

Shirenewton Parish Magazine



The Rector Julian White retires after ten years

November 2023

Price £1:50



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

▶ Pensions and Retirement Planning	
▶ Savings and Investments	
▶ Inheritance Tax Planning	
▶ Mortgages	
▶ Insurance and Protection	

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

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

The Financial Conduct Authority do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning.

Equity Release will reduce the value of your estate and can affect your eligibility for means tested benefits.



Please contact us for a free initial consultation on:

Mobile: 07979 157259

Chepstow office: 01291 626373 | Abergavenny office: 01873 854488

E: joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk | www.iam-financial-advice.co.uk

IAM Financial Planning Limited is an Appointed Representative of Quilter Financial Planning Solutions Limited, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority



Eileen O' Dwyer



HOMECARE

Private Carer/Home help
07795 689791

Oakfield Veg Boxes

Sown and grown using organic methods in Newchurch

Larges boxes £22 and Medium boxes £17

email leighayland@gmail.com

call on 01291 428604/07889 247361

Read more about us on Facebook

@oakfieldgrowers

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

S&B Newspaper Home Delivery Service

First month FREE DELIVERY for new customers!

Various payment options available

1-7 DAYS A WEEK

DELIVERIES OF MORNING PAPERS

PLUS ALL MAGAZINES

So, relax and have your newspapers delivered

Phone:- Reg on 01633 411117 or

Steve on 07971 061495

FAREWELL TO JULIAN WHITE

Julian took his last service at Shirenewton last week Sunday 15th October 2023 (*see front cover photo*) as he retires at the end of the month.

In his sermon he talked of his 44 years in the Ministry and although he came from Tenby originally most of his ministry was in urban Newport and then rural Monmouthshire, finishing here at Shirenewton, Mathern, Mounton, and St Pierre this month.

Julian has the distinction of being the most recent Shirenewton vicar (or rector) in a line stretching back 800 years to about 1220. The board in the church porch lists 57 names going back to Geoffrey de Novo Burgo. Shirenewton will still have the services of a vicar but it will be shared with other parishes through the new Ministry Area of Severn-Wye. *See pictures on page 19*

CHURCH SERVICES

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

CHURCH SERVICES ON ZOOM

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

Congratulations to our 200 Club winners in October:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Keith Holden | 2. Robert Miller |
| 3. Cynthia Smith | 4. William Smith-Haddon |

NOW OPEN

LAND ROVERS

OF MONMOUTHSHIRE

SERVICE & SALES CENTRE

The alternative to main dealers for service
Behind the Rock & Fountain on the A48 at Penhow

Looking for a quality used Land Rover?
Speak to Chris Duthie for our latest stock:

(01633) 400041

The Film Studios · Penhow · NP26 3AD

FROM THE VICARAGE

(Well, sort of...)

Julian E LI White

Dear People of the Parish,

First, the good news for you. Shortly I shall no longer be Vicar of the Parish. Second, don't celebrate too soon. I shall be lurking in the vicinity for a while yet.

Yes, November 5th marks the appointed age for my retirement and I shall no longer hold office after that date. Small wonder there is a wide-spread firework display to celebrate the occasion on that day.

The Bishop has most generously permitted Sandra and I to remain in residence for a couple of months following the time decreed to facilitate moving to a new home. However, please be mindful that I shall carry no authority or influence during this period. In fact, should you have *any* questions regarding your church, booking weddings, baptisms etc ,then please contact the Area Ministry Leader directly. I am confident that Revd. Philip Averay will attend to your enquiry with utmost dedication for you. He can be contacted on 01291 620980. This, I understand, will remain the situation until a replacement Vicar is in office.

I would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' for your support of myself and the Church over past years. Chief among them, as I am certain you will appreciate, is my wife Sandra without whom both myself and this parish grouping would be seriously impoverished.

I am mindful, at this juncture, of the debt we owe all the Ministers who have contributed to this parish grouping over the past years. Among them is Revd. Nansi Davies who has steered the parish through a variety of demanding situations and to the Revd. Peter Woodman who was unstinting in his support.

A few years ago ministry within the parish was severely set back by the untimely demise of Revd. Rick Hayes and we recall his loss with sadness.

I am also indebted to our Churchwardens, most notably Sally Saysell and Andrew Baker for their hard work and laudable effort given in respect of the church they value so much,

In like manner I thank PCC members and other members of the congregation for their commitment. In particular I am obliged to Kerry Baker, Bill Clark, Janet Horton, Glynis MacDonald, Jane Smith-Haddon, Graham & Gilly Lambert. Also, I must mention Kevin

Bounds for his long involvement with Shirenewton Church. At present, John & Wendy Montague together with John Burrows have enriched church life.

And that, just about, brings my comments to a close.

Life goes on. Change is essential to growth and in the recent past we have evidenced such. New opportunities await just over the horizon such as the appointment of a new priest to our Area Ministry with fresh ways of doing things. Consider it to be of excitement and challenge.

Thank you for your company on our shared journey of faith,

With every blessing.

Julian White

FLOOD IN LIBYA AND EARTHQUAKE IN MOROCCO

We have all been greatly saddened by the devastation caused by the recent flood in Libya and earthquake in Morocco. Shirenewton Church is praying for all those affected by these disasters. Ordinarily we would have held fund-raising events to support the relief efforts, but unfortunately on this occasion we did not have sufficient time to do so. We have therefore donated £400 from church funds to the British Red Cross relief efforts for these two disasters.

Graham Lambert
LCC Treasurer

COMMUNITY COUNCIL GRANTS

St Thomas a Becket Church is very grateful to the Community Council for their generous grant support towards cutting the grass in the churchyard and towards the costs of Carols Round The Tree. Thank you.

Graham Lambert
LCC Treasurer



Shirenewton
Community Council

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Planning application considered in September

DM/2023/00992 – Little Brook Farm, Chapel Road, Earlswood

Planning application for single storey extension to bring front of house all into line.

Following discussion by the council the recommendation is: -
SCC has no objection save that the public footpath should remain accessible at all times.

Advertisement for new clerk

An advert has been placed on the SCC website, the Church magazine, Facebook, Shirenewton School and SLCC. Closing date is 29th September with interviews on 6th October.

With continuing lack of a community council clerk, the Council have approved the continuation of Catherine Martin as Responsible Officer for finance until further notice

B4235 Safety Issues

Speeding, overtaking under double white lines and signage obscured by foliage were all issues. The community council strongly supports the reinstatement of the multi-agency meetings.

Request for new dog bin

A new bin has been situated near entrance to the Recreation Hall.

Audit 2022/23

Annual full audit completed and submitted to Audit Wales

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT September 2023

Council Special Meeting – 31 August 2023

The Council held a special meeting as result of a call in on the decision to allocate all of the section 106 monies to improvements in Castle Park Primary School rather than allocate any monies to Archbishop Rowan Williams Primary School. The Council approved the original decision to allocate monies to Castle Park Primary School

and for later funds from the Church Road and Crick Road site to go for improvements to Archbishop Rowan Williams Primary School.

The link to the meeting can be found here:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=143&MIId=5863>

Cabinet Meeting on the 6th of September 2023

The Cabinet meeting covers various reports including the proposed home to school transport policy for 2024/5, the review of respite, the cross-border marches partnership and a 3-11 Seedling Welsh Medium Primary school in Monmouth. Gypsy and Traveller site proposals for potential sites for the next RLDP are now expected to be published on the 26th of September 2023 for a Cabinet report on the 4th of October 2023 and will be followed by a consultation process.

The link to the meeting can be found here:

<https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=144&MIId=5401>

Traffic Concerns on the B4235

There are continuing local concerns about the safety of the B4235 road and the accidents there. In relation to traffic offences including overtaking on double white lines, if members of the public have recorded a traffic offence then under operation snap this can be submitted to Go Safe. The following link provides information including a link on how to report an offence:

<https://www.gosafe.org/campaigns-and-operations/operation-snap/>

Date of the next meeting – Monday 2nd October 2023 at 7.00pm and can be attended in person at the public meeting in Shirenewton Recreation Hall or remotely via Microsoft Teams (a link will be provided on emailing the Clerk).

Find more information in a draft copy of minutes on the Community Council notice boards. Previous, approved minutes of meetings can be found on the Council's website www.shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Contact the Clerk to the Community Council E-mail: shirenewtoncc@gmail.com

PROVISIONAL DATES FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES

At the recent meeting of the Church Council the following outline programme for church services and themed events over the Christmas period was drawn up. This is an early heads up for your diaries but may have to change and please check against the final programme which will be published in the December parish magazine.

- Sunday 3rd Dec 10.00 Morning Prayer
11.00 Advent Fair and refreshments in the Church Rooms. All proceeds to Julie Noble of Latin Link (an Anglican missionary organisation working predominantly with women prisoners and their families in Bolivia)
- Sunday 10th Dec 10.00 Service of Holy Communion
- Sunday 17th Dec 10.00 Parish Carol Service
6.30 Carols around the village Christmas Tree led by Chepstow Town Band. Donations to Médecins sans Frontières
- Sunday 24th Dec - Christmas Eve – No morning service in church
4.00 – 5.00 Family Walking Nativity. Come and meet the Wise Men, the Angels and the Shepherds and assemble and light your Christingle candle to welcome Jesus the Light of the World in the stable with the donkeys looking on.
Donations for the Childrens Society
11.30 Midnight Mass
- Monday 25th Dec - Christmas Day
10.00 Christmas morning family service
- Sunday 31st Dec Group service – Time and location to be announced and published in the December parish magazine.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2023

As in recent years there will be a short act of Remembrance, starting around 10.50, at the village war memorial, when the names of the those from this parish who fell during the two World Wars will be read out, wreaths laid and a two minute silence observed at 11.00 AM. This will be followed immediately thereafter by a service in church, to which all are invited.

CHEPSTOW AND BULWARK FOOD BANKS

I received an email from the co-ordinators of our local food banks reminding me that referrals have gone up but that sadly, donations have gone down substantially. They are very grateful for the support they do get but they are particularly worried as winter is on the horizon and ... yes, Christmas. I said I would write about this in our local parish mag.

They sent me a list of items which are particularly needed:

UHT milk and fruit juices

Tinned veg – peas, carrots, sweetcorn, tomatoes,

Potatoes

Instant mash

Tinned fish and meats

Instant coffee and teabags

Custard, rice pudding, tinned fruit

Also non-food items such as:

Washing-up liquid, washing powder, toilet rolls, shower gels, deodorants



Contact Rebecca on

07889 762 840

info@greenbeeblooms.co.uk

images of our work can be seen on

www.greenbeeblooms.co.uk

*Make someone's day, give
a gift of flowers*

We offer a range of floral gifts such as

Small vase arrangements £20

Hand tied bouquets from £25

Basket arrangements £30

Boxed bouquets from £35

Based in Earlswood, we deliver within a 5-mile radius (for a small charge). We also run an order & collect service.

I also carry a range of handmade Soy Wax Candles

**Shirenewton W.I.
Love, Marriage and Separation (did she say Wife
Selling?) by Barbara Atton**



Barbara Atton gave us a fascinating talk on the history of courtship, marriage and the ending of marriage. She led us through the history of courtship and marriage from the 12th Century when marriage was seen as a contract particularly between powerful and wealthy families, with no expectation of love.

Courtship developed through the Middle Ages and by the 18th and 19th Centuries was formalised – think of the courtship dances in Jane Austen’s novels. Valentine’s customs date back to Roman times. One 19th Century tradition was for the men to gift a pair of gloves on Valentine’s Day. If the woman wore the gloves for church the next Sunday, then she agreed to be courted by the giver, with the intention that courtship would lead to marriage. How times have changed.

It was not until the 1753 Marriage Act that marriages were required to take place in an Anglican Church officiated by a priest. Quakers and those of Jewish faith were allowed to conduct their own services, but Catholics and Non-

Conformists were not allowed to marry in their churches until 1836. Many marriages prior to 1753 were more 'informal agreements'. The age at which you could marry changed over the centuries from Tudor times when it was not unusual for marriage to take place at the age of 12. By 1929 the age was raised to 16 (with parental consent) and in February 2023 the the minimum legal age to marry in the UK was raised to 18.

The ending of marriage had an intriguing history. Henry VIII's divorce from his first wife Catherine of Aragon caused a spilt between the Church of England and the Catholic Church. However, the first recorded divorce in the UK was not until 1670. By 1857 couples could obtain a divorce through the courts usually on grounds of adultery, cruelty, desertion, insanity or non-consummation and impotence. In reality divorce through the courts was only open to those who could afford it. Other ranks of society could have a private separation, people also simply deserted their spouse and family and then there was 'Wife Selling'. This custom dated back to the 13th Century when wives would be sold by public auction sometimes at cattle markets (after the cattle sales!). Although made illegal in Victorian times, there were still instances of this practice in the early 20th Century.

There are few recorded cases of 'husband selling'. I dread to think of the plight of some of the women although it wasn't always bad news for the women as some of the new 'buyers' were their lovers. Thankfully by the 19th and 20th Centuries women were becoming more economically independent. There was not the same necessity to marry, and it could become, for the most, a matter of choice.

A most interesting talk which made me appreciate how grateful I am to be a woman living in 21st Century Britain.

The next meeting will be a talk by the Crafty Pickle Company on Thursday 9th November at 7.15 p.m. at Shirenewton Recreation Hall. If you would like to join us, then please contact Jane Butterworth at janeb247@gmail.com or Diane Ashton Smith (01291 628838)

Jackie Broughton

Gardening Corner

With a short break in the bad weather, the ground dried up enough to start clearing some of the raised beds in the vegetable garden. I don't know who 'invented' this idea, but gardening wise it has to be one of the soundest ideas around, especially when you garden on a slope like we do. As I have mentioned before we are pretty free draining which has distinct advantages when it is wet, but clearly disadvantages when it is dry. On this occasion we took advantage of a few days when the rain ceased and we actually saw some sunshine. The assistant head gardener attacked the beds first, by removing all of the weeds that were easily pulled. A distinct advantage when the soil is damp, in that they usually come free very easily. These were sorted into heaps – the annual, but non seeding weeds and old crops for the compost heap and the persistent, perennial weeds or those that are seeding for the bonfire. Our compost heap tends to be what is known as a 'cold' heap, meaning that the temperatures never build up too high. This means that any seeds do not get destroyed in the process, so you have to be careful not to introduce seeding plants if you can avoid them. I have toyed with getting a large commercially produced compost maker, but the cost of these has always put me off, and size wise, they generally do not take a lot of bulky material. They are based on either a rotary container, that gets turned regularly, or an upright insulated container. As well as the cost of a container, you also really need to invest in some sort of shredding machine, there are numerous options available. The shredding action means you get more material into the container at a time, and the smaller the material, the more successful you will be, as this helps with the heating up process, which in turns helps with the composting process. Temperatures build up to some 60 degrees centigrade and the manufacturers reckon that any material that rots can be included – even waste and cooked food and small bones. Average time to produce good, usable compost is about six to eight weeks. Maybe, if we ever move to a smaller garden, we will give this a try, but for now, it would be a 'mere drop in the ocean' so we'll carry on with the age-old method and then occasional bonfire for the true rubbish.

So, with the bulk of the weeds already removed, it was easy enough for me to follow on behind, forking over the ground, despatching the slugs as we went, and removing any perennial weeds with long tap roots such as dandelions and docks. Depending on the beds then, I covered those beds which we want to put an early crop in, with ground cover material pegged down (to stop as many weeds germinating as possible), and then one of

the mobile cloches put on top or, for the first time ever, immediately sowed a 'cover' crop. This was caliente mustard seed. You are able to sow this until mid-October. It is a quick growing crop, that covers the ground to prevent loss of nutrients during the Winter, and sends down long roots to draw up nutrients from further down in the soil.

In spring, after it has flowered, but before it sheds its seeds, you chop the top growth up with a spade and then dig it all into the soil, burying it about six to eight inches down. This last bit is quite important, as the material, as it rots down, basically gives off fumes which sterilise the soil – killing off insect pests and destroying diseases. Not only that but, as it rots, the material releases the nutrients that it has drawn up from further down, and releases into the soil. As I said, we have never tried this before, so we are keen to see how it works out. Now that we are both pensioners, we have decided to reduce the amount of 'stuff' that we grow, and, with difficulty securing enough manure, try to manage the soil, especially in the raised beds, more effectively. No doubt we will tell you how things go!! The wet weather soon returned, which meant work in the vegetable beds soon came to a stop. Despite only having a day or two, we have cleared at least a quarter of the beds, which is a good start. The rest will be cleared as soon as the weather (and time) permits. I have taken the big decision of fully retiring from my day job. I have been semi-retired for the last six years, working half a week, which has been good, but time has come for me to finally hang up my boots for good, after 45 years working for the Forestry Commission. Time for us both to enjoy the grandchildren more (and their parents of course!), and do some of the many things we want to do, whilst we are still able to do them. One reason for reducing the amount we grow next year is that we don't want to spend more time in the garden - that has always had more than its fair share of our time – mostly due to necessity! We both have hobbies that we wish to spend time on, as well as visiting places together that we have never been to. From my perspective, I have been able to start wood turning which, given my long forestry background isn't really surprising, I guess. Instead of just growing the trees, I'm now turning them into something more beautiful – I hope.

Back in the garden, it is time to start or continue with the rest of the clearing up and tidying generally. Nearly all of the hedges have now been cut, and the ones that I did cut back in August, now need a final 'tidy up' to make them look good until spring time. If

you haven't cut yours yet, there is plenty of time until spring, but the sooner the better, they look neat and tidy for much longer the sooner you get to cut them! For conifer hedges, the main thing is you don't cut them when there is a frost on them. If you do, you end up 'burning' the ends, making them go brown and unsightly. They will generally recover when they start into growth again in Spring, they just don't look nice. Also with conifers, you need to make sure you never cut into 'older' wood. If you do they generally never reshoot again, and will stay as brown sticks for the rest of their days – never a good look. The only species of conifer that is used for hedging that will shoot out again is western red cedar. This can be virtually cut back to the main trunks and it will re-coppice back out, but you need to be sure that this is what you have. The smell of the foliage is usually enough, but if in doubt, then cut to the green only. It will also soon be time to prune the roses. This is best done in January and February, so enjoy Christmas first, before you are tempted to get the secateurs out. With the rain hammering down outside, we are continuing to clear out the greenhouses and large tunnel. Most of the tomatoes have now finished as the damp conditions have resulted in a lot of the growth starting to get mildew, so time to go. In addition, the calabrese and other plants are now of a size that they need to be planted out, so a case very much of out with the old and in with the new. One crop that is still earning its place in the tunnel is the French beans. We only have four canes with a couple of plants on each, but they are providing an endless supply of beans at present, and will hopefully continue to do so until a frost takes them out. We have had two mornings so far where the cars windscreens were frozen solid, but the tunnel cover was enough to protect the beans. Bizarrely, we have also started harvesting some early purple sprouting broccoli. This must be the first time ever, that we have had fresh French beans and purple sprouting at the same time!

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

FRIENDS OF ST PETERS



NEWCHURCH

AT NEWCHURCH FARM SHOP

SAT 2ND DEC 7PM

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

PLUS 2 COURSE DINNER £15PP

TO BOOK YOUR MEAL

PHONE SARAH 07850 401869

Shirenewton Church Harvest Festival

A huge Thank You to everyone who contributed to our Harvest Festival in October. Okay, so the huge display of tins and packets didn't look as pretty or smell as good as it would have done as when, in ye olden days the church would have been filled with carrots, parsnips and potatoes, apples, oranges and pears, Michaelmas Daisies and chrysanthemums. Yes it used to be lovely but then there was always the difficult problem of getting rid of the giant marrows, the scabby windfalls and the mishappen gourds.

So, although not as attractive, it is a much more practical approach for us to collect for our local food bank. And what a magnificent collection it was too. We filled a van with donations and the coordinators down in Bulwark were delighted. We still keep a box in the church porch for food bank items and, if the church is closed, there is a box under my porch at The Chantry.

The coordinators have also asked for volunteers to pitch up at Tesco's in early December to remind shoppers about need for food bank contributions especially as Christmas time draws near. I wonder who I can persuade to come with me to dress up as Santa's Little Food Bank Helpers? Pointy hats and ears, bright red jerkins and of course, some tight green tights. What's not to like!

Glynis MacDonald





†
THE CHURCH OF St THOMAS BECKET
SHIRENEWTON
 LIST OF INCUMBENTS

1272	GEOFFREY DE NOVO BURGO	
1287	RICHARD DE RURES	
1325	WILLIAM SEWARD	
1396	JOHN KIRKTON	
1399	ADAM OF USK	
1399	THOMAS AP ADAM AP WILLIAM OF WELOC	} COUSINS
1427	HANULPH BRID	
1433	WILLIAM COLLE	
1438	RICHARD SPICER	
1458	WILLIAM	
1472	DAVID DAVNOD	
1485	JOHN WILLIAMS	LAST ROMAN CATHOLIC RECTOR
1549	ROGER LANGIDON	
1569	WILLIAM JOHNS	
1596	MORGAN ROBINSON	
1597	EDWARD JAMES W.A.	CHANCELLOR OF LLANDAFF 1606
1623	FRANCIS GOODWIN D.D.	BISHOP OF LLANDAFF 1601
1635	PHILEMON BEDDON M.A.	PREBENDARY OF LLANDAFF
1618	THOMAS WILLIAMS M.A.	
1633	WALTER HARRIS M.A.	
1634	MORGAN OWEN D.D.	BISHOP OF LLANDAFF 1627
1640	RICHARD WILLIAMS	BISHOP OF LLANDAFF 1640
1674	MARWADUKE HOPKINS M.A.	
1675	JOHN HUGHES M.A.	
1679	EDWARD WILLIAMS	ALSO VICAR OF CHEPSTOW
1678	JOHN BEAMAN	
1721	JOSEPH PROSSER	
1733	LACUN LAMBE M.A.	
1738	WICKIOTT LITTLETON M.A.	
1743	JAMES BIRT M.A.	
1753	SAMUEL BUTLER	
1760	JOHN PARSONS M.A.	
1776	BERNARD DAVIES	
1776	WILLIAM DYER D.C.L.	
1816	JAMES ASHE GRAB M.A.	
1844	JAMES DAVIES B.A.	
1847	EDWARD INWOOD JONES M.A.	RESPONSIBLE FOR CHURCH RESTORATION 1853
1856	CHARLES FANKER HALL M.A.	
1884	DANIEL GEORGE DAVIES	
1891	GEORGE PLATT F.W. B.A.	
1913	LEWIS ERNEST RICHARDSON M.A.	
1919	FRANK ERNEST WALTERS M.A.	
1931	WILLIAM ELWOOD DYER WILLIAMS B.A.	
1935	ARTHUR SWAN MORGAN M.A.	
1956	BASIL GORDON WILLIAMS B.Sc. R.D.	CANON 1960
1962	GEORGE FRANCIS LEVI RIGGS B.A.	CANON 1969
1972	WYNNE VAUGHAN LAKE B.A.	
1977	L.C.J.G. JONES B.A.	
1983	RICHARD WILLIAM JAMES	
1985	LAWFORD IDWAL DAVIES	
1986	LAWRENCE WILLIAM WAY	
1990	CANON PETER WILFRED WOODMAN B.A.	ARCHDEACON OF MONMOUTH 1993
1996	HUGH TRENCHARD B.D.	
2008	WILLIAM CLARKE INGLE-GILLIS Ph.D.	PRIEST IN CHARGE
2010	NANSI DAVIES C.B.E.	PRIEST IN CHARGE
2013	JULIAN E. LL. WHITE B.A., C.P.S.	



Julian White's last service at St Thomas a Becket Church, Shirenewton. We would all like to wish him and Sandra well in their retirement.

1972	WYNNE VAUGHAN LAKE B.A.	
1977	L.C.J.G. JONES B.A.	
1983	RICHARD WILLIAM JAMES	
1985	LAWFORD IDWAL DAVIES	
1986	LAWRENCE WILLIAM WAY	
1990	CANON PETER WILFRED WOODMAN B.A.	ARCHDEACON OF MONMOUTH 1993
1996	HUGH TRENCHARD B.D.	
2008	WILLIAM CLARKE INGLE-GILLIS Ph.D.	PRIEST IN CHARGE
2010	NANSI DAVIES C.B.E.	PRIEST IN CHARGE
2013	JULIAN E. LL. WHITE B.A., C.P.S.	

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 31st October**, when we will be holding our **Annual General Meeting at 7.00pm**. Afterwards, we will be having a talk entitled 'The Vedw' given by Anne Wareham.

Anne is a published writer and gardener she has a wonderful garden in the Vedw. She has done considerable research into that area of Monmouthshire and I'm sure you will find the talk enjoyable and instructive.

Dates for your Diary:

28 th November	Enclosures Act	Peter Strong
12 th December	St Arvans Church visit Supper at The Piercefield	David Priddis
27 th December	Winter Solstice walk and Community Breakfast	
2024		
30 th January	James Stephens of Chepstow	Guy Hamilton
27 th February	Dinner	TBD
26 th March	Japan & Wales the big Connection	Keith Dunn
30 th April	Mounton House Garden	Helena Garrish
5 th May	Beating the Bounds	
14 th May	An evening guided walk around Beachley	Richard Clammer
25 th June	Roman Houses XXVI & XXVII in Caerwent	Mark Lewis
3 rd July	Visit to Mounton House Garden	Helena Garrish
30 th July	Oliver Cromwell	Prof Hutton

Please come along, everyone welcome



Invites you to join their climb up **Grey Hill**
on 27th December 2023

to watch the sunrise over the standing stones
followed by a **Community Breakfast** in Shirenewton

Join the walk, or just come for breakfast (but please note
that breakfast tickets must be booked by 15th Dec).

*To join the walk; meet at 7.30am outside the Woodland Tavern,
Llanvair Discoed*

Or meet at the standing stones on Grey Hill (sunrise circa 8.10am)

Please dress for the weather and bring a torch



Community Breakfast, all welcome

at 9am on 27th Dec 2023, in the Church Room

Bacon or Sausage butty, toast,
bottomless tea and coffee

Booking is essential.

email brabon66@btinternet.com or call 641376

by 15th December (for booking and to make payment).

Tickets for breakfast are £5 per head. There is no charge for children aged 12 and under, but their breakfasts must still be booked

Special dietary requirements can be accommodated if notified at time of booking

**To advertise in this
magazine contact**

Bill Clark: 01291 641783; parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com

The editor reserves the right to print free content and
free advertisements in black and white

**Advertising Rates for
Commercial organisations**

12 months 10 issues

Full page £100; £150 for a designated page

Half Page £50

Quarter Page £25

Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.

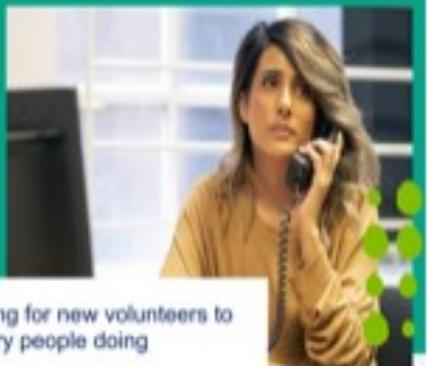
**Become a
Samaritans listening
volunteer**

Newport and Gwent Samaritans are looking for new volunteers to join our amazing team of listeners, ordinary people doing extraordinary things

Contact our recruitment team to find out more:

Tel: **07821101488**

Email: Newport@samaritans.org



SEVERN WYE MINISTRY AREA

Praying Together

JAMES 5:16

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

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

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR OUR MINISTRY
AREA AND OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

**St Christopher's Church,
Bulwark, NP16 5AF**

Nerys's Natty Nosh



Pumpkin pie.

Ingredients

750g pumpkin purée
350g sweet shortcrust pastry
Filling
140g caster sugar
½ tsp salt
½ tsp fresh nutmeg grated
1 tsp cinnamon
2 eggs beaten
25g butter melted
175ml milk
1 tbsp icing sugar

Method

1 Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Roll out the pastry on a lightly floured surface and use it to line a 22cm loose-bottomed tart tin. Chill for 15 mins. Line the pastry with baking parchment and baking beans, then bake for 15 mins. Remove the beans and paper and cook for a further 10 mins until the base is pale golden and biscuity. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly.
2 Increase the oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. In a bowl combine sugar, salt, nutmeg and half the cinnamon. Mix in the beaten eggs, melted butter and milk, then add to the pumpkin purée and stir to combine. Pour into the tart shell and cook for 10 mins, then reduce the temperature to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Continue to bake for 35-40 mins until the filling has just set.
3 Leave to cool, then remove the pie from the tin. Mix the remaining cinnamon with the icing sugar and dust over the pie. Serve chilled.

Homemade Ginger nuts are a real treat and always put a smile on my family's faces.

Ingredients

90g butter/dairy free spread
75g light brown sugar
115g golden syrup
200g plain flour/ gluten free flour
¾ tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Method

Preheat oven Gas4 180C 350F.
Grease oven trays, line with baking paper.
Stir butter, sugar, and syrup in a medium saucepan over low heat until smooth.

Remove from heat, stir in sifted dry ingredients. Cool 10 minutes



Roll rounded teaspoon of mixture into balls.
Place about 3cm apart on tray, flatten slightly.
Bake biscuits for about 10 minutes, cool on trays.
These biscuits will keep in an airtight container for up to a week.
Tip—They freeze well. Don't forget to place baking parchments between the layers of biscuits when freezing to stop them sticking together.

Air fried Coriander and ginger chicken with garlic and ginger stir fry, cashew nuts, cauliflower hash browns and salad leaves.



Two chicken breasts were marinated in crushed garlic, ginger, red chillies, lime, and a little honey for 4 hrs.
I placed the chicken in foil and cooked in a pre-heated air fryer for 10 minutes. The cauliflower hash browns were placed on top of the foil and cooked at the same time. The vegetables were stir fried in crushed garlic and ginger for 5 minutes. Then the cashew nuts were added and a

little ginger syrup.

There are many health benefits of eating ginger. The basic form of this herb is the dried root. It contains many natural chemicals that help the lungs function more effectively.

Ginger promotes your respiratory health by eliminating air pollutants, tobacco smoke and perfumes out of the air passages before they have time to irritate the lungs. It also relieves congestion, as well as improves circulation to the lungs, thus reducing the severity of many chronic lung-diseases such as bronchitis.

Ginger is often recommended for asthma patients. Ginger helps control this inflammation, so you feel and breathe better.

Do not use ginger if you have gallbladder disorders unless such use is under the supervision of your doctor. Taking ginger also could be harmful for people with diabetes. Ginger interacts with diabetes medications. As a result, your diabetes medications might require a dose adjustment by your doctor.

Purchase ginger in an herbal tea form and drink it multiple times a day. The warmth of the tea entering the throat can help to soothe and reduce inflammation in the lungs.

How to Make Ginger Tea .Thinly slice your fresh **ginger**. In a saucepan, combine the **ginger** with fresh water (use one cup of water per serving). Bring the mixture to a boil over high heat. Simmer for five minutes (or up to 10 minutes if you want extra-strong **tea**). **Enjoy!**

Fun Times at the Shambles!

The theme this year for the wonderful window illuminations was: 'Children's Books'. As ever I got out my firepit and cooked soup. My literary inspiration???

Macbeth's Witchy Soup



"Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the cauldron boil and bake;
Eye of newt and toe of frog,
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork & blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg and owlet's wing,
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil & bubble.

Annoyingly these ingredients were unavailable in Tesco so I was obliged to adapt the recipe somewhat.

MacDonald's Veggie Soup

- 1 sweet spud
- 1 ordinary spud
- 1 carrot
- 1 parsnip
- 1 leek
- 1 onion
- 1 celery stalk
- 1 bit of butternut squash
- 1 tin of toms
- veggie stock, s & p

**"Chop the veg and bung it in.
Cook it & stir it in the old cauldin.
Its good for yer health and good for yer tum,
Totes delicious and so yum yum!"**

Roll over Shakespeare. Eat your heart out, Glynis

SHAMBLES 2023

Here's some quotes from our community about the event;

What does our community have to say about ShAMBLE 2023?

"Well done Shirenewton ! Lovely x" Joanne

"Another fantastic Shamble (Even if George's quiz had us stumped again this year!)" Heidi

"The windows all looked amazing and it was fantastic to feel our community spirit in action. Well done all." Michelle

"A great event. Thanks to all the organisers." David

Our younger participants;

"I like going out in the dark to see the windows, it was really fun!" Ollie age 7.

"I loved seeing everybody's windows and all the lights." Alys age 5.

"I like walking around with my family and friends seeing all of the lovely windows." Coralie age 8.

"The best bit of ShAMBLE was the drink and cake with the village." William age 7.

"The best bit was guessing what books the windows were." Freddie age 10.



Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall

Remembrance Service

Sunday 12th November 2023

Starting at 10.30am

Followed by light refreshments

Come and join us remembering all those who made the ultimate sacrifice!

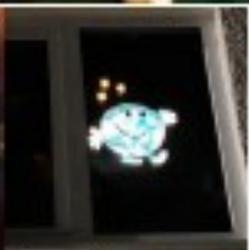
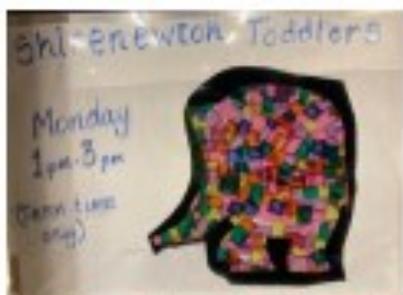


14th & 15th
October
2023



2 wonderful evenings of bells, beautiful window art and socialising with our lovely community. See you all next year!











ShAMBLE 2023

www.shirenewtonchurch.com

As we rush towards Christmas, the first theme is, unfortunately, scams once again. And, once again, I was involved personally.

My lovely wife had just placed a plate of beautifully cooked beef noodles in front of me for dinner when my mobile rang. Number withheld. I answered – poor form I know.

The very well spoken and plausible gentleman told me that he was from Santander Security Department and there was a suspicious transaction which had been an attempt to purchase a £2,500 Selfridges Gift Card on my debit card ending in 0078. He had the correct 4 digits for the debit card from one of my businesses which I use for online purchases. I told him that the transaction certainly wasn't me. Then the attempts to extract useful information began.

He said: I'll just take you through security

Me: If you think I'm going to give out security information to a random caller with a withheld number, you obviously think I was born yesterday. Stop the transaction I'll call the bank tomorrow (the noodles were cooling down and looked divine).

Him (suddenly deciding that he didn't need my security details): I'm sending you a text to verify your identity, please let me have the unique number.

Me: no text received.

This went through two more iterations with him getting more annoyed that I hadn't received the texts despite the fact I'd confirmed to him I had signal on my mobile.

Him: Are you registered for online banking?

Me: Yes

Him: You have an online banking number starting with a Y.

Me: Yes

Him: Please confirm that back to me.

Me: If you think I'm going to give out my online banking ID to a random caller with a withheld number, you are very mistaken. The only thing you know is the last four digits of my card.

Him (a last desperate attempt): I have the full card number if that helps.

Me: I'll call the bank tomorrow.

The noodles were all that I imagined them to be.

The next day I called the bank and they confirmed that they had not called me. However, they could see three attempts to make purchases with JustEat and two other 'consumer' type companies (can't recall which ones). For each of those purchases I would have received a text on my phone with a unique code. This is what the guy was clearly trying to do get to validate the purchases he

attempted to make and then, presumably, having told me that I had 'cleared security' make other attempts to extract information, ask me to move my money, or whatever. Incidentally, the reason I didn't get the texts was that the bank had blocked them at source because they were so far out of my regular spending business pattern that it was clear to them it wasn't me. I now have a new debit card. It doesn't end in 0078.

The guy was very well spoken and very plausible. He made several attempts to extract the information he needed. The very simple lesson is: If your 'bank' calls you don't give them any information no matter how plausible the individual sounds. Call the bank back (from a different phone ideally) using the number on the card or found on their website.

It was quite interesting to be the target of such a call (makes a nice change from 'Hello, I'm from Microsoft and there is a problem on your computer') but I was surprised how plausible the man sounded. I'm sure, as Christmas approaches, the scams will increase so be on your guard!

Remember back in September I reported Europe's largest battery energy storage installation had gone live in the UK and that it was based on Tesla battery technology? Well there are reports that a similar facility in Australia caught fire in late September (lots on the web but The Guardian reported it here: <https://tinyurl.com/2xxu4fmk>). The battery technology concerned is lithium-ion batteries and there is increased reporting about lithium-ion battery fires which, as it happens, are very difficult to extinguish.

Fires in lithium-ion batteries are caused by 'thermal runaway'. ScienceDirect.com tells us that "A thermal runaway is an incident where one exothermal process triggers other processes, finally resulting in an uncontrollable increase in temperature. This can result in the destruction of the battery or, in severe cases, also in fire". Essentially, the issue is starts in one cell which over heats and then spreads to its neighbours and so on causing a domino effect which rapidly increases the temperature (reportedly to more than 500 deg C) which, in turn, causes it to burst into flames. The temperature is not the only issue. A lithium-ion battery fire releases toxic gases (hydrogen cyanide and hydrogen fluoride – to name a couple) which can themselves be lethal. Zurich, the insurance company, reports that such fires have more than doubled in two years.

These fires are difficult to control because thermal runaway releases its own oxygen making the fires self-sustaining. Fire crews are

struggling. The normal foam blanket simply doesn't work and they need to cool the battery. In EV's there are reports that it take up to 50,000 litres (yes, fifty thousand) of water to extinguish a car fire. The other issue is fire longevity. Fires can self-reignite days after they have been 'put out'. Even the EV manufacturers are 'vague' when it comes to tackling the issue. Some countries have taken to submerging the whole car in a 'water bath' – a container full of water. However, that assumes you can get near enough to pick it up and dunk it!

As we move towards an EV future, expect this to become a much reported subject.

Safe browsing

David Cornwell
Webmaster.



THE LITTLE RED ROBIN

Year 2/3 children from Shirenwton Primary School would like to invite the community to watch their performance at St Deiniol's Church, on Tuesday 19th December at 10am



STARGAZING



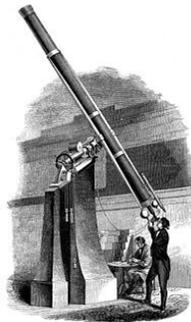
In the evening sky, the bright planet Jupiter can be seen in the south-east whilst slightly yellow Saturn lies to the south-west. The almost full Moon is close to Jupiter on 24th November and the Moon is near Saturn on the 20th.

The seven stars of the Plough lie to the North in the evening. Those of us with particularly good eye-sight can see that Mizar, the star that is the second along the handle of the plough, is in fact a double-star.

The "W" of Cassiopeia lies nearly overhead. In Roman mythology Cassiopeia was queen of the ancient kingdom of Aethiopia. She was chained to her throne as a punishment for being boastful, and placed in the heavens to sometimes hang upside down. The band of stars making up the Milky Way runs through Cassiopeia.

The Milky Way is best seen from the countryside, away from city and even village lights. There have been no really large telescopes of the type used by professional astronomers in the UK for 40 years or more. This is at least partly due to the effects of street lighting.

The Leonid meteor shower is due on the nights of 17th and 18th November – you may be lucky enough to see meteors, often called shooting stars, in the vicinity of the constellation Leo. Leo rises in the East around midnight. Meteors are caused by tiny grains of dust burning up as they enter Earth's atmosphere. The dust particles result from the break-up of comets, and travel in swarms around the Sun around the same orbit as the original comet



THE BELLS

Each year Shirenewton holds an event called The Shambles where many families walk around the village just after dusk to view illuminated windows in houses around the village. This year Shirenewton bell ringers decided to open the tower to visitors during the Shambles.

A CCTV camera was placed up in the belfry with the television down in the church so visitors were able to see the bells in action. We also screened a rolling power point presentation giving information on the history and development of ringing and a little bit about how the theory and practice of bell ringing works today.

There proved to be a lot of curiosity. Over the evening in the region of 70 visitors came up the tower. Groups of up to six people were assembled downstairs they were then shown up to the ringing room where they could see the bells being rung, and then on up to the belfry to see the bells including a single bell being rung (fingers in ears required!).

We think the villagers appreciated an opportunity to visit their village bells and to chat to the Shirenewton Ringers. We will be opening the tower next year during The Shambles.

We practice each Friday evening starting at 7.30 pm. If you want to see what goes on then come and visit. New ringers taken from the age of ten years.

M. D. Penney.



FAIRTRADE NEWS October 2023



It's become quite commonplace to hear adults bemoaning the fact that many children do not seem to have a clue about where their food actually comes from - milk/cows, carrots/earth, lamb chops/cute gambolling creatures. Yet many adults also have little real understanding of the production of many basic foodstuffs. Take cashews! Apparently it's a seed rather than a nut. It originated in Brazil and was brought to India by Portuguese sailors & largely spread around India by elephants! They ate the seeds which were dispersed in their dung! Apparently cashews are 1 of the 4 largest Indian agricultural exports (+ rice, spices and tea). One million people are involved in processing locally grown cashews and imports from Africa and elsewhere.



The cashew tree produces a 'fruit' and attached to this is a kidney shaped pod- the drupe. This pod must be harvested individually, then dried in the sun, then burnt or steamed to enable the outer shell-like layer to be removed. This contains a highly toxic substance - uroshiol - the same family as poison ivy. Each 'nut' has to be removed individually, by repeatedly striking the shell hard with a tool like a small mallet. This is extremely labour intensive and very dangerous. Cavalier (or illegal) producers, of whom there are many, as cashews are a very profitable commodity, pay their labourers by the kilo and offer only meagre wages. Gloves and protective clothing should be freely available but often are not. Workers can be scarred and permanently injured. Often they have no proper contracts, no holiday pay, and awful conditions to work in. I have seen photos of some workers' horrific injuries.

Yet we see cashews merely as a welcome snack.

As you can guess (if you're familiar with my regular rants!) buying Fairtrade cashews is a way to ensure workers are treated fairly, with respect, and as is the case with all Fairtrade products, environmental sustainability is a key requirement of the award of the FT mark. FT cashews and brazils are even available from Tesco, and of course Ethical Superstore amongst other outlets. Christmas is coming! A comparable (but not identical) case could be made for chocolate. So much is awry in the world, but it's really easy to take some small steps in the right direction!

Marion McAdam 64316 msm316@gmail.com

Info at Fairtrade Foundation. beyondthenut.org liberation



**SHIRENEWTON
VILLAGE
CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25TH

10.30-12.30

AT THE REC HALL

FOOD • CRAFTS • GIFTS • & MORE!

FREE ENTRY

Made with PosterMyWall.com

SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS MARKET NEWS!

Come along to the last Shirenewton Village Market of the year on 25th November 10.30-12.30 at the Rec Hall to complete the Christmas shopping locally. Wander around the stalls, pick up pickles to go with the cold turkey, honey to keep the colds away, Perry & Cider to toast over the festive season, stocking fillers from the Fair Trade stall, knitted goods, jewellery, handmade bags, Christmas cards & decorations, cakes, Christmas wreaths, paintings, unusual handcrafted gifts that can't be found on the high street etc. Enjoy a leisurely coffee in our fabulous pop-up café – meet up with old friends & enjoy the community atmosphere - it's got to beat the bedlam of the Mall!

We're also supporting LATCH again at our Christmas Market with all proceeds from our Raffle going to this great cause. Check out the thank you letter below from LATCH thanking us for our donation from our Autumn Market.

CONFIRMATION OF DONATION MADE TO LATCH FROM THE SHIRENEWTON AUTUMN MARKET RAFFLE

Dear Shirley

I am writing on behalf of LATCH Welsh Children's Cancer Charity to thank you for your very generous donation of £115.80.

Your thoughtful contribution will be used to provide care, comfort and support for children receiving treatment for cancer at the Children's Hospital for Wales and their families.

LATCH's essential support services, ranging from our 'Home from Home' accommodation, social work service to LATCH grants and support for Rainbow Ward cost over £800,000 per year to operate and without the continuing aid of supporters such as yourself, it would be impossible to continue to support children and their families when they need it the most.

If you have any questions or would like any further information, then please get in touch.

Once again, on behalf of the charity, thank you.

Warmest regards,

Helen White

LATCH Administrative Officer

Receipt No: 2023/401
Received: £115.80
Date payment received: 11/10/2023



CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL.

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

CCS -- ANOTHER SEASON BECKONS!!
CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY commences its 45th
season this autumn.

We are incredibly proud to still be "in business" post-pandemic and now look ahead, after an amazing return to full singing in 2022/23 season, to another year of three contrasting concerts for Christmas, Spring and Summer.

Wednesday December 13th, Chepstow School Arts Hall, 7.00pm – CHRISTMAS MUSIC and mince pies/wine/soft drinks – choir items, carols, a lovely start to Christmas!

Saturday March 23rd 2024, St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow, 7.30pm – Rossini's "Petite Messe Solennelle", a vibrant work for choir, 4 soloists and 2 pianos, as the principal item in the concert.

Wednesday July 3rd, Arts Hall, Chepstow School – a Celebration Summer Concert, with a mixed range of vocal items and styles –followed by light refreshments and drinks.

HOWEVER – it is an undeniable fact that Choral Societies cannot function without singers!!! CCS is the only choral group in our area to regularly produce concert programmes with 4-part SATB mixed singing, using professional musicians with full orchestras and young professional singers (the latter often from RWCMD).

If you enjoy singing, COME AND JOIN US!!! (details below).

www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk or tel. 01291 823310 (Marje) or follow us on Facebook & Twitter – @ChepstowChoral



FLAMING LOGS

KILN DRIED FIREWOOD

Based in Caerwent, Monmouthshire, we produce quality kiln dried hardwood firewood

Large Log Net



Large 30 Litre log nets £8

Bulk Bag



0.6M³ Bulk Bag: £100
£185 for 2

Loose Logs



Loose loads: 1M³ - £140
2M³ - £270
3M³ - £400

FREE DELIVERY within 10 miles of NP26 on orders over £100

07376 925981

www.flaminglogs.co.uk

Find us on 



Saturday 4th November
Severn Wye Ministry Area invite you to join a walk
around the Western churches:
Newchurch to Shirenewton setting off c 9am
Shirenewton to Mounton setting off c 11.30am
Mounton lunch break c 12.30pm setting off c 1.30pm to
Mathern
Mathern to St Pierre setting off c 2.30pm

There will be brief prayers at each church.
Total distance is around 9 miles but you are welcome to
join us for all or any part of the route (and to bring well
behaved dogs on leads).

Bring your own refreshments. Please wear suitable
clothing and footwear for the weather and terrain.
All timings approximate. Further details will be pub-
lished on our website at
www.severnwyema.co.uk



For more information about the day: Hilary 01291 624924

*This is not an official 'organised event' - we all walk independently,
and at our own risk. We can arrange lifts back to cars left at other
points on the route*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

Saturday 4 th 9.00 a.m.	Severn Wye Ministry Area walk Newchurch
Thursday 9 th 7.15 p.m.	WI Meeting—Crafty Pickle Company Recreation Hall
Sunday 12 th 10.30 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday Earlswood and Newchurch West Memorial Hall
Sunday 12 th 10.50 a.m.	Remembrance Sunday St Thomas à Becket Church, Shirenewton
Monday 13 th 7.30 p.m.	Ministry Area Praying Together St Christophers Church, Bulwark
Saturday 25 th 10.30-12.30	Village Christmas Market Recreation Hall
Monday 27 th 7.30 p.m.	Ministry Area Praying Together St Christophers Church, Bulwark
Tuesday 28 th 7.30 p.m.	Shirenewton Local History Society The Enclosures Act—Peter Strong

December

Saturday 2 nd 7.00 p.m.	Christmas Quiz Newchurch Farm Shop
Sunday 3 rd 11.00 a.m.	Advent Fair Church Room
Monday 11 th 7.30 p.m.	Ministry Area Praying Together St Christophers Church, Bulwark
Tuesday 12 th 7.30 p.m.	Shirenewton Local History Society Visit to St Arvans Church/The Piercefield
Wednesday 13 th 7.00 p.m.	Chepstow Choral Society—Christmas Music Chepstow School Arts Hall
Sunday 17 th 6.30 p.m.	Carols round the Christmas Tree Shirenewton Sultan car park
Tuesday 19 th 10.00 a.m.	The Little Red Robin St Deiniol's Church, Itton
Sunday 24 th 4.00 p.m.	Family Walking Nativity St Thomas à Becket Church
Wednesday 27 th 7.30/9.00 a.m.	Walk up Gray Hill and Community breakfast Woodland Tavern/Church Room

Feakes & Co Solicitors



For You and Your Family

- Disputes and Litigation
- Redundancy/Settlement Agreements
- Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Estate and Tax Planning

Chepstow office: 01291 639280

Newport office: 01633 358888

info@feakes-legal.com | www.feakes-legal.com

Senior Services

Pressure washing, Paths, Patios,
Fences, Driveways

Fence painting/Staining

Home Offices/Sheds

Contact Rob



TEL: 07391046450

Reliable, Traditional, Courteous



The MONMOUTHSHIRE Window Company

T: 01291 630063

www.monmouthshirewindows.com

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

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

Stepwise Podiatry

www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk

**Poppy Rastall BSc (Hons), MSCh, SRCh, HCPC reg
Podiatrist / Chiropodist**

Nail care, Corns, Callus, Verruca treatment, Sports Injury treatment
Ingrown toenails & Nail Surgery,
Diabetic foot health checks

**Call today for an appointment
01291 689 917**

Clinic locations in Chepstow and Tintern!
Stepwise Podiatry, Ashweir Lodge, Main Road, Tintern, NP16 6SE
Unit 2, Riflemans Way, Chepstow, NP16 5EJ
Home Visits available for house bound patients only



Trophies
Glass
Plaques
Shields

Cups
Tankards
Medals
Engraving

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

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

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

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

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

The graphic features a man with a beard, wearing a light-colored shirt, smiling as he looks at a smartphone. He is also holding a laptop. The background is a light yellow gradient with a large yellow circle behind the man. The text 'easyfundraising turns your online shopping into everyday magic' is written in a dark teal font. A yellow button with the text 'Support us' is positioned above the man. At the bottom, the Easyfundraising logo and the tagline 'You shop, brands donate to us' are displayed on a dark teal background.

easyfundraising
turns your online shopping
into everyday magic

Support us

 easyfundraising You shop, brands donate to us

Home Group



Sharing Life and Faith Together

Every Thursday @ 7.30pm

Please contact

Kevin & Cath Higgs for details.

01291 624026

chepstowpriory@gmail.com

Ian Watts & Son Ltd



Independent Funeral Directors

Est 1968

24 hour service

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

01291 420972 • 07977 092935

www.ianwattsandson.com



THE
BATHROOM
SHOWROOM

AT

CITY
PLUMBING

Check out
our fantastic
new product
displays.
Get inspired
today!

YOUR PERFECT BATHROOM IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

AT THE SCHOOL TRADING ESTATE IN CHEPSTOW

From taps to tiles, cloakrooms to family bathrooms,
and lighting to heating, we have it all.

Unit 1, The School Trading Estate, Chepstow,
Monmouthshire NP16 5PH

T:01291 630643 M: 07469 402233

Book your appointment today!

By phone 01291 630643 or online at www.bathrooms.com



Trade &
Public
welcome



Free 3D
design
& planning



Free Tile
sampling
service

www.bathrooms.com

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

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



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

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

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

**Spring
Clean**
EST. 1986

Proprietor:
Alan Knight

Mob: 07786 364759

Tel: 01291 424399

www.springcleanclean.co.uk

**Carpet & Upholstery Cleaners
Empty Property Deep
and Sparkle Cleans Undertaken**

✳ COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC INSURED SERVICE

✳ PROFESSIONAL PERSONAL SERVICE AT REALISTIC PRICES

✳ RELIABLE & THOROUGH

✳ ESTIMATES FREE NO OBLIGATIONS

✳ SATISFIED CLIENTS THROUGHOUT AREA CODES

01291-01600-01594-01633 AND BEYOND



Daniel & Matthew Haines **LLANVAIR LANDSCAPES**

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

Fully Insured. Competitive Prices, Free Quotes

Contact: Daniel or Matthew Haines

01633 400548, 07930 893680

07930 893678

Firewood for Sale

**Barn Stored Seasoned
Logs for Sale**

Contact Daniel or Matthew Haines

Tel.- 01633 400548

07930 893680 or 07930 893678

Huntsman Hotel Chepstow Ltd

Huntsman Hotel Lounge, Beer Garden



Tin Shed, Bar & Decking View



Beer Garden, Tin Shed Bar &

***Lounge Bar / Dining Area**

***Sunday Lunch, Parties or Functions only**

*with food available on our established
takeaway evenings plus Saturday & Sunday lunchtime or
prebooked parties etc*

ooOoo

Opening times Mon, Tues, Thurs, 5pm till 7.30pm,

Saturday 12 noon until 2pm & 5pm until 8.30pm,

Wed. & Fri. 5pm to 9pm. Sunday 12 noon to 7pm

So if you want to pop down on a Monday,

***Tuesday or Thursday Evening after 7.30pm let
us know and we can be here for you.***

FB Messenger, Email, or call 01291-641521

ooOoo

Opening times may vary so let us know when you want us open....



Happy to open for groups at lunchtime for drinks

& food if enough of you!



We are serving Real Ales straight from the Cask,

Lager, Cider, Wine and Spirits.

Roaring Fire in the Shed & Patio Heaters on the decking

Richard Kopp

PLUMBING & HEATING

01291 641581

07780 703530

richardkopp70@hotmail.co.uk

www.rk-plumbingandheating.co.uk

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



LIFE SAVING DEFIBRILLATOR

999
CPR
AED

PLEASE REMOVE BEFORE INSTALLATION
BOOK NO: 105-10-0000
LOT NO: 105-10-0000
EXP. DATE: N/A

Defibrillator
Heart Restarter

Turn Handle To Open

CALL 999

Steroplast
MADE IN THE UK

sales@steroplast.co.uk 0161 902 3030 www.steroplast.co.uk

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

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

- Carpenters Arms (on the Usk road)
- Huntsman Hotel (on the Usk road)
- Recreation Hall (Shirenewton village)
- Shirenewton Sultan (The Square, centre of Shirenewton)
- Earlswood Hall (Erlswood)



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

LOCAL CONTACTS

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

Church of St Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton

Ministry Area Leader (designate)	Revd Philip Averay revphilipaveray@gmail.com	01291 620980
Rector	Revd Julian White Jel.white@btinternet.com	01291 622317
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	07821 725 690
Church Wardens – Rector's	Sally Saysell	01291 641 369
– People's	Andrew Baker	01291 641 925
LCC Secretary	John Montague jmontyvet@hotmail.co.uk	01291 329 481
LCC Treasurer	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175
LCC Members	Janet Horton	01291 641 783
	James Leney	01291 641 271
	Wendy Montague	01291 329 481
	John Burrows	01291 641 845
Organists	Karen Millar	01291 650 521
	James Leney	01291 641 271
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' Mathern

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

Ministry Area Council Representative

Wendy Montague 01291 329 481

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

Shirenewton Community Council Clerk

shirenewtoncc@gmail.com

Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Ward:

Chair	Philip Butterworth 01291 641704	philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Vice Chair	Catherine Martin 01291329610	cathie.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Keith M Dunn OBE 01291 641152	keith.d@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Ian Martin 01291 650014	ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
	Gary Mitchell 01291 641037	gary.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

Earlswood and Newchurch Ward

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

MCC for Shirenewton

Louise Brown 07598 97971 louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

David Davies 020 7219 8360 daviesd@parliament.uk

Police and 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 Mr Raymond Jeremiah 01291 641726

Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall

Chairman Becca Allen 07889762840 chair@earlnew.com

Treasurer Geoff Todd 07855301806 treasurer@earlnew.com

Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel

Avril Smith 01291 627677

Gaerllwyd Baptist

Mrs E Remnant Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA

Ranger Guides

Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com

Recreation Association Beverly Lyndsay 07798 780971 beverlylindsay@btinternet.com

Recreation Hall booking

Beryl Saysell 01291 641637 saysellberyl@gmail.com

St Peters Church Newchurch

Enid Heritage 01291 622708

enidheritage@gmail.com

Shirenewton Local History Society

Dorothy Brabon 01291 641376 brabonnl@hotmail.com

Gwent Wildlife Trust Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Meadows
(previously SAMFAL) 01600 740600

Caerwent Group Mothers Union

Treasurer Rosemary Carey 01291 425010 crcandkili@tiscali.co.uk
Bridget Evans 01291 408125 bridget.caldicot@gmail.com

Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS)

Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818

glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

Shirenewton Play Group

Beverly Lindsay Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com

Shirenewton Primary School

Mr Nick Penn, Head Teacher 01291 641774

shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Shirenewton Toddler Group

Jude Langdon 07981 368213

Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com

Shirenewton Tennis Association

Andy Orrell shirenewtontennis@gmail.com

Fairtrade

Marion McAdam 01291 641316 msm316@gmail.com

Womens Institute (WI)

Diane Ashton Smith (President) 01291 628838

Jane Butterworth (Secretary) 01291 641704.

J & B Sewing Machines

Established 1961
www.jbsewing.com



- Domestic & Industrial Sewing Machines
- Servicing & Repairs
- Fabrics & Haberdashery
- Quilting & Creative Sewing Classes
- Coffee Mornings
- Serving South Wales For 58 Years
- **Helpful Friendly Advice!**



Main Dealers for:



J & B House
Curlew Close
Queensway Meadows
Newport
NP19 4SY
Tel: 01633 284646

Unit 4a Gripoly Mills
Sloper Road
Cardiff
CF11 8AA
Tel: 02922 402148

SHIRENEWTON PARISH MAGAZINE EDITORIAL INFORMATION

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

Editor: Bill Clark 01291 641783 email: parishmagshirenewton@gmail.com

The cost of the Magazine is £1.50 per issue/10 issues for £14.

Copies are delivered free by local distributors to those who have pre-paid.

Monthly copies are available at the Church.

Previous editions of the magazine are available online on the Church website at www.shirenewtonchurch.info.

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

Advertising Rates for Commercial organisations

Full designated page for 12 months £150

Full page 12 months 10 issues £100

Half Page 12 months 10 issues £50

Quarter Page 12 months 10 issues £25

Advertising for Local and Charity organisations is free.

The editor reserves the right to print free content and
free advertisements in black and white

Editorial policy is to print what you provide, space and technology
permitting. The views expressed are those of the contributor.

**Preferred Document format is an MS Word document attached
to an email. Preferred Advert and Photograph format is JPEG
attached to an email**

**Deadline for the December 2023/January 2024 issue is
9:00 a.m. Monday 27th November 2023**

Now Taking Bookings
for Christmas Day

Sultan Shirenewton

INDIAN DINING & BAR



Takeaways available
01291 901121



www.sultanshirenewton.co.uk

