



Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

July / August 2019

*Shirenewton fete*

Price £1.20

## FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear People of the Parish,

Some parish magazines, at this time of year, take a break for the summer months.

Not us.

It is true that Sandra and I, wrapped in a tartan travel-rug and sipping from a Thermos flask of tepid tea whilst braving the elements at Bognor Regis for two days, decry the flippancy of such 'rest-breaks' and struggle manfully on with work whilst others indulge in a languid torpor. I shall say no more on this matter.

OK, I'll admit it – there is, in fact, little to report on as a considerable number of parishioners have been enticed abroad on annual vacation.

Some, mark you, have continued to reside at home whilst contending with indifferent health. It is good to report that Rick Hayes is recovering well from his indisposition and is doubtless grateful to be in receipt of the healing balm afforded by parish commitments.

As reported in a recent copy of this magazine, our Bishop is shortly to experience his farewell celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Abergavenny. The problem is that a number of people have no idea when it is to take place as the invitations (very posh, I may add) – limited on account of demand – lack this key information. I can confirm, however, that this is to take place in St. Mary's Priory Church on July 7th at 3.00pm.

I warmly thank, I am sure in the company of the PCC, Mark Marendaz for painstakingly (and not for the first time) ridding much of the church boundary wall of the trespass of damaging ivy. Not only have his efforts been Herculean but undertaken to an exceptional standard.

This, in turn, led to my wife directing waspish comments in my direction and – at length – to me undertaking to clear the roadside of the Vicarage boundary wall of ivy, brambles and an assortment of alien weeds. Not that anyone can spot the difference however. Next step in the project is addressing the growth lying on the Vicarage side (*'When's that likely to be – perhaps the same time as the tombs give up their dead?'* - interjects Sandra). As soon as the Japanese soldiers from WW2 occupying this part of the garden vacate the area then work will commence, I reply.

With wild cries of excitement, I fell upon the published account of the Church in Wales deliberations when it arrived in the post this morning. There was an insightful article on rural ministry and how important it was. A somewhat far cry from when I moved, some years ago, from urban to more pastoral ministry when colleagues stared in disbelief and demanded to know how I blotted my copy book to merit such cruel treatment. There was also an earnest treatise on overseas ministry which, again, took me back to my youth when another ordained colleague of mine dismissed all those involved in 'foreign' ministry as 'colonial retreats'.

Anyway, sincere good wishes for a relaxing and refreshing summer recess.

Julian E LI White  
(Rector & Vicar)

## 200 CLUB

### Congratulations to the recent winners in the 200 Club Draw.

#### **April:**

Johnsey  
Nansi Davies  
Gilly Lambert  
Graham Morgan

#### **May:**

Annabel Hancock  
Penny Owen  
Terry Walters  
Kevin Bounds

#### **June:**

Barbara Watson  
Julian White  
Caryl Wilson  
Cynthia Smith

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

It is planned for a

Cafe Style Service Sunday 21st July. 2.30.p.m.

Come and enjoy an informal service every 3rd alternate month.

### ***Shirefest***

Many thanks to all of the residents in our villages for their support and understanding ( regarding noise) ..

The event was a success although gate was down on last year and we expect to donate around £1k, we still have some pledges to be settled and also some generous offers of further post sponsorship .

If any resident wanted to make a donation even at this late stage please either go onto the Shirefest Facebook page, send a cheque to me payable to Shirefest or contact me for bank details .

Phil Moles Huntsman Hotel email: pmoles@aol.com

### **Coffee Morning**

Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel

On Saturday 27th July 10:30 - 12midday.

Brick a brack - Cake Stall - Raffle

Small items of contributions welcome

Come and enjoy a cupper and company

For further information contact Minetta Morris 01291 650688



## Shirenewton 800 Logo

A very well done to Bamy Garrett Lupo, Y6 at Shirenewton School, who has designed the logo that will be used for the community events to mark 800 years of the founding of Shirenewton's church. Well done also to the Runners-Up,

Maya Thomas Y3, Carter Sinclair Y6, Kate Bottomley Y5 and Anjali Y5.

The next Shirenewton 800 events will be announced over the coming couple of months – details to be provided through the Parish Mag, on the noticeboards and telegraph poles around the villages and on the Church Facebook page, Twitter feed and website.

If you have any ideas for community events or activities you'd like to share, please email [shirenewton800@gmail.com](mailto:shirenewton800@gmail.com)

Church Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1836956703295450/>

Church Twitter Feed <https://twitter.com/shirenewtonchur?lang=en>

Church website and shopping portal <http://shirenewtonchurch.info/>



*Shirenewton fete*



*Artful trio*



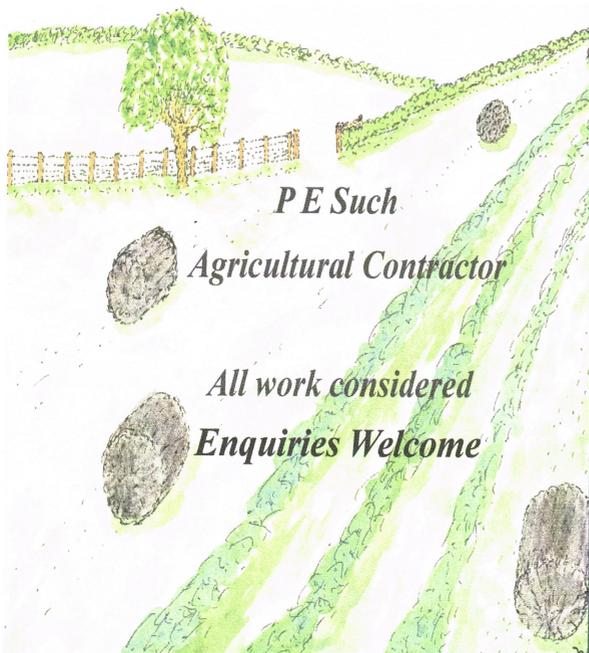
*Dave looking sheepish*

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## Songs of Praise for Shirenewton 800

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at 10:00**

Songs of Praise is back at Shirenewton church by popular demand on Sunday August 25th at 10:00 am.

As we are celebrating Shirenewton 800, the 800th anniversary of the founding of the church in the village, instead of asking every to nominate a favourite hymn as we usually do, we are taking a different approach. I have split the last 800 years into time periods, using major events either globally or in the history of the church itself. I have selected three hymns whose words were written during each period and you are asked to vote for your favourite of each trio. During the service we will reveal and sing the most popular hymn in each group plus we will reveal the milestones that defined the time periods!

I do hope that you will enjoy making a selection and whether you choose or not, come along and join in the singing!

You can select your favourite hymns using our online survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MC7WSKY>

or scanning the QR code below to take you to the survey on your mobile phone:



or if you prefer, tear out or copy the form on the reverse of this page, complete it and return it to the box in Shirenewton Church. *Don't forget to put a reminder of the date and time in your calendar before you do!*

Please respond to the survey by Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> to be sure of being counted!



## Songs of Praise for Shirenewton 800

Tick one choice for each period and return the form to the box in the church. You can make copies of the form if there are more than one of you sharing a magazine (or use our online survey). Numbers refer to the Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New, which we use in church.

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1220 to 1534:

- 6 All creatures of our God and King - St Francis of Assisi (1182 - 1226)
- 114 Come down, O love divine - Bianco di Siena (d 1434)
- 398 Light's abode, celestial Salem - Thomas a Kempis (1397 - 1471)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1534 to 1660:

- 5 Ah, holy Jesu, how hast thou offended - J Hearman (1585 -1647)
- 21 All people that on earth do dwell - William Kethe (d 1594)
- 629 Teach me, my God and King George Herbert (1593 - 1633)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1660 to 1746:

- 19 All my hope on God is founded - Joachim Neander (1650 - 1680)
- 58 Awake, my soul, and with the sun - Thomas Ken (1637 - 1711)
- 494 O God, our help in ages past - Isaac Watts (1674 - 1748)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1746 to 1815:

- 33 And did those feet (Jerusalem) - William Blake (1757 - 1827)
- 297 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds - John Newton (1725 - 1807)
- 343 Jesu, lover of my soul - Charles Wesley (1707 -1788)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1815 to 1853:

- 69 Be thou my guardian and my guide - Isaac Williams (1802 - 1865)
- 77 Blest are the pure in heart - J Keble (1792 - 1866)
- 379 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us - James Edmeston (1791 - 1867)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1853 to 1908:

- 144 Dear Lord and Father of mankind - John Whittier (1807 - 1892)
- 310 I heard the voice of Jesus say - Horatius Bonar (1808 - 1889)
- 695 To God be the glory! - Frances van Alstyne (1820-1915)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1908 to 1945:

- 249 Great is thy faithfulness - Thomas Chisholm © 1923
- 303 I cannot tell - William Fullerton (1857 - 1932)
- 413 Lord of all hopefulness - Jan Struther (1901 - 1953)

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1945 to 1974:

- 108 Colours of Day (Light up the fire) - Sue McClellan, John Paculaba and Keith Rycroft © 1974
- 437 Make me a channel of your peace - Sebastian Temple (1928 - 1997)
- 631 Tell out my soul - Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1962

Select your preferred hymn for the period 1974 to 2000:

- 176 Follow me - Martin Cockett © 1978
- 352 Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it - David Mansell © 1982
- 666 The Spirit lives to set us free (Walk in the light) - Damian Lundy © 1978

Select a final hymn of praise:

- 551 O worship the King - Robert Grant (1779 - 1838)
- 559 Praise and thanksgiving - Albert Bayly (1901 - 1984)
- 766 You shall go out with joy (The trees of the field) - Steffi Geiser Rubin and Stuart Dauermann ©1975

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**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)**

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Extracts from the minutes of the meeting held in June 2019

### Vacancies on the Community Council

There are two vacancies for members to represent the **Shirenewton** ward.  
One recently advertised by Mon CC and one co-opted vacancy.

If you are interested in the community and would like to join the Council, then please contact the Clerk (details below)

### Planning applications considered:

1. DM/2019/00548 Latimer Farm, Earlswood  
Extension to existing agricultural building. Change of use to equestrian centre for maximum of 16 horses with external menage.

Pencilled drawings on the Mon CC planning portal, noted 'Not to Scale' are not professional enough.

Latimer Farm sits on land between the Earlswood Road and the ridge road to the Gaerllwyd crossroads. Planning consent was granted in 2015 for the erection of an agricultural building used for storage of agricultural machinery, hay and straw subject to the condition that where the agricultural use of the building ceases within 10 years and planning permission has not been granted for an alternative use, the building shall be removed. It was to be 22.72m (long) x 10.6m (wide), and 3.65m height to eaves and 4.96 high to ridge, constructed with a steel frame having concrete blockwork to 2.43 m height and timber Yorkshire boarding up to the eaves height. The roof was to be box profile sheeting in Juniper Green and interspersed clear Perspex roof lights, and double door width openings to both the west and east. The original building was partly destroyed by storm damage earlier in 2015 meaning there was no agricultural building of this nature on site and was therefore considered acceptable.

The existing building is to be converted internally with the installation of 12 stable bays, and extended on the longer dimension by a further 5m which will add another 5 bays (17 bays, not 16 as requested on the application) plus a tack room. Therefore the existing agricultural use of the building will cease, with implications for the need for a future agricultural building.

The application is phased to include change of use to equestrian centre. No information is provided on the proposed business nor the extent of the site to which it would apply – the site drawing includes the whole of Latimer Farm which therefore has the potential to become a commercial equestrian enterprise. Whilst MCC Highways has not raised objection, Councillors were concerned at the limited existing access were a substantial business to emerge. It was noted that horses are already stationed on site as they are pegged out in squares with electric fencing in the field in front of the building. It is unclear from the application whether sufficient grazing land has been set aside for the number of horses proposed.

The proposed location of the manure heap lies close to two soakaways and the application does not address the onward dispersal of the manure nor its potential to contaminate water courses.

Councillors were aware of the planning history of a nearby racing stable, and of the growing trend for farmland to be converted to equestrian activities both private and commercial. Inevitably this trend if it continues will change the local landscape.

Council's recommendation was for refusal of the current application pending clarification of the following points, when members would be prepared to reconsider :

- What the business case is to support the application;
- How the manure heap is to be managed so as to prevent accumulation of material and contamination of the water courses;
- The extent of the site to which the change of use is intended to apply;
- Whether the land set aside for keeping the proposed number of horses is approved as sufficient by Mon CC's animal welfare officer
- Where it is proposed to store hay and machinery, as this is the present purpose of the existing building.
- Whether the Right of Way that passes through the property is affected.

2. DM/2019/00749 The Old Cock a Roosting, Earlswood  
Replacement and erection of boundary fencing along property border with highway. Post and Rail stock fencing for main garden. Cedar lap board fencing for 15 metres alongside side of house, average height 1350mm.

Councillors were aware of the existing fence on the road up the hill at this junction and the obstruction to visibility for vehicles emerging from the Earlswood Road. Also that planning consent is required for the erection of a boundary exceeding 1m height onto a road.

Councillors considered that in view of the road safety hazard the fence should be reduced to no more than 1m in height or by sensible agreement between the Highways Dept and applicant to reduce the hazard.  
Recommendation: Refusal because of the road safety hazard.

3. DM/2018/02028 Ty Cubby, Old School Hill, Mynyddbach  
Retrospective planning permission for wooden summer house with Perspex windows.

Ty Cubby is a semi-detached house the back of which faces across a field and the B road to Usk. The summerhouse was constructed last summer and is the subject of a retrospective planning application. It sits on a wooden deck with a small viewing platform for the vista across the valley. It does not appear to be compliant with any building insulation requirements and is described as a summer house. Councillors recalled this retrospective application coming before them in February 2019 when it was refused and felt that the same objections still applied.

Council recommended refusal of the application as the structure is not in keeping with the countryside. Although not situated on the horizon the building is on stilts and prominent in its position. Council recommended that it be reset into the bank and painted dark green to blend in and make it less intrusive.

*Continued on page 12*

*Continued from page 11*

### **Other items of interest**

Monthly police report - There was no police report this month nor representation at the meeting despite the Neighbourhood Team Sergeant at Caldicot assuring the Council that a report would be made. Liaison with the police team to continue, in an effort to improve the information and feedback received in the monthly reports.

Village Plan Survey - 118 survey forms had been returned so far (24%), using all methods of response – post boxes, via the website and by post to the Clerk. Cllr Butterworth gave an informative presentation on the analysis showing the trends that have emerged. Clerk to notify other local organisations that they can use the post box at the Recreation Hall. More information in the next issue .....

Community Litter Pick starting at Shirenewton Recreation Hall on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June from 6 – 7.30pm. The litter pick will be the first we have arranged and the more 'pickers' we have, the better. So please get involved and do your bit for the community. Bags, pickers, gloves and hi-viz jackets have been supplied by Keep Wales Tidy. From Councillor to Cubs, we'll all be there and hope to see you there.

Best Kept Village Competition – '**STOP PRESS**' the rules and judging criteria for the competition have been changed very late in the day giving only three weeks notice of the changes before the entry closing date of 21<sup>st</sup> June, so, after all these years, the Community Council has decided not to enter this year. New planters have been bought for the village and have been planted up, and hopefully will continue to be looked after by residents, as they have been in the past. There is no reason for the village not to look its usual best because of the lack of the competition. It is now called the 'Be Proud of Your Community Award' and involves organisations in the community working together. The Community Council will look at the details of the new competition and keep you informed of the requirements before next year's entry date.

Dates of future meetings –Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 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)

**Take a look at our new and improved 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)

Appearing at  
Earlswood and Newchurch West  
Memorial Hall



Saturday 13th July 2019

Doors open 7pm

Tickets £15—includes Hog Roast

Bar available

Apply at [info@earlnew.com](mailto:info@earlnew.com) or 01291 641 150

As numbers are required for catering purposes, tickets must be purchased beforehand



Shirenewton PTA is a registered charity that brings together parents, teachers and the local community to raise money and to support the school.

We are a voluntary organisation who work on behalf of the school in our spare time, organising and running fun events for you and your children to participate in. All for the shared cause of raising money for the local school.

## What we do

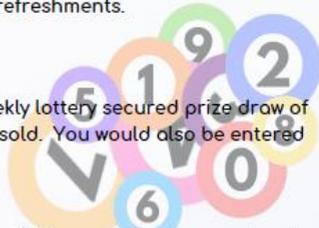
All the money raised through events like summer fayre's and disco's go straight back into the school. This goes to help pay for books, decoration, classroom facilities, playground equipment and much, much more. You will also find us at school/teacher run events like plays and sports days providing refreshments.

## School Lottery

With thanks to 'Your School Lottery' we run a weekly lottery secured prize draw of £11.10. This local fund will grow with more tickets sold. You would also be entered into the national prize draw for £25,000.

To join go to:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/shirenewton-primary-school>



## Events

Hog Roast with local band Stolen Aces and talent show - Friday 12th July from 6pm

Fashion Show - Friday 27th September

To order tickets for the Hog Roast and Fashion Show collect from the school or email us to arrange collection.

## Recycling Initiatives

### Rags-2-Riches clothes recycling.

3 times over the school year we collect any unwanted clothes and recycle them with the help of Rags-2-Riches. For this year we have raised £444.95 which goes to help your local school.

### Ink Cartridge recycling.

We recycle ink cartirges in order to help the enviornment and to raise additional money for the school. Email us to arrange drop off day and time for any ink cartridges you would like to recycle



@shirenewtonpta



Email: [shirenewtonpta@gmail.com](mailto:shirenewtonpta@gmail.com)

## ENTERPRISE PROJECTS

Junior classes have been busy working on their enterprise projects this term: Year 3 held a 'Wacky Welsh Warehouse' selling various welsh products; Year 4 performed a variety of songs, dances, instrumentals and poetry in their 'Eisteddfod Mai' complete with refreshments, welsh cakes, friendship bracelets, guess-the-name-of-the-dragon and a raffle; Year 5's 'Efaifi Mai Bach' involved an orienteering event, a car wash, selling refreshments and tie dye T-shirts & scarves. These were hugely successful events which the pupils organised all by themselves - proving what "enterprising creative contributors" they are!

## FOREST SCHOOL



Foundation Phase classes have enjoyed a series of Forest School sessions - they report that their favourite activities were making wood cookies, Gruffalo faces and of course toasting marshmallows on the camp fire!

## SPORTS DAY



We were blessed with very sunny weather for our Sports Day this year - both departments enjoyed a balance of competitive track races and fun field events. Usk were the winning house for Foundation Phase and Wye House were the victors for the Junior competitions. The sportsmanship and camaraderie was exemplary.

## COUNTY GOLFING CHAMPION

Huge congratulations to Sofia (Year 6) who won the Monmouthshire Lady County Golf Association Championships; here she is in the National Fairway Golfing News ...



## CHESS SUCCESSES



Massive congratulations to George (Year 4) for coming joint third in the U9s chess mega-final in Hereford recently and to Jack (Year 2) who came second in the U7s competition held in Cardiff - a fantastic achievement for both boys who now qualify for the giga-finals.

## ENDANGERED ANIMAL DAY

Our Pupil Leadership Team organised an endangered animal day where everyone dressed up as an endangered animal and the money raised is going towards adopting an elephant called "Stomp"!

## FAIRTRADE NEWS

### COFFEE and why Fairtrade should always be your first choice!



Coffee is the world's second most traded commodity in terms of monetary value. FT standards focus on coffee that comes from small farmer cooperatives only. Plantations are excluded – and for good reason : these are usually owned by, or contracted to, multinationals who may or may not be paying a living wage or a minimum wage, and who may or may not abide by local laws including workers' rights, the environment, non-discrimination, provision of adequate housing and medical facilities.

So, let's follow the path of a coffee bean that has been grown by a small farmer. In the non-Fairtrade universe, beans are typically first sold to a local trader – perhaps a richer neighbour, the local mayor who controls the village or to a 'coyote'. Coyotes are middle men given cash by larger trading companies to go and buy beans at the lowest price possible. The first buyer will sell on the beans to a consolidator, and this may happen 4 or 5 times before the product gets to a warehouse at the coast, usually now in the possession of an international trader. This gap between the price paid directly to the farmer (known as the ex-works or farm gate price – or EXW) and a container at the port (Free on Board – or FOB) is often significant. There is rarely a paper trail and the journey from land to port can traverse areas of lawlessness. The coffee industry has, in the past, been an ideal place to wash drugs money.

When Traidcraft buys coffee, the money goes directly to the farmers' cooperative, not to an intermediary. Brought together in a cooperative, there develops the ability for small farmers to trade directly, by-passing the 5 or 6 intermediaries. And if the buyer (like Traidcraft) pre-finances the coffee, then there is no need to borrow money, often at usurious rates. The development of cooperatives has been systematically opposed (often brutally) by – well – virtually everybody who had a hand in the lucrative and occasionally illicit trading of coffee. The fact of collective security and economic stability is often equally as important to the farmer as the fairer price he receives.

#### AND SO TO PRICES

Coffee is bought and sold in US\$ and by the US pound (weight) and is traded on the New York and London Stock Exchange. Currently the FT minimum price for Arabica washed coffee is \$1.60 (\$1.90 for organic) per US pound (\$1.40 for the product and 20c as a premium for the cooperative to invest). This money goes directly to the cooperative. If a company wishes to buy the same coffee, but under non-FT conditions it can go to the NY stock exchange and, taking April 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 as a random example, could buy it for £0.91, with the money going to a trader who has the product in his warehouse at the port. The proportion of this price that the farmer receives will be a great, great deal less.

This article is based on a recent Traidcraft bulletin – the next issue will deal with the story of the coffee in Europe which promises to be even more dramatic. (And this is without reminding you of the iniquities of Nestle!) So how can you choose NOT to buy FT coffee?!

Marion McAdam 641316 msm316@gmail.com



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

## **RUBY ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**

**Celebrating 40 Years of Choral Singing!**

**WEDNESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY, 2019, 7.00pm**  
**Arts Hall, Chepstow Leisure Centre**

**Graham Bull (Musical Director)**  
**Richard Kubiak (Accompanist /Piano)**  
**Marjorie Duerden (Piano)**  
**Special Guests – Chepstow School Students**

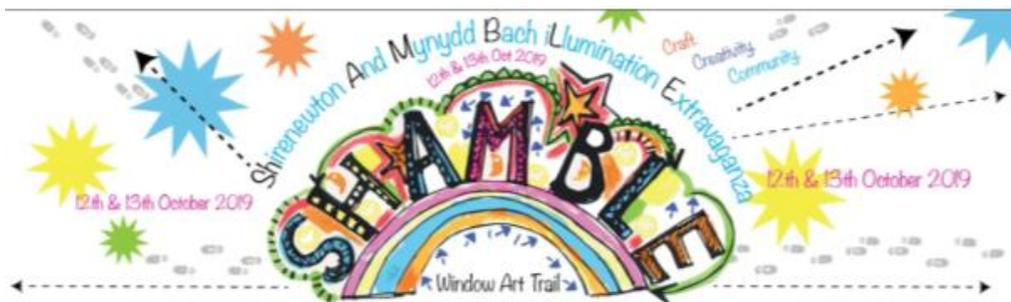
**Come and join with us in a Celebration Party –a cross-section of music from 1979 to 2019 – Vivaldi, Handel, Brahms, Folk Songs, Lloyd Webber Medley, part songs – long live Viva La Musica –and Thank You For The Music!!!!**

**Refreshments and Drinks included , displays to view –**

**Tickets (£10 per adult, U18s and students Free) available from Chepstow Bookshop, also tel. 01291 623310, 620414**

**Chepstow Choral Society originated initially via the Kingsmark Singers in 1979 when a group of eager and enthusiastic singers gathered together under the first conductor Anne Martin. Since then the Choir has evolved through several conductors, and became CCS when 3 local groups joined forces as one –and since 1990 the choir has gone from strength to strength, performing concerts with professional soloists and instrumentalists, including many of the great Choral Works, widening horizons as the times dictate and never losing the original aims –to make choral music enjoyable for our audiences, as well as being challenging to perform for our choir members – and to keep 4-part choral music ALIVE and WELL in our town and area –a not inconsiderable feat in these difficult times for small-town Choral Societies!!!**

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY ?**  
**COME ALONG IN SEPTEMBER! (tel 623310, Marjorie, for info)**



### ***Shirenewton and Mynydd Bach iLluminatiOn Extravaganza Returns***

Fantastic news—ShAMBLE is back! Last year we asked people in the village to decorate their windows over one weekend in October to turn the village into a spectacular outdoor gallery for everyone to enjoy, and you did not disappoint! To jog your memory, here are just a few of the amazing creations.



Better still, more than 200 people called in at the hall on the Saturday night to collect a map, have a drink and chat with their neighbours. So by popular demand, ShAMBLE is back for 2019!

Follow us on social media!

Instagram: [shirenewton\\_shamble](#)

Twitter:

@ShireShAMBLE

Facebook:

Shirenewton, Mynydd Bach and Earlswood Community Page



*"This is a FAB community event"*

*"great idea, lovely to see everyone out and about, meeting new people from the village"*

*"Great fun and community spirit - I loved it!"*



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

**20TH JULY 2019  
AUGUST 2019 – NO MARKET  
15TH SEPTEMBER 2019  
19TH OCTOBER 2019  
16TH NOVEMBER 2019  
21ST 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!**

## SHIRENEWTON W.I.

### SPINNING EVENING

Our May meeting was our A.G.M. where we were all delighted that Diane Ashton Smith, Gill Duckham and Jane Butterworth all agreed to remain as our President, Treasurer and Secretary. Sue Davies and Diane Ward have decided to step down as committee members and Diane Ashton Smith, on behalf of all of us, thanked them for their huge contribution to the organization of our W.I. events. Claire Lewis continues on the committee and Angela Gray and I have agreed to join.



We were all very sad to hear the news of Winnie Such's passing. Winnie was one of our longest serving W.I. members. We pass on our condolences to Winnie's family.

Following the business meeting, Diana Such gave us a very interesting talk and demonstration on spinning. Diana showed us some of the lovely items she has made from the wool she has spun herself. Her enthusiasm was infectious and we were all encouraged to 'have a go' at carding wool – which was not as easy as it looked!

Jackie Broughton

### Take Time to Smell the Roses

Horticulturist Alex Luker came to speak at our June meeting. Alex was Head Gardener at Dyffren Gardens and set up the Rose section at Chepstow Garden Centre. She shared with us some of her extensive knowledge of the different varieties of roses and her tips for planting, cultivating and dealing with 'pests' (we are talking roses!). One of her tips was to appreciate autumn roses that produce beautiful rose hips, adding colour in the late autumn when most of our gardens are not looking their best. Alex invited questions on any garden topics – it was great and just like having our own Gardeners' Question Time.



Our July meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> July at Shirenewton Recreation Hall at 7.15. The speaker is Jane Grayer – 'What is a Celebrant'. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Diane Ashton Smith (01291 628838) or Jane Butterworth (01291 641704) for further details.

## **SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1090167**

On Rogation Sunday we met at St Thomas a Becket Church to walk the parish bounds, the tradition known as Beating the Bounds. This year we were walking the north eastern side of the parish, down the Huntsman hill down to the brook, walk the brook until you arrive at Pant-y-Cosyn, straight up the hill to the Argoed and down to Red House lane and back to the Church for tea and cake and a deserved rest, in total about 6 miles, eleven stalwart walkers and one dog.

At our meeting in the Huntsman, we had a talk entitled 'the Gunter Mansion' given by Gill Wakely. The Mansion is situated in the High Street in Abergavenny and is undergoing restoration. Gill explained the long history of the house and the many artefacts found while undertaking the restoration.

This has been a busy month for the society. We visited the Caerwent Base on one wet Friday in June, and had a very interesting time. We had a talk by the M.O.D. archaeologist, who is based on Salisbury Plain, who explained the many interesting facts regarding the history of the base. The Commandant of the base gave an overview of the role of the base, in training the British Army, altogether a interesting morning out if a little wet.

In June we will be visiting the Veddw Garden by kind permission of Anne Wareham, with a talk on the 'Veddw' and then a stroll in the garden.  
Dates for your Diary:

Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July                      Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall,  
2.00 pm – 5.00pm

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July                      Meeting at the Huntsman, the  
speaker for the evening is David Priddis, and he will  
be giving a talk entitled 'The Chepstow Dambuster'

Everyone welcome, checkout our website for contact details.



## THE EAGLE HAS LANDED.

Tracey and I had a wonderful adventure we for my special birthday it was decided that we would both find ourselves hurtling down the zip wire at Snowdonia.

The teams there, like here are very professional, and you felt safe in their hands. The surprise came for my wife when they said we were going down two zip wires, the small and then the longer one, the larger one is total length is 1555 metres.

The blondin wire felt strong and safe and was adjustable to cover the weight of the person. There are four wires on each zip run allowing four people to travel down at any one time.

It was like being at work, where we were being inducted by trained people. During the induction they said had to weigh us, but when they weighed us they would hold the GDPR regulations and not share the information with the other people in our party, but I was so impressed with

When the teams were placing the harness on us and then the double checker came along and tested the harness everyone in our groups appeared to feel safe and at ease.

Genesis 43:9 says, *I myself will guarantee his safety; you can hold me personally responsible for him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him here before you, I will bear the blame before you all my life.* And this is how I felt the teams were during the times our equipment was being check, firstly when we were being kitted out and then before each zip experience.

The experience of travelling down the zip wire, hearing and feeling the wind whistling as you progress downwards, as well as taking in all the views beneath you is something to write home about.

We enjoyed a further three days in Snowdonia taking in the splendour of God's creation, as well as investigating some of the museums showing how human's have utilised and used some of the many earthly gifts from God, such as slate mining to the uses given of the finished products.

We also took in various waterfalls and of course travelled to the top of Snowdon. I now feel refreshed and look forward to the coming year, after reaching my milestone. Since then I have undergone an operation, and I must thank you all for your kind messages and prayers, they have helped give me strength.

I thought I would be back to work at Tata Steel four or five days after the operation, but it is taking much longer than I thought to get back on track and I am still off work at the time of writing.

Lastly, I would like to warn everyone to be careful. I have just received a call on my mobile supposedly from Revenue and Customs warning me that I am about to be prosecuted for fraud and to discuss with a member of the team I needed to press '1' on my phone. If not, a letter will be issued to continue with my prosecution. I didn't press '1' and I am now waiting for the letter. Please don't get taking in these bogus calls, I have also passed the details onto the Police.

Take care and be safe.  
Rick Hayes

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for further**

## GARDENING CORNER

Well this year isn't turning out to be one of the most successful on record for gardening. With the various warm spells early on in the year and then a dry spell to allow budding gardeners to get on and work the soil, all looked set fair. But as usual the weather had other ideas and it wasn't until I sat down to write this, has the a high pressure arrived and the rain has at last stopped. Don't get me wrong, the rain was welcome as things were starting to get very dry throughout the garden here. I was transplanting flower plants into their final home, and in many places the soil was no more than dust. It's just that you can have too much of a good thing, and up until now we had received way too much rain. I just couldn't get on with anything that I wanted to outside, and some crops have suffered as a result. Worst affected have been the strawberries. Most of these are now grown outside, but, despite putting straw down, probably 50% of the fruit has rotted where it lay, and another 40% has been eaten by every bug or beast known to man. Chief culprit has been the blasted squirrels. Despite trying to control numbers during the winter I went to try and pick strawberries the other day to find three either sitting on, or stuffing their faces inside the cages. They had bitten their way through the nylon netting or shoved underneath, despite the pegs holding the netting down. Needless to say that war has now been declared. I don't mind sharing the odd bit of produce with a blackbird but not with a squirrel. Unfortunately no one else is probably controlling their numbers around us, and with the mild winter, numbers have gone through the roof this year. Little more than rats, the damage they can do is immense. Fortunately we haven't had one in the roof of the house yet, and I hope we never do. I know some people that have, and the damage can run into thousands of pounds.

The incessant rain has also taken its toll on the newly planted roses, as the growth supporting the flowers has not been that strong, and so many of the blooms have ended up either on the ground or rotting as the buds failed to develop any further. Hopefully it will dry up enough to be able to access the rose bed shortly so I can deadhead any faded blooms and all those that have rotted. All of the roses that we have bought over the last 18 months have all been David Austin's 'English' roses. Apart from many have lovely rose scents, they have the benefit of being repeat flowering throughout the summer – provided that you remove the old flowers – so this job is a 'must do'. As well as the new rose bed, I intend to plant some in the other, mixed herbaceous borders as well. This time of year it is a case of keeping an eye out for any promising looking blooms whilst on a nursery or garden centre foray, or visiting a garden. Rose 'Darcy Bussell' is one I've noted down for the future. Named after the famous ballerina, it is a deep plumy red colour and has a lovely delicate scent. To accompany this one I've got another variety Rosa 'Munstead wood' which is definitely on the list for future purchase. We had bought one on a recent trip to our favourite little garden centre in Ross on Wye. It had come highly recommended, and now it is in flower I can see why. It is a deep plumy purple, with multi-layered flowers and a beautiful 'old rose' scent, so has everything going for it. Planted as a group, this would make a fantastic statement, so the one on its own just isn't going to make the mark. The roses themselves aren't cheap, but when you understand the time taken to create and then select out a new variety that is worthy of being planted in the garden (an average of ten years), you can see why they cost so much.

I suppose every cloud has a silver lining though, and if nothing else, the rain has meant that everything I've planted has established well, without the need for continuous watering. So far the vegetable beds have been doing well and we have already picked large volumes of broccoli and have frozen most as 'ready meals' for the future. As usual, despite sowing some at least a month later, they have all come in to harvest at the same time and so some have simply ended up on the compost heap. The cleared ground has been replanted with broccoli again. This isn't something I normally do as this can lead to diseases establishing – especially club root. Unfortunately I had no real choice this time as I had run out of available ground. Hopefully there won't be a problem as the variety I have planted is meant to be club root resistant and the soil was fresh in the bed last year, so hopefully there hasn't been time for pests and diseases to get established as yet. We have also been busy digging the first early potatoes in the large greenhouse. These are beautiful to eat when they first come in. Crops aren't large, but they are far better than anything that you can buy in the shops – at least until the first earlies arrive from Pembrokeshire. Accompanied by the first sweet baby carrots and the broccoli, they definitely take some beating, and it is then that all of the hard work can truly be appreciated. From garden to plate in under 30 minutes and a total travel distance of about 50 metres and no pesticides– nothing can compare!

Talking of no pests, the new large metal framed cloches, covered in insect proof netting are already proving their worth. The only real threat at the moment, are slugs, which I do have to control, and possibly mice. Touch wood, the cabbages and cauliflowers, as well as the carrots and other root crops that are currently sitting under the covers are looking extremely well.

This year has been very hit and miss when it comes to sowing seeds however as I may have mentioned before. Some initial sowings have been complete failures, and I have had to buy and start a number of crops off again for second time. The tomatoes we grow for making sauces 'super mamma' germinated second time round and have recently been planted out into their final pots. Currently they are looking well, which is more than can be said for some of the earlier sowings, of salad tomatoes. I'm actually wondering whether I sow these far too early as they seem to suffer from the extremes of heat which can be as high as 90 degrees in the tunnel on a sunny day and a minus temperature at night, with the plants requiring protection from the cold. The latest sowing look really well, and are starting to catch up with the others to some extent. The trouble is they will never catch up completely as tomatoes all have a set number of days that they need before producing the first valuable tomato ready to eat. Most of the ones I grow take about 77 days to produce the first ripe fruit, so start too late and the summer might almost be over!! We grow all of our salad crops inside one of the two tunnels that we have. They always seem to do well, especially the leaf salads that we grow in large 'gro-bags'. This way of growing also means that slugs and snails do not become too big a pest – there is nothing worse than holey lettuce leaves on the plate! The grey, wet weather has impacted on the peppers and cucumbers and growth has been slow. It has also meant that I haven't been able to spend much time with the bees either, so they have been left completely to their own devices for the last three weeks or so. Hopefully they will be ok, although some areas have reported that hives have been starving as the worker bees have not been able to get out and forage for food. We try to grow as many bee friendly plants as we possibly can and on the better days I've noticed that the 'poached egg' plants and thymes have been absolutely covered with bees, so hopefully they have found enough food to keep them going.

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

## CHANGE OF MAGAZINE EDITOR

10 years and 100 magazine ago I took over production of the Shirenewton Parish Magazine from Bob O'Keefe. On the opposite page you can see the front cover from that month. In those days the magazine was photocopied and as a result the quality was not particularly good and photographs did not produce at all well. In recent years several developments leading up to the latest full Colour Laser Printing have greatly increased print quality and kept down the cost. Full colour photographs, and advertisement are common place resulting in a completely different look.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the people who have contributed or advertised in the magazine over the years, some even before my day and they are still contributing. A special thanks to Barbara Walters for painstakingly proof reading 100 magazines before they went to print. Without all these people and companies the Parish Magazine would not be possible.

William (Bill) Clark will be taking over as Magazine Editor from the September issue. Bill will send out a reminder before his deadline of 26<sup>th</sup> August, please send all contributions to [parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com](mailto:parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com).

Terry Walters

## Is this your cat?

We live in the village and have two cats. For quite a few months we've had a cat hanging around our house, getting into our utility room and eating our cats food if the door is accidentally left open, crying very loudly and now fighting with our own cats in their own garden!

It doesn't look as if it's stray as it is quite chunky but it is always here and if no-one comes forward I would rather the Cats Protection take it in so it can be properly cared for. I realise you can't stop cats from coming into your garden, it just seems this one is always hanging around and I wouldn't mind if it's being cared for and given vaccinations etc...

I've got a photo which I've attached and will wait to hear back from you. Not sure if you can use this one?



Kind regards

Alison Carter  
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September 2009

# **THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET SHIRENEWTON**



**Parishes of Shirenewton and Newchurch  
Magazine**

# ***Nerys's Natty Nosh***

## *Crayfish*

Crayfish are freshwater crustaceans. They can be bought fresh or as prepared tails in the freezer or chilled cabinets. They are bright pink, sweet flavoured and make a good substitute for prawns in recipes.



They are much lower in sodium and cholesterol than prawns. Like most shellfish they contain an excellent range of minerals, Vitamin B, Vitamin E, Selenium, Magnesium, potassium, Zinc and Calcium. They are a good source of antioxidants which are linked with protecting the heart.

## *Crayfish in Creamy*

## *Tomato Sauce Serves 4*

### **Ingredients**

15g (½ oz.) unsalted butter  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
2 shallots, finely chopped  
4 tomatoes peeled and chopped  
2 tablespoons tomato puree  
Pinch of dried oregano  
450g (1 lb cooked crayfish tails)  
3 tablespoons single cream or Soya cream  
Seasoning

### **Method**

**1** Melt the butter and oil in a frying pan.  
**2** Add the shallots and cook over a **low heat**, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes, until soft.

## *Bombay Potatoes Serves 4*

This dish can be served as a tapas accompanied by Crayfish in Creamy Tomato Sauce and a host of delicious smaller plate dishes.

### ***Ingredients***

- 2 large baking potatoes cut into wedges.
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 large onion sliced
- 1 tablespoon medium curry powder
- 400g tin chopped tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons mango chutney

### ***Method***

- 1** Place the potato wedges in a saucepan and cover with cold water.
- 2** Bring to the boil and simmer for 10 -15 minutes until tender. Drain.
- 3** Heat the oil in a frying pan and fry the onions for 3 minutes.
- 4** Add the curry powder and fry for a further 2 minutes
- 5** Stir in the chopped tomatoes, mango chutney and potatoes and cook for 2-3 minutes. Serve with fish or chicken dishes with a green leaf salad and fresh bread.

**Enjoy!**

**Weather permitting why not eat Al Fresco**



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## STARGAZING IN JULY/AUGUST 2019

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



The bright planet Jupiter lies to the south in July and moves to the south-west in August. Saturn with a slightly yellow hue and less bright can be seen to the left of Jupiter. The nearly Full Moon is close to Jupiter on 13<sup>th</sup> July and joins Saturn on 15<sup>th</sup> July when it is Full. In August the Moon is near Jupiter on the 9<sup>th</sup> and close to Saturn on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

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

Fifty years ago, on July 20, 1969, the Apollo 11 Lunar Lander descended to the surface of the Moon and Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon.



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## LOCAL DIARY DATES

July	Event	Location
1st 7pm	Community Council Meeting	Recreation Hall
3rd 7pm	Chepstow Choral Society Ruby Anniversary Concert	Chepstow Leisure Centre
6th 10am	Coffee Morning	Tredegar Arms
10th 2pm	Shirenewton Local History Society	Recreation Hall
13th 7pm	SOUL'D OUT	Earlwood Hall
20th	Village Market	Recreation Hall
21st 2:30pm	Café Style Service	St. Peters Church Newchurch
27th 10:30	Coffee Morning	Earlwood Valley Methodist Chapel
30th	<b>Shirenewton Local History Society</b>	<b>Huntsman Hotel</b>
August	Event	Location
2nd 10am	Coffee Morning	Tredegar Arms
5th	Community Council Meeting	Recreation Hall



Readers and Sides Persons		July to September	
St Thomas a Beckett Church, Shirenewton			
Date	Sunday Service	Readers	Sides Persons
7th July	Third Sunday after Trinity	Mark Broughton Glynis MacDonald	Mark Broughton Claire Lewis
14th July	Fourth Sunday after Trinity	John Montague Paul Morcombe	Claire Lewis Paul Morcombe
21st July	Fifth Sunday after Trinity	James Leney Jane Smith-Haddon	Jane Smith-Haddon
28th July	Sixth Sunday after Trinity	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
4th August	Seventh Sunday after Trinity	Margaret Sturke Chris Sturke	Margaret Sturke Chris Sturke
11th August	Eighth Sunday after Trinity	John Montague Francis Grey	Claire Lewis Francis Grey
18th August	Ninth Sunday after trinity	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
25th August	Tenth Sunday after Trinity	Aileen Doggett Cynthia Smith	Aileen Doggett Cynthia Smith
1st September	Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	Margaret Sturke Chris Sturke	Margaret Sturke Chris Sturke
8th September	Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	Mark Broughton Diane Marlow	Mark Broughton Diane Marlow
15th September	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	James Leney Glynis MacDonald	Claire Lewis
22nd September	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	Aileen Doggett Ruth Savagar	Aileen Doggett
29th September	Michael and all Angels	John Montague Andrew Baker	John Montague Claire Lewis

## LOCAL CONTACTS

*If you know of any changes or omissions please contact the Editor Terry Walters  
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Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	01291 641 175
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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
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Safeguarding Officer	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
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### Church of St Tewdrics’s Mathern

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## **Other Local Organisations**

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