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issue 28, June 2016

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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.

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Dear Readers...

Later this month sees the start of the Chepstow Festival with a fantastic line up of events throughout the four-week period. See inside for a sample of what's on offer, but you can download the full programme from www.chepstowfestival.co.uk. It is also the Eisteddfod in Monmouthshire this summer, and there is a fundraising event at Caldicot Castle this month when the Chepstow, Caldicot and Monmouth Male Voice Choirs perform. Both the Chepstow Wye Bridge and the Chepstow Baptist Church celebrate their bicentenaries this summer and there is more on these inside. In addition we bring you news of a newly formed community group 'The Friends of Dell Park Chepstow' who are looking for ways and ideas to improve this central space - see page 6.

Also in this edition is a fundraising plea from St Mary's Priory, news of The Choral Society Summer Concert, Frankenstein Fest, the lineup for Castell Roc, news from Chepstow School, Shirenewton Primary and the Dell Primary. Old Down Estate are offering discounted entry to Chepstow Matters' readers - be sure to take advantage of this voucher, it's a fabulous venue especially if you have young children. Don't forget the special man in your life on Father's Day this month - Paint on Me has a gift idea that also raises funds for Dementia UK.

NEW FOR YOU! We are pleased to announce that each monthly edition is now also available to view online via the website www.mattersmagazines.co.uk, just to make it easier for you to keep up with your favourite community mag!!

Thank you to all the local businesses who support the publication of Chepstow Matters by promoting their services with us - we can't do it without you! Do support them where you can by utilising their services whenever you have a need. If you would like to be included in our July edition, the deadline for content is 15th June.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Jaci ✕

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Police Matters - Update from Chepstow Police

Hello all, I am Community Support Officer Geraint Reynolds the CSO for Chepstow Town (St Mary's and St Kingsmark) area along with CSO Ceri Vaughan. We have both been CSO's for over 8 years.

Illegal Parking is again the "Your Voice" priority within Chepstow town and St Kingsmark. We will continue to look at this problem over the next few months.

We want to remind people about parking within Chepstow:

- **Double yellow lines you cannot park at any time (loading/unloading may take place)**

Like on Welsh street, Thomas street and others

- **Single yellow line you can park at sometimes check local signs**

Like on Upper nelson street, St Kingsmark avenue and others

- **Disable bays can only be used by disable badge holders**

Bank Street along with other disable bays

- **Restricted zones no parking at any time**

High Street and Bank Street

- **Limited waiting areas - you can only park for a set time**

Welsh street, Nelson Street and others

- **Using a vehicle where prohibited you cannot enter the area unless for access.**

Deans Hill, Hardwick Avenue and others

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We are asking people to double check the areas that they park in for lines or signs also if you have a problem with parking please do call 101 and report it.

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Friends of the Dell Park Chepstow

The Dell Park area in Chepstow, is a well loved central play park, used by visitors and local families alike. It is a beautiful spot to let your kids blow off some steam and a place to chill out. What is there is well used, but it is in desperate need of an update, equipment is missing, there's not much scope for imaginative play and whilst the children using it make the best of the space there, it is starting to look tired.

These facts inspired local residents (Clare Adams, Suzanne Moore Osley and Lisa Beard) to each individually try to find out whether funding was available to update the Dell play park. Disappointed, they discovered that there were no current plans to make funds available and started to think.

Fast forward a couple of years, and Clare found out about Lisa and Suzanne and asked whether they wanted to form a steering group with the objective to rejuvenate the park, by raising community awareness and seeking funding to get better play facilities.

The Friends of the Dell Park Chepstow (FDPC) was born! Soon they had another local resident on board, Vicky Yates and things were starting to take off. Clare set up a Facebook page to start to scope interest and soon member requests were coming in fast – 269 members and counting. This is very encouraging and the responses from the members on the Facebook page are equally encouraging and exciting.

FDPC aims to bring together those who care about the park, encourage thoughtful consideration of proposals made for the park area and enable as many people as possible to enjoy this valued space.

Advertising the first meeting on Facebook, Clare, Lisa, Suzanne and Vicky were not sure how many people would come, but it drew in 13 people, including local residents, business owners and 3 councillors. All of them have a love of Chepstow and wish to see its continued improvement. These members bring a great set of skills, and we feel very encouraged after our first meeting.

Since that meeting things have been developing at quite a pace, FDPC are setting up as an official community action group, plus a children's

competition has been designed and printed to go out to some local schools. On the back of the children's competition, FDPC are asking parents to fill in a short survey, so they can find out what residents would like to see in the park. The aim is to gather as much information to make informed decisions to try to get the equipment that people like, lots of discussions on Facebook are happening too. They even have their own logo to highlight the group and have set up a funding team who will be looking at grants available.

Its quite a task to take on, the group are looking for anyone else who may want to become a member of the steering group, volunteer time or services, or to help raise money towards the funding of the new equipment and work. They need people at all levels of involvement!

If you want to be involved, find out more information about who FDPC are, or maybe your own community group are looking for causes to support, you can contact them in the following ways:

Email:

friendsofthedellparkchepstow@gmail.com.

Facebook: Search **Friends of the Dell Park Chepstow** (for regular updates on what we are doing, events and for sharing your ideas of a good park – it all helps).

Twitter: [@DellFriends](https://twitter.com/DellFriends).



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Chepstow and Caldicot Lions Club has presented Wyedean School in Chepstow with a defibrillator. This means that all major schools in Monmouthshire now have these machines in case of emergencies.

For The Lions Club this will be their fourth defibrillator presented in the last two months, having already donated three to the Newport and Chepstow First Responders.

Lion President Ray Nash presented the machine to headmaster Robert Ford at the school on Thursday 5th May, after which the Ambulance Service gave the school staff a training session on how to use the apparatus.

The Headmaster Robert Ford said *"this will be a major improvement in emergency care for the school and could possibly save a life"*.

The picture shows Lion President Ray Nash, Gareth Creed, Lion John Robinson and Head Teacher Robert Ford

Chepstow and Caldicot Lions Club were also delighted to respond to a plea for help from the Caroline Graham School for Dancing in Bulwark. The School, along with two other schools from the Bristol area, have been chosen to appear at the Disneyland Paris Magic Stage in October of this year.

As always Chepstow and Caldicot Lions stepped up to offer their help and a cheque for £600 was presented to the school on Friday 8th April.

Lion President Ray Nash presented the cheque to dance tutor Becky Smart and some of the dancers during a class at Mathern Village hall.

Lion Ray was quoted as saying that *"Chepstow and Caldicot Lions part of Lions International, the world's largest Service organisation is always ready to invest in the youth of today and our aim is to serve within our community where ever there is a need"*.



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Chepstow Matters was very pleased to spend time recently with the team at Perfect Pet Services and to catch up on the changes at the Doggy Daycare & Grooming Centre based in Penhow.

"The business evolved from our love of pets, and in particular our dogs, as we found it difficult to find care for them when we were away. We realised we weren't the only ones who felt like this and that there was a demand for pet care services. We opened up the Doggy Daycare Centre three years ago and in this last year can now offer professional grooming on site too."

Judith and her staff have a variety of knowledge and experience between them, enabling them to look after a wide range of pets from chickens to horses. The doggy daycare centre is licensed and insured and opens 6 days a week from 8am until 7pm (6pm on Saturdays). You can either drop off/collect your pet personally, or take advantage of the 'taxi' service offered by the team across Chepstow and the surrounding villages (only £2 each way). During the day your dog is free to run and play with a variety of friends, ensuring they are suitably worn out when they return home to you!

The Perfect Dog Grooming salon opened last year and offers a wide range of grooming options, utilising the best shampoos and conditioners. Chepstow Matters can vouch for how beautiful they smell afterwards! You can also book your dog in just to be bathed. Grooming is available for all dogs, not just those at the Doggy Daycare Centre, however if your dog is booked in for the day and you would like grooming carried out too, then this is all looked after for you so you can collect your dog worn out after a day of play and looking and smelling his best!



If you prefer your dog/s to stay at home during the day, Perfect Pet Services also offer a dog walking service and if you are planning some time away, they can organise home boarding for your dog/s with one of their host families. Your dog will live in the house and be looked after as s/he would be at home.

Perfect Doggy Daycare also run a Puppy Club offering free sessions and help to socialise your pup once fully vaccinated. Every Sunday dog training classes for all ages, puppy to adult, are available at the doggy daycare centre with a fully qualified dog trainer.

Perfect Pet Services, also offer care and holiday relief for all kinds of pets - cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, horses, mice, fish... Prices are per visit and your pet will be checked, fed and cared for in whatever manner is needed whilst you are away, giving you peace of mind to enjoy your break.



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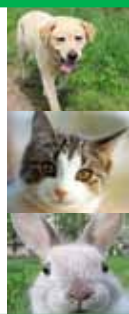
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Rotary: The Wye Run 2016 by Christopher Wilson

The weather promised to make it a really great day for the 14th Rotary Club WYE RUN in which Classic Cars followed a series of precise instructions to traverse a 100 mile scenic drive through the glorious Monmouthshire and Herefordshire countryside.

At 8am the drivers and co-pilots arrived at the Chepstow Garden Centre in Pwllmeyric to enjoy a hearty breakfast to prepare them for the Run. Oil was checked. Tyre pressures checked. Then, one by one at 30 second intervals, the cars were launched by a wave of the chequered flag.

Off into the windy lanes above Woodcroft they drove only to find themselves at Taurus Crafts for coffee 30 minutes later. Then onwards through St Briavels, Bream, Lydney and Blakeney into the deepest reaches of The Royal Forest of Dean where there were swathes of beautiful bluebells covering the forest floor. A wonderful sight, especially for the visitors some of whom had travelled from as far as Sussex to enter this celebrated annual Rotary event.

Ross Labels was the next stopover where many a credit card received a beating as the ladies enjoyed the discount fashions on offer. Hereford then promised an interesting visit, especially the cathedral that dates from 1079 and has the famous medieval Mapp Mundi. However, it seemed that thousands of others had the same idea and the city was very crowded and every car park was full to the brim.

The drivers escaped into the rolling countryside and on through Pontrilas that lies just half a mile from the border with Wales and then Grosmont that is linked to the Welsh Prince Owain Glyndŵr.

After Monmouth and a drive down the most beautiful stretch of the Wye Valley the cars took the chequered flag in a large field in Tintern next to the Anchor Inn and in the shadow of the dramatic Tintern Abbey. The ice cream stall did a roaring trade in the bright, hot sunshine and the 45 cars looked most colourful against the green of the hills. Everyone agreed that this had been a really enjoyable day and The Rotary Club was thanked by the entrants for organising this special annual event. All of the moneys received will be donated to Rotary charities.

If you are interested in joining or supporting your local Rotary club please see www.chepstowrotary.org.uk



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Buy A Slate for St Mary's Priory

St Marys Priory Church is a beautiful feature of huge pride and significance to the town of Chepstow and its residents.

Heritage Lottery has awarded St Mary's Priory a £12,000 set up grant with a first round pass for a grant of £146,000 towards essential repairs to the roof and to provide a disabled access. The total cost of the project is nearer £350,000 although it will be completed in phases. There is therefore some fundraising effort still to be done and the first target is to reach £200,000.

It is hoped that the lovely people of Chepstow may be able to help to preserve this historically significant Grade 1 listed building. The Church already boasts over 1000 visitors per year, regularly welcoming local school children and bus tours. It is also a significant Arts venue within the town, and is used by many groups for concerts and events throughout the year. Importantly, this landmark building promotes tourism in Chepstow which has a positive impact upon our local businesses.

Could you help by holding a small raffle at work? Organising a coffee morning for friends and colleagues? Making and selling craft items? Purchasing a St Mary's roof slate. Or simply having a whip around? Any donations of time or money would be gratefully received by the team

Please help to preserve and celebrate Chepstow's heritage for future generations to enjoy.

Did you know this stunning 11th Century Church dates back to Norman times and has a rich and exciting past? As part of the Heritage Lottery project the Church team are producing a guide book and interpretation displays to help residents and visitors alike, learn about the interesting



stories behind the building. Why not pop along and see the Norman arch, the ancient tombs and admire the artwork next time you are in town?

You can contact the team for support with any fundraising ideas you may have on 07496 995830.

Why not "Buy A Slate" for £5.00? Donations will be gratefully received directly via Bacs sort code 20-60-58 account 60572926 name Chepstow St Marys PCC.

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Remembering Harrison Marshall and Raising Funds for Dublin

In April Chepstow School's Year 9 football team became Welsh Champions after beating John Bright 2:1 in an action packed final played in Newtown, North Wales. As a result the team headed to Dublin on Friday 20th May to represent Wales and play the winners of England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Per our facebook page and our May issue, several thousand of pounds needed to be raised for the boys to travel and stay in Dublin and also for some new kit to play in.

The Chepstow community really responded and within just 3 weeks the total of £8,000 had been raised through a variety of means: sponsorship, donations, £800 from the team bagpacking at Tesco on a Saturday morning, £1,000 presented by Mayor Dale Rooke following a team presentation to the Town Council.

Assistant Head Teacher and Team Coach Jamie Goddard commented: *"The team won nine games en route to the final against local, regional and national sides. Their incredible success is a culmination of great team spirit and amazing positive attitude from the whole squad. We are so proud of them, they are an absolute credit to the school. It is such an honour to be representing Wales in the British Finals - the response from the local community has been overwhelming!"*

Chepstow Matters was pleased to be invited along to attend a Fundraising night at Chepstow School on 12th May, with Chepstow teacher Mr Mitchell offering the services of his excellent band 'Classic Soul Dogs' to perform on the night. There was a raffle and auction with a fabulous list of prizes and services given by a multitude of businesses from across the local community. The evening was a great success raising over £1,000.

The day had also been a non-school uniform day not only to raise funds but also in memory of fellow pupil Harrison Marshall, who tragically died in a road accident shortly after starting year 7 at Chepstow School in 2013. Each year the school has held a year 7 inter-form football tournament in his memory, which also took place on 12th May. Harrison loved his football and would likely have been part of this champion team with his peers.



The U14s have chosen to honour Harrison by requesting that his name be included on their new kit for the occasion (kindly sponsored by Keen Attachments). They were also provided with team tracksuits to travel in, courtesy of Stud Welders Ltd, Polo shirts by K&M taxis, T-shirts by Henry Howard Finance, Training tops by Chepstow Plant Hire, Bags by Total Teamware and their coach transfers were given for free by Edwards Coaches!

Head Teacher Claire Price told us *"We are in awe of the community's fantastic response. This evening alone has been pulled together in just two weeks - all the prizes donated from local businesses and the band giving their performance for free. It is simply amazing. We are pleased that Harrison's family are here with us tonight to share this event; the fact that the team will play in Dublin in Harrison's memory is particularly humbling and illustrates our School values of respect and kindness"*.

The team were heading out to Dublin as we went to print on this edition. We very much look forward to hearing how they got on over the weekend and will update via twitter and our facebook page!



FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

Chepstow Matters - Facebook/ChepstowMatters

Elderfit comes to Bulwark

Chepstow Matters was pleased to chat with local resident Tom Scaife this month to find out more about the new Elderfit strength and balance classes that have just started at the Bulwark Community Centre.

Elderfit was started by Tom and friend Gareth, who have worked together within the fitness industry for the past 15 years. Their aim is to improve the wellbeing of older people by offering fitness sessions which can be carried out by everyone and are specifically designed to increase strength and balance, and reduce the risk of falling. The classes draw on a variety of techniques, including mobility exercises, resistance bands and hand/ leg weights. Exercises are adapted to suit the individual's needs, to ensure that participants feel the full benefits of the classes. Elderfit also aims to strengthen upper body muscles for participants, so if a fall does happen they will be more able to pull themselves back up. Creating independence is a key element to the classes, therefore helping people re-discover their confidence and stability. The sessions also add a major social element to the week, bringing people together for the same reason.

The majority of participants are between 40-90 years, but all ages and abilities are welcome. Sessions are fun and rewarding and take place on a Friday morning at the Bulwark Community Centre from 9.30am to 10.30am. Your first session is free and thereafter it is just £4 per session. **For more information visit www.Elderfit.co.uk, call 07540 806 437 or email info@elderfit.co.uk.**



The Friends of St John's on-the-Hill School's Fashion Show raises £177 for UK stroke charity the Phoenix Project.

The event, which took place on Friday 13 May at St John's on-the-Hill School in Chepstow, showcased the latest Spring and Summer collections from Chepstow boutiques Eden Rose, Runway and Viva Couture. In addition to local clothes shops taking part in the catwalk shows, there was an indoor market with artisan jewellery, hats and local art on sale.

Event organiser and Image Consultant/Stylist, Brigitte Ward, said: "We decided to raise money for the Phoenix Project as one of our former pupil's parents, Nick Cann, benefits greatly from this charity after suffering a stroke three years ago. The Phoenix Project helps people to rebuild their lives with speech therapy, physiotherapy and support to get back to work, if possible."

"The event also helps support local businesses – we want people to shop in Chepstow and raise awareness of some of the wonderful shops on our doorstep. Our models wore a mix of casual, smart and evening wear to suit all shapes and sizes."





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Don't forget Father's Day: Sunday 19th June

A fabulous Father's Day gift idea that also supports a great charity...

We were pleased to catch up with Gail, who runs the Paint on Me pottery painting studio in St Mary's Arcade. This month she is fundraising for Dementia UK and encouraging everyone to give a 'Hug on a Mug' for the special man in your life, with a £1 donation going to Dementia UK for every mug sold.

Gail told Chepstow Matters "Here at Paint On Me, Dementia is close to our hearts after watching two of my Grandparents battle with this disease and now, very sadly, my Father-in-law who is still fighting his battle.

As a business we have also had the pleasure of visiting some of the local Nursing homes for painting sessions with some of the residents and members of their families. Each session brings so much fun, chat and is generally very social! So with Father's day approaching we've contacted Dementia UK and would love to raise some funds for this wonderful charity. Not only do their world class Admiral nurses support the patients, they also work hand in hand with the families, giving compassionate support in what can be a very lonely time.

So with this in mind we'd love to see you in the studio printing your **Hug On A Mug** for Father's Day - there is no age limit! Thank you!"



FATHER'S DAY HUG ON A MUG

Together with Dementia UK, Paint on Me are offering you the chance to give that "Special Man" in your life a **HUG ON A MUG**.
Have your little (or big!) hand printed on a mug with a Hand Painted Message ready for a Father's Day cup of tea.

There will be a "Hug a Mug Event" held at the Boutique
on Saturday 4th June 2016 for Dementia UK (Registered Charity Number:1039404)

The price is only **£10** and for every mug sold, a **£1** donation will go to Dementia UK).

Last painting (in time) for Father's Day is Saturday 4th June 2016

3a St Mary's Arcade, St Mary's Street, Chepstow

07714 706040 or 01291 408330

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



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"A Summer Gala Concert" Chepstow Choral Society Celebrates Chepstow Festival Wednesday 29th June, Chepstow Leisure Centre

Chepstow Choral Society will once again be offering a major contribution to the biennial Chepstow Festival – something the Society have done every Festival year since CCS was formed. This year it will again be a **"concert for all tastes"**, and will be very much aligned to true Summer Festival spirit and will be full of entertaining musical "goodies".

"A Summer Gala Concert" will comprise a sparkling programme of the most popular Opera, Light Opera and Musicals choruses, interspersed with wonderful solos by guests Angharad Morgan (soprano) and Stephen Hamnett (bass – Only Men Aloud). They will be joined by Ruth Rusling (trumpet) and Marjorie Duerden (piano), the Society's pianist for whom this concert will be a piano-playing performance finale with the choir, having fulfilled the role for nearly 18 of her 25 years as a CCS member. She is now opting for a well-deserved retirement (although will still continue as an active member of CCS, returning to singing ranks!).

The programme will be conducted by Graham Bull, the Society's Musical Director, and, in keeping with the policy of offering "an evening for all tastes", will range from well-loved and recognised opera choruses – Tchaikovsky's wonderful Waltz Scene (Eugene Onegin), Mendelssohn's Bridal March and Chorus and Verdi's Triumphal March (Aida) complete with famous trumpet section to name but three, along with other very varied items, including some rousing G & S, some Gershwin, a West Side Story medley, Cole Porter, glorious solos and duets –and more! --- further information from our website (www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk).

So – come along and have a wonderful evening with us on June 29th! Ticket prices include post-concert refreshments and glass of wine/soft drinks –along with a programme. Tickets available from choir members (01291 623310, 621414, 650472) or Chepstow Bookshop (625011).

A Summer Gala Evening – Wednesday June 29th, 7.00pm –Chepstow Leisure Centre (Arts Hall) –with a programme and refreshments/ drink included in ticket price (£10, u/18s free).



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Chepstow Arts & Community Festival 2016

The Chepstow Arts and Community Festival committee have been extremely busy organising what looks to be a fantastic 15th Community Festival for the town. With over 80 events being staged by a wide range of community groups over the four week period, utilising a range of town venues - there really is something for everyone!

Chepstow Castle with its award-winning Festival canopy hosts 13 of the main events by Britain's top professional touring open-air theatre companies performing Shakespeare, Roald Dahl, David Walliams, Oscar Wilde and more.

Also at the Castle the Chepstow Music Centre Showcase on Sunday 10 July, presents the best of local musical talent – ensembles and individual performers, including the Community Orchestra, Gospel Choir, Jazz Bands, Madrigal and Renaissance Brass groups. The Castle walls will resound to music of a very different kind later in the month when Chepstow Musical Youth Theatre, Seniors, bring Disney's Camp Rock: The Musical to town!

Live dance is brought to the Drill Hall by Impermanence Dance Theatre. Their production, Da-Da-Darling, has been choreographed by each of the seven dancers in turn. The Drill Hall also offers a live broadcast from the Garrick Theatre London, of Kenneth Branagh's production of "Romeo and Juliet".

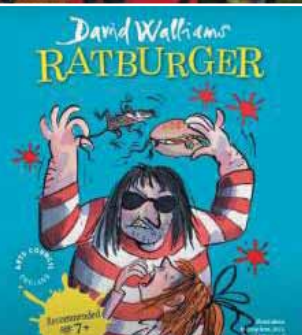
With a variety of local talent playing on Sunday afternoons at the Riverside bandstand, a concert at the Leisure Centre by Chepstow Choral Society, Johnny Copin at the Drill Hall and The Martin Singers at the Methodist Church, the musical side of the town's talents is well represented.

Chepstow Walkers are Welcome and Chepstow Fit4Life are offering various walks during the festival and guided walks to explore the history of the town will be run by members of the Chepstow Society. Transition Chepstow is giving a walk to explore some of the Trees in the town and tell their stories too.

Look out for all this and more in the full programme which will be arriving through your door over the bank holiday weekend.

You can also download it online at www.chepstowfestival.co.uk.

See you there!



This year's Bunt-in 11th June

Chepstow's Festival is heralded by the distinctive home-made bunting. All of the hundreds of flags have been cut out by residents and visitors over the past 20 years.

We will be holding this year's bunt-in to enable everyone to make their creative contribution to the colourful festival street scene, in the High Street on Saturday 11th June from 10 am to 1pm and then on the same day on the Riverbank at the Queen's birthday Bands on the Bandstand from 2pm to 4:30pm
COME AND MAKE SOME!
Bunting Sponsored by Affinity Events

Frankenstein Fest

Marking the anniversary of a remarkable night 200 years ago ...

With the celebrations of Chepstow's Wye Bridge opening in July 1816, came the idea of marking other events that made 1816 significant. It was known as the 'Year without a Summer' because of the dreadful weather conditions in Northern Europe that resulted from a massive volcanic eruption of Mount Tamboro in Indonesia the year before. Temperatures were low, rainfall was high and the sun was obscured. This was not just miserable, but catastrophic causing harvests to fail and famine and suffering as a result. But the dark and stormy nights would have other consequences that had a lasting impact on English literature and culture.

Percy Shelley, the 18 year old Mary Godwin (not yet Mrs Shelley until Percy's wife committed suicide later that year) their son William, and Mary's stepsister Claire Clairmont, one of Lord Byron's lovers, arrived in Lake Geneva. Lord Byron accompanied by his physician Dr Polidori appeared 10 days later. It was Shelley and Byron's first meeting but soon the company had abandoned the hotel and Byron had taken a large house the Villa Diodati, Shelley and his party a smaller villa nearby. The weather confined them to the house, and long nights were spent talking late, reading poetry, German ghost stories, and discussing the spark of life, animation and galvanism, while lightning flashed across the lake, thunder crashed, and candlelight flickered. It was one such night, the 16th June, that Lord Byron suggested they should all write a ghost story... a challenge that was to lead to the birth of two iconic tales of horror – the best known Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, the other John Polidori's The Vampyre which would influence Bram Stoker's Dracula. For everyone there it was a life changing time.

In a mini Frankenstein Fest organised by Chepstow Museum, there's a chance to discover much more about the poets and their party, the influences and inspirations that gave birth to Frankenstein and its power as a story to endure and take new form in film especially. Five nights of events at the Drill Hall Chepstow begin on the anniversary of the night itself (see event information, right, for details).



Main image from the Frankenstein 1931 classic film, and inset Portrait of Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley by Richard Rotherhall, courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery London



Thursday 16 June 7.30pm,
The Drill Hall. Free Event
Frankenstein Fest

Two BBC Drama Documentaries with different takes about the events of the night 16 June 1816 in the villa at Lake Geneva when Byron challenged his guests to write a ghost story... : **"Frankenstein & the Vampyre – A Dark & Stormy Night"**. An Oxford Scientific Films production for BBC TV & **"Frankenstein Birth of a Monster"**.

Friday 17 June 7.30pm £4 / £3 concession The Drill Hall. **Frankenstein on Film: 1931 classic** "Frankenstein" and Mary Shelley's Frankenstein (2004) director Kenneth Branagh with Robert de Niro, Helena Bonham Carter.

Monday 20 June 7.30pm £4 / £3 concession tickets from Museum 01291 625981 The Drill Hall **Will the real Victor Frankenstein please stand up?** In this talk Iwan Rhys Morus, Professor of History at Aberystwyth University, introduces some of the ideas and individuals behind the science that made Frankenstein real to its first readers.

Tuesday 21 June 7.30pm £4 / £3 concession tickets from Museum 01291 625981 The Drill Hall **On the White Plain: The search for Mary Shelley** Talk about Mary Shelley's life and work by Fiona Sampson, Professor of Poetry at the University of Roehampton, a poet & writer her biography of Mary Shelley will be published in 2017.

Tuesday 5 July 7.30pm £5 / £4 concession tickets from Museum 01291 625981. The Drill Hall **Frankenstein in Bath** By 10th September 1816 Mary Shelley was in Bath where she stayed 4 months and completed the first draft of Frankenstein, while a series of real life disasters unfolded... Show of Strength theatre, adaptation of their new Bath walking tour.



The Festival Finale is a Big Bicentenary Bash for the Chepstow Wye Bridge. The clock will be turned back 200 years with a modern and period re-enactment of the original opening ceremony with its procession which took place on 24th July 1816, followed by a fair, music, a vintage vehicle cavalcade, and later the fireworks will make the final flourish to Chepstow's Fifteenth Festival.

This beautiful Regency structure is now the longest surviving cast iron arch road bridge in the world that was built during the first 50 years of iron and steel construction. The first iron bridge in the world was opened in 1781 at Ironbridge in Shropshire. Before that bridges had been built from wood or stone. A number of special events are planned to celebrate this special anniversary:

On 16th July there is a one-day workshop with a number of eminent speakers at the Drill Hall organised by Chepstow Museum. On 18th July there will be an evening illustrated talk by John Burrows on the bridge and its hitherto unrecognised importance in engineering history.

As above, on the 200th birthday itself, on 24th July, there will be a modern re-enactment of the 1816 opening ceremony with the procession leaving Beaufort Square at 1pm to a short ceremony on the bridge followed by a cavalcade of old vehicles and a local fair with charity stalls and games on the riverbank, a band on the Bandstand. In the evening more music from 9 pm, and a firework display.

Anyone wishing to have a fundraising stall in the fair should contact Sandra Bushell - sebus@btinternet.com

Burnt Barn Community (Sports) & Social Club

Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 5AR

Club activities

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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 & 17th July and 23rd & 24th 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!

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1816-2016

Bicentenary Celebrations

Church Anniversary Sunday
at 6pm on 19th June 2016.

Guest Speaker - Rev Dr Stephen Finamore, Principal of Bristol Baptist College

Followed by refreshments

More information email secretary@chepstowbaptist.org.uk

DELL Primary School News: NACE Challenge Award

Congratulations to the Dell Primary School who were awarded the NACE Challenge Award at the end of last term. This award recognises the provision for, and outcomes of all pupils and particularly those of higher ability.

The National Association for Able Children in Education has only given this award to around forty schools in Wales and the Dell is the third school in Monmouthshire to gain accreditation.

Head Teacher Stephen King commented: *"We don't go after trophies and awards but where the work we're already doing fits the criteria for a national award, we're happy to submit the evidence to recognise the achievements we have made. For the past few years we've worked really hard to plan, monitor, communicate & ensure progress for every child and we've aimed to ensure that more pupils achieved the 'higher than national expectations' grades at the end of Years 2 and 6 when we have to publish their attainment."*

You can find out more about NACE and the Challenge Award at <http://www.nace.co.uk/nace-cymru>



Chepstow School Head Student campaign

In recent weeks Chepstow School has been undergoing this year's process to appoint the new Head Student team. Applicants have to follow a robust procedure designed to assess their suitability by writing an application letter, undergoing formal interviews and giving hustings to staff and students, who then vote for the top two Head Students, irrespective of gender.



This year's shortlisted campaigners were Sarah Gibbs, Emily Pine-Smith, Emily William and Abi Chamberlain (photo left) who all performed excellently at the interview stage. They then undertook a week of campaigning for votes before giving their all important campaign speeches. Each showed fantastic leadership skills and firm ideas for improving

student voice in the 6th form, as well as some innovative study support and ICT ideas.

Votes were then counted and the outcome declared. Congratulations to Head Students Sarah Gibbs and Emily Williams, and Deputy Head Students Emily Pine-Smith and Abi Chamberlain.



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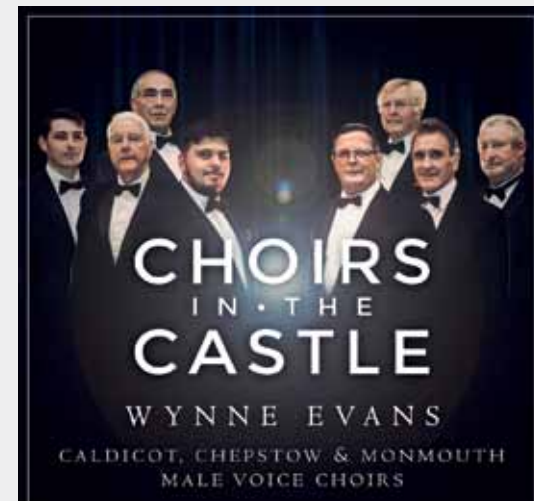


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County's Male Voice Choirs Unite in Aid of National Eisteddfod Saturday 18th June, Caldicot Castle

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 choirs will be joined by the acclaimed Welsh tenor Wynne Evans, who will host the concert.

The choirs 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.

Music in June Returns in Style

Wye Valley Music will present its eighth Music in June series this year. The season will comprise the usual four concerts in four different locations and will continue the successful collaborations with Daniel Tong and Rosie Biss each of whom has been a featured artiste for many years. This year's series opens in style with a very special concert.



The opening concert will be on Sunday 5th June at 4:00pm at the Bridges Centre, Monmouth.

It will be given by the Carducci Quartet, widely recognised as one of today's outstanding string quartets, whose recent recording of Shostakovich quartets received rave reviews. They perform over 90 concerts worldwide each year and also run an annual festival in Highnam, near Gloucester. Their Monmouth programme will comprise of Quartets by Haydn, Dvorak and Beethoven. After the concert there will be an informal reception with the quartet.

The second concert will be on Saturday 11 June at 3:00pm at Hom Church, near Ross-on-Wye, and will feature Daniel Tong (piano) and Sara Trickey (violin). Daniel has performed as soloist and chamber musician at most of the major venues in the UK and many in Europe. He is founder of the London Bridge Ensemble and also performs regularly as a duo with the award-winning violinist Sara Trickey. Their programme will include violin sonatas by Beethoven, Schubert and Elgar. A pre-concert lunch will be available at The Mill Race, Walford.



The third concert, on Sunday 19th June at 7:30pm, will be held at Wyndcliffe Court, Chepstow, famed for its Grade II listed gardens. It will be given by Rosie Biss and Alice Neary (cellos). Rosie is principal cello of Welsh National Opera as well as being an accomplished chamber musician, soloist and teacher. Alice enjoys a distinguished career as both chamber musician and soloist. She is a member of the Gould Piano Trio and also plays regularly with the famed Nash Ensemble. They will be playing music by Boccherini, Chopin and Paganini among others. The Grade II listed gardens will be open from 6:00pm and Canapés will be served from 6:30pm.



The final concert will be on Sunday 26th June at 7:30pm in St Briavels Church. It will be given by Ivo Varbanov and Fiammetta Tarli (piano 4 hands). After graduating in his native Bulgaria, Ivo travelled to London for postgraduate study at the Royal Academy of Music. Fiammetta was born in Pisa and studied at Florence Conservatoire and subsequently at Kings College, London, where she obtained her PhD. Their recital will include music by Schumann, Beethoven and Brahms. There will be an opportunity to tour the Castle at 5:30pm, and the concert will be preceded from 6:30pm by strawberries and cream and pink fizz on the Castle Moat lawn. Full details of the series are available on-line at www.wvm.org.uk where you can book for the concerts and for the accompanying social events. Advance booking is strongly recommended and is essential for the social events.



Hearing Matters: What causes hearing problems?

by Ian Croft FSHAA, Lead Audiologist @ Easi Ear

The answers are many and varied! Over the coming months, I shall attempt to address the many problems that can occur with hearing. However, there are four main areas that concern people on a daily basis.

Blockages – *The inability to hear well is frequently blamed on a person's ears being blocked by wax deposits. Wax is a perfectly natural phenomenon; it is caused by dead skin cells mixing with sebaceous oils in the ear canal. It can be removed – never by poking with cotton buds or other items – but syringing, irrigation or gentle, dry micro-suction.*

Noise Damage – *This can be caused by a number of factors including exposure to extra loud noise such as shooting or continued exposure as in discos, factories and roadworks. It can be prevented by using custom made active protection.*

Tinnitus – *The name given to any continual or intermittent noises heard in both or either ears. Caused by a number of factors and, though it can't at present be "cured", its symptoms can be assisted.*

Presbycusis – *Probably the most common form of hearing impairment when the mechanism that allows you to hear starts to deteriorate through wearing out caused by age; this process begins after 40 and can be greatly and discreetly improved with modern technology.*

Assistance with 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 and the only one in Wales.

Contact Ian on **01291 650312** for a free assessment of your requirements - he will be happy to help.

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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..



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

News from Shirenewton Primary by Jill Mitchell Associate Headteacher

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY MA'AM!

The children enjoyed wearing their party clothes and eating an 'afternoon tea' style lunch to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. Every class did an activity related to the Queen which was displayed in Shirenewton Recreation Hall for their celebration evening: Reception pupils painted portraits of Queen Elizabeth I I; Year 1 made her a birthday card; Year 2 wrote 'happy birthday' acrostic poems; Year 3 wrote poetry; Year 4 made fact files about her; Year 5 did a timeline of her life and Year 6 wrote job descriptions for her.

PTA QUIZ NIGHT

The PTA held a fabulous quiz night and fish & chip supper at the end of last month - the hall was packed full quiz teams all vying to be the cleverest team! A huge thank you to the PTA for organising the event, the question-setters, the quiz master, the fish and chip van and everyone else who helped make the evening such a roaring success. Congratulations to the Share family who were the overall winners on the night.



We raised over £400 which will be used to further develop our outdoors.

DEFIBRILLATOR FUNDRAISING

Laura Saysell (right), one of our school governors, recently ran the London Marathon. She is raising money to buy a defibrillator which we hope will be located outside our school gate and can be used by the village community. Well done to Shirenewton Cubs (top photo) for raising £37 by doing a sponsored run and donating all the money to Laura's fundraising campaign. The total amount Laura has raised so far is approaching £1900!



REDISCOVER FAMILY TIME!

Visit The Country Park at Old Down Estate with 66 acres of breathtaking countryside walks, wild flower meadows with panoramic views across the River Severn. With a huge adventure playground including zip wire and giant jumping pillow and plenty of farmyard animals for children to interact with. The Barn Cafe serves freshly prepared food made with locally sourced ingredients, some from our very own gardens, whilst The Farm Shop supplies local produce, our very own free range eggs, deli-style snacks and special gifts. Don't forget to say 'hi' to Fred the Parrot and Kevin the Peacock!

Foxholes Lane, Tockington, Bristol BS32 4PG
01454 414081

info@olddownestate.co.uk www.olddownestate.co.uk

Terms and Conditions apply: 20% discount applies to park entry only. Certificate of Excellence. One voucher per household only. No cash alternative.



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.chepstowphotosoc.org admin@chepstowphotosoc.org

Chepstow Probus Club fortnightly meetings for retired business gentleman. Contact Ian Whitford - Secretary for PROBUS of Chepstow 01291 622 193

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.com.

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 tvmoran@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 Whirlidikz 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

Hedgehogs Nursery, in Tutshill Open 7.30am–6.00pm
for ages 3m–4 yrs. 01291 628344 hedgehogs@
deanclosenurseries.co.uk

Little Acorns Playgroup Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow 01291
628031 www.littleacornsplaygroup.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

Robins Nursery, in St Arvans Open 7.30am – 6.00pm for
ages 3m–4yrs. 01291 624893 robins@deanclosenurseries.
co.uk

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

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

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

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

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

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

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

St John's on-the-Hill, Independent, co-educational
school for ages 4 -13 years. 01291 622045 enquiries@
stjohnsonthehill.co.uk.

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

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

Tutshill C of E Primary School, 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 Robert Ford, Headteacher Beachey 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
markburch1228@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

Funding your Business

You've had this brilliant idea that solves a problem or adds value for customers.

You've researched the market and found that people are willing to pay for what you have to offer.

Now, finding funding is the next step in turning your idea into reality.

Access to the right kind of funding at the right time plays an important role in growing a successful business.

Funding options:

1. Overdrafts:

An overdraft is a credit facility you agree with your bank and is generally used to cover short-term financing needs. Although an overdraft isn't suitable as a long-term source of finance, it can go a long way towards meeting immediate funding needs. Overdrafts are flexible as you only pay interest on the amount you borrow. They are also easy to arrange but can be recalled by the bank at any time.

2. Loans:

The most common sources of loans are friends, family and banks. There are also government initiatives such as Start Up Loans that grant loans to individuals, allowing several founders in the company to apply.

Loans carry interest on the amount borrowed. How much interest you pay depends on factors like how long you need the money for, whether the loan is 'secured' against assets you own, or other broader economic factors, like the Bank of England base rate.

3. Equity Finance:

Simply put, equity finance involves selling part of your company to get the funds you need. This takes different forms at different stages of the company's life:

Seed funding: This is needed for product development, setting up a management structure, market research, etc. You can approach accelerators, angel investors or crowdfunding platforms for seed funding.

Early-stage funding / Series A: This comes into play

once you're close to taking your product to market. It can be broken down into multiple rounds if needed and tends to involve angel investors and perhaps venture capital firms.

Expansion-stage funding: Once you've taken your product to market and validated your business model, the next step is to expand. This is similar to early-stage funding, but tends to come from VCs and private equity firms (PEs) who are usually interested in more established businesses.

Exit-stage funding: This is the capital needed to maintain the momentum you've gained over the years and meet exit costs before you exit the business. This could come from a trade sale or a public listing.

"As a business, you'll know that attracting investment is perhaps your biggest challenge. So anything that makes investing more attractive, for you or for other people, has got to be good news."
Rosemary Chicken, bdhc

4. Accelerators:

Accelerators are programmes that combine seed capital and mentorship support. The standard model is a structured and intensive programme that runs for about 3-6 months. Programmes generally culminate in a 'demo day' where start-ups pitch to a group of investors to raise the next round of funding. Some accelerators, instead of capital, offer free working space and mentorship support. More often than not, they are backed by

large corporates who are interested in tapping into the innovative ideas from the start-ups they help.

5. Crowdfunding:

Crowdfunding has seen enormous growth in the past few years because it gives businesses the ability to pitch to the masses. If people pledge funds, they will probably buy your product too. However, you do miss out on the mentoring and guidance that you get with accelerators, which can make the difference between making it big or going bust. There are two types of crowdfunding platforms: Equity platforms and rewards-based platforms.

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Community Noticeboard

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

Chepstow Community Hub (Chepstow Library)

Events May through to July are:

Tuesday 21st June from 7 pm, William Ayot will be at Chepstow Community Hub for an evening of poetry and prose, 'Re-enchanting the Forest' This event is held in conjunction with Chepstow Bookshop. Free event

Tuesday 12th July from 7.30 Wye Valley writers will be at Chepstow Community Hub to discuss their work.

Monday 18th July from 7 pm Christine Martyn will be at Chepstow Community Hub to discuss her book 'A modern history of the Forest of Dean'. This event is held in conjunction with Chepstow Bookshop. Free event.

Tuesday 19th July from 7 pm the author Linwood Barclay will be at Chepstow Community Hub to discuss his books. This event is held in conjunction with Chepstow Bookshop. Free event.

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!



A great Family Day Out

Mountain Church Summer Lunch And Fete

On Saturday 18th June

Salmon or quiche lunch with a glass of fizz and strawberries and cream. £15 @ 12.30 Prompt.

Tickets Lynne Brierley 01291621778



Fete starts 2pm. Free entry!!

Plant Stall

Live Music by Delorean

Bar

BBQ

Bottle Stall

Prizes, raffles and fun



FORTHCOMING PTA EVENT

Please come and join us for a fun family day out at Shirenewton School whilst helping us raise valuable funds.

Our Traditional Summer Fayre
Saturday 25th June 11am-2pm

Stalls: Lucky dip, bottle tombola, mystery jars, books, plants, white elephant, coconut shy, hook a duck, super soakers, hoopla, splat the rat.

Refreshments: Pimms, BBQ, candy floss, ice-cream, teas & coffees.

Activities: Bouncy castle, helter-skelter, face painting, tattoos, donkeys, football shoot out, bush crafts, welly-wanging.

Competitions: Cake bake off, make a vegetable character & photography.

Displays: Kestrel gymnastics, dancing displays, school choir.

Please see shirenewtonpta Facebook page for more details

GIVE IT AWAY, TAKE IT AWAY!

Pass on unwanted goods for someone to make use of them or pick up something you can reuse! Hazardous materials or car tyres can not be accepted. Refreshments will be available.

Saturday, 11th June 2016
10 am - 3 pm

CHEPSTOW RUGBY CLUB
Upton Memorial Ground
Lower Western Avenue
Bulwark, NP16 5NN

TransitionChepstow.org.uk

Children's Events at Chepstow Community Hub

Thursday 2nd June 11.00 – 12.00. Stories and crafts for 5 – 8 year olds. The theme is 'Magical mini beasts'. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

The Summer Reading Challenge 2016 commences on Saturday 16th July and the theme this year is 'The Big Friendly Read' and it is centred around the life and works of Roald Dahl. Launch event TBA!

Throughout the summer we will be holding four story/craft sessions for the Summer Reading Scheme at Chepstow Community Hub. These will have a Roald Dahl theme and will be held on Thursday 4th August, Thursday 11th August, Thursday 18th August and Thursday 25th August from 11.00 – 12.00. The events are suitable for children aged 5 – 8. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Chepstow Library -Opening Hours
Mon 8.45am-5.15pm
Tues 8.45am-7pm
Weds 8.45-5.15pm
Thurs 8.45-5.15pm
Fri 8.45-5.15pm
Sat 9.00am-1.00pm

USK Summer Festival 2016

2nd - 3rd July
Twyn Square
NP15 1BH

FREE ENTRY

MARKETS

MUSIC

MAGIC

Full lineup of bands and other entertainment
Street Market and Street Food
uskmarketsandfestivals.co.uk

Thursday June 2,
2-4pm, The Drill Hall
Chepstow Museum's popular
Drop-in-and-make Craft afternoon
suitable for children of all ages, must be accompanied by an adult, £2 for children aged 3+ towards materials and refreshments

Throughout June
Chepstow Museum open Mon-Sat 11-5, Sun 2-5
Free Exhibition
Hidden Presence – A photographic legacy of the work of internationally renowned photographer Julian Germain at Chepstow, Piercefield and on St Kitts, exploring the story of Nathaniel Wells.

MusicLIVE!

RACING & MUSIC



LADIES EVENING FRIDAY 8 JULY WITH PETER ANDRE

STANDARD ENTRY TICKET £27

FABULOUS FILLIES TICKET PACKAGE £34

Standard entry ticket | Glass of Pimm's
Strawberries and cream | Raceday programme

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.gamblersaware.co.uk

An Exciting Summer at the Racecourse

The Chepstow Racecourse series of music nights is now in full swing with Simply Red on Friday 10th June, and Peter Andre at Ladies Evening on Friday 8th July.

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.

Plus don't forget we have a Caribbean race night coming up on Friday 22nd July. So come and join us for the social highlight of the year with a Bob Marley tribute band, The Trenchtown Experience playing live after the last race. Admission starts from £22 when booked in advance.

We will have a competition for the best dressed in Caribbean clothes – there will be £100 for the winner and £50 for the runner up!

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

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

AUGUST

Tues 9th - 90th Birthday Race Day
Weds 17th - Afternoon Racing
Thurs 18th - Afternoon Racing
Mon 29th - Bank Holiday Family Race Day

SEPTEMBER

Thurs 8th - Afternoon Racing
Tues 13th - Afternoon Racing

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



Let people know you saw them in Chepstow Matters!

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JUNE OFFERS

GARDENER'S CLUB

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

Herbs
5 FOR £6

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JAZZ
evening

FRIDAY 15th JULY • 6.30PM

HOG ROAST £15 PER HEAD

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the robin reece jazzmen

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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