



Delivered FREE to 10,000 Homes

issue 25, April 2016

Community Chepstow Matters

Telephone 01291 606 900

Matters Magazines have been 'in the community for the community' since 2005



South Wales Premier Home Improvement Company

Installing a wide range of products to suit your budget and needs, including:

• Conservatories • Orangeries • Home Extensions • Windows • Doors • Fasia & Soffitts

Thermotech Showsite, Chepstow Garden Centre, Pyllmeyric, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, NP16 6LF

Showroom Winter Opening Times:

Open Tuesday & Thursday 10:30 – 16:00,

Open Saturday – Sunday 11:00 – 15:30

FreePhone **0800 917 1106**

Email: INFO@THERMOTECHUPVC.CO.UK



Your Local Community Magazine
for Services, Businesses, Groups and Community Events

FRESH & CLEAN



DRY CLEANING

SUIT
TROUSERS
SHORT DRESS
LONG DRESS

COATS
LAUNDRY

DUVETS
CURTAINS
SHEET
BAG WASHES

**DRY CLEANERS & LAUNDRETTE
CHEPSTOW**

**ALL COMMERCIAL
WORK
UNDERTAKEN:**

HOTELS ✓
GUEST HOUSE ✓
HOLIDAY HOMES ✓
PUBS ✓
RESTAURANTS ✓
ETC. ✓

**FOR ALL REPAIRS
& ALTERATIONS**



**WEDDING DRESS
£60.00**



TOWN CENTRE NEXT TO BUS STOP OPPOSITE M&S

We also have a shop in Caldicot next to concords, opposite Store 21

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 9am – 5.30pm • Saturday 9am – 5.00pm • Sunday- 10-4pm

Tel: 01291 408030



Contact Us :

01291 606 900

**sales@mattersmagazines.co.uk
community@mattersmagazines.co.uk**

www.mattersmagazines.co.uk

**Chepstow Matters
Editor: Jaci Crocombe
c/o Batwell Farm, Shirenewton NP16 6RX**

**Reg Office: Matters Magazines Ltd,
130 Aztec West, Almondsbury BS32 4UB
Co Regn No: 8490434**



**Follow us on Twitter
@ChepstowMatters**



**Find us on:
facebook /ChepstowMatters**

Chepstow Matters is independently published every month and delivered FREE to approximately 10,000 homes across NP16 5, 6 and 7 on a rotational basis so that every home receives one through their door once per quarter.

The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editor (unless it is a personal review of a service that we have participated in). We cannot vouch for every advertiser personally (although we endeavour to use as many of our advertisers' services ourselves as we can). Any feedback or experience is welcomed.

We would like to thank all the advertisers who support this publication and therefore make it possible. Please return their support by utilising their services when and where you can. It is the advertiser's responsibility to ensure conformity with the Trade Descriptions Act 1975, Business Advertisements Disclosure Order 1977, Sex Discriminations Act 1975 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974. We cannot be held responsible for misrepresentations in the adverts included. All artwork created by us must not be published in any other media without our permission. © Matters Magazines Ltd 2016

Dear Readers...

Spring is most certainly upon us, as I go to print in mid-March we have had some beautiful sunshine. I hope you are enjoying the Easter break!

I would like to thank everyone who has got in touch since our last issue, it is great to receive such positive feedback and good to hear that you value receiving your Chepstow Matters community magazine - it makes all the hard work worthwhile! Soon each edition will be posted on line on the website www.mattersmagazines.co.uk for your ease to view.

I have been very busy out and about this month meeting more lovely people in our community! I bring you news of the rediscovery and refurbishment of the Cavill Hall on pages 6-7, my interview with the new Head Teacher at Pembroke Primary on pages 20-21, as well as my additional visits on Eisteddfod at Pembroke Primary and a lovely morning spent at Thornwell Primary School nursery and early years. Chepstow Walking Festival is at the start of April and the Wye Valley River Festival commences on 29th April - more on both of these inside.

There are also plenty of music events inside, from Castell Roc, Male Voice Choirs, live music at the Racecourse and the Celebration of the Piano. There is also a plea for your memories from Chepstow Baptist Church who are also celebrating their bicentenary in 2016.

Thank you to all the local businesses who continue to support this initiative by promoting their services with us. Do support them where you can by utilising their services whenever you have a need. If you would like to be included in our May edition, the deadline for content is 15th April.

I look forward to hearing from you! Jaci x

Ladybird Pottery
Paint your own Pottery
Abbey Mill, Tintern, NP16 6SE
• Fun for all the Family
• Hand and Foot Imprints
• Gift Shop- Handmade craft by Local People
Follow us on Facebook or visit
www.ladybirdpottery.com

DOUBLE DIAMOND
Dog Grooming & Healthcare
Based in Sedbury & Chepstow
Karen Lewis
07717 663728
KarenLewis2004@hotmail.com
www.DoubleDiamondPets.com



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Chepstow Matters - Facebook/ChepstowMatters**

It is nearly 18 months since Ian Watts & Son Funeral Directors opened their Caldicot Funeral Home on the corner of the Avenue.

Joint owners Jo Hume and Martin Watts would like to thank everyone who has welcomed them. Martin's late father Ian Watts founded the company in the Forest of Dean in 1968.

Jo commented, "In addition to our funeral services we are extremely busy with the orders for bespoke memorial stones and prepayment funeral plans."

Also proving popular is the Ashes into Glass jewellery and ornament memorial range. A tiny amount of a loved one's ashes can be hand-crafted with coloured glass crystals to make unique memorial items such as the ring pictured right.



"I feel so close to her when I wear it or just hold it in my hand."
Barbara Johnson - South Wales

Martin and Jo are always on hand to provide free help and advice as and when you need it, so please pick up the phone and call when you need to, because there is always someone ready to take your call at any time, day or night.

Ian Watts & Son Ltd



Independent Family
Funeral Directors
Est 1968

**"Respect & Dignity
are at the heart of
everything we do"**

- 24 Hour Personalised Service
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Monumental Services
- Pre-Payment Funeral Plans



01291 420972 • 07947 847277
07977 092935
www.ianwattsandson.com

Police Matters -

Update from Chepstow Police

My name is Emma Studley, and I am a Community Support Officer based at Chepstow Police Station. I am the ward officer for Larkfield, Thornwell and St Christopher wards in Chepstow.



Recently we have been focusing on speeding along Bulwark Road; we conducted speed checks where two section 59 notices for anti-social driving have been issued. This means a warning marker is placed on the vehicle, and if the vehicle or driver is seen driving in this manner again the vehicle will be seized.

Some of our main complaints revolve around parking in the Larkfield and St Christopher wards. These include Gwent Lands Close during school times, Channel view and Western Avenue. We are continually monitoring parking in these areas, and issues fixed penalty notices to any vehicles parked illegally and causing an obstruction.

The Thornwell area suffers from anti-social behaviour particularly around Tesco Express and Hombebase. We have been working in partnership with these businesses to issue banning notices to youths involved in such behaviour. We target patrols in these areas to prevent these issues from occurring especially in the evenings.

If you would like to report any issues, please call us on 101 (Non- Emergency) or 999 in any emergency.

We are currently conducting Your Voice Surveys, where we ask on average 100 people per ward area about what they feel our Policing priorities should be. We will then spend the next three months focusing on these Priorities and how we can mitigate these issues.

If you would like to have a say in what Policing Priorities we focus on in your area, please complete a survey by visiting the website: <https://www.gwent.police.uk/yourvoicesurvey/>

Lastly, we are looking forward to unleashing our new Neighbourhood watch system in April.



Inspector Lysha Thompson

South Monmouthshire Geographical Inspector
Chepstow Police Station / Heddlu Gwent Police
Ffôn symudol / Mobile : 0781 389 8420
Lysha.Thompson@gwent.pnn.police.uk

www.facebook.com/gwentpolice
www.twitter.com/gwentpolice
Yr we / Web : www.gwent.police.uk

For those of you wondering if the Online surgeries will continue, the answer is yes, when the new system is up and running Gwent will be looking to implement the online chat tool.

A note from CSO Andy Jones

My names is Andy Jones, and I cover the St Arvans, Shirenweton and Devauden areas of Chepstow.

Recently we have had incidents of vehicles being entered and property taken in the Mathern and Moun-ton House Park area. Unfortunately these vehicles were left insecure and no damage was caused when entering the vehicles. Please make sure you lock your vehicle at all times when not in use and if your vehicle is in a unlit area, use lighting to cover it. Above all do not leave any items on show to attract a thief.





Bosch Car Service
For everything your car needs.

AUTOCARE CENTRE CHEPSTOW
Unit 6, Bulwark Business Park
Bulwark, Chepstow

01291 627137
auto.care@btconnect.com
www.auto.centre.co.uk





Affordable quality service you can trust!

Contact Us

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL: 999
FOR NON-EMERGENCIES DIAL: 101
Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day you call, or how long you are on the phone.
FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES DIAL:
01633 838111
Email address for enquiries: contact@gwent.pnn.police.uk



HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

Gwent Police use the OWL online watch link to update residents of Chepstow on current crime, appeals for information and also to hold on-line surgeries. This system is used force wide and has helped catch many offenders.

Residents of Chepstow can sign up via: www.owl.co.uk it's completely FREE!

Rediscovering the Cavill Hall

Chepstow Matters was delighted to meet up with local resident Steve O'Sullivan in early March. Steve has voluntarily made it his mission to reinstate the Cavill Hall which is situated behind the St Mary's Priory in the centre of the town.

The Hall is named after George I H Cavill who was the Church Warden at St Mary's from 1960-1977.

Sadly, the once well-used hall had fallen into a state of disrepair, which was the reason for its discontinued use over five years ago. Steve is a relatively new member of the congregation at St Mary's having been involved at the church for just over 12 months. As per previous articles in Chepstow Matters, the church is trying to raise funds for building works and roof repairs, and also to create a disabled entrance. At a meeting last autumn the Cavill Hall was mentioned, which Steve had not known previously existed in the grounds behind the church. The brambles had done a good job of disguising the building and inside the spiders had done a redecoration job too, creating a black mesh of web that completely covered the kitchen ceiling!

With a background in building but now having retired due to a variety of health problems which prevent him from working, Steve was offered the 'opportunity' to voluntarily project co-ordinate the works at the church and also try and bring the hall back into a state of use. Being determined not to give in to his health problems, and feeling that it was time to give back to his local community, Steve feels quite strongly about reinstating the hall. It is a lovely sized hall with a traditionally sprung wooden floor which was great for all the dances that used to be held at the hall back in its day and also for future dance groups looking to hire the hall in the future.

To date Steve has organised the ripping out of the old stage and the scrapping off of the dark green and red paint on the walls. It has been redone in magnolia and the opened up and lightened space is now looking very promising. The floor needs an industrial sanding down and varnishing but Steve is confident it will come up good as new.

More volunteers are needed who are prepared to get their hands dirty and help with the project



Photos:
above - Cavill Hall in mid March with grounds cleared; right dismantling the old stage; below redwalls and clutter. Opposite page, work in progress the Hall at the start and now.



before it can be opened back to the community, which Steve hopes might be achievable by the end of April. Painting and decorating are key, new kitchen units have already been donated and just need fitting so that this area can be made operable again. The toilets and entrance hall also need to be revamped and heaters installed.

Steve has already had quite a bit of interest in renting the hall when it is finished for children's parties, line dancing, zumba, pilates and other community groups. It's central location in Chepstow makes it attractive to all areas as it is easily accessible from the Sedbury side of Chepstow as well as Bulwark and Thornwell too. It also benefits from some limited free parking behind the church.

Steve told me that when starting the project there was evidence that the porches of the hall were being used by the homeless as he found sleeping bags by the doorways. One of these guys 'Mark' came by when Steve was at the hall and offered to help with the clearance. Plied



with hot drinks, sandwiches and an escape from the miserable weather, Mark helped out for 5 days before disappearing.

Steve is passionate about the potential of using the hall as a future night shelter, giving food and warmth during the winter months for a small number of homeless men and women. He tells me there is nowhere locally offering this at present and he would love to see it set up in Chepstow. This has already been proposed to the local PCC and was favoured, so liaison is taking place with other working with homeless projects in the area.

However, Steve went on, there are plenty of people locally experiencing some form of poverty without actually being homeless: the call on local foodbanks is growing and Steve would like to see the hall as a community hub offering counselling/comfort or just somewhere to bring your young children to a playgroup for an hour or two which doesn't have a price tag.

The first task to all of these plans is to get the hall back into a usable state, so that it can start hiring out and become a community hub once again, generating funds for the church to put towards some of these other projects.

If you can offer any help with this project Steve would be pleased to hear from you. Please call him on 07496 995 830.

Perfect Doggy Daycare & Grooming Centre

Perfect pet services for pets and their owners...

Doggy Daycare...Home Boarding...Dog Grooming
Cat Sitting...Dog Sitting...Small Animal Care
Puppy Club...Dog Walking...Pet Taxi...Equine Services



Contact us to enquire about any aspect of our service.

We can discuss a plan to suit you and your pet.

www.perfectpetservices.com
www.perfectdoggydaycare.com

01633 400993

Pike Road, rear of Rock and Fountain Inn
A48 Penhryn, NP26 3AD

A local business for local businesses



Professionally delivered accountancy services tailored to proactively meet the needs of your business.

Providing you with simple straightforward cloud-based accounting technology - by trusting us to help you with your online accounting, you can carry on doing what you're great at!

Get in touch to see how we can help:

0845 548 8825

info@MyFinanceBusinessPartner.co.uk
www.MyFinanceBusinessPartner.co.uk

Lions Club donation to Wales Air Ambulance

The Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot were entertained to an excellent presentation by Ms Catrin Hall, Community Coordinator of the Wales Air Ambulance, at the monthly dinner meeting at Dewstow Golf Club on Wednesday 16th. Ms Hall explained to the members the running of the service and how it benefits the whole of Wales, and their ability to be anywhere in the principality with twenty minutes of being called out.

Catrin also went into great detail about the cost of running the service and the need for continued support.

The Wales Air Ambulance is one of Chepstow and Caldicot Lions favourite causes and Lion President Ray Nash praised the work that the service and the medical teams carry out for the district.

Lion Robert Pring thanked Ms Hall for her very concise presentation and said that the Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot are proud to help sponsor the service.

Lion President Ray Nash then presented Ms Hall with a cheque for £10,000 on behalf of the club and The Dennis Lynch Memorial fund.

Photograph shows Ms Hall being presented with the cheque from Lion President Ray Nash



'Celebration of the Piano' Saturday 16th April, Drill Hall, Chepstow

Chepstow Matters readers will remember the fundraising efforts last year to secure a piano for the Drill Hall. A 'Celebration of the Piano' concert has now been organised at the Drill Hall, on Saturday 16th April starting at 7.30pm.

Now that there is a grand piano in situ, the evening will celebrate all the myriad ways a piano can be used: playing solos, duets, even trios(!) and also in its role as an accompanying instrument, for example with solo singers, choirs and instrumentalists.

To demonstrate this, the evening will also be an opportunity to celebrate the cream of Chepstow's young musical talent. All of these young musicians go to local schools and they will be performing many different styles of music, so there will be something for everyone to look forward to.

The evening will feature pianists of a high standard, aged 7 to 16 from the Chepstow Piano Academy (director Yvonne Lewis) and will include Joe Rooney who recently reached the regional final of the European Piano Teachers' Association UK Competition which will take place at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Olly Jenkins (saxophone) is an up and coming jazz saxophonist and Elliot Kempton a wonderfully gifted viola player. Also on this occasion the versatile and hugely talented young female singer Ceira Moulton will be singing a 'Gospel' solo.

There are a number of interesting singing groups in the Chepstow community and one of those is 'The Chepstow Chatelaines.' Directed by Karl Daymond, this all-female prize-winning chamber choir will be performing a selection of delightfully stylish songs from their repertoire.

As a finale to this eclectic mix of music The Chepstow Singing Club will be singing their own unique tribute to David Bowie. Accompanied by Karl Daymond this local group of enthusiastic male and female voices embraces singers of all ages and musical backgrounds.

The Mayor of Chepstow, Councillor Dale Rooke will be attending the event along with the Chairman of Monmouthshire County Council Councillor Brian Strong and his lady wife Mary. Councillor Brian Strong has been particularly supportive in the fundraising concerts for the piano and both he and Mary Strong have a keen interest in encouraging young local musicians.

This entertaining and enjoyable concert will be in aid of the Chepstow Piano Fund; the fund is ongoing so as to help keep the piano maintained. Tickets are £8 or £5 for 12s and under and will be available at the door or from the Chepstow Bookshop.



CHEPSTOW
Emergency Locksmith
1 Hr Repsonse 24/7, No Call Out Charges



Local & Fully Insured
Locks Opened, Repaired, Replaced,
Doors, Windows, Keys Cut On Site,
Domestic & Commercial
Covering All NP Postcodes



CITY
Locksmiths
Gwent Ltd

www.citylocksmithsgwent.co.uk

01291 33 00 85
AAA Chepstow Emergency Locksmiths
(save it on your phone!)

CHEPSTOW MOTORCYCLES



HARLEY MAINTENANCE / RE-MAPPING
PARTS - CLOTHING - MAINTENANCE
LEXMOTO DEALER



BIG BRANDS...OXFORD, WEISE, HJC, V&H...

Lexmoto 125's & Scooters
Pulse Scout at £649.99
FMS £879.99
Adreneline £1499.99
* plus registration.

Credit available. Spend £1000 with £100 deposit and pay as little as £6.30 a week.

20 WEEKS BRIDGE TOLL, BUYS A LEXMOTO SCOUT!

WWW.BIGBOAR.CO.UK
01291 645 999 // NP16 5JG

lexmoto

Hannah's Music shop in Chepstow is hosting a weekly 'samba band' workshop every Tuesday evening.

The samba workshop is run by Noel Watson, who is the resident drum teacher at Hannah's Music. The workshop is open to all ages, adults and children and the cost will be just £5 for the hour.

So if you would like to get into the groove and learn about afro-brazilian drumming, just call Carol at Hannah's Music on 01291-627122 to register. All instruments are provided, so just bring yourself along and have some fun!! Before long Chepstow will have its first ever 'samba band'!

The samba band is another string in the bow for Hannah's Music. Established in 1991, Hannah's Music is celebrating its 25th birthday in 2016!

Carol Mutlow, owner of Hannah's Music, opened the shop on 7th September 1991 in memory of her daughter Hannah who lost her fight for life to cystic fibrosis. "It was pure drive and determination to open the shop for Hannah." Carol stated, "That is what helped me to reach where I am today. It has not been easy, but giving up was not an option, no matter what".

25 years on, Hannah's Music is not only a successful music shop, but hosts music lessons with over 100 pupils taking part in lessons each week, and it also has a band rehearsal room which is open 7 days a week. In addition, Carol is the organiser of the annual 'Castell Roc' festival held inside the stunning grounds of Chepstow Castle (read more about this on page 25).

Reaching a 25 year anniversary, some owners might start thinking of retiring: "Not me!" says Carol, "It's more a case of what can I do next...?" Helping to start a samba band sounds like an interesting next venture ...!



"I feel like I don't know where the 25 years have gone, but then again it seems an age since I ventured into the unknown territory of running a business."

Carol Mutlow, owner of Hannah's Music



Guitars, Amps, Brass, Woodwind
Sheet Music, Gifts etc.....

Rehearsal Room & Tuition

www.hannahsmusic.co.uk

Why not try our SAMBA BAND Workshop Every Tuesday Evening



Aladdin's Cave For Musicians.... www.castellroc.co.uk
6 MOOR STREET, CHEPSTOW, MON. NP16 5DE - 01291 627122

Yarn Shop Day returns for a third year! – 30th April 2016

Yarn Shop Day, the ambitious campaign launched by leading magazines Let's Knit and Let's Get Crafting to support independent knitting shops, returns in 2016 offering retailers further opportunities to make the day bigger and better!

Last year over 200 retailers across the country took part in the day which proved to be a great success. Said Let's Knit editor Sarah Neal "It was a brilliant day for shops and customers alike, with special events ranging from large discounts on yarns to workshops run by top industry names. Many shops reported one of their best ever days of trading, and there was a fantastic buzz amongst participating stores. This year the event will be even bigger and better, so it's certainly worth checking out what your local yarn shop is up to."

Jane Ellison of Purl & Jane added: "Yarn Shop Day is definitely bringing more customers into their local yarn shops. I believe this event is a great initiative and recognises how hard local yarn shop owners work. These campaigns can help bring the industry together, to support the people who work in it and give us the much needed publicity."

Yarn Shop Day returns on April 30th 2016 and will once again receive extensive coverage and promotion from Let's Knit and its sister titles via their magazines, social media and websites. This industry recognised event is also supported by the major spinners and manufacturers, plus well-known industry names who act as ambassadors for the campaign.

Undy Yarncrafts of St Mary's Arcade, Chepstow will again be supporting Yarn Shop Day for the third year running and besides the usual friendly advice and support will also be giving away goody bags to the first 20 customers of the day and will be offering a massive 20% discount on all yarn purchases.

"We're very happy to be taking part," said Anne Reid of Undy Yarncrafts. "Yarn crafting is really growing in popularity, and customers rely on their local yarn shop for more than just needles and wool. It's a place to get advice, inspiration and to feel part of a crafting community. We are looking forward to welcoming customers old and new through the door."



More than just a wool shop! come along and get some inspiration!

A wool shop that is full of Crafty Gifts, wonderful Yarns, Fibres, supplies, tools, patterns and books for just about any Yarn or Fibrecraft! Whether it is Hand or Machine Knitting, Crochet, Spinning, Weaving, Felting and Needle Felting, Rug making... and much more, we're dedicated to all crafts that involve yarns and fibres and we're sure to have something to entice and inspire you.

Stocking yarns and fibres from:- King Cole, James C Brett, Debbie Bliss, Noro, Auracania, West Yorkshire Spinners, Yeoman, DY Choice, Creativ, Barany, Woolley Knits, DMC, Jenny Watson, Twilley, Bronte Glen, Wendy, and more...

**10 St Mary's Arcade, Nelson Street, Chepstow
NP16 5EU**

tel: 07732860415

website: www.undyarns.co.uk



**Visit us on
YARN SHOP DAY
Saturday 30th April 2016
Goody bags for the first 20
customers on the day
Help and advice on your
knitting, crochet and
machine knitting problems
Plus get a massive
20% off
all your yarn purchases.**

Chepstow Walking Festival

Wednesday 6th - Sunday 10th April 2016

Chepstow Walking Festival has become firmly established on the walker's map and each year brings something new to those who live locally or are visitors to the area.

As the days lengthen the Lower Wye Valley comes into its own and by joining a walk there is no better way to experience its landscape and heritage.

There are 28 walks of various lengths on offer, led by friendly experienced walk leaders. Many are specialists who work in an around the Lower Wye Valley and are happy to share their knowledge and enthusiasm on the walks. [See the website www.walksinchepstow.co.uk](http://www.walksinchepstow.co.uk) for full programme and further details.

As Chepstow Tourist Information Centre is closed until the beginning of April, Chepstow Walkers are unable to offer the full range of booking and payment options that were available in previous years. However, online and postal bookings are available, and Chepstow Museum have kindly agreed to provide visitors with Festival information and will accept cash bookings.

Ticket prices are £5 for a single walk or £10 for a Supersaver ticket; which gives you the option of joining as many walks as you wish. Free car parking at Chepstow and transport for linear walks is included in the ticket price.



Chepstow Osteopathic & Sports Injury Clinic

We specialise in treating a whole range of Aches & Pains including:

Headaches, Neck Pain & Stiffness, Shoulder & Elbow conditions, Wrist problems RSI etc, Back Pain, Sciatica, Whiplash, Postural & Occupational injuries



We are the longest established Osteopathic Clinic in Monmouthshire

All our practitioners are GOSc Registered

The Practice is fully accredited by all major private health insurers

We also have free onsite parking and disabled access

To book an appointment call us on: (01291) 627 374

The Surgery, Beachley Road, Sedbury, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 7AA
email: contact@chepstowosteopaths.co.uk www.chepstowosteopaths.co.uk

Chepstow Photographic Society

www.chepstowphotosoc.org

Now meeting fortnightly at 7.30pm to approximately 9.30pm on Tuesday evenings, at Chepstow's 'Coach and Horses' in Welsh Street, Chepstow Photographic Society is a small and friendly camera club; open to all those over sixteen. The club welcomes everyone who has an interest in photography, from complete beginners with their new point and shoot cameras and camera phones, to the more experienced photographers with their DSLR's who wish to enjoy the company of those with a similar interest. Currently we are in the process of setting up a new website and looking to expand and increase our membership, so if you're interested and would like to get involved, either e-mail us at admin@chepstowphotosoc.org or just turn up on the evening; you'll find a warm welcome. Our annual membership is just £20 (half price if joining after 1st July).

Photography can be a very rewarding pastime which involves a balance between your creative and artistic ability and a certain amount of technical awareness. Our aim primarily is to learn from each other, picking up on tips, suggestions, and the knowledge and experience that fellow members have gained as they've progressed.

The club boasts a full and varied agenda which can be found in more detail in the 'diary' section on our website; www.chepstowphotosoc.org. In addition to the topics shown on this page, evenings are occasionally arranged with local camera clubs who invite guest speakers to give a presentation of their work; recently, some of our members spent the evening at Viney Hill sport's club near Blakeney, where we listened to an encouraging talk by professional wildlife photographer and journalist Tom Mason, whilst he displayed some of his award winning images.

Several times a year, our photographs are entered into local competitions and yearly around November time, we challenge ourselves to a 'battle' against Coleford camera club. Refreshments are on hand for the mid time interval at the chosen venue, and a professional is hired for the evening to judge and comment on the exhibits entered by both clubs; the team with the highest accumulated score is declared the winner. It's an evening full of rivalry, but a friendly and enjoyable time is had by all who take part.

If in the past you've been under the impression that your photos were acceptable but could see that there was still room for improvement, come along and join us; we're here to help. With practice, your precious snapshots could become works of art and something to be proud of.



MusicLIVE!
RACING & MUSIC



EVENING RACING
SATURDAY 21 MAY
WITH
WILL YOUNG

CHEPSTOW
RACING & EVENTS

chepstow-racecourse.co.uk | 01291 622260

ChepstowRacecourse Chepstow_Racing ChepstowRacecourse

*Terms & conditions apply. For full terms and conditions please visit our website. Chepstow Racecourse encourages responsible gambling. www.gamblingaware.co.uk

Summer of Music at the Racecourse

The Chepstow Racecourse series of music nights kicks off next month with Will Young performing live after racing on Saturday 21st May. He will be followed by Simply Red on Friday 10th June, and Peter Andre at Ladies Evening on Friday 8th July.

Will Young shot to fame when winning TV's Pop Idol in 2002, having come to viewer's notice when standing up to critical judge Simon Cowell. The judge had called one performance 'distinctly average' but Will Young's dignified response won him new recognition and fans. He went on to beat the favourite Gareth Gates in a dramatic finale. He has starred on stage and on screen and has had huge musical success. His latest album 85% Proof was released last year and became his fourth UK number 1 album.

On 21st May gates open at 3.30pm, horse racing takes place between 5.50pm and 8.50pm and Will Young's 90 minute set will begin at around 9.30pm. Admission tickets, which include access to the racing and the concert, are £35.

Simply Red are one of the most successful UK bands of the last 30 years. They've sold more than 50 million albums and their hits include Money's Too Tight (to Mention), Holding Back the Years, If You Don't Know Me by Now, Stars, Something Got Me Started and Fairground. Fronted by the distinctive and charismatic Mick Hucknall, the band reformed for a new album and tour in 2015 and will end our race meeting with a 90 minute performance. Tickets for Simply Red race night are £39.

Peter Andre has had a varied career since making his name with the pop hit Mysterious Girl in 1996. He was known for his muscles as much as his singing and he built up a big female fan base. He has subsequently become a star of reality TV, featuring in Strictly Come Dancing and I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here. His high profile marriage to model Katie Price (Jordan) generated the TV franchise Katie and Peter, and their family life and break up played out to millions on television. Peter will be our guest judge of the £1000 'best dressed lady' prize on Ladies Evening and will perform live on stage for 45 minutes after racing.



It's going to be an exciting and a busy summer! Restaurant and hospitality packages are available at all race meetings, please see the racecourse website www.chepstow-racecourse.co.uk for more details.

CHEPSTOW RACING & EVENTS

FORTH COMING FIXTURES

APRIL

Sat 9th - Grand National Raceday
Fri 22nd - Irish Racenight
Fri 29th - Afternoon Racing

MAY

Tues 10th - Free Food Raceday
Sat 21st - Will Young Live after Races

JUNE

Fri 10th - Simply Red Live after Races
Mon 20th - Free Raceday
Tues 28th - Afternoon Racing

JULY

Fri 8th - Ladies Evening with Peter Andre
Thurs 14th - Afternoon Racing
Fri 22nd - Caribbean Race Night
Sun 31st - Family Fun Race Day

To Book Tickets contact :
www.chepstow-racecourse.co.uk
Tel: 01291 622260



Let people know you saw them in Chepstow Matters!

Knitting and Crochet back in fashion with a vengeance!

Over the past couple of years knitting and crochet has had a real resurgence and here at Chepstow Wool Shop we welcome young and old, beginners and experienced crafters alike.

We have something for the complete novice, or those that like to be more challenged in their projects.

There are lovely yarns in store from basic acrylics to Silk/Cotton blends, 100% cottons and more. A vast pattern selection is also available to inspire those creative thought processes. Our button selection includes some real fun and novelty ones, as well as the old favourites.

We also have some absolute bargain priced yarns in store whilst stocks last, at well below the recommended retail price from King Cole & Sirdar.

Spring is a perfect time to do some crafting, with the lovely new yarns/patterns that are available, why not pop in and have a browse at them, or visit our website for an overview.

Crochet classes/project days are also held here for beginners and intermediates (but they are proving popular and fill up fast). You can book directly with us in the shop, on our website www.chepstowwoolshop.co.uk, or direct with the tutor (www.allfortheLoveofabbie.co.uk)

Our loyalty points scheme is now up and running and if you haven't already got your loyalty card please ask for one next time you pop in and see us. Don't forget if you can't make it to the shop we do mail order, and you can order online or by telephone!



CHEPSTOW WOOL SHOP



A wide range of hand-knitting, crochet yarns and patterns



Craft fabric and kits for adults and children



Embroidery threads



Gift vouchers & Customer loyalty scheme

01291 624 700

Unit 4, Riflemans Way,
Old Bell Chambers,
Chepstow NP16 5EJ

www.chepstowwoolshop.co.uk
chepstowwoolshop@btinternet.com



Free Hot Drink for Chepstow Matters Readers at Tiffin Vintage Tea & Coffee House

Chepstow Matters was delighted to catch up once again with Nic Meyrick, owner of the lovely independent coffee shop "Tiffin Vintage Tea & Coffee House" on St Mary's Street.

Business has been growing steadily at Tiffin since it first opened in October 2014. A popular addition at the end of last summer was the opening of the refurbished garden at the back of the shop. A real sun trap, sheltered from the wind and surprisingly peaceful, the garden proved a sought after haven for guests and Nic is looking forward to enjoying this space again with the arrival of the warmer Spring weather.

The private room upstairs is also well utilised by local groups and businesses alike, looking to meet in a private space with excellent refreshments on hand. Just pop in to Tiffin to book or contact Nic via the facebook page 'Tiffin Vintage Tea & Coffee House'.

To tempt you to sample the gorgeous home-made goodies on offer, **Tiffin is offering Chepstow Matters' readers a FREE HOT DRINK with every cake purchased!**

Be sure to remember to take your magazine with you when you visit! Offer expires 30th April 2016.

Your Local, Friendly
Tea & Coffee Shop
"for a more personal service"



**FREE
HOT DRINK**
With every cake
purchased on
presentation of this
magazine.
Expires 30/04/16

A fine old-fashioned tea and coffee
house serving proper home-made
cakes, pastries and light meals



8 St Mary Street, Chepstow

Facebook/ Tiffin Vintage Tea & Coffee House



Boutique Pottery Painting Studio

Suitable for ALL ages!

- Baby Foot & Hand Prints • Birthdays
- Bridal Showers • Weddings
- or just for FUN!



Creating memories & so much more!

Prices from £4.50 to £35.00

**Studio available for
Party Bookings on a Sunday!**

3a St. Mary's Arcade, Chepstow

01291 408330 / 07714 706040

contact@paintonme.co.uk • www.paintonme.co.uk • www.facebook.com/paintonmeuk



FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

Chepstow Matters - Facebook/ChepstowMatters

Wye Valley River Festival 29 April to 15 May 2016

The amazing Wye Valley River Festival launches in Hereford on 29th April and flows through venues along the Wye to its fabulous finale at Chepstow Racecourse on 15th May.

The watery festival with the “wow” factor will bring a series of innovative, intriguing and spectacular events to locations along a 60-mile stretch of the River Wye, under the central theme of Global Arteries.

The unique and creative Wye Valley River Festival is a biennial event inspired by the landscape and led by arts professionals collaborating with the people who live in and around the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). After the first Festival's tidal wave of success in 2014, organisers are setting their sights high to make their second, 17-day festival even more amazing, exciting, entertaining and educational.

Environmentalists, artists and communities are coming together for themed events including:

***Fire and flame *Riverside revelry *Performances *Arts installations *Workshops *Walks and talks**

The focus of the Wye Valley River Festival 2016 is a travelling Wye Serai, a dynamic combination of performances, activities and workshops. At the heart of the Wye Serai is the Giant Samovar, a beautiful water heating sculpture, used to heat filtered water from the river. At key events the Samovar will be the centrepiece of a spellbinding fire and flame spectacular.

Main venues for the Wye Serai will be Hereford; Ross on Wye; Lydbrook; The Slaughters/ Symonds Yat; Monmouth; Llandogo and Chepstow, where the last Wye Serai will lead to a finale show and grand narrative denouement at Chepstow Racecourse.

For more details and information about sponsors, funders and supporters visit www.wyevalleyaonb.org.uk and follow along on Twitter for the latest updates.



Cotton buds; Candles; Paper clips; Water? Keep it out of your ears!

Many people can't have water in their ear canals, yet many also have blockages; what can be done? You should never try to remove earwax by sticking cotton buds or paper clips or hair grips into them. The lining of the canal is very delicate and can be affected easily with infection being introduced and/or physically damaged. There are a number of proprietary remedies that claim a lot of success but do not always work for everyone; some even make the problem worse.

Olive oil – correctly applied – can help but often you need manual intervention from a professional clinician. However, some people cannot have water squirted into their ears owing to a variety of conditions particularly if they have a damaged tympanic membrane [ear-drum]. Equally many people find their doctors' practice no longer offers the service or there is a very long wait. My practice is able to offer micro-suction removal of detritus from your ear.

There are also those who need to keep their ears dry at all times owing to a chronic condition affecting the lining of the ear canal. A pair of custom-made ear protectors allow you to swim, shower, bathe, wash hair or simply walk in a downpour; they are also floatable so won't sink if you drop them in water!

All of the above can be provided by your local independent practitioner, Ian Croft. An audiologist of over 20 years' experience and a Fellow of his professional body since 2002, he is also its longest serving Council Member. Contact him for a free assessment of your requirements – available 7 days a week and some evenings.

SAVE £10! Ian is offering a saving of £10 in March by quoting this article when booking an appointment for micro-suction or custom protectors.

An advertisement for easihear. The background is a photograph of a group of people, including men and women of various ages, sitting around a round table with a blue tablecloth, enjoying a meal. Overlaid on the image is a large yellow speech bubble with the text 'Missing out? Poor Clarity?' and an orange arrow pointing towards the bottom right with the text 'Join in the fun!'. In the top right corner, there is a handwritten-style text that says 'Your local, independent hearing care expert!'. In the top left corner, it says 'Let us help improve your hearing...'. At the bottom right, the 'easihear' logo is visible.

**01291 650312 7 days a week
Home visit for the less mobile**

easihear

An advertisement for Terraclean. The top left section has the headline 'We are always looking for new ideas that will benefit our customers and their cars' in orange. Below this, it describes the TerraClean technology, which improves vehicle performance, restores MPG, and reduces emissions. The middle section, titled 'Did you know?', states that only Terraclean can restore a vehicle's performance by removing carbon deposits. The bottom section, titled 'Terraclean is now available from:-', lists the 'AUTOCARE CENTRE CHEPSTOW' at Unit 6, Bulwark Business Park, and provides the phone number 01291 627137, email auto.care@btconnect.com, and website www.auto.centre.co.uk. The bottom of the ad features the Terraclean logo, three icons (a fuel pump, a globe, and a plus sign) representing 'Restore MPG', 'Reduce Emissions', and 'Regain Performance', and the website www.terraclean.co.uk.

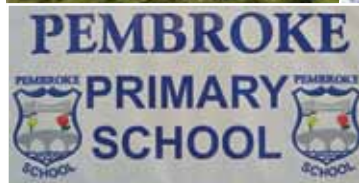
MEET THE HEAD

Chepstow Matters was delighted to meet with Helen Hampson, new Head Teacher at Pembroke Primary School, who commenced her role at the start of January.

With a passion for watching the Grand Prix and Man Utd in her personal time, this is Helen's first Headship role. After time in the Civil Service Helen studied for a psychology degree and then undertook her PGCE and started teaching at Lliswerry Junior school in Newport at the start of the Millennium. Lliswerry was a large primary school with a 90 pupil per year group.

After 6 years Helen moved to take up a Deputy Headship at Millbrook Primary School, Bettws, Newport where she stayed for a further 8 years. Whilst she achieved her NPQH to enable her to apply for Head Teacher roles in 2011, she really enjoyed her role at Millbrook and felt that her job there was not finished. It was a problematic school when the new Head and herself took leadership and there was lots to improve upon. Helen enjoyed the added roles of Nurture & Wellbeing Officer and Family Involvement Officer as well as Global & International Projects!

Having heard about the vacancy at Pembroke from former acting Head Jo Childs, Helen first visited the school on the last day of term in July. She explained to me how you can 'feel' a school and on entering she felt such a warmth and buzz at Pembroke that it felt right for her to apply for the position: *"It would have to be a special school for me to consider moving from Millbrook as I was very happy there. I had heard a lot about the school from Jo Childs so thought I would pay it a visit. As soon as I walked in, it just felt right and so I submitted my application"*. It meant so much to her to be awarded the job. Helen was appointed in September 2015 and started in position January 2016, which gave her the opportunity to make lots of extra pre-visits in the run up to Christmas, meeting Governors, attending the Christmas Fayre and Christmas Concerts.



Helen did not foresee taking on a school recently categorised by Estyn as 'Red' as problematic: *"Every school has its challenges!"*. In June 2015 Estyn found the school in need of improvement in areas such as leadership, governance, welsh and progression in developing skills across the curriculum. Wellbeing and care and support for pupils was a strength. The school was given 12 months to address the issues. No pressure for the new Head Teacher only taking over in Term 2 of the school year!

Fortunately Helen is not on her own and has fantastic peer support both from the local cluster and particularly in the form of Head Teacher Jane Edwards from Shirenewton Primary School, with whom Pembroke and Thornwell Primary Schools have formed an alliance. For a year the Local Authority funded Jane Edwards to oversee the schools and now there is a Service Level Agreement in place where both Pembroke and Thornwell schools contribute to pay Jane to support their schools. Shirenewton is a green school and has been selected as a Pioneer School, which, in partnership with a handful of other schools across Wales, will look into the changing curriculum following the Donaldson's Report. Jane's role as Executive Head Teacher has no actual responsibility for the individual schools but her experience lends assistance and guidance to help achieve the goals set.

Right from the first staff meeting Helen has emphasised how committed she is to working with the team to get through this difficult period and that she is here to stay. She is a strong believer in distributive leadership and empowering others and all staff have been allocated into teams to work together to achieve a series of goals on the Post Inspection Action Plan.

With a change in leadership and a strong Governing body in place, Helen feels that there is already a positive feeling inside the school that things are changing and pro-actively moving forward. She is confident that she has a committed team of staff at the school who are all wanting the very best for the children - and you can't ask for more than that!

Chepstow Matters has always felt a positive vibe from this lovely school and looks forward to hearing more from Mrs Hampson and the children from Pembroke Primary in future editions.

Toytastik

Come & visit Chepstow's new Toy Shop at
16b Moor Street
 (opposite Weeks Fish & Chips)

Our toys range from pocket money to special occasions for kids of all ages

Join us on Facebook/Toytastik.uk
 Call us on 01291 627200
 Visit and shop on our website
www.toytastik.co.uk

10% discount in store and online
 present this advert in store or use coupon
 code ZXRBX5547 online - valid until 30.04.16



Kestrel Gymnastics Club

Artistic Gymnastics, Acrobatics and Trampoline Classes for Girls & Boys

PeeWees (Pre-school 2-3 years): A structured class where children together with parent/carer, supervised by a qualified coach work towards British Gymnastics Awards. Mondays 13:00-13:45 & Fridays 09:30-10:15

Tweeties (Age 3 1/2 - 4 years): A class led by a qualified coach working on various apparatus. Mondays 13:45-14:30, Wednesdays 13:00-13:45, Fridays 13:00-13:45

Recreational Classes (Age 4 years +) Mondays 16:15-17:15, Wednesdays 16:15-17:15 & 17:30-18:30, Thursdays 16:15-17:15, Friday 16:15-17:15, Saturday 10:30-11:30

Trampoline Thursdays 16:15-17:15 and Saturdays 10:00-11:00

Competitive Squad Gymnasts - Selected Gymnasts with potential to compete at regional and national levels. Wednesdays Adult Classes: 19:00 - 20:00
 Parkour: 20:00 - 21:00 pm

Acrobatics Wed & Thursdays 17:00-18:00



Open Gymnastics Fun Session

Saturdays
 9.00am-10.00am

For children aged
 4yrs onwards -
 £3.00 per session
 payable on entrance

01291 620780

Please email us at: kestrelgymclub@live.co.uk

Kestrel Gymnastics Club, Bulwark Industrial Estate, Bulwark Road, Chepstow, NP16 5QZ

Local Funeral directors help pupils to say “Thanks Mum”

Chepstow Funeral Service have been helping pupils at Thornwell Primary School to show how much they love their mums this Mothering Sunday. Staff from Chepstow Funeral Service worked with teachers at the school to organise a drawing competition in which the under 10's participated. The children who took part expressed their artistic talents by drawing or painting a picture for their mother.

The entries were judged by Area Manager, Duncan Mason and Funeral Service Arranger, Susan Colton Reeves from the funeral home and the first placed entry won a bouquet of flowers for their mother. Those in second and third place also received a large box of chocolates for their mother's.

“We thought the competition was a lovely to help local young people to say ‘thanks’ to their mum for all the things they do for them throughout the year,” said Susan. “We had some fantastic entries and we have displayed a selection in our premises.”

Chepstow Funeral Service provides a 24-hour service and is part of Dignity, a British company that has funeral directors in towns and cities all across the UK.



**TURN TO US FOR
HELP AND SUPPORT**

In your time of need we'll take care
of all the funeral arrangements.
Call us 24 hours a day.

- Funeral Pre-Payment Plans
- Memorials

**CHEPSTOW
FUNERAL SERVICE**

Euro House, Bulwark Road
Chepstow NP16 5JN
01291 626832


Part of Dignity plc. A British Company.



Photo shows: Area Manager, Duncan Mason, and Funeral Service Arranger, Susan Colton Reeves from Chepstow Funeral Service with competition winner, Izzy (Year 4) (pic above) and runners up Bryn (Year 6) and Noah (Year 5) (pics right)



“The economy is in ruins! Bottom line? Good management will defeat a bad economy.”

Sir John Harvey-Jones MBE (16 April 1924 – 9 January 2008) was an English businessman best known by the public for his BBC television show, Troubleshooter, in which he advised struggling businesses. Listening to the radio one day whilst travelling in my car to visit a customer, Sir John was asked by an interviewer “*did he have any survival tips for business owners?*” Sir John replied “*Cash Flow - your business will only survive if you can manage it efficiently.*”

Here we are today, a few recessions later, and his words are just as relevant now as they were then. With this in mind, here are some simple adjustments that all businesses can make, which will deliver noticeable improvements to your bottom line.

Create a cash flow ritual

It's human nature to avoid the less attractive parts of our businesses (ledgers, bank balances, etc.). It allows us to keep ‘busy’, doing what's easy and comfortable, instead of what we know we need to do. Creating rituals will help you learn to love these financial parts of business.

Start your week by reviewing what you owe, who owes you, how much work is in the pipeline and how much cash you will have for the month ahead as a result. Then list out the outcomes you need to achieve to get you where you need to be and the actions you need to take to make them happen (chasing payments, closing contracts, making more sales, etc.). This will help you focus and work out what to do next.

Make your invoicing and debt management anonymous

Create a separate, generic email address for all billing and debt collection correspondence (e.g. accounts@a2zbusiness.co.uk), even if you're a one or two person business. This helps separate you from the billing process itself, especially if you deal with customers directly or have another prominent role in your business that you don't want to mix up with the painful job of chasing payments.

We've all been in the uncomfortable position of needing a customer to make a payment but not wanting to come across as needy or unprofessional. There is a natural fear that chasing debt will create pressure and strain the customer relationship.

By having a separate billing identity, you can create a virtual department at no cost, which can help bring

you the cash you need on time, and give you more peace of mind.

Also use a neutral, business tone on all correspondence regarding billing, separate from your personal relationship with your client. This helps make things easier, should any issues arise later.

Use four elements to get your invoices to the top of your customer's payment list:

1. A clear and specific deadline for payment – i.e. the actual date instead of generic wording, e.g. ‘within 30 days’
2. More than one payment option - the easier these options are for the customer, the better.
3. A clear consequence for late payment – this should influence customers to pay on time and create a relationship of trust and respect around billing. Consequences can range between the loss of a specific privilege, a monetary penalty for late payments, or the use of debt collection agencies (whatever makes sense for your business).

To do this effectively, make sure you give your customers plenty of warning, and setup reminders so they don't miss them. Be flexible and fair, but firm and consistent too. The key to getting this right is the wording, process and delivery.
4. A request for immediate contact regarding late payments - by requesting upfront for immediate communication if they are unable to meet the deadline, you will be able to plan for cash flow shortfalls and negotiate new deadlines. Part-payments or other options that will give your client a breather but still keep them accountable for the new commitment they make.

**Stan Chicken - Administration Manager
at bdhc Chartered Accountants**

 **bdhc chartered accountants**

*A Comprehensive accountancy service to
businesses and individuals*

Whatever your needs, we can help

Call us on 01 291 624 866

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE | BUSINESS DIVERSITY
IN PEOPLE | NEW IN POOL www.bdhc.co.uk





Nursery and Early Years at Thornwell Primary School

By far the most enjoyable part of my job as editor of Chepstow Matters and my other Matters titles, is the opportunity it gives me to get out and about in the community, especially into the primary schools. I was therefore delighted to be invited into Thornwell Primary School by Head Teacher Tim Appleby to meet the children in the nursery phase and have a tour of the relatively recently completed facility. As you can see we had good fun in both the new library and the fantastic outdoor play space!

Tim Appleby told me: *"At Thornwell Primary and Nursery Unit we are constantly developing the learning environment of our pupils. Having invested heavily over the last four years in information technology equipment and 21st century learning, this year's focus is more 'back to basics'. We have moved our library environment to a more central location within the school and created an exciting space that is both enticing and inspiring for our pupils. We had a redundant climbing frame in our school grounds that has now been used to create a perfect reading den and encapsulating it with the woodland frieze we've really tried to bring the outdoors inside! All children learn through play, and this is especially true of Early Years children hence our focus on creating an exciting outdoor environment for our Nursery Garden."*

As you can see from the above photos the latest additions to the facilities are quite something and the youngsters I had the pleasure of meeting certainly knew how to make the most of them!



Chepstow Matters was delighted to be invited along to Pembroke Primary School to watch their Eisteddfod celebrations on St David's Day.



In a whole school assembly in the morning, children in each year group were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd certificates for things they had been working on in class. Chepstow Matters learned a thing or two listening to the year 2s perform an action song on why the Red Dragon appears on the Welsh flag and the year 3s jointly read out a story of St David and why he became the Patron Saint of Wales! We also listened to a violin group of year 5s and 6s perform. It was a shame that the Male Voice Choir were unable to attend this year - they were missed!

I hope you enjoy these lovely photos of some of the children in their Eisteddfod dress.



Introducing the Chepstow Social Compass. A growing social media networking group, trying to bring the local communities of Chepstow, Caldicot, Bristol and the Forest of Dean together, along with their local connections to the web.

FREE Facebook group where you can easily and instantly communicate with fellow local businesses, groups and creative individuals. Find out about new local ideas, products, offers and future events; or promote your own services.

We're not a business, simply a place for the local community to connect with one another. So why not check us out at: www.facebook.com/groups/chepstowsocialcompass/ Come join & put yourself on the Social Media Compass.

We look forward to connecting with you!

R WHITE PLUMBING & HEATING

- Central Heating
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms

01291 420587 / 07792 094552
rwhiteplumbingheating@live.com

THE AERIAL MAN (DAN GRACE) Local engineer

- Digital Aerials
- Fully Guaranteed
- Repairs
- Sky Work
- Free Quotes
- OAP Discounts
- Poor Reception Problems
- Additional TV Points

01291 618 013 | 07818 413 451
www.dangraceaerials.co.uk



Chepstow Bowling Club

Part of Chepstow Athletic Club, the Bowling Club season opens at 2 pm on Saturday 16 April at Mathern Road Bulwark, Chepstow.

The men play on weekend afternoons in the Monmouthshire Bowling Association League Division 2 and in the evening East Mon League. The second Team won the Gwent Bowling League last season, and a team play in the Newport Over 60's afternoon mid-week League. The ladies bowl in the afternoon SW & Mon League and evening Casnewydd League. In addition, Mixed Friendly Matches are played on mid-week afternoons which are beneficial to the newer members.

Social and team members enjoy playing on Monday Club Afternoons in a relaxed atmosphere with time for tea and a chat. This is ideal for newer members to learn the game. The Club organises Competitions and Tournaments with a Tour to Bournemouth in late May. Off the Green activities include a Club BBQ in early August, coffee mornings and social evenings.

If you enjoy good company, fresh air and gentle exercise, why not contact Peter Shapland on 01291/422208 or email: chepstowbowlingclub@gmail.com. The Club Website is updated regularly.

Chepstow Baptist Church Bicentenary Year

This year, 2016, marks the bicentenary of not only the iron bridge over the River Wye, but also the opening of Chepstow Baptist Church.

Over the years the building has seen many changes, in its uses, congregation and neighbourhood.

This year the church is planning events to mark its 200 year existence in several ways. On Sunday 19th June at 6pm there will be an anniversary service to mark this special birthday of the church, while during the Chepstow Festival the church will be open on the 16th and 17th July to give a flavour of the life and times of Chepstow Baptist church history.

During the post war years (1950's-1970's, even 1940's) many children attended a Sunday School which was run by the Baptist church. If you were one of those children, please would you get in touch? The church is gathering memories of that time.

If you have relevant memorabilia that would be appropriate to use in an exhibition, please let Hazel Coleman know on admin@chepstowbaptist.org.uk or call into the church on a Monday afternoon between 2 and 5pm.



200 years!



It is good to be different and we certainly are...

Everything we do is about you, and making you feel part of our family. We work together as a family to help your family or your business to make difficult times easier and make legal jargon simpler.

We are different because we are solicitor estate agents. We can start the legal process earlier when you are selling your home and offer a one stop service.

As solicitors we specialise in residential sales and purchases, property law such as boundary disputes, Wills and probate, inheritance tax planning, divorce, family law, commercial property law, business leases, commercial conveyancing, site development and numerous other areas.

Our experience is extensive and our service covers much of the UK.



JOIN THE PROPERTIES FAMILY

01291 60 60 60

Beaufort Square Chepstow NP16 5EP

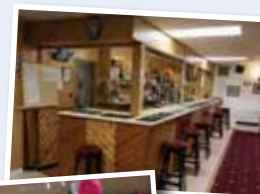
Burnt Barn Community (Sports) & Social Club

Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 5AR

Club activities
 Mon - Crib/Skittles/Bingo
 Tues - Club members tote prizes to £3000
 Wed - Men's Darts incl Gwent Super League
 Thurs - Mencap till 9pm. Ladies Darts
 Fri - Family night (incl children) Thrift Club • Men's Darts
 Sat - Function room available for hire
 Sun - Pool league

The Club has Free WiFi

**Email: beckett012@btinternet.com
 T: 01291 629020 / M: 07850 534 370
www.burntbarnclub.co.uk**



Club Associates

Little Acorns Playgroup, 9am Mon - Fri.
 Contact Rachel 07951 969 043
 Tues - Slimming World
 Thurs - Kung Foo Club
 Weekly - Mike's Joyriders - Motorcycle Training to test level.
 Call Mike 015945 17037

Large function hall available for hire for all types of parties.

Room is available for hire Mon - Fri afternoons after 1pm, Fri nights, Sat & Sun all day & evening.

Resident disco and catering available.

Opening Times
 Sat: 2.30pm - 12am
 Sun: 12pm - 12am
 Mon-Thurs: 7pm - 11.30pm
 Fri: 7pm - 12am



FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Chepstow Matters - Facebook/ChepstowMatters

Grant Enables New iPads for Inspirational Learning at Wydean

Wydean School has recently been granted £2,000 from Horizon Nuclear Power to purchase iPads for students to use in Science. Thanks to their generosity, eleven state of the art iPads have been purchased to allow 21st century learning to take place across all Key Stages.

Co-ordinating teacher, Stuart Motson commented: *"Up to date hardware and software is always tremendously motivating. We plan to explore new ways of communicating Science to inspire and inform".*

Staff and students will be able to use the latest iPad technology to communicate Science to a wider audience. For example, Wydean School Science department have made iMovie films of Primary students experiencing lessons during Year 6 Induction Week. *"We have made numerous films in lessons to show parents what sort of activities and learning goes on at Wydean School"* Stuart continued.

"You can already see the work students have made using iPads on the Wydean Science YouTube Channel. Last year, two Year 7 students were encouraged to make their own film "The Great Eggperiment", they entered it in a National Physics Laboratory competition and they won!

"Other creative films on a wide range of topics include: "The Large Hadron Collider", "Quarks Assemble", "Science Graph Plotting in 60 seconds", "Science Quiz – National Science Week", "Isabel Presents Science Revision Mind-mapping", "8X3 make carbonic acid" and "Wydean Guide to Successful Revision".

"We plan to inspire the students of Wydean School to be the Scientists of the future and build on the excellent, GCSE Science and A level Biology, Chemistry and Physics results at Key Stage 5."

Yr11 students with new Apple iPads at Wydean Science Department- (From the left: James Wright, Nick Stockley, Harry Moxey, Tom Underwood, Thomas Bethell, Ellis Parsons, Erin O'Connell, Holly Pilling, Ella John, Lily Hughes).



From the minute that visitors approach the imposing entrance of the wonderful venue that is Chepstow Castle you know you're in for something special! Chepstow's Castell Roc Festival 2016 has something for everyone. Comedy, Country, Pop, Rock, Blues right through to a rather intriguing Orchestra. Kicking off in style with an old school knees up...

18th sees "The Sausage & Cider Festival" featuring the West Country's finest export 'The Wurzels'. Taking the very best local food, adding the very best local cider and the very best entertainment promises to be one heck of a summers evening. A choice of 10 different locally sourced sausages are on offer as well as the largest cider collection ever to come to Chepstow, plus all the laughs and sing along's that you can handle.

19th sees a more relaxed affair as the Worlds finest Fleetwood Mac Tribute arrives in Town. Endorsed by Mick Fleetwood himself and replicating the classic 'Rumours' line-up (which is still the 5th biggest selling album of all time), Fleetwood Bac have received massive praise everywhere and perform all the big hits with stunning accuracy.

20th welcomes record breaking Country act 'The Shires', who have quickly become a UK Country institution. Their debut album 'Brave' went gold in 2015, making them one of only 4 uk debut acts to break gold that year. The first ever UK act to play the legendary Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

21st prepare to 'Walk 500 miles' with the one and only 'Proclaimers'. Twin brothers Craig & Charlie Reid have over the years enjoyed huge success across the Globe, enjoying gold and platinum singles with songs that are etched in people's memory..



Photo courtesy of Paul Johnson at www.pixelsintime.co.uk

Castell Roc 2016 18th-29th August

24th has a truly wondrous evening in store with 'The Simon & Garfunkel Story', using projection photos, original film footage and a live band this is an enchanting and emotional evening with all the hits including Mrs Robinson, Cecilia, Bridge Of Troubled Water, Homeward Bound and many more.

25th is another chance to cast yourself back to heady days of Stadium Rock. a band no stranger to Castell Roc - 'The Bohemians'. The world's biggest and best tribute to the late great Freddie Mercury. It will be their 3rd time at Castell Roc to sold out performances each year.

26th sees a real giant of the Blues Scene. Fronted by Paul Jones (singer/actor/BBC radio personality/ TV presenter), 'The Blues Band' are held in admiration by generations of rhythm and blues fans. With almost two and a half decades together and over 16 albums it's not unheard of to see three generations from the same family at a concert. Support includes Aynsley Lister recently voted 'best UK guitarist'.

27th sees a gentleman who needs no introduction, 'Mr Jools Holland with his rhythm & blues orchestra', featuring 'Gilson Lavis', and special guest 'Marc Almond' and guest vocalists 'Ruby Turner', 'Louise Marshall' and 'Beth Rowley'.

28th sees what has become a National Institution hit the Town. "The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain" brings a hilarious, virtuosic, twanging, awesome, foot-stomping evening all played on the 'baby guitar'. A musical trip from Tchaikovsky to Nirvana via Otis Reading and Spaghetti Western soundtracks showcases just what can be done with a 'Uke'. Wonderfully entertaining, fun, innocence and daftness all wrapped up in Castle?

29th celebrates two highly talented, yet different legends of the music scene who were recently sadly lost to cancer. 'A Tribute 2' hosts two highly talented shows, with a chance to applaud, revel & commemorate both Lemmy & David Bowie. Both ground breaking and enduring artistes that broke musical barriers. Performed by Motorheadache & The Bowie Experience, the ticket price includes a donation to Cancer Research.

Grab your tickets while you can! A fabulous bar and hot food is available at all shows (no food/drink can be brought in to the venue), all shows are standing only (foldable chairs can be brought to all shows, used in designated area only). Loads of information on the Festival including all shows is at www.castellroc.co.uk

DEREK'S GYM & FITNESS CENTRE

Est in Chepstow 1969



Bodybuilding & Fitness Specialists with heavy duty gym equipment

Opening Times:
10am-1pm Mon, Wed, Fri & Sun
5-9pm Mon - Thur, 5-8pm Fri

Membership Options:
£3.50 per session, or £2.50 per session to members (£15 annual fee), Unlimited membership - £45 for 3 months or £80 for 6 months

01291 624 222

The Old Fire Station • Lower Church Street • Chepstow • NP16 5HJ

For more information and how to buy tickets check out: www.castellroc.co.uk
or call the box office at Hannah's Music: **01291 627122**



Local Clubs, Groups & Community Organisations in and around Chepstow

CHEPSTOW COMMUNITY LISTINGS

Chepstow Castle Bridge Street, Chepstow, NP16 5EZ 01291 624065

Chepstow Library Manor Way, Chepstow, NP16 5HZ 01291 635730 chepstowlibrary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Chepstow Museum Bridge Street, Chepstow 01291 625981

Chepstow Town Council The Town Council Offices, The Gatehouse, High Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LH 01291 626370 clerk@chepstow.co.uk

Chepstow Tourist Information Centre Castle Car Park, Bridge Street, Chepstow NP16 5EY. 01291 623772 chepstow.tic@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Community Centres

Palmer Community Centre, Cormeilles Square, High Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LH 01291 628725 main hall and lounge available for hire, Tea Rooms open for all!

The Drill Hall, Lower Church Street, Chepstow, NP16 5HJ Hall available for hire including weddings 01291 628552 or e-mail Mike at ctcdrillhall@aol.com

Bulwark Community Centre, Laburnam Way, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5RF 01291 624138 bccbulwark@btconnect.com Large Hall, seminar room, café, kitchen and garden area.

Doctors Surgeries and Community Hospital

Chepstow Community Hospital, Tempest Way, Chepstow, NP16 5YX 01291 636636

Town Gate Practice, Tempest Way, Chepstow, NP16 5XP 01291 636444

Mount Pleasant Practice, Tempest Way, Chepstow NP16 5XR 01291 636500

Vauxhall Surgery Vauxhall Lane, Chepstow, NP16 5PZ 01291 636100

Police Station 14 Moor Street, Chepstow, NP16 5XW 01633 838111

LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

Baby Rhyme Time and Under Fives Story Time at Chepstow library 01291 635730 Rhyme Time Thurs 2.15-2.45 Story Time Fri 10.15-10.45

Bingo Wednesdays 2pm Palmers Community Centre

Bulwark Senior Citizens Club Contact Joan Johnson 01291 623352 various social trips and get togethers. Bingo Thurs and Sat 2-4pm and Whist on Wed 2-4pm.

CHAOS Music and Drama chaosinchepstow@live.co.uk Jon Stow 07926 584 661

Chepstow Archaeological Society www.chepstow.org.uk 1st Thursday of the month 7.30 Chepstow Conservative Club

Chepstow (Archway) Bridge Club meets Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday at the Palmer Centre, 7-10pm

<http://chepstowarchwaybc.org.uk> or call Pete on 01291 - 627599 for more information.

Chepstow Carers Group Scout Hut, off Pembroke Road, Bulwark first Wed of the month 10-12 chepstowcarers@yahoo.co.uk 07592 503757

Chepstow Choral Society www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk info@chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk Wed 7.30 Chepstow Leisure Centre

Chepstow Community Big Band Meets on Wednesday evenings during term time at Wydean School NP16 7AA 6pm – Microjazz Training Band; 7pm - Swingcopation Big Band. <http://chepstowcommunitybigband.weebly.com>

Chepstow Cormeilles Twinning Association www.chepstowtwinning.wordpress.com

Chepstow and District Amateur Radio Society www.gw4lwz.org.uk contact James Hewitt chairman@gw4lwz.com, meet at Chepstow Athletic Club

Chepstow and District Gardening Club Caroline Duchet cdgclub@gmail.com

Chepstow and District Lions www.caldicot.com/lions 0845 8339565

Chepstow Folk Dance Club Wednesday 7.30pm Severn Bridge Club 01291 641537

Chepstow Hill Walking Club an informal group of people of all ages who like to walk on the hills and moorland. www.chwc.org.uk

Chepstow Jubilee Townswomen's Guild meets at Chepstow Leisure Centre on the 1st Wednesday of each Month. Contact: Maureen Dale 01291 623257

Chepstow Knitters first and third Monday of the month Chepstow Methodist Hall 7.30-9.30 and third Wednesday 10-12. Contact Margaret Payne 01291 630580

Chepstow Male Voice Choir www.chepstowmvc.co.uk Mon & Thurs 7pm The Dell School contact Stuart Vigus on 01291 626566 / 07733 804317 or stuartvigus@aol.com.

Chepstow Photographic Club www.chepstowps.org admin@chepstowps.org

Chepstow Probus Club fortnightly meetings for retired business gentleman Tel: Barry Catlin 01291 620891

Chepstow Round Table www.chepstow.roundtable.co.uk community voluntary organisation for men aged 18-44. 'find them at Facebook/Chepstow Round Table'

Chepstow Society local group exploring history and developments of town, meet each month in Drill Hall. www.chepstowsociety.co.uk Secretary is Henry Hodges, Tel 01291 625865.

Chepstow Town Band meet Sundays 6.30-8.30 at Bulwark Community Centre, contact Alen Lane 01291 629580

Chepstow Womens Institute (WI) www.thewi.org.uk Shirenewton, St Arvans and Tidenham

On these pages we have tried to collate many of the non-profit making groups, clubs and organisations that regularly meet in the area, along with Church and School information. If we have got your details wrong, or missed out your club completely, please contact us on **community@mattersmagazines.co.uk** and we shall do our best to put it right for you!

Chepstow Group of Gwent Wildlife Trust Contact Hilary Lee 01291 689326 hilary-lee@tiscali.co.uk

ComBat Communities of Bulwark and Thornwell, community group Chairman Ric Hayes ric.hayes@talktalk.net

Library Friends Group aims to support and promote the library through a variety of activities. Please contact 01291 635730 for more info.

Lower Wye Ramblers Sunday Walks (meet CLC) www.lowerwyeramblers.org.uk 01291 637416

Movie Night at Bulwak Community Centre and St Arvans Memorial Hall see www.monmouthshiremobilie.movies.co.uk

Musical Youth Theatre www.cmyt.org Chepstow Baptist Church Tues and Thurs

Pottery Thursdays 7-9 Chepstow Comp School Cathy 07917 261511 www.monmouthshirepotters.org hello@monmouthshirepotters.org.uk

Rotary Club of Chepstow and District www.chepstowrotary.org.uk

Royal British Legion Chepstow Branch meets at the Beaufort Hotel in Chepstow monthly on 4th Tuesday at 7.30 pm. Contact Tom Moran on 01291 477266 tmoran@btinternet.com.

Royal Naval Association Chepstow Branch meets at the Conservative Club, Welsh Street monthly on 2nd Thursday (except August) at 8.00 pm Contact Ken Davies on 01291 621485 kendavies131@yahoo.co.uk

The Singing Club for anyone who wants to sing www.singingclubber.co.uk Karl@operaplayhouse.com

University 3rd Age U3A www.u3asites.org.uk wide variety of activities, contact Teresa Davies Membership Secretary 01594 529597

Wye Cross Stitch Club meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. 7.30pm to 10pm Sedbury Village Hall. A warm welcome to any fellow cross stitchers/embroiderers. Contact: Elaine Moore 01291 629666

Wye Valley Railway Society - for all model engineering enthusiasts, we run miniature trains at Tintern Old Station from Easter to September, on Bank Holidays and the last Sunday of the month. Contact Peter Kenington peter@trap-farm.freemove.co.uk

CHURCHES

www.chepstowchurchestogether.org.uk

Chepstow Methodist Church, Albion Square, Chepstow, NP16 5DA 01291 627014 www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk

St Marys Priory, The Vicarage, Mount Way, Chepstow NP16 5NF Father Chris Blanchard 01291 620980 www.chepstowpriory.org

St Christophers, Bulwark, (linked to St Marys) www.chepstowpriory.org

Chepstow Baptist Church, Lower Church Street, Chepstow, NP16 5HJ 01291 622987 chepstowbaptist.org.uk

St Marys Catholic Presbytery Church, Bulwark Road, Chepstow, NP16 5JE 01291 622649 admin@stmarysrchepstow.org.uk www.stmarysrchepstow.org.uk

St Luke's Church, Coleford Road, Tutshill NP16 7PT 01291 624868 www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk

Stroat Evangelical Church, Gloucester Road, Stroat, Chepstow, NP16 7LR 01594 529209 pastor@stroatchurch.org.uk www.stroatchurch.org.uk

The Bridge Pentecostal Church, Unit 1A Critchcraft Buildings, Bulwark Road NP16 5QZ 07943 851799 thebridgechurchchepstow@gmail.com

Victory Church, Palmer Community Centre, High Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LH 0845 4092449 www.victorychurch.co.uk

BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS

Chepstow Leisure Centre Playgroup. Contact: Karen Isaac 01291 623392 karenisaac61@aol.com

Chepstow Methodist Church Parent and Toddler Groups mornings 10am term time www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk

Cylch Ti A Fi Cas-Gwent Chepstow Library contact Mai Jones mai.jones@meithrin.co.uk Tuesdays 10.15-11.15

Devauden Mother and Toddlers, Devauden Village Hall contact sarah_trim@rocketmail.com Mondays 10-12 including holidays, babies to school age

Mini Acorns Toddler Group, Burnt Barn Club, Burnt Barn Road, Bulwark. Contact Rachel Llewellyn-Bennett 07904212135 acornsplaygroup@aol.com Tuesdays term time 1-3pm.

Parent and Toddler Time at Whirlikidz Unit 2, School Hill Business Centre, 01291 628700 Mondays 10-12 term time

Shirenewton Parent and Toddler Shirenewton Recreation Hall, contact Paula Siddall p.pimmer10@btinternet.com every Thurs 1.30-3pm

St Arvans Baby and Toddler St Arvans Memorial Hall contact Sabrina 07701027313 sabrinaortner@yahoo.co.uk every Wed 10-12.

St Christophers Under Fives and Familys St Christophers Church, Bulwark contact Babs Middleton 07594172720 babsmiddleton80@gmail.com Wed 3.45 term time, all age siblings welcome FREE



Please support us and connect with us:
@ChepstowMatters



/ChepstowMatters



Local Clubs, Groups & Community Organisations in and around Chepstow continued

NURSERIES / PRESCHOOLS

Bluebells Playgroup Fairfield Road, Chepstow 01291 628908
bluebellspg@outlook.com

Little Acorns Playgroup Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow 01291
628031 www.littleacornspg.co.uk

Little Scamps Pre-School and Nursery Beachley Barracks,
Chepstow Nicky Morgan 01291 645381

Penguins Pre-School, c/o Offas Mead Academy, Beachley
Road, Sedbury NP16 7DT Michelle 07923548584

Shirenewton Playgroup contact Beverly Lindsay, Playgroup
Supervisor 07881 480764, email: shirenewtonplaygroup@
gmail.com

Tutshill Community Pre-School Debra Hockin 01291 629134
www.tutshillpreschool.org.uk tutshillpreschool@talktalk.net

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

(The) Dell Primary Steve King, Headteacher, Welsh Street,
Chepstow NP16 5UQ 01291 635641 thedellprimary@
monmouthshire.gov.uk
www.dell.monmouthshire.sch.uk

Offa's Mead Academy Mrs Clare Greene Beachley Road,
Sedbury, Chepstow NP16 7DT 01291 622932
www.offasmeadacademy.org contactus@
offasmeadacademy.org

Pembroke Primary School Mr G Keeble, Headteacher,
Fairfield Road, Bulwark, Chepstow NP16 5JN 01291 622310
pembrokeprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk
www.pembrokeprimaryschool.co.uk

Shirenewton Primary School Mrs J Edwards, Headteacher,
Shirenewton, Chepstow, NP16 6RN, 01291 641774
shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

St Marys RC Primary School (Voluntary Aided) Mr M
Gorrell, Headteacher, Bulwark Road, Chepstow NP16 5JE,
01291 623006 stmarysprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Thornwell Primary and Nursery Unit Mrs L Davies,
Headteacher, Thornwell Road, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5NT
01291 623390 thornwellprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Tutshill C of E Primary School, Jenny Lane, Head Teacher
Coleford Rd, Tutshill, Chepstow NP16 7BJ 01291 622593
admin@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Chepstow School Ms Claire Price, Headteacher, Welsh
Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LR 01291 635777 info@
chepstowschool.net, www.chepstowschool.net

Mounton House Special School Mr P Absalom, Headteacher
and enrolment contact Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16 6LA,
01291 635642 mountonhouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk
www.mountonhouse.org.uk/

Wydean School Headteacher Clive Pemberton Beachley
Road, Sedbury NP16 7AA 01291 625340 www.wydean.
gloucs.sch.uk

SPORTS CLUBS

Archery – St Kingsmark Bowmen www.st-kingsmark.co.uk
Wed & Fri 7pm Chepstow Athletics Club

Chepstow Amateur Boxing Club www.welshboxing.org
Stephen Woods 07793 047 941

Chepstow Athletics Club (Sports and Social Club) www.
chepstowathleticac.co.uk Tony and Shirley Hardy 01291
622126

Chepstow Badminton Club www.gwentbadminton.co.uk
Tues 8-10 Leisure Centre contact Miss P Jenkins 01291
624438

Chepstow Boat Club www.chepstowboatclub.co.uk Christine
Norman 01291 624897
secretary@chepstowboatclub.co.uk

Chepstow Bowling Club www.chepstowbowlingclub.co.uk
Peter Shapland 01291 422208

Chepstow Cricket Club www.chepstow.play-cricket.com
markbirch1228@hotmail.com 01291 622126

Chepstow Darts League contact Nigel Wright 07905681589
nigel64.nw@gmail.com

Chepstow & District Yacht Club www.cdyc.co.uk Roger
Nasey 07968495124

Chepstow Harriers Running Club
www.chepstowharriers.org.uk Tues and Thurs 7pm Leisure
Centre

Chepstow Ladies Hockey www.pitchero.com/clubs/
chepstowladieshockeyclub Pat Morris 01291 621498

Chepstow Mountain Biking www.chepstowmtb.co.uk
chepstowmtb@tiscali.co.uk

Chepstow Rugby Club www.chepstowrfc@mywru.co.uk
01291 624818 email: chepstowrfc@outlook.com

Chepstow Swimming Club www.swimchepstow.org.uk
info@swimchepstow.org.uk contact Elizabeth Wixcey 01291
641216

Chepstow Tennis Club www.chepstowtennisclub.co.uk,
admin@chepstowtennisclub.co.uk contact Ian Russell 01633
400957 meet at Chepstow Athletics Club

Football:

Chepstow Athletic Football Club www.clubwebsite.co.uk/
chepstowathletic

Chepstow Town Football Club www.chepstowtownfc.com

Chepstow Garden City Junior Football Club www.
gardencityjfc.com

Thornwell Red and White Football Club www.teamstats.
net/thornwellfc

Please support us and connect with us:



@ChepstowMatters



/ChepstowMatters

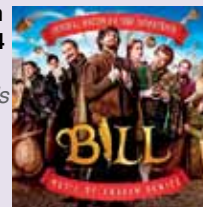
Events at the Drill Hall in March



**Friday 1 April Film - THE
DRESSMAKER (15) 118mins
7.30pm £4 & £3.** A glamorous
woman returns to her small
town in rural Australia. With
her sewing machine and
haute couture style, she
transforms the women and
exacts sweet revenge on
those who did her wrong.

**Saturday 2 April 4 PM - film
- BILL (PG) 94 mins £3 & £4**

the Horrible Histories team
contribution to Shakespeare's
400th anniversary. What
really happened during
Shakespeare's 'Lost Years'?
Hopeless lute player Bill
Shakespeare leaves his home to follow his
dream.



**Saturday 2 April
6.30 PM - film
-STAR WARS:**

**Episode VII - The
Force Awakens
(12 A) 135 mins.**

£3 & £4. Three decades after the defeat of the
Galactic Empire, a new threat arises. The First
Order attempts to rule the galaxy and only a
ragtag group of heroes can stop them, along with
the help of the Resistance.



**Wednesday 6 April 7.15pm Live Broadcast
Ballet - GISELLE Royal Ballet** The greatest of
all Romantic ballets, Peter Wright's production
of Marius Petipa's classic is a tale of betrayal,
the supernatural and love that transcends death.
Tickets £15 £12 from Chepstow Museum 01291
625981

**Friday 8 April Film -
HE NAMED ME MALALA
7.30pm (PG) 88mins £4 & £3**

Academy Award Winning
Director Davis Guggenheim
(An Inconvenient Truth - 2006)
guides the audience into the
life of Malala Yousafzai, the young Pakistani girl
(youngest Nobel Prize Winner - 2014) who was
shot in her school bus in 2012 by the Taliban.



**Sunday 10 April Bolshoi Ballet - DON
QUIXOTE live from Moscow 4 pm.**

Live broadcast screening of Bolshoi Ballet
dazzling staging of this timeless tale following
the eccentric hero and his loyal squire Sancho
Panza's adventures. Last in this season. Tickets
£12/£10 concession from and in support of
Chepstow Museum tel 01291 625981

**Friday 15 April Film – CAROL (15) 118mins.
7.30pm £4 & £3** New film from

Todd Haynes based on the
novel by Patricia Highsmith.
This is potentially one of the
great films of the decade.
The story of a love affair
between two women in 1950s
New York. Performances are
electric and Haynes' recreation
of the period is mesmerising.



**Saturday 16 April 7.30 p.m. A CELEBRATION
OF THE PIANO** Tickets: £8 (£5 for 12s and
under) - see main article page XX

All proceeds to the Chepstow Piano Fund.
Tickets available at the door or from the
Chepstow Bookshop.

**Friday 22 April Film – MACBETH (15)
113mins. 7.30pm £4 & £3** To mark the
400th anniversary of
Shakespeare's death (23
April 1616) Australian director
Justin Kurzel's stunning
version of the play with

Michael Fassbender and
Marion Cotillard. Superstition
is the social currency of the
day. Betrayal is afoot. The king
is in danger. Lives are easily
lost in bloody battle.



**Monday 25 April 7.15pm Live Broadcast
Opera - LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR Royal
Opera.** Diana Damrau and Aleksandra Kurzak
lead a world-class cast in Katie Mitchell's new
production of Donizetti's tragic opera. Tickets £15
£12 from Chepstow Museum



Community Noticeboard

to promote your non-profit making event for FREE email
community@mattersmagazines.co.uk

Chepstow Community Hub (Chepstow Library)

Easter stories and crafts for 5 – 8 year olds
Thursday 7th April
11.00 – 12.00

Come along and listen to some hair raising tales and make a bouncy bunny. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Films showing this month at BULWARK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Laburnam Way, Bulwark, NP165RF
Email: bccbulwark@btconnect.com
tel: 01291 624138
p9;8u
admission £3 refreshments on sale, doors open 1.30 pm

Saturday 23rd April The Danish Girl (R)

A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda's marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili's groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer.



Devauden Cross Country Races Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May 2016

see www.devauden.org.uk/races for more information

Free open event Saturday 9th April Let's party! A Two Bridges Celebration

4.00pm, By the Bandstand on Chepstow Riverbank

Chepstow has two important anniversaries in 2016. The 200th anniversary of the Old Wye Bridge and the 50th anniversary of the Severn Bridge. The popular Singing Club of Chepstow will be joining in the celebrations together with a performance of The Widders, Morris men with Attitude! John Burrows will also be giving brief talks on the history of the Old Wye Bridge.

The riverbank is a great place to relax so come and join in!

CADGAS

Chepstow & District Garden Appreciation Society

Wednesday, 27th April 2016 – 7.30pm
at

Chepstow & District Leisure Centre,
in the downstairs Community Room – lift available followed by refreshments, raffle, & plant sales when appropriate.

'Colours of Spring'

by Jane Moore, Head Gardener, Bath Priory Hotel



Visitors Welcome - £3.00
Refunded if membership taken out @£12 for 9 talks over the year
Enquiries: jeanpapp@live.com

The Chepstow Society

Monthly meetings in the Drill Hall,
Members £1, non-members £2

Wednesday 20th April
Chris Witts, "Life on the Severn"

CHEPSTOW BOWLING CLUB

Season starts at 2 pm Saturday
16 April - Mathern Road Bulwark,
Chepstow.

Friendly and League Matches played by ladies and men on mid-week and weekend afternoons. Beginners and experienced bowlers welcome - coaching is available.

Please contact Peter Shapland
Tel: 01291/422208 or email:
chepstowbowlingclub@gmail.com

Sunday 10th April
11.00am - 4.00pm
FREE ENTRY
WEDDING SHOWCASE
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
THE RECTORY
WOOLASTON, LYDNEY,
GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL15 6PR
A 40, 10 mins, M4 Old Severn Bridge
enquiries@rectoryevents.co.uk
Stall holders ring for details,
please contact
Res 07340 459277
Rectory Events
www.rectoryevents.co.uk

Shirenewton Village Market every third Saturday 10am-12pm in the Rec Hall

A variety of stalls including fresh bread, homemade pickles, honey and an assortment of locally made produce. Also enjoy coffee and a slice of cake in the cafe!

Chepstow Library - Opening Hours

Mon 8.45am-5.15pm	Thurs 8.45-5.15pm
Tues 8.45am-7pm	Fri 8.45-5.15pm
Weds 8.45-5.15pm	Sat 9.00am-1.00pm

CHEPSTOW MUSEUM EVENTS

Until Sun 10 April

Chepstow Museum, Bridge St Chepstow Open
Mon - Sat 11-5, Sun 2-5

Get cracking on Chepstow Museum's Eggsciting Egg Hunt! Spot hidden eggs in the museum displays, cunning games and quizzes to solve!

Thursday 7 April 2-4pm

Chepstow Museum's popular
DROP-IN-AND-MAKE CRAFT AFTERNOONS FOR KIDS.

Must be accompanied – up to 3 children per adult suitable all ages,
The Drill Hall NP16 5HJ

1-17 April HIDDEN PRESENCE PROJECT

An exhibition of work produced by local young people with creative media artist Eva Sajovic based on the life of Nathaniel Wells of Piercefield, Britain's first black sheriff. Ffotogallery & Chepstow Museum project supported by Heritage Lottery Fund. Chepstow Museum, Bridge Street, Chepstow Open Mon-Sat 11-5, Sun 2-5. Admission free

Friday 8th April 2-4pm at the Drill Hall ORIGAMI WORKSHOP

- learn and make folded paper birds and contribute to a great community art project for the Wye River Festival 1000 birds will appear to fly in the spectacular 'Luminous Birds' installation at Tintern Old Station. Find out more. Free workshop for adults and children.

Thursday April 28, 7.30pm, Drill Hall PAINTING THE MODERN GARDEN: Monet to Matisse

Missed the blockbuster exhibition at the Royal Academy? Or want to find out more from the expert guides in this stunning Exhibition on Screen film – from the exhibition walls to the beauty of artists gardens. Tickets £10 from and in support of Chepstow Museum tel 01291 625981



County's Male Voice Choirs Unite in Aid of National Eisteddfod Saturday 18th June, Caldicot Castle

Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth Male Voice Choirs will join forces at Caldicot Castle this summer for an evening of entertainment in aid of the Monmouthshire & District National Eisteddfod on Saturday 18 June 2016. The choir will be joined by the acclaimed Welsh tenor Wynne Evans, who will host the concert.

The choir will perform separately before joining for a grand finale, bringing them together for the first time in over thirty years. All money raised will go towards funding the 2016 National Eisteddfod, which will be held in Abergavenny from 29th July to 6th August - a festival that is expected to attract over 150,000 visitors to the county.

County councillor Phil Hobson, Monmouthshire County Council's cabinet member with responsibility for the Welsh language said: *"This evening with the county's male voice choirs will be a wonderful occasion and will celebrate the community's musical talents in an iconic and atmospheric venue. It will build on the celebrations that are already taking place in Monmouthshire in the approach to the National Eisteddfod. Why not bring a picnic for maximum enjoyment!"*

Tickets are on sale now at a cost of £22 (including booking fee) and are available from www.caldicotcastle.co.uk,

from Monmouthshire's leisure centres or by phoning the box office on 02920 224488.



E K TYRES
Chepstow Ltd.

- Tyres • Exhausts • Batteries
- Brakes • MOTs • Wheel Alignment
- Alloy Wheel Stockists & Repairs

Quality Tyres at Low Prices

High Performance & Run Flat Tyre Specialists

All Brands Supplied & Fitted

We'll match any quote!

01291 622281

OPEN: Mon-Fri 8.00am-5.30pm; Sat 8.00am-1.00pm

Units 2 & 3 Bulwark Trade Centre, Bulwark,
Chepstow NP16 5QZ



Helping Hands
The Home Care Specialists
Est. 1989



Do you need a Helping Hand?

Our **Chepstow** care team has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989.

We offer you a **one-to-one live in care** service which enables you or your loved one to remain at home with compassion and dignity.

To find out how we can help,
call: 0808 180 1017 or
visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk

Fundraising CD to Boost Eisteddfod Coffers Officially Launched

AN ALBUM of Welsh music to raise funds for this summer's Monmouthshire and District National Eisteddfod is aiming for chart success following its official release.

All proceeds from Lleisiau Mynwy/Voices of Monmouthshire will go towards the cost of hosting the annual National Eisteddfod, a unique celebration of Welsh language and culture, which is being held at Castle Meadows from 29 July-6 August, returning to Monmouthshire for the first time since 1913.

Monmouth MP David Davies championed the idea of putting together a CD featuring local schools and choirs in collaboration with Nimbus Records. The album includes tracks from King Henry VIII Comprehensive School in Abergavenny, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, The Singing Club, The Chepstow Chatelaines, Chepstow School Folk Group, Caldicot School, Caldicot Male Voice Choir, Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls, Monmouth Comprehensive School and Monmouth Male Voice Choir.

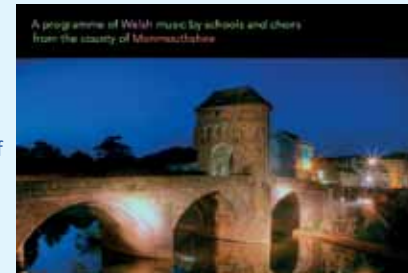
Chepstow Male Voice Choir contributed a track recorded live at St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow, in 2013 during a concert celebrating the silver jubilee

of the founding of the choir.

"I am incredibly proud that Monmouthshire is hosting the National Eisteddfod after an absence of more than 100 years," said Mr Davies, a fluent Welsh speaker. "I hope this album, filled with voices of young and old from every corner of the county, will remind us all of Monmouthshire's Welsh heritage whilst raising funds to ensure the 2016 Eisteddfod is as successful as its predecessors."

Every penny above the material cost of a blank CD will go straight to Eisteddfod coffers after Nimbus Records waived its usual production charges.

Priced at £10, Lleisiau Mynwy is available to buy at Monmouthshire County Council's One Stop Shops in Abergavenny, Caldicot, Chepstow and Monmouth, as well as via County Hall in Usk. Orders can also be placed directly with the treasurer of the Monmouth and District Eisteddfod Appeal Committee, Alun Thomas, by emailing lleisiaumynwy@outlook.com



“Low on calories, salt
and fats. Not on taste.”



Nutritious & Delicious Menu Pack only £26.95

7 main courses: Roast Pork with Cider & Apple Gravy, Chicken & Spring Vegetable Casserole, Sliced Beef in a Red Wine Sauce, Moroccan Chicken, Diced Beef Chilli, Butternut Squash and Butterbean Stew, Salmon Provençale

ORDER CODE: ND2



Diced Beef Chilli £3.65

Looking after yourself has never been so enjoyable. Introducing the Nutritious & Delicious range.

Those clever chefs at Wiltshire Farm Foods know how to make really healthy food, really tasty. Every dish uses tasty ingredients that are perfectly cooked, then quick-frozen to lock the goodness in. Each meal is under 400 calories and contributes to your 5 a day. All available no-contract, no-commitment - order what you want. Try our menu now with our Nutritious & Delicious Menu Pack.

Call us today for your **FREE** brochure

01600 892855

wiltshirefarmfoods.com



Wiltshire Farm Foods

INDEX OF LOCAL ADVERTISERS



Accountant		Dry Cleaners/Laundrette		Osteopath	
bdhc Chartered Accountants	23	Fresh & Clean	2	Chepstow Osteopathic Clinic	12
My Finance Business Partner	7	Estate Agent/House Purchase		Pets/Pet Care	
Business Services		Properties	26	Double Diamond Dog Groomg	3
Virtual Office - Basepoint	39	Fitness - Derek's Gym	28	Perfect Pets/Doggy Daycare	7
Car Maintenance / Car Sales		Funeral Directors		Police	5
AutoCare, Chepstow	4	Chepstow Funeral Service	22	Pottery	
E K Tyres	36	Ian Watts & Sons	4	Ladybird Pottery	3
Terraclean	18	Gardening / Garden Centres		Paint on Me	17
Children's Activities		Chepstow Garden Centre	40	Plumber -	
Kestrel Gym Club	21	HomeCare		R H White Plumbing & Heating	25
Craft -		Helping Hands (Home Help)	36	Restaurant/Cafe/Bars -	
Chepstow Wool Shop	16	Wiltshire Farm Foods	37	Tiffin Vintage Tea & Coffee	17
Undy Yarncraft	11	Hearing		Social Club	
Community Listings	30-32	Easi-Ear	19	Burnt Barn Social Club	27
Community Noticeboard	34-35	Home		Solicitor - Properties	26
Days Out/Events/Activities		Thermotech - UPVC Products	1	Toyshop - Toytastik	21
Castell Roc	29	Insurance - NFU Mutual	38	Training/Support -	
Chepstow Racecourse	14,15	Locksmith - City Locksmiths	8	TV/Aerials -	
Drill Hall	33	Motorcycles/Scooters		The Aerial Man (Dan Grace)	25
Chepstow Walking Fest	12	Chepstow Motorcycles (Big Boar)	8	Windows -	
Ladybird Pottery	3	Music/Music Tuition			
Paint on Me	17	Hannah's Music	10		
Wye Valley River Festival					

WE BELIEVE
QUALITY HOME
INSURANCE CAN'T
BE RUSHED

We'll invest time to help you ensure you get the right cover for your home.

Call 01633 413 571 for a quote or pop in
NFU Mutual Branch, 3 Langstone Business Park,
Priory Drive, Newport NP18 2LH.

NFU Mutual
INSURANCE | PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS

NFU Mutual is The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 111982). Registered in England. Registered Office: Tiddington Road, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 7BJ. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. A member of the Association of British Insurers. For security and training purposes, telephone calls may be recorded and monitored.

Create the right impression with a Basepoint Virtual Office package!



CHOOSE FROM
THREE
GREAT PACKAGES

Discover the benefits of a virtual office and give your business the edge...

Our virtual offices can provide you with:

- A professional business address
- Mail collection
- Local phone number
- Free use of breakout area
- Telephone call answering
- Free access to call answering message portal
- Invitations to all networking events & seminars held within the centre

FROM ONLY
£45.00*
PER MONTH

BASEPOINT
business centres

*For full terms & conditions please contact your local centre.

01291 635500

basepoint.co.uk

Contact us today

chepstow@basepoint.co.uk

@basepoint_chep



APRIL GARDENER'S CLUB OFFERS

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR MONTHLY OFFERS
JOIN OUR **FREE** GARDENER'S CLUB. Ask in store for details

**Strawberry
Collection**
9cm

**5 FOR
£6**



**Smart Solar
Cornish Jar**

**2 FOR
£10**

NSP £6.99 each

Grosure

Fast Act & Multi purpose

Lawn Seed

**BUY ONE
GET ONE
FREE**

ANY
MIX

NSP £6.99
each



**Rhododendron
3ltr**

£9.99

NSP £17.99 each

ALL OFFERS VALID FROM 1st to 30th APRIL

EXCLUSIVE GARDENER'S CLUB RESTAURANT OFFERS...

**The
Garden**
Restaurant and Café bar

TEA & TOAST £1

A pot of tea or regular filter coffee and
a slice of white or brown toast for £1.
Available until 11.30am daily

**REGULAR HAM,
EGG & CHIPS £5**

USUALLY £7.45

Available Monday - Saturday 12.3.30pm

CHEPSTOW
Garden Centre

Pwllmeyric, Chepstow NP16 6LF
On the A48 just west of Chepstow
TEL: 01291 626035
www.chepstowgardencentre.co.uk

MON-FRI 9am-6pm SAT 9am-5.30pm SUN 10.30am-4.30pm