Shirenewton Parish Magazine



Phil Moles 1962-2024

September 2024





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 uprepayments 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



Philip Nicholas Moles (1962-2024) Landlord of the Huntsman Inn, Shirenewton, Monmouthshire

On 12 July 2024 after a short illness in hospital and sepsis, Phil Moles, Landlord of the Huntsman pub in Shirenewton, Monmouthshire, died at the age of 62. Phil was a 'larger than life' character and a great loss to the village. Phil and family moved from Essex to Shirenewton nearly 40 years ago and during that time have made an enormous contribution to the life of the village as Landlord of the Huntsman pub, which has been the location for so many village and county occasions, and in other aspects of village life and in the many functions around the county particularly with the Hog Roasts at major events and gatherings, and internal and external catering with his sister Lucy. Phil was a Master Butcher by trade but had so many other skills and worked so hard and diligently to improve those skills and take leading roles in the many organisations in which he was involved.

Regulars at the Huntsman will say 'Phil saw us through COVID' and he did. At one of the most historically difficult times in our history, in 2020 and 2021, when no one was allowed to meet each other or to stand any nearer than 2 metres apart, and even then only on permitted activities, or to travel outside the village other than to a supermarket for food, Phil managed to keep what was then the only pub in the village going through the legal exemptions permissible for take away food and drink and strict adherence to the rules. Phil

was great company and very knowledgeable and intelligent, and very balanced in his views, and he had great humour. His 'cheeky grin' would spread and he could turn any conversation into a real laugh and it was never directed at anyone or negative but clever wit, generous, and real entertainment.

On Tuesday 13 August 2024 it seemed like the whole village had turned out to Phil Moles's funeral which was held at Itton Church (the Huntsman Inn is just inside Itton Parish). Over 100 people stood outside the full church and heard the service, conducted by the Reverend John Waters, over the loudspeaker. People came from all over – from Wales and England and from different aspects of Phil's life and work, from villagers and locals at Phil's pub to County Magistrates and the Welsh Senydd Member for Monmouthshire (Peter Fox MS). The same happened at Langstone

Crematorium with nearly the same number outside. The Wake was held at the Huntsman with many extra marquees and spaces around the Shed to accommodate the guests and with parking in two extra fields below the pub. It was a great testament to Phil and to the hundreds that knew him and appreciated him from different walks of life.

To give an idea of Phil's life 'beyond the bar' an extract is enclosed from one of the two eulogies given at Itton Church. The following extract is from the Eulogy given by **Richard Elmes** (with his kind consent).

Philip Nicholas Moles born 18th of November 1962, known to all as Phil moved to the Huntsman in Shirenewton nearly 40 years ago in 1986 with his then wife Jane. In 1988 Phil and Jane had their first child, Pippa, in 1989 then James came along, then Charlie in 1990 in and Harriet in 1992. In 2002 Phil met Alison and they were married in 2004 and young Sam came along in 2006.

We had lovely holidays with Phil, Alison and Sam in both Lanzarote and Dubai. Phil absolutely loved the island of Lanzarote and particularly enjoyed his scuba diving there. Phil achieved the distinction and qualification of Master Diver Deep Water. Phil also achieved his qualification as a Powerboat 2 driver.

In 2012 Phil was accepted as one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace (JP). Phil was part of the Gwent Bench leadership team as a Deputy Bench Chair supporting 145 magistrates. Phil was the Chair for the South Wales Training and Appraisers Committee and was the Chair when sitting with magistrates in adult crime courts and family courts. Phil was a Mentor mentoring new magistrates in their first year and was an appraiser assessing competence of magistrates.

Phil was a member of the Gwent Drugs Rehabilitation Review Panel, monitoring progress of defendants sentenced for drug offences. Phil Moles is described by Mr. Peter McLoughlin JP Chairman of the Magistrates Bench, as:-"An influential and important member of Gwent magistrates who will be sorely missed by everyone who had the pleasure of sitting with him in court".

During Covid, Phil opened the hotel up as a halfway house for young offenders and his mantra was "when they come here they come with a clean slate and we won't judge them"

Phil decided to complete his law degree via the Open University and it was not unusual to go into the pub before it opened and see Phil sitting on the customer side of the bar with his laptop open sorting out his coursework. Phil went on to attain a 2.1 law degree in 2018.

Phil was instrumental in raising funds for charity in excess of £100,000 through his Shire Fest music festivals and ensuring defibrillators came to Shirenewton and were properly maintained.

Phil leaves behind him: his wife Alison and their son Sam; his sister Lucy and her partner Huw; and his children Pippa, James, Charles, and Harriet and their partners and four grandchildren; and those who have gone before him are Tony and Cynthia his parents and Stuart his brother'.

HARVEST FESTIVALS

Gilgal non-conformist chapel, near Llanvaches Sunday 1st September at 3 p.m. with refreshments

Earlswood Valley Methodists chapel Sunday 29th September at 3 p.m.

'Hope' Methodists Sunday 6th October at 3 p.m.

VILLAGE CURRY NIGHTS

Hello all, The Village Curry nights are back!

Due to popular demand the village curry nights will be reinstated from September. As a reminder, they happen as follows: The Mens curry night is on the penultimate Thursday evening in the month and the Ladies on the last Thursday evening in the month. So, for September, these dates are Thursday 19th (Mens) and Thursday 26th (Ladies). So, please save the date.

The format is, as always, a simple buffet featuring three different curries, rice and nans, costing £20 per person.

This is a great opportunity to catch up with neighbours and friends and meet others in the village you may **not** normally meet. Name badges are provided so you know who you are talking with. Please comment below (or contact us via FB messenger or via our WhatsApp number 07418 046919) to tell us you are coming so we know approximate numbers.

BTW: We, the Sultan, are posting this as David Cornwell who previously organised these nights has handed over the organisation to us!

COMMUNITY CLOCK REPAIR

Firstly, many thanks to those who took the time to respond to the Community Council request for feedback on the repairs necessary to the church clock.

The feedback received to date has been limited, of the 160 households in Shirenewton and 131 households in Mynnyddbach we received only 14 responses. The responses have been fairly, equally split on whether the clock should be repaired or not. Some views have also been expressed that any repairs that are undertaken should not be done by utilising Community Council reserve funds.

The Community Council has discussed the responses in depth and based on the number of responses and feedback it is clear that we do not have the remit of our community to commit community funding for any repairs other than by way of small grants.

Therefore, if the clock is to be repaired, this will need to be funded by community led fundraising efforts. If anyone would like to take on the role of fundraising coordinator, please get in touch and the Community Council can pass over the contact details for the repair company as appropriate.

Many thanks. Shirenewton Community Council



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

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2024 – JULY 2025

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY commence their 2024/2025 season on Wednesday September 4th with a first rehearsal at Chepstow School Drama Room, 7.30pm - 9.30pm.

The Society is planning a season which will focus on recruitment as well as our traditional "3 Concerts during the year –Christmas, Spring and Summer" – like ALL Societies of our ilk, we cannot function without singers –sopranos, altos, tenors and basses!

CCS is also proud to celebrate 25 years this season of being the only Society in our area to offer four-part choral concerts featuring a fully professional orchestra, instrumentalists, and soloists often from RWCMD commencing their professional careers.

CONCERT DATES, 2024/2025

<u>WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11th 2024</u>, CHEPSTOW SCHOOL ARTS HALL –our Annual Christmas Programme of carols and Christmas items –this year to include choruses from "Messiah"

SATURDAY MARCH 29th 2025, ST MARY's PRIORY CHURCH, CHEPSTOW – a Spring Concert with Professional Orchestra, including a wonderful work by John Rutter of a comprehensive set of folk songs (Sprig of Thyme) with instrumental accompaniment

JUNE 2025 -date to be confirmed.

CCS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!! If you would like to join a friendly four-part vocal group who perform with first-class musicians, CCS is for you! For further information, please contact Marjorie (01291 – 623310, bduerden@doctors.org.uk) or visit our CCS website (www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk) and follow us on Facebook & X (Twitter) @ChepstowChoral



www. newportbus.co.uk
t 01633 670563
f /NewportBus
x @NewportBus

Timetable from 1 September 2024

Chepstow | Usk | Pontypool | Cwmbran

Monday to Friday except Bank Holiday Monday

via Chepstow Community Hospital. Shirenewton, Earlswood, Gaerllwyd, Llangwm, Gwernesney, Coleg Gwent, Croesyceiliog

Saturdays

	Sch	HOL							
Cwmbran Bus Station [Stand H]	0712	0712	0922	1200	1	1650	0712		1200
Croesyceiliog Edlogan Square	0717	0717	0927	1205	ı	1655	0717		
Pontypool Town Hall	0725	0725	0935	1213	1420	1713	0725	0935	1213
Pontypool Park Road	0726	0726	0936	1214	1421	1714	0726		
Pontypool opp Town Hall	0727	0727	0937	1215	1422	1715	0727		
Little Mill Pont-y-pia	0734	0734	0944	1222	1429	1722	0734		
Usk Coleg Gwent Main Road	0741	0741	0951	1229	1436	1730	0741		
Usk Twyn Square	0747	0747	0957	1235	1442	1736	0747		
Llangwm Bridge Inn Road	0755	0755	1005	1243	1450	1744	0755		
Earlswood West End	0803	0803	1013	1251	1458	1752	0803		
Shirenewton Road Junction	0813	0813	1023	1301	1508	1800	0813		
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	1	0820	1030	1308	1515	1807	0820		
Chepstow Comprehensive School	0820	1	1	1	1	1	-		
Chepstow Bus Station	0825	0824	1034	1312	1519	1811	0824		1312

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays Sorry, there is no Sunday service on route 63

These timetables are updated for 1 September 2024 and show changes to assist college students

Cwmbran | Pontypool | Usk | Chepstow

via Croesyceiliog, Coleg Gwent, Gwenesney, Llangwm, Gaerllwyd, Earlswood, Shirenewton, Chepstow Community Hospital

Monday to Friday except Bank Holiday Mondays							Satur	urdays			
				Sch	HOH						
Chepstow Bus Station	0805	1040	1320	1525	1526	1820	0805	1040	1320	1526	1820
Chepstow Comprehensive School	ı	ı	ı	1530	ı		1	1	ı	ı	ı
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	6080	1044	1324	1	1530	1824	0809	1044	1324	1530	1824
Shirenewton Road Junction	0817	1051	1331	1537	1537	1831	0817	1051	1331	1537	1831
Earlswood West End	0825	1059	1339	1545	1545	1839	0825	1059	1339	1545	1839
Llangwm Bridge Inn Road	0834	1108	1348	1554	1554	1848	0834	1108	1348	1554	1848
Usk Twyn Square	0843	1117	1357	1603	1603	1857	0843	1117	1357	1603	1857
Usk Coleg Gwent Main Road	0848	1122	1402	1609	1609	1901	0848	1122	1402	1609	1901
Little Mill Bridge	0855	1129	1409	1616	1616	1908	0855	1129	1409	1616	1908
Pontypool Town Hall	060	1138	1418	1625	1625	1916	060	1138	1418	1625	1916
Pontypool Park Road	0904	1139	1421	1626	1626	1917	0904	1139	1421	1626	1917
Pontypool opp Town Hall	0905	1140	ı	1627	1627	1918	0905	1140	1	1627	1918
Croesyceiliog Edlogan Square	0913	1147	I	1635	1635	1925	0913	1147	I	1635	1925
Cwmbran Bus Station	0917	1151	1	1639	1639	1929	0917	1151	i	1639	1929

Sch Operates on schooldays only

Hol Operates school holidays only

Sorry, there is no Sunday service on route 63 Sundays and Bank JOPEN

'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



SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Extracts from the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 1st July 2024.

Planning applications considered

DM/2024/00555/558 The Old Rectory, Crick Rd Shirenewton, NP16 6RQ— Listed building consent/vehicular access — Application on hold.

DM/2024/00769 Woodland View, Old Rad, Pen y Cae Mawr, NP15 1LX- Proposed new outbuilding, garden store and garage. -Application withdrawn

DM/2023/01016 Former Whitemill Welsh Water Works, Usk Rd, Shirenewton, NP16 6BU- Appeal against Refusal of Planning permission – Part conversion Part development of buildings to create 3 no dwelling houses (use - class C3) with associated parking and landscaping.

Councillors objected to the original application in August last year as follows.

SCC strongly objects to this application. The existing buildings are an intrusion into the Wye Valley ANOB and as they are clearly no longer in use and, having no architectural merit, should be demolished and the land restored to its original woodland state.

SCC requests a copy of the planning consent or certificate authorising the original construction to ascertain what conditions were imposed.

Were MCC nevertheless to contemplate the grant of planning consent SCC further objects for want of:

1. compliance with planning policies LC4 and H4 and particularly H4 e) and q).

- 2. an assessment for alternative business use and justification for residential use.
- 3. supporting documents including Design Statement and Reports on biodiversity and traffic impact.
- 4. detail on building dimensions, plot layouts, services, external colour finishes, thermal efficiency and heating, construction of roadway access, traffic safety.
- 5. the lack of outbuildings particularly garaging and household storage.
- the lack of design reflecting Monmouthshire residential characteristics.

MCC refused the application on the following grounds:

- 1) The proposed development represents an un-justified and un-sustainable form of development in the open countryside contrary to Planning Policy Wales 11 and Local Development Plan Policies S1, H4 and LC1 of the Monmouthshire Local Development Plan. 2)
- 2) Insufficient information has been submitted in support of the proposed development for the Local Planning Authority to make an informed decision in relation to Highway Safety in accordance with Local Development Plan Policy MV1 or fulfil its duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Four residents objected, primarily on road safety grounds, and one neighbour supported the application. County Councillor LB strongly objected. Wye Valley OANB planning officer did not object in principle but sought more detail to reach an overall view.

Recommendation: SCC fully supports MCC's refusal and the concerns expressed by local residents as to highway safety which is a serious issue on this very bendy section of the Usk Road, and therefore repeats all its previous objections to this planning application in the absence of any new detail or justification.

SCC further repeats its request for a copy of the original planning consent or certification for the erection of the buildings as the conditions may require the buildings to be demolished and the site returned to its previous woodland state on disuse. **Recommendation approved by Clirs.**

Councilor Vacancy – there remains 1 vacancy currently advertised on the website & noticeboards.

Church Clock update: Consultation with the public continues.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Clir Louise Brown reported: No County Council meetings have taken place due to the elections.

Extracts from the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 5th August 2024

Items for Discussion:

Church Clock update: Cllrs discussed all options and noted that less than 1% of the community had expressed an opinion. Separate statement to be issued shortly.

Clir Vacancy, Absence. A vacancy for Shirenewton & Mynnyddbach is now being advertised.

Earlswood field rental update – Cllrs to relook at lease and price for rent, plus broader advertising, parish magazines in the locality, and notice boards.

Parking at Mynyddbach Common land – Discussed recent communication regarding parking on the common. It was **noted** to request - *'Please park with consideration to your environment and your neighbors'* to anyone in the local area, by putting out local notices, information.

Crick Planter – It has been reported the planter needs replacement, Cllrs agreed to replace.

Clir Butterworth – Pleased to confirm the drainage for the Trampoline in the children's play area has been completed by MCC.

The Community Council have approved the following applications for Grants to Local Organisations

The Council have approved local donations to the value of £1786.00 (one thousand, seven hundred and sixty pounds) and agreed payments would be made in September.

Organisation	Amou Reque		Project Total	t	Project Details	Amount Granted
Shirenewton WI		£56		£56	Purchase screen for talks (happy t share with village (100%)	:0
Shirenewton Churc	h	£1,10	0	£3,200	Maintenance of Churchyard and Grounds (30%)	£1,000
Shirenewton Churc	ch	£80		£80	Purchase of Christmas tree ar Carols round tree (100%)	-
Shirenewton Recreation Association		£500		£5,544	Roof repairs (9,25% approx.) (quote provided)	£250
ShAMBLE		£100		£271	Printing of promotional material, Posters and map (37%)	
Earlswood & Newo War Memorial Hall	hurch	£500		£5,088	<u> </u>	
		£2,3	36	£14,23		£1,786

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Louise Brown reported: County Council 18th of July 2024

The County Council meeting considered the medium-term financial strategy, the appointment of an Older People's Champion and the Chief Officer report for children and young people. The medium-term financial strategy shows a base rate budget shortfall of £34.7 m. There were various motions and questions put forward. The reports can be found at the following link: https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx? CId=143&MId=5740

People Scrutiny Committee on the 23rd of July 2024

The above meeting considered the Care Inspectorate Wales inspection and the Home to School transport Policy. The reports and the meeting itself can be watched here.

https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx? CId=304&MId=5816

Special Place Scrutiny Committee on the 24th of July 2024

The Committee considered the findings of a public consultation and site investigation surveys on the suitability of three pieces of Council owned land - Langley Close, Magor; Bradbury Farm, Crick and Oakgrove, Portskewett (see Appendix 1) for possible development as Gypsy and Traveller sites and inclusion in the Council's Deposit Replacement Local Development plan.

The reports and the meeting itself can be watched here: https://democracy.monmouthshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?

Home to School Transport Consultation

The Home to School transport consultation runs **until mid-day on the 23rd of August 2024**. The consultation should have been sent to parents of school children. It is consulting on 3 options.

The Options

Option 1 The reversion to the statutory distance of 2 miles for statutory aged primary learners attending their nearest suitable or catchment school. If this option is agreed, the council will stop providing free home to school transport for learners attending primary school who have an available walking route and live less than 2 miles from their nearest suitable or catchment school. This will apply to those who currently receive free transport and any future applicants.

Option 2 The reversion to the statutory distance of 3 miles for statutory aged secondary learners attending their nearest suitable or catchment school. If this option is agreed, the council will stop providing free home to school transport for learners aged 11 - 16 who have an available walking route and live less than 3 miles from their nearest suitable or catchment school. This will apply to those who currently receive free transport and any future applicants.

Option 3 Where the council are unable to secure an affordable external operator, or if it is the best financial option, parents / guardians will be offered a personal transport budget to transport their children to and from school. This option will apply to all learners, including ALN learners.

If you have questions about the Home to School consultation, you can attend a drop-in session to speak to officers. Drop-in sessions:

• Thursday 1st August 9.30 – 12pm Mayor Parlour, Abergavenny Town Hall

- Thursday 1st August 2pm 4.30pm Usk Community Hub
- <u>Monday 5th August 2pm 4.30pm Monmouth Community Hub</u>
- Thursday 8th August 9.30 12pm Chepstow Community Hub

<u>Thursday 8th August 2pm – 4.30pm Caldicot Community</u> Hub

The feedback from the consultation will be presented to Cabinet on 11th September to determine if any of the options will be adopted for the 25-26 policy.

The consultation was discussed at the People Committee on the 23rd of July 2024 and the link for the consultation itself, can be found here:

https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/home-to-school-transport-consultation-2/

Date of the next meeting – Monday 2nd September 2024 at 7.00pm - can be attended in person at the Shirenewton Recreation Hall or remotely via Microsoft Teams (a link will be provided on emailing the Clerk), with prior notice. 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 Mobile: 07410 580961



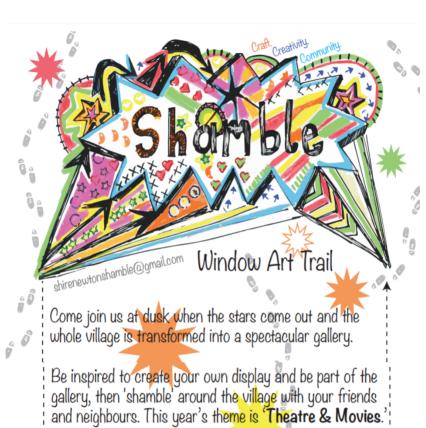
Village Mobile Hairdresser

Don't have the time to go to a hairdresser? Have your hair done in the comfort of your own home!

Cut & Blow-dry
Tint
Highlights
Perms

Call for details; Rachel 01291 641461

(29 years' experience)



Don't miss out! It will be on 12 & 13th October 2024

If you want to decorate your window please let us know so that we can put you on the map! Please register by 27/09 here:

www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk

If you just want to walk around and enjoy the window art there's no need to register.

ShireShAMBLE

9

shirenewton_shamble

Shirenewton, Mynydd Bach and Earlswood Community group

SHAMBLE: Shirenewton And Mynydd Bach iLlumination Extravaganza!







Ring'n'Ride

Fixing the War Memorial Clock on Shirenewton Church Tower! Saturday 31st August

The bell ringers are going on a 35 mile bike-ride to raise money for the clock repairs. On the way we are ringing in 7 church towers.

Mathern - Penhow - Llanwern - Redwick - Magor - Caldicot - Shirenewton All donations are very welcome

Contact: Bob 07452 332880 Or Glynis 01291 641818

To Donate, Search "Shirenewton" on justgiving.com or scan the QR Code ------>



www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/RingnRide

Or.... good old cash!

Mending The Memorial Clock on Shirenewton Church Tower.

The clock was installed on the church tower after the First World War as a memorial to those who had died for our country. Sadly our beautiful clock has become old and worn and needs a major overhaul. It turns out that the clock is much older than we thought. It is a pre-loved, second-hand late Victorian clock c1880 although it is now difficult to read the whole date. But it is a real classy piece of clockwork, and I have been told that if you go up to the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich you can see a clock just like ours alongside the Harrison Longitude clock. That's just how good our village clock is!

The clock is the property of the Community Council (and <u>not</u> the church!) and funds are unlikely to stretch this far. So, a group of enthusiastic Shirenewton bell ringers are very keen to help. By the time you read this we will have been on our 'Ring'n'Ride' challenge. Led by Bob, we will have cycled 35 miles and rung at 7 churches, all in a day. I had wanted to call it Bells, Bikes 'n Beers' but Bob's 'Ring 'n' Ride' chimes better.

It's not too late to sponsor us. You can go to the Just Giving Page online (see poster) or just give good old cash. At the time of writing this article we have already raised £950

Glynis MacDonald



THE BELLS, THE BELLS

This year's Annual Summer Ringing Tour was held over the weekend of 28th – 30th June around the N.Oxfordshire / S.Warwickshire border close to the Fosse Way. The Summer Tour is traditionally a weekend event headquartered around a campsite as base, allowing more distant towers to be sampled than possible on a single day trip. The Tour starts on Friday late afternoon with just 3 towers to visit and usually towers with lower numbers of bells to allow for stragglers' absences, however, an advanced party (Pip and Mike) headed out early Friday morning armed with oil can's of castor oil. We had been informed that one of the towers on Saturday (Ettington) had not been rung for some considerable time and, as on plain bearings, needed advanced oiling. This task completed we headed to our camp base at Burland House Farm just south of Oxhill and waited for others to appear. At 4 pm with more than sufficient number of ringers assembled we range the 3 bells of St Peter, Whatcote. By now the total complement of ringers, 18 in all, had assembled. The Shirenewton ringers were joined by Maddie Stanley, a past Shirenewton ringer now living in Bristol, Wendy Reilly and Jane Craddock from Rhymney, and Rebecca Utting a past ringer from Mathern now living near Ross. We then headed to Pillerton Hersey a delightful 5 and finally the 5 bells at Oxhill. These proved to be an extreme challenge, as we later discovered they were also on plain bearings and had not been rung for a considerable time. Having finally raised them we managed some fairly ragged ringing as each band tried to keep them raised - a shame really as had we known in advance these could have also been oiled beforehand. We then headed back to camp to recover before walking from the farm back to Oxhill to enjoy the delights of The Peacock Inn.

Saturday was the main Tour date with 10 towers organised. We started at Sutton under Brailes (5 bells) followed by Cherington (6), Honington (6), Tredington (6) then Ettington (4), which proved to be nice and easy to ring. The final tower of the morning housing the oldest bell of the day (4th c1400) was Halford (6) conveniently situated behind the Halford Bridge Inn, our lunch stop. After a leisurely lunch we headed down the Fosse Way to Shipston on Stour (6), then Tysoe (6), Shenington (6) then finally Brailes. St George, Brailes has the third heaviest 6 (29.2 cwt – more than 5x the weight of the Shirenewton tenor) and we had been warned they were a challenge. However, compared to Oxhill they seemed fairly civilised and we manged a few doubles methods but kept our attempts at minor to just Plain Hunt. Back at camp nibbles and

drinks were consumed followed by an excellent BBQ to round off the day.

For Sunday the original intention had been to join the ringers at Hook Norton to ring the reputed glorious 8, however, this being the 5th Sunday of the month no service ringing was scheduled.

5th Sunday of the month no service ringing was scheduled. However, we were invited to ring at nearby Wigginton, which had been an unringable 3 but now fully restored by Whites of Appleton and augmented to 6. The access is interesting as the spiral staircase arrives to the ringing room about 7 feet above the floor requiring descent on a ladder. The ring is truly excellent and we managed the best ringing of the weekend including an excellent touch of Cambridge Minor. After we headed back to camp for breakfast, then we decamped and set off back to South Wales. In the evening held a post-Tour celebration courtesy of Jane and James Leney.



The ringers at Sutton under Brailes

At the camp refectory

HOW to take part in ShAMBLE

*decorate your window

Come to the party at The Rec Oct 12th

Mingle with friends

Pick up a map

Borrow our hi vis

walk the ShAMBLE window art trail

Happy Shamble-ing

Sat October 12th & Sun 13th 2024

*or just come and enjoy the party and window art!

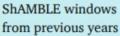
Opening night refreshments Saturday 12th October 6.30pm

Don't miss the opening night party at the Recreation Hall on Saturday 12th October, where you can collect a map and hi-viz for all the family! AND of course indulge in some lovely home made cakes and a beverage of your choice. We will have a selection of wine, beer and soft drinks available at **very good prices!** Everyone is welcome.

























ShAMBLE 2024



Craft, cake and conversation

29th September, 2 - 4pm, Shirenewton Rec Hall. Kick start your ShAMBLE window art! Art materials available for a small donation.

shirenewtonshamble@gmail.com www.shirenewtonshamble.org.uk For all the family!





Free cream tea in one of our homes; if it's your birthday that month, come along!

Hosted by
David & Catherine Carne
and
Revds Zoe & Barney Pimentel

For venue information and to RSVP, please contact Revd Zoe: severn.wye.MAL@gmail.com / 07754 306229

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



FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S NEWCHURCH

Diary Dates 2024

21st Sept, 7pm Harvest Supper Church Farm 15th Dec, 4.30pm Christingle Service St Peter's Church 24th Dec, 4.30pm Christmas Carol Service St Peter's Church 25th Dec, 10am Christmas Day Service St Peter's Church



Congratulations to our 200 Club winners in June:

- 1. Angharad Thomas
- 2. Jamie Williamson
- 3. Owen the Golden Retriever

Devauden Photography Competition 2024



WE WANT TO SEE YOUR BEST PHOTOGRAPH!

What is the best photograph you have taken recently?

What picture are you most proud of?

Perhaps you haven't taken it yet!

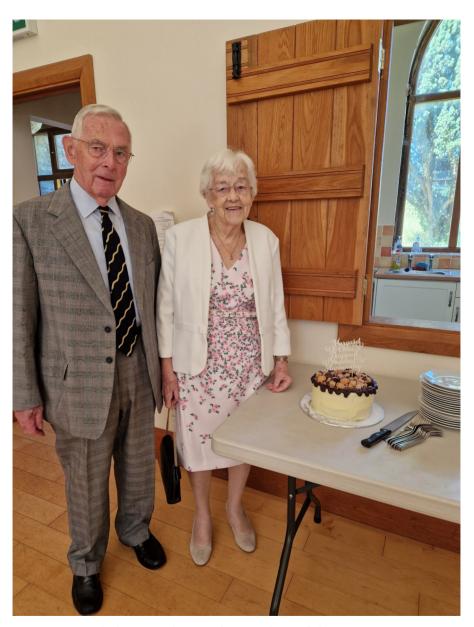
It could be a landscape, a sunset, your family in their finest (or in their PJ's), your dog, a view from your window, a still life, or some wildlife!

All photos must be taken within 5 miles of the Wesley statue on the village green after 1*August 2023.

The 12 best pictures will be made into a calendar for 2025 and we will display all entries in the church in September! Our judges are professional contributing photographers for Getty images, GAP photographs, the Professional Garden Photographers Association.

How do I enter?

We can only accept one digital photograph per person, so please email your best photograph to <u>devauden.photos@gmail.com</u> before midnight on Sunday 1st September. If you are under 16, please let us know when your picture is emailed in by your parent or responsible adult.



Margaret and Chris Sturcke, regular members of the congregation at Shirenewton, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on 29th July. We all enjoyed a slice of delicious chocolate cake with them at coffee after the service the day before. Many congratulations to them!

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

It seems a long time since I wrote our last article for the Parish Mag.

We have had a busy summer. June saw Prof Mark Lewis give a very interesting and very local history talk entitled 'Roman Houses in Caerwent'. We are so lucky to live in an area of such historic interest and so close by.

July saw our members visit Mounton House Garden, again so close at hand. We had a conducted tour of the garden by Helena Gerrish who has recently written a book on the garden. The weather was kind and we had a wonderful afternoon, walking in the cutting garden that had arches of sweet peas that exuded a heady perfume after the recent rain, along the terraces and as you can see in the photograph below the avenue of hornbeams brought over from Belgium. We all met up on the lawn in front of the Tea House for a glass of something cold and bubbly (no, not Evian!) Thank you to Pat for the photograph taken from the upper terrace of the Tea House.

Our July meeting the last meeting of our 2023/2024 year, the speaker for the evening was one of our most popular speakers Prof Ronald Hutton, who gave us a talk entitled 'Oliver Cromwell', Prof Hutton has written two books on this subject, the talk was given without any notes or electronic prompts and enjoyed by all.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesdays, 24th September, and as yet I have not been able to confirm the speaker. The full programme will be available in the next issue of the Parish Mag, await the grand reveal!

(Opposite page: Pat's photograph of the Society's visit to Mountain House Garden)

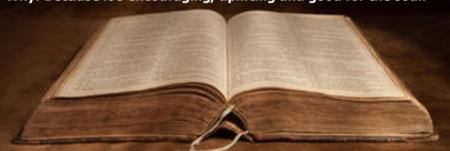


Severn Wye Bible Study Group

We are a small group of Christians enjoying a warm and nurturing fellowship together. We read scripture and talk about what it means and how we can apply it to our daily lives. We are learning together and there is no such thing as a silly question. If you're even a tiny bit curious, come along. Give it a go....you may love it as we do!!!!

Where: Shirenewton Church Room When: 14.45 Tuesday afternoons

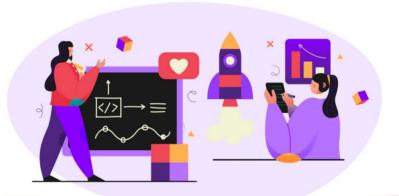
Why: Because it's encouraging, uplifting and good for the soul.



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL PLAY OUR LOTTERY



- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- The easy way to help us raise funds
- Local cash prizes every week



BUY TICKETS:

Go to: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk And search for: Shirenewton



Gamble Aware (18)









HARVEST FESTIVAL





10am Sunday service followed by bring & share lunch

Canned good
donations for the
foodbank gratefully
received









Do you enjoy the Shirenewton Church Fete?

Would you like it to happen again in June 2025?



The team that has organised the Fete for the last few years will be taking a break.

We need a few community minded individuals to step forward to make sure this hugely popular event continues.

There is support and advice available, but this is a great opportunity to add new ideas to make it even better.

Please contact shirenewtonfete@gmail.com
to arrange a chat to find out more

Nerys's Natty Nosh



Apples

Apples have an excellent source of antioxidants, that can reduce free radicals from damaging the aging process of the body caus-

ing some undesirable diseases. Some studies have found that the antioxidants in apples (polyphenols) might extend lifespans. Researchers at The Florida State University said that apples are a "miracle fruit". In their study, the investigators found that older women who starting a regime of eating apples daily experienced a 23 percent drop in levels of bad cholesterol (LDL) and a 4% increase in good cholesterol (HDL) after just six months.1

Eirewn's Apple Pie



Ingredients Pastry

225 grams SR flour 2 tablespoons sugar 110 grams chilled butter cut into cubes or dairy free alternative 1 egg

2-3 tablespoons ice cold water **Filling**

500 grams apples (4 medium sized apples) 5 tablespoons sugar 1/4 teaspoons cinnamon Lemon zest of 1 lemon Juice from half of lemon

Glaze

1 beaten egg1 teaspoon sugar

Method

- **1** In a medium bowl whisk flour with sugar. Add the butter using a fork or a food processor, until crumbs are formed. Add egg and water and stir until incorporated. Chill in cling film for an hour.
- **2** Prepare the filling. Peel, core and cut the apples into thin slices. Place them into a bowl, add the lemon juice, lemon zest, sugar and cinnamon and coat.

3 Divide the dough into 2 pieces.

4 Preheat oven to 350F (180C) Gas 4. Grease a 9-inch (23 centimetres) oven-proof plate with a little butter.

Into a lightly floured surface roll first piece of dough until it's about 12in (30 centimetres) in diameter.

5 Line the prepared plate with the rolled dough and press the edges with water.

6 Arrange the apples over the pastry. Brush the edges of the crust. Roll the other piece of dough and cover the apples. Seal the edges and cut away the excess. Cut two slits on the top to allow the steam to escape.

7Glaze with the beaten egg and sprinkle with the sugar. Place on a baking tray to allow even cooking and bake for 30-45 minutes, until golden brown. **Enjoy!**



Thank you Eirwen

Wilson for sharing your recipe. I know it's a family favourite.

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



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

Little and large

Perspectives from two international development organisations with overlapping objectives







WaterAid is an international NGO working globally for 43 years to make it possible for everyone, everywhere to have clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

Resource Uganda is a tiny grassroots organisation working in rural Uganda to bring hope and community transformation by equipping the local church.

Both these organisations have similar aims, even if their reach and approaches differ.

Chris and Heulwen will provide their perspectives on progress and challenges in WASH and development, working and volunteering for WaterAid and Resource Uganda.

There will be the opportunity for refreshments and to purchase sustainable Ugandan crafts after the talk.

Itton Village Hall 11th Sep 2024 7.30pm



Gardening Corner

I'm sure you don't need me to tell you that the challenges of this year still continue in the garden. It is certainly by far the worst that we can remember and there have been times where even we have almost thought of 'throwing the towel in' and giving up altogether. Because I was unwell at the end of last year, and into this, we had made the decision that we would not enter any local shows this year. This, as it turned out, was probably one of the best decisions we have ever made. We are managing to keep food on the table so to speak, but we would have had nothing of a quality that would have stood up to a show judge. This is true not just in the vegetable department, but also the flowers. Slugs, rain, then hot sun have all played their part in damaging the crops not to mention the various butterflies and moths – or rather their resulting caterpillars! I was intrigued to see that there was a great butterfly count (or something like that), a week or so ago, where one name stood out among the usual ones. This was the 'silver y' moth. It is immediately recognisable as it is generally brown, but with a silver 'y' on each wing. I did mention it last year as yet another new pest species that flies over from the continent, and is now surviving our winters, so have become 'established'. I admit that I try to kill every one if I get the chance, as the damage that they do is extreme. I'm not just talking small holes in the leaves here, but actual shredding to nothing. Their taste is broad, and thus far has included lettuce, anything in the 'greens' family such as cabbages, and cauliflowers.

Our basil plants have been demolished and they have even started on the French and runner beans as well as beetroot tops. I thought originally that they were restricted to our large tunnel, as all of the damage appeared to be confined to inside this. However, I have seen them flying about the garden this year, so they are going to be a big problem in future. The caterpillars get quite big, so hopefully a good target species for our bird population, but they are pretty cunning - if a caterpillar could ever be capable of such an ability! I go round squashing any I see whilst watering, but they have a habit of rolling into a ball and dropping to the around if they sense danger. Once on the ground they can move fast, so you have to be guick to re-act! I have tried a chemical spray, but this was worse than useless. A lot of work has been done in providing 'natural' predators that you buy which will control the different pests. I have always found these extremely expensive and have had little success. It doesn't help when these natural controls are only sent out on a Wednesday using a 3 to 5 day delivery courier, resulting in the delivery not arriving until after the weekend, and leaving the parcels sitting in a hot delivery van all weekend and therefore not being fit for purpose when you do receive them. This has happened to us several times now and I'm not bothering again! The suppliers show no interest when you complain.

It took several days to clear the fruit cage of its head high weed growth. As suspected, there were few raspberry plants surviving so it was a complete clear-out. There were a few blackcurrant plants that appeared not to be infected so I decided to dig these out, pot them up and prune them very hard. They have now started to shoot out, so hopefully they will be good enough to be planted back out in fresh ground later in the year. One fruit crop we have always done well with is blueberries. There are much more productive varieties available now than the ones we started with, so we have gradually been replacing them. We grow them in large pots as they must have acidic soil so we use ericaceous compost suitable for growing rhododendrons and camelias. We leave outside for most of the year, but once the fruit has set, we move them inside the large tunnel to protect them from birds, making sure that we get the fruit rather than them! Our problem is that the plants have now outgrown the pots and we can't repot into anything larger as we would never be able to move them! Instead, I'm going to take some semi ripe cuttings in the next week or two and try to grow some new replacement plants instead. Continuing the fruit theme, our entire orchard is completely devoid of any fruit at all this year. Frosts at the wrong time, and being too wet and cold for pollinating insects to be flying meant that little fruit actually formed. Any that did, has since been damaged or stolen by either jays or squirrels, so there won't be a single apple, pear or plum picked this season.

Normally, we sow a packet of cucumbers, which is usually five or six seeds. Being very fickle plants, we usually end up, with either one or two which provides more than enough to keep us in salads. This year, all six have survived and we have cucumbers coming out of our ears! We have to keep cutting the fruits, because if you don't, the small fruitlets will just shrivel up and die off, and you end up with a gap in cutting. Unfortunately, many are ending up on the compost heap as there are only so many you can eat! I don't want to pull some of the plants up, as sure as eggs are eggs, the remaining one or two would simply die off in sympathy with their cousins! I think the tomatoes are enjoying fewer really hot days this year and are also cropping prolifically. We have already made the first pan full of tomato sauce, and a second pan will be on the way in the next few hours. The sauce is frozen in ½ kilo bags, and then used for dinners such as chilli, spaghetti bolognaise etc. The sauce is 95% tomato (meaty varieties like 'big mama' or other plum type) with the rest made up of chopped onion, and garlic and then seasoned with basil, bay leaves, salt and pepper and a bit of sugar to bring out the flavour. We have found that cooking the tomato in the maslin pan, removing some of the water and then blitzing with a hand blender provides for a very smooth base sauce, before then adding the other ingredients gives by far the best results.

I recently had to attend cardiac rehabilitation classes, and one of the key lessons taught, along with the exercise regime, was how important a good diet was. Explaining that the only ready meals we ever eat, are generally ones that we have made ourselves, from our own produce, appeared to be very unusual these days, which is a big shame as many people clearly don't know what they are missing. Our grandchildren asked their mum's this week why nanny and granddad's tomato sauce tasted so much better than what they used. So, we are obviously doing something right!

With the never-ending rain, and now more seasonal warmth, it is a strugale to keep on top of all the weeding. We try to prioritise, which means that those beds not regarded as quite so important are like a jungle by the time we get to them. A case of too much to do and not enough time to do it all. If the weather behaved itself, things would be easier, but guess we have to accept how things are for now, anyway. The bees are also struggling to cope with the changes to the climate. The hives that we have, seem to be doing OK, but I'm not sure that there will be much of a honey harvest this year. To some degree this is a blessing as pure local honey is getting increasingly difficult to sell, making beekeeping a very expensive hobby. As with many things, the price of materials (especially glass jars) and the added cost of defending the bees against pests and diseases such as the varroa mite all add to the overall cost. There was a time that selling what honey you gathered, was enough to pay for the hobby, but this is not always the case now. It is relatively easy to divide the cost of materials by the amount of honey to get a value for selling purposes, but this never includes the hours of work involved in getting to the finished product. Unfortunately, there is way too much cheap 'honey' on the market, much of it manufactured from sugar syrup. The average beekeeper cannot compete against this. The cheap manufactured product should never be sold as honey, but that is a battle that many countries, including the EU are currently fighting against. Most of which originates from China. The next few weeks will determine whether a crop can be gathered or not, as the last of the big flower sources (blackberries), comes to an end. It was interesting to read in the press this week that gardeners are being asked not to cut back ivy as it is a valuable resource for the bees. Strictly speaking this is very true. It is the last food source available to bees before winter sets in, but it creates a very thick honey, that sets very firm in the frames and often cannot actually be easily used by the bees. I'm guessing that this may be due to the heat (energy) needed to warm it up sufficiently, along with lack of water to dilute the sugars (too cold or wet outside, or both, for bees to be able to fly to gather water). Personally, I've never been that keen on it as a valuable resource in the honey bee hive, but others will no doubt have a different view.

Anyway, I must get on and pick those tomatoes, otherwise the next batch of sauce won't get made.

Happy gardening until next month. Steve and Felicity Hunt.

STARGAZING



The seven stars of the Plough can be seen in the northern evening sky whilst the "W" of the constellation Cassiopeia lies to the northeast. The constellation Pegasus includes a large square that lies to the south. The Summer Triangle made up of the bright stars Deneb, Vega and Altair continue to dominate the night sky to the South. Deneb forms the tail of the constellation Cygnus, the Swan which lies pretty much overhead. Its brightest stars form a cross against the background of the Milky Way. The head of the Swan is a beautiful double star called Albireo. Viewed through a small telescope it can be seen to be a striking pair of stars, one coloured blue the other gold.

In the evening sky, the planets are becoming apparent. The yellowish planet Saturn can be seen to the south-east and is close to the Full Moon on the 17^{th} September. Bright Jupiter appears above the north-east horizon later in the month and is joined by orange Mars later in the early hours. The Moon is near Jupiter on the 24^{th} and Mars on the 25^{th} September.

James Bradley was vicar of the parish of Bridstow, near Ross-on-Wye in Monmouthshire until 1721, when he changed vocation and became a full-time astronomer. Isaac Newton considered him to be the "best astronomer in Europe" and he was eventually made Astronomer Royal. Bradley carried out measurements that proved the Earth orbits the Sun, and that led to the first estimates of the distances of stars.

The Autumnal Equinox occurs on the 22nd, when day and night are both 12 hours long.



Shirenewton W.I. annual Afternoon Garden party 3rd August 2024



Despite the awful wet weather, the annual W.I. garden party went ahead indoors at Diane Ashton-Smith's house in Itton. About 20 members attended and they provided a wonderful spread of food for the event. It was really lovely to see the members chatting over a glass of wine or cup of tea and tasty treats and it was also a good opportunity to get to know some of our newer members. A big thank to Diane for hosting and also to her husband Lesley for manning the gate.





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

Shirenewton W.I. Summer Events

Summer Visit to J &B Sewing Machine Company and Craft Centre

Our summer outings aren't usually accompanied by gasps of surprise and amazement, but this year's outing was different. Shirenewton W.I. were the guests of Angela and Rob Millar at their Sewing Machine Showroom in Newport.



Our evening began by Rob explaining the history of their business which had been started by his father in 1961 from the coal bunker at the back of the family home in Newport. How times have changed.

Angela showed us what their sewing machines are capable of. Ranging from machines that thread

themselves (- yes that got the wow factor and a major selling point to those of us with sewing

machines that are 20 + years old) to some amazing quilting machines that can transform digital images into textile works of art.



I'm sure that some of you will recognise Angela and Rob's dogs from this lovely piece of work, produced on their machines.



My photograph can't show the beautiful detail in this piece.

Angela, Rob and their team of Sam, Victoria and Charlotte demonstrated their skills on these machines and we were all then encouraged to 'have a go'.

It really was a most enlightening evening; we were all stunned by the quality of work that these machines could produce. Rob and Angela provided us with an inspiring visit and on top of that, kindly gave each of us a 'goody bag ' to take home. We thank them both and their team.

If you would like to learn more about these sewing machines, J and B Sewing run sewing courses at their Newport and Cardiff Centre's. Go to www.jbsewing.com or call 01633 284646 to find out more.



Our next meeting is on Thursday 12th September at 7.15pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall with a talk on 'Bugs and Beasties—the Gene-ius World of Genomics' when Janet Horton will be talking about her work in a fascinating and groundbreaking project.

Jackie Broughton

If you are interested in joining Shirenewton W.I. or would like to find out more about our group, the please contact Jane Butterworth at janeb247@gmail.com or Angela Gray at angela.deepweir@btopenworld.com

SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE MARKET

THE PROPOSED DATE FOR THE NEXT VILLAGE MARKET IS SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2024.

WE DO HOWEVER NEED YOUR HELP IN ORDER FOR THIS TO GO AHEAD - EMMA & ZAK ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO RUN THE POP-UP CAFÉ, BUT THEY ARE LENDING US THE COFFEE MACHINE - SO WE NEED A BUDDING BARISTA OR TWO....

PLEASE CONTACT ME ASAP IF YOU CAN HELP.

CONFIRMATION THAT THE MARKET WILL BE GOING AHEAD ON THAT DATE WILL BE POSTED ON THE SHIRENEWTON MARKET FACEBOOK PAGE.

Thank you.

Shirley

ayresandgraces@yahoo.com



FAIRTRADE NEWS

September 2024

This year Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 9th - 22nd September. This is the annual effort to raise the profile of Fairtrade and explain its benefits.

Fairtrade is one simple way of fighting the unfairness that keeps millions of farmers and producers in poverty. However hard they work to provide the things we depend on, they still aren't paid what they deserve. Fairtrade is the only certification that combines a minimum price for products and an extra amount of money (called the Fairtrade premium) for farmers and producers to spend on what their communities and businesses need. That could be clean water, classrooms or clinics they decide.

1.66 million farmers and plantation workers benefit from the fairer terms Fairtrade offers. These include a decent wage, the right to join unions and work in safe conditions and advice and training to improve the quality of their produce. Coping with climate change and improving the sustainability of the environment are also key contributions. The Fairtrade Foundation offers many examples of the improvement in people's lives that Fairtrade brings.

Buying Fairtrade products is a very straightforward way to effect real change. I have many (nice!) friends who say they cannot bear to listen to the News as it's too depressing and 'Anyway what can I do?' If you've read any of my harangues in the past you can guess that I find it well-nigh impossible not to bellow BUY FAIRTRADE! Of course it doesn't solve the ghastly violent conflicts around the world BUT it really does improve poor people's lives and some conflicts definitely arise from the desperate economic conditions some groups live in. Generally large businesses are interested in one thing - profit. Much of what we consume is provided by fewer and fewer enormous international corporations - they take over rival businesses to consolidate their market share. Products sometimes look independent but may turn out to be part of a vast conglomerate (if one can trawl through company info). For example: 5 corporations control 60% of US grocery sales.

The Fairtrade mark is a guarantee of an ethical approach to trade and as I have described before companies that have achieved the status of a B corp are also worth supporting because of their just attitude to business. Both the award of Fairtrade status and the B corp award are independently and regularly verified.

As you might know my original source of FT products was for many years Traidcraft. This hub no longer exists so I now source goods from Ethical Superstore (or Oxfam), supplying them at the price I have paid. Do go to Ethical Superstore or contact me - I keep quite a lot of products, as I use them myself.

Marion McAdam 641 316 msm316@gmail. co



www.shirenewtonchurch.com

Sitting here in Spain in the 30+ deg C heat (at 7:15pm) it's easy to forget that, in mid-July, all hell broke loose in computer land. The result was that flights were cancelled, operations delayed, financial systems went down and so on. As The Register headline so aptly put it: "CrowdStrike file update bricks Windows machines around the world".

Apparently around 8.5 million PCs around the world were affected. The disruption started in Australia, and, as PCs updated themselves, rapidly spread across the world through Asia, Europe and finally to the Americas. The infamous BSOD (Blue Screen of Death) appeared on affected Windows 10 machines. It is considered the largest IT outage in history despite affecting less than 1% of Microsoft Windows machines globally. It's just unfortunate that the machines affected were some of the critical systems in major companies/organisations.

It transpired that this was not someone with a 'quirky' sense of humour trying to push upgrades to Windows 11, but an update from CrowdStrike which is a cyber security firm. Since then, it has emerged that the fault (which, technically, caused Windows machines to have a 'Boot Loop' – meaning that the machine cannot complete a stable boot up and instead displays the fatal error BSOD screen) was able to be validated and published (i.e. go through testing and make it out into the real world) thanks to a bug in CrowdStrike's automatic testing tool.

Although CrowdStrike was rapidly able to provide a fix, this was a laborious manual process which required IT admins to manually boot PCs. This was further complicated by the fact that extensive use of Bitlocker (disk encryption) in corporations meant each machine required the accurate input of a 48 digit recovery key. Not some people's idea of fun.

Modern software relies on automated testing harnesses, which, themselves are computer programs. Being computer programs they are susceptible to having bugs. These automated testing hardnesses are, of course, thoroughly tested. But the complexity of modern software means that it is impossible to completely test it. The different test scenarios on complex modern software are infinite and therefore companies undertake a risk assessment on which areas to test more thoroughly. Even these areas cannot be tested with a 100% degree of confidence. Therefore, unfortunately, further occurrences will happen. No-one knows when or in what circumstances, only that they will happen.

Moving on. Remember back in April I said that Chrome (from Google) was going to stop (in technical terms, deprecate) 3rd party cookies to create a more secure and private internet experience? Well, it's back tracked. Sorry, silly me. 'Backtracked' is such a harsh word! Google has 'updated it's approach' and will be introducing a 'new experience'. A new experience which, it would seem won't prevent 3rd parties cookies in Chrome but will make it easier for you (the end user) to control. Sorry, to 'make informed choices'.

At the time I explained that 3rd party cookies are cookies are set by domains you have visited not that you are visiting. If you are browsing a website, it sets so called 1st party cookies which are used to remember your preferences, keep you logged in, etc. 3rd party cookies are used for cross-site tracking and allows advertisers (such as Meta) and analytics platforms to follow your browsing as you move between websites. It's early days, but it would seem that there is a possibility that Google will allow users to opt-out of 3rd party cookies – in much the way Apple's Safari allows users to opt-out of tracking cookies (aka 3rd party cookies). This would be a real win. For example, my default browser is Opera and I use Privacy Badger to help me 'make informed choices'.

Finally, my lovely wife was the 'victim' of an attempted phishing scam. Luckily, she has me 'on hand' to help her out. She unfortunately mistyped a website (by one letter) and was presented with a screeching alarm sound and a 'Spyware Alert' window. Even more unfortunately, me being 'on hand' meant that I was on the end of a phone and driving at the time. The window's message was that the PC had been blocked for security reasons and that she should phone 'Microsoft Support' with a number conveniently provided. The very loud screeching/alarm sound added to the apparent urgency of the situation. I was able to explain to her (having parked up, m'lud) that this was nothing but a, so called, 'tech support scam' and she should just close the window. This resolved the situation and, for comfort, when I got home, I did a full system scan with Bitdefender, our current computer security system of choice.

How does this work? Answer: It's very simple. The phishers had registered a domain which was a common mistyping of a popular domain. If someone accessed this domain, the home page was made to look like an error page (see the Microsoft example page below) and they used an 'autoplay' attribute to play a loud screeching/alarm sound when the window was opened. The phone number given is, of course, nothing to do with Microsoft and, if you call it, you'll get through to a call centre who will ask lots of personal

details, including, you can be sure, your credit card information. Even if you don't give them your credit card information the personal details gathered before that will help them trying to impersonate you on multiple websites and hack your systems.

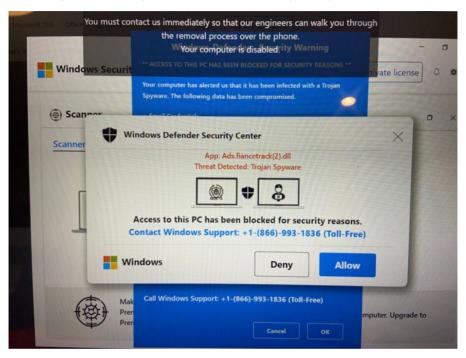


Image from: https://answers.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/forum/ all/trojan-spyware-alert/4fd1c5fe-53f8-4f73-8566-444ae3ceb3d5

Which brings me to a top tip: if you have multiple tabs open and can hear a sound playing and are not sure which tab it is, look for the little speaker icon on the tab.

On that happy note, safe browsing.

David Cornwell Webmaster

Richard Kopp PLUMBING & HEATING

01291 641581

07780 703530

richardkopp70@hotmail.co.uk www.rk-plumbingandheating.co.uk



- 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







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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 1st Harvest Festival

3.00 p.m. Gilgal Chapel, Llanvaches

Sunday 1st Café church

3.30 p.m. Shirenewton Church Room

Monday 2nd Shirenewton Community Council meeting

7 p.m. Shirenewton Recreation Hall

Wednesday 11th Little and Large (WaterAid)

7.30 p.m. Itton Village Hall

Thursday 12th Shirenewton W.I.—Bugs and Beasties

7.15 p.m. Shirenewton Recreation Hall

Thursday 19th Men's curry night 7.30 p.m. Shirenewton Sultan

Saturday 21st Harvest Supper

7 p.m. Chapel Farm, Newchurch

Thursday 26th Harvest Supper

7.00 p.m. Church Farm, Newchurch

Thursday 26th Ladies curry night 7.30 p.m. Shirenewton Sultan

Saturday 28th Village Market

10.30-12.30 a.m. Shirenewton Recreation Hall

Sunday 29th Craft, cake and conversation (for ShAMBLES)

2.00 p.m.-4.00 p.m. Recreation Hall Harvest Festival

3.00 p.m. Earlswood Valley Methodist chapel

OCTOBER

Sunday 1th Café church

3.30 p.m. Shirenewton Church Room

Sunday 6th Harvest Festival

10.00 a.m. St Thomas à Becket Church, Shirenewton

3.00 p.m. Hope Methodist chapel

Saturday 12th ShAMBLES opening night party and art trail

6.30-9.00 p.m. Shirenewton and Mynyddbach

Sunday 13th ShAMBLES art trail

From 6.30 p.m. Shirenewton and Mynyddbach

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER continued

Thursday 24th Men's curry night 7.30 p.m. Shirenewtón Sultan Men's curry night Thursday 31st 7.30 p.m. Shirenewton Sultan

NOVEMBER

Sunday 10th Remembrance Sunday

11.00 a.m. War Memorial /St Thomas à Becket Church,

Shirenewton

Mens curry night Thursday 21st Shirenewton Sultan 7.30 p.m. Thursday 28th Ladies curry night Shirenewton Sultan 7.30 p.m.

DECEMBER

Wednesday 11th Chepstow Choral Society concert Chepstow School Arts Hall

Sunday 15th Christingle Service St Peter's, Newchurch 4.30 p.m. Tuesday 24th Christmas Carol Service St Peter's, Newchurch 4.30 p.m. Wednesday 25th Christmas Day Service 10.00 a.m. St Peter's, Newchurch

severnwyema.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!



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 & home visits
- All types of funeral available
- Grant funding assistance
- Respect & dignity are at the heart of everything we do
- Memorials & funeral plans
- Memorial jewellery & keepsakes

01291 420972 • 07977 092935

01600 717611

ianwattsandson.com





Huntsman Hotel Chepstow Ltd

Tin Shed, Lounge Bar & Dining Area

Food available on our established takeaway evenings Wednesday & Friday evenings plus Sunday lunchtime, pre book please.

00000

Bar Opening times Mon, Tues, Thurs, 5pm till 8.30pm.

Wed. & Fri. 5pm to 9pm.-Saturday 12 noon until 2pm & 5pm until 8.30pm. Sunday 12 noon to 7pm.-We'll stay open later if busy!!!

So, if you want to pop down outside of published hours let us know and we can be here for you.

FB Messenger-The Huntsman Hotel New Page.

Email TheHuntsmanHotel@ICloud.Com, or call 01291-641521 ooOoo

"Thank you to all those involved organising and enjoying the Tea/Coffee & Cake Event which raised £735 for the Village AED Fund & Steve Bray's 70's Night raising £100

1				
2	Income			
3	Personal donations	£1,180.00		
4	Coffee event	£734.48		
5	Sing a long	£100.00		
6	Community C	£215.82		
7	Earlswood Hall	£300.00	£1,350.30	
8	Total	£2530.30		
9	Expenditure			
10	Batteries x 3	£612.00		
11	Pads x 3	£215.82		
12	Total	£827.82		
13	Surplus	£1,702.48		
14	Bank Statement	IN	OUT	Balance
15	Jan 24	£975.00	£827.82	
16	Feb-24	£450.00	£0.00	
17	Mar-24	£1,105.30	£0.00	
18	Total /Balance	£2,530.30	£827.82	£1,702.48
19				







HCPC Registered Podiatrists

Routine foot care, Diabetic foot checks, Ingrown toenails, Nail Surgery, Verrucas
Sports injury, foot pain and MLS Laser

Clinic locations in Tintern and Chepstow

Unit 4 Library Place, Manor Way, Chepstow, NP16 5HZ Wye Valley Wellness Centre, Ashweir Lodge, Tintern, NP16 6SE Home visits available for house bound patients

> Let us fix your feet Call us today for an appointment Tel: 01291 689917

www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk info@stepwisepodiatry.co.uk



Trophies Glass Plaques Shields Cups Tankards Medals Engraving

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

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.

Feakes & Co Solicitors



- 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





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



LOCAL CONTACTS

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

Severn Wye Ministry Area severnwyema.co.uk							
Ministry Area Leader	Zoe and Barney Pimentel	07754 306229					
	severn.wye.MAL@gmail.com						
Team Vicar	Fr Michael Gollop	01291 622 064					
Team Vicar	frmichaelgollop1@gmail.com Reverend Philip Averay	01291 620980					
realli vical	revphilipaveray@gmail.com	01291 020900					
Associate Priest	Reverend John Waters	07836 585 250					
Ministry Area Leader's Warden	Ros Downes						
Ministry Area People's Warden	David Carne	01454 617 277					
Ministry Area Lay Co-Chair	Hilary Hillier						
Ministry Area Treasurer	Kevin Higgs						
Church of St Thomas à Becket, Shirenewton							
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Gilly Lambert	07821 725 690					
Rector's Church Warden	Sally Saysell	01291 641 369					
People's Church Warden LCC Secretary	Andrew Baker John Montague	01291 641 925 01291 329 481					
Ecc Scarcialy	imontyvet@hotmail.co.uk	01231 323 101					
LCC Treasurer	Graham Lambert	01291 641 175					
LCC Members	Janet Horton	01291 641 783					
	James Leney	01291 641 271 01291 329 481					
	Wendy Montague 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 Safeguarding Officer	Glynis MacDonald Andrew Baker	01291 641 818 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					
Ministry Area Council Representative							
The second representation of the second repre	Wendy Montague	01291 329 481					

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

Shirenewton Community Council

Clerk: Jan McLagan shirenewtoncc@gmail.com

Shirenewton	and Myny	yddbach	Ward
		•	_

Philip Butterworth (Chair)	01291 641704	philip.b@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Catherine Martin (Vice Chair)	01291 329610	cathie.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Keith M Dunn OBÈ	01291 641152	keith.d@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Gary Mitchell	01291 641037	gary.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk
Vacancy		-

Earlswood and Newchurch Ward

Vacancy Andy Williamson 07467 176977 ian.m@shirenewtoncc.org.uk 01291 641451 andy.w@shirenewtoncc.org.uk

MCC for Shirenewton

Louise Brown 07598 979719 louisebrown@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Catherine Ann Fookes 020 7219 catherine.fookes.mp@parliament.uk

Member of the Senedd

Peter Fox MS 01291 674898 Peter.Fox@senedd.wales

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Contacts

Neighbourhood Police Officer Matt Scree matthew.screen@qwent.pnn.police.uk
Neighbourhood CSO Andrew.jones@qwent.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 Treasurer
 07889762840 O7855301806
 chair@earlnew.com treasurer@earlnew.com

Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel

Avril Smith 01291 627677

Gaerllwyd Baptist Ranger Guides Mrs E Remnant Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA Helen Cann 01291 6628534 cannhelen@gmail.com
Recreation Association Recreation Hall booking Beryl Saysell St Peters Church Newchurch New

St Peters Church NewChurch

Enid Heritage 01291 622708

enidheritage@gmail.com

Shirenewton Local History Society

Dorothy Brabon 01291 641376 <u>brabonnl@hotmail.com</u>

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

Caerwent Group Mothers Union

Rosemary Carey 01291 425010 creamdkili@tiscali.co.uk

Treasurer 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

Shirenewton Primary School

Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com

Mr Nick Penn, Head Teacher 01291 641774

shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Shirenewton Toddler Group Sarah Parker 07971 783434

Shirenewton Tennis Association

Andy Orrell shirenewtontennis@amail.com

Fairtrade Marion McAdam 01291 641316 <u>msm316@gmail.com</u>

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!



















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 October 2024 issue is 9:00 a.m. Monday 23rd September 2024

