





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	
•	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 us 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

FROM THE REGISTERS

The funeral took place of Mary Follett (1925—2023) on 26th of May 2023.

The Reverend Julian White conducted the service.



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

CHURCH SERVICES

Please note that all Church services start at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the church of St Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton. Times may vary for Remembrance Sunday and the periods over Easter, Christmas and New Year, but they will be reported in this magazine.

CHURCH SERVICES ON ZOOM

Some services will be available to join via Zoom, if you cannot attend in person. Please contact Gilly Lambert (see contact list) if you would like to be included on the distribution for Zoom service invitations.

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC) GRANTS TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

The PCC is delighted to report that Shirenewton Community Council (SCC) approved the following grants at their meeting on Monday 8th August 202:

£500 contribution to the Parish Magazine printing costs

£800 contribution to grass cutting and maintenance of the churchyard and grounds

£80 contribution to the Christmas Event

The PCC is very grateful to the SCC for these grants.

SHIRENEWTON FOOD BANK

Thank you to the many people who leave donations for the Bulwark Food Bank. Donations can be left in the church but sometimes the church is not open and so the donations can be left under my veranda or by my front door or in the plastic box on my bench and then I can take them down to The Food Bank. Now more than ever, things are getting tight and your generosity is hugely appreciated by the people who operate the Food Bank from The Bridge Church in Bulwark. Thanks again,

Glynis MacDonald, The Chantry, 641 818

NOPER

'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

FROM THE VICARAGE

Julian E LI White

Time moves on and things change.

No one, or institution, is exempt and – as upsetting as this can be – the Church is no different in this respect. Indeed, it can be argued that if things do not change then stagnation and demise are the only options facing humans and the groupings they represent.

I prefer to view the situation as an opportunity for a fresh approach to be admitted and new challenges to be explored. The parish is certainly not immune and we have seen, for example, the establishing of a Ministry Area which will effect our worship in many ways during the time ahead. More changes are anticipated in the coming months.

Firstly, we shall see a change of leadership come the new year with the stepping down of Revd. Philip Averay as Ministry Area leader and the arrival of a replacement cleric shortly after my retirement towards the end of this year.

The new cleric, I understand, will reside in Pwllmeyric and this means that I shall be the last incumbent, for many years, not to live in this Vicarage. Both Sandra and I have been recipients of many well-meaning comments to the effect that we will doubtless be eager to move into a modern and more comfortable accommodation. Not so, actually.

Not only are we familiar with living in old buildings (complete with the attendant foibles that are part of the package) but we rather appreciate the challenges it can present. In fact we draw back in mild revulsion at the blandness and claustrophobic constraints which seem to accompany so many of the 'Des.Res' on offer today. Not that being domiciled in this nineteenth century abode has been all sweetness and light.

The house in which I have lived for the past twenty-odd years, during this period, has been in genteel decline with little remedial work sanctioned by the Diocese. Indeed, I was curtly informed, within days of my arrival, not to get settled as the church planned to dispose of the property shortly. That was about twenty-four years ago. Oh yes, and the state of art heating system, installed a number of years ago, has never functioned properly resulting in either sub-arctic conditions or inflated running costs. And yet, despite all this and an obvious damp penetration into most rooms, Sandra and I remain kindly disposed towards this edifice.

Let me continue in this slightly pessimistic vein. Right now the Area Ministry team of officiants is struggling. Revd. John Waters is unavailable for duty until September whist Elsbeth and Wendy are indisposed on health grounds. The Revd. Sebastian, hitherto a popular figure in the area, has as I understand — moved to exercise ministry near Canterbury.

Among other news of interest to the Area Ministry is the expressed desire to feature a 10.30am Sunday service at one of the churches in the group. Of significance also is the desire to use a common lectionary within the group. I understand however that the schedule of services will remain unaltered for the foreseeable future.

In closing I must extend warmest congratulations to Shirenewton on holding a successful fete in June (I was absent, conducting a marriage at St, Pierre) and sincerely thank all those, who through their hard work and generosity, made the occasion memorable.

With every good wish and blessing. Julian White



BRING & SHARE SUPPER

7:00 pm Friday 21st July in the Shirenewton Church Rooms

with talk by Julie Noble of Latin Link

Julie Noble works with various ministries connected with Prison Fellowship International in Oruro Bolivia, including The Angel Tree Centre programme for prisoners' children and families and the Restoring Hope programme which implements discipleship and restorative justice initiatives with prisoners and young offenders.

Come along and share supper with friends and neighbours and learn about Julie's work!

No response necessary just bring along a dish of food to share and your drink of choice.

7



SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Extracts from the minutes of the monthly meeting in June 2023.

Planning application considered in June

DM/2023/00708 Eddystone, Red House Lane, Shirenewton

Proposed alterations and extensions to existing dwelling. Following discussion by the council recommendation: Unanimous no objection

Update on Recreation Ground Play area New Equipment

The order for the new equipment had been processed and we now await notification of delivery and fitting date.

Following representation from a local resident, it was agreed that the needs of older children using the play area would also be taken into consideration when assessing future purchases and potential improvement to existing facilities.

Replacement Village Planter

It was agreed to accept the offer from Mr. A Orell to produce new planter for Shirenewton village outside the Tredegar Arms.

Church Clock Maintenance

Since the clock maintenance there has been resident feedback observing that the clock has stopped at 1.30pm on all four clock faces. The company has been contacted to initiate a return visit and chased on 28th April 2023. A visit took place during week of 22nd May but unfortunately the clock has again stopped. Engineer has been contacted and awaiting date for next visit.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT June 2023

County Councillor Brown advised:

Cabinet on the 17th of May 2023

The Cabinet report on the 17th of May considered a report

on the Home to school transport review.

Home to School Transport Review Consultation

Please see below main proposals in report to Cabinet on review of home to school transport which is being proposed for public consultation in the summer term.

Active Travel – Wherever possible available walking routes will be provided to enable learners to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

Public Transport – For journeys more than 1.5 miles for primary pupils and 2 miles for secondary pupils, wherever possible learners will be provided with passes to enable them to access public bus services.

Dedicated Home to School Transport – This will only be provided if a public bus transport is not available. Learners will be asked to meet transport at agreed pick up/ drop off points, which will not be more than a mile from their home address. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that their children get to and from the designated pick up/drop off point.

Feeder transport will only be provided if designated pick up and drop off points are more than a mile (private driveways and roads will be disregarded when calculating distances).

See full report 4 in the following link: https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=144&MId=4988

Following on from this Cabinet meeting there is a public consultation which **closes at 5pm on Monday the 26th of June 2023** on home to school transport 2024/25 for school transport starting in September 2024, which can be found on the Monmouthshire County Council website at the following link:

https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/2023/05/have-your-say-on-proposed-future-changes-to-home-to-school-transport/

It should be noted that these proposals impact faith schools as well as learners with dual residences, learners with additional needs and will disregard a school being in special measures. The main change from the Cabinet report appears to be that faith transport was based on being of the same faith denomination but is now based on faith grounds albeit that the draft

policy 2024/25 has not yet been amended to take account of that published change.

County Council on the 18th of May 2023

County Council on the 18th of May 2023 covered various reports including the corporate parenting plan, the constitution amendments and political balance. There are 46 County Councillors with a Labour minority administration of 22.

The political balance has changed as the Green Councillor has become part of the Executive as Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding and Accessible Health Services and one of the independent members is now Chair of the Council. Hence, the Labour administration has formed a coalition with

councillors previously in the Independent group with those 2 councillors now called Green Independents. The link to the County Council reports can be found here:

<u>https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/</u> ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=143&MId=5161

Place Committee on the 25th of May 2023

The Place committee considered various reports including the Chepstow Masterplan for improvements to Chepstow and the Public Spaces draft protection order for dog controls (item 6 with appendices). The order covers the offences of not having a dog on a lead and dog owners/walkers ensuring that any dog faeces are not dropped in a public space. In Shirenewton this draft order is proposed to apply to the Shirenewton Playgroup Nature Garden and Play Area and the Shirenewton primary school. The Committee was asked to scrutinise the latest report before going out for public consultation. The link to the Place Committee report can be found here:

<u>https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/</u> ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=303&MId=5551

Dates of the next meetings — Monday 3rd July 2023 and Tuesday 1st August 2023 both at 7.00pm and can be attended in person at the public meeting in Shirenewton Recreation Hall or remotely via Microsoft Teams (a link will be provided on emailing the Clerk).

Find more information in a draft copy of 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 E-mail: shirenewtoncc.@gmail.com

Message from Shirenewton Community Council

Due to a change circumstances, we are re-advertising for the position of Clerk of the Community Council.

The Clerk is employed for a total of 15 hours per week. There is a requirement to attend a Monday evening meeting every month and to ensure the local noticeboards alert the public to the agenda of this monthly meeting. Otherwise, a reasonable amount of the work per week can be undertaken at home on a flexible basis.

The information pack and application form can be downloaded from our website.

For more information about the Community Council please see our website: - www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Cllr Philip Butterworth (Chair)

Email: - philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk/ or Tel: 01291 641704



THE RED ARROWS FLY OVER TO MARK THE OPENING OF SHIRENEWTON SCHOOL FETE

Recruitment process for our new cleric

As we all know, Julian will be retiring at the end of the year after more than 40 years in the Diocese of Monmouth, and some 20 years in Mathern. There will be opportunities to give thanks and to celebrate his ministry nearer the time.

Many people have asked about the process and timing for the recruitment of his successor. Rev Philip sees this as an opportunity to stand aside as Ministry Area Leader, so that he can develop his Ministry in a different way while continuing to fully support the Ministry Area and remaining in Chepstow. So we are going to recruit someone who will be our new MA leader, as well as taking over in the four parishes – Mathern, Mounton, Shirenewton and St Pierre.

The Diocese is in the process of buying a house, in Pwllmeyric, which will become the new vicarage. We hope to advertise the post in July, and to interview candidates in September, so that the new incumbent can be in post before Christmas – the Diocese has agreed that they will fund an overlap for a couple of months if necessary.

The Ministry Area Council is putting together a package of information about the MA for potential candidates, and also agreeing the qualities and experience we will be looking for.

A shortlist of probably around 3 candidates will be invited to an interview and to meet the other members of the Ministry team, and hopefully some from our congregations. Two representatives from our MA will be on the shortlisting and interview panels, along with the Bishop, Archdeacon (s) and others from the Nominations Board who formally make the appointment.

Congratulations to our 200 Club winners in June:

1. Hanako Owen

2. Megan Barr

3. Sally Saysell

4. Keith Holden

Chepstow Show Sat. August 12th 2023





At Chepstow Racecourse MainRingprogrammecommences10:00am.

Attractionsinclude.

Paws for Thought Dog Display Team and The Welsh Axemen

Curre & Llangibby Hunt Parade of Hounds Grand Parade of Livestock **Woolaston Basset Hounds** Display of Vintage Vehicles Pony Club Mounted Games Usk Valley Working Gun Dog Club Display



Adults £12 Under 16's Free FREE PARKING







Gardening Corner

I have to admit that this year is turning out to be the most challenging thus far, the lack of rain clearly is the main issue. We did get a bit a few days ago, but nowhere near enough to do anything more than dampen down the dust for a day. Admitted we don't want the torrential thunderstorms and hail that some have experienced but a good steady period of rain over several hours wouldn't go amiss. As I write this, the current heat wave is about to end and the week ahead looks a little more changeable, with the chance of some rain. So, fingers crossed. Until then it's a case of up at 5.00 most days to water the greenhouses and tunnels, as it is far too hot, not to mention not advisable to water during the day. Water splashes on any leaves will simply burn them, and the water will simply evaporate in the heat before the plants get any benefit. As it is, several of the tomato plant tops in the large tunnel have already been burnt in the intense heat and are unlikely to grow any further. We have also lost an entire crop of calabrese, and it looks like the next is also going the same way, although this time it is mainly due to downy aphid infesting the cloche, they were growing in. The lack of rain hasn't helped of course – simply helped in their demise. Other crops such as peas and broad beans haven't fared much better. The peas have simply matured too quickly, one day there was nothing, within a week there were loads of peas to pick, and then they were finished. The broad beans have been smothered in bean black fly, and then got chocolate spot, much earlier than you would expect to see it. As we try not to spray, the beans have been simply written off. There are beans there, but I decided to leave these on the plant, where they will dry off and then be harvested and we will replace our existing 'own saved seed' for next year. The one variety was actually planted just for that purpose. The variety is relatively new to the market and it is the first autumn cropping. You only get some twenty seeds in the packet, so I thought I'd sow them early, and then save the beans for sowing later in the year. The hope is that it will be cooler, wetter and the beans will be more productive. Time will tell. Most of the planting out has now been completed, although we still have quite a few flower plants that are looking for a permanent home. Most of the flower borders are looking weedy, but we daren't 'get in there' to declare war as this will simply make all the existing flowers flop over and everything will then require watering. A job that you would then have to continue. Instead, we will have to hope that we do get some rain in the near future, after which we can hopefully get back to normal – whatever normal might be these days! One benefit of having the tunnels and greenhouses is that you can start crops off early. We have been eating calabrese, courgettes, cauliflowers, new potatoes, lettuce, French beans and carrots for some weeks now. We have also started picking our own cucumbers. Our initial sowing of peppers (both hot and sweet) was a bit of a failure. I tried saving our own seed last year and the results were a little patchy to say the least. We did manage to get about 12 hot chillies germinate, but these have been very slow to get growing. They are now up and running and Are in large pots ready to be planted in the tunnel border when we have the room (we have been waiting for the early greens to finish). Out of the sweet pepper seed sown, we had just one plant. I bought a new pack of mixed peppers and these did germinate well, but also have taken some time to get growing properly. They were transferred into larger pots and have been planted into the bed in the large tunnel as space became available.

Everything generally is just taking a long time to establish and to grow, what I would call, properly. A lot is down to lack of water, but as you will know, we are on a metered supply and simply cannot water everything.

The assistant Head Gardener has been busy cutting flowers, and dead heading roses. I have to say that the roses have done particularly well this year, and seem to be holding onto their flowers longer than usual. We Walk past one rose bed on the way down the garden. The scent emanating from that border, has been fantastic. Unfortunately, one problem with being the assistant, is that you have to put up with the 'old geezer' moaning All the time about this and that - usually the weather, or the magpies, or the numerous pests and diseases. My current gripe, is the fact that we are losing the use of peat in composts and I struggle to understand why. Now don't get me wrong I understand all of the ecological benefits of peat, but like trees, peat is strictly speaking a renewable resource – if managed properly, and I think that is the crux of the matter. Horticultural use of peat is less than 1% of the peat that is harvested around the world, so I can't help thinking that we are an easy target. In this country, nearly all of our peat workings tend to be on relatively shallower peat areas. None of our deep peat areas as far as I am aware, are managed with harvesting in mind and this is as it should be. When harvesting, the companies are only allowed to remove a set depth of peat. Once this depth has been reached, the companies close off all of the drains and nature is left to re-wet the site, after which the peat then starts to grow back again. Yes, it takes a long time, and yes using peat releases CO2

that was released previously (as do newly planted trees). Instead, the favoured peat replacement, coir, accepting it is a waste product, has to be shipped thousands of miles around the world using vast amounts of fossil fuels in the process. Unless treated properly with steam (no doubt more fossil fuel to produce), before it is used, coir contains large amounts of sodium nitrate and chlorine, both of which do a lot of damage to plants if left to be mixed into composts. The compost I use at present still has some peat in it, although the bag doesn't say how much. Neither does it say what else is in it. It is noticeable that every bag is variable, not just in appearance, but in performance as well. Some are almost impossible to get water into, despite the fact they have wetting agents in their make-up, and any fertilisers incorporated, either may or may not be released as a result. This became most obvious with our tomatoes this year. All were treated exactly the same, but the same varieties planted using different bags of compost gave completely different results. The one bag produced weak and very yellow plants, whilst another looked green and healthy and grew well. All plants have now been planted into the border in the tunnel, and they are now at long last responding well. The week and spindly plants might be green now, but they are still spindly, and I think the end crop is going to be much poorer. We went to visit a National Trust property the other week. In their plant corner the signs proudly announced that all plants were in pure coir compost, even some of the pots were made of the same material – you simply planted the lot when you got home and off, they would go. Every one of the plants was yellow and sick looking. The other week we called in at a large nursery for lunch in their café. We noticed that their plants, also in coir, were exactly the same, whilst others in peat were as you would expect, green and healthy. So, I'm afraid the jury is out in this house!

As I mentioned last month, the bees have been a major challenge so far this year. No doubt you will have read or heard about the numbers of swarms, and that beekeepers have been running out of equipment. We started the year with six hives, having lost many last year. Unlike many beekeepers, I didn't lose any more hives over the winter. On first inspection the one hive was queen-less, which I have tried to do something about, which left five hives that might possibly swarm. When it came to actual swarms setting down in our fruit trees around the hives I dealt with eight separate swarm, so not quite sure how that works! One swarm I collected cleared off the day after, so think that was someone else's swarm that had been out a couple of days and was on route elsewhere. One large swarm I collected then re-swarmed about two weeks

later, leaving behind a much smaller colony, with queen cells, which I have never known before. At the moment I am hoping that they are settling down a bit, but waiting for a little cooler weather to look at them. One thing bees don't like is hot and humid weather with a hint of thunder in the air. If you open the hive up and noise levels rise exponentially then it is best to quietly put the lid back on and walk away – again very quietly! Unless you want to be stung – a lot. I have managed to take 65 pounds of honey off the larger colonies, but whether we get any more remains to be seen. A lot will depend on the weather.

Happy gardening until next month, Steve and Felicity Hunt.

The St Deiniol Lectures

Monday July 24, at 7pm

Rev Philip Averay

Vicar of St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow, on:

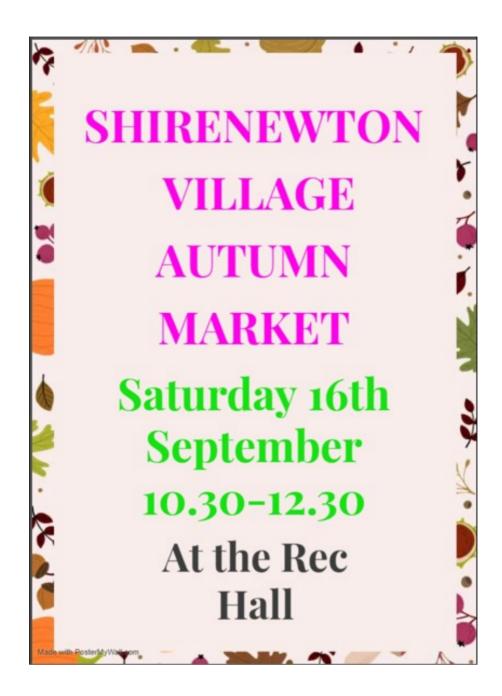
"The Church in Society and Institutional Mistrust"

followed by open discussion

at Itton Village Hall, NP16 6BP Itton Road, Chepstow (B4293)

All are welcome!

Entry free: donations welcome to help pay for the hire of the Hall



Shirenewton Village Spring Market Update

We raised a whopping £286.80 for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal -WOW!

This amount consisted of:

100% of raffle fees - the committee & stallholders kindly donated all prizes. All proceeds (after costs taken out) from refreshment sales from the "Posh Coffee" café & savoury snack sales.

A donation of 50% of stall fees. Donations from attendees.

A big thank you to the community for their support & generosity!



Our next market date is on Saturday 16th September – 10.30-12.30 at the Rec Hall - save the date – you don't want to miss out!

If anyone would be interested in being part of the village market team (organisation/helping on the day/having a stall) please contact Shirley on 01291 641161.

Shirenewton W.I. Meadow Walk and Summer Social



The ladies of Shirenewton WI enjoyed an evening out this month. Meeting at the glorious meadows in Trellech where one of their members gave an excellent tour of the beautiful site pointing out the various meadow plants including many orchids. The group enjoyed a stroll through the wonderful countryside in the golden, evening sunshine accompanied by birdsong and the stunning scenery. Afterwards we went to The Lion Inn, Trellech where a warm welcome and an excellent meal was enjoyed by all.

If you are interested in joining the WI why not come along to one of our meetings where you will be guaranteed a warm welcome. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:15pm in the Recreational Hall, Shirenewton.

Our next meeting is on July 13th when we are having a wine tasting evening.

If you would like to find out more about Shirenewton WI, then please contact Jane Butterworth at janeb247@gmail.com or Diane Ashton Smith (01291 628838)

SEVERN WYE MINISTRY AREA

Praying Together

JAMES 5:16

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."

2ND AND 4TH MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 7.30 TO 8.30 PM

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR OUR MINISTRY
AREA AND OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

St Christopher's Church, Bulwark, NP16 5AF

STARGAZING



The constellation of Cygnus the Swan lies pretty much overhead. Its brightest stars form a cross against the background of the Milky Way. The familiar pattern of Ursa Major, the Great Bear or Plough, is to be seen in the north-west, with the "W" of Cassiopeia climbing into the north-eastern sky. The constellation of Sagittarius can be seen low in the southern sky. The ancient Greeks could see an archer with the head and chest of a man and the body of a horse in this pattern of stars, but it also looks rather like a teapot with the handle to the left and the spout to the right! On a larger scale, the Summer Triangle made up of the bright stars Deneb, Vega and Altair dominates the sky to the South. Deneb forms the head of Cygnus.

The brilliant planet Venus can be seen to the West just after sunset at the beginning of July. Later in the evening yellow-coloured Saturn appears to the South-East and moves closer to the South through July and August. At the end of July bright Jupiter is in the East at the beginning of August and progresses to the South-East as the month advances. The Moon is close to Saturn on the 6th July and 3rd August, and to Jupiter on the 12th July and 7th August.

You may be lucky enough to see some Noctilucent Clouds. They appear after 11pm to the north. These wispy clouds are formed at heights of over 60 miles – normal clouds are much lower. Noctilucent Clouds are formed when ice particles in the atmosphere, gather around the dust produced by meteors. They can be seen because they are illuminated by the already set Sun.





SHIRENEWTON FROM MYNYDDBACH





Sharing:-

Nerys's Natty Nosh.

Hi Nerys.
Thought recipes would be good to share.
Best wishes, Eirwen Wilson.

Weetabix Cake Serves: 8

Ingredients

2 Weetabix 1 cup dried fruit 3/4 cup muscovado sugar 1 cup milk

1 cup -mixed chopped nuts and chopped cherries. 6oz self raising flour

1 large egg, or 2 small eggs beaten

Method

- 1 Mix together the Weetabix, sugar, dried fruit and milk in a large bowl.
- 2. Leave overnight.
- 3. Add flour and beaten egg. If the mixture is a little dry add a little milk. Put into greased and floured (or lined with liner) 2lb loaf tin.
- 4. Cook at 180c or gas mark 4 for approximately one hour, until the skewer comes out clean. Cool on wire rack. Optional, decorate with marmalade and toasted almonds.

Tips

I have made this cake several times and I'm delighted with the results. It's incredibly easy to make, it's moist and keeps well in an airtight container in the fridge.

Can be eaten as a quick-fix breakfast.

Freezes well.

It's adaptable, use it as a pudding, or serve with a cup of tea. Vary the ingredients: -

Dried fruits; - sultanas, blueberries, cranberries, currents, papaya, pineapple, or strawberries.

Essences: -Add essences to the milk e.g., Vanilla, chocolate, or almond.

Spices: -Add spices to the flour e.g., cinnamon, nutmeg, or mixed spice.

Make it into a double chocolate cake: -Follow the above method with the following ingredients.

2 Weetabix

1 cup -cooking chocolate drops and chopped nuts

34 cup muscovado sugar

1 cup milk or Soya milk

1 cup dried fruit

5oz self-raising flour

1 oz cocoa

1 large egg, beaten add a little milk if required. Enjoy!



Bara Brith

Ingredients

300g mixed fruit
50g cherries chopped
100g soft brown sugar
150 ml cold tea
1 beaten egg
200g self-raising flour
Pinch of cinnamon
1 teaspoon mixed spice
Little milk for mixing

Method

1 Overnight soak the mixed fruit, cherries, and sugar in the cold tea.

2 Line a greased loaf tin.

3 Heat the oven to 150C/300F/Gas 2.

4 Sift the self-raising flour, cinnamon, and

mixed spice into a mixing bowl.

5 Add the soaked fruit into the mixing bowl.

6 Add the beaten egg to the mixture and fold, add a little milk until a dropping consistency is reached.

7 Put the mixture into the prepared loaf tin and bake for about 1½ hours.

Tips

1 Once the Bara Brith has cooled, wrap it in parchment paper and foil and freeze it until required. The freezing allows the fruit to expand, making the bread very moist and delicious.

2 Why not double up the recipe and make two loaves, one for now and one for later.

3 Some people like to add a little whisky or brandy to the tea when soaking overnight. The choice is entirely yours.

4 To serve, slice the bread and spread with butter or margarine.

5 Bara Brith is served as a tea-time treat with plenty of hot tea.

6 Traditionally in North Wales Bara Brith is included in a funeral wake.

Thank you Eirwen Wilson for sharing this recipe with us.



CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL.

CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd – Music Centre Wales and Making Music. Registered Charity no. 1127098

SUMMER CELEBRATION CONCERT WEDNESDAY JULY 5th, 7.00pm

CHEPSTOW SCHOOL ARTS HALL Guest Soloists from Opera Box, Bristol.

A programme combining two highly entertaining pieces — "Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo" (Flanders and Horovitz), and "The Zoo" — a new and original Musical Folly in One Act, with music by Arthur Sullivan and libretto by Bolton Rowe.

"Captain Noah" is a well-known and highly entertaining cantata in popular style of the Old Testament story of Noah and his Ark, with a moral for our times! —and "The Zoo" will provide much enjoyment in the idiom of G&S and is a complete light-hearted piece of fun, utilising chorus and five soloists —the setting is the local zoo where some drama evolves in front of an interested crowd of zoo visitors and onlookers (the CCS Chorus!)

COME AND ENJOY A LOVELY LIGHT-HEARTED EVENING —and with drinks and light refreshments afterwards!

Tickets (£10, students u/18s free) available from Choir members and Chepstow Bookshop. For further information, please see our website –<u>www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk</u>

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY

Conductor - Graham Bull Piano - Richard Kubiak

Wed July 5th 2023 @ 7.00pm Arts Hall, Chepstow School

Captain Noah & His Floating Zoo

Michael Flanders & Joseph Horovitz





Arthur Sullivan & Bolton Rowe



and with special guests

OPERA IN A BOX

£10 per adult, U18s & Students FREE

Please join us for light refreshments after the concert! Tickets from Choir members, Chepstow Bookshop, on the door, or by logging on to www.eventbrite.co.uk

bit.ly/NoahConcert





CCS is affiliated to Tŷ Cerdd, Music Centre Wales and is also a Registered Charity (No: 1127098)



www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH FETE 2003

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with or came to spend their money at this year's fete. There are a few outstanding bills to come in but I estimate that we generated about £5,500 for church funds. This is a fantastic total and the fete is a critical component of how we manage to keep the show on the road each year. But it's much more than that. The fete is always a tremendous village event and it was wonderful to see so many friends and neighbours coming together, enjoying the entertainment, taking part in the games and competitions, and sampling some of the great food and drink on offer. Thank you, everyone.

Graham Lambert Treasurer



SHIRENEWTON CHURCH FETE 2023

Seirian, Jane and Janet would like to say a great big THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard to make the Fete happen and to make it such a super community event.

From making all the arrangements with licensing and consents, to setting up and running the stalls, sorting out the car parking, creating posters, setting up and taking down all the tents, putting up the banners and posters (and taking them down again afterwards), arranging bins and recycling, picking up litter, washing chairs so they were fit to sit on, dressing up so Piratically, donating prizes for the Raffle, and donations of bottles, plants, cakes, toys, books. For entertaining us with music or model aircraft displays, running the amazing dog show, bringing along the bales and displays of interest to everyone (local history, vintage vehicles, art, lovely alpacas) helping to quench the thirst of visitors and feed them with lovely yummy treats...... You know who you are and you are all superstars!

And to everyone who played their part by coming along to support the Fete, it is hugely appreciated.

SUMMER FETE GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Huge thanks to everyone for supporting our Fete Raffle. Your incredible generosity was greatly appreciated.

The prize-winners were as follows:

- 1. £100.00 John Lewis Vouchers: **Brian Harper**, Shrewsbury, (but a regular visitor to the village and the Church).
- 2. £100.00 Cash: Gilly Lambert, Shirenewton.
- 3. Afternoon Tea for 4 at Ego @ Groes Wen: **Richard Snow**, Mynyddbach.
- 4. Bespoke Spirit Hamper: **Mark Evill and Kellie Risdale**, Shirenewton.
- 5. Amazon Voucher for £50.00: **David Adams**, Shirenewton.
- 6. Four Ball Golf Day at St Pierre: Matt Smith, Shirenewton.
- 7. Luxury Hamper: C Blandford, Chepstow.
- 8. Molton Brown Body Care Collection: **Penny Bounds**, Shirenewton.
- 9: Sultan Indian Dining, £30.00 Voucher: Lisa Smith, Shirenewton.
- 10. Chepstow Racing Events, 2 Admission Tickets: **Graham Lambert**, Shirenewton.
- 11. The Two Rivers at Chepstow, £25.00 Voucher: **Alison Wooder**, Shirenewton.
- 12. Newchurch Farm Shop Voucher for £20.00: Nick Samuel.
- 13. Bottle of Glenfiddich Single Malt Whisky: **Janet Horton**, Shirenewton.
- 14. Deacons Florist Voucher for £20.00: **Malcolm Fletcher**, Bristol, (father of Alison Manning, Shirenewton).
- 15. Savoy Theatre Monmouth, Voucher for £13.00/ 2 Cinema Tickets: **John and Sandra Burrows**, Mynyddbach.
- 16. Butcher's Voucher £10.00 + £10.00 Cash: **Louise Mensah**, Chepstow, (formerly Louise Gannon of Newton Manor, Shirenewton).
- 17. Basket of Flowers: **Emma Lloyd**, London (granddaughter of David and Cheryl Lloyd, Shirenewton).
- 18. Box of Chocolates: **Fiona Kopp**, Shirenewton.
- 19. Chepstow Garden Centre, £10.00 Voucher: **Marie Ward**, Devauden.

Thanks, Aileen.

THE BELLS

This year's Annual Summer Ringing Tour date reverted to a weekend near to mid-summer as was the tradition in the past. On Friday 23rd June the advanced party headed off to Devon to ring the bells in 3 different churches in deepest Devon countryside, the first being at the quaintly named village of Doddiscombesleigh. The church of St Michael contained a delightful ring of 6 bells. The next two fine rings, also of 6 bells, were at East Ogwell and Bickington, the latter village being situated less than a mile from our base for the weekend – The Dartmoor Halfway Inn. This pub had the advantages of also offering camping facilities and (for the less hardy) accommodation. Arrangements had been made to site the two camper vans on the tour adjacent to the field campsite and a gazebo was erected to form an alfresco dining area for the weekend. Supper for that evening, however, was arranged within the pub but with post-dinner drinks and coffee within the gazebo.

The next day dawned bright and sunny and after a light breakfast the now fully assembled band of 18 ringers headed off to Denbury to ring the recently refurbished easy going ring of 6. Thence onto Ipplepen, a ring of 8 bells. Only a few of the Shirenewton band regularly ring on bells numbering more than 6, but we had strengthened our capabilities by inviting two ringers well known to our band for this purpose – Wendy Riley and Jane Craddock both from Rhymney. After ringing rounds (plain order 1 to 8) and some call changes (when individual bells are moved within the order by verbal instruction) a course of Grandsire Triples was accomplished – method in which the order of bells is changed within each row and each ringer has memorized the score (as an orchestra would play from memory). The next tower was Broadhempston another fine ring of 6 followed by the most challenging ring of the morning – the 5 bells of Littlehempston. These bells, which included in their number the oldest bell of the tour cast in 1430, are infrequently rung and are an old installation without the advantage of modern bearings. The bells swinging in plain bronze cups (plain bearings as opposed to self-aligning ball races) This results in extra physical effort being required to ring each bell, and is why ringing in the past was often referred to as "the exercise". Nowadays, and for some inexplicable reason, people attend gyms to exercise instead of learning to ring church bells! However, I digress, and back to the tour – the final ring of the morning was at Dartington, an imposing Victorian church housing the heaviest ring of 6 on the tour with a 17 cwt tenor bell (just over 3 times the weight of the Shirenewton tenor). The band coped well but were ready for lunch which was

held also in the town at the ancient Cott Inn (1320). We were treated to our own dining area and served an excellent lunch.

Next we visited Berry Pomeroy, another fine ring of 8 bells and here we were joined by Geraint Thomas, an ex St Mellons ringer who was part of the vouth group established by Pip Penney years ago. Geraint has moved from South Wales to this part of Devon and further strengthened our band during the afternoon. For those familiar with the film of Sense and Sensibility starring Emma Thompson and Hugh Grant, the final scene when the couple emerge from the church was filmed at Berry Pomeroy, no doubt chosen for its glorious setting. Thence onto two further 6 bell towers at Collaston St Mary and Churston Ferres before moving on to the main challenge of the day the 10 bells of Marychurch in Torquay, Rounds and call changes were followed by Grandsire Triples on the front 7 bells with 8, 9 &10 following behind. After the group photo we headed off to the final ring of the day at Coffinswell, another fine ring of 6 bells and here we finally achieved our most complex touch of the day – a splicing of Plain Bob, Little Bob and Cambridge Minor. Back at camp nibbles and drinks were consumed followed by an excellent BBO to round off the day.

On Sunday after breakfast we decamped and headed to Totnes to ring for service on the magnificent and heavy 8 bells. The tenor weighed in at 28cwt, over 5 times the weight of the Shirenewton tenor and even the lightest bell of the 8 exceeded our tenor's weight. However, heavy bells have a momentum of their own and once mastered are a delight to ring. Everyone, including our newest recruits enjoyed the experience and our experienced ringers rang a well struck course of Grandsire for the service touch, followed by ringing the bells down to their resting position in such an orderly manner it resulted in a round of applause! The band then headed back to Wales, and in the evening held a post-Tour celebration courtesy of Glynis MacDonald.



ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR! CAPTAIN JACK SPARROW AND HIS CREW













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 also carry a range of handmade Soy Wax Candles

FAIRTRADE NEWS June 2023

I'm writing this on the weekend of Abu Dhabi's fossilfuel cash winning the treble; Trumpy's federal indictment for leaving vast stacks of state secrets (re: nuclear capabilities etc) in his bathroom and publicly accessible ballroom; and Doris' vicious, yet cowardly puerile flouncing off. (I've owned a t-shirt for many



years adorned with the words 'BORIS IS A LIAR') Hell's bells! How has the world come to this?!

Yet it is also the weekend of the Great Shirenewton Fete; a group of committed, public spirited individuals worked extremely hard to create an afternoon of simple fun and enjoyment. I thank them sincerely for all their efforts.

Organising goods for a Fairtrade stall is much more awkward now that Traidcraft is no more. It used to coordinate a lot of different sources of FT, as well as producing products itself. Now I have to go to several different companies. But Ethical Superstore is always a good place to start. Some of my favourites are simply no longer available eg Italian pasta with 20% quinoa (as a veggie I like the idea of normal excellent quality pasta with this extra protein) and my very popular £1 cards ,that Traidcraft produced in the UK to help fund producers' efforts to register as Fairtrade. I have very few remaining Traidcraft items.

I've used and sold Traidcraft products over the past 30+years which must have resulted in sales of about £60,000 going to improve the lives of poor producers and to support them to continue their work even in the worsening conditions inevitably occasioned by the climate crisis. Poverty, as well as war, drives people to seek a better life elsewhere. The FT mark guarantees fair wages, decent working conditions and environmental sustainability. Farmers and producers are often taken advantage of by vast corporations whose sole motive is profit. I have detailed many specific examples in these articles over the years. Buying Fairtrade goods is a simple and effective way of making a positive impact in the world, when it is easy to feel powerless and overwhelmed by the ubiquitous tide of desperate world news. Hundreds of different FT products are now available. Do ask in the supermarkets! As consumers we all have immense power.

Do contact me for more info or products.

Marion McAdam 641 316 msm316@gmail.com

THE NIGHT ELVIS CAME TO EARLSWOOD



On Saturday 17th June Elvis (aka Keith Davies) came to Earlswood Village Hall. The evening started with a delicious Hog roast provided by Clarks Butchers of Caldicot.

Once everyone had eaten the show began. Elvis entertained us not only with his amazing voice, but his wit and humour, coming off

stage and interacting with the audience.

The photo booth proved very popular, giving many a souvenir of the night . The DJ played some excellent music and kept the dance floor filled all night .





It was very well attended – we even had a minibus of Mature ladies from Caldicot!

Everyone had a great night, and we raised some much need funds for the ongoing works at the Hall.











St Deiniol's Church Itton

Sunday 9th July

AN ANIMAL & PET BLESSING SERVICE

at 11. 30 a.m.

All welcome - bring your pets along for a blessing!







www.shirenewtonchurch.com

This month's article brings you the sorry tale of two (yes, two) hacks & scams to befall villagers since my last column last month. There is also an update on a (presumably) lazy US lawyers use of ChatGPT which got him in a lot of trouble.

Firstly, are you a webmail user who does not use a PC email client? If so, read this very carefully. So, firstly, let's define the terms. A webmail user means you access your email purely via your browser. As such, the emails are not stored on your local PC but on your providers email server. If so, you are in danger of losing all your historic emails and contacts. This has happened to a villager this last month so 'listen very carefully I will type this only once':

A revered and well known villager (who did give me permission to his name which I have chosen not to do) who we will call 'Joe Bloggs' was a BT Internet webmail user. He had an email archive (note the use of the word 'had') going back many years and all his contacts stored in his BT Internet account. One day he was expecting a voice mail from a tradesman and received an email saying something like 'log into your BT account to access your voice mail'. He looked carefully at the email and it looked like a genuine email from BT. He clicked on the link. On inspection the website looked like the genuine BT webmail website. He logged on.

Shortly afterwards his BT account spammed everyone with the 'I've lost my wallet please send me some money' scam. Many readers will have received this email – my wife did. She showed it to me and I immediately said: 'Joe's been hacked'. He had. The good news is that he got back his account (after a lot of time with BT on the phone). The bad news is that the hackers had wiped his account of all historic emails and all contacts.

So what can you do to stop this tragedy befalling you? Firstly, don't click on links in emails. Go to the website directly and log in. If you do click on a link look closely at the actual url you have been directed to. Hackers register urls similar to the real ones so you need to examine them closely! For example, in BTInternet they may use a '1' instead of an 'I', or an 'm' in place of the 'n' and so on. Prevention is always better than cure.

Secondly, it is possible to back-up webmail. There are third party tools available. For example, a search for 'backup biinternet webmail' reveals the existence of a BTInternet backup tool you can run on your PC. I've not had experience of using this tool and you

should undertake your own research prior to using it, but on cursory inspection it does seem legitimate.

A brief search suggests there are also options to back-up gmail emails and other webmail services. You data is valuable take care of it.

Moving onto the second item I promised you. That of a scam. It was me what was scammed m'lud! Well, when I say scammed what I mean is, I strongly suspected it was a scam and it was. It only cost me £33. Here is the story.

We were looking for a beach trolley (i.e. a little hand pulled trolley to take stuff on and off the beach). A neighbour show Kha Koon an advert for one which seemed perfect from an online shop called Meteoraire. It was a reasonable price ($\sim 50\%$ cheaper than eBay) and did most of what we wanted. I was convinced it was a scam as I knew of these shops which pop-up, offer great deals and then either send you nothing, a cheap item or a poor quality item. We search the web for reviews of Meteoraire. There were none. So we went ahead and purchased on the basis (i) the most we'd lose was £33, (ii) we may actually get an item, and (iii) it would make for something to write about in the Parish mag!

At first, all was fine, an order confirmation email shortly followed by a shipping notification email dropped into the inbox. Then an expected parcel dropped through the front door. A cheap Chinese scarf. A quick visit to the tracking information in the shipping notification email confirmed it said 'delivered'. So, we'd paid £33 for a cheap Chinese scarf. An email to customer services has, unsurprisingly, gone unanswered. Scammed.

A good news is that I've now left review on Trustpilot so anyone doing any due diligence will discover it. It comes up as the 5th result on google following a search for Meteoraire and, I note, that since our search and order, The Malware Tips Forum has identified it as a scam website which should be avoided. It points out that Meteoraire was recently created, offers unrealistic deals, comprises of content copied from other websites, has no social media presence and no customer support – all indicators of a scam website. So, remember, I took the hit so you don't have to!! Note: I have raised it as a disputed transaction with my credit card provider so hopefully I may get my money back.

Finally, remember my last article of ChatGPT and how it made up an obituary? Well, no sooner had I submitted the article to Bill for publishing, than the New York Times reported: "A New York lawyer faces sanctions for using ChatGPT to write his legal brief that had "bogus judicial decisions, with bogus quotes and bogus internal citations"". Unfortunately the article is behind a paywall but, if you haven't exceeded your free article limit it is here: https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/27/nyregion/avianca-airline-lawsuit-chatgpt.html - as I said last month: AI such as ChatGPT is in its early stages and getting a lot of hype. However, as with all early stage systems it is still very fallible and must be used with care.

Safe browsing David Cornwell Webmaster

Sea Sunday 9th July 2023

The Gospel Reading for Sea Sunday this year is taken from Matthew 11: Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (Matt 11:28)

For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Matt 11:30) At the heart of the Gospel reading is an invitation: to come to Jesus.

How does this relate to seafarers?

The life of a seafarer is transitory, on the move, and so often involves little rest. Life onboard a ship never stops, and times of rest are very often interrupted, and this is very true of the Ships coming into Newport as they flit between Sharpness. Ports in Ireland, other ports in the UK & Europe. They come in on one tide, load or unload & then out on the next with the next port just being possibly 1 tide away in any weathers.

Often the days are long, and seafarers are required to stand watch or be on duty through parts of the night (4 or 6 hours at a time). The daily rhythm is intense, and there are no days off at sea as there is running maintenance to be done including painting & cleaning. The seafarers often take contracts at sea for 6 to 9 months, and are away from home this entire time, often quite literally on the other side of the world for particularly the Filipinos. Seafarers very often spend over 75% of their year at sea, away from loved ones and family.

Although the Seafarers may wish very much to be at home with those they love, they sail so that they can support their families, allow their children to receive an education, have medical coverage, and the stability of having a regular annual income. At the moment there are many Ukrainian crews doing this to ensure their families are safe and catered for in another land and when they are on leave, they feel unable to go back home so they go to their families wherever they may have gone to eg Poland, France, Turkey etc and they are now refugees themselves. I remember taking a young Ukrainian Seafarer into Newport to send money home in order that his young family could flee from Odessa if the need arose, and I got the impression he was expected to enlist when he got back to Ukraine.

As a Seafarer it is difficult to be with sick or dying parents or at the bedside of their wife or partner as they give birth to a newborn baby, or they miss birth

- days and festivals and they can't just go home if there has been some disaster be it natural or manmade. This came home to me hard when I spoke to a Ukrainian crew most of which came from Mariupol that had been heavily bombed that week, they felt helpless and had a heavy burden resting on their shoulders that you can't put into words.
- It is hard to find rest & find peace when you are constantly waking up in a new port, starting or finishing a contract, coming home for that precious time with loved ones, knowing that all to soon you will have to say goodbye.

Where do the Mission to Seafarers come in?

- The work of the Mission to Seafarers in many ways is to try and help bear the burdens (the yoke) of our fellow brothers and sisters who are onboard ships. This can happen in conversation, in prayer, creating space to listen to their concerns or in practical care (such as a SIM card to make it possible to stay in touch with loved ones). Vodafone have provided free SIM Cards with 20GB on them lasting 6 months particularly for the Ukrainian Seafarers so that they can keep in contact with their families., although only operate when the Seafarer is in UK waters. This has been so successful that the Captains actually actively come up and ask for them for their crews.
- It is a ministry that involves glimpses of rest. This may come in sharing a cup of coffee or Turkish tea, taking time out to talk to us & for us to listen, carving out a place for peace and rest, in an environment that is often loud, hectic, and focused on greater output and more efficient productivity. It might come in sharing a woolly hat, a bar of chocolate, a meal, or a rosary. Newport is also fortunate that it has a Mission where the Seafarers can escape to and it also has a very nice chapel available for prayer and contemplation.
- These encounters with seafarers are often fleeting. So many of the people we meet through the Mission to Seafarers we will never see again contracts end, ships leave for ports and sail around the world and the activity of life is taken up again. So many of the encounters in the Gospels are fleeting too (like the woman Jesus meets at the well, or the centurion standing at the foot of the Cross). Yet even fleeting conversations can point towards less fleeting things: towards deeper rest and truer light.
- When I started visiting ships as a Ship Welfare Visitor, I thought I would be that witness, pointing towards Jesus who would give them rest, instead, my experience, time and time again, is to see and encounter the humility & gentleness in the faces of the seafarers I meet. time and time again. They can be so warm and friendly. It is all very humbling.
- As we give and receive gifts of learning, rest, humility and gentleness (and cups of turkish tea and woolly hats), we share in the gift of life that Jesus has given us through the Cross. As we care for one another, or share our burdens with each other, we draw closer to the life that Jesus is offering to us.
- The opportunity to meet and speak with Seafarers (and, where appropriate, to pray) is nothing short of a pure gift. It is a place to see our shared humanity and greet Jesus in the face of our brother or sister standing next to us. As we do this, may we come to Jesus and receive his gifts.





SEAFARERS NEED YOU MORE THAN EVER

You rely on seafarers but they need your help also!

More than 90% of the world's goods and fuels are transported around the world, thanks to seafarers. Without them the world economy would grind to a halt. This would place businesses and millions of jobs around the world in jeopardy. Day and night for 365 days per year, the Mission is on call providing help for seafarers in over 200 ports around the world.

For more information on our work visit seasunday@missiontoseafarers.org

Join us to celebrate seafarers across the globe on:

Clothing Bank at the Rec Hall

Please see the new addition to the Rec Hall – a new clothing bank in aid of Child & Teenage Cancer & Leukaemia Foundation – it's ready to take donations now. The Playgroup has recently had news of one of its children being diagnosed with Leukaemia so this cause is close to their hearts & the clothing bank will help fund this worthy cause.

Please don't leave items/bags if the clothing bank is full – it's going to be emptied weekly – so not long to wait for space to donate!

Thank you for your support.





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

Oakfield Veg Boxes

Sown and grown using organic methods in Newchurch

Larges boxes £22 and Medium boxes £17

email <u>leighayland@gmail.com</u> call on 01291 428604/07889 247361 Read more about us on Facebook @oakfieldgrowers

This is a fair share scheme where seasonal produce is shared among subscribers. We guarantee a minimum of 8 items in the medium boxes (suitable for 2-3) and 10 items in our large boxes



SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

Our visit to St Mary's Priory took place on a sunny warm day, we toured the grave yard with Susan Amos, she had researched many of the tombs and graves and had discovered the great and good of Chepstow. Afterwards, we were served tea and cakes and a very interesting pleasant day was had by all.

A few of our members joined the archaeological dig at Caerwent Church yard, lead by Dr Mark Lewis and the National Museum of Wales. A number of very interesting finds, Roman pottery, coins and tiles. We also found the evidence of the Edwardian archaeologist dig in the early 1900's.

We were very well looked after by the ladies from Caerwent Church who supplied us with tea/coffee and biscuits. We are looking forward to the final report on the dig.

We spent a very enjoyable afternoon at the Church Fete, we brought a few of our maps, documents and photographs from our archive and met a lot of people who were interested in what we had on show.

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday, 25th July Raglan, Troy & Badminton

Dr Ann Benson

Our meetings are held at the Church Room, unless otherwise stated, we start at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July

Monday 3rd Shirenewton Community Council meetings

7.00 p.m. Recreation Hall

Wednesday 5th Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo

7.00 p.m. Chepstow Choral Society

Arts Hall, Chepstow School

Sunday 9th Sea Sunday

Sunday 9th An animal and pet blessing service

11.30 a.m. St Deiniol's Church, Itton

Monday 10th Ministry Area Praying Together 7.30 p.m. St Christophers Church, Bulwark

Thursday 13th Womens Institute 7.15 p.m. Recreation Hall

Friday 21st Bring and Share, Julie Noble of Latin Link

7.00 p.m. Shirenewton Church Hall

Monday 24th St Deiniol's Lecture by the Reverend Philip Avery

7.00 p.m. Itton Village Hall

Monday 24th Ministry Area Praying Together 7.30 p.m. St Christophers Church, Bulwark Tuesday 25th Shirenewton Local History Society

7.30 p.m. Raglan, Troy and Badminton by Dr Ann Benson

Church Hall, Shirenewton

August

Tuesday 1st Shirenewton Community Council meetings

7.00 p.m. Recreation Hall

Saturday 12th Chepstow Show

10.00 a.m. Chepstow Racecourse

Monday 14th Ministry Area Praying Together 7.30 p.m. St Christophers Church, Bulwark Monday 28th Ministry Area Praying Together

7.30 p.m. St Christophers Church, Bulwark

September

Saturday 16th Shirenewton village Autumn market

10.30-12.30 a.m. Recreation Hall

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



Senior Services Pressure washing, Paths, Patios, Fences, Driveways Fence painting/Staining Home Offices/Sheds Contact Rob TEL: O7391046450 Reliable, Traditional, Courteous

The MONMOUTHSHIRE Window Company

T: 01291 630063

www.monmouthshirewindows.com

- · Continually investing in the latest products.
- . Highest standard of product installations
- Showrooms across Monmouthshire & in Newport.
 - FENSA Registered.
 - High quality PVC & Aluminium products.
 - Over 20 years of experience.

BIFOLD DOORS • COMPOSITE DOORS • CASEMENT & FLUSH CASEMENT WINDOWS FRENCH DOORS • SUPALITE TILED ROOF • CONSERVATORIES • SLIDING DOORS



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



Trophies Glass Plaques Shields Cups Tankards Medals Engraving

07770773323 • info@theawardscompany.co.uk www.theawardscompany.co.uk

Amazon Smile may be gone but you can still support Chepstow and Caldicot Lions with Easyfundraising!

We have some important news regarding the Amazon Smile program. Unfortunately, Amazon has discontinued this program, which means that we can no longer receive donations through it. However, we have some good news too! You can still continue to support Chepstow and Caldicot Lions by signing up for Easyfundraising. By doing this, you can help us raise funds for our community projects and initiatives, without any extra cost to you.

All you have to do is sign up through our Easyfundraising page at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chepstowandcaldicotlions and shop online as you normally would. The retailers you shop with will then make a donation to us, at no extra cost to you. It's as simple as that!

So, if you want to continue supporting our cause, please consider signing up for Easyfundraising today. Your support means the world to us, and together we can make a real difference in our community. Thank you!



Home Group



Sharing Life and Faith Together
Every Thursday @ 7.30pm
Please contact
Kevin & Cath Higgs for details.
01291 624026
chepstowpriory@gmail.com

Ian Watts & Son Ltd



Independent Funeral Directors Est 1968 24 hour service

- Ask us what we can offer compared to others
- Free Home Visits
- No Unnecessary Costs
- Free friendly advice and assistance with a wide range of funeral grants
- All types of Funeral available.
- Female & male funeral directors.
- Respect & dignity are at the heart of everything we do
- Memorials & Funeral Plans

01291 420972 • 07977 092935 www.ianwattsandson.com









THE FASTEST GROWING SPORT IN THE WORLD HAS ARRIVED IN CWMBRAN!

ANY AGE . ANY FITNESS LEVEL . NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED . FUN GUARANTEED



A MIXTURE OF TENNIS AND SQUASH, PADEL IS THE SECOND MOST POPULAR SPORT IN THE WORLD TO FOOTBALL.

PLAYED IN DOUBLES, PADEL IS GREAT FOR SOCIALISING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

FIND US AT THE WELSH PADEL CENTRE, WOODLAND ROAD SPORTS & SOCIAL CENTRE, CWMBRAN, NP44 2DZ

To advertise in this magazine contact

Bill Clark: 01291 641783; parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com
The editor reserves the right to print free content and
free advertisements in black and white

Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

12 months 10 issues
Full page £100; £150 for a designated page
Half Page £50
Quarter Page £25



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

Ontact: Daniel or Matthew Haines 01633 400548, 07930 893680 07930 893678



Huntsman Hotel Chepstow Ltd

Huntsman Hotel Lounge, Beer Garden

Tin Shed, Bar & Decking View

Beer Garden. Tin Shed Bar & *Lounge Bar / Dining Area

*Sunday Lunch, Parties or Functions only with food available on our established takeaway evenings plus Saturday & Sunday lunchtime or pre-booked parties etc

Dessert selection from £5 ooOoo

Opening times Monday to Friday 5pm to 9.00pm, Saturday 12 noon until 2pm & 5pm until 9.00pm, Sunday 12 noon to 7pm REAL ALE

ooOoo

FROM THE Takeaway or dine in the Tin Shed. Curry Plus Wednesday & Fish & Chips Friday

Opening times may & can vary, so let us know when you want us open.... Happy to open for groups at lunchtime for drinks & food if enough of you!

We are fully licensed serving Real Ales straight from the Cask, Lager, Cider, Wine and Spirits.

Roaring Fire in the Shed

LOUNGE IS OPEN FOR SUNDAY LUNCH and FOR PRIVATE FUNCTIONS.

HERE FOR YOU FOR OVER 36 UNINTERUPTEDYEARS

Text 07766237915——FB Messenger 01291-641521- TheHuntsmanHotel@ICloud.Com

Richard Kopp PLUMBING & HEATING

01291 641581 07780 703530

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



Heating system

- 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 Recreation Hall (Shirenewton village) Tredegar Arms (The Square, centre of Shirenewton)

Earlswood Hall (Erlswood)



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

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
--------------	------------	---------------	---------------

Ministry Area Leader	Revd Philip Averay	01291 620980
(designate) Rector	revphilipaveray@gmail.com Revd Julian White	01291 622317
Lay Eucharistic Minister	<u>Jel.white@btinternet.com</u> Gilly Lambert	07821 725 690
Church Wardens – Rector's – People's	Sally Saysell Andrew Baker	01291 641 369 01291 641 925
LCC Secretary	John Montague imontyvet@hotmail.co.uk	01291 329 481
LCC Treasurer LCC Members	Graham Lambert Janet Horton James Leney Wendy Montague John Burrows	01291 641 175 01291 641 783 01291 641 271 01291 329 481 01291 641 845
Organists	Karen Millar	01291 650 521
Tower Captain Saysell Centre Booking Safeguarding Officer Church Flowers Parish Magazine Editor 200 Club	James Leney Mike Penney Glynis MacDonald Andrew Baker Maureen Moody Bill Clark Aileen Doggett	01291 641 271 01291 650 653 01291 641 818 01291 641 925 01291 641 524 01291 641 783 01291 641 459
Church of St Tewdrics's		
Secretary	Jen Marendaz	01291 329 422

Secretary	Jen Marendaz	01291 329 422
Church Warden	Elsbeth Morlan	01291 627 538

Ministry Area Council Representative

Wendy Montague 01291 329 481

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

shirenewtoncc@gmail.com **Shirenewton Community Council Clerk**

Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Ward:

Chair Vice Chair	Philip Butterwo		philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk cathie.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
			keith.d@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Ian Martin	01291 650014	ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Gary Mitchell	01291 641037	gary.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Earlswood and Newchurch Ward

Andy Williamson 01291641451	andy.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Elizabeth Wixcey 01291641216	elizabeth.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

MCC for Shirenewton Louise Brown 07598 97971 louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk

David Davies 020 7219 8360 daviesd@parliament.uk Member of Parliament

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Contacts

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

Other Local Organisations

Beavers Julie Hitchcock 01291 650548 **Church Fete Earlswood Hope** 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
Recreation Association
Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com
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 Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com Beverly Lindsay

Shirenewton Primary School

Mr Nick Penn, Head Teacher 01291 641774

shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Shirenewton Toddler Group Jude Langdon 07981 368213

> Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com

Shirenewton Tennis Association

Andy Orrell shirenewtontennis@amail.com

Fairtrade Marion McAdam 01291 641316 <u>msm316@qmail.com</u>

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

Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 01291 641704.

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



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 Regulated.

ISCA Wealth Management Ltd registered address: 21 Alon Gardens, Newport, Geent, United Kingdom, NP18 1P Registered in England & Wales, Company number: 12089628.

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.

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 £14.

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 £150
Full page 12 months 10 issues £100
Half Page 12 months 10 issues £50
Quarter Page 12 months 10 issues £25

Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.

The editor reserves the right to print free content and free advertisements in black and white 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 the September 2023 issue is 9:00 a.m. Monday 28th August 2023