



Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

October 2019



The project work on the Church has begun! - see more inside

Price £1:20

FROM THE VICARAGE

Julian E LI White

Dear People of the Parish,

It is with deep sadness that I confirm the news which most of you have received by now. Revd. Richard (Rick) Hayes died at home on September 19th surrounded by his family. It was a privilege to bring him house communion during his confinement and to administer Last Rites at the close of his earthly passage. I was profoundly touched when, during his final communion, he insisted on reading aloud, faintly but with unequivocal confidence, the words of the appointed Gospel. It contained the phrase *'Be doers of the word, and not hearers only'* and this was most appropriate to Rick.

Rick was a 'hands on' Christian and would have little truck with religious jargon and clerical preening. Of prime importance to him was bringing the Gospel to where people were. We stipendiary clergy often think that it is enough to greet people at a given church, or in our homes, in order to debate spirituality. Rick was prepared to go further. No matter where people worked, he was willing to bring the gospel to them. Irrespective of what they believed (if anything) Rick was prepared to enter into conversation with them and to advance the Christian view point. In his secular employment with Tata, Rick also served as Chaplain and, in so doing, straddled the divide between secular and spiritual. For many years Rick had served as Diocesan Evangelist, and he used this experience to bridge the gap in an increasingly un-churched society.

Sandra and I had known Rick for many years during which he grappled with a number of obstacles placed on the path of what he knew to be a calling to ordained ministry. His unquenchable spirit, at length, led to his Priesting on June 24th 2017. He was appointed to serve in this group of parishes where he won the hearts and respect of many.

Rick had a number of gifts which enhanced his ministry. Many of you will recall his humour, his kindness, suspicion of 'management' (both in the work-place and among his clerical colleagues!) and significant personal faith. He reached out and influenced the lives of many.

In all of the above (and in many other respects as well) we must pay fulsome tribute to his wife, Tracy. She, and their children, fully supported Rick every step of the way of his spiritual quest and their support should not be underestimated.

The funeral (a Requiem Mass) is scheduled to be held in Mathern Church on October 8th at 10.00am. This will be followed by cremation at Langstone Vale Crematorium at 12.30pm.

To Rick, I commend him with a heartfelt 'thank you' for ministry and friendship. He is worthy of the epithet *'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord.'*

May the souls of the righteous rest in peace and rise in glory.

HOPE CHAPEL, EARLSWOOD

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday, 2nd November 2019
10.30am - 1.30pm

Christmas gifts, wrapping & delights, mammoth raffle, tombola and cake stall.

Entry adults £1.00

Free tea, coffee and biscuits.

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO CHAPEL EQUIPMENT



The New Bishop of Monmouth—The Venerable Cherry Vann
The Archdeacon of Rochdale was elected as the next Bishop of Monmouth on Thursday 19th September. The Venerable Cherry Vann secured the necessary two-thirds majority vote from members of the Electoral College on the last day of its meeting at Newport Cathedral. The announcement was made by the Archbishop of Wales, John Davies, President of the Electoral College.

He said, "I am looking forward enormously to working Cherry. She has a huge amount that she will be able to contribute to the life, not only to the Diocese of Monmouth, but also to the Church in Wales. One area I know is very close to her heart is the church's ministry in post-industrial areas where community life, and church life in particular perhaps, has suffered enormously. The diocese, a little while ago, appointed a new archdeacon with responsibility for those areas, but having a bishop with great experience of them will be a huge morale boost for them."

Bishop Elect Vann said the challenges facing churches in south-east Wales were the same as those in the north-west of England. She said, "The towns around Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale and Ashton are significantly challenged, both economically and in terms of church life. We've done some statistics, and a very, very small percentage of the population are going to our churches. This is something that we have been working hard to address

in the Manchester area and I look forward to bringing some of the wisdom and knowledge I've gained from there to Newport and the Diocese of Monmouth.

"It struck me when I read the diocesan profile how similar Monmouth Diocese is to Manchester, on a smaller scale, but the challenges are the same, the demographics are the same and it's really good to be here to lead the people of Newport in the next challenges that lie ahead."

Originally from Leicestershire, Bishop Elect Vann has served as Archdeacon of Rochdale, in the Diocese of Manchester, for the past 11 years. She trained for ministry at Westcott House, Cambridge, and was ordained as a deacon in 1989. Among the first women to be ordained as a priest in the Church of England in 1994, she has spent her entire ministry so far in the Diocese of Manchester, in Flixton, Bolton and Farnworth. She is also an honorary canon of Manchester Cathedral and a former chaplain to deaf people.

Ms Vann holds senior posts in the governance of the Church of England. She has been Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Convocation of York since 2013 and is an ex-officio member of the Archbishops' Council.

A talented pianist, Ms Vann is both an Associate of the Royal College of Music (ARCM) and a Graduate of the Royal Schools of Music. She conducts the Bolton Chamber Orchestra.

Ms Vann will be the Bishop Elect until the appointment is formally confirmed by the Archbishop at a Sacred Synod service. She will be then be consecrated as bishop at Brecon Cathedral – the seat of the current Archbishop – and enthroned as the 11th Bishop of Monmouth at Newport Cathedral.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SEPTEMBER WINNERS OF THE 200 CLUB:

1. Aileen Doggett
2. Megan Barr
3. Jenny Millar
4. Penny Francis



Update on repair works at the Church



There is some very necessary repair work happening at the church between now and about the middle of November. This is to try and reduce the level of damp inside the building, particularly on the west wall, and put in a new electrical supply and improve access, heating and lighting - as far as we can.

As well as using the funds that have been raised over the last couple of years for such an eventuality, we have been able to secure a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and one from Garfield Weston Foundation to help with the cost. But as is always the case, the actual cost of the work exceeds the budget available, so we may have to make some difficult choices about what to prioritise.



Volunteer labour is an important element of the project and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who might be able to spare an hour every now and again to help with particular tasks.



The next significant one is digging a trench about 50 cm deep across part of the churchyard for the new electrical supply. This will be done under the supervision of an archaeologist and will happen on 11th Oct from about 8.30am onwards. If you could spare an hour to come and dig it would be very much appreciated.

Charles Eickhoff eickhoff@btopenworld.com or Janet Horton (641783) would be pleased to hear from you.



CAST ADRIFT THEATRE

Present a medical comedy by **PETER HORSLER**



Cabaret style: bring your own drinks and nibbles

TICKETS £10, call

Carole Jethwa 01291 431929

Karen Millar 01291 650521

St Arvans Memorial Hall: Friday 18th October 7:30

Portskewett Church Hall: Saturday 19th October 7:30

info@castadrift.org.uk

Shirenewton Community Council

Extracts from the minutes of the September 2019 meeting

Vacancies on the Community Council

There are two co-opted vacancies for members to represent the Shirenewton ward.

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

Planning applications considered:

DM/2018/02087 Green Acres, Usk Road, Mynyddbach New annexe with replacement garage and all associated works.

Council noted Green Acres comprised a detached house in substantial grounds, sitting below the B4235 at Mynyddbach. It had a basic constructed double garage joined at right angles to the main house on its front left hand side. It comprised kitchen, lounge, dining room and study plus downstairs loo, and 5 bedrooms upstairs. The proposal was to convert (ie. rebuild) the existing single-storey garaging into a two-storey extension of the house. There was to be a new single-storey double garage.

The new extension was shown as a separate building linked by an enclosed single storey entrance. The new building provided an office, snug and 2 bedrooms. Members were concerned that In a nutshell this is a self-contained house capable of independent living.

Measurements were not provided on the scale drawings but initially the new building appeared to increase the residential floor area (excluding the existing garage footprint) by around 50%, although this was later revised to 16%.

Council recommended refusal pending further clarification of several unclear points from the Planning Officer.

DM/2019/01198 Hilltop, Earlswood Road, Earlswood Conversion of existing stable/storage building to form garden store and home gym, enclosure and elevation of existing canopy to house hot-tub.

Council noted the following:

Hilltop is a detached house with a large garden. There is an existing stable block, end on to and within 5m of the Earlswood Road. It comprises some 5 stable bays plus store, though the applicant's labelling appears to show all of the bays are now

Take a look at our new and improved website
www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk

including a hot-tub and barbeque.

The application is to convert to form a garden store, home gym and entertainment area comprising a hot-tub and bbq. The existing building/covered area is some 20m x 5.3 with a ridge height around 3m. It is unclear whether the new building will be an entirely new structure or a modified version of the existing stable but the ridge height is significantly higher at some 5m and the walls are considerably thicker. The new building is to be equipped with a shower/toilet, lounge area, an entrance area and gym, and garden store /plant room. The roof will be slate, exterior finish cedar or larch cladding and grey joinery. No details are given of the utility supply routes or foul and surface water drainage.

The application does not disclose whether horses are still kept at Hilltop and Councillors were concerned at the apparent lack of alternative stabling. Councillors were also concerned that as the stable block comprises a separate building it might form the basis of a residential annex or separate dwelling.

Council recommended refusal of the application for the following reasons:

- a) the application wrongly stated that the proposal was not visible from the highway,
- b) the plan provided is inaccurate as it does not show the existing garage and gym,
- c) there are no notices locally to advise of the application,
- d) there are no ecological reports.

Other items of interest

Monthly police report - CSO A Jones attended the September meeting.

16/8/19 – Report of a 4x4 vehicle off-roading in Wentwood Forest near Pen-y-cae-mawr. Details of the vehicle passed to NRW.

25/8/19 – Report of a substantial amount of black bags containing the remnants of a cannabis cultivation dumped in a layby on the outskirts of Earlswood towards Pen-y-cae-mawr/Wentwood. The council/NRW informed to remove.

26/8/19 – Report of off-road bikes in the Pen-y-cae-mawr area into Wentwood. Observations were made in the area but no bikes were seen at that time.

29/8/19 – Report from the fire service that a small refuse fire near the Wentwood Forest Centre had occurred. Plastics had been burnt at the site. No other details known.

There had been no calls to Brookacre recently.

High visibility police patrols had been carried out on the B4235 Usk Road on the last two Sundays (25th August and 1st September) with no offences seen or calls reported.

Village Plan Survey – you will have received a copy of the Survey results with this issue of the Parish Magazine. For anyone that did not have them, copies are

also available on the Council website, with paper copies in the telephone kiosk, noticeboards, church and by e-mail from the Clerk. Councillors will be attending the October and December Village Markets to be available to discuss the survey results with interested residents.

Following the survey results the Council is developing a five year plan 2019 – 2024 which will be included in the November issue of this magazine.

Many thanks to the Magazine deliverers for agreeing to also distribute the survey results.

Highways meeting – the Community Council has requested a site visit at Shirenewton with Highways Officers to reconsider longstanding highways issues – enforcement of speed limits on the B4235, white lining in Shirenewton centre, compulsory 20 mph speed restrictions through the village and through Mynyddbach, contradictory 20/30 mph signage, community speedwatch. These are all issues raised from the recent survey.

Refurbishment of play area – Quote requested from Mon CC to refurbish the playhouse/slide as a replacement item is a very similar design (costing £4,000 - £5,500), if all board walls were replaced with polyethylene sheets, this would remove the need for total replacement. Cost of replacement walls/floors = £810 + vat (plus painting of metal parts). Council resolved to accept the quote to refurbish the playhouse.

Future Coffee Mornings – Council agreed to attend the 19th October and 21st December Village Markets (subject to permission) to engage with residents and encourage them to discuss the results of the community survey.

Dates of future meetings – Monday 7th October and Monday 4th November at 7.00pm 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 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

Take a look at our new and improved website
www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Contact the Clerk to the Community Council - Mrs Hilary Counsell
Tel: 01291 421307 **E-mail: Shirenewtoncc@gmail.com**



PUTTING THE CLIENT FIRST

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Should we try to set up a Rainbow Unit
to meet in Shirenewton?
Meeting day and time to be decided

For ages **5 to 7**, a chance to **have fun**,
make new **friends** and be part of
something **amazing**

Joining Rainbows gives girls the chance try
new things and have adventures!

If interested, please call Amanda
on 07988 597655

Brownies Have Fun!



Should we try to set up a Brownie Pack
to meet in Shirenewton?
Meeting day & time to be decided

For ages **7 to 10**, a chance to **have fun**,
make new **friends** and be part of
something **amazing**

Joining Brownies gives girls the chance try
new things and have adventures!

If you are interested, please call Amanda
on 07988 597655

Life

Changes

COFFEE MORNING

At the Tredegar Arms Shirenewton

1st FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

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 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 or calling 01291 641175.



It's Panto Time again. Oh, yes it is.

So what's the panto going to be this year? Well this is a big dark secret, so fee fie foe fum, you'll have to come along to find out. Also if you want to take part, let me know soonest, and I can email you the script as my printer isn't working. Yet again. If treading the boards isn't your thing but you'd like to be involved please let me know! We would be delighted to welcome new people for the refreshments, costumes props, publicity oh! the list is endless. Also could you let me know if you know of any Child Actors who would like to appear on stage. Glynis on 641 818 glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

The Huntsman Hotel

We will be holding our “Winterfest” music festival in aid of “Shirefest” Noah’s Ark Children’s Hospital fundraising group on Saturday 30th November 2019. 8 pm till 11.30 pm. £8 per ticket including buffet.

BRING AND SHARE

The PCC is bringing back the popular Bring and Share evenings in the Saysell Centre from November this year (with a break in December for Christmas festivities and another break in January for the Pantomime). We have lined up an exciting programme of speakers including:

Friday 8th November 2019 – Andrew Baker will talk about his time in Nigeria as an army doctor

December 2019 – break for Christmas – see Christmas activities elsewhere in this magazine

January 2020 – break for the Shirenewton Pantomime – book your tickets! – see advertisement in this magazine

Friday 21st February 2020 – John Burrows will talk about Chepstow’s six Grade One listed structures with special emphasis on the Castle and our Grand Knight William Marshall. He will be giving a similar talk to the Shirenewton Local History Society in October.

Friday tbc March 2020 – tba

Friday 17th April – Mary Watkins will talk about her experiences in Rwanda developing rugby whilst working at a teacher training college, supporting women’s cooperatives, helping young women set up in business, founding a nursery school and supporting former students, and training Rwandan volunteers and teachers.



Sunday 13th
October
Family Service
10.00 a.m.
Shirenewton

Village Harvest Lunch

12.30 for 1.00 Earlswood Hall

Bring your family and friends for a sociable community lunch followed by a fun charity auction of harvest offerings. Drinks at the bar.

Tickets: £5.00 adults
£2.00 children under 12
from:
Jane Eickhoff eickhoffjane@gmail.com

FARLSWOOD & NEWCHURCH

WEST MEMORIAL HALL

BARN DANCE

*featuring live music
and calling by Life of Riley*

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

TICKETS £12

INCLUDING HOG ROAST DINNER

(Vegetarian option available)

Tickets from: info@earlnew.com

or 01291 641150

Tickets need to be purchased before for catering purposes.





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 fairs and discos 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 , boys and sports days providing refreshments.

How we have done.

Over the course of the school year we have raised £32,297.87 from events we have run. This has allowed us to help the school get equipment and learning resources for the school to the value of £2,694.62. Thank you to everyone who has helped. If you support your community School PTA, we can help provide more to the school in this financial year. Keep an eye out for photos of what we have done and support our events.

Events

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 14th December 11am till 2pm

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 cartridges in order to help the environment 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

Nerys's Natty Nosh

My daughter had some outside left-over green tomatoes in her garden, and I had some beautifully sweet red apples in our garden. I combined both and made a delicious chutney ready for Christmas.

Green Tomato Chutney

Makes about 3 kg.

Ingredients

- 2½ kg green tomatoes
- 500g onions
- 1 rounded tablespoon salt
- 500g apples
- 500g light muscovado sugar
- 1.14 litre jar spiced pickling vinegar
- 1 tablespoon curry powder
- 1 teaspoon ginger
- 2 handfuls of sultanas



Method

- 1 Slice the tomatoes, finely chop the onions. Layer both in a large bowl with the salt. **Leave overnight.**
- 2 Following day, chop the sultanas.
- 3 Peel. Core and chop the apples.
- 4 Put the vinegar and sugar into a large pan and bring to the boil.
- 5 Add the sultanas and apples and simmer for 10 minutes.
- 7 Strain the tomatoes and onions in a colander, don't rinse. Add to the pan.
- 8 Add the curry powder and ginger.
- 9 Simmer gently for about an hour, stirring occasionally until the mixture has thickened.
- 10 Cool slightly.
- 11 Transfer into warmed jars and cover with lids.

Tip.

Kilner jars are perfect. Wash the jars in hot water and leave to dry. When dry place the jars in the oven at 160C, Gas 4 for 10 minutes.

Uses for chutney

Place a tablespoon of chutney with casserole ingredients to help tenderise the meat and enhance the flavour.

Eat with any kind of cold meat and salads.

Serve alongside a cheese platter.

Mix with sausage meat when making sausage rolls

Mix with minced beef when making, chillies or meat loaf.

Have with sandwiches.

Serve with grilled sausages.

Serve with pate and bread.

Serve with beef burgers.

Enjoy!



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Quarter Page £20

Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.



**Shirenewton and Mynydd Bach iLlumination Extravaganza Returns
12th and 13th October 2019**

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!

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 21st September, 2-4pm — community crafting session at the rec hall

Saturday 5th October, 2-4pm— community crafting session at the rec hall

Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th October, 6-8.30pm —ShAMBLE window art trail all around the village, with a party at the rec hall on Saturday 12th.

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!



As last year, there will be an *optional* theme to provide a little bit of inspiration. As you may know, this year is the 800th anniversary of the founding of the church in Shirenewton and to celebrate the extraordinary amount of time that the church has been part of the community, so:

the theme for ShAMBLE 2019 is 'Time'

CRAFT ~ CREATIVITY ~ COMMUNITY

The 'Extravaganza' is a great opportunity for the community to come together and the best thing is that you don't need to be an artist to get involved - all you need is a window and a willingness to join in! It's free to take part in and free to walk around.

To make it a success again we need lots of people to join in—even more than last year. You can do whatever you want, from a candle in the window, to a

band in your living room or a cut out silhouette, simple to spectacular- it's completely up to you, anything goes!

"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!"

Here's what to do if you'd like to get involved:

If you'd like to decorate your windows, that's brilliant. So that we can include you on the map, **please follow this link and complete the very simple form:** www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk

If you'd like to decorate a window, but where you live isn't suitable that's fine too. Perhaps you'd like to make a display in one of the public windows in the village? Or help someone who'd like to take part but might struggle to do the decorating themselves. We'd love to hear from you too; you can still contact us through the link above or email us shirenewtonshamble@gmail.com

This year will also see the return of the successful community crafting sessions in September and October where there will be free materials to use, some crafty inspiration and a chance to meet others who are creating displays. Get all the latest updates at shirenewtonshamble2019.blogspot.com or follow us on social media. AND there will be a supply of free craft materials for you to use stored at the church.



Follow us online!



Instagram: shirenewton_shamble



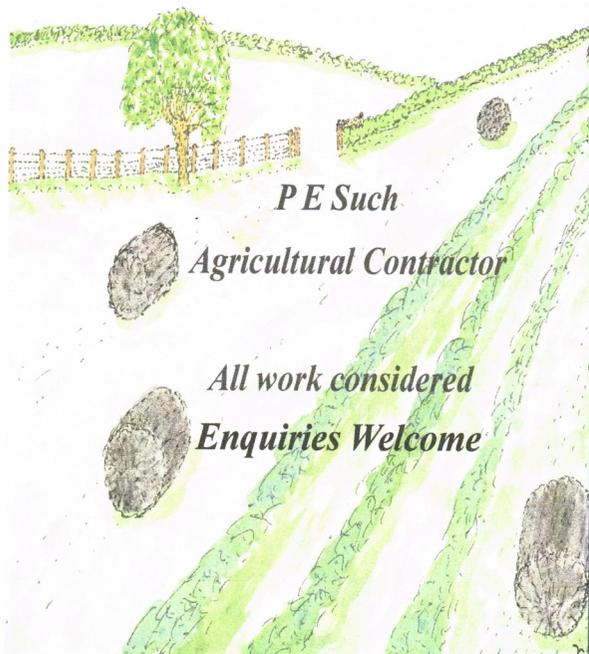
Twitter: @ShireShAMBLE



Facebook: Shirenewton, Mynydd Bach and Earlswood Community Page



CRAFT ~ CREATIVITY ~ COMMUNITY



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Mowing
Bailing
Wrapping

Tel: 07729 721090

e-mail:
peteresuch@gmail.com



New Shirenewton 800 events

Dates for your diaries – save the date

15 Feb 2020 – Concert in the church by St Woolos Sinfonia (the professional standard orchestra in the city of Newport) with special guest Philippe Scharz, Principal Trumpet of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales

18 April 2020 – Strictly Shirenewton! At Earlswood Hall. With Monmouth Big Band. Get your dancing shoes on and come and sparkle!

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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)

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

www.shirenewtonchurch.com

www.shirenewtonshop.com



This month I got momentarily excited when I thought I was the target of a sophisticated phishing attack. I got an email from a financial advisor (which I didn't know or use) asking me to digitally sign some documents. Fun. I was trying to work out what was in it for the attackers and concluded that it must be an attempt to get my log-on details for the signature portal. Then they could produce documents and claim I'd digitally signed them. I researched the financial advisor company involved and concluded it was legit. I called them, explained the issue and, when they subsequently cancelled requested signature, concluded it was the simple case of another David Cornwell having given them the wrong email address.

I've complained in the past on these pages about muppets called David Cornwell throughout the world believing that they own my gmail address. The latest one I've been signed up for is ParentMail as, apparently, I have a young kid in a primary school somewhere. It's news to the wife! So, no doubt there is a David Cornwell somewhere wondering why they aren't received the school emails. Possible the same David Cornwell who wasn't receiving emails from their financial advisor!

I tell you this story to emphasise how important it is to get your email address right when signing up for various online accounts, especially those concerning financial services. Presumably, if I'd logged on to the signature portal (I could have just reset the password if one already existed), I'd have been able to inspect at some of my namesake's financial affairs. So, if you have a long complicated email address which is easy to get wrong then consider getting another simpler one. There are lots you can get an new email address (Google, Outlook, Apple, etc.) and with most of them you can simply have them forward all incoming emails to another account. The other point of the story is that, this time, it was cock-up not conspiracy but, you can never be too careful and always be on guard for phishing attempts.

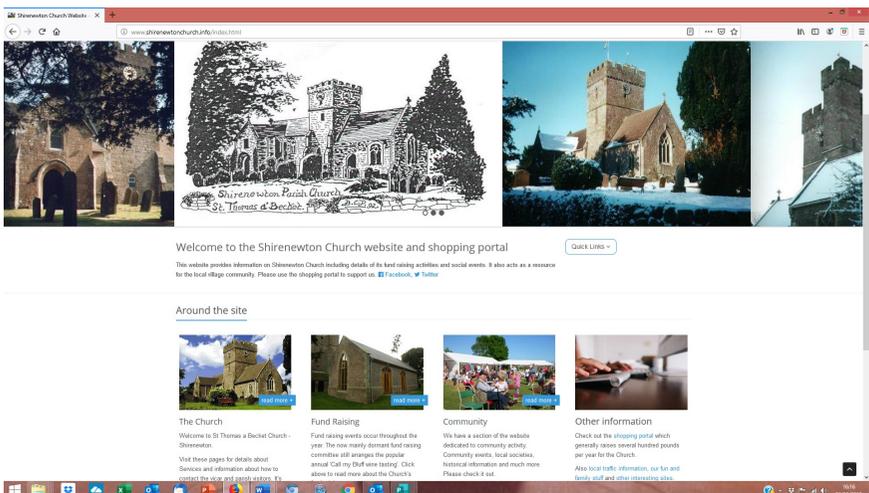
Those of you using Apple products may be aware that Goole reported evidence of a "sustained effort" to hack iPhones over a period of at least two years. The BBC reported (<https://tinyurl.com/y3g5sdme>) that "the attack was said to be carried out using websites which would discreetly

implant malicious software to gather contacts, images and other data". This was in the news at the end of August and believe that the vulnerability has been fixed. This is why it's always important to install the latest updates to your operating system whether they are Apple, Microsoft, Android or something else.

So, continuing the theme, if you've got an old Windows 7 PC you should be aware that the Microsoft will end of life Windows 7 on 14th January 2020. No further security patches will be issued. Oh dear! So, no doubt, you are thinking I wonder whether it's worth upgrading to Windows 10. You've done a brief search and found that the free Microsoft upgrade to Windows 10 officially ended on 29th July 2016 and have reconciled yourself to a new PC or splashing out £50+ for the upgrade from Amazon (other online shopping is available). Well, it's a jolly good thing you avidly read the Parish Magazine then, isn't it. Stroll along to <https://tinyurl.com/yxkaqdgk> and follow the instructions for your free upgrade! Last year it worked for me on an old PC I purchased from eBay and a 1st June 2019 update on the site suggests it's still working. There, just saved you your annual subscription for the next 5 years.

So, on that happy note, I'll sign off. Please do try and do your online shopping via www.shirenewtonshop.com

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SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE MARKET

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MONTH FROM 10.30 -12.30

AT THE REC HALL.

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GARDENING CORNER

Well the Assistant Head gardener has had her operation and a new titanium knee has been added to the list of spare parts that have been received. Recovery is taking a lot longer this time around, but then three major operations in just over a year is not your average! The staples are out and the first trip to see the physio-terrorist has been accomplished so hopefully things will move forward for her now. I did expect her back out in the garden in a couple of weeks' time, but think that is a little optimistic on my part. Maybe next spring now!

I'm fitting in the gardening around other, more household, orientated tasks at the moment, so a case of striking a balance. Fortunately there is little planting to do this time of year so most work is aimed at maintaining the plot in some semblance of order and harvesting the fruit and veg as an when you can. I was tempted to pull some produce together and enter into the Usk show – using some of the entries from the Chepstow show where I could. This stumbled at the first hurdle when I realised that the numbers of individual entries in a class were different between the shows. Instead of three spuds per class, it needed to be five and so on. The thought of having to tip out all of the potatoes onto the floor to find five that looked identical was too much to cope with, so I bottled out in the end and decided that I would make every effort to enter next year. I looked at the results in the produce tent after judging. Some classes I might have stood a chance in of getting placed, but others there would have been no hope. But I know what I need to do now for next year and I know who the competition is, so let's hope for better health and even better growing conditions and we'll make an all-out attempt for Usk next year. It remains one of the best one day shows around and if the weather is only half as good as it was this year then it will be a great day.

With the dry weather continuing until now, most of the input into the gardening has been aimed at keeping on top of the weeding and other routine maintenance jobs. I should have done all of the hedges now with an early cut, but the heat and other work means I am woefully behind. It won't make a huge difference other than they don't look neat and tidy and the longer leave them, the harder it will be to cut them as the new

Growth toughens up for winter. This is why I prefer to cut during July, when the growth is soft and easy to cut, and then again in late September / early October when any re-growth is equally soft. With a change in the weather forecast this week for more unsettled times then hedge cutting is still something that can continue without me getting on the soil and doing damage, so maybe I can make a showing later this week. The hedge cutters have been sharpened ready for the off. Despite the length of hedges to cut (over a mile if you cut both sides) it doesn't actually take that long. What does take the time is the clearing up, but fortunately a lot of the hedges have a 'wild side', so hedge clippings on the ground are left to rot away where they lie, rather than cleared up to be burnt or added as carbon to the compost heap. Generally I burn the thorn hedges and compost the beech hedges which helps with rotting the grass clippings down – especially if you can alternate the vegetation in layers. I've noticed that this year has not been kind to the trees around about, probably because of the hot dry weather. The ash is definitely on its way out and I've noticed that the ones along the road between Shirenewton and Chepstow have particularly suffered from the impact of ash dieback. The ash here at home have a few twigs dying off, but those along the main road are looking positively dire. They have no leaves left on them as I write this. Some will shoot out again next year from the main stem, but for most it is the beginning of the end. Sycamore, which is the natural replacement for ash is also looking poorly, with leaves dropping off early, but I think this is really because of the hot, dry winds which are drying out the leaves, resulting in them falling to the ground. It may be that autumn colours will be limited this year, if the leaves continue to fall before they get the chance to change colour. That said, we do have a liquidambar tree in our field and this is turning a fiery red at the moment, earlier than normal, but at least we will benefit from some colour change.

I'm still busy in the garden though and although I can't weed some of the flower beds because the plants will collapse if I did, I have started to clear some of the areas that have been woefully neglected in recent years. The one area has been almost completely stripped clean, as there was very little of any substance left behind. What there was, was dug up, divided into smaller plants and replanted into pots so that they can expand and be replanted back out later in the year. This will mean that I can get some tulips and daffodils planted up for spring, as well as some home grown wallflowers. I want to avoid planting other things back until the spring as I can plan it a little better and make sure that the different

plants I have are replanted in the right place. I have some new varieties as well, such as several different coloured alstoemarias and a triple repeat flowering delphinium, which was newly released this year. They were expensive to buy, but keeping them in pots means that I can divide them up several times and grow them on, so instead of £10 per plant, each has now cost me £3 – a much more respectable figure and one that doesn't get me into trouble with you know who! They may get divided again yet so £1.50 a plant – what a bargain. This is something I have started doing more of recently as I discovered that buying small, barely rooted plants from some of the suppliers often resulted in many of them dying. Instead I now go to a few favoured suppliers or favourite nursery, buy a good quality plant that has filled the pot for say £8 or £10 and then immediately divide it into three or four plants when I return home. It takes a little time for them to recover and grow away, but the wait is well worth it and the losses are almost non-existent.

With the weather trends obviously only going one way (22 of the hottest years have occurred in the last 25), I'm beginning to wonder whether it is wise having one very large polythene tunnel. Our biggest one here at Barn Farm is some 20 metres long by 7 metres wide. ON a hot sunny day with little breeze the temperatures rise to well over 100 degrees and as a result the plants suffer. Watering is essential and as this is metered, it isn't cheap. I'm toying with the idea of having two or three smaller tunnels, and ones without solid plastic covers. Instead you can get shade netting or polythene top covers and netting on the side. The netting obviously takes out a lot of the heat build-up and lets air circulate more freely. It's only at the thinking stage at present, so we will see how it goes. Wasps have been an absolute nightmare this year. I've killed several nests off that I have found, but there are some I can't find and needless to say they are playing havoc with the bees. I have had to reduce the entrances to the hives right down, so that the bees have a chance of defending themselves against wasps robbing their honey supplies. I had a couple of weak hives that I was going to combine with stronger ones, but the wasps have battled away to make these even weaker (it often takes up to ten bees to kill a single wasp) and so they have been lost. Once the hives had been weakened, other bees from neighbouring hives took the opportunity to begin robbing the remaining supplies – certainly no loyalty among bees – survival of the fittest is definitely the law here.

I still have more hives than I really need, but you never know what sort of weather winter will bring, so it's always best to have too many going into winter, just to make sure you still have enough when spring arrives. I have managed to take some super frames off though, whilst not being greedy, so the bees still have enough supplies for the winter without me having to feed them too much with sugar syrup. I never see the point in taking so much honey away that you have to feed them with sugar to help make up supplies. I'm sure the honey is much better for them. I'm hoping with the forecast today (wet most of the day) to actually start extracting the honey before it sets. Fortunately I have a big, electric driven extractor that belonged to my dad when he kept bees. It spins nine frames at a time, double sided, so takes nearly a complete super full of frames in one go. I think I have eight supers to extract so with any luck there will be approaching 120lbs or more of honey, depending on how easy it is to extract. More news on this next month.

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



FRUIT PICKING

Are you blessed with fruit and nut trees in your garden but are unable or lack the time to pick the harvest? We are a group of local families who'd like to help.

We're offering to come and pick the fruit for you, giving you the supply you need in exchange for some for ourselves and to distribute any surplus to members of the community who would like some, we will leave some behind on the trees for our wildlife too.

If you'd like us to come and harvest your fruit, would like to volunteer or would like to be offered surplus fruit please contact Emma Walker on 01291 641516 or email me emmaford57@gmail.com

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

We have a full programme for 2019/2020, I'm sure there is something there for everyone. Visitors are welcome (£2). Single annual membership £10.00, double annual membership £15.00. We have 11 meetings during the year at the Huntsman Hotel with a speaker, 12 Archive Meetings at the Recreational Hall.

Winter Solstice Walk Friday, 27th December, 2019

Rogation Sunday, Beating the Bounds, 17th May, 2020

24 th September	Thomas Henry Thomas Polymath Founder of the National Museum of Wales
14 th October	Archive Meeting
29 th October	A.G.M. 'Chepstow's Six Grade 1 Listed Structures with special emphasis on the Castle and it's medieval knight William Marshal (1147 – 1219)'
10 th November	Archive Meeting
26 th November	18 th Century Smugglers
8 th December	Archive Meeting
16 th December	Rogiet Church Visit
13 th January 2020	Archive Meeting
28 th January	Repairing the Pyramids
10 th February	Archive Meeting
18 th February	Annual Dinner
9 th March	Archive Meeting
31 st March	'Treasurers'
13 th April	Archive Meeting
28 th April	Lord Raglan
11 th May	Archive Meeting

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 1090167
Continued...

17 th May	Rogation Sunday, Beating the Bounds
26 th May	T.B.D.
8 th June	Archive Meeting
13 th June	Shirenewton fete
30 th June	Wyndcliffe House
13 th July	Archive Meeting
28 th July	Severn Tunnel

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.

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FAIRTRADE NEWS



I am writing this the day after the mass international demonstrations against climate change. At the Shirenewton Village Market today I tried to remind people that one of the key criteria for awarding Fairtrade accreditation is sustainability of production and protection of the environment. In Ecuador decades of oil-drilling in the Amazon basin by oil giant Texaco (bought by Chevron in 2001) destroyed the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and indigenous people. After an 18 year-long battle, the communities finally won the right to compensation. Instead of paying, Chevron brought the case to an ISDS tribunal which ordered Ecuador to stop the enforcement of the ruling and pay Chevron an undisclosed fee. So what is an ISDS tribunal?

ISDS (or investor-state dispute settlement). These courts allow companies to sue countries for millions if they take measures that threaten their future profits. So far companies have used ISDS to sue countries more than 900 times – the vast majority poorer countries who are taking vital measures to protect people and the environment. It is argued that it will help them attract more foreign investment. But this has not proved to be the case. It's giving more power to the powerful and often it's the most vulnerable who pay the price.

Large transnational companies are often just too powerful to be held to account by national governments. Astonishingly, although human rights are enshrined in international law there is nothing in these laws that forces transnational companies to respect human rights. In 2014 the UN began a process to change this. It began exploring a 'binding treaty on transnational corporations'. This treaty would fill the glaring gap in international law by ensuring that businesses are accountable for human rights abuses. Apparently the UK have opposed the development of this treaty.

It also seems that the UK government wants to include ISDS in new trade deals with poorer countries in the future. There is an online petition to try and persuade the government to change its mind : traidcraftexchange.org/red-carpet-courts. ('Red carpet' because it seems our government wants to roll out the red carpet to big business to secure trade deals.)

We live in complicated times. It may seem that it's almost impossible to effect real positive change. Purchasing Fairtrade products is not the whole answer, of course, but in many ways it is a straightforward, accessible way of radically improving producers' lives and also safeguarding their environment. Our environment.

Marion McAdam 641316 msm36@gmail.com

Traidcraft (and Ethical Superstore) have a large range of goods – dried fruit, nuts, chocolate, coffee, cocoa, sugar, sweets, olive oil, tea, quinoa, rubber gloves, biscuits, rice, pasta, cereal, grains, crafts, cards, clothes, jewellery, toys etc etc etc!!!

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STARGAZING

As it is now getting darker earlier there are more opportunities for stargazing. This is particularly true after the clocks go back on 27th October, giving extra darkness in the evening. The very bright planet Jupiter is close to the south-west horizon at dusk, whilst the less bright and slightly yellow-coloured planet Saturn can be seen in the south. The 5-day old Moon joins Jupiter on 3rd October and is close to Saturn on the 5th.



The constellation of Cygnus the Swan lies pretty much directly above. It is in the shape of a cross – in fact it is sometimes called the Northern Cross. According to legend, Jupiter the king of the Gods changed himself into a swan when he wanted to visit Leda, the wife of the King of Sparta. In memory of the episode, he placed a swan in the sky. Deneb, the brightest star in the constellation, is at the tail of the swan, whilst Albireo forms the "head" of the Swan. Albireo is worth looking at through a small telescope. It consists of 2 separate stars, one gold in colour the other blue.

Looking at Jupiter with binoculars should give a good view of Jupiter's four largest moons: Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto – they form a line with the planet. In 1610 the Italian scientist Galileo used a telescope for the first time and discovered the moons of Jupiter. The four moons have been called the Galilean Moons ever since.



New Shirenewton 800 events

Dates for your diaries – save the date—AGAIN!

15 Feb 2020 – Concert in the church by St Woolos Sinfonia (the professional standard orchestra in the city of Newport) with special guest Philippe Scharz, Principal Trumpet of the BBC National Orchestra of Wales

18 April 2020 – Strictly Shirenewton! At Earlswood Hall. With Monmouth Big Band. Get your dancing shoes on and come and sparkle!

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CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Sunday 13 th October	Jane Smith-Haddon and Glynis MacDonald
Sunday 20 th October	Jane and James Leney
Sunday 27 th October	Margaret and Chris Sturke
Sunday 3 rd November	Lynne Morecombe and Kerry Baker
Sunday 10 th November	Claire Lewis and Diane Marlowe
Sunday 17 th November	Cynthia Smith and Frances Grey
Sunday 24 th November	Bill Clark and Janet Horton
Sunday 1 st December	Jackie and Mark Broughton
Sunday 8 th December	Kerry and Andrew Baker
Sunday 15 th December	Gilly and Graham Lambert
Sunday 22 nd December	Ruth Savagar and Aileen Doggett

READERS AND SIDESPERSONS

Date	Sunday Service	Readers	Sidespersons
6 th October	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke
13 th October	Harvest Festival	Frances Grey Cynthia Smith	Frances Grey Cynthia Smith
20 th October	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity	Aileen Doggett Paul Morecombe	Aileen Doggett Paul Morecombe
27 th October	Bible Sunday	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
3 rd November	All Saints Day	John Montague James Lenny	Claire Lewis
10 th November	Third Sunday Before Advent; Remembrance Sunday	Various readers	
17 th November	Second Sunday before Advent	Mark Broughton Jane Smith-Haddon	Mark Broughton
24 th November	Christ The King	Bill Clark Janet Horton	Bill Clark Janet Horton
1 st December	First Sunday of Advent	James Lenny Aileen Doggett	Aileen Doggett
8 th December	Second Sunday of Advent	John Montague Ruth Savagar	Claire Lewis
15 th December	Third Sunday of Advent	Mark Broughton Diane Marlow	Mark Broughton
22 nd December	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke	Chris Sturke Margaret Sturke
24 th December	11.30 pm Midnight Mass	TBC	TBC
25 th <u>December</u>	Family Service	TBC	TBC
29 th December	First Sunday of Christmas	Group Service	At Mounton Church

LOCAL DIARY DATES

OCTOBER 2019	Event	Location
Sat/Sun 12 th /13 th	Shamble window art event	Shirenewton and Mynyddbach
Sun 13 th 10 am	Harvest Festival	St Thomas à Becket Church
Sun 13 th 12.30 pm	Harvest Lunch	Earlswood Hall
Sat 19 th 7 pm	Barn Dance	Earlswood Hall

LOCAL DIARY DATES—continued

NOVEMBER 2019	Event	Location
Fri 8 th 7.30 pm	Bring and Share – Andrew Baker "My time in Nigeria"	Saysell Centre/Church Room
DECEMBER 2019	Event	Location
Sun 1 st 11 am	Advent Fair	Saysell Centre/Church Room
Sun 8 th 6.30 pm	Carols round the Christmas Tree	TA Car Park
Sun 15 th 10 am	Carol Service	St Thomas à Becket Church
Tues 17 th 4 pm	Shirenewton School Christingle	St Thomas à Becket Church
Sun 22 nd 6 pm	Service of nine lessons and carols	Caerwent Church
Tues 24 th 4 pm	Nativity and Christingle	St Thomas à Becket Church
Tues 24 th 5 pm	Mulled wine and mine pies	Saysell Centre/Church Room
Tues 24 th 11.30 pm	Midnight Mass	St Thomas à Becket Church
Wed 25 th 10 am	Family Service	St Thomas à Becket Church
JANUARY 2020	Event	Location
Thurs 24 th – Sat 26 th 7.30 pm	Pantomime	Earlwood Hall
FEBRUARY 2020	Event	Location
Sat 15 th tbc	St Woolos Players – S800	St Thomas à Becket Church
Fri 21 st 7.30 pm	Bring and Share – John Burrows (see article)	Saysell Centre/Church Room
MARCH 2020	Event	Location
tbc 7.30 pm	Bring and Share – tbc	Saysell Centre/Church Room
APRIL	Event	Location
Fri 17 th 7.30 pm	Bring and Share – Mary Watkins "Rugby in Rwanda"	Saysell Centre/Church Room
Sat 18 th tbc	Monmouth Big Band and Strictly Shirenewton – S800	Earlwood Hall
MAY 2020	Event	Location
tbc tbc	Something Sultry concert – S800	Saysell Centre/Church Room
Events marked S800 are part of the Shirenewton 800 Celebrations		

LOCAL CONTACTS

*If you know of any changes or omissions please contact the Editor Bill Clark
Telephone 01291 641783 or email parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com*

Church of St Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton

Rector	Revd Julian White Jel.white@btinternet.com	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	Bill Clark	01291 641 783
200 Club	Aileen Doggett	01291 641 459

Church of St Tewdrics’s Mathern

Secretary and Church Warden Monnica Williams monnica.williams@virgin.net

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

Community Council Clerk	Hilary Counsell	01291 421307	clerk@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Shirenewton Ward:	Dr James Grose	01291 641690	james.g@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Chair	Philip Butterworth	01291 641704	philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Mrs Jane Smith-Haddon	01291 641525	jane.s@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Vacancy		
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Mynyddbach Ward	Louise Brown	07598979719	louise.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Jayne McKenna	01291 691774	jayne.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Earlswood Ward	Ken Morton	01291 650268	ken.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Bryn Price	01291 641217	bryn.fopstonfarm@btinternet.com
Newchurch West	Ian Martin	01291 650014	ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
MCC for Shirenewton	Louise Brown	07598 97971	louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.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
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