are not good enough at showing off and we need to be. The next twelve months is going to be an exciting time for our community, we have a lot of prospects on the horizon and now is the time to put us on the global map.