



Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

April 2019

Price £1:20

## FROM THE VICARAGE

Julian E LI White

Dear People of the Parish,

It is with a heavy heart that I record the passing of a much-loved member of our Ministry Rota.

Revd. Don Woods was a regular officiant within our group of parishes and will long be remembered as being among the best of the 'old school' of clergy. He epitomized the sense of being a small part of something infinitely greater which was worthy of respect and dignity. His ministry was undertaken in a spirit of good humour and his warmth of personality struck a chord with many who knew him.

Don was native to the west of Wales and spent many years working in the steel industry. He commenced his ordained ministry in Caldicot before serving elsewhere in this Diocese. He was characterized by an open and friendly demeanor and appreciated the value of lightness of touch. The other year, at the close of Holy Eucharist, he (tongue in cheek) offered grateful thanks to the Almighty for a certain result in the Six Nations Rugby Championship which benefited the Welsh side.

In his time ministering within our grouped parish Don was valued for his openness and sincerity. At this difficult time we remember his wife Ann and their sons and to Don we say with both confidence and gratitude *Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your reward.*

The other day, Sandra and I visited a small village church. It was located off the beaten track in rural Pembrokeshire. It was also the middle of the week during February.

I approached the building with smugness as I was confident that 'our' churches back home could show this small congregation how a number of things should be done. I got my comeuppance even before I entered the building. Yes, that was the point – I expected to find it locked but the door was invitingly ajar.

I sulkily scanned the exterior hoping to find a peeling notice board proclaiming a long-dead Vicar as the incumbent and an incomprehensible time-table of service times which bore no relation to reality. Instead, I was met with a fresh and easy-to-understand poster conveying such relevant information.

Somewhat chastened, I made my way into the church to discover numerous printed guide leaflets indicating points of architectural interest (it was a foundation dating back a few centuries) and was delighted to find that they used a 'proper' service rite – i.e. the 'Green Book'.

It is true that the interior was a little flaky (not the Vicar, I hasten to add) but this could readily be forgiven as the church was undergoing some routine repairs. Why, they even had notice of a Faculty Application displayed to support this conclusion!

At length we departed. I found the experience in terms of accessibility, welcome and interpretation most agreeable. Congratulations to the unknown worshippers, friends and PCC for making this visit such an informative pleasure. They even boasted the effigy of an unknown knight and a smattering of ghostly anecdotes – what more could one ask of an ancient foundation!

I mention all this following my lament last month of the loss of churches through closure and faddish 'interpretation'. Yes, I am getting old but I am not ashamed to admit that I prefer my religious leanings catered for by historicity and a certain quirkiness in the language to be found enshrined in the liturgy.

With every good wish and blessing,

Julian E LI White

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARCH WINNERS OF THE 200 CLUB:**

- 1.Sue Williams
- 2.Lynne Prosser
- 3.Lilly Thorpe
- 4.Betty Bryant

Many thanks for your support.

## **ST PETER'S CHURCH, NEWCHURCH**

FORTHCOMING EVENT 15TH JUNE

CREAM TEA AFTERNOON 2 TO 4.

BOTTLE STALL, TOMBOLA, CAKES, RAFFLE, ETC .

# SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Extracts from the minutes of the March 2019 meeting

## **Co-opted vacancy on the Community Council**

There is a vacancy for a co-opted member to represent the Shirenewton ward. If you are interested in the community and would like to become involved with the Council, then please contact the Clerk (details below)

### **Planning application considered:**

DM/2019/00163 22 Clearview, Shirenewton  
Part two storey/part one storey rear extension.

Council noted that the proposed style was in keeping with the existing house. The proposed extension may result in the neighbouring properties rear gardens being overlooked to a greater extent. One of the two new upstairs rooms was to be a bathroom and should have obscured glass. The recommendation was for approval.

### **Monthly police report -**

22/2/19 – Report of a black Rapier diesel pressure washer taken from an outbuilding at a farm on the Cwm Mill to Shirenewton road. There was no exact date for when it went missing but sometime since early January when it was last used.

Recent reports of several shed/outbuilding breaks in the Chepstow villages/rural area targeting garden equipment, chainsaws.

Residents were reminded to remain vigilant and make sure all garden sheds/outbuildings have adequate security measures in place. Most people have garden equipment that cost hundreds if not thousands of pounds in their sheds/outbuildings so security measures should reflect that.

Calls to Brookacre - 1 call – 17/2/19, 1 call - 3/3/19.

A reminder to report any suspicious activity/crime at the time via either 101 or 999 if deemed an emergency.

### **Other items of interest**

**Annual Grant availability** – application forms are now available for local organisations to apply for grant aid from the Community Council's 2019/20 budget. The closing date for applications is 30 June 2019 with decisions being made at the Council meeting in July. Please contact the Clerk for an application form.

**Update on the Village Plan Survey** - Costs had been received from an external company for the survey to be delivered to every household and it was agreed by members that deliveries would be made by hand by Councillors and the Clerk to residents of Shirenewton and Mynyddbach, but be mailed to Earlswood and Newchurch residents. Deliveries to be made at the end of April with a return date of 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Returned forms to be left at Earlswood Hall, Shirenewton Recreation Hall or direct to the Clerk.

**Transfer of ownership of the SAMFAL fields** - Council was advised that at a recent SAMFAL committee meeting it was agreed to appoint a solicitor to look at the SAMFAL Articles, who will then arrange a meeting to discuss future arrangements.

A Community Council representative will be invited to attend the meeting.

**Recycling changes** - Some residents have experienced some collection issues on introduction of the new glass collections due to the changing of the waste/recycling rounds/days. The Head of Waste and Recycling has emailed community councils with a more detailed explanation. A list of frequently asked questions on waste and recycling can be found at the following link: <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-waste/march-on-for-recycling-changes-faqs/>

**Mounton House Special School** - Mounton Special School Pwllmeyric has a current consultation about the proposal to close the school which can be found at the following link with a closing date of the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2019: [https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/s19601/5a.%20ConsultationDocument\\_MountonHouse\\_FinalCabinet.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0HY-X6IEQ4TZNPnJF2LEY7msbPVWIcU2hh4PzVmfIBdjawiT3DOrHcaw](https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/documents/s19601/5a.%20ConsultationDocument_MountonHouse_FinalCabinet.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0HY-X6IEQ4TZNPnJF2LEY7msbPVWIcU2hh4PzVmfIBdjawiT3DOrHcaw)

**Dates of future meetings** – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May - **Annual General Meeting at 7.00pm, followed by the ordinary meeting at 7.30pm** at the Recreation Hall, Shirenewton. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak with the Council for the first 15 minutes of the ordinary meeting.

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

Dear Friends,

I expect many families are looking forward to the Easter Holidays and hoping for fair weather especially if not going abroad.

I am like many others am preparing for Easter Celebrations but before then we are moving through the season of Lent which will end on Palm Sunday (known in Wales as Sul y Blodau - Flower Sunday, 14 April) from that day onwards we are in Passiontide i.e. when we remember how Jesus Christ spent his last week before his crucifixion on Good Friday, the 19th April.

It is called Good Friday because Jesus died on that day for all of us so that we might have Eternal Life.

We will be remembering his suffering during the week known as Passiontide and on Good Friday afternoon we will be in Church with readings and hymns and some music so do come and join in from 2 o'clock for about an hour as we remember the crucifixion.

Of course our greatest celebrations will be on Easter Sunday the 21 April, as we thank God the Father for the gift of His Son Jesus and for the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. I am sure many of you will know or at least remember the glorious Easter Hymns so do come and celebrate with us.

In advance, I wish you a very happy and Blessed Easter.

Rev Nansi Davies  
Parish priest

## BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Shirenewton Bible Study Group is a friendly group who meet on one evening a month in the home of one of our very hospitable members to study the bible.

We focus to the readings from the lectionary for the Sunday preceding our meeting, so you can come along at any time, you won't have missed anything! Although many benefit from attending regularly, there is no obligation to do so and many members come when they can.

Meetings in 2019 are scheduled for the following dates:

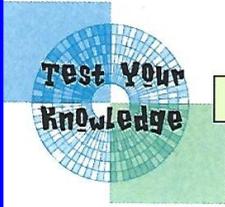
Thursday 25th April

Thursday 30th May

Thursday 31st October

Wednesday 27th November

If you would like to join the group or to be kept informed of the location of meetings, please ask to be added to our distribution group by contacting me via [lem.shirenewton@gmail.com](mailto:lem.shirenewton@gmail.com) or calling 01291 641175.



**QUIZ & BUFFET NIGHT**  
at  
**THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB**  
on  
**12th APRIL 2019 at 7:30pm**  
Quizmaster Hugh Buzza  
Tickets £7

**Life  
Changes**

**COFFEE  
MORNING**

At the Tredegar Arms Shirenewton  
1st FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH  
From 10 am to about 12.

# Services in Holy Week



## Palm Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> April)

Eucharist with distribution of palms

10 a.m.

Shirenewton Church



## Good Friday (19<sup>th</sup> April)

Walk on Gray Hill.

Back by popular demand, join us for a family walk in the Spring sunshine (we hope) with readings of the Passion.

We will then enjoy a homemade hot cross bun or two!



10 a.m. from reservoir car park

Children and dogs welcome

Email to register interest to [lem.shirenewton@gmail.com](mailto:lem.shirenewton@gmail.com) (and receive updates in case of bad weather)



**Good Friday  
Meditation**

Pause for reflection

2:30 p.m.

Shirenewton Church

## Rejoice! EASTER DAY (21st April)

Easter Communion

10 a.m.

Shirenewton Church

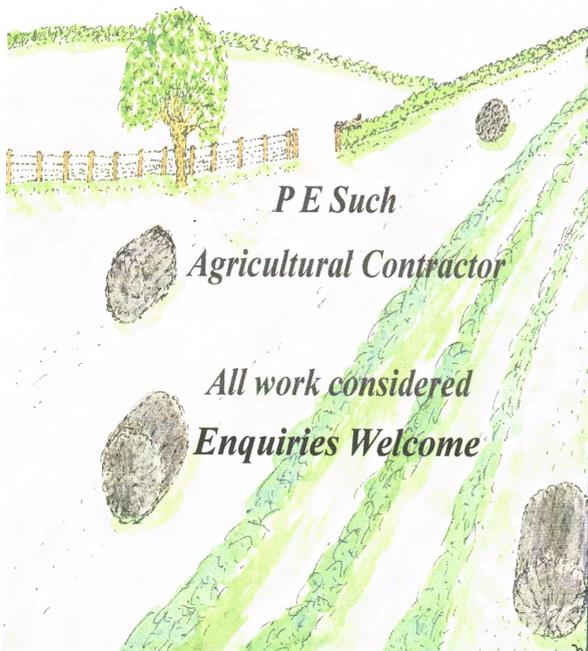


# S & R WHISTANCE LTD

## Haulage & Aggregates

- Decorative Stone
- Sand
- Aggregates
- Cement

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



*P E Such*

*Agricultural Contractor*

*All work considered*

*Enquiries Welcome*

#### AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Fencing
- Hedge Cutting
- Flail Topping
- Mowing
- Bailing
- Wrapping

*Tel: 07729 721090*

*e-mail:  
peteresuch@gmail.com*

## SHIRENEWTON WI

### HAPPY 67<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

We had a great turn out of members for our birthday celebratory meal on 14<sup>th</sup> March. The Recreation Hall had been transformed, with a beautifully presented table, thanks to our committee. We all enjoyed a delicious shared meal, followed by a 'light hearted' quiz which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 7.15p.m. at Shirenewton Recreation Hall when we look forward to welcoming a speaker from Newport Women's Aid. We are making a collection of toiletries for women and children to donate to this organisation. If anyone would like to contribute to this collection then please contact a W.I. member. Everyone is welcome at our meetings. For more details please contact Diane Ashton Smith (01291 628838) or Jane Butterworth (01291 641704).

Jackie Broughton





PUTTING THE CLIENT FIRST

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

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

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

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

The FCA do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning.

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

**Mobile: 07979 157259**

**Chepstow office: 01291 626373 | Abergavenny office: 01873 854488**

**E: [joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk](mailto:joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk) | [www.iamfinancial.net](http://www.iamfinancial.net)**

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



***Come and join us***

- *Do you want a new hobby?*
- *Do you want to have fun and enjoy a new challenge?*

*Why not join the band?*

*A lively group who meet on Friday evenings*

***SHIRENEWTON BELL RINGERS***

*A Great Hobby for all the family 10 – 50 yrs*

*New course of lessons starting April 2019*

Contact Pip Penney  
01291 650653 / 07714537314  
[pippenney@hotmail.com](mailto:pippenney@hotmail.com)

## FAIRTRADE NEWS



I should like to share with you some of the thoughts of the management of Traidcraft on its recent decision to radically reboot the company so that it can continue to trade and support poor producers. For a while it seemed that the whole enterprise would have to close.

'Are there any values that you are willing to fight for? Go to prison for? Die for? I suspect that most of you will be slightly taken aback by that question, if not somewhat embarrassed. Apart from the obvious, (Brexit) we are, by and large, a compromise seeking nation not prone to outbursts of civil disobedience. Getting passionate about something is, quite honestly, a bit juvenile and awkward for friends and family to deal with. It's certainly getting harder to be passionate about fair trade when even the most frequently boycotted and despised food multi-nationals have their token range of ethical products. And in any case, what really is fair trade nowadays? Ask 10 different people and you'll get 10 different answers. We found that there were 3 things we agreed on, which, given that there are 12 of us, came as a bit of a surprise.

Firstly we are actively, openly, noisily passionate about equality : gender, sex, religion, opportunity. When we promote fair trade we promote international co-operation and respect for each other. For us fair trade is about social justice.

Secondly we burn strongly for trade justice. 40 years of fair trade has done nothing to counter the incredible power imbalances in international trade. It's provided an alternative for a few lucky groups but world-wide its impact has been negligible. Thirdly we are increasingly concerned and worried about the killer effects that climate change is having on our trading partners. Here in the UK there is right now a group of climate scientists and academics who are utterly appalled at the science they are observing , compared with the lack of action being taken by the government.'

As you may already know Traidcraft has managed to keep afloat , in a much slimmed-down form, concentrating on its grocery items and it is working very hard to source new markets for the craft suppliers. Traidcraft suffered like all retailers and of course purchasing in US dollars meant post-referendum a 27% increase in the cost of goods.

As ever I would urge you all to make fairly traded products a regular part of your shopping. Ethical Superstore, Traidcraft, People Tree, Thought, are a few of the companies enabling us to consume ethically. Most of us are in a position to benefit poor producers. Choosing to buy goods from companies which do not exploit their suppliers can improve the lives of workers in ways which we, in the affluent west, can hardly imagine. I have a poster of a middle-aged cocoa producer who has just, with the dividend from Fairtrade, purchased her first bed.

Marion McAdam [msm316@gmail.com](mailto:msm316@gmail.com) 641316  
Oxfam now has a range of fairly traded goods.

# SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

**Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April**                      Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall,  
2.00 pm – 5.00pm

**Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> April**                      Visit to Holy Cross Church, Kilgwrrwg  
Meeting at the church at 2.30  
Talk & Tour, Naylor Firth

**Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April**                      Visit to the Caerwent Base  
Access to the Roman site,  
An over view of the military use of the base.  
We will need to know numbers before hand  
for security reasons.

Everyone welcome, checkout our website for contact details.

*Local Author*

## Tash McAdam - We Are The Catalyst

(The Psionics Series - Can be read as a standalone)



**Paperback:** 357 pages  
**Publisher:** NineStar Press  
**ISBN-13:** 978-1-950412-28-0  
**eBook:** Kindle, Kobo & Nook



**Author**

Tash was educated at Shirenewton & Chepstow Schools and worked as a waitress in The Carpenters' Arms, Tredegar Arms and as a Lifeguard at Chepstow & Caldicot Pools. Tash earned her first Karate Black Belt at Chepstow Leisure Centre. Tash graduated with first class honours in Computing & Design before obtaining a Cambridge TEFL Certificate and teaching ESL in the UK, South Korea, Chile & Canada. Tash has travelled widely volunteering at a Game Park in South Africa and travelling in Europe, Australia, NZ, USA, India and South America before settling in Vancouver, Canada and qualifying as a teacher at the University of British Columbia.

**Synopsis**

Kidnapped and imprisoned, telepathic children are forced to gather military intelligence. Repeatedly stripped of their memories, they live in ignorance of the world above. You can't tell anyone a secret if you don't remember it. It's not child abuse if no one knows you exist.

**Amazon Young Adult Dystopian Hot New Releases**

**Canada**            No. 2 Paperback  
**USA**                No. 28 Paperback & No. 77 Kindle  
**UK**                 No. 9 Kindle



# Spring Clean

EST. 1986

Proprietor:  
Alan Knight

Mob: 07786 364759

Tel: 01291 424399

[www.springcleanclean.co.uk](http://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

## **Shirenewton Babies and Toddler Group**

**Thursdays 1.30 – 3p.m. (term time only)**

**Shirenewton Recreation Hall**



**Great toys, good company – everyone welcome  
(please bring your Carers too!)  
Contact Jackie Broughton (01291 641797)  
for further**

## SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

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

With all the excitement around Brexit (will we, won't we – does anyone care anymore?) it's reassuring to find that there are other things on people's minds, at least according to Google. Google helpfully publishes the daily top searches here: <https://tinyurl.com/y6prohwe> (or just search Google Trends – noting that the website defaults to the



US stats and can be changed to the UK in the drop down at the top). On Thursday 21st March (i.e. yesterday for me writing this and the day of the EU summit which agreed to the an extension on the aforementioned topic which must not be discussed in polite company), the top search was not anything to do with said topic but was allegedly associated with 'Johann Sebastian Bach' which had 200,000+ searches. 'Theresa May' (with 100,000+ searches) came in 3rd behind 'Kazakhstan' which also had 200,000+ searches - apologies to my Scottish readers for mentioning a name you'd rather forget. Hint: it's not TM!

I know what you are thinking, 200,000 searches doesn't seem that much does it? It isn't! The previous day (Wednesday 20th March) the top search was about the Spring Equinox with over 2 million searches! The 'Brexit article 50 petition' came a poor second having to make do with a mere 1 million + searches!

Anyway my point is that real people are more interested in mundane stuff and Google trends is a very interesting reflection of what is exercising the minds of the UK populace at any given day or precise moment. Those of you who watch Celebrity Bake-off will be aware that a chap called 'Big Narstie' (No – I'm not kidding), dropped out after the technical and didn't turn up for the showstopper. It clearly didn't do him any harm in publicity terms as on the day following the broadcast he came 4th in the search hit parade with over 50,000 searches! Want to know what is going on right now? At this precise moment (2:11pm on Friday 22nd March) it makes me proud to be British knowing that there are more people searching for information about the new marmite peanut butter and Birmingham City FC and even Dewsbury Train Station than anything to do with 'the event which cannot be named'. The stats are quite fascinating if that sort of thing interests you.

The one thing which always is of interest is scammers. If you've ever taken a look at your spam folder in Gmail (or any other equivalent mail system) you'll be impressed how good the spam filters have become. However, not all scamming is done via email! In this respect I'd draw your attention to this article on The Register: <https://tinyurl.com/y3h64fgk>

It's a bit techie but the long and the short of it is that the co-Founder of an IT security company had a whinge about Virgin Media on twitter and then received a direct message (purportedly from Virgin Media customer support but not really) asking for personal details so that they could identify the account and help out! This security guru was actually impressed with this phishing attack pointing out that it "was a very good attempt". The summary is that the good guys caught the bad guys but only after a lot of techie effort and it goes to show how sophisticated the bad guys are these days!

So, you don't use Twitter and therefore think this doesn't apply to you. It does. The moral of the story applies to all social media. If you have a whinge about anything (a shop, a utility, etc.) on any social media, the same 'customer service' scam could apply. It's the same old story. They contact you, express concern, want to fix it but your account number is not good enough to identify you. They need the credit card details held on your account to 'verify' you. You have been warned!

Those of you who know me know one thing which irritates me more than anything is other idiots called David Cornwell who think they own my email address! Clearly, having the same name as me is no guarantee of intelligence as my namesakes sign me up to all sorts of crap. It's not actually using the email address I give out but a variant of it which, because it's a gmail address, resolves to me. Most of this is down to Google ignoring punctuation in its system. So, for example, 'fred.blodds@gmail.com', as far as Gmail is concerned, is the same as 'fredbloggs@gmail.com' which is the same as 'f.r.e.d.b.l.o.g.g.s@gmail.com'. I would stress that this is not true of other email systems. There are some other quirks with gmail which mean you can do some neat tricks.

If you have a gmail address and think a particular company is leaking your email address or you simply want to filter emails from separate sites, you can do it with this little trick: If you add, a '+' in your email address, gmail will ignore the + and anything after it. So, for example, 'fred.bloggs+brexit@gmail.com' will always send the email to 'fredbloggs@gmail.com' – remember all punctuation is ignored. I don't use it (but have tested it) and thought I'd pass it on as it's quite clever!

Don't forget to do your online shopping via the shopping portal:  
[www.shirenewtonshop.com](http://www.shirenewtonshop.com)

Safe browsing

drc  
Webmaster



# **SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE MARKET**

**EVERY THIRD SATURDAY OF THE  
MONTH FROM 10.30 -12.30**

**AT THE REC HALL.**

***YOUR MONTHLY ONE STOP SHOP FOR  
LOCALLY GROWN, PRODUCED AND  
HANDCRAFTED ITEMS.***

***ENJOY COFFEE AND CAKE IN THE  
CAFÉ.***

***JOIN US TO SHOP AND SOCIALISE!***



**SHIRENEWTON  
VILLAGE MARKET  
DATES FOR 2019  
OPENING HOURS  
10.30 – 12.30**

**20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019**

**18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019**

**15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019**

**20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019**

**AUGUST 2019 – NO MARKET**

**15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

**19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

**16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2019 –**

**CHRISTMAS MARKET**

**YOUR MONTHLY ONE STOP SHOP FOR  
LOCALLY GROWN, PRODUCED &  
HANDCRAFTED ITEMS.**

**ENJOY COFFEE & CAKE IN THE CAFÉ.**

**JOIN US AT THE REC HALL TO SHOP**

**AND SOCIALISE!**

## GARDENING CORNER

In case you are wondering, the woodpecker is still on Valium, as the sparrow hawk continues its regular attacks on the bird feeding station. They do appear less regular than previously, but no doubt the small birds population is being harried somewhere else. Either that, or it's the start of nesting time and the hawks are busy doing what they do. I've noticed the buzzards have been paired up for several weeks and that the rooks and ravens have started their regular harassment of the larger birds of prey should they fly anywhere near their nesting area. I've never understood why the buzzard puts up with endless hours of bullying, when I'm sure a quick act of retaliation would soon bring the matter to an end. Instead they spend hours ducking and diving to avoid being pecked, or sit on the top of a roadside telegraph pole, whilst the rooks and ravens sit on neighbouring poles, just waiting for the moment that the buzzard decides it's time to move again! Just for the bullying to start all over again.

Well the weather has certainly been up and down and I'm now very glad that I made the most of the early, unseasonably warm and dry weather to make a head start on the weeding and digging the raised vegetable beds and flower borders. The change to very strong winds and heavy rain soon brought an end to that, but at least I know that there are areas ready for the earliest crops. Like everyone else I expect, we had daffodil earlier than ever before – a good fortnight. Normally we are just lucky enough to have the first one's open for St David's day, whilst this year the very first to flower were already going over by then. Last year some of the flowers lasted a full six weeks, but the said wind and rain was determined that this wouldn't be repeated and most were lucky to survive longer than a week. Fortunately over the years we have added a number of different varieties to the flower beds, in order to ensure that they flower over a long period of time. So whilst some have already long finished, others have barely started to bud up.

During one brief break in the bad weather I did manage to plant out the elephant garlic and shallots, which I had brought on in the smaller tunnel in pots of compost. I've found that this is an easy way to cheat on the weather, and provided you don't hit a really nasty cold spot of weather as soon as you have planted them, they don't seem to bother and soon start to grow away. I now do the same with the potatoes, in that I plant each tuber into a two litre pot of compost and get them on growing much earlier than I would be able to in the garden. I'm sure this gives them a good head start. When it comes to planting out then, they already have good strong shoots pushing out of the pots, which are earthed up at planting to give them protection from late frosts. Sometimes it is necessary to cover the potato bed over with horticultural fleece to give them some extra protection but this doesn't take more than a few seconds, and the rewards are well worth it – lovely early new potatoes several weeks before you would normally harvest them.

Jobs in the garden are changing daily as I try to take advantage of whatever the weather is throwing at us. So continuing with digging and weeding if it is dry enough, doing 'maintenance' type jobs if it is dry but the soil is too wet to get on it, or hibernating in the tunnels or greenhouse if it is too wet for anything else. The smaller tunnel is full up with potted perennial flower plants at the moment. These came from dividing large clumps up at the end of last season and are destined for a couple of beds that need a more drastic clearing out. The large tunnel is having a bit of a make-over inside. All down one side used to be planted with strawberries, but the soil needs a change now as it's best not to leave the same crop in the ground for more than three or four years. In addition woodlice were becoming more and more of a problem, as they started to damage a large percentage of fruits. The next period of wet weather will see me retreating into the tunnel, when all of the strawberries will be dug up, the bed will then be weeded and a good layer of new, fresh soil and old manure will be added to the bed. A good amount of blood, fish and bonemeal will then be added to bolster the fertility and the bed will then be gradually planted with new crops, some of which are already getting established in pots in the large greenhouse. These will include early broccoli and cauliflowers, along with some quick maturing salad crops, such as lettuce and radish. The rest will then be planted with courgettes, melons, water melons and cucumbers, with the early crops then being replaced once they have finished with sweet and chilli peppers, hopefully ensuring we get two crops on some of the ground. The central beds have been taken up with some fan-trained apricot and nectarine trees. Unfortunately one of each has died over the last year or so and so these are being replaced. The two that remain are currently in full flower, so the tunnel doors have been left open in recent days to ensure the bumble bees can gain access to pollinate them. For some reason the honey bees never seem to find their way into the tunnel to help with this task, but it's amazing how just a couple of bumble's can do the job. The final two beds had their soil completely replaced last year and this now needs topping up with further fresh soil and old manure. Once this is done, they will be ready for this year's tomato crop. The seed was sown in the middle of February and once germinated the seedlings were replanted into small pots. The strongest are now about six inches high and will soon need moving into larger pots. They will probably be replanted another two or three times before eventually being re-potted into their final resting place – a 20 litre tree tub! As always I have grown several varieties, some for cooking and making into sauces and some for eating fresh, with salads or for grilling. This year I have decided to grow some black tomatoes, as they are meant to be healthier for you (more anti-oxidants whatever they are). They are also meant to be very tasty as well. I also have a special variety for the show bench, which were very expensive (compared to others), but which are looking very strong and healthy at the moment so fingers crossed. Unfortunately, the variety that we grow for sauces has completely failed which has meant I have had to buy a new packet of seed and start again. Fortunately there is still plenty of

time – provided that they decide to germinate this time! It hasn't just been the tomatoes that I have had problems with however. Despite soaking the sweet pea seed for 24 hours before sowing, a lot of these never saw the light of day and I am now on my third sowing. I've never bothered soaking the seed before, but this is the recommended process (or rubbing the seed with a bit of sandpaper) so thought I'd give it a go. I won't bother again, and the last seed to go into the propagator were simply pushed into the compost and then watered. It will be interesting to see if it is just the year or the method. Nature after all doesn't drown the seed for 24 hours, nor scuffs the coating with sandpaper, and yet they still grow ok! I've also had a few problems with some cabbages and cauliflowers – which are usually up and running in a few days after sowing, so maybe it is just the weather this year. One thing I've learnt with gardening over fifty years is that no two years are ever alike, and you just have to accept that something is bound to fail each year.

In the small greenhouse the propagating bench is currently full, with trays of seedlings regularly being removed and the plants potted on, only to be replaced by another tray with either vegetable or flower seeds ready for some gentle heat to encourage germination. The newly potted plants are generally left in the warmth of the small greenhouse for about a week, before they are then moved into the larger greenhouse to continue growing in cooler conditions. The only varieties that will be left in the warmer house will be the tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and melons, and these will need some gentle heat right up until the point that they are planted out into their final resting place. A simple sniff of a frosty night will set them back weeks, or might even kill them, so they will need some special treatment for many weeks to come.

The changing weather and work commitments have meant that I haven't been able to catch up with the bees since the unseasonably fine weather in February. Warnings have gone out to beekeepers to be wary of colonies starving, if the bees aren't able to get out foraging. Most of my hives seemed to have a reasonable supply of honey left, and those that were suspect were given some fondant icing to help them through. But it is currently too cold to open the hives up to check (although you can tilt them up to see how light they feel – which is a rough indication as to whether there is still a supply of food or not), so hopefully we will see a bit of sun soon to warm the air, rather than the continuing period of coldish (from the bees perspective) grey days.

Happy gardening until next month. *Steve and Felicity Hunt.*

## WORLD BOOK DAY



Fantastic costumes for World Book Day and everyone enjoyed reading stories in English and Welsh to their reading buddy.

## YEAR 6 CLIMBING WALL



Year 6 battled the wind and the rain to climb this beast when it arrived on the playground last week!

## WEST END IN SCHOOLS



We were joined by a theatre company called West End in Schools who worked with every class bringing books to life through dance. Foundation Phase classes danced to Oliver Jeffers' book "How to Catch a Star" and key stage 2 classes focused on the Michael Morpurgo book "Kensuke's Kingdom." A great time was had by all!

## EISTEDDFOD



We enjoyed celebrating the expressive arts during our Eisteddfod when our expert musicians, singers, poets and artists shared their talents. Not only do we have a strong wealth of talent in our school but the behaviour, sportsmanship and camaraderie throughout the morning was exemplary too!

The crowned Bard of the Eisteddfod was **Kate (Y6)** who had written a superb poem about Wales. The joint highest individual point scorers were Kate (Y6) and Lauren (Y4). The joint second highest scorers were Millie (Y3) and Eloise (Y5) with Charlotte (Y6) coming third.



## ESTYN INSPECTION

We enjoyed sharing the life and work of our school with Estyn Inspectors earlier this month. We are very pleased with all the lovely things they said and how they recognised all the hard work and commitment from all the staff, Co-Headteachers, children & the governors that makes the school what it is! We are looking forward to reading our inspection report which will be published on the Estyn website May 16th.

## *Nerys's Natty Nosh*



**Sticky toffee pudding is a British dessert consisting of a moist sponge cake, sometimes made with finely chopped dates or prunes, covered with toffee sauce.**



## *Sticky Toffee Pudding. Serves 2*

### **Ingredients**

50g butter, softened, plus extra for greasing

50g brown sugar

1 egg, beaten

100g self-raising flour

55g chopped dates (if dry soak in boiling water for ½ hour. Drain).

2 tablespoon milk

### ***For the sauce***

*75g brown sugar*

*125ml double cream*

*50g butter*

## **Method**

- 1** Grease a 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> pint pudding bowl and insert a round of greaseproof paper at the bottom of the bowl.
- 2** Cream the butter and sugar together in a bowl until light and fluffy, then beat in the egg a little at a time.
- 3** Fold in the sifted flour, then stir in the drained, chopped dates and enough of the milk to give the mixture a soft, dropping consistency.
- 4** Spoon the mixture into the prepared bowl. Cut a round of foil about 5 cm larger than the top of the bowl. Place on top of the pudding, secure tightly.
- 5** Put the bowl in a large saucepan with a trivet at the bottom. Pour enough boiling water around the bowl, to come two-thirds of the way up the sides.
- 6** Cover and simmer for 1-1 ½ hours until risen and springy when pressed. Check the water occasionally, topping up if necessary.
- 7** To make the sauce- put all the ingredients in a small saucepan and heat gently, stirring until combined. Simmer for 5 minutes, or until thickened.
- 8** Turn the pudding onto a plate and serve with the sauce, cream, crème fraiche or custard.

## **Did you know?**

Prunes, being the dried fruit of a plum, have extremely high levels of antioxidants. Eating just seven a day will give you all the antioxidants your body needs. According to research from the US, prunes can protect against premature skin aging thanks to the fact that they mop up more free radicals than any other fruit.

**Enjoy!**





# Shirefest

## 2019

***Shirefest music festival on Saturday  
15th July at Huntsman hotel  
16 bands throughout the day  
in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospital***



[www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk](http://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 / 07708092782**

**We are opening a new clinic in Tintern!  
Stepwise Podiatry, Main Road, Tintern, NP16 6SE  
Home Visits available for house bound patients only**

# HAVE A REAL CONVERSATION ABOUT YOUR HOME INSURANCE

Having a local office means we are accessible and on hand to understand your needs, because time spent on a real conversation allows us to appreciate the finer details.

Call 01633 413 571 or pop in  
NFU Mutual Newport,  
Wye House,  
Langstone Business Park,  
Newport  
NP18 2LH



Our Agents are appointed representatives of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society (Limited No. 119982). Registered in England. Registered Office: Tidlington Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 7B. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. A member of the Association of British Insurers. For security and training purposes, telephone calls may be recorded and monitored.

D99E39E3A

**ZUMBA<sup>®</sup>**  
with  
Shirley Ayres

**NEW CLASS starting 13th September 2018**

Thursday 10.00-11.00am  
St Arvans Memorial Hall, St Arvans,  
Chepstow  
£4.00

The fun way to exercise! Lose yourself  
in music, find yourself in shape!  
Contact Shirley on 07709909218 for  
more information.

ProactivityWeb.com

## To advertise in this magazine contact

Terry Walters: 01291 641338  
terencewalters@hotmail.com

### Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

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

**Advertising for Local and  
Charity organisations is free.**



*Is your wardrobe full of clothes, yet you feel you have nothing to wear?  
Does shopping leave you overwhelmed and stressed?  
Would you like to learn about your body shape and the best way to dress to flatter it?  
&  
Discover which colours will make you look healthier, happier and younger.*

**Brigitte Ward, Personal Stylist is here to help**

- ◇ Wardrobe De-Cluttering & Style Consultation
- ◇ Colour Analysis
- ◇ Personal Shopping

[www.brigittewardstyling.co.uk](http://www.brigittewardstyling.co.uk)

[brigitte@brigittewardstyling.co.uk](mailto:brigitte@brigittewardstyling.co.uk)

07836 534344



**HANNAH RICKARDS**  
GARDEN DESIGN

**FULL GARDEN DESIGN • CONSULTANCY  
PROFESSIONAL PLANTING PLANS  
PLANT SUPPLY AND PLANTING**

**07780 703533**

[hrgardendesigns@gmail.com](mailto:hrgardendesigns@gmail.com)

[www.hannahrickards.co.uk](http://www.hannahrickards.co.uk)

Pre-registered member of The Society of Garden Designers • Accredited Partner of Wildflower Turf

# Lougher Home Care Ltd

**A Local Company with Experienced Professional Carers**



Offering help in your own home with anything from shopping, personal hygiene needs to assistance with medication.

Our friendly, highly trained care staff can help you whilst:

***Maintaining dignity***

***Promoting independence***

***Valuing choice***

Phone: 01633 881 177

Email: [ino@lougherhomecare.co.uk](mailto:ino@lougherhomecare.co.uk)

On Call: 07989 745 458

[www.lougher-homecare.co.uk](http://www.lougher-homecare.co.uk)

Company Registration Number: 6494229

CSSAIW Registered Domiciliary Care

# Lougher Home Care Ltd

## Carers Wanted — Flexible Hours

**Lougher Home Care**

**are recruiting in the local area**

**Local Company**

**Good Rates of Pay**

**Previous experience is not essential**

**Own transport needed**

Lougher Home Care Ltd  
Flat 3, Bell House  
The Square  
Magor, NP26 3HY

Tel: 01633 881177

Email: [sadie@lougherhomecare.co.uk](mailto:sadie@lougherhomecare.co.uk)



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

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

*Fully Insured. Competitive Prices, Free Quotes*

**Contact: Daniel or Matthew Haines**

01633 400548, 07930 893680

07930 893678

## **Firewood for Sale**

**Barn Stored Seasoned**

**Logs for Sale**

**Contact Daniel or Matthew Haines**

**Tel. 01633 400548**

**07930 893680 or 07930 893678**

## STARGAZING IN MARCH 2019

In the evening the orange-coloured planet Mars is to the West close to the horizon. On the 9<sup>th</sup> Mars lies between the crescent Moon and the Pleiades star cluster.



At dawn, the very bright planet Jupiter can be seen in the south. To its left the planet Saturn lies near the horizon and has a slightly yellow colour. Between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> the Moon is close to Jupiter and Saturn.

The seven stars of the Plough constellation are directly overhead and Leo, the Lion can be seen to the South. Orion the Hunter is just above the Western horizon whilst W-shaped Cassiopeia is to the North-West. The Plough and Cassiopeia can always be seen at our latitude, but Leo and Orion are only above our horizon during the Winter months.

The second star from the left of the seven stars in the Plough is called Mizar. On closer inspection it can be seen to have a close companion called Alcor. Mizar and Alcor together are sometimes called the "Horse and Rider", and the ability to resolve the two stars with the naked eye is often quoted as a test of eyesight.

The two stars furthest from the handle of the Plough point to the North Star. The North Star or Polaris is approximately 400 light years away. This is a distance of approximately 2,000,000,000,000,000 miles! The light we now see from this star left the North Star 400 years ago.



SOFT FURNISHINGS • CURTAINS • ROMAN BLINDS • CUSHIONS  
PERSONALISED EMBROIDERED GIFTS • HAND PAINTED FURNITURE  
SEAT & FOOTSTOOL UPHOLSTRY • MEMORY BEARS



[www.nonnybeach.co.uk](http://www.nonnybeach.co.uk) • Tel: (03332) 001548 • Email: [sales@nonnybeach.co.uk](mailto:sales@nonnybeach.co.uk)

# PC REPAIR DIRECT

...We Come To You!

- Virus Removal
- Memory Upgrades
- Software Installation
- Wireless Network Setup
- Advice & Support

Freephone:

## 0800 22 480 25



James Bennett  
james@pcrepairdirect.co.uk

Professional - Convenient - Reliable

1A York Place, Newport  
NP20 4GB

## GRW Services



*WELDING, FABRICATION and REPAIR WORK*

On all Farm, Plant Machinery & Commercial Vehicles

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

**Full on site facilities and over 25 years experience**

**01291 650622 and 07899 081038**

**Graham Weavin**

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

# Richard Kopp

## PLUMBING & HEATING

**01291 641581**

**07780 703530**

richardkopp70@hotmail.co.uk

www.rk-plumbingandheating.co.uk

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



### LIFE SAVING DEFIBRILLATOR

999  
CPR  
AED  
CALL 999  
Steroplast  
Defib STORE  
MADE IN THE UK  
sales@steroplast.co.uk 0161 802 3030 www.steroplast.co.uk

### DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

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

Carpenters Arms (on the Usk road)

Huntsman Hotel (on the Usk road)

Tredegar Arms (Shirenewton village)



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

# IAN WATTS & SON LTD

Independent Family Funeral Directors

Serving Chepstow, Caldicot, Magor the Wye Valley

and the Forest of Dean. Est 1968



- ♦ 24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE
- ♦ FREE AND FRIENDLY ADVICE
- ♦ HELP WITH FUNERAL GRANTS
- ♦ PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST
- ♦ MONUMENT SERVICES
- ♦ PRE PAYMENT FUNERAL PLANS
- ♦ FREE HOME VISITS



- ♦ HIGHEST QUALITY SERVICES  
BUT NO UNNECESSARY EXPENSE
- ♦ FUNERAL SERVICES FOR EVERY REQUIREMENT

National Association  
**NAPFP**  
For Pre-Paid  
Funeral Plans

**FPA**  
FUNERAL  
PLANNING  
AUTHORITY



*Presented by Martin Watts & Jo Hume*



**Tel: 01291 420972**

**07947 847277 - 07977 092935**

[www.ianwattsandson.com](http://www.ianwattsandson.com) [joianwattsandson@gmail.com](mailto:joianwattsandson@gmail.com)

*"Respect and dignity are at the heart of everything we do"*

# B.L Reece & Sons

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



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

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

For a quote please call Jimmy >>

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

## To advertise in this magazine contact

Terry Walters: 01291 641338  
terencewalters@hotmail.com

### Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

12 months 10 issues

Full page £80

Half Page £40

Quarter Page £20

**Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.**

## LOCAL DIARY DATES

April	Event	Location
<b>1st</b> 7:00pm	Community Council Meeting	Recreation Hall
<b>3rd</b> 7:30pm	Earlwood Hall AGM	Earlwood Hall
<b>5th</b> 10:00am	Life Changes	Tredegar Arms
<b>8th</b> 2:00pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Recreation Hall
<b>11th</b> 7:15pm	Shirenewton WI	Recreation Hall
<b>12th</b> 7:30pm	Lifeboats quiz night and buffet	Chepstow Conservative Club
<b>14th</b> 10:00am	Palm Sunday	Shirenewton Church
<b>19th</b> 10:00am	Walk on Grey Hill	Reservoir Car Park
<b>20th</b> 10:00am	Village Market	Recreation Hall
<b>21st</b> 10:00am	Easter Day	Shirenewton Church
<b>28th</b> 2:30pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Visit to Holy Cross Church Lligwrrwg
<b>30th</b>	Shirenewton Local History Society	Visit to Caerwent Base and Roman Site
May	Event	Location
<b>3rd</b> 10:00am	Coffee Morning	Tredegar Arms
<b>13th</b> 7:00pm	Community Council AGM Meeting	Recreation Hall
<b>18th</b> 10:30am	Village Market	Recreation Hall

Readers and Sides Persons		April - June	
<b>St Thomas a Beckett Church, Shirenewton</b>			16th September 2018
Date	Sunday Service	Readers	Sides Persons
<b>7th April</b>	5th Sunday of Lent	James Loney Glynis MacDonald	Claire Lewis Graham Lambert
<b>14th April</b>	Palm Sunday	Aileen Dogget John Montague	Aileen Dogget John Montague
<b>21st April</b>	Easter Day	Andrew Baker Sally Saysell	Claire Lewis Graham Lambert
<b>28th April</b>	Second Sunday of Easter	Cynthia Smith Ruth Savagar	Cynthia Smith Claire Lewis
<b>5th May</b>	Third Sunday of Easter	Mark Broughton Glynis MacDonald	Mark Broughton Graham Lambert
<b>12th May</b>	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Aileen Doggett Paul Moercombe	Aileen Doggett Paul Moercombe
<b>19th May</b>	Fifth Sunday of Easter	James Loney Jane Smith-Haddon	Jane Smith-Haddon Claire Lewis
<b>26th May</b>	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
<b>2nd June</b>	Seventh Sunday of Easter	Frances Grey Paul Morcombe	Frances Grey Paul Morcombe
<b>9th June</b>	Pentecost	Mark Broughton Diane Marlow	Mark Broughton Diane Marlow
<b>16th June</b>	Trinity Sunday	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke
<b>23rd June</b>	First Sunday after Trinity	John Montague Jane Smith-Haddon	John Montague Jane Smith-Haddon
<b>30th June</b>	Second Sunday of Trinity	Group Service Mathern	In Mathern Church

## 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

Rector	Revd Julian White <a href="mailto:Jel.white@btinternet.com">Jel.white@btinternet.com</a>	01291 622317
Parish Priest	Revd Nansi Davies CBE	01633 400 519
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	01291 641 175
Parish Visitor Coordinators	Revd Nansi Davies CBE Diane Marlow	01633 400 519 01291 641 407
Church Wardens – Rector’s – People’s	Sally Saysell Andrew Baker	01291 641 369 01291 641 925
PCC Secretary	Bill Clark	01291 641 783
PCC Treasurer	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175
PCC Members	Aileen Doggett Charles Eickhoff Janet Horton James Leney Jane Smith-Haddon Frances Gray Paul Morcombe Kevin Bounds	01291 641 459 01291 641 716 01291 641 783 01291 641 271 01291 641 525 01291 622 465 01291 641 671 01291 641 818
Gift Aid Secretary	Ruth Savagar	01291 641 411
Organists	Karen Millar Ruth Savagar James Leney	01291 650 521 01291 641 411 01291 641 271
Sunday Club	Lynn Morcombe	01291 641 671
Tower Captain	Mike Penney	01291 650 653
Saysell Centre Booking	Glynis MacDonald	01291 641 818
Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
Church Flowers	Maureen Moody	01291 641 524
Parish Magazine Editor	Terry Walters	01291 641 338
200 Club	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175

### 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

**Community Council Clerk** Hilary Counsell 01291 421307 [shirenewtoncc@gmail.com](mailto:shirenewtoncc@gmail.com)

**Shirenewton Ward:** Bryn Price 01291 641217 [brynprice@gmail.com](mailto:brynprice@gmail.com)  
Michelle Davies 01291 641583 [michelledavies100@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:michelledavies100@yahoo.co.uk)  
Chair Ben Allen 01291 641150 [ben@greenpool.org.uk](mailto:ben@greenpool.org.uk)

Vacancy  
Philip Butterworth 01291 641704 [philip.butterworth2@gmail.com](mailto:philip.butterworth2@gmail.com)  
Dr James Grose 01291 641690 [j.grose@hotmail.com](mailto:j.grose@hotmail.com)  
Mrs Jane Smith-Haddon 01291 641525 [dolly.shirenewton@gmail.com](mailto:dolly.shirenewton@gmail.com)  
**Mynyddbach Ward** Louise Brown 07598979719 [louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk)  
Jayne McKenna 01291 691774, [jaynemckenna@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jaynemckenna@hotmail.co.uk).

**Newchurch West** Ian Martin 01291 650014 [longmeadow@outlook.com](mailto:longmeadow@outlook.com)  
**Earlswood Ward** Ken Morton 01291 650268 [ken.morton@hotmail.com](mailto:ken.morton@hotmail.com)  
Bryn Price 01291 641217 [brynpricecc@gmail.com](mailto:brynpricecc@gmail.com)

**MCC for Shirenewton** Louise Brown 07598 97971  
[louisebrownbrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:louisebrownbrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

**Member of Parliament** David Davies 020 7219 8360 [daviesd@parliament.uk](mailto:daviesd@parliament.uk)

## **Police Neighbourhood Watch Contacts**

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

## **Other Local Organisations**

**Beavers** Julie Hitchcock 01291 650548

**Church Fete**

**Earlswood Hope** Mrs Sylvia Jeremiah, Mr Raymond Jeremiah 01291 641726

**Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall**  
Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818  
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

**Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel**  
Avril Smith 01291 627677

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

**Ranger Guides** Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com

**Recreation Association** Gordon Hughes 01291 641356 gordon.hughes3@tesco.net

**Recreation Hall booking** Beryl Saysell 01291 641637

**St Peters Church Newchurch**  
Enid Heritage 01291 622708  
enidheritage@gmail.com

**Shirenewton Local History Society**  
Dorothy Brabon 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com

**Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Fields Association Ltd (SAMFAL)**  
Neil Fuller 01291 641324

**Shirenewton & Mynyddbach Initiative for Local Enterprise (SMILE)**  
Charles Eickhoff 01291 641716 eickhoff@shirenewton.org

**Caerwent Group Mothers Union**  
Rosemary Carey 01291 425010 crcandkili@tiscali.co.uk  
**Treasurer** Auriol Horton 01291 641844 aur10l@btinternet.com

**Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS)**  
Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818  
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

**Shirenewton Play Group** Beverly Lindsay Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com

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

**Shirenewton Tennis Association**  
P Brabon 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com

**Shirenewton Toddler Group** Jude Langdon 07981 368213  
Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com

**Fairtrade/Traidcraft** Marion McAdam 01291 641316

**Womens Institute (WI)** Diane Ashton Smith (President) 01291 628838  
Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 01291 641704.



## GREEN GRAFTER

TREE & GARDEN SERVICES

Est. 1999

Fully trained, Insured and NPTC Certified



- All aspects of Tree Surgery & Tree Felling Undertaken
- Hedge Trimming & Reductions
- Stump Grinding
- Grounds Maintenance & Mowing
- Lawn Mower Servicing

Call Steve to discuss your requirements on:

Tel: 01291 650628                      Mobile: 07815 791777  
Email: greengrafter@btinternet.com  
Web: www.greengrafter.com

## SHIRENEWTON PARISH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL INFORMATION

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

Editor: Terry Walters 01291 641338 email: terencewalters@hotmail.com

The cost of the Magazine is £1.20 per issue/10 issues for £12. Copies are delivered free by local distributors to those who have pre-paid. Monthly copies are available at the Church.

**To order your regular copy, contact Aileen Doggett 01291 641459**

### **Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations**

Full page 12 months 10 issues £80

Half Page 12 months 10 issues £40

Quarter Page 12 months 10 issues £20

**Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.**

Editorial policy is to print what you provide, space and technology permitting.

The views expressed are those of the contributor.

**Preferred Document format is an MS Word document attached to an email.**

**Preferred Advert and Photograph format is JPEG attached to an email**

**Deadline for May 2019 issue is 9:00 am 27th May 2019**