Shirenewton Parish Magazine September 2021



Feeding time for the woodpeckers in Terry and Barbara Walters' garden





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

•	Pensions and Retirement Planning	
•	Savings and Investments	
•	Inheritance Tax Planning	
•	Mortgages and Equity Release	
•	Insurance and Protection	

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 uprepayments on your mortgage.

The Financial Conduct Authority do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning.

Equity Release will reduce the value of your estate and can affect your eligibility for means tested benefits.











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.iam-financial-advice.co.uk

IAM Financial Planning Limited is an Appointed Representative of Quilter Financial Planning Solutions Limited, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

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 designated page for 12 months £120 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 October 2021 issue is 9:00 a.m. Monday 27th September 2021

Ministry Area News

Dear All,

I hope you are having a good summer particularly as restrictions start to ease and we have greater freedom of movement. I am writing just to give a brief update as to how things are progressing towards us forming our Ministry Area. It is August as I write this and it is a generally slower month as people take holidays and recover.

It has been such a joy to be able to hold evening prayer in the wonderful churches across the Ministry Area. We have not only been blessed with such beautiful spaces to worship in, but more importantly such wonderful and committed people who reflect the presence of God in their local communities and who are the Church. I look forward to continuing to meet others as we work our way around the Ministry Area.

As well has holding evening prayer you will have noticed that I have been visiting congregations across the Ministry Area on Sunday mornings if they are holding services. It has been great to experience such a wide range of services from 1662 Eucharist at St Pierre and outside surrounded by the majesty of nature for a service of the word at Penterry. Isn't it wonderful the diversity which makes up the body of Christ.

On Friday 30th July we had the joy of welcoming Bishop Cherry to the Ministry Area, hosted by St Arvan's. To manage numbers all church wardens and licensed lay ministers were invited to attend. Cherry spoke to us about her faith and developing ministry. She particularly spoke of the importance of learning to accept who we are and learning to be fully yourself in your life, especially in expressing your faith and ministry (and we all have a ministry of some kind). Her very personal and heartfelt message came from her own experience of being both an ordained woman and a woman in a same sex relationship, both of which even now are not fully accepted by the church in which she serves. Learning to love all of who we are and being willing to give all of ourselves in the service of God, is vital for the whole Church to flourish and the growth of the Kingdom.

So going forward the Transition Team has decided to initially focus on two aspects of the process of becoming a Ministry Area, Firstly supporting each of our local church communities in exercising their mission and ministry to their community.

Secondly to establish a Buildings Fabric Network, which will be overseen by Rev John Waters. This network will draw people from across the Ministry Area who have expertise and experience in

church building maintenance and large projects. This network can help local fabric committees with suppliers, contractors, architects, grants and navigating the The Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). As I mentioned our Ministry Area is rich in beautiful church buildings and we are committed to ensuring that they remain so for future generations and remain a physical reminder of God's presence in that community.

We are very much in the early consultation stage of the process and wish to consult widely across all the parishes. Becoming a Ministry Area is inevitable, but this is your opportunity to help shape the Ministry Area to work for all of us. It is not often that we have a real opportunity to shape what our church looks like in the future. We encourage you to discuss your hopes, visions, ideas and concerns for the Ministry Area with any of the Transition Team members. All views are valued and nothing is too small or trivial.

My enthusiasm and excitement for the Ministry Area are growing daily, especially as I am visiting all of you and getting to know and love who you are.

Your brother in Christ

Philip Ministry Area Leader, designate



FROM THE VICARAGE Julian E LI White

Dear People of the Parish,

It is now high summer – actually, it's past that now – and the time to meditate on languid vacations, lounging on exotic shores and revelling in foreign delights.

Dream on.

This year, on account of the Covid threat, we probably had to make do with a fortnight in Skegness or a damp and somewhat tacky weekend in Blackpool. Obviously, the pandemic of the last couple of years has had a significant impact on church life. Added to which the copious directions issued by the Church in Wales have been intricate and time-consuming. Indeed, an advanced degree in Medieval Ecclesiastical Doctrine would have been helpful at this point.

At this stage (fingers crossed – am I allowed to sat that?), we appear to be entering more tranquil and optimistic times. Life is slowly returning to normal. In this respect I would like to thank all of you for helping to make the church instrumental in facing up to the new challenges that have confronted us. Our expression of witness, perhaps expressed in new and unexpected ways, continues to advance the glory of God.

At this point, Glynis Macdonald, Jane Smith-Haddon, Janet Horton and Andrew Baker (among others) are warmly thanked for making the 'Summer Bazaar' (despite inclement weather conditions) a success. An amount in the region of £1,000 was raised and the most generous supporters are also commended for their kindness.

Another wonderful initiative is being organised by Glynis. "A Musical Ploughman's " for September 11th 1pm at the Chantry. Please see advert for more info.

In light of these restrictions and challenges as mentioned above, I feel that I must draw your attention that few, apart from those directly involved, seldom think about – funeral and wedding preparation. Such services don't 'just happen'. They are the end product of pains-taking undertakings such as considering the varying number of people that each church can accommodate, a detailed seating plan and legal considerations. In this respect I extend sincere appreciation to Sally Saysell (Warden) and my wife Sandra, without whom I would have been utterly confused ('so, what's new?' I hear you wonder).

I wish you every blessing and trust that the situation, both domestic and global, continues to improve. Julian White (Rector)



Acorn Stairlifts

Regain the freedom of your home

NEXT DAY INSTALLATION AVAILABLE



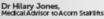
Why leave the home you love?

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



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

























Shirenewton Community Council

Extracts from the minutes of the July and August meetings

Planning applications considered (July):

1) DM/2021/00655 Whitemill, Itton Court Road, Itton Extension and alterations with associated works.

Council noted that this application lies within the adjoining community of Devauden but is on the boundary and this council had the opportunity to comment.

Whitemill is currently a 6 bedroomed residential property with natural stone walls under a slate roof. There is the main section of 2 storeys reaching a ridge height of 7m and extended to the left hand side with a slightly lower ridge height and 3 dormer windows to the upper storey at the front. The proposal is to add a two storey extension to the right hand end with one dormer window, providing an additional lounge with bedroom over. The walls would be in stone with a slate roof to match the existing building. The extension measures 5.5m long by (approx) 5m deep and approx 6.5m to the ridge, matching (just about) the left hand extension roof line. No floor area or volume measurements are given but the new build would appear to be within 30% of the existing.

Public footpath 192 runs through the site.

Recommendation: No objection, but suggest a Planning Condition that no vehicles obstruct the public footpath.

2) DM/2021/00927 Argoed Farm, Upper Argoed Farm, Earls-wood

Single storey rear extension to Old Farmhouse.

Council noted that the Old Farmhouse is part of a small cluster of now residential housing around the farmyard as was. The rear of the Old Farmhouse faces south west. Internal revisions involve moving the kitchen to the rear and building a large ground floor extension (possibly conservatory or orangery but with velux windows rather than a lantern roof), across the full width so as to create a lounge area. Two sets of patio doors, 5 per set, run across the outer face with cedar cladding to the end walls and central divide. The doors would lead onto a patio which sits above the ground as it falls away, with balustrading for safety.

The rear garden appears to be well screened and quite private and the extension is unlikely to be seen from the road.

Recommendation: No objection, but suggest a Planning Condition to ensure external lighting is subdued.

Applications considered in August:

1. To note Planning Inspectorate appeal decision APP/E6840/A/21/3274383, Bushes Farm, Earlswood.

Council noted that the Planning Inspectorate had dismissed the appeal.

2) DM/2021/01154 Hillside House, Usk Road, Earlswood Relocation of existing hedge to improve site access visibility and hard surface to existing track.

Council noted that currently, visibility is restricted when looking northwest from the access, owing to the position of the existing hedge and slight bend in the road and vehicles must edge out over the edge of the road (speed limit 60 mph) to gain sufficient visibility. The proposal increases visibility from 60 m to 90 m along the road to the south and from 20m to 60m north. A public footpath runs from the access along the track and uphill past Ridge House Stables. There is no corresponding footpath on the other side of the road so there is no necessity for pedestrians to cross the road at this point.

The access track is currently two hard surface strips with grass in between and the new surface will emulate the existing concrete finish. The changes will not obstruct the footpath.

The application statement contains comprehensive detail on the timing, preservation and re-establishment of the hedge and the profuse varieties of flora it contains.

Recommendation: No objection, subject to conditions for hedge re-establishment and monitoring.

3) DM/2021/01199 Brookacre, Earlswood

Demolition of conservatory & construction of rear single storey extension, raise roof over hall, garage conversion & extension & change of use to class C3; dwelling house.

Councillors were aware that Brookacre currently comprises a two storey building looking like a house with an annexe and double garage.

The proposal is to replace the conservatory with a proper lounge some 8.5x6m. The single storey annex sits a fraction below the first floor of the main building and access is upstairs from the hall with no direct access from the first floor of the main building. As no first floor plan is supplied it is speculation whether It is proposed to build an access above the hall. The garage is to be converted to a cinema room / garden studio and there will be an additional single storey building some 6x7m providing a further bedroom and ensuite (for the manager?). This would involve a change of use of the garage to C3 which is as use as a dwellinghouse (whether or not as a sole or main residence) by (a) a single person or by

people to be regarded as forming a single household or (b) not more than six residents living together as a single household where care is provided.

The site is at the foot of the forest, down the hill from West End and is well screened from the road. The new build will be rendered and tiled to match the existing buildings.

Recommendation: No objection, however Council recommended conditions on noise reduction for the converted garage and exterior lighting restrictions.

4) Notice of Public Path Diversion Order No's 34 (Part) and 30 (Part), Shirenewton.

The Chair explained the background and reasons for the diversion, also that the diverted path needs to meet with the steps onto the recreation field. The applicant is to bear all costs.

The following response was made to Mon CC - Council noted that the line of the steps onto the recreation field on the definitive map is not the same as the present location of the steps, it was suggested by MCC that the steps, when they were installed, were installed in the wrong location. That anomaly should be resolved when the new steps are installed. Otherwise the Council had no objection.

Monthly police report - No reports received, but information received that Sgt Chris Butt transferred in July and was replaced by PS Lee Smith-Stephens.

The Community Council reluctantly accepted the resignation of Councillor Chapman in August. This leaves a vacancy in the Shirenewton ward which is currently being advertised. If you are a resident of the community and wish to join the Council to represent Shirenewton, please get in touch with the Clerk (details below)

Other items of interest

20 is Plenty Road Safety Campaign

You may have seen in the local newspapers that the 20mph petition had over 200 signatures and was presented in June to Monmouthshire County Council by County Councillor Louise Brown on behalf of this community council. A press release was produced by Councillor Dunn and circulated to local newspapers and TV channels, all to promote the continuing issue of reducing the speed of traffic through Shirenewton and Mynyddbach villages to a mandatory 20mph. Following this Mon CC has confirmed that mandatory 20mph speed limits will be in place in both villages this financial year.

Annual Grants from the 2020/21 budget -

The following grants to local organisations were approved:

Shirenewton PCC	Churchyard maintenance	£700
Shirenewton PCC	Carols around the Tree	£80
Caerwent Historic Trust	Geosurvey of Llanmelin Hill Fort	£250
Recreation Association	Hall maintenance	£300
Local History Society	Storage for village archive	£250
Earlswood Hall	Pest control	£100
Earlswood Valley/Hope chapels	Grass cutting and maintenance	£120
Monmouthshire County CAB	Advice to residents	£100
Shirenewton WI	Plaque and maintenance of The Spout	£100

Five Lanes Reuse Shop – the shop at the recycling centre was officially opened on 8th July and is now open to customers to bag a bargain (the centre is closed on a Thursday).

Recycling and Waste - Red and Purple Bags

If you are having problems with the size of the new bags, it is possible to attend in person at the Chepstow Community Hub or telephone the general county council number 01633 644644 and select the Recycling option to request smaller bags.

Community Footpaths – The Council was aware that any unrecorded footpaths in the community need to be registered by 2026 or could be lost forever. There needs to be a lead contact in place. An offer of help had been received from a resident at Clearview, but more local volunteers will be needed to walk the local paths and report those that are incorrectly recorded or missing, or have damage/faults that need reporting. The definitive footpaths map is on the Mon CC website access@monmouthshire.gov.uk Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in helping with this.

Dates of next meetings: Monday 6th September and Monday 4th October 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

NOPEL

'land Rovers

OF MONMOUTHSHIRE

SERVICE & SALES CENTRE

The alternative to main dealers for service

Behind the Rock & Fountain on the A48 at Penhow

Looking for a quality used Land Rover?

Speak to Chris Duthie for our latest stock:

(01633) 400041

The Film Studios · Penhow · NP26 3AD

--

Gardening Corner

I started the last gardening page with doom and gloom about the weather, which given that most conversations (over 90% apparently) start with mention of what weather the day has brought us, is not surprising. I'm afraid this month is going to be no different, but then everything that we do in the garden is so tightly connected with the fortunes of the weather it is difficult to start with much else. I was contemplating on starting with the startling news of 'three gangs of thugs are rampaging this area' but thought I would leave them until later!

The relatively (thank goodness) short period of very hot weather which now seems a distant memory was no doubt enjoyed by many, given the previous extended dull, and cold conditions we had endured earlier in the year. For us it meant being up early in the morning to do the necessary watering before the heat of the sun made it impossible to even put a nose into the greenhouses, but especially the tunnels. At it's peak we were watering anything planted in containers twice a day. This was mostly the salad crops in large pots or growing bags, but we also had a lot of flower plants, which were to be for cut flowers later in the season, and also a lot of perennial plants as well. Most of these had been divisions we had made when splitting up over grown plants in the borders. These were destined for number 1 daughter's garden in Somerset, where she and the family have now moved. As if we didn't have enough to do here at Barn Farm, Zoe had bought a house and garden that once was nice, but sadly hadn't had any real attention for many years. As always, dad was rather slow in taking a step backwards, when the call came for volunteers to help restore the garden back to its former glory was issued! With the weather now too hot and dry to even contemplate this task we were saddled with the extra watering to keep them going. Outside in the borders and raised beds of the vegetable and cut flower areas, most plants had to take their chance, as it is impossible to water everything. Most survived but it meant that the onions are smaller, as are the garlic, the early runner beans failed to set many beans, and many of the cauliflowers and broccoli all matured at the same time. The temperature in the large tunnel was simply too high, and the numerous tomato plants, peppers and cucumbers suffered as a result. The flower trusses at the top of the tomatoes in particular, because they were closer to the plastic cover simply shrivelled up and died, which meant that the centre of each plant is devoid of any crop. The hot and dry conditions also meant an explosion of red spider mite in the tunnel and greenhouses, which has a major impact on some of the plants despite giving them all a 'shower' at least once a day, to try and increase the humidity around them. Red spider mite can be a major problem, and are difficult to control, resulting in vellowing leaves, leaf fall and when at its worst, lots of very fine cobwebs. Once you have them it is very difficult to get under control. I have tried biological methods in the past – you can buy a treatment comprising of very small parasitic wasps, but have never had a great deal of success. They simply get outnumbered. Since the hot spell, the weather has cooled down, and has tended to be moist and cooler, often feeling quite humid. This has meant that many plants haver rallied round and look much healthier now. The tomatoes in particular now generally carry good crops, especially the varieties that are for cooking / sauce making. From the salad perspective, I tried two new varieties this year including one 'black' variety, but these have been a major disappointment. It may be the weather, of simply the variety not suited to the conditions. Suffice to say that next year I will be going back to the old tried and tested varieties, such as Shirley and

sweet 100 or similar.

As I think I have mentioned before, most of our raised vegetable beds now suffer from club root, a nasty and persistent disease in the soil. This impacts anything in the brassica family, which includes a number of flower plants as well. You can do nothing to get rid of it, but you can still grow some varieties of brassica's which have had a club root resistant gene bred into them. It just means you are just limited to one variety of cauliflower, Brussel sprout, broccoli and cabbage (red and green). We also enjoy various kales, and purple sprouting broccoli, but unfortunately club root resistant species have not yet been developed for these as yet, so we are destined to lose these off our menu list for the time being. Although good for most vegetables the humidity has not benefitted everything. Our potatoes for example suddenly started looking very sick. I checked the website to see if potato blight was an issue (there are several web sites that monitor the weather and predicts when conditions are right for potato blight to infest crops). It forecast some near misses, but no actual 'events' for us, but with the foliage deteriorating daily I decided that enough was enough and dug them up, rather than let the potatoes themselves become infected. The level of crop was good, but because they were being dug earlier than usual, there were a lot of small potatoes as well. Some will get used for seed next year, but a lot of the small ones were simply thrown on the bonfire. The soft fruit in particular suffered as much of it went mouldy. We still had reasonable pickings of raspberries, and strawberries, but a lot were lost. The same is now happening with the cultivated blackberries. We normally get a very good crop of blueberries, as once they have set the fruit, we then grow in a tunnel to keep the birds off, as the blackbirds in particular are very partial to the ripening fruit. Mouldy fruit was not a problem, but the size of the crop had been badly affected by the early cold weather, with probably only 25% of the usual amount.

To add insult to injury the three gangs of yobs have also been impacting the garden and orchard. I mean the four jays, six magpies (although it can be as many as 14) and three carrion crows. Initially they were attacking the tree where we feed the birds, and we watched them trying to catch the newly fledged baby birds. I simply have a hate relationship with these three breeds of birds because of the damage they can do, a bit like squirrels, although the former tends to be much more artful which is why they are such good survivors, I guess. A mere movement at the window is enough to see them take wing in short order. Usually, the jays and magpies sit on the top of our numerous bird boxes and simply wait for the new fledglings to take to the wing, taking them one at a time. But they must have missed this opportunity this year as they made numerous raids on the tree. Once the small birds got a bit bigger and faster, then the three gangs just simply raided the food instead, taking a great beak full out of the fat squares, before rapidly disappearing, only coming back when the coast was clear. I had to stop feeding the birds at one point when 12 magpies flew out of the tree, and think these pests realised their food supply had gone, so mainly cleared off. This only took them up the field where they then started on the apples and plums, long before anything was ripe enough to eat. A damson tree, with a reasonable crop, was stripped completely bare over two days. The crows are a major problem as to save themselves effort, they peck at a single spot on a branch until this breaks under the weight of the fruit and either hangs down to the ground or breaks off completely.

14

Much easier to eat the fruit on the ground. We have a couple of trees, where there are now few branches left. I think stronger deterrent measures are called for.

And then there were nine – beehives that is. With the damp conditions continuing, food for the bees was more limited than normal (until all the summer flowers came into blossom). As a result, the last weaker hive succumbed to the attention of the robbing bees (and wasps). When inspecting the hives, it was clear by the volume of wax cappings (the covering on the cells where food is stored) on the ground in front of the hive, that this one hive had been stripped out and the home bees had either died out, or decided to up sticks and leave. I did have one strong swarm of bees in early May, which I captured in a box and transferred to a hive, and this one has done well. The other 8 all look reasonably well to, and I will shortly be taking a small crop of honey off the best hives. Unlike many other bee keepers who had endless swarms this year, this early swarm was the only one I had, so it has meant that the best hives have three or even four 'supers' of honey. Many are full, but some only part full, so I will have to decide, hive by hive, what if anything can be taken, and what needs leaving for the Winter stores. I'll let you know how things go next month. As always, happy gardening until next month. Steve and Felicity Hunt.





FOR THE REGISTERS

Derek George King BEM (Tom) 1929—2021, funeral service and interment at St Thomas à Becket Church, Shirenewton on 19th July 2021.

Margaret Joan Buttress 1936—2021, funeral service and interment at St Thomas à Becket Church, Shirenewton on 12th August 2021.

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

We start our new 2021/2022 year in September, we will also have a new venue for our meetings. We are unable to meet in the Huntsman, therefore, we have been very lucky to acquire our new meeting place, the Church Room, thanks to Shirenewton P.C.C.

We have had a busy summer completing the installation and unveiling of the Purple Plaque for Martha Gellhorn. This was planned for 2020, the plaque was made by Julia Land in Chepstow and it was all set, of course this had to be postponed as a result of the Covid pandemic.

We had to follow Covid regulations and our guests for the unveiling were, unfortunately, restricted to 30 people. Martha's step-son travelled from Devon to unveil the plaque, with Jane Hutt A.M. and Julie Morgan A.M. representing the Purple Plaque Committee. Peter Fox A.M. our Monmouthshire Senedd member also attended with representatives from Devauden Community Council and the Kilgwrrwg Trust. We were blessed with a glorious day, we were very lucky as you can imagine, if it had been wet and windy up on that ridge it would have been a washout. Afterwards, we all enjoyed a very nice afternoon tea on the lawn of Church Farm. Supplied by Sarah Stone.

In August we visited Sudbrook, our first meeting face to face, for 18 months. We were shown around by Peter Strong who gave us an interesting talk on the Severn Tunnel, which included visiting Black Rock.

Our first meeting in our new venue will be on Tuesday 28th September at 7.30pm at the Church Room, Shirenewton. The title of the talk will be '*Owain Glyndwr'* given by Graham Watkins. Everyone is welcome to attend, we are always looking for new members.



Above, L to R: Sandy Matthews (Martha's stepson) Julie Morgan AM and Jane Hutt AM.

Below, L to R: Dorothy Brabon, (secretary Shirenewton History Society), Jane Hutt and Julia Land (the potter who made the plaque)



SHIRENEWTON W.I. BACK TOGETHER

Our summer meetings revolved around outdoor gatherings. The June meeting was to have been a summer games evening , but the games never made it out of the bags, as our members were just so happy to meet and chat in person for the first time in 15 months. There was a lot to catch up on. Our summer meal out had to be postponed due to a Covid shut down at the restaurant. It has been rearranged for Thursday 9^{th} September with an early evening stroll arranged beforehand, starting at 6 p.m. from the bandstand by the river in Chepstow.

In August we dodged the showers and Diane Ashton Smith, our President, kindly opened her lovely garden to us for our summer garden party.

I think that the smiles in the photo say it all – we have so enjoyed being back together.



Our 14th October meeting will be a Hedgehog Talk by Jeni Harper. If you would like to join us, then please contact either Jane Butterworth- janeb247@gmail.com or Diane Ashton Smith (01291 628838) Jackie Broughton

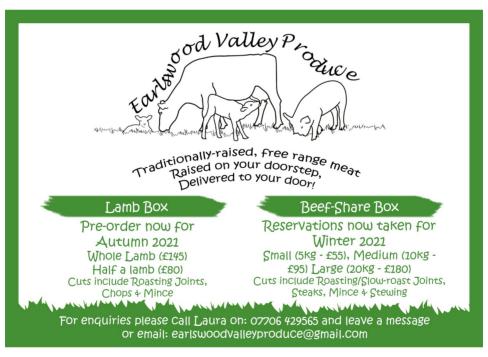
BRING AND SHARE IS BACK! FRIDAY, 29th OCTOBER AT 7.30 p.m.

Bring and Share will start again on Friday 29th October in the Church Room, with an excellent talk about the Victoria Cross by Mark Smith, the medals and militaria expert from the Antiques Roadshow.





The evening will follow the usual format: gather between 7 and 7.30 p.m. (bring a plate/bowl/platter of food for all to share communally, and bring your own drink). Everyone takes a plate of food, then Mark will be introduced and begin his talk shortly after 7.30. Then there will be an opportunity to collect more food, and then Mark will take questions.





STARGAZING



The seven stars of the Plough can be seen in the northern evening sky whilst the "W" of the constellation Cassiopeia lies to the northeast. The constellation Pegasus includes a large square that lies to the south. How did the ancient Greeks manage to see the shape of a winged horse in a square of not particularly bright stars?! The Summer Triangle made up of the bright stars Deneb, Vega and Altair continues to dominate the night sky to the South. Deneb forms the tail of the constellation Cygnus, the Swan which lies pretty much overhead. Its brightest stars form a cross against the background of the Milky Way, a dense band of faint stars from the north-east to the south-west. The Milky Way can be seen particularly well from a dark sight.

In the evening sky, the bright planet Jupiter lies to the south at the start of the month, with the slightly yellow-coloured planet Saturn to its right. As the month advances the two planets move together towards the south-west. On 17th September the nearly full Moon sits between Jupiter and Saturn.

The Autumnal Equinox occurs on the 22nd, when day and night are both 12 hours long. Traditionally farmers working late into the evening to gather their crops are aided by the light of the Harvest Moon – this year this is the Full Moon of 20th September. It's the closest Full Moon to the Autumnal Equinox.



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 2021 -- MOVING FORWARD,

Like every other choral society or singing group, CCS has inevitably been out of action singing-wise since mid- March 2020.

For ALL choral groups and active music makers, the last 18 months have presented major challenges, and this is particularly the case for "small-town" groups. Committees have not been idle –far from it! – much has been attempted – for obvious reasons choral singing has not been a priority for many-- but we are now in a position to look ahead.

Chepstow Choral Society's last Concert was for Christmas 2019. We now very much hope that, with a serious re-start of rehearsals planned for 8th September, at Chepstow Leisure Centre, we will be able to plan for a Christmas Music presentation this year. Anyone intending to come to rehearsals must notify CCS at present by phone, please (number below)

An ACTIVE RECRUITMENT DRIVE will also soon be underway. Choral Societies need singers! Come along and join us at CCS as we now move forward! Male voices and sopranos will be particularly welcomed!

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS - AND OUR RE-START - WILL BE AVAILBLE VIA CCS WEBSITE and please contact 01291 623310 after August 30th if you intend to join with us -this is to comply with protocol and organisation at the Centre. Thank You.

Marjorie Duerden Asst MD, CCS

Extracts from the Tribute to Warrant Officer Diver Tom King BEM

(1929-2021) by Mike O'Meara (a former colleague RN diver) at Tom King's funeral and burial on Monday 19 July 2021 at Shirenewton.

Tom joined the Royal Navy in 1945 at HMS Ganges as a boy seaman bugler. Following his training in 1946 he was drafted to HMS Belfast in the Far East. Together with 300 other young boy sailors he joined the still war-damaged aircraft carrier HMS Formidable which transported them from the UK to their respective ships dotted along their route as they sailed east, finally dispatching Tom with 60 other young boy seamen to HMS Belfast in Hong Kong.

Tom's time aboard HMS Belfast was shortly after the end of the Second World War and the surrender of Japan, and the Chinese Civil War was in full swing; so politically Asia was in turmoil, and the Royal Navy was tasked with monitoring major events and walking a political tight rope. Indeed, HMS Belfast was later the flag ship controlling all the Royal Navy's activities there. Having completed her tour of duty in the Far East and returned to the UK, he left HMS Belfast to begin his long and illustrious diving career. This began at HMS Vernon in a wreck disposal team based at Dover. Following heavy shipping losses in the Second World War the dive team were fully engaged in wreck dispersal all around the south coast of the UK using heavy lifting to recover wrecks or explosives to collapse a wreck to make them less of a hazard to navigation.

In 1953 Tom joined HMS Maidstone's Submarine Rescue Team. In June 1955 HM Submarine Sidon sank alongside Tom's ship in Portland due to a torpedo explosion in No. 3 tube. Tom was the first diver down. Lifting the submarine involved tunnelling through the thick mud beneath her hull in order to pass the heavy lifting wires - a highly risky operation. The tunnel Tom was jetting through the thick mud collapsed around about him - trapping him completely. There was no panic even though it took well over an hour to get him out. In the 1960's one of Tom's diving team became trapped in a suction grill and was drowning. With no regard for his own safety Tom jumped in, released him, and brought him around with lifesaving breaths. Tom, deservedly, received a civilian award for lifesaving.

During the 1960's the Royal Navy were tasked with testing the operation of aircraft ejection seats underwater. This was a highly risky set of underwater trials. Tom and his team members took it in turns to be strapped into the ejection seats, then pulled or dropped -- at speed to simulate crashing and immersion before testing the operation of the ejection seats. This work created the precious lifesaving capability which even today's fighter pilots still benefit from - with their ejection seats having the proven capability to eject safely underwater before being carried safely to the surface and rescue.

At the end of the 1960s Tom was Chief of the Plymouth Command Deep Diving, Bomb and Mine Team. At one stage the team spent 22 weeks in Jersey removing 164 '1,000-pound' bombs in various stages of decomposition and damage from the wartime wreck of a German freighter sunk by the RAF in WW2 as it approached Jersey. Tom King was awarded a BEM for valour for this job, and it was well deserved.

FITIN30

Ladies only fitness. health. mindset

- FRIENDLY CLUB. FUN WORKOUTS, COMBINING STRENGTH TRAINING WITH CARDIO ACTIVITY.
- COACHES ENCOURAGE AND WORK WITH YOU IN THE CIRCUIT.



Workouts take just 30 minutes!

- Library Place, Chepstow, NP16 5HZ 01291 622324
- fitin30 www.fitin30.uk



IN WHOM IS YOUR CONFIDENCE?

Here are some thoughts on the great crisis faced by King Jehoshaphat during his reign as the King of Judah from the Second Book of Chronicles Chapter 20 vs 1 to 30. Why this bit of the Bible? There are some good life principles here which can help us.

Jehoshaphat shows us how to have great confidence in God during a crisis and not in ourselves. This is because God is great, and our great need should be the force that drives us to greater and deeper prayer and faith in Him.

Jehoshaphat's prayer is driven by his great need.

Despite the developing crisis he does an extraordinary thing here and puts prayer before action. He could have panicked but didn't. What he did calling the people to prayer with him first was a big deal because we know kings and politicians need to be seen to be strong and in control. It was also a measure of the man that he did not get angry with God. Despite all he had done doing the right thing as a great spiritual reformer for his nation bringing them back to God and showing them that God can be trusted in all things, he was still suffering great trials and difficulties and was facing potential annihilation from an invading army. In your life have you complained and got angry with God when, despite doing the right things, bad stuff still happens? Have you gone off in a bad mood and felt sorry for yourself? Look at what Jehoshaphat does – he humbly submits himself and the people to God in prayer and does not complain. Jehoshaphat could have put great trust in his army but instead he called on God as his source of strength. He realised he could only do worthwhile things AFTER he had prayed. He recognised his great need and prayed first. Do you put our trust in other things before God? It is better to put that trust in God. We shall see why a bit later.

Before God, our great need requires great humbling.

Jehoshaphat knew that he had to admit to his people how much he and they needed God in this situation. There are clearly times of course when we need to pray in private, but on this occasion, Jehoshaphat knew he was in a lot of trouble if God didn't answer so his need for God's intervention pushed aside all of his vanity and need to look a strong leader. Are you like this in your life? Does your pride get in the way? Other Old Testament leaders like Daniel and Isaiah also humbled themselves before God in the same way. Following their example is good way to go as John Calvin wrote many years ago:

To this let us join a third rule: that anyone who stands before God to pray, in his humility giving glory completely to God, abandon all thought of his own glory, cast off all notion of his own worth, in fine, put away all self-assurance--lest if we claim for ourselves anything, even the least bit, we should become vainly puffed up, and perish at his presence. (J. T. McNeill, ed. [Eerdmans], III:XX-:8).

We can also pray humbly with others who can bear our burdens with us.

So how should we pray?

Jehoshaphat and the people sought God first. He begins by being very centred on God, worshipping and telling Him of His great attributes before the people so that they can all realise and understand God's greatness. This affirms God within their hearts and minds. Jehoshaphat then reminds the Lord of His great actions and interventions in the past and His promises to them. They then brought the specific problem that faced them before the Lord saying that they had done what He had previously asked them to do which was to spare the Aramites in a previous battle. These same people were now preparing to invade them and (this is important) drive them out from a place that was God's possession — Jerusalem — not theirs. They then placed their faith in God to deal with this.

This is a key lesson. When you pray do you do so from the position "please get me out of here, I need help now!"? This is a bit like going and getting Jesus off the shelf and asking for what you want first. However, life trials should surely make us seek God Himself first because it is God that we really need. He tells us that His grace is sufficient for all our needs and sometimes He will get us THROUGH a crisis but not deliver us from it because that is better for us. Jesus Christ wants us to experience His grace personally and see His interventions in our lives.

In order to grow our faith, we should fill our prayers with God's greatness and what He has done for us before. If we fill our prayers with our problems our faith can diminished as we are only concentrating on the problem not God himself. Steven Cole puts it like this: "we should put our believing prayers on the finger of His promises contained in the truth of His word, and request that He does these things for us as well". Is God's Son Jesus Christ your refuge and strength? Like Jehoshaphat, we should know Him better after prayer in a time of crisis, not just using prayer to give Him our requests. (Psalm 46 v1).

How does this help shape our reliance on God?

Firstly, reliance on God should always be the result of our prayers. We should also humbly accept the channel God uses to deliver His wisdom. Look at Jehoshaphat's reaction to the prophets' words here. He does not get all prickly that those words did not come from him as leader but humbly accepts what the prophet said and submitted himself to Gods chosen course of action.

The people here really follow the principle: Promise received — Believe on it- act on it. The singers led the way risking their own lives at the front, unarmed before a heavily armed enemy. Jehoshaphat added his further encouragement to "put your trust in the Lord" and their trust made them march forward. Their deliverance was much like our own salvation. Jesus has done it all for us and offers us the gift of faith. Like the people in 2 Chronicles, our saving faith must be obedient to what God wants for us. We should also be joyful, just like the singers.

Jesus will never fail you. We can trust and obey Him when He directs our paths whether by prayer, through words in the Bible, or through divine intervention changing our circumstances. Let God be your confidence in whatever you do.

FAIRTRADE NEWS August 2021

'First they know, then they scheme, then they deny, then they delay': Geoffrey Supran, a Research Fellow in the History of Science at Harvard. This damning analysis of the oil industry lobby is quoted in an article by Oliver Milman on air pollution in the Guardian (18/3/21). It mirrors a similar campaign organised by the tobacco industry. Apparently nearly 1 in 5 deaths worldwide are a result of air pollution, a greater toll than HIV, malaria



and tuberculosis combined. Trump, of course, scaled back legislation on pollution. Tony Cox, a researcher who received funding from the API (American Petroleum Institute!) allowed the lobby group to 'copy edit his findings'. Pollution and climate change!

This is an apposite example of the power of vast corporations to mislead the public and even governments. Vested interests are not keen to see their profits reduce. Organic agriculture does not help the owners and shareholders of chemical companies. Back in the mid-2000s Fairtrade International had many discussions and debates about organic farming. There was a clear decision back then that they would happily promote more sustainable farming (which it really does, and it has introduced tougher standards), but not to go the whole hog and insist on organic. This was perfectly understandable, Traidcraft says, and probably right at the time, otherwise the likes of Nestle (me: huh!) would never have joined and much good work would have been left undone.

The pioneers, on the other hand have been banging the drum about organic farming, bio-dynamic farming, circular economy farming, local farming etc for many years and have led a broad movement of consumers that stretches well beyond the confines of purist Fairtrade. Traidcraft says it is delighted that that the Fairtrade Foundation is now turning to climate change and if it wishes to pursue this theme it will, inevitably, have to confront the issue of organic farming again.

Vandana Shiva runs a small model farm north of Delhi. Farmers take seeds from her seed bank, use them for free, sell the crop and return a certain percentage for the following year. Mixing seeds in neighbouring farms means new strains emerge and the seed bank now has over 1,000 different strains of rice. Large companies cannot decode the genetic sequence of a seed, register and patent it, and so they cannot charge farmers for its use. She said 'There are more living organisms in a handful of earth than there are stars in the universe. If you spray this with pesticides you will kill nearly all of them. Then you don't have soil, you have dust.' I read a similar quote using the population of the planet instead of the stars in the universe, a bit of a quibble perhaps!

Many of Traidcraft's products are organic. Perhaps in the future it will be all of them. If you can afford the small extra cost there seems little reason not to buy organic. A third of the world's soils are degraded, it could be 90% by 2050 (see Prof Rattan Lal, acclaimed soil scientist). Fairtrade products are produced sustainably! And farmers are helped to cope with climate change. Marion McAdam 641316 msm316@gmail.com



A Musical Ploughman's

Just to say thank you for your continuing loyalty and support. It's time for musicians, Friends & Patrons and fans to catch up!

Enjoy a Ploughman's lunch with a glass of wine on us and some live (this time!) jazz music, performed by

"Something Sultry"

Saturday 11th September 2021, 1pm

At the kind invitation of our Friends' & Patrons' secretary



Glynis MacDonald at:
The Chantry
Shirenewton
NP16 6RL

Tel: 01291-641818

Entry free of charge Kindly RSVP to:

glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com



www.stwoolossinfonia.com

Nerys's Natty Nosh.



I am a big fan of the air fryer. I love it so much I bought one for my mother-in-law and both my daughter and son have one. I probably use it every day.

Air fryers use a circulation of hot air to cook food without it being submerged in oil. The air fryer's cooking chamber radiates heat from a heating element with a fan circulating the hot air around the food, cooking it efficiently. The temperatures inside can be selected up to 230C, depending on the model. This is not a deep fryer, so for safety

reasons you must not pour oil into it though food items with a light coat of oil or containing some fat should be fine. In general, cooking times in the air fiver are reduced by 20% in comparison with traditional ovens. This varies per brand and the quantity of the food cooked.



Asian pork belly with fried vegetables. Serves 2 Air Fryer cooking ingredients: 4 slices of pork belly Marinade: 1 clove of garlic 1 cm fresh ginger soya sauce 1 tsp maple syrup few drops of lemon juice

Vegetables: 1 courgette 2 carrots 1 onion Bok Choi

Method

Marinade the pork for a couple of hours.

Cut the leaves off the Bok Choi and put to one side.

Place all the other vegetables in a food processor and pulse for a few seconds. Do not allow them to become mushy.

Place the pork belly and marinade on a bed of foil in the air fryer. Cook on 160C for 10 minutes. Then increase the heat to 200C until the pork looks crispy. Fry the vegetables in a little oil. Fry the leaves separately. Plate and enjoy.



Have you ever tried cooking fish in an air fryer? It cooks well but must be protected to stop it from drying out. Here I have wrapped two cod loins in prosciutto and cooked them in an air fryer @200C for six minutes. In a separate pan I have fried courgette spaghetti and a selection of peppers, spring onion, kale and cauliflower rice in butter. I made a Parmesan cheese sauce by blending grated Parmesan with single cream in a magic bullet and heating it up in the microwave.

I cooked the asparagus in a microwave with a little boiling water for two minutes. Delicious.



Blueberry muffin AIR FRYER WAY.
For breakfast with natural yogurt,
blackcurrant powder and pistachio muts.
When you bake in the air fiver the outer
crust is more like a scone whilst the inside
is fluffy like a cake.

These would be good served with clotted cream as an alternative to scones.

Blueberry muffins

1 cup flour (8 oz)

1 level tsp baking powder

I egg

2 tbsp natural yogurt/ soya yogurt

1/2 cup margarine/butter/ melted. (4oz)

1/4 cup soft muscovado sugar (2oz)

l tsp vanilla extract

1/2 cup blueberries (4oz)

If too stiff add a little milk.

Pre heat the air fryer for a few minutes. Mix all the ingredients with a wooden

spoon.

Place in 5 cup cake cases.

Bake on 160°C for about 14 minutes until

cakes are cooked.





Contact Rebecca on 07889 762 840 info@greenbeeblooms.co.uk

images of our work can be seen on





www.greenbeeblooms.co.uk

Make someone's day, give a gift of flowers

We offer a range of floral gifts such as

Small vase arrangements £20

Hand tied bouquets from £25

Basket arrangements £30

Boxed bouquets from £35

Based in Earlswood, we deliver within a 5-mile radius (for a small charge). We also run an order & collect service.

I have a stand at the Newchurch Farm Shop on Friday and Saturdays - Come and see me and my flowers



COME HOME TO A CLEAN HOUSE

WE OPERATE A RELIABLE HOME CLEANING SERVICE IN CHEPSTOW & IT'S SURROUNDING VILLAGES

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:
DREAMCLEANTEAM16@BTINTERNET.COM
OR CALL 07789 071298.



REGISTERED NAME: DREAM CLEAN TEAM MONMOUTHSHIRE & WYE VALLEY

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

www.shirenewtonchurch.com

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer.

Anyone use AirBnb? I have to say the Cornwell family have used AirBnB very successfully on many occasions. However, I came across a website which makes for very interesting reading: www.airbnbhell.com. Obviously these are extreme examples of what can go wrong (and primarily American) but, whether you are considering using AirBnB as a paying customer or as a 'host' to let out your rental, have a read and you'll get a feeling for what can and apparently does go wrong.

As regular readers will know I am constantly suggesting that people use password managers to mange their passwords. These provide a secure facility in which to store passwords and most will provide an auto log-on feature for most websites. The password managers also have random password generators so that you can automatically generate complex random passwords for each site. The password managers will then automatically store said long complex arbitrary passwords and auto fill them for you when you visit the site. They also have space for credit card details (and will auto fill for online purchasing) and space for secure notes, etc. I've recommended things like Roboform and Lastpass but there are many others such as Keeper, Bitwarden, Dashlane, LogMeOnce, etc.

Most have a limited free option and provide a family option which allows each family member to have their own secret log-on details (i.e. UID & password) area but also for some log-on details to be shared between family members.

But, I was asked: don't browsers provide an in-built ability to store passwords themselves (this is the note 'do you want to save this password for next time' pops up). What is wrong with them? Well, let's take a look. As this article from How-to Geek entitled 'Why You Shouldn't Use Your Web Browser's Password Manager' (https://tinyurl.com/rxjse7b5) explains, there are many good reasons to avoid your web browser's built-in tool.

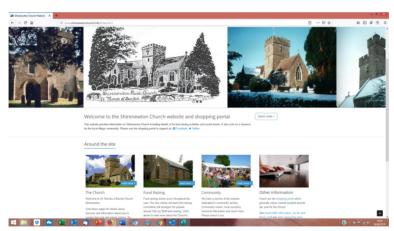
In summary, your web browser's password manager is better than nothing but clearly is only useable by the single browser on the single device. Password managers will sync passwords across browsers and devices. So, for example, I have access to all my passwords and secure data from my phone, tablet or PC as they are stored in a password manager.

There is also a security angle. If someone access your device and the passwords are stored in your browser, the person accessing your device has complete access to your passwords with no further checks. Password managers require a master password to be entered to access the passwords. This is another layer of security. So, for example, if I nipped out and left my PC on and logged in (not that I would), anyone accessing my PC would not have access to my passwords as they would need to know my master password manager password. However, if I used the browser password storage facility to store the passwords, anyone sitting at my logged on PC would have full access.

Finally, the Cornwell family received a phone call from a nice man who didn't want to sell us anything or even tell us he was from Microsoft support, but was just running a survey. What computer equipment did we use? My lovely wife kept him talking for as long as she could explaining that she didn't have a clue and it was all so confusing, etc. Clearly, it isn't confusing and she knows perfectly well what we run, however, the purpose of these calls is to establish information about you and whether you are susceptible to answering the call to random strangers and giving them information.

If you answer the questions you can expect other scammers to use that information in an attempt to scam you. The phone call we received was about computer kit. Others may claim to be calling on behalf of a bank or other financial institution. The purpose is, of course, to glean detailed information personal to you which makes it more likely you'll believe a subsequent scam caller who will use said information to convince you that they are the genuine article. Just hang up. Or, if you are bored, tell them a long shaggy dog story and see how long it is before they swear at you and or hang up themselves!

Safe browsing drc webmaster



Congratulations to our 200 Club winners in July:

1. Julian White

- William Smith-Haddon
- 3. Emma Johnsey-Smith 4. Lynne Prosser

THE HUNTSMAN HOTEL

Our Tin Shed Bar, Decking View, and Marquee are open for drinks every evening from 5pm & Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes.

Food is available (see our FB page for menu) every Wednesday and Friday evenings & Saturday lunchtime (bareback menu) & Sunday lunchtime (Sunday Lunch menu) .

The hotel will not reopen to the public until next year.

Thank you to all those who have supported us.

The Shirenewton Church Summer Bazaar

Thank you everyone who supported our Summer Bazaar way back at the beginning of July. We were raising money get the professionals in to clear the church paths of the thick rich-green and cushiony moss. Nice to look at but treacherous to walk on. Our bazaar seems a long while ago now, but I do remember how lovely it was to see so many people having a good time, meeting friends, chatting, drinking coffee. And of course, eating cake.

And the paths are now jet power-washed and so much better now. Even that steep and slippery funeral path which was becoming like a grass ski slope. We still have some money left to get the overhanging branches trimmed – but we'll leave that until the birds have finished nesting. Thank you again to everyone who donated cakes, raffle prizes and plants, and to the lug-it, shift-it and erect-it team who dealt with the troublesome marquee and to everyone who came along and supported us.

Glynis and Jane.

ACHIEVE YOUR BEST SELF

WITH MY PERSONAL COACHING BULLETPROOF HEALTH HABITS TO ACHIEVE YOUR OPTIMAL HEALTH!

PERSONALISED

RESULTS FOCUSED

FULL ONLINE SUPPORT

IT WORKS

FREE CONSULTATION & ASSESSMENT

BESPOKE TRAINING & NUTRITION PLANS

WEEKLY CHECK-INS AND ONLINE SUPPORT

PROGRESS TRACKING

GET YOUR BEST RESULTS!

GET RESULTS LIKE THESE:





CALL OR EMAIL ME FOR YOUR FREE NO-OBLIGATION CHAT!





Proprietor: Alan Knight

Mob: 07786 364759 Tel: 01291 424399

www.springcleanclean.co.uk

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners Empty Property Deep and Sparkle Cleans Undertaken

\$\$\text{commercial & domestic insured service}\$\$\$ PROFESSIONAL PERSONAL SERVICE AT REALISTIC PRICES \$\$\text{comparison}\$\$ RELIABLE & THOROUGH \$\$\text{comparison}\$\$ ESTIMATES FREE NO OBLIGATIONS \$\$\text{comparison}\$\$ SATISFIED CLIENTS THROUGHOUT AREA CODES 01291-01600-01594-01633 AND BEYOND

YAP D GGY 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 Inbetweener - 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

4 £20 per night

\$\colon £30 Two dogs from same home

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

TEL: 07311 858686

www.yapyouanimalpeople.co.uk
Opening mid November. Bookings taken now.

SENIOR SERVICES

Pressure washing, Paths, Patios, Fences, Driveways Fence painting / Staining Garden Tidying

> Contact Rob TEL: 07391046450

EMAIL: sservicesrob@gmail.com

RELIABLE, TRADITIONAL, COURTEOUS

Oakfield Veg Boxes

Grown at Glenmore, Newchurch using organic methods

Sown, grown and picked by us!

Large £20 Medium £15

Email: leighayland@john-lewis.com for an information pack

Read more about what we do on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/oakfieldorganics/

This is a fair share scheme where we share our seasonal produce and guarantee a minimum of 8 items in the medium boxes (suitable for 2) and 10 items, in larger quantities, in our large boxes



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
- othe_cayo_beauty





Are you putting your online shopping to good use?

The **Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot** are raising funds for the local community even during these lockdowns. With us all being confined to home for work and play, most of us have had to utilise online shopping, and this is looking set to continue as the new normal.

The Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot serve local communities including our own, and like everyone else have had modernise through the use of technology. Some of their fundraising used to take place in supermarket doorways, but now a number of online mechanisms support their fundraising efforts.

One such fundraising tool is **Amazon Smile.** Every time you shop online at **smile.amazon.co.uk** Amazon will donate a percentage of the purchase to The Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot.

To find out more about this and other ways to support The Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot including **Amazon Smile**, **Easyfundraising** and **Just Giving**, please go to: www.chepstowcaldicotlions.org.uk/page-8.php





amazonsmile

When you shop online at smile.amazon.co.uk, Amazon donates to the Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot.

Type the URL below into your internet browser, or scan this QR code with the camera of your mobile device.

https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1182562-0



MESh and Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Volunteers from Shirenewton, Mynyddbach and Earlswood have set up a community self-help group to look after people's shopping and other needs if they are required to self-isolate or restrict their movements. They are reaching out to let everyone know they are there and can provide help if needed.

They have arranged leaflet drops to every part of the Mynyddbach-Earlswood-Shirenewton Community (MESh) and a copy is included on page 6. They have used the template from the BBC at https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-51880695.

So if anyone needs help, just call the number or text a message to the number on the postcard you have received and help will be at hand. If you have not received a post card/leaflet drop please contact Jeni Harper at jeh45 wales@yahoo.co.uk.

My name is	
I live locally at	
My phone number is	
If you are self-isolating of	due to COVID-19 I can help with:
Picking up shopping	Posting mail
A friendly phone call	Urgent supplies
Just call or text me and I'l	Il do my best to help you (for free!)



Come join us at dusk when the stars come out and the whole village is transformed into a spectacular gallery.

Be inspired to create your own display and be part of the gallery, then 'shamble' around the village with your friends and neighbours. This year's theme is 'all together now.'

Don't miss out! It will be on 16 &17th October 2021

If you want to decorate your window please let us know so that we can put you on the map! Please register here:

www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk

If you just want to wak around and enjoy the window artithere's no need to gagister.

ComShire/ShAMBLE

2.00

- Shirenewton shamble
- Shiremewton, Mynydd Bach and Earlswood Community group

SHAMBLE: Shirenewton And Munydd Bach Llumination Extravaganzal

Will there be craft afternoons or a party at the Rec this year? We're not planning craft afternoons or a party due to the changing nature of Government Covid-19 rules.

Where can I get a map? There will be copies of the map and also lots of highvis jackets in the phone box near the Tredegar Arms on the evenings of 16th and 17th October (please return the jackets when you've used them so we can use them again next year). We will also make the map available online.



Follow us on social media

- @ShireShAMBLE
- shirenewton shamble
- Shirenewton, Mynydd Bach and Earlswood Community group

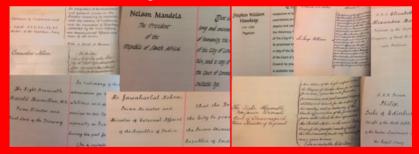


Let's make ShAMBLE 2021 the best year yet. CRAFT "CREATIVITY "COMMUNITY

Tom, Paula, George and Hazel - a.k.a. the ShAMBLE crew

AVAILABLE FROM 30th SEPTEMBER 2021! THE LIVES OF THE GREAT AND THE GOOD HONORARY FREEMEN OF THE CITY OF LONDON by BILL CLARK

WHO WAS HONEST JACK? What was a Joey and who was it named after? Why do sailors refer to rum as "grog"? How did Ladysmith receive its name? Who erected the statue of Greyfriars Bobby in Edinburgh? Who had an American presidential estate named after them? All these questions and more are answered in this fascinating collection of mini biographies of Honorary Freemen of the City of London from around the world and other matters concerning the Freedom of the City. These men and women helped to shape the history of our Islands. Within the pages of this book lie an interesting catalogue of the great and the good; Royal scandals, varns of daring-do and adventure, bravery and foolhardiness; stories of men and women rising from rags to riches, and accounts of spectacular falls from grace; stories of explorers and missionaries, heroes and villains; and heroes who became villains. In the words of Alderrman Vincent Keaveny "...a fascinating and comprehensive compendium of many matters concerning the Freedom of the City, and in particular the lives of Honorary Freemen of the City of London since the first recipients in 1674...".



BILL CLARK revived the sheep drive across London Bridge as an annual charity event in the City of London calendar, raising hundreds of thousand of pounds for charity. He has spent six years researching and editing this book about the lives of the 265 people who have been voted the Honorary Freedom of the City of London of whom only nine recipients are alive today. The stories behind all these Great and Good men and women are a fascinating reminder of the varied and often controversial history of the United Kingdom.

For more details email wcgandg@gmail.com

Feakes & Co Solicitors

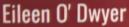


- Disputes and Litigation
- Redundancy/Settlement Agreements
- Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Estate and Tax Planning

Chepstow office: 01291 639280 Newport office: 01633 358888 info@feakes-legal.com|www.feakes-legal.com









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





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

To advertise in this magazine contact

Bill Clark: 01291 641783; parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com

Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

12 months 10 issues
Quarter Page £20
Half Page £40
Full page £80
Designated page £120

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!

For a quote please call Jimmy >>



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

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

Druid Heath Farm, Earlswood, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 6BA

Richard Kopp PLUMBING & HEATING

01291 641581 07780 703530

richardkopp70@hotmail.co.uk www.rk-plumbingandheating.co.uk





 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



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!



















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



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 REPAIRSAreas 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

ADVERTORIAL

<u>Inheritance tax — Are you making the most of your allowances?</u>

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 grand-parents 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.

YOUR LOCAL FINANCIAL PLANNER



I OFFER TRULY INDEPENDENT, UNBIASED ADVICE



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 Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Firm reference number 487395. This can be verified by visiting The Financial Services Register.

Inst can be element by wating the Franklah Services Register.

ISCA Wealth Management List registered address: 21 Afron Gardens, Newport, Gweynort, United Kingdom, NP18 IPR

Registered in England & Wales, Company number: 12089628.
The Financial Conduct Authority (ECA) do not regulate Inheritance Tay Planning Tay and Trusts.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) do not regulate Inheritance Tox 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

Mynyddbach Ward

Earlswood Ward

Newchurch West

MCC for Shirenewton

Member of Parliament

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

Church of St Thomas	a becket, Shirenewton	
Ministry Area Leader	Revd Philip Averay	01291 620980
(designate)	revphilipaveray@gmail.com	
Rector	Revd Julian White	01291 622317
	<u>Jel.white@btinternet.com</u>	
Parish Priest	Revd Nansi Davies CBE	01633 400 519
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	07821 725 690
Church Wardens – Rector's	Sally Saysell	01291 641 369
People's	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
PCC Secretary	Vacancy	
PCC Treasurer	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175
PCC Members	Janet Horton	01291 641 783
	James Leney	01291 641 271
	Frances Gray	01291 622 465
	Paul Morcombe	01291 641 671
	John Montague jmonty	vet@hotmail.co.uk
	wendy Montague wendyi	nontague@notmail.co.uk
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 Tewdrics's	s Mathern	
Secretary	Jen Marendaz	01291 329 422
Church Warden	Elsbeth Morlan	01291 529 422
Cituicii waitteii		
	Peter Pope	01291 624 453
Ministry Area Transition T		
(Mathern Group)	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175
	James Leney	01291 641 271
	Ros Downs	
MP/Monmouth CC & Com	munity Council Representative	25
	Hilary Counsell 01291 421307	shirenewtoncc@gmail.com
Shirenewton Ward:	Hannah Adams	hannah.a@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Chair		
Cilali	Philip Butterworth 01291 641704	
	Keith M Dunn OBE 01291 641152	keiti i.u@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Vacancy	
	Elizabeth Wixcey 01291641216	elizabeth.w@shirenewtoncc.org.ul
Myrayddhaeb Ward	Laurica Prouve 07E00070710	lauica h@chiranautanee ara uk

01291 650014

020 7219 8360 daviesd@parliament.uk

Louise Brown 07598979719

Jayne McKenna 01291 691774

Andy Williamson 01291641451

Louise Brown 07598 97971

Emma Nigogosian

Ian Martin

David Davies

louise.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

emma.n@shirenewtonxx.org.uk

jayne.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

andy.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk

ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Police Neighbourhood Watch Contacts

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

Mrs E Remnant Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA **Gaerllwyd Baptist** Ranger Guides Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com **Recreation Association** Beverly Lyndsay 07798 780971 beverlylindsay@btinternet.com Recreation Hall booking Béryl Sayséll 01291 641637 saysellberyl@gmail.com

St Peters Church Newchurch

Enid Heritage 01291 622708

enidheritage@gmail.com

Shirenewton Local History Society

Dorothy Brabon 01291 641376 brabonnl@hotmail.com

Gwent Wildlife Trust Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Meadows (previously SAMFAL) 01600 740600

Caerwent Group Mothers Union

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

Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS)
Glynis MacDonald 012

01291 641818 glvnis.macdonald@btinternet.com

Shirenewton Play Group Béverly Lindsay Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com

Shirenewton Primary School

Mrs Jill Mitchell, Associate Head Teacher 01291 641774

email iillianmitchell@monmouthshire.gov.uk Jayne Edwards 01291 641774

jaýneedwards@monmouthshire.gov.uk Shirenewton Toddler Group Jude Langdon 07981 368213

Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com

Shirenewton Tennis Association

P Brabon 01291 641376 brabonnl@hotmail.com

Fairtrade/Traidcraft Marion McAdam 01291 641316

Womens Institute (WI) Diane Ashton Smith (President) 01291 628838

Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 01291 641704.









The Awards Company offers a wide selection of awards and trophies, covering all categories of sports and corporate products including:

- Trophies - Glass - Plaques - Shields - Cups - Tankards - Medals - Engraving

A: The Orion Suite, Enterprise Way, Newport, NP20 2DX T: 07770 773 323 E: info@theawardscompany.co.uk

W: www.theawardscompany.co.uk

