

Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

December 2016

January 2017



Price: £1

## FROM THE VICARAGE

Julian E LI White

It is at this time of the year, December, when we tend to think that chronologically speaking things are well advanced in respect of hibernation. Look at our garden, for example (or, if you are like me, comment 'must you?'). Plants have had their time of flowering and all remains dormant until next spring. Well this is not a good example, actually. The roses in ours have defied the calendar and up until the time of writing still say 'look at me!' with considerable gusto. Some exotic and flouncy plant, we had nicked from the Greek islands, which everyone said would shrivel in our dank and cold climate, has confounded us by lying dormant for a couple of years before bursting forth in October with Mediterranean flair. Yes, our garden (to use the term loosely) has defied tradition and is doing its own thing. Yours too, probably.

Just when we think that things are set in a pattern, we are often confounded by discovering that such things 'are not what they should be' and seemingly out of kilter with our imposed expectations. God frequently manifests his presence in such a fashion – "My ways are not your ways, says the Lord".

This is true, many a time, of regular church life. I still have, for example, a treasured piece of hate-mail sent to me when I was incumbent of a previous parish. I had floated the idea of turning a long unused vestry in the church into much needed toilet facilities. Without delay I received the impassioned correspondence referred to earlier. I stood accused, among other condemnations, of crass insensitivity in even considering letting people respond to the call of nature within ecclesiastical portals – 'People can go into the grounds, if they must, to relieve themselves'. What? To relieve themselves on hallowed ground and in the direct proximity of departed loved-ones is somehow acceptable? I think not.

Twenty-five years ago I was reported to my boss, the Bishop, for failing to approve conducting a marriage for a divorced couple. Despite my personal feelings to the contrary, this was the position adopted by the Church in Wales and I was obliged to comply. Things have changed. Today a significant percentage of weddings at which I officiate are between divorced couples. And they bring their offspring along to play a noteworthy part in the ceremony as well.

Yes, things have changed. About twenty years ago (I still cannot believe what I consider to be an outrageous stance) there was serious in-house bickering over the issue of fully ordaining women so that they were deemed to be on equal standing with their male colleagues. Today, in this group of parishes, we find ourselves in welcome receipt of ministry from Nansi Davis who has frequently served us with flair and wisdom. Indeed, things have moved apace. We now have women bishops! There is one in the neighbouring Diocese of Gloucester and – a bit of history is being made here – the first female Bishop in the Church in Wales at St. David's. Yes, I am still saddened, incidentally, that a number of people still think that the CiW is a sub-station of the CoE – in fact, here in Wales we are longer established and independent.

What I am getting at, somewhat clumsily it is admitted, is that things renew themselves often when we approve or not. We tend to think that the Christmas season is set in stone. Our church observances often imply this. Often we trundle through tired old carols and doze off in the presence of oft-repeated 'traditional' readings. As we discovered in Mounton a few years back, more recent (and secular) readings can combine with the time-honoured to provide fresh insight and stimulation when confronted by the Christmas story.

What we celebrate is the birth of a special child. Most people seem to agree that the arrival of a child represents new life and a different way of looking at things. As every parent knows, this can be an uncomfortable transition for us but it is a necessary process. Instead of decrying this, or desperately attempting to cling on to the old ways, let us consider combining the old with the new and, where possible, look to the future with anticipation and a sense of freshness.

With every blessing for Christmastide and the future.

## **200 CLUB**

### **October**

1. Nathan Morgan
2. Paul Harris
3. David McAdam
4. Jodie Johnsey

### **November**

1. Sally Saysell
2. Pam Carey
3. Sue Philipson
4. Martin Bodle

## **GRASS CUTTING IN THE CHURCHYARD**

Many of you will have noticed that the grass in the Churchyard has become very long over recent weeks and the Parochial Church Council have been making every effort to get the situation rectified as swiftly as possible. In spite of frequent requests to the appropriate quarters to arrange to have this dealt with, for reasons unknown this has not been successful.

We rely on the goodwill and generosity of a small number of people to keep things tidy and well maintained. We plan to arrange for a remedial tidy up and mow as soon as possible.

Bill Clark

## Shirenewton Church

### ADVENT FAIR and COFFEE MORNING!



Come along for Coffee, Cake and a lovely selection of  
Homemade Christmas Goodies in the Church Room  
with our young Sunday Clubbers running  
some of the stalls.

**Sunday 4th December, 11.00 - 12.00**

The money raised will go to  
'Medecins sans Frontieres'

\*\*\*\*\*



### Carols Around the Village Christmas Tree.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December @ 6.30 for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour**  
in the Tredegar Arms Carpark.

The Collection go to support  
'Medecines sans Frontieres'

Bring a torch. And some gloves.

And a warm hat And loud voices.

If it's raining we will decamp into Shirenewton Church

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## Shirenewton Church

### Christmas Praise Service



Come along to Shirenewton Church for a light service of Christmas Praise where we will tell the Christmas Story through poems, readings and our favourite Carols.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00.**

Coffee and cake afterwards in the Church Room.



**'Carols and Christingles' Shirenewton Church.**

**4.00 on Christmas Eve**

Everyone is welcome to this lovely warm  
family-friendly service

Refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies will be served  
afterwards in the Church Room.

Collection to Children's Society.

And if anyone would like to join in, be a shepherd, an angel or a king or even a villager, Shirenewton Sunday Club would be delighted to see you. Just come along to Sunday Club at the Shirenewton Church Room on a Sunday at 10.00.

You would be more than welcome For more details, ring  
Lyn Morcombe (Sunday Club leader) 641 671

**Diary Date –  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017!**



**Parish Quiet Day**

10:00 to 12:00  
The Saysell Centre

*Followed by:*

**ALL WELCOME!**

Look out for more details in  
February's magazine



Come and join us for

**Christmas Carols**

and

**Home made Soup**

on

**Monday December 5<sup>th</sup>**

**7.30 pm**

at

**GAERLLWYD BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Come and start the Christmas Festivities by  
joining with friends and neighbours in the  
singing of Carols and enjoying yourself.**

***We look forward to seeing you.***

SODS proudly presents

# A Tale of 1001 Tights

Thurs 26th, Fri 27th, and Sat 28th Jan 2017  
at Earlswood Hall

Tickets just £7 adults £5 children

Bar opens at 7, curtain up 7:30

For tickets please call Jackie Budd 01291 641547

or email [jackie.budd61@btinternet.com](mailto:jackie.budd61@btinternet.com)



# **Chepstow Choral Society**

*Musical Director – Graham Bull*



***A Christmas Music Celebration....***

***SUNDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>, 3.00pm***  
***Please save the date!!!!***

This year's Christmas music by the choir and guests will take place on **SUNDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>, 3.00pm, at St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow** and will include a mix of well-loved carols and readings. CCS is delighted to be joined by pupils from **CHEPSTOW SCHOOL, and highly accomplished organist PETER COOK.** Tickets £8.00 ( u/18s/students FREE) will be available from choir members (01291 623310, 620414, 650472 and Chepstow Bookshop.

***SUNDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>, 3.00pm***

***St MARY'S PRIORY CHURCH CHEPSTOW***

***Peter Cook (organ)***

***Chepstow Comprehensive School Choirs***

***Give yourselves a break from the hustle and bustle, and come and enjoy some lovely Christmas music!***

\*\*Please view our website ([www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk)) for further information (contact details available).Chepstow Choral Society

is affiliated to Ty Cerdd – Music Centre Wales  
and Making Music – The National Federation of Music Societies.  
Registered charity no. 1127098

**TY CERDD**  
MUSIC CENTRE WALES



## **Carol Service**

At Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel  
on  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00 p.m.

Refreshments after the service

## **Carol Service**

At  
Hope Methodist Chapel  
Earlswood  
on  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 3.00 p.m.

Refreshments available after the service

Minetta Morris – 01291 650688

## **STARGAZING**

In the evening to the southeast, the constellation of Orion the hunter is a very prominent sight. Three bright stars make up his belt; two stars are his shoulders, and two more make his legs. Hanging from Orion's belt is his sword. One of the stars in the sword appears fuzzy compared with other stars and is well worth looking at through binoculars. This is the Orion Nebula and is a huge cloud of gas and dust, approximately 1,500 light-years away and hundreds of light-years across. (A light year is the distance travelled by light in one year – a huge distance!) It is one of the most intense regions of star formation visible in our galaxy.



The W-shape of Cassiopeia lies to the north-west, whilst the seven stars forming the Plough can be seen in the northeast.

In the evening twilight, the brilliant planet Venus is setting in the south-west followed by slightly orange-coloured Mars to its left. The crescent Moon is just above Venus on the 3rd and to the top-left of Mars on the 5th of December. The bright planet Jupiter is to the south in the morning sky just above a star called Spica. The crescent Moon is close to Jupiter on the 23rd, which should make a fine sight.

21st December is the Winter Solstice, our shortest day, often called mid-winter and a good time to take a trip to Australia where it is the longest day!

Question: What do you get if you cross Santa Claus with a space ship?

Answer: A u-f-ho-ho-ho!

## SHIRENEWTON W.I OCTOBER '16

Another very enjoyable evening, we 'had a go' at line dancing, continuing the support of the W.I. Sports week. Lawrence Blatchley the local expert in all dance moves led us in a brilliant display of dance steps, never seen anywhere else!!

I assure you we could give 'Strictly come dancing' a run for their money. Lawrence guided us from the simple steps through to a more ambitious display of 'moves'. Laughter echoed around the 'Rec', not sure the laughter was part of the intended display but it proved to cheer us all up.



## November '16

We were entertained to a high standard by John Sheen with his recitations and anecdotes relating to Christmas. It was a very pleasant evening with laughter and good humour, just what the doctor ordered to lift the spirit.

The next meeting will be the Christmas dinner, to be held at the Huntsman Hotel, 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The next 'proper' meeting will be 12<sup>th</sup> January 1917, please come along and join us.

(Action photos kindly submitted by Diane Ashton-Smith and Gill Duckham)

Contact:

Carole Jones (President) 673607  
Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 641704





# Acoustic Music Festival

Saturday 3rd December 2016

7pm - 12am

Huntsman Hotel, Shirenewton

## BANDS:

Rob Pennington  
New Voyage  
Far Out Mate  
Big Sky

## TICKETS:

£10 - includes  
The Hunstman Hog Roast.  
Available at the  
Huntsman Shirenewton  
(01291 641521)

[www.shirefest.org](http://www.shirefest.org)

In support of: Shirefest 2017 Charity Fund Raising Music Festival

# SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Extracts from the minutes of the November meeting

There are still two vacant positions for the co-option of Community Councillors for the ward of Shirenewton – **if you are interested in applying for one of these vacancies, please contact the Clerk** (details below).

### Planning applications considered

1. DC/2014/01110 Little Grondra Farm, Shirenewton

Conversion of redundant barn to a dwelling.

Application invalid, to be re-submitted.

2. DC/2016/01137 Gate House, Usk Road, Penyaemawr (ILM)

To erect a steel frame apex building to replace existing containers which are to be removed.

Council noted that this is a 7 acre plot that is surrounded by trees. The proposal is for a blue-grey steel framed building, height at apex 4.8 metres, with no windows and a roll over door. Council recommended approval of the application subject to the condition of removal of the containers the building replaces.

3. DC/2016/00897 Mo I Rana, Weyloed Lane, Mynyddbach

Proposed alterations to first floor and roof of existing dwelling.

The Council noted that pre-application advice had been sought and the application had Planning Officer approval. There were no on-line objections, only one concern about construction traffic affecting residents. Council recommended approval of the application, subject to the following condition:

‘That in order to meet the concerns of neighbours, the plans be amended to provide for a solid wall to roof height on the sun terrace overlooking the property below’.

4. DC/2015/01594 Advertisement consent for free standing signs

The Council recommended refusal of this amended application for the following reasons:

- There is a safety issue as such signage would be a visual distraction for motorists - Highways Department officers have always argued this point;
- There is already a proliferation of Highways signage, particularly along the A48, and further business signage would spoil the character and quality of the countryside;
- Tourism is the biggest industry in Monmouthshire and to allow signage along already unkempt and neglected verges would be detrimental to the landscape;
- Council also noted three additional applications on the website - 01591, 01592, 01593 and felt that this is likely to be the thin end of the wedge with regard to such signage.

5. Council discussed further information received from S Pritchard, Footpaths Officer, Mon CC on 14.10.16 on the proposed path order at 119, Earlswood and again recommended refusal of the proposal. Council pointed out that although always having been co-operative in the survey and upkeep of Rights of Way in this community, in this instance, considers that the diversion is unlikely to be used owing to the previously mentioned intimidation, nuisance and safety issues. Council further noted that there have been instances where RoW have been diverted from farm tracks, or near buildings in the area – The Oaks 380/41 and Usk Road 380/51, to alleviate the problem of nuisance.

## **Police Report**

There were two reports of off-road bikes being ridden round Wentwood and one report of a land rover being found in the forest. There had been 5 calls to Brookacre during the month.

Council was pleased to note that 100 residents had responded to the "Your Voice" questionnaire.

The following is an extract from the Police Report:

Your Voice priority – B4235, motorbikes

In July 2016 the 40mph restriction was implemented by Mon CC Highways.

Regular uniform and plain car patrols took place along the B4235 involving local officers and officers from the Area Support Unit. During two separate Operations carried out, over 40 motor bikes were stopped and checked and 8 had action taken against them for various offences. Footage was obtained by both Officers and residents showing several occasions where motor bikes were seen to overtake on the double white lines in place. Action has been taken and is being taken against some of these riders. Further activity by Gwent Police is planned for next year to continue with the positive action that has been taken so far.

## **Other items of interest**

Mr King of Usk Road gave a presentation on a not-for-profit community project to improve the broadband service to residents in the Earlswood and Gaerllwyd areas (the service is already available in Shirenewton). It would involve an unobtrusive radio station being installed on the roof of the Recreation Hall (within 500m of the green cabinet), there are several other radio stations in the area and currently 32 people in outlying areas are benefitting from an improved broadband and wifi service. The Rec Hall would receive free broadband and wifi, but would need to have a telephone line installed. Costs would be an initial £200 for hardware and 12 months fees, plus £5 per year, per person that signed up to the service.

Mr Hughes to take the proposal to the next Recreation Association committee meeting and the Community Council to discuss further.

Best Kept Village Competition 2016 – This year we won Best War Memorial, Best Village Hall and were runner up for the Best Kept Village, the winner was Llanfair Discoed. We didn't do as well this year achieving 73 points of a possible 100, with points being lost for non-clearance of vegetative (organic) rubbish. Although judges commented that overall Shirenewton was a well-kept village, they want to see a lot of community involvement with people working together for the benefit of the village. If we want to win this competition next year, we really need to find a resident in Shirenewton to spearhead finding/chasing more volunteers to get involved in helping to bring the village to a high standard. If you feel you are this person, please contact the Clerk.

Community Benefit agreement - This Council, along with Mather Community Council, has been in contact with ReneSola, the company installing the solar park at Rhewl Farm to pursue community payments to both the Councils. This is an accepted method of such parks putting something back into the community. At the meeting the Clerk confirmed that the agreement had been extended to £50,000 payable over 25 years at £2,000 pa between both Councils (£1,000 a year each). Although not finalised yet, in view of this additional future funding, Council wishes to encourage residents to put forward ideas or projects for consideration in making best use of this funding in the community. If you have any ideas, please contact the Clerk (details below).

Closure of BT payphone – The kiosk earmarked for closure and removal by BT is at West End, Earlswood, which BT advised had not been used to make a call within the last 12 months. Council had no objection to its closure but wished notification to be made in the Parish Magazine to allow residents who are opposed to closure the opportunity to object. Please respond to the Clerk by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

**The Community Councillors send Christmas greetings to all residents in the community and wish them a healthy and peaceful 2017.**

Dates of next meetings – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, no meeting in January 2017, Monday 6 February at 7.30pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall. Members of the public may attend and address the Council for the first 15 minutes of each meeting.

Find more information in draft copies of the minutes on the Community Council notice boards. Previous minutes of meetings can be found on the Council's website [www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk](http://www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk)

Contact the Clerk to the Community Council -  
Mrs Hilary Counsell  
Tel: 01291 421307  
E-mail: [Shirenewtoncc@gmail.com](mailto:Shirenewtoncc@gmail.com)

## **B4235**

For some years now the B4235 has been described on a few motorcycle websites as a plod free zone. This has given the message to some bikers that it can be regarded as a racetrack where they can 'test machine and rider' with, it seems at times, a total disregard for their own or others safety. Unfortunately there have been fatalities and a biker crashed this year sustaining life changing injuries.

From the comments on Facebook and Twitter some of the community may be interested in what's been happening following the introduction of the double white lining and 40mph on the B4235. Even if you feel you're not directly affected, you, your family or visitors may have to travel along the road and we must all feel we can do that safely especially at weekends.

2016 has seen an increase in Police activity both on the B4235 and in the locality. Throughout the summer the Shirenewton ward police priority (through residents completing the Gwent police 'Your Voice' survey) was 'speeding on the B4235 and motorbikes crossing double white lines'. On 14 separate weekend dates police have been active on the roads in marked and unmarked cars and motorbikes to keep our area safer. The success of the increased presence can be measured not merely by the number of offenders 'caught' but by changing riding behaviour. This year two bikers have been prosecuted for crossing solid white lines whilst overtaking a car on a blind bend on the B4235 and a third prosecution is being considered.

In response to members of the community who contact them North Wales Police have recently introduced an online system, Operation SNAP currently in its pilot phase, for their residents to report incidents of careless or dangerous driving and other alleged offences captured on their cycle/head or vehicle cam. This can then be followed up, where appropriate, with education or prosecution to influence future behaviour.

Of course this community is not unique in its effort in asking for and eventually getting a lower speed limit. Other Monmouthshire villages and towns also submit petitions (similar to the 2010 one with 159 names from this area), get their MP involved etc. in its belief there is a problem with speeding traffic. Community campaigns can last 3, 5, 7 or like this community's 10 plus years. As you may be aware, Monmouthshire Highways own figures showed 53% of motorbikes exceeding 60 mph on the B4235 past the end of Weyloed Lane, some were travelling at speeds in excess of 90mph. The community was still being told 'there is no speed problem'. This was because their measurement was 'the average'. It was calculated over three separate points on the road between the Carpenters Arms and the Huntsman, 24/7, including 12 different classes of vehicle from cyclists to articulated lorries. Monmouthshire Council is now looking at a Road Safety policy to allow campaigning communities to engage with them in a constructive and transparent manner. If the final answer is 'no' that community must truly understand how this decision has been reached. An appeal process is also being considered. All within a much reduced time scale.

Has there been a difference in motorcyclists behaviour in the area this year? Has it been the engineering enhancements, double white lines in 2015 and 40mph in 2016 at Mynyddbach on the B4235, or the increased police activity and education? Or a combination of those?

The start of the annual biker season is weather dependent. Let's hope that March/April 2017 will see the message getting through that this road is not a summer racetrack or playground for them.

Suzi and Nick Vincent

## SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

[www.shirenewtonchurch.com](http://www.shirenewtonchurch.com)

Well people the shop is back to its full glory at [www.shirenewtonshop.com](http://www.shirenewtonshop.com). In rebuilding the site, I took the opportunity to whittle the number of shops down from circa 200 to under 150. I've aimed for quality. The home page features my recommendations (i.e. the shops I use on a regular basis!) and then there are a few other categories (I've also cut down the number of categories) including a comprehensive travel section.

At this time of year I recommend you take a look at the 'Gift Ideas' section which features 12 stores with an interesting range of gift ideas. Ladies, struggling to find something for your man? Take a look at Creative Gadgets or IWOOT ( I Want One of Those). Men, if you are anything like me, inspiration is hard to come by. Rather than spend hours trudging up and down a wet and windy high street, grab a glass of wine and browse the Gift Ideas category. Plenty of inspiration there!

There's a Lifestyle & Fashion section with 16 stores and, one of my personal favorites, a DIY category with Screwfix, Wickes, Countrywide, et al. Categories are: Art & Literature | Computers & Internet | DIY | Entertainment | Finance & Insurance | Food, Flowers & Wine | Gift Ideas | Health & Fitness | Home & Garden | Stuff for Kids | Lifestyle & Fashion | Sports & Outdoors | Telecoms & Mobile Phones | Travel & Holidays.

Please do visit and, even better, do some of your Christmas shopping via the site as every little helps.

Last month I addressed the privacy of Windows 10. This month it's the turn of Google. If you have an Android phone or conduct Google searches on iDevices, Google could be listening and recording. This is especially true if you are a fan of voice activation. Google could have years worth of your conversations recorded. The Independent newspaper has a decent article on this here: <http://tinyurl.com/hosb3db> and, when you know about it, it's easy to 'Google' (see what I did there) and find out what may be recorded and how to delete any existing recordings and prevent future recordings.

It's not just Google. A wide variety of apps 'phone home' with information about you. A couple of months ago I got a new phone and wanted to download a new version of Solitaire and it's amazing how many functions these games want to access. So I carefully selected a game which required no access to my contacts, my dialed numbers, my photos, etc. These days your whole life is on your phone and you need to be very careful about what you put on it. You must protect it. Personally I use Lookout ([lookout.com](http://lookout.com)) but most of the well known antivirus/internet security companies have a mobile offering. A key thing is to be able to remotely delete the data if you lose the phone or have it stolen.

Finally, information on the various Church activities going on around Christmas are on the website so, if you have a last minute panic you can always take a look there!

Safe browsing & Happy Christmas  
David Cornwell  
[webmaster@shirenewtonchurch.com](mailto:webmaster@shirenewtonchurch.com)  
Rock House, Mynyddbach, NP16 6RP, UK





## **Daniel & Matthew Haines** **LLANVAIR LANDSCAPES**

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Landscaping, Seeding Lawn Care: Spraying  
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01633 400548, 07930 893680  
07930 893678

## **Firewood for Sale**

**Barn Stored Seasoned  
Logs for Sale**

**Contact Daniel or Matthew Haines**

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

## SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

We held our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting at the Huntsman Hotel on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October. The Chairman reported a successful year with 21 meetings/visits, with varied topics to suit every interest, ranging from pre history to 20<sup>th</sup> century history. Our membership and meeting attendance remain good with an increase in interest from non members who wish to research their family tree.

The business of the A.G.M. was soon over, as all the present officers and committee were voted back on and our speaker for the evening was introduced.

The title for our talk for the evening was '*The Curre Family*' given by Naylor Firth who really did not need any introduction. This subject is really **very** local history, as the Curre's owned a substantial estate in the parish and many local families worked for them.

Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall, 2.00 pm– 5.00 pm
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Visit to Llanvaches Church, meeting at 7.00 pm at the church. Afterwards at the Woodland Tavern
Wednesday, <b>28<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Solstice Walk to Grey Hill Meeting at the Woodland Tavern car park at <b>7.30</b> , sun rise at 8.10 am, breakfast at 9.00 am <b>Please note a day later than normal</b>
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2017	Monthly Meeting at the Recreational Hall 7.00 pm. Weather permitting our telescopes will be out, and we will be able to view the night sky. We will also have a short early film entitled 'Our Fair Land of Gwent

**Everyone welcome at the above events**

## FAIRTRADE NEWS NOV 16



The trajectory of progress is upwards I think (I read that somewhere!) if not consistently so, and Fairtrade makes possible small significant improvements in many people's lives. Much can be destroyed at a stroke, of course - war, drought, corruption and the policies of greed. International trade is of a complexity totally incomprehensible to most of us. The price of a commodity falls and the livelihood of a community is wiped out – generally not the livelihood of the shareholders, investors or hedge funds, but rather that of the producers,

Western Uganda has climate and soils ideally suited for the cultivation of vanilla, the only edible product from the vast orchid family. Apparently the world price of vanilla crashed in 2001, and with it the lives of its producers. This is an incredibly complex and labour intensive crop to produce and Ndali, a Fairtrade company now oversees 14 co-ops with 1255 members producing 66,600 kg of vanilla p.a. Fairtrade and the fair prices and stability it brings have enabled these farmers to survive and to improve their lives. The small Fairtrade premium paid over and above the price of the crop is distributed according to decisions made by the farmers themselves. Improving infrastructure, health and education facilities were their first priorities. The Fairtrade Foundation website mentions the addition of a roof on a school room – scarcely a luxury item!

Similar stories from around the world are not difficult to find. It is easy to become discouraged by the rather dismal predictions of doom and disaster. The world seems to have become a nastier place recently BUT I know that vast numbers of people world-wide are working hard to improve society, the environment and the lives of the disadvantaged.

As Christmas approaches I would urge you to consider the provenance of your purchases – the simple act of buying a Fairtrade product, an everyday one like tea or rice or olive oil, or a gift, or a card, or a vanilla pod or a small bottle of genuine vanilla essence (a wondrous addition to all manner of desserts and cakes, and spicy meals – not to mention my own particular favourite of the moment – a drop in my coffee!) can achieve so much. Fairtrade is clearly not THE answer but it is a small step in the right direction.

Marion McAdam 641 316 msm316@gmail.com  
See the Traidcraft website, or Ethical Superstore.

P.S. 98% of 'vanilla' in products is synthetic ! When a label states 'natural flavour' it is NOT genuine natural vanilla! I bought my Ndali vanilla essence from Waitrose.

## DIAMOND WEDDING

**Margaret Joan and Donald John Buttress**



### **CORRECTION**

Regarding the Diamond Wedding article.

The Sally referred to in the article was Sally Price and she did used to send the magazine to Margaret, however she passed away 8 years ago and it is now sent by Betty Bryant of Bullyhole Bottom.

## **MISSING FROM MYNYDDBACH**

We live down in Postie's lane at Mynyddbach and have had several items taken from our garden over the last couple of months. Not on the scale of the burglaries referred to in the November mag since it has all been low value items but then it is odd stuff like decorative stone, compost bins and the like. The worrying thing is that they have been taken at different times and, in view of the items concerned, it would seem to be by the same individual(s).

I wonder whether people are coming along to the Oslo building site to see what's up for grabs there and then having a wander about the village. Anyway, it might be worth reminding people to make sure their garden tools and furniture are locked up securely and to keep an eye out for anyone who looks to be loitering.

Ritchie Tout

DD: +44 (0)121 232 9627|Mob: +44 (0)7881 283 9

**" Gardener Required"**  
**Knowledgeable and Experienced**  
**Approx 10 hours a week**  
**Shirenewton Village location**

**Contact : Mark 07545 189464**



# Shirefield

TREES AND LAND

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Groundwork  
Site Clearance  
Fencing and Gates  
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## GARDENING CORNER

Winter has properly arrived at last with a few quite hard frosts here at Barn Farm. I think we have now had more already, than we had the whole of last winter. Hopefully we will have a 'proper' winter this year to help sort out a few of the bugs and beasts that have managed to survive the recent run of milder winters, only to cause problems the following year. It seems that every time I take an armful of logs indoors to feed the wood-burning stove, I take in a hibernating queen wasp as well – which doesn't bode well for the bees next year if many survive. I know wasps do a lot of good by devouring loads of pest species early in the year, but as you have probably heard me say previously, they can do untold damage to the bees and especially their honey stores if they are around in numbers later in the year (mid-summer on).

With the weather being mixed, I have had to fit the garden and the chores around what was happening outside. Fortunately I managed to get nearly all of the bulbs planted up whilst the soil was still warm and dry. The bulk were daffodils (about 400), with a few alliums thrown in for good measure. I did have some Dutch iris left over, mainly because I didn't have any soil prepared for them. I had toyed on the idea of planting them in between the sweet Williams as they are for the flower arranger of the household, but in the end I decided to plant them in flower pots, so that I can transplant them later on once the garden spot I really wanted them for has been prepared. There is still time to plant tulip bulbs into the garden, but it is really too late for anything else now. If you haven't got around to planting bulbs then it might be worth planting them into pots and then bringing them on in either a greenhouse or conservatory. They will establish a lot faster, and once the weather begins to improve around the beginning of March, you should be able to plant the pot-full direct into the garden, where they will soon settle in.

I have just taken delivery of numerous 'bare-rooted' plants which are currently being 'potted-up' into suitable sized flower pots. These will stay in either the big greenhouse or the tunnel for the winter, so they are protected from the worst of the weather. Hopefully they will then be ready in late spring to be planted out in the flower garden. Among the flowers are some soft fruit, notably raspberries, blackberries and blueberries. Normally I would plant these straight into the soil, but their final resting place still has to be sorted out – one of the main jobs on the list waiting for a nice cold, dry frosty spell. The fruit cage fell into disrepair following a heavy snowfall some years ago and became an ash tree forest in no time. These have pretty well all been removed now, but I need to get new timbers to support the wire sides and the netting roof. The actual beds also need sorting out, and need some more soil before I can plant anything back there again. So several days of hard work required before things will be back in order.

There isn't much that you can do in the garden at this time of year as you can do an awful lot of damage to soil structure if you start tramping all over wet soil. Far better to leave until the weather starts to improve again. There always seem plenty of maintenance jobs to do though such as hedge cutting. This job can be finished off at any time during the winter, but just avoid cutting evergreen hedges

– especially conifers, on cold frosty mornings as this will only lead to the leaves getting burnt, which results in unsightly brown edges. If you want to establish a new hedge, or patch up an existing one then now is also the best time. Again avoid hard frosty weather if you can as this can have a detrimental effect on the bare roots.

The tunnel and greenhouses all have a list of chores to complete – mainly removing old growth, weeding and then preparing the soil for next year's crop. The sooner this is done the better as it will remove cover for over-wintering pests. I have a couple of little robins that appear from nowhere as soon as I start 'messaging around' in either structure. They make light work of any caterpillars that I find, as well as the odd little worm. As I've mentioned previously, I have to replace the tunnel cover this year. It has been on for a lot longer than usual, so really is at the end of its useful life. I will leave for the time being, and possibly look to remove it late February or early March, probably when the apricots and nectarine trees are coming into flower as this will ensure a well pollinated crop – anything would be better than this year which resulted in not a single fruit being picked thanks to a very late frost. The trees do need pruning badly, but I'm waiting for all of the leaves to drop off so that I can more easily see what's what!

In the large greenhouse I'm looking to remove the soil from the main bed. I tend to use this as a tipping ground for old compost from the many pots that get emptied. This has resulted in a very peaty soil which doesn't grow anything much as all of the nutrients have long since been removed. I'll dig this out and spread a shallow layer over the vegetable beds. This will then get mixed in with the spring manure run, hopefully helping to retain more moisture in the beds when we have a long dry spell, whilst the manure will provide the nutrients. The greenhouse bed will then be refilled with the soil and manure mix from our supply.

One job I'm trying to catch up with is tidying up all of the bee equipment. I pretty well used everything I had last year, due to the expansion in hives required as a result of the many swarms of bees I collected. Some parts have been removed for winter, so these need to be cleaned and then sterilized using a gas torch. This helps to reduce the risk of spreading disease among the hives next year. I have quite a few empty frames that also need cleaning up. This will involve an old tea urn being boiled up with some washing soda crystals. This not only kills off bugs and disease spores, but also cleans the frames of sticky propolis (the stuff bees collect from conifer trees and use to fill in all drafty gaps in the hive). This is a job best done in the garage otherwise you end up spreading sticky propolis all over the kitchen floor and work surfaces - an end result that is guaranteed to get me into trouble with 'er indoors', which I need to avoid! Whilst thinking about jobs, one I need to get done is to finish rummaging through the numerous seed catalogues and get orders placed for next year's planting. So best I get on. Here's hoping that you all have an enjoyable festive season and best wishes for the New Year.

Steve and Felicity Hunt.



## Nerys's Natty Nosh



**Happy  
Christmas**

**Christmas** is a joyous time spent with loved ones. I am very lucky to have such a supportive, loving family. This year we will need an extra place for our gorgeous grandson Fred. He will be fourteen months at Christmas and enjoys eating a variety of healthy, nourishing foods.



### *Champagne cocktails*

Our daughter celebrates her birthday on Christmas day and as a treat we start the day with Champagne cocktails.

For a bucks fizz, pour 2 tablespoons orange juice into a champagne flute, add a dash of grenadine, stir well, top with chilled champagne and serve

immediately.

For a blue champagne, pour 1 tablespoon blue Curacao into a champagne flute, swirl to coat the sides of the glass, fill with chilled champagne.

For a Caribbean Christmas champagne, pour ½ teaspoon crème de banana and ½ teaspoon white rum into a chilled champagne flute. Fill with chilled champagne and stir gently. Serve immediately.





For a green champagne add 1 tablespoon melon liquor and top up with chilled champagne.

### **What to serve for the first course.**

#### **Will it be:-**

Wild mushroom & Sherry Soup

Pumpkin Soup

Chicken Liver Pate

Cheese Soufflé

Prawn cocktail

Crab cakes

Blinis and shellfish

Smoked salmon

But to name a few.

Our family favourite is  
Avocado and prawn salad.

### ***Festive Prawn Cocktail. Serves 6***

- 1 teaspoon chilli sauce
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 8 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoon tomato ketchup
- 3 ripe avocados, peeled and stoned.
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 450 g frozen prawns
- To garnish
- Slices of fresh lemon and a dusting of paprika or chopped chives.
- 1 cucumber sliced thinly

#### **Method**

- 1** Defrost the prawns.
- 2** Prepare the sauce. Mix all the wet ingredients together in a bowl to make a sauce. Taste. If you prefer a milder flavour add more mayonnaise and less chilli sauce and vice versa.
- 3** Slice the avocados into fans.
- 4** Make sure the prawns are thoroughly defrosted and dry before adding to the sauce mixture. Gently fold into the sauce.
- 5** Assemble and garnish. Enjoy!



**Nadolig LLawen a Blwyddyn Newydd dda.  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

## FOUNDATION PHASE DELVE & DISCOVER DAY



Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils were astonished when they entered their classes today ... over night the Foundation Phase staff had worked tirelessly to transform their classrooms into Santa's workshop (Reception classroom), Winter Wonderland (Year 1 classroom) and the Bethlehem Stable (Year 2 classroom). The classes spent a lesson in each of the rooms, experiencing the fun activities staff had prepared: robin collages; helping Santa wrap his presents; melted snowman biscuits; melting ice-bergs to free the polar bears; Christingles and hand-print wreaths. After being immersed and inspired by their new topic the children spent the afternoon planning activities that they can do to cover the skills they need to learn next. Check out the class blogs over the weekend for photographs of the children enjoying the experiences and the fabulous ideas the children came up with.

A huge thank you to Mrs Farley, our Foundation Phase Leader, for this innovative and inspirational idea and to **ALL** the Foundation Phase staff for staying late into the night to get everything ready for today.

Thank you to everyone who took part in today's fund raising activities ... we raised a fabulous £278! An especially big thank you to the whole School Council for organising everything today with very little adult input.



### ITTON CHURCH

We are delighted that for the first year ever, our Year 2 children have been invited to attend Itton Church on Thursday 15th December to perform their Nativity play for the parishioners. All parents and grandparents are welcome to come and watch too - 2pm start with refreshments afterwards. More details will follow nearer the time.

### ATTENDANCE H.E.R.O.s

Year 3 were our "Attendance H.e.r.o.s" (Here Everyday Ready On time) for the first half of the Autumn with an extremely high attendance rate of 99.36%. Year 6 had the second highest attendance rate with 97.39% (all other classes were below the school's target of 96.5%).

## MESSAGE FROM AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Please note: Melinda's After School Club is now completely **FULL** on **TUESDAYS** and **THURSDAYS**; therefore she is unable to take on any extra children on these days at the moment

## MUSICIANS OF THE WEEK

This week, our talented musicians treated us to a whole range of different instruments ...

Anna - flute; Seren S - violin; Jemima - piano; Sam - guitar

Also, check out the Y6 Blog to hear the piece of music Anna composed on the piano as part of her home learning ... 'Chute de Neige' (Snowfall)

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Congratulations to the following children who received a Headteacher certificate this week:

Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Antony, Seb & Evie D	Isabelle, Jessica & George	Laila, Jude & George S	Evie, Mia & Evan F	Brecon, Enfys & Charlotte	Joe, Conor & James	Anna, Brynn & George N

## PTA NEWS

The Christmas fayre will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 12-2pm. So please start saving up your much needed donations to be sent into school the week beginning the 5<sup>th</sup> December.

1. Money tree envelopes will soon be coming home in book bags, please fill with either chocolate coins or real ones.

2. Mystery cups with lids will also be coming home for you to fill with small toys, pens and pencils, hair clips, sweets (no nut products) and other small gifts. These can be decorated by the children or wrapped as you wish.

3. We will also be asking for donations of bottles for the bottle tombola, pre-loved teddies for the teddy tombola, books for the second-hand bookstall, cake donations (or bake off entries see below), lucky dip gifts (small gifts wrapped up and labelled boy/girl if necessary)

4. Raffle tickets will also be made available, the prizes include:

- 1st: Celtic Manor - 6 Forest Jump Tickets. Worth up to £132
- 2nd: @Bristol one family ticket including a 30 minute planetarium show. Worth £37.70
- 3rd: Johnny Hathaway 1 hour photo-shoot voucher, includes a 7" x 5" framed print. Worth £25
- 4th: Celtic Manor - 6 Adventure Golf Tickets. Worth £36.
- 5th: Herbert Lewis. Crabtree & Evelyn filled candle. Worth £20-£25
- 6th: Runway, Chepstow. £20 gift voucher.
- 7th: Toytastic, Chepstow. £10 gift voucher.
- 8th: Waitrose, Monmouth. £10 gift card.
- 9th: Chepstow Garden Centre. £5 gift voucher.



On the day of the fayre there will also be:

- Xmas jumper competition ... to be worn on the day (FP, KS2 and adult prizes for best jumper)
- 'Bake-off'. All entries received by 11.30am on the day to be judged at 12pm (FP, KS2 and adult prizes...all entries will then be sold on the cake stall to raise money for the school)
- Xmas hat competition...to be worn on the day (FP, KS2 and adult prizes)
- Xmas poem competition entered by Friday 9th December (FP, KS2 and adult prizes)

All competitions will be judged, winners announced and prizes given at the Fayre.

Finally we really need VOLUNTEERS to run a stall, help set up or tidy up at the end. We can only run all these great stalls and make a fantastic amount of money for the school with your help.

We will be setting up the day before from 4pm and on the day from 9am

If you can spare anytime to help set up or especially an hour or two to watch a stall please get in touch.

## AUTUMN CALENDAR

**More information & reminders will be 'schooped' nearer the time  
(School ID = 10134)**

**New additions are added in red to help you spot them!**

<b>Fri 2nd Dec</b>	KS2 Dress Rehearsal
<b>Mon 5th Dec</b>	KS2 Christmas Play 6pm
<b>Tue 6th Dec</b> children)	KS2 Christmas Play 9.30am (being videoed - no pre-school
<b>Tue 6th Dec</b>	FP Dress Rehearsal pm
<b>Wed 7th Dec</b>	Rotary Shoeboxes being collected
<b>Wed 7th Dec</b> children)	FP Christmas Play 2pm (being videoed—no pre-school
<b>Wed 7th Dec</b>	KS2 Choir singing for Louger Care Home, 1.15pm
<b>Thu 8th Dec</b>	FP Christmas Play 9.30am
<b>Fri 9th Dec</b>	Pantomime Day (Christmas Carol) in school
<b>Sat 10th Dec</b>	PTA Christmas Fayre 12-2pm
<b>Mon 12th Dec</b>	Carol Concert at Shirenewton Church, 6pm
<b>Wed 14th Dec</b>	Christmas Dinner
<b>Thu 15th Dec</b>	Y2's nativity play at Itton Church, 2pm - parents & grandparents are welcome to join us
<b>Fri 16th Dec</b>	Last Day of Autumn Term
<b>Mon 19th Dec</b>	<b>Mon 2nd Jan</b> - Christmas Hols
<b>Tue 3rd Jan</b>	Back to School



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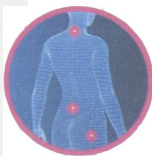
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***Saint Tewdric, Mathern*** Holy Eucharist: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays (9.00am)  
Morning Prayer: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (9.00am)  
Evening Prayer: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (6.00pm)  
Evening Prayer & Short Communion: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (6.00pm)  
*No evening service on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the month.*

***Saint Andoenus, Mounton*** Holy Eucharist: Every Sunday at 10.15am

***Saint Peter, St. Pierre*** Holy Eucharist (1662 rite): Every Sunday at 11.30am

***Saint Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton*** Holy Eucharist (Contemporary rite) at 10am  
Morning Prayer 10am (Once a month)

### **Combined Group Services:**

30<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2016 (SHIRENEWTON)

29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 (MOUNTON)

30<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017 (ST. PIERRE)

30<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017 (MATHERN)

29<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2017 (SHIRENEWTON)

31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2017 (MOUNTON)

**N B There will be no other Services on these days**

SEPARATE NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN OF ANY  
ADDITIONAL SERVICES OR VARIATIONS

## LOCAL CONTACTS

*If you know of any changes or omissions please contact the Editor Terry Walters  
Telephone 01291 641338 or email [terencewalters@hotmail.com](mailto:terencewalters@hotmail.com)*

### Church of St. Thomas à Becket Shirenewton

<b>Rector</b>	Revd. Julian White jel.white@btinternet.com	01291 622317
<b>Parish Priest</b>	Revd. Nansi Davies	01633 400519
<b>Lay Eucharistic Minister</b>	Gill Lambert	01291 641175
<b>Parish Visitor Co-ordinators</b>	Revd. Nansi Davies	01633 400519
	Sally Saysell	01291 641369
	Andrew Baker	01291 641925
<b>People's Warden</b>	Paul Morcombe	01291 641671
<b>PCC Secretaries</b>	Bill Clark	01291 641783
<b>PCC Treasurers</b>	Graham Lambert	01291 641175
<b>PCC Members</b>	Mark Broughton	01291 641797
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<b>Organists</b>	Karen Millar	01291 650521
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<b>Sunday Club</b>	Kerry Baker	01291 641925
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<b>Church Flowers</b>	Maureen Moody	01291 641524
<b>Parish Magazine Editor</b>	Terry Walters	01291 641338
<b>200 Club</b>	Graham Lambert	01291 641175

### Church of St Tewdrics's Mathern

**Secretary and Church Warden** Monnica Williams [monnica.williams@virgin.net](mailto:monnica.williams@virgin.net)

### MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

<b>Clerk to Community Council</b>	Hilary Counsell	01291 421307 <a href="mailto:shirenewtoncc@gmail.com">shirenewtoncc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Shirenewton Ward:</b>	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
	Mario Lenza	01291 641333
	Richard Kopp	01291 641581
	Beverley Moore	01291 641532
<b>Mynyddbach Ward</b>	Lynne Prosser	01291 641666
	Ian Moore	01291 650766
<b>Newchurch West</b>	Ian Martin	01291 650014
<b>Earlswood Ward</b>	Paul Harris Chair	01291 650871
	Ken Morton	01291 650268
<b>MCC for Shirenewton</b>	Graham Down	01291 621846 <a href="mailto:grahamdown@monmouthshire.gov.uk">grahamdown@monmouthshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Member of Parliament</b>	David Davies	020 7219 8360 <a href="mailto:daviesd@parliament.uk">daviesd@parliament.uk</a>



## **Police Neighbourhood Watch Contacts**

<b>Comm. Police Officer</b>	Louise Thorpe	01633 642068
	louise.thorpe@gwent.pnn.police.uk	
<b>Shirenewton &amp; Mynyddbach</b>	Beverley Moore	01291 641532

<b>Earlswood</b>	Sue Leat	01291 641207
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### **Other Local Organisations**

<b>Beavers</b>	Julie Hitchcock	01291 650548
<b>Brownies</b>	Bev. Leaf	01291 641680
	Jaci Crocombe	01291 641681

### **Church Fete**

<b>Earlswood Hope</b>	Mrs Sylvia Jeremiah, Mr Raymond Jeremiah	01291 641726
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### **Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall**

Glynis MacDonald	01291 641818
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com	

### **Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel**

Avril Smith	01291 650733
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### **Gaerllwyd Baptist**

Mrs E Remnant	Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA
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### **Girl Guides**

Helen Cann	01291 650835	cannahelen@gmail.com
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### **Recreation Association**

Gordon Hughes	01291 641356	gordon.hughes3@tesco.net
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### **Recreation Hall booking**

Beryl Saysell	01291 641637
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### **St Peters Church Newchurch**

Enid Heritage	01291 622708
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### **Shirenewton Local History Society**

Dorothy Brabon	01291 641376	brabonnl@hotmail.com
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### **Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Fields Association Ltd (SAMFAL)**

Neil Fuller	01291 641324
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### **Shirenewton & Mynyddbach Initiative for Local Enterprise (SMILE)**

Charles Eickhoff	01291 641716	eickhoff@shirenewton.org
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### **Caerwent Group Mothers Union**

Rosemary Carey	01291 425010	crcandkili@tiscali.co.uk
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### **Treasurer**

Auriol Horton	01291 641844	aur10l@btinternet.com
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### **Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS)**

Glynis MacDonald	01291 641818
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glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com	
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### **Shirenewton Play Group**

Beverly Lindsay	Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com
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### **Shirenewton Primary School**

Mrs Jill Mitchell, Associate Head Teacher	01291 641774
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email jillianmitchell@monmouthshire.gov.uk	
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Jayne Edwards	01291 641774
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jayneedwards@monmouthshire.gov.uk	
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### **Shirenewton Tennis Association**

P Brabon	01291 641376	brabonnl@hotmail.com
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### **Shirenewton Toddler Group**

Jude Langdon	07981 368213
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Paula Rimmer	rimmerpaula@mac.com
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Marion McAdam	01291 641316
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### **Fairtrade/Traidcraft**

Carole Jones (President)	01292 641791
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### **Womens Institute (WI)**

Jane Butterworth (Secretary)	01291 641704.
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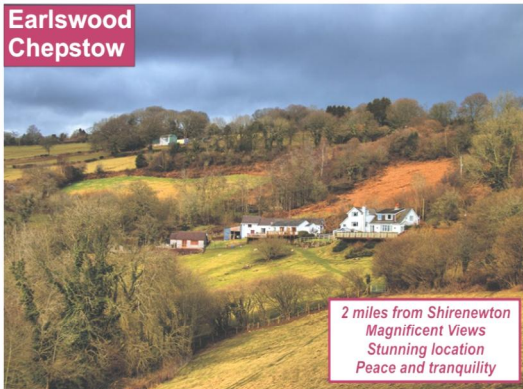
## DIARY DATES

Dec	Event	Location
3rd 7:00pm	ShireWinterFest	Huntsman Hotel
4th 11:00am	Advert Fair & Coffee morning	Saysell Rooms
5th 7:00pm	Community Council Meeting	Recreation Hall
5th 7:30pm	Christmas Carols and Home made Soup	Gaerllwyd Baptist Church
11th 3:00pm	Carol Service	Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel
11th 3:00pm	Chepstow Choral Society	St Mary's Priory Church Chepstow
12th 2:00pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Recreation Hall
13th 7:00am	Shirenewton Local History Society	Llanvaches Church
16th 6:30pm	Carols round the Christmas Tree	Tredegar Arms Car Park
17th 10:00am	Shirenewton Village Market	Recreation Hall
18th 10:00am	Christmas Praise Service	Shirenewton Church
24th 4:00pm	Carols & Christingles	Shirenewton Church
28th 7:30am	Shirenewton Local History Society Solstice Walk	Woodland Tavern
Jan	Event	Location
16th 2:00pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Recreation Hall
26, 27, 28th 7:00pm	SODS Pantomime "A Tale of 1001 Tights"	Earlswood Hall
30th 7:00pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Recreation Hall
Feb	Event	Location
6th 7:30pm	Community Council	Recreation Hall

**St Thomas a Beckett Church, Shirenewton**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday Service</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Sides Persons</b>
4th December	Second Sunday of Advent	Bob Grattan Bill Clarke	Bob Grattan Bill Clarke
11th December	Third Sunday of Advent	Mark Broughton Frances Gray	Mark Broughton Clare Lewis
18th December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sally Saysell Margaret Lock	Margaret Lock Graham Lambert
24th December	Christmas Eve 11.30 p.m Holy Eucharist	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
25th December	Christmas Day 10.00 a.m.	Family Service	Paul Morecombe
1st January	The circumcision of Jesus	Mark Broughton Cynthia Smith	Mark Broughton Cynthia Smith
8th January	The Baptism of Christ Epiphany 1	Bob Gratton Diane Marlow	Bob Gratton Diane Marlow
15th January	Epiphany 2	Paul Morecombe Jane Smith-Haddon	Clare Lewis Jane Smith-Haddon
22nd January	Epiphany 3	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
29th January	Group Service		
5th February	4th Sunday before Lent	Bob Gratton Sally Saysell	Bob Gratton Clare Lewis

**Earlswood  
Chepstow**



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## **SHIRENEWTON PARISH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL INFORMATION**

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The views expressed are those of the contributor.

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