

Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

February 2021



*Many thanks to John Burrows for this picture of Shirenewton Church
showing the village Christmas tree lit up in December 2020*

Price £1:50

FROM THE VICARAGE
Julian E LI White

Dear People of the Parish,

At the time of writing, a covering of snow lies on the ground, the old house is uncomfortably chill whilst outside the birds continue to cold-shoulder us as we were a little tardy in laying a sumptuous and varied feast before them. Yes it is January, always a miserable time of the year but more so this time as we continue to labour under the constraints of the Covid lockdown. Yes, it is depressing, frustrating and isolating but we should remember the optimism which lies at the core of our faith. To put it bluntly, to believe in something eternal reminds us of the paucity of this temporal span we term as 'life'. As I have said a number of times before (paraphrasing a forgotten author), physical life is the end of the chapter but not the end of the story.

Well, Christmas and the New Year belong to the past and their celebration (such as they were) already fades into the distance. What does the future hold? It is not, as you might assume, all doom and gloom. My thanks to you for appreciating the reasons why, in common with a host of other parishes, Christmas services and activities had to be suspended in 2020.

Yes, church services along with other associated events are postponed until further notice. To state what is fairly obvious, this is to safeguard the health of those who would otherwise attend. As far as any schedule of church re-opening is concerned, as soon as it is felt safe to do so you will be informed without delay.

This is not to say that the exercise of faith is put on hold.

Christianity is something much wider than the building which bears the same name. With this in mind I heartily commend to you the Zoom services fronted by John Waters and Gilly Lambert and the Bible study chaired by Ros Downs within this parish grouping. This is addition to the acts of worship led by our Bishop using similar technology.

I will, as I did in the lockdown of last year, create a printed meditation based on the readings for a given Sunday. This resource will also be adopted for the seasons of Lent and Easter. Please let your Churchwarden know if you require a copy and they will let me know.

As previously indicated, plans to combine our parishes (along with those of the St. Arvans group) with Chepstow continue to be discussed at diocesan level. I understand that the three parish priests presently in office will continue in service should and when this takes place. I am keen to know what you think. To this end, please let me know your views at the earliest opportunity.

On the subject of Chepstow, I have heard from the Revd. John Waters that he and his wife intend to move to that community in the near future. I would like to place on record our thanks to John for his ministry in the Shirenewton area. His presence (especially in the local school) is greatly valued and appreciated by many.

One of the difficulties of this lockdown is the effect it is having on wedding plans. Most of such ceremonies planned for last year were, at the request of the couples concerned, held over to 2021. It is now evident that the Covid threat once again impacts upon nuptial considerations and it is becoming clear to me that couples are, yet again, shifting their dates and expectations.

During this period of trepidation and uncertainty I wish you every blessing. We should reflect, in such times, on the many examples of love to be in the midst of us. It might be the overwhelming commitment to be found in members of the health service, the kindness of family and neighbours and the compassion often manifested by strangers.

May the love of God surround you.

Julian E LI White (Rector & Vicar)

NOTES FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

We were all disappointed that so many Christmas events could not take place in December but we were delighted that so many people answered the call to put up more outside lights - there were magnificent displays all over the villages and the tree in the TA carpark was magnificent—see cover picture. We are sincerely grateful to the Tredegar Arms, the Community Council and the Haines brothers from Oakland Farm, Llanvair Discoed for their support in making this happen. We are also very grateful to the volunteers who erected it and those who took it down again—Andrew Baker, Paul Morcombe, Mike Penney, Jane and Will Smith-Haddon and others.

Although the Christmas-themed service planned for Sunday 20th December had to be cancelled, along with virtual Nativity and Christingle and midnight mass on Christmas Eve, the service on Christmas morning was allowed to go ahead with a small six-voice choir. With social distancing the Church was packed! Many thanks to Gilly, Jane and Glynis for making this all happen and to Karen and the choir for providing such excellent music. We are also grateful to the bellringers for ringing whenever restrictions allow.

The drive through advent fair took place thanks to Glynis, Jane and Cynthia and there is a report elsewhere in this magazine.

FOR THE REGISTERS

Peter Skidmore was interred in the family grave in the churchyard on Friday 15th January 2021.



LOCAL VOLUNTEER NETWORK

In this continuing pandemic life, please know that there are people in your community who are ready to help you if you need them. The Mynyddbach, Shirenewton and Earlswood (MESH) group is a large group of people, from the three villages, who have volunteered to help people who need assistance within the community at this time. If you need any help getting shopping, medicines, etc or you would enjoy a chat on the phone, please get in touch.

meshcorona@gmail.com

Jeni Harper on 07961 831812 or 01291 641125

NHS SERVICES ARE CHANGING

The Grange University Hospital opened on November 17th 2020 in response to winter season pressures and the second wave of Covid-19. It is based in Llanfrechfa, Cwmbran with a 24 hour specialist assessment facility, intensive care facilities, comprehensive diagnostic facilities, inpatient beds for major emergencies and complex surgery, and theatres. It is vitally important that residents understand how they will access NHS services in the future. See also pages 30, 31, 32 and 33.

SHIRENEWTON FACEBOOK PAGE AND THE FOOD BANK

As some of you have already read on the Shirenewton Face Book page there is a collection point for Food Bank contributions at The Chantry, which is just up by the church. I take the contributions down to Bulwark on a Wednesday, but donations can be made at any time and left under my veranda. Tinned foods, long life milk, packets and dried goods and toiletries are all very welcome.

Many thanks to everyone who has already left donations at my door. The volunteers who work at the Food Bank tell me how welcome and how needed your donations are.

Glynis 641 828
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

Shirenewton Community Council

Extracts from the minutes of the December 2020 and January 2021 meetings

Councillors were sorry to say goodbye to Dr James Grose in December when he left the Council. As there were no applications for the Mon CC advertised vacancy in the Shirenewton ward, the Community Council is now able to follow the co-option process.

The following planning application was considered in December, there were none in January:

1. DM/2020/01157 Red Barn Farm, Crick Road, Shirenewton
Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling.
Amendment details - the dwelling is now smaller with a cubic content of 407m3)

Council was aware of the history of the planning applications for this dwelling and that this Council had raised objections to previous planning applications to replace a mobile caravan of 60 m3 with a permanent dwelling, which is against Monmouthshire County Council's policy of not allowing new builds in the open countryside. Council acknowledged that the applicant had made amendments in this proposal to the style and size of the dwelling following recommendations made, however Council recommended refusal of the application on the grounds of size (407m3) and appearance not being a traditional farmhouse style, also pending further details on impact, landscaping and ecology.

Monthly police report (January) –

Crime

11/12/20 – Barns broken into on a farm in Earlswood items stolen from within.

Public Safety – Calls for flooding on 23/12/20 - various local areas, council notified and appropriate measures taken.

Anti-social behavior – Call for off road bikes using bridle path causing a nuisance to local residents. Patrols by local team whenever possible. Signage has also been put up by CO70 Jones to warn riders of the offences of using the bridle ways and other land. Pub owner reported food dumped in the pub carpark, arrangements made for its removal.

No Covid related calls this month.

Notable arrests

No arrests

Operations

We continued to patrol our rural areas due to rural breaks. Also patrolling for off-road bikes locally.

Other items of interest

Update on 20 is plenty Road Safety Campaign -

Finalisation of the petition document is still ongoing. A school road safety poster competition is being judged at the moment and the Council agreed to the purchase of gift vouchers as prizes. Hopefully the winning posters will be displayed in the Parish Magazine as well as the windows of the Recreation Hall so that residents can look at them from the outside, while socially distancing.

Please continue to support the road safety campaign by being conscious of your speed limits and driving at 20mph through our villages, also by signing up to the petition when it is available.

Hard path around the recreation field -

This was a project that arose from the 2019 community survey but did not move forward in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Council members agreed to start the preliminary work and a site meeting was arranged with Mon CC to look at initial thoughts and requirements. However the meeting was cancelled due to the Tier 4 lockdown in Wales and will be rearranged when restrictions ease.

Planting of trees in the community -

Saplings had been donated by the Woodland Trust and Phase 1 saw the successful planting of 60 trees in the community with a further two for Mynyddbach green. The meeting on the field with the Recreation Association to decide the siting and number of trees to be planted there was cancelled due to the lockdown in Wales, it will be re-arranged when restrictions are eased. Unfortunately this also leads to a delay in Phase 2 of planting the 31 trees left. The Council thanks Emma Ford for organising the planting sessions.

Council website competition – the website has been modified to be more easily accessible to users. The Council is holding a **competition** for residents to enter photographs of the local area to be displayed on the home page of the Council website and changed regularly, in order to encourage people to visit the website. Please forward your entries to philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Bus shelter at Earlswood – the front of the bus shelter partially collapsed on 15.12.20. Reported to Mon CC on 16.12.20 and shelter cordoned off with high fencing. There is no news yet on when repairs will be made.

Ash dieback in trees along Crick road and Weyloed Lane – Mon CC has advised that the trees will be inspected again at Weyloed Lane and along the Crick road in the spring when they are in leaf to assess the extent of the disease. Arrangements have already been made for two diseased trees along the Crick road to be felled.

Dog waste bin request for Cadira Beeches, Wentwood – contacted Natural Resources Wales and Woodland Trust on 12.1.21 – response from NRW 15.1.21, they are not providing bins at the moment due to maintenance and frequency of emptying, but made a site visit that day and agreed to increase the frequency of litter collections.

Medieval burial chamber at Gaerllwyd – report of missing marker stones received on 29.11.20. This was reported to several organisations, but later informed by CADW that the stones were not missing but hidden below undergrowth. CADW asked that their contact be notified first if any further issues arise - amelia.pannett@gov.wales

Dates of next meetings - Monday 1st February and Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.00 pm, by public meeting in Shirenewton Recreation Hall, if possible, or by a remote meeting if government coronavirus restrictions still apply.

Find more information in draft copies of the minutes on the Community Council notice boards. Previous, approved minutes of meetings can be found on the Council's website www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk

**Contact the Clerk to the Community Council - Mrs Hilary Counsell Tel: 01291 421307
E-mail: Shirenewtoncc@gmail.com**



S & R WHISTANCE LTD
Haulage & Aggregates

- Decorative Stone
- Sand
- Aggregates
- Cement

07887 995906 / e: michael.whistance@btinternet.com

Gardening Corner

Happy New Year to you all and we hope you had a good Christmas, given the ongoing crisis.

As I am sitting writing this there is about 3 inches of snow sitting outside, so any notions of gardening have fallen by the wayside. We still have some of the family staying with us as our 'bubble' whilst they wait for their new home to at least be habitable. The upside of this has meant we could introduce 2 of our grandchildren to the joyous world that is a compost bag. With a nice steep slope alongside, the children wondered why they were told to sit inside the bag, hold tight, and – granddad shoved them off down the hill which resulted in many high-pitched screams, followed by laughter as they ended up at the bottom of the slope. This was the first time in their short lives, where they had experienced the same joys that their mother and aunty had, when they were about the same age, on the same slope. The last time, I joined in the fun with both of our daughters, but from my perspective it didn't end that well. It was fine to begin with but I went slightly 'off piste' hit a frozen mole hill and ended up with a bad back for a week! So lessons learnt, this time I made sure that a pitch inspection was undertaken first to ensure said mole hills were no-where in sight. 30 years on I also had enough sense not to be a kid again and stayed at the top of the slope doing the launching instead. All had a great time until the cold started to bite in and it was time to head home for a hot chocolate and marshmallows!

I mentioned before Christmas that we had taken on two wild / farm cats. When I say wild, they really were, with hardly any human contact prior to us taking them on. The last time they had been handled did not end well for each as they were humanely trapped, given the once over and then lost certain parts of their anatomy. No wonder they were wary! We kept them indoors for two weeks, feeding them regularly and talking to them when we did see to their every whim. Inevitably I was met with ears held down, much hissing and spitting, with the occasional growl as well. This continued until the end of the 'quarantine' period, after which we moved them to a new shed with a cat flap, where they stayed for a further few days before we opened the door to their cage and left the cat flap open and waited to see what happened next. The smallest one, Harvey, has stayed with us

and we see him about most days, but only at a distance. He is always there watching, but currently has no intention of coming very close. The older cat Winston, we did see once on the camera we had placed in the shed, but seemingly has either done his own thing, or is still around, but if he is, he keeps well out of the way as we haven't seen him for several weeks. We still put food down, and it always goes, but we aren't sure whether we are feeding every semi-wild cat in the neighbourhood. I'll put the camera down again soon to see what is happening, but the last time all we had was 257 pictures of the same ginger tabby (which isn't one of ours I might add), desperately trying to work out how to get into the shed as it could obviously smell the food inside, but didn't have the sense to push the flap open – which is just as well!

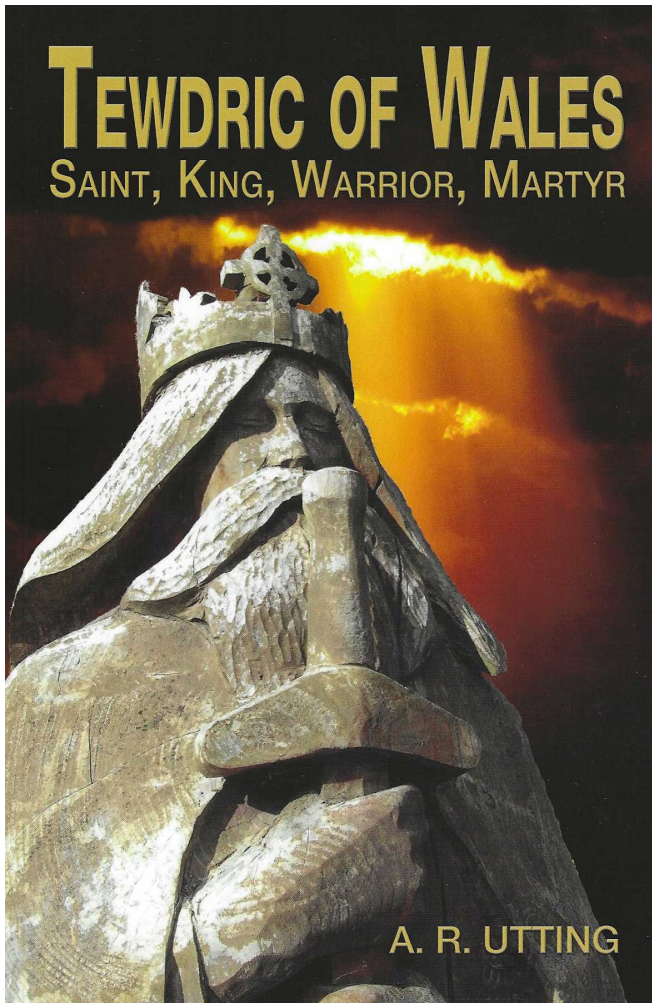
As with before Christmas, the ground is now well and truly saturated and isn't going to be in any condition to do anything with for several weeks to come. I mentioned before that I had planted garlic and shallots in pots, ready to plant out when conditions improved. This hasn't happened as yet, but hopefully they will be okay for a few more weeks before things start to get difficult. I noticed that the recent cold weather has affected the green shoots, but hopefully they will recover with a little sun and warming days. Normally by now, I would be thinking of turning the hot bench on in the greenhouse to sow the first seeds, but I've decided to defer this for a few more weeks. Last year, the weather turned out to be really wet around now, and it meant a lot of the young plants eventually became pot bound in the greenhouse. When they did get planted out it then took several weeks for them to get over the shock of being planted out, so this year patience will prevail. I did sow some sweet peas on the bench in late October, and took advantage of the warmth to also take and pot up, numerous cuttings from the flower garden, such as penstemons, scabious, various daisies and pinks. Most with a great deal of success, except the pinks, which I have never had a lot of success with. So far, the sweet peas are looking really well, and all the cuttings that rooted, have now been potted on into larger pots, and are also looking good. I've learnt the hard way that the worst thing you can do is over-water at this time of year, so I am just trying to keep the soil moist, but then avoid watering until it has started to dry out. I have also sown a lot of delphinium seeds collected from some of our best, named plants. These germinated, but currently look very dead. Hopefully they will start to shoot out again as the weather starts to warm up. This was a bit of an experiment, but nothing ventured nothing gained. Because the parent plant had been

grown from cuttings, the young plant will always show the same characteristics as the parent plant, but this is not the case with delphiniums when grown from your own seed. Some will be identical to the parent plant, but a lot won't with many being rough diamonds, but the odd one or two might actually be better still, so worth the try.

One job I am really wanting to get done is the rose pruning. January is the best month to prune English roses bred by David Austin, but February is also okay if the weather isn't being kind. Currently this is the top of my 'to do' list. Not far behind is lifting the dahlia tubers and gladioli corms. This should have been done back in November, but the weather as you may recall was just incessant rain. I did manage to lift some dahlias, and these are drying in the small greenhouse, but the majority are still in the ground. Hopefully they have survived thus far as although it has been cold, it has not been extremely cold and so hopefully they will have been protected by the soil. Last year the same happened and they were just left where they were with probably 98% of them coming through the winter. But this year I need to move them onto fresh soil, and I don't want to have to start moving them once they start to grow. The same with the gladioli, but I suspect some of these will already be shooting out when I get around to them.

I'm concerned that the bees will not be fairing to well either. What I need is a couple of milder days with a bit of sun, as I need to get some fondant icing on them as soon as possible, as they will soon need some extra help as the winter supplies start to run low. One of the problems when the weather has remained on the mild side, but too wet for the bees to venture out. Often this leads to disease as well, so not ideal. I'm sure I will lose some more hives before winter is out. I know one of the larger hives is struggling at present, but I can't currently do much about it. I noticed that the entrance to this hive was blocked up with debris, which can happen, especially if the bees are struggling to clear out the older, dead bees as well. Sometimes mice can be a problem, but I had mouse guards on the front of all of the hives and these seemed intact. I then noticed that at the top of the hive (which was a traditional 'cottage' style hive – a WBC) there is usually a bee escape, where trapped bees can get out, but it is shaped in such a way that bees or wasps outside cannot get in. They always used to be made of metal, but are now plastic, and a mouse had

chewed through it and got in that way. This I have never had before, and I can only hope that enough bees have stung any mouse and managed to kill it. If not, it will be eating everything it can inside the hive, whilst being kept nice and warm by the remaining bees. I need to open the hive up to see what's going on, but not until a warm day. Whatever you might be doing please continue to keep yourselves and your families safe and make the best of things. As always, happy gardening until next month. *Steve and Felicity Hunt.*



FAIRTRADE NEWS January 2021



I'm writing this on the Sunday of snow. My goodness we need the light – literally and metaphorically! We've had fire, flood and pestilence – I suppose we've been spared the bulboes – I thought 'boils' were on the list, but clearly I've confused my 10 plagues with the 4 horsemen of the Apocalypse : Flood, Fire, Famine, Pestilence. Hey ho!

Of course Covid 19 has impacted everyone. But we are so clearly not all 'in the same boat'. The poor, the struggling, the 'little people' are generally, as ever, the ones whose situation has been exacerbated the most, here and abroad.

Spare a thought for struggling producers who have no safety net, none, when supply chains collapse. Traidcraft is making a huge effort to keep these growers and producers afloat. Please consider making fairtrade purchases where you can. Ethical Superstore, Traidcraft and many other outlets on line support a fair deal for farmers and producers. And don't forget environmental sustainability is a key criterion for FT status. It's encouraging that Joe Biden has signed up the US to the Paris agreement again (Did you see that Ted Cruz thought that this represents some kind of benefit to the citizens of Paris?.. Is he stupid or is this some kind of dog whistle nationalist appeal ? But which of these is the more reprehensible?) Someone wondered about the Geneva Convention . . . There is a lot of startling information on the Fairtrade Foundation website

Take care everyone in this weirdest of times.
Marion McAdam 641 316



Acorn Stairlifts

Regain the freedom of your home

NEXT DAY INSTALLATION AVAILABLE



Why leave the home you love?

With an Acorn Stairlift, you can feel safe on your stairs, and enjoy the full use of your home once again.

- Suitable for all types of staircase
- Direct from the manufacturer
- 14-day satisfaction guarantee
- 365-day local service and support
- FREE survey and quotation
- New or reconditioned
- Rent or buy

5 STAR SERVICE!



5 STAR QUALITY!



5 STAR VALUE!



"Be safe with a stairlift; the perfect solution to your problems with the stairs."

Dr Hilary Jones,
Medical Advisor to Acorn Stairlifts



**FREEPHONE
0800 612 3902**

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE SURVEY AND QUOTE



SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

Our December virtual meeting was well attended, the speaker for the evening was Peter Strong and the title of the talk was 'The Ghost of Christmas Past'. His account of Christmas in the 1880's in Gwent. I'm sure we all found it interesting and it was good to see everyone even if it was only virtually.

Our January talk will be given by Jonathon Stephens who will give an account of the sale of Lord Raglan's collection after his death in 2010. It's the miracle of *Zoom*, he will be giving this talk from Singapore, his alarm clock will be set at 2.00am.

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday, 23rd February at 7.00pm

A talk entitled 'Treasurers' given by Dr Mark Lewis

Tuesday, 30th March at 7.00 pm

A talk entitled 'Chepstow in the Second World War' given by Naylor Firth

I thought you would be interested, I've taken some snippets from our archive. This month the topic is Captain Ian Oswald Liddell V.C., his family lived in Shirenewton Hall from 1900 until 1975.

Congratulations to our 200 Club winners in December:

1. William John

2. Kha Koon Cornwell

3. Sandra White

4. Lynn Thomas



CAPTAIN IAN OSWALD LIDDELL, VC.

Ian Oswald Liddell was born on 19th October 1920 in Shanghai, where his father was the director of a family-run business. In September 1939, he enlisted into the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry as a Private soldier, and was commissioned into the Coldstream Guards on 2nd November 1940.

He served with the Coats Mission which was the military force, of which the Coldstream were part, that was to protect the Royal Family in the event of an invasion. He was posted to the 5th Battalion in November 1942, and was promoted to Captain in February 1943.

The 5th Battalion was one of the infantry battalions in the Guards Armoured Division which landed in France at the end of June 1944. He was awarded the Victoria Cross on 3rd April 1945 for de-fusing German bombs on a bridge near Lingin in Germany. Captain Liddell was killed by a sniper on 21st April.

In addition to the VC, he was also awarded the 1939-45 Star, France & Germany Star, and the Defence and War Medals. His medals were presented on loan to the Regiment by his family.

EXTRACT FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

07 June 1945



Victoria Cross

156048 Lieutenant (Temporary Captain) Ian Oswald LIDDELL,
5th Bn Coldstream Guards

In Germany, on 3rd April 1945, Captain Liddell was commanding a company of the Coldstream Guards, which was ordered to capture intact a bridge over the River Ems near Lingin. The bridge was covered on the far bank by an enemy strong point, which subsequently discovered to consist of 150 entrenched infantry supported by three 88mm and two 20mm guns. The bridge was also prepared for demolition with 500lb bombs, which could plainly be seen.

REMINDER: Shirenewton still has an open booking with Mark Smith from the Antiques Roadshow to come and give us a talk on the Victoria Cross when we are all able to mix socially again.



Captain Ian Liddell VC



The Cayo beauty & wellness is a home-based salon, located in its own studio space and set in the beautiful countryside of Shirenewton.

Here you will find a quiet relaxing salon with easy parking and a fantastic range of beauty treatments to enjoy.

We have all the latest precautions in place in line with Covid 19 guidelines.

Contact: Samantha Durant
Mob: 07598908830
sdurant380@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

 @thecayo

 the_cayo_beauty

Shirenewton W.I.



For our January W.I. Zoom meeting our members were asked to recommend a book or poem that they had enjoyed reading during the recent lockdowns. Between the 13 members who joined the meeting, we compiled a list of 18 books. The list included fiction and nonfiction, historical, crime, comedy, poetry, children's and a wonderful book which showed you how to make a knitted safari (so cute).The evening provoked some good discussions and we all came away with a list of reading and craft ideas to help see us through the next few months.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 11th February at 7.15pm on Zoom. Angela Gray, who is studying Egyptology, will be talking about 'The Everyday Life of an Ancient Egyptian'.

If you would like to join us, then please contact Jane Butterworth at janeb247@gmail.com



STEVE DALLY GARDEN SERVICES

T **Shirenewton (01291) 641775**

M **07743 867711**

E **steve.dally@hotmail.co.uk**

LAWN MOWING

Regular maintenance or
one-off grass cutting

LAWN REPAIRS

Areas re-turfed or seeded

STRIMMING Large areas
strimmed and cleared

HEDGE CUTTING

**PLANTING, PRUNING
AND WEEDING**

**FENCE REPAIRS AND
PAINTING**

PRESSURE WASHING

Paving, patios and
decking areas

S&B Newspaper Home Delivery Service

First month FREE DELIVERY for new customers!

Various payment options available

1-7 DAYS A WEEK

DELIVERIES OF MORNING PAPERS

PLUS ALL MAGAZINES

So, relax and have your newspapers delivered

Phone:- Reg on 01633 411117 or

Steve on 07971 061495



Proprietor:
Alan Knight

Mob: 07786 364759

Tel: 01291 424399

www.springcleanclean.co.uk

**Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners
Empty Property Deep
and Sparkle Cleans Undertaken**

✿ COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC INSURED SERVICE

✿ PROFESSIONAL PERSONAL SERVICE AT REALISTIC PRICES

✿ RELIABLE & THOROUGH

✿ ESTIMATES FREE NO OBLIGATIONS

✿ SATISFIED CLIENTS THROUGHOUT AREA CODES

01291-01600-01594-01633 AND BEYOND


YAP DOGGY SPA

Grooming ✿ Walking ✿ Home Boarding

Loving care for your dog for all You Animal People

DOG GROOMING

Treatments include

- ✿ Full groom and clip - The Ultimate
- ✿ Shorthaired full groom and de shedding
- ✿ The Inbetween - bath and freshen up

**FREE COLLECTION AND
DROP OFF WITHIN 5 Miles**

15% OFF FIRST GROOM

DOG WALKING

- ✿ £10 per hour
- ✿ £15 Two dogs from same home

HOME BOARDING

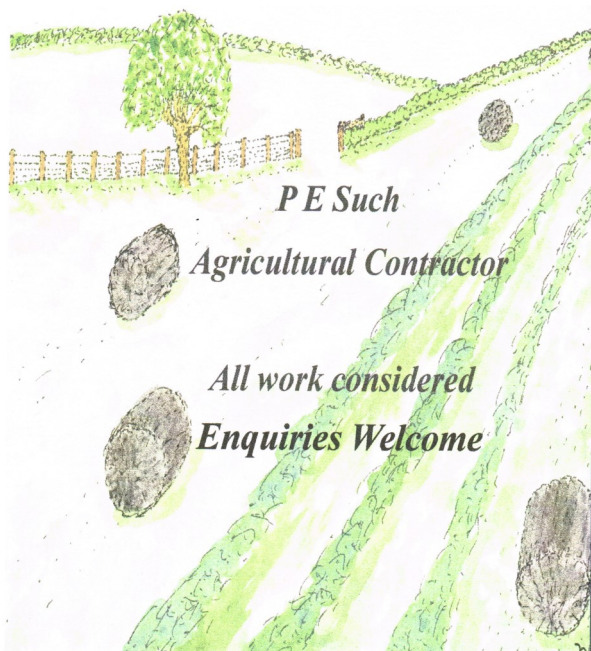
- ✿ £20 per night
- ✿ £30 Two dogs from same home

Member of BIGA ✿ ICMG UK ✿ IPG
Insured, licensed, canine first aid, CRB checked

TEL: 07311 858686

www.yapyouanimalpeople.co.uk

Opening mid November. Bookings taken now.



AVAILABLE SERVICES

Fencing
Hedge Cutting
Flail Topping
Mowing
Bailing
Wrapping

Tel: 07729 721090

e-mail:
peteresuch@gmail.com



Traditionally-raised, free range meat
Raised on your doorstep,
Delivered to your door!

Rare-Breed Mutton
Whole (approx.18kg) - £150
Half (approx.9kg)- £80

Slow-grown Autumn Lamb
Whole (approx.15kg) £145
Half (approx.7.5kg) £80

Free Range Beef
Small (5kg) - £55
Medium (10kg) - £105
Large (20kg) - £205

Boxes contain a selection of cuts butchered to your preference;
please get in touch to discuss your requirements.

For enquiries please Call: 07706 429565
or email: earlwoodvalleyproduce@gmail.com

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

www.shirenewtonchurch.com

Welcome to 2021 - a year for which we all have high hopes!

Firstly, the good news is that I've finally got around to updating the website with the photos and videos from the 2019 fete – yes 2019. Anyway, if you go to the website and click on the 'Click here' adjacent to 'News, social events and community updates!' (in the 2nd blue banner) a pop-up will open and at the top is a link to the 2019 fundraising events. Normally you get to this page from the top menu selecting 'Fundraising' then click through to '2019 Fund Raising Events' under the 'Record of Fund Raising Events' section of the main fundraising page.

On the 2019 Fund Raising Events page you will find a write up on the village fete and links to a photo album and to videos covering the parade, some of the tug-of-war and the sheep races. Lots of fun and a timely reminder of happier days.

Moving onto some other local information. Over Christmas a number of people appeared to be suffering from crackly telephone lines. The Cornwell household certainly did. There is a simple explanation for this which is that in the village we have overhead lines slung from pole to pole. What can happen is that, when it gets windy, the line gets stretched (either against a branch or otherwise) and the line is hyperextended and the individual internal twisted pairs can snap (the wire you see comprises of many twisted pairs internally – each pair being a line). When the wind dies down, the two ends of the pair (if broken) reconnect. The connection is clearly not as good as a solid wire but it can be within tolerance on a basic line check. Lines can also be worn through due to the rubbing against branches which exposes the internal pairs to the elements. Electricity and water never mix well!

So, if you get a situation where the line seems fine (ish) on calm days and crackly/very poor on windy days you probably have a line break. Another classic symptom is your broadband router suddenly dropping out and reconnecting. The dropouts will coincide with wind gusts. The problem comes when you report this to BT (or whomever) and the Openreach engineer (Openreach maintain the lines regardless of your domestic supplier) visits on a clam day. As noted above, the line may test ok because it may be slightly degraded but within tolerances. To be fair most of the Openreach Engineers understand this but if they are used to working in the city it may not occur to them and it may need to be

explained. I always make sure I explain it to the BT call centre to try and get it put on the job notes.

Moving onto other happenings. The Cornwell family are avid users of WhatsApp and you probably have heard that WhatsApp has been having a tough time of it after announcing that they were going to change their privacy settings to share information with FaceBook – their parent company. This prompted scary headlines in the MSM and some irresponsible reporting which bore little relation to the facts! This in turn prompted loads of people to abandon WhatsApp for Signal or Telegram. Signal saw a 4,200% increase in downloads. Concerned that everyone was moving away from them, WhatsApp recently announced that the change had been delayed by 3 months.

Now the interesting thing is that, as always, the devil is in the detail. Without boring everyone, it's basically two things: (i) there is no change for end users who message each other – there is still end to end encryption; (ii) the change is when you message a business. In this case the message is no longer encrypted and the information in the message and associated with your phone (such as location) can be used for ad targeting in FB. So, in summary, it's all to do with the business API which is the way businesses interact with WhatsApp at a system level (rather than having a mobile phone which they use). However, there can be little doubt that WhatsApp really messed up their announcement of the change. A very good article on this is here in Gizmodo: <https://tinyurl.com/yx8jdhib> So, how did the Cornwell family react? Well we are still using WhatsApp although I have downloaded Signal to both my phone and KK's phone to try it out. Guess what? It's just like WhatsApp. I'm planning to do some more research on Signal vs Telegram vs WhatsApp and will report back. Finally, those who follow the community FaceBook page will be aware that I reported some post-Christmas fly tipping on the Crick road via the My-Monmouthshire app. It was a bit fiddly but I got there sending a photo and an exact GPS location via the app. Once the report is submitted, you get an email acknowledgement and then updates including when it's been sorted. All-in-all not a bad service at all.

Safe browsing
drc
webmaster
Shirenewtonchurch.com

Nerys's Natty Nosh



As some of you might know, I run a Facebook page called "Happy Recipes to share", which now has more than two hundred members. Anyone can join. It's fun and it's free! I thought it would be good to share with you some recipes from two members you probably know.

The first is from **Gillian Lambert**: - "Made this for dinner tonight ... Well worth the effort! As you see, I split it into 2 to serving pies. I've used 2 large chicken breasts, rather than the thighs recommended."



SERVES 6

PREP 40 mins plus at least 3 hrs chilling and resting
COOK 1 hr 15 mins

Ingredients

50g butter

1 leek finely sliced.

8 skinless, boneless chicken thighs cut into chunks.

1 thyme sprig, leaves picked.

2 bay leaves

2 tbsp plain flour

100ml white wine or dry sherry

300ml chicken stock

100ml crème fraiche or double cream

1 tbsp mustard (we used wholegrain, but use whatever variety you have)

For the pastry

150g cold butter, cut into cubes, plus extra for the dish.

400g self-raising flour, plus extra for dusting

1 egg, beaten.

Method for filling

1 Melt the butter in a casserole dish over a low heat. Add the leek, chicken, herbs, and seasoning, and cook for 10-12 mins until the chicken is cooked, the leeks have softened, and the mixture is simmering.

2 Stir in the flour and cook for 3 mins until the mix resembles a sandy paste.

3 Pour in the wine or sherry, and bubble for 1 min, then stir in the stock, crème fraiche or cream and the mustard. Bring to a simmer.

4 Cook for 10 mins until the chicken is cooked through. Season to taste, remove from the heat and leave to cool completely.

5 Tip into a container and chill for 2 hrs, or overnight. Will keep chilled for up to two days.

To make the pastry,

1 Rub the butter into the flour with a pinch of salt until completely combined.

2 Add half the beaten egg and 4 tbsp ice-cold water, and bring together into a dough using your hands, adding a little more water if needed.

3 Knead for a minute so it completely comes together, then chill for 1 hr.

4 Butter a 20cm loose-bottomed cake tin. Roll two-thirds of the pastry out until large enough to line the tin with some overhanging.

5 Use it to line the tin, then spoon in the filling.

6 Roll out the remaining pastry until large enough to cover the pie. Brush the edge of the pastry with a little of the remaining beaten egg, then drape over the pie to close it. Trim the edge, then press with a fork to seal. Chill until you are ready to cook. Will keep chilled for up to 24 hrs.

7 Heat the oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7 with a baking sheet inside. Brush the pie with some of the remaining beaten egg, then lightly score a criss-cross pattern on top using a sharp knife. Bake on the hot sheet for 20 mins, then brush with the rest of the egg, season with sea salt flakes and bake for 15-20 mins more until deep golden. Remove from the oven and rest for 10 mins, then carefully remove from the tin, put on a board, and cut into wedges to serve.



The Second is from Janet Horton.

Turkey and ham pie using ham and turkey that we froze on Boxing Day.

I lobbed in leek, mushrooms, celery, ham, turkey, and a few bits of pancetta that were about to go out of date. Some thyme, some mushroom soup, and a tiny bit of finely grated Parmesan.... I made a sort of mushroomy creamy sauce and heated the filling before popping it in the pastry.

I made quick flaky pastry.

That's 8oz plain flour, 6oz very cold butter, pinch of salt, cold

water. Grate the very cold butter into the flour, add the salt and I used the dough hook on my Kenwood mixer to mix the butter into the flour. When it looked nice and crumbly, added a tiny amount of cold water and mixed - adding more water until it made a nice pastry. Then popped it in cling film into the fridge for about 30mins before rolling it out. I brushed it with beaten egg as the final touch.

It was EPIC!

It should provide quite a few meals through the week too.

Thank you both very much for your wonderful recipes. If you are interested in joining the group, you will be warmly received.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL
CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd & Making Music, and is a
Registered Charity (no. 112798)
www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY UPDATE. FEBRUARY 2021

Like every other choral society or singing group, CCS has inevitably been out of action singing-wise since mid- March 2020. However, the Society has not been inactive during the enforced break! The CCS Committee was determined from the beginning to keep in touch with the membership, meeting several times via Zoom (connections permitting!) and a variety of ideas and avenues have been explored. In the early months these were focussed on hoping that singing would resume in September 2020. By midsummer that became a forlorn hope –plans to try some outdoor singing bit the dust when restrictions once again predominated and as Christmas loomed, even limited outdoor carol singing conforming to regulations was not going to be possible.

A Zoom "Christmas Party" for the membership was held which featured quizzes, social exchanges, and some carol singing, all with attendant members enjoying a mince pie and drink of choice! However, the outstanding achievement around the Christmas season was an Advent Carols Calendar whereby a carol or piece of Christmas music was sent to every member for each of the 25 days to Christmas Day –a fabulous collection of beautiful Christmas selections by our Musical Director and team which delighted all who logged on every day.

We now look ahead into 2021. Like every other choral group, we are unable to say when we "will meet again". However, that is not to say that we are not looking ahead! The 2021 Christmas Concert date is already booked for SUNDAY DECEMBER 12th 2021|at St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow and we earnestly hope that we will be back singing well before then to prepare a wonderful Christmas programme for all.

One other priority on resumption will be a" recruitment drive" – so if you enjoy singing, wish to keep YOUR local choral society alive, and help us to maintain a full choral tradition in Chepstow, please contact us through the details below to find out more information. Thank You!

For information, log into our website (see above) or tel. 623310 (Marje).

The Drive-Thru Advent Fair



Last year, before the umpteenth lockdown, Jane and I organised a Drive-Thru Advent Fair. As it couldn't be held in the Church Room for obvious reasons, we decided to hold it on The Chantry's in/out driveway (*I've been told that it's correctly called a horse-shoe driveway...*)(*Tres posh*) Anyway, it was an amazing success. We were all sensible and socially distanced of course. There was an amazing array of homemade cakes, sweets and biscuits, mincemeats, marmalades and preserves and the pieces de resistance, (*or should that be the piece de resistances?*) were the very fetching festive facemasks. We raised a wonderful £611 for the family and village in Burkina Faso via the charity 'Compassion UK' that the Sunday Club supports. Jane and I would like to thank everyone's support and generosity. We had a lovely morning – it was like the good old days!

Glynis and Jane





Contacting wards to enquire about relatives or friends who have been admitted to hospital

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board is aware of the significant difficulties the public are experiencing when trying to contact our wards during these very challenging times. We sincerely apologise for the distress this is causing. We wish to reassure you that we are recruiting additional staff to support the ward areas. Whilst we recruit, we have secured additional telephony support at each of our main hospital sites, 7 days a week.

The Telephonists will act as a link between callers and the wards. If the Telephonist can answer your query there and then, they will do so. Whilst they will be unable to discuss clinical information, they will be able to pass messages to the wards and inform callers of when the ward will ring callers back.





Please see below the numbers to call for the hospital where the ward is located. When enquiring about your relative or friend, **please continue to ring the ward first**. If you are unable to get through to the ward, you can ring these dedicated lines between the hours of 8am - 10am, 12 midday - 2 pm and 4pm - 6pm.

This will go live on 13th January 2021

PLEASE NOTE: This service will operate from 13th January 2021 for a period of 3 months (only).



Please note: these numbers are only to be used to enquire about someone who has been admitted to hospital.

-  **For the Royal Gwent Hospital (RGH), St Woolos Hospital and Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr (YYF):**
Please phone 01633 234748
-  **For Nevill Hall Hospital (NHH) and Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan (YAB):**
Please phone 01873 733016
-  **For The Grange University Hospital (GUH), County Community Hospital and Chepstow Community Hospital:**
Please phone 01633 493626
-  **For general enquiries to determine which hospital and ward your relative has been admitted to:**
Please phone Switchboard on 01633 234234 or 01873 732732



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Cysylltu â wardiau i holi am berthnasau neu ffrindiau sydd wedi'u derbyn i'r ysbyty

Mae Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan yn ymwybodol o'r anawsterau sylweddol y mae'r cyhoedd yn eu hwynebu wrth geisio cysylltu â'n wardiau yn ystod y cyfnod heriol iawn hwn. Ymddiheurwn yn ddiffuant am y gofid y mae hyn yn ei achosi. Hoffem eich sicrhau ein bod yn recriwtio staff ychwanegol i gefnogi'r wardiau. Wrth i ni recriwtio, rydym wedi sicrhau cymorth teleffoni ychwanegol ym mhob un o'n prif safleoedd ysbyty, 7 diwrnod yr wythnos.





Bydd y Teleffonwyr yn gweithredu fel cyswllt rhwng galwyr a'r wardiau. Os gall y Teleffonydd ateb eich ymholiad yn y fan a'r lle, byddant yn gwneud hynny. Er na fyddant yn gallu trafod gwybodaeth glinigol, byddant yn gallu trosglwyddo negeseuon i'r wardiau a rhoi gwybod i alwyr pryd y bydd y ward yn ffonio galwyr yn ôl.

Gweler isod y rhifau i ffonio'r ysbyty lle mae'r ward wedi'i lleoli. Wrth holi am eich perthynas neu ffrind, **parhewch i ffonio'r ward yn gyntaf**. Os na lwyddwch i gysylltu â'r ward, gallwch ffonio'r llinellau pwrpasol hyn rhwng 8am a 10am, 12 hanner dydd - 2pm a 4pm - 6pm.

Bydd hyn yn fyw ar 13 Ionawr 2021

NODER: Bydd y gwasanaeth hwn yn gweithredu o 13 Ionawr 2021 am gyfnod o 3 mis (yn unig).

Sylwer: dylid ond defnyddio'r rhifau ffôn hyn i holi am rywun sydd wedi'i dderbyn i'r ysbyty.

-  **Ar gyfer Ysbyty Brenhinol Gwent (RGH), Ysbyty Gwynllyw ac Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr (YYF):**
Ffoniwch 01633 234748
-  **Ar gyfer Ysbyty Nevill Hall (NHH) ac Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan (YAB):**
Ffoniwch 01873 733016
-  **Ar gyfer Ysbyty Athrofaol y Faenor (GUH), Ysbyty'r Sir ac Ysbyty Cymunedol Cas-gwent:**
Ffoniwch 01633 493626
-  **Ar gyfer ymholiadau cyffredinol i weld i ba ysbyty a ward y derbyniwyd eich perthynas:**
Ffoniwch Switsfwrdd ar 01633 234234 neu 01873 732732

What to do if your child has an illness or injury



When The Grange University Hospital opens (scheduled for 17th November 2020), our hospital services for children will change.

Children who require emergency treatment will go to The Grange University Hospital, where Specialist Children's Doctors and Nurses will be centralised. All children's hospital beds and the Children's Emergency Assessment Unit will also be at The Grange University Hospital.

The Royal Gwent Hospital, Nevill Hall Hospital and Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr will continue to provide a wide range of routine outpatient appointments for children and certain Elective Day Case Surgeries.

Local **Minor Injury Units** for children (aged over 1 year) will remain at the Royal Gwent Hospital or Nevill Hall Hospital, Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr, and Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan. **All children aged under 1 year old will need to be seen at The Grange University Hospital.**

What will be available for children at our main hospitals:

	The Grange University Hospital	Royal Gwent Hospital	Nevill Hall Hospital	Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr	Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan
Inpatient wards	✓	X	X	X	X
Child Assessment Unit	✓	X	X	X	X
Minor Injuries	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Children's Emergencies	✓	X	X	X	X
Outpatients	X	✓ St Woolos	✓	✓	✓

Maternity Services: Antenatal clinics, Midwifery-led routine births and Postnatal clinics will all take place at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Nevill Hall Hospital, Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr and Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan. All Consultant-led births will take place within The Grange University Hospital, with an additional centre for Midwifery-led births.



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Cut out and keep →

NHS SERVICES IN GWENT ARE CHANGING

when The Grange University Hospital opens



**CALL 999 OR GO TO
THE GRANGE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

if you have a **LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS** or **SERIOUS INJURY**



GO TO A MINOR INJURY UNIT

at Nevill Hall, the Royal Gwent, Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr or
Ysbyty Aneurin Bevan Hospitals, if you have a minor injury
(Children under 1 year will need to go to The Grange University Hospital).



CONTACT YOUR GP

if you have an illness or concern that is
not immediately life-threatening.



CALL NHS 111

if you are unwell, unsure what to do and need help.
You can also call 111 for urgent GP care
when your own Surgery is closed.



TREAT AT HOME or CONTACT YOUR PHARMACIST

if you have a minor illness or ailment such as a
sore throat, cough, skin irritation or common mild illness.

For more information, visit abuhb.nhs.wales.

Keep up to date and ask us questions by following us:

 @AneurinBevanUHB  AneurinBevanHealthBoard

Dyfodol  **Clinigol**
Clinical Futures



Huntsman Catering LLP Presents

Take Away Menu

Wednesday Curry Night £10pp

Friday Fish & Chip Night £10pp

Sunday Lunch £12pp

See our Facebook page or call for full details

The Huntsman Hotel, Shirenewton, Chepstow NP166BU

Pre Order via Text or Call 07766-237915, 01291-641521

—Take Away Collect from the back of The Huntsman Hotel Drive Through—

Payment by Cash, Direct (ask for bank details) or Card

To advertise in this magazine contact

Bill Clark: 01291 641783; parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com

Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

12 months 10 issues

Full page £80

Half Page £40

Quarter Page £20

PARISH MAGAZINE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

It's that time of year again when you are requested to pay your annual subscription for the ten copies of the parish magazine which will then be delivered to your home throughout 2021.

We are pleased that we have managed to keep the annual subscription for 2021 at £12.00 per annum, the same price as last year.

A payment slip with advice about who and how to pay, together with an envelope addressed to the person who delivers your magazine, is included in each of your copies this month.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish magazine.

Aileen Doggett

To the Orange Fairy



Thank you so much for the deposit of organic oranges and lemons that you left outside my door on Friday! And for the fail-safe recipe for marmalade. Sadly you didn't sign your card so I don't know who you are although you'd think I'd recognise an orange fairy when I saw one.

And had I known on Thursday at 9:21 it was the
21st minute

of the 21st hour

of the 21st day

of the 21st year

of the 21st century

I'd have thrown a very short party for 21 guests, yourself included. Hey ho, next time round eh?

Glynis the Marmalade Queen.



PUTTING THE CLIENT FIRST

Our Financial Planners are highly qualified and have the experience to help you with:

- ▶ Pensions and Retirement Planning
- ▶ Savings and Investments
- ▶ Inheritance Tax Planning and Probate
- ▶ Mortgages
- ▶ Equity Release
- ▶ Protection
- ▶ Long-Term Care

The value of pensions and investments can fall as well as rise, you may get back less than you invested.

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

The FCA do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning.

Please contact Dr Josh Lewis for a free initial consultation on:

Mobile: 07979 157259

Chepstow office: 01291 626373 | Abergavenny office: 01873 854488

E: joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk | www.iamfinancial.net

IAM Financial Planning Limited is an Appointed Representative of Positive Solutions (Financial Services) Limited, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Feakes & Co Solicitors



For You and Your Family

- Disputes and Litigation
- Redundancy/Settlement Agreements
- Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Estate and Tax Planning

Chepstow office: 01291 639280

Newport office: 01633 358888

info@feakes-legal.com | www.feakes-legal.com



THEIA JONES MUA

Specialist Bridal, Occasion &
Special Effects Makeup Artist

Contact :

07308139747

www.facebook.com/theiajonesmakeup



Eileen O' Dwyer



Private Carer/Home help
07795 689791

Amanda

Fully qualified, experienced Hairdresser / Barber

For a relaxing, friendly, one to one service in my new custom built salon at Bulwark, Chepstow NP16 5JY.

Contact jonesfreebird@aol.com or call 07753835984 / 01291620334 for a consultation.



Daniel & Matthew Haines **LLANVAIR LANDSCAPES**

Grass cutting and strimming, Hedge trimming
NPTC approved Tree Surgery Turfing
Landscaping, Seeding Lawn Care: Spraying
Scarifying, Aerating, Fertilizing. Rough areas
Sprayed and Cleared. Rubbish Removal.
Garden Fences, Patios & Agricultural Fencing.

Fully Insured. Competitive Prices, Free Quotes

Contact: Daniel or Matthew Haines

01633 400548, 07930 893680
07930 893678

Firewood for Sale

**Barn Stored Seasoned
Logs for Sale**

Contact Daniel or Matthew Haines

**Tel.- 01633 400548
07930 893680 or 07930 893678**



www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk

**Poppy Rastall BSc (Hons), MSCh, SRCh, HCPC reg
Podiatrist / Chiropodist**

Nail care, Corns, Callus, Verruca treatment, Sports Injury treatment
Ingrown toenails & Nail Surgery,
Diabetic foot health checks

**Call today for an appointment
01291 689 917**

Clinic locations in Chepstow and Tintern!
Stepwise Podiatry, Ashweir Lodge, Main Road, Tintern, NP16 6SE
Unit 2, Riflemans Way, Chepstow, NP16 5EJ
Home Visits available for house bound patients only

M.P.H. TUTORING

'Accelerate your Maths'

milesbirch95@gmail.com Mobile: 07778 989 644

Miles Per Hour Tutoring is an online tutoring service giving extra tuition in Mathematics to students or parents ranging from Primary School to A Level. It also caters for those who want a challenge furthering their knowledge or for students needing to catch up on work and helping to reach their desired target. Charges are £25 an hour and can be arranged by telephoning 07778 989 644, by email to milesbirch95@gmail.com or by Facebook (MPH Tutoring)

B.L Reece & Sons

WE OFFER COMPETITIVE PRICES ON ANY JOB
LARGE OR SMALL. OUR SERVICES RANGE
FROM DRAINAGE, SOAKAWAYS, PONDS,
DITCHES, FIELDS, HEDGES AND MUCH MORE.



WITH OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE OF
CONTRACT HIRE B.L REECE & SONS OFFER
A FRIENDLY AND RELIABLE SERVICE!

- ♦ JCB
- ♦ 5 Ton Dump Trailer
- ♦ Tractor
- ♦ Topper
- ♦ Bush Whacker

For a quote please call Jimmy >>

B.L.Reece & Sons
Tyna Rhos
Usk Road, Shirenewton,
01291 641272. 07546 394924.

GRW Services



WELDING, FABRICATION and REPAIR WORK

On all Farm, Plant Machinery & Commercial Vehicles

***Doors, Gates, and Railings for
Agricultural and Ornamental Use***

Full on site facilities and over 25 years experience

01291 650622 and 07899 081038

Graham Weavin

Richard Kopp

PLUMBING & HEATING

01291 641581

07780 703530

richardkopp70@hotmail.co.uk

www.rk-plumbingandheating.co.uk



- Heating system installation & repair
- Oil & gas boilers supply and installation
- Bathroom & cloakroom installation
- Oil & gas appliance servicing
- Gas safety checks
- Landlord certificates
- Unvented hot water cylinder systems supply and installation

LIFE SAVING DEFIBRILLATOR



DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

(Cabinets do not require codes, they are unlocked although they have a key pad)

Carpenters Arms (on the Usk road)

Huntsman Hotel (on the Usk road)



Tredegar Arms
(Shirenewton village)

(House half way between
Blethyn Close and the
School in Mynyddbach)
Earlswood Hall (Earlswood)
Shirenewton School

J & B Sewing Machines

Established 1961

www.jbsewing.com



- Domestic & Industrial Sewing Machines
- Servicing & Repairs
- Fabrics & Haberdashery
- Quilting & Creative Sewing Classes
- Coffee Mornings
- Serving South Wales For 58 Years
- **Helpful Friendly Advice!**



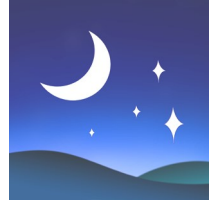
Main Dealers for:



J & B House
Curlew Close
Queensway Meadows
Newport
NP19 4SY
Tel: 01633 284646

Unit 4a Gripoly Mills
Sloper Road
Cardiff
CF11 8AA
Tel: 02922 402148

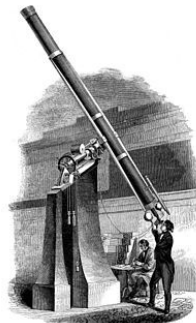
STARGAZING



The constellation of Orion the Hunter lies directly to the South. Four bright stars represent his shoulders and legs whilst a further three form his belt. Above Orion and to the right is a very bright orange star called Aldebaran. It's the brightest star in the constellation Taurus, the Bull and marks its eye. In classical times, the Greeks saw the constellation as Zeus disguised as a bull. Taurus is a member of the Zodiac, the twelve constellations which the Moon and planets travel through in a year. Looking further upwards and to the right you will see a small cluster of stars. These are called the Pleiades. With the naked eye, people can usually see six or seven stars in Pleiades. However, some people with better eyesight can see more. The cluster contains more than 200 young stars born some 50 million years ago, which means they are only one hundredth of the age of the Sun, our local star. Aldebaran means "the follower" in Arabic, as it rises above the horizon after the Pleiades.

The planet Mars is orange in colour. It can be seen in the south-west in the evening sky. The Moon and Mars are close together on 19th February.

NASA has some beautiful images relating to astronomy on the internet at <https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>. They change each day.



ADVERTORIAL

Inheritance tax – Are you making the most of your allowances?

I recently visited a widow who lived just outside Usk. She didn't consider herself to be wealthy, but like many of us had worked hard throughout life to pay off a mortgage. She is now retired and in a comfortable financial position. She has three children and you could probably understand her disbelief to be informed that when she passes away the tax man will receive a higher amount in tax than the share of her estate left to each of her three children! The continued rise in house prices in this area means that these days you don't have to be hugely wealthy to be affected by Inheritance tax (IHT). According to HMRC inheritance tax receipts 2019, a record £5.38 billion was collected in inheritance tax in the 2018/19 tax year and this is set to rise. There are many things you can do to reduce your inheritance tax liability and keep more of your wealth within the family.

The current IHT nil-rate threshold is £325,000 for individuals and £650,000 for a married couple or civil partners. Beyond these thresholds, IHT is usually payable at a rate of 40%. In order to help with aforementioned increasing house prices we recently saw the introduction of the main residence nil-rate band, which applies if you want to pass your main residence to a direct descendant, this now provides an additional £175,000 for individuals and £350,000 for a married couple or civil partners. However, it is important to be aware that for larger estates this extra relief is tapered when the estate is over £2m.

There is a range of options to help mitigate your potential inheritance tax bill, but as a starting point, you should consider the following allowances:

- Annual gifting allowance – each year you and your spouse can each gift up to £3,000 in total. You can also carry this forward for one year. Furthermore, gifts of up to £250 to any number of people are exempt.

- Wedding gifts – Parents can give up to £5,000 to a bride or groom, for grandparents this reduces to £2,500. Other well-wishers can give up to £1,000 before it becomes liable to IHT.

- Gifts to registered charities and political parties are exempt

- Gifts can also be made out of surplus income, however a number of conditions apply to this allowance and so I would suggest you seek advice in relation to this.

- Assets left to your UK based spouse or civil partner are also exempt.

Remember planning pays and there are several routes which can help with such taxes. If you would like to come along to my free inheritance tax seminars just drop me a line. (info@iscawealth.com) Isca Wealth Management Limited is an Appointed Representative of Vision Independent Financial Planning Ltd which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Firm reference number 487395. Please note that the FCA does not regulate inheritance tax advice.

I OFFER TRULY INDEPENDENT, UNBIASED ADVICE



vouchedfor
TOP RATED ADVISER 2020

Do you know how much inheritance
tax is due on your estate?

Are you prepared for
your retirement?

Do you need to review your
pensions and investments?

Are you taking advantage
of your tax allowances?



JAMES HAWKINS
CHARTERED MCSI

Call me for a free initial consultation

0333 789 0189

Start your journey for financial peace of mind

For further information or to book online visit www.iscawealth.com

ISCA Wealth Management Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Vision Independent Financial Planning Ltd, which is Authorized and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Firm reference number 487395.

This can be verified by visiting The Financial Services Register.

ISCA Wealth Management Ltd registered address: 21 Afon Gardens, Newport, Gwent, United Kingdom, NP18 1PR

Registered in England & Wales. Company number: 12009628.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning, Tax and Trusts.

The benefits to the treatment of tax will depend on your individual circumstances and may be subject to change in the future.

LOCAL CONTACTS

*If you know of any changes or omissions please contact the Editor Bill Clark
Telephone 01291 641783 or email parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com*

Church of St Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton

Rector	Revd Julian White Jel.white@btinternet.com	01291 622317
Parish Priest	Revd Nansi Davies CBE	01633 400 519
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	01291 641 175
Church Wardens – Rector's	Sally Saysell	01291 641 369
– People's	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
PCC Secretary	Bill Clark	01291 641 783
PCC Treasurer	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175
PCC Members	Aileen Doggett	01291 641 459
	Janet Horton	01291 641 783
	James Leney	01291 641 271
	Jane Smith-Haddon	01291 641 525
	Frances Gray	01291 622 465
	Paul Morcombe	01291 641 671
	Kevin Bounds	01291 641 648
Gift Aid Secretary	Vacant	01291 641 411
Organists	Karen Millar	01291 650 521
	James Leney	01291 641 271
Sunday Club	Lynn Morcombe	01291 641 671
Tower Captain	Mike Penney	01291 650 653
Saysell Centre Booking	Glynis MacDonald	01291 641 818
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
Church Flowers	Maureen Moody	01291 641 524
Parish Magazine Editor	Bill Clark	01291 641 783
200 Club	Aileen Doggett	01291 641 459

Church of St Tewdric's Mathern

Secretary	Jen Marendaz	01291329422
Church Warden	Elsbeth Morlan	01291627538
	Peter Pope	01291624453

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

Community Council Clerk	Hilary Counsell	01291 421307	shirenewtoncc@gmail.com
Shirenewton Ward:	Vacancy		
Chair	Philip Butterworth	01291 641704	philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Keith M Dunn OBE	01291 641152	keith.d@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Eleanor Chapman	01291 641421	eleanor.c@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Elizabeth Wixcey	01291641216	elizabeth.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Mynyddbach Ward	Louise Brown	07598979719	louise.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Emma Nigogosian		emma.n@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Earlswood Ward	Jayne McKenna	01291 691774	jayne.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Andy Williamson	01291641451	andy.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Newchurch West	Ian Martin	01291 650014	ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
MCC for Shirenewton	Louise Brown	07598 97971	louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Member of Parliament	David Davies	020 7219 8360	daviesd@parliament.uk

Police Neighbourhood Watch Contacts

Neighbourhood Police Officer Matt Scree matthew.screen@gwent.pnn.police.uk
Neighbourhood CSO Andrew Jones andrew.jones@gwent.pnn.police.uk

Other Local Organisations

Beavers Julie Hitchcock 01291 650548

Church Fete

Earlswood Hope Mrs Sylvia Jeremiah, Mr Raymond Jeremiah 01291 641726

Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall

Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel

Avril Smith 01291 627677

Gaerllwyd Baptist Mrs E Remnant Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA

Ranger Guides Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com

Recreation Association Beverly Lyndsay 07798 780971 beverlylyndsay@btinternet.com

Recreation Hall booking Beryl Saysell 01291 641637 bsaysell@hotmail.co.uk

St Peters Church Newchurch

Enid Heritage 01291 622708
enidheritage@gmail.com

Shirenewton Local History Society

Dorothy Brabon 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com

Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Fields Association Ltd (SAMFAL)

Neil Fuller 01291 641324

Caerwent Group Mothers Union

Rosemary Carey 01291 425010 crcandkili@tiscali.co.uk
Treasurer Bridget Evans 01291 408125 bridget.caldicot@gmail.com

Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS)

Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

Shirenewton Play Group Beverly Lindsay Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com

Shirenewton Primary School

Mrs Jill Mitchell, Associate Head Teacher 01291 641774
email jillianmitchell@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Jayne Edwards 01291 641774
jayneedwards@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Shirenewton Toddler Group Jude Langdon 07981 368213

Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com

Shirenewton Tennis Association

P Brabon 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com

Fairtrade/Traidcraft

Marion McAdam 01291 641316

Womens Institute (WI)

Diane Ashton Smith (President) 01291 628838
Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 01291 641704.

SHIRENEWTON PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Published: by The Church of St. Thomas à Becket Shirenewton

Editor: Bill Clark 01291 641783 email: parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com

The cost of the Magazine is £1.50 per issue/10 issues for £12.

Copies are delivered free by local distributors to those who have pre-paid.

Monthly copies are available at the Church.

Previous editions of the magazine are available online on the Church website at www.shirenewtonchurch.info.

To order your regular copy, contact Aileen Doggett 01291 641459

Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

Full page 12 months 10 issues £80

Half Page 12 months 10 issues £40

Quarter Page 12 months 10 issues £20

Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.

Editorial policy is to print what you provide, space and technology permitting. The views expressed are those of the contributor.

Preferred Document format is an MS Word document attached to an email. Preferred Advert and Photograph format is JPEG attached to an email

**Deadline for March 2021 issue is 9:00 a.m. Monday 22nd
February 2021**