



Telephone 01291 606 900

December 2017

# Community Chepstow Matters

Hand delivered FREE to c10,000 homes across Chepstow & the surrounding villages



**Christmas is coming ...**  
*and there are many ways to join in the local celebrations listed inside this month's issue.*

*Christmas shopping? Plenty of local businesses with great gift ideas ... see inside for more details!*

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**INSIDE: • Local People • Local Businesses • Local Community Groups & Events**

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

Reg Office: Matters Magazines Ltd,  
130 Aztec West, Almondsbury BS32 4UB  
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## Dear Readers...



Christmas is almost upon us and, as I go to print on this edition, we are a week away from switching on the Town's Christmas lights - our front cover depicts scenes from last year's event. This is Santa's first opportunity of the year to visit Chepstow, and his other scheduled visits are listed on page 7 - keep a look out for his sleigh and give him a wave when he visits your area!

This festive edition of your community magazine is jam packed with details of all the local Christmas fairs, concerts, carol and church services that we had received details of at time of going to print. It also contains plenty of Christmas present ideas to fulfil your shopping needs - Keep it Local and support our local businesses. In this theme, we also welcome on board the Chepstow Chamber of Commerce for this issue - see pages 33-36.

Congratulations to Stone Rock Pizza who has, as I write this, just won the Gold Award for the Best Independent Pizzeria in Great Britain - if you have not tried out their lovely pizzas I can certainly recommend!

Thank you to all our advertisers who continue to support the production of this community magazine, allowing us to share all the good things that go on in our local community - we simply could not do it without you! If you would like to appear in our next (January) issue, the deadline will be 8th December.

Wishing all our readers a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

**Jaci** ✕

*Don't forget you can keep up with each monthly edition of your favourite local community magazine via*

[www.mattersmagazines.co.uk/chepstow](http://www.mattersmagazines.co.uk/chepstow)

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# Tell ME Wine... by two French Guys

New in Chepstow

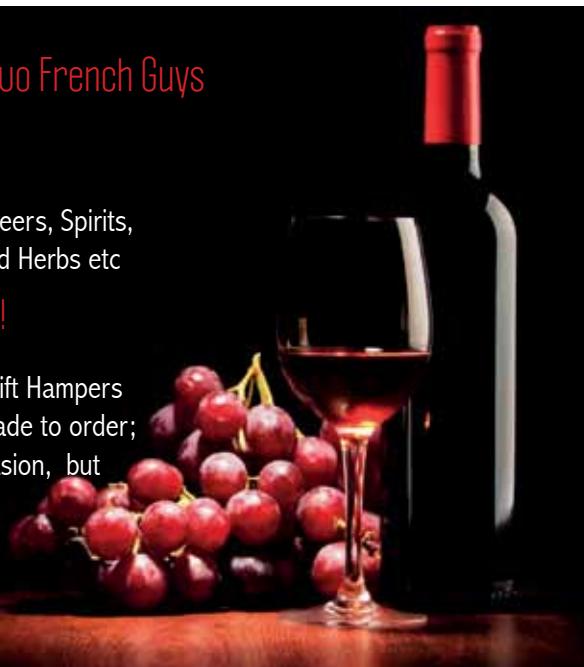
Your local Wine shop offering Wines, Beers, Spirits, Olive Oil, Local Produce, Vinegar, Dried Herbs etc

Wine Tastings & Refillable Service!

Looking for Gift Ideas? Gift Cards and Gift Hampers available and hampers can also be made to order; ideal for birthdays or any special occasion, but remember ... Christmas is coming!

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Chepstow and District Debt Charity Says:

## "We Wish You A Priceless Christmas"

A LOCAL debt charity has released its own top tips for staying in the black over the festive season.

Churches Together in Chepstow & District, who run a debt counselling service in conjunction with national charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP), has launched a list of tried-and-tested ways to avoid festive financial meltdown.

Isobel Mead, Chepstow & District Debt Centre Manager, said: *"All the adverts sell us the line that the best kind of Christmas is one that can be bought, which just isn't true; the best Christmases are about making priceless memories, which is why we created the list."*

She added that for the last few years the Chepstow & District CAP Debt Centre has seen a spike in the numbers of people coming to them in the months after Christmas.

Isobel Mead said: *"The reason for this is either because some people realise they have spent more than they can afford, or they have reached a crisis point in their finances. Various things can trigger this, but most commonly it's job loss, an unexpected illness or relationship breakdown."*

*"Now is the right time for families to talk to each other about creating a sensible game-plan to ensure that Christmas is happy for everyone"*

The top tips have come from both the experience of those within the charity, as well as CAP's own clients who know what it is like to stick to a tight budget as they clear their debts.

1. Agree on a game plan to stop all of you overspending: do a 'secret Santa'? Agree on a set amount each? A 'just for the kids' rule? A 'from charity shops only' rule?
2. If children have their heart set on something out of your price range, club together with relatives.
3. Short of a new Christmas outfit? Get together with mates for a swapping party and you'll all go home with something new, without the cost.
4. If you're doing the meal, ask guests to each contribute something: drinks? pudding? cheese? cake? a turkey?! If you're spending



time cooking a Christmas feast, you are already giving a lot.

5. Aim to only buy the food you will actually eat and decide what you will do with left-overs eg potato cakes from cooked potatoes, make stock from Turkey carcass, soup from uneaten vegetables, freeze un-used gravy for another time.
6. Home-made goodies always go down well – cupcakes, chocolate truffles, shortbread, jam – all are cheap to make and, wrapped with cellophane and ribbon, make great presents.
7. Your time and thoughtfulness are every bit as valuable as your money. Instead of presents, offer vouchers for gardening, washing the car, a few hours cleaning, ironing or making someone's favourite cake or snack.
8. So many people live alone – a cheery visit from you is worth more than any present.
9. Spend time focusing on what you can enjoy at no cost and make Christmas really special: watching your kids in the school nativity; watching the lights get switched on; enjoying Christmas carols in church; dressing the tree; playing family games.
10. Never take out credit or be tempted by a Christmas loan – you don't know what the New Year will bring. Your income may change and it could affect your whole family's security. No Christmas is worth that.

If you have problem debts, give yourself the gift of peace of mind: visit [www.capdebthelp.org](http://www.capdebthelp.org) or call 0800 328 0006



## SLS Christmas 2017 Appeal for the Homeless

It's that time of the year ... Our 4th appeal in fact, when we all work together and send some love in a box this Christmas time to those homeless or vulnerably housed across South Wales & Bristol.

Whether you are an individual, family, group, school, club, church, hospital, organisation, business we would love your support by collecting donations of either a filled wrapped shoebox, an unwrapped new toy or a chocolate selection box.

Please see the attached SLS poster for all the details you need on contents. The important change is that the boxes must be able to take the lid off so we can check contents. The content is also slightly different this year so please check. If you want to give gloves, hats, scarves or extras please donate in a bag alongside the boxes and we will add these to the rough sleeper projects. \*Please note we collect clothing, camping resources, new toiletries & foodstuffs all year round but these cannot be dropped at the depots below due to business space. Please contact sls.homeless@gmail.com for a local member drop off.

**The closing date is the 8th December.**

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## This Christmas, give hope



**Thank you for caring ... Together we really can change the world for the better and help those in crisis.**

#### CHEPSTOW :

Tesco - Near Chepstow railway station - please drop to the customer services desk in store.

Coach & Horses Welsh Street Chepstow NP16 5LN  
Dave or Antony

**TINTERN:** The White Monk, Tintern, Monmouthshire, NP16 6TE. Opening hours vary usually 7.30am until around 4.

**CALDICOT:** Country Flowers Caldicot : 38 Newport Road on Caldicot high street. NP26 4BQ - Cathy Edwards

**MAGOR:** Magor; Wheatsheaf pub, The square (By Co-Op) Magor. NP26 3HN. Clare & Dave Hennah.

Teeth for Life Magor (Wednesday Kate Oakes)

#### SLS LINKS;

**Central hub:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/streetlifesarnies/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SLSshoeboxchristmas/>

## You'd Better Watch Out ... Santa Claus is coming to Town!

### Chepstow & District Round Table Santa Sleigh Runs 2017

It is that time of year again when Father Christmas pays his annual visit to Chepstow to help the lovely volunteers from the Chepstow and District Round Table bring some festive cheer to the local children.

Santa will be out on his sleigh throughout December visiting children in the town and local villages. Kids will have the chance to meet the jolly old man and remind him what they would like on the big day.

He will be helped by friendly elves from Round Table who will be rattling buckets to help raise money for good causes and keeping the kids safe. All donations that we receive on the runs are greatly appreciated and go straight back into local charities and the community.

Santa usually arrives in Chepstow at 4.30pm on Sundays, and 6.30pm on weekdays (after a busy day toymaking in the workshop with his elves). Look out for the 'Santa Stops Here' signs which will be out on each route with approximate timings.

Santa is up to date with modern technology and likes to keep everyone informed, so do keep an eye on his facebook page for updates - search for:

**"Santa's page, just for his visits to the Chepstow area".**

Dates and times are subject to change in circumstances such as traffic and weather. Monies collected on the sleigh run are donated to local Charities and Good Causes.

Please observe 'Elf & Safety' when near the Sleigh.

Please check our facebook pages for updates on Santa's movements  
<https://www.facebook.com/SantaChepstowRT/>



#### Sunday December 3rd

First stop 4:30pm  
Caldicot - Longfellow Road, Station Road, Firs Road, Church Road.

#### Wednesday December 6th

First Stop 6:30pm  
Garden City, St. Lawrence Park, The Danes.

#### Friday December 8th

First stop 6:30pm  
St. Arvans, Tintern, Llandogo

#### Sunday December 10th

First stop 4:30pm  
Tutshill - Elm Road, Wintour Gate,  
Sedbury - Buttington Road, Mercian Way, King Alfred's Road, 1st Rifles

#### Wednesday December 13th

First stop 6:30pm  
The Bayfields, Piercefield Avenue.

#### Friday December 15th

First stop 6.30pm  
Mathern, Caerwent

#### Sunday December 17th

First stop 4:30pm  
Bulwark - Channel View, Mathern Way, Burnt Barn Road, Western Avenue, Somerset Way, Marten Road, Strongbow Road.  
Thornwell - Lord Eldon Drive, Tesco Express, Thornwell Community Centre, Denbigh Drive, Bluebell Drive.



## Plaques Restored at St Tewdric's Well

Martin Watts of Ian Watts & Son Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons was delighted to assist when Mathern Community Council recently approached him to ask if he would assist with restoration work to the St Tewdric's Well plaques.

The plaques, displayed at the site of the Well, detail the fascinating history of when King Tewdric's wounds were washed in the Well after the battle near Tintern about 470 A.D., against the Pagan Saxons.

Martin Watts said, 'We wanted to provide this as a gift to the Community Council. The people of Mathern take a great pride in the upkeep of their village and the Well is steeped in fascinating ancient history.'

Mathern Community Council's Chairperson Cllr. Ovenden commented, 'On behalf of Mathern Community Council we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Ian Watts & Son for doing this for us. The plaques have been beautifully restored. The Well is a significant historic landmark near to St Tewdric's Church.'

*Pictured are:- Cllr. Christine Morton, Chairperson Cllr. Carolyn Ovenden and Martin Watts, (local independent funeral director).*



## Tintern Abbey Carols by Torchlight

On Saturday 2nd December the Chepstow Rotary Club will stage its annual Torchlight Carol Service at Tintern Abbey.

This popular family event is always well supported and last year over 400 people attended. Thanks to publicity such as this in Chepstow Matters, posters, in-programme advertising and flyers handed out on the High Street, the Club enjoys much local support for this wonderful event.

From 6pm families form a column in front of the Anchor Inn, Tintern holding their flaming torches on high to light their way, while the smaller members carry light-sticks. They will then walk slowly in column around the outside of the Abbey to the wonderful sounds of the choir singing carols within. It is always most satisfying to see the faces of the young, and not so young, reflected in the flames of the torches as they enter the rear of this beautiful and historic building.

Tintern Abbey is certainly an atmospheric location by day. But by night, in floodlight, with hundreds of flaming torches burning brightly and with the sound of carols sung by the choir, it becomes a positively magical place. "Harry Potter has nothing on this", said one visitor!

Once all are within the Abbey the congregation sing together the most popular carols lead by The Wydean Choir. The carols will be interspersed with seasonal Bible readings while prayers will be led by the Reverend Andrew Webster.

This Torchlight Carol Service is a very special local event that launches the Chepstow Christmas Season. Every member of the family will remember Tintern for a long time to come so make a note of the date or visit [www.chepstowrotary.org.uk](http://www.chepstowrotary.org.uk) for more details. As always, entry is by personal programme that may be purchased on the night or, from the end of November, from the Tintern Abbey shop. See you there!

**Tintern Village Hall**

## Christmas Craft fair

**Sunday 3rd December 2017**  
11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Local crafts, gifts  
and produce

Christmas  
raffle

Light refreshments  
and mulled wine

**FREE ENTRY**

For further details: 07512 856024

## Christmas Prize Bingo!

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Festive family fun for all ages

7.15pm

Thursday 7th December

**In Tintern Village Hall**  
Everyone welcome

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Donations of prizes for the raffle also welcome!

Fundraising for the Village Hall  
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We feel the best gifts we ever receive are not gifts per se, but rather experiences these gifts have enabled! Gifts that allow you to create memories that are special to you – that is ultimately the best thing you can ever give someone. Swimming with dolphins is all the rage.... we can't offer that... but what about **SWIMMING WITH YOUR DOG!!!** Be sure to impress your friends and loved ones this year with a bucket list present of the chance to swim with their friend with hairy feet!

Bilbo's Pet Spa is a three-centred business: primarily specialising in the rehabilitation of dogs recovering from injuries, operations, ongoing conditions and weight loss with free swimming in our large heated pool or walking on our water treadmill. But Bilbo's is also a Canine Fun Centre that lets owners have access to our pool, qualified canine hydrotherapists and endless supply of floating and

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The process is already part of the Franchised Dealer service plan in the US for some vehicle manufacturers (e.g. Subaru), and in the UK is endorsed and used by TV mechanic Edd China in his own garage workshops.



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[www.auto.centre.co.uk](http://www.auto.centre.co.uk)



## Welcome to the Silk Road Bazaar

For our December issue, Chepstow Matters was delighted to visit the two lovely ladies at a new shop in St Mary's Arcade.

Silk Road Bazaar has been set up by mother/daughter team Maria Francis and Jenny Skelton. Influenced by all the beautiful jewellery and textiles they had seen whilst living for many years in the Far East, their aim is to create the perfect East/West fusion in their Chepstow boutique using the very best materials and techniques they can find.

Jenny offers handcrafted semi precious jewellery on knotted silk cord, which is fully adjustable and can be worn in a variety of ways to suit your outfit. She also offers a bespoke service for clients who have a design of their own in mind, as well as repairs and remodelling of clients' own jewellery.

Maria works with beautiful yarns from Japan to make scarves and other gorgeous and unusual knitwear and accessories. Even better - you can buy the item ready made, or, if you feel like having a go yourself, you can buy the items in a ready prepared kit format. Silk Road Bazaar even offers in-house workshop sessions to make a finger knitted necklace at just £15 each including all materials, tea and coffee - a great idea for friends or family members to learn together. So many ideas for Christmas and birthday presents!

Almost everything in the shop Maria and Jenny have hand made themselves with a few exceptions. Following an East meets West theme the boutique also offers embroidered handbags, purses and many other treasures that Jenny and Maria think you will enjoy. If you need inspiration this Christmas I can recommend a visit - Silk Road Bazaar is an Aladdin's cave!



## Silk Road Bazaar



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### Club Associates

Little Acorns Playgroup, 9.15-12.45  
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Tues - Slimming World

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



## Pembroke Primary School– New Experiences

By Nicola Stephens – Acting Deputy Headteacher

Since September we have been very busy with trips and visitors. The Additional Learning Center (ALC) have visited 'Cadbury's World' as part of their 'Chocolate and Treats' topic. They learnt how chocolate is produced and about the history of chocolate. They were even allowed to sample some chocolate, which was very yummy!

The Space Dome visited the school and Dosbarth Sugarloaf (Year 1) went inside it and learnt all about the planets and constellations. Dosbarth Cadair Idris (Year 5) also visited the Space Dome. They learnt about the planets, including finding out about possibilities of other life in our Solar System. Year 5 also learnt about constellations; man in space; recent events in space; The International Space Station and who is currently in space and who is planned to visit soon.

Dosbarth Pen-y-Fan (Year 2) visited 'We The Curious' to learn more about science and technology. They participated in an interactive show called 'Splash and Bubble' which was all about water and bubbles. They found out about bubbles and how to make more of them. We even saw bubbles exploding and water disappearing!

Years 1 and 2 had a visit from an author called Tom Percival. He read his book – Perfectly Norman, showed everyone how he illustrates his books and taught them how to draw a character. He then wrote and drew in the books they had purchased.

Dosbarth Plynlimon (Year 3) have visited Tesco in order to complete their Harvest Trail. They enjoyed learning about seasonal food, where food comes from – local, Wales, UK, other countries – and its effect on the environment. They were able to sample some autumn vegetable soup and learnt about preserving foods. They saw bread being made and had the opportunity to taste a variety of breads. They were quite full when they left but everyone had enjoyed the visit.

After our visit to Tesco they kindly donated a harvest loaf for our harvest festival. Everyone was able to taste it and it was lovely. All the food collected was donated to Chepstow Foodbank. We collected 91kg. Da iawn pawb.



**Toytastik**  
16b Moor Street  
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We're very sociable!  
01291 627200

## 11+ Scholarships

St John's on-the-Hill School is awarding scholarships for pupils aged 11 plus (current Year 6) for Academic, Music, Drama, Sports, Art and Design Technology.

The scholarships are available to pupils who excel in their chosen subject. They provide financial assistance and exciting opportunities to maximise their potential with an enhanced programme of study and specialist teaching.

St John's on-the-Hill's Head, Ruth Frett, said: "We are offering generous scholarships to pupils who display talent, enthusiasm and commitment in a range of subjects. Our scholarship scheme is particularly attractive as it can carry through to Dean Close Senior School, in Cheltenham, bringing financial assistance in paying for school fees from age 11 to 16. We encourage you to get in touch to find out more about these brilliant opportunities."

**The deadline for applications is  
Friday 5th January.**

For more information please contact Margaret Campbell on 01291 622045 / [admissions@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk](mailto:admissions@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk)



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## Chepstow School Remembers Them

Chepstow Matters was delighted to attend the Chepstow School's Remembrance Service held at the St Mary's Priory on the 10th November.

Head teacher Claire Price gave a very poignant welcome and introduction to the service. She spoke about diversity and pride, and reminded students that our soldiers and those of different nations all joined together and fought for peace for us.

The school choir sang the touching song 'In Flanders Fields', which sounded beautiful as it echoed around the rafters of the church.

Readings were by Luca Goddard and Lisa Griffith. The poem 'Do not stand at my grave and weep' by Mary Frye, read by Jess Sariak. Joe Summers and Rebecca Ham (top photo) read the poem 'Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night'.

After the reading of the names of local men lost to the wars, the Last Post was superbly played by Maya Ross and Leo Scharz, and signalled the two minute silence as a mark of respect.

The closing prayers and blessing was conducted by the new Vicar of Chepstow, Rev Philip Averary.



## Little Acorns Playgroup

Little Acorns Playgroup @The Burnt Barn Club, Bulwark is a Pre-school Playgroup providing a fun and educational start to life in a friendly and stimulating environment, encouraging the development of social and communication skills through fantastic play opportunities. Children start from age 2 to pre-school, we are Social Services inspected and members of the WPPA (Wales Pre-School & Playgroup Association)

Little Acorns is a childcare setting run during term time for 2 to pre-school age children. Monday to Friday 9.15-12pm, cost for this session is £8.00. There is also a Lunch Club from 12-12.45 after which children can be collected or taken to Thornwell or Pembroke Nursery in Bulwark, cost for this session is £4.00.

For more information please inbox Rachel on email [acornspaygroup@aol.com](mailto:acornspaygroup@aol.com), phone 07904 212135, or visit the website [www.littleacornspaygroup.co.uk](http://www.littleacornspaygroup.co.uk)



**Little Acorns Playgroup, Burnt Barn Club, Bulwark NP16 5AR**  
**Tel: Rachel on 07904 212135**

## The Effects of Untreated Hearing Loss

Ian Croft Audiologist

**Christmas is coming!** A time of year when families are drawn together and vibrant conversations occur frequently; unfortunately a large number of people will struggle to take part because they can't hear clearly what is being said. What better present could you give them than better hearing?

Actually, many people are aware that their hearing has deteriorated but are reluctant to seek help. Perhaps they don't want to acknowledge the problem, are embarrassed by what they see as a weakness, or believe that they can "get by" without using a hearing aid. And, unfortunately, too many wait years, even decades, to address the effects of hearing loss before getting treatment.

However, research demonstrates the many negative social, psychological, cognitive and health effects of untreated hearing loss. Each can have far-reaching implications that go well beyond hearing alone. In fact, those who have difficulty hearing can experience such distorted and incomplete communication that it seriously impacts their professional and personal lives, at times leading to isolation and withdrawal.

Studies have linked untreated hearing loss effects to:

- fatigue, tension, stress and depression
- avoidance or withdrawal from social situations and loneliness
- reduced alertness and increased risk to personal safety
- impaired memory and ability to learn new tasks
- reduced job performance and earning power
- diminished psychological and overall health
- increased potential of developing dementia

Hearing loss is not just an ailment of old age – 50% of hearing aid wearers are under 55. It can strike at any time and any age. Modern instruments in the private sector are so advanced these days (and discreet!) that they can stream the TV signal, let you hear the phone in both ears and be controlled without touching them. They last for years and can cost a lot less than a two week holiday.

If you think you or a loved one suffers from hearing loss, don't delay another day. Visit a hearing healthcare professional and take the first step toward a world of better hearing.

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## Know Your Rights - Christmas Shopping

Christmas can be a busy time and many of us will buy goods in the lead up to Christmas. When you buy goods or services you have certain protection under consumer law and here is a reminder about some of your main rights.

### Your decision to buy

- All purchases or orders for goods involve Term and Conditions (T&Cs) or the small print. You will be expected to keep to these, even if you haven't read them.
- You don't have an automatic right to get your money back if you change your mind. Always check the return's policy of the shop or seller.
- When buying and paying on-line make sure the site is secure and keep copies of the paperwork. You have a 14 day cooling off period should you change your mind, but if you do, you must tell the seller straight away.

### My goods haven't arrived - what can I do?

- Contact the seller to find out where the item is. Call or email their customer services.
- The seller should chase the delivery company and let you know what's happened to your item.
- If the item doesn't turn up, you're legally entitled to a replacement or refund. You can expect a refund within 14 days of the retailer agreeing you're entitled to one.
- It is important to keep a record of all contact with the customer services department and confirm the problem to them in writing (email/text/letter).

### Refunds via the method of payment

- Debit card - contact your bank and say you want to use the chargeback scheme.
- Credit card - contact your credit card company to get the money back.



- PayPal - use PayPal's online resolution centre to report your dispute. You must do this within 180 days.

### Faulty electrical goods – repair, refund or replacement via the seller.

If an electrical item is faulty:

- don't attempt to fix it yourself - this could stop you getting redress because it will be harder to prove you didn't cause the fault
- return it to the retailer - it's the responsibility of the seller to help you resolve the problem, not the manufacturer.

If the item was bought within the last 30 days you can get a refund on a faulty product. If bought within the last 6 months you are entitled to have it repaired once or replaced. If the item still doesn't work you should get a full refund.

### Lost, damaged or delayed post

- You can claim compensation from Royal Mail if your post was lost, damaged or delayed. You can complain using their on-line form, by phoning their customer services or in writing.
- If you've had a problem with a delivery or damage from a courier company you should:
  - o complain to the seller from whom you bought the item
  - o complain directly to the courier if you were using their services to send a parcel and it arrived broken.
  - o follow the courier company's complaints process - find this on their website, or email or phone their customer services.

For further information and advice drop in to one of our Citizens Advice offices, ring our Consumer helpline on 03454 040506 or go on-line at:

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales/consumer](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales/consumer)



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Local therapist Ceri Crossland has been practising the ever-popular treatments of Reflexology, Bowen and Emmett techniques in Tutshill and the surrounding areas for over ten years.



If you suffer from back or neck pain, stress/anxiety, hormonal imbalance, digestive problems, asthma/breathing problems or a plethora of other such ailments, then the treatments Ceri offers could be just what you need. Treatments may ease pain and discomfort, increase your movement, improve your quality of life and also assist clients living with long term neurological conditions.

Ceri has this year expanded her portfolio to include foot health treatments, such as nail cutting, corn and callus removal, thickened nail reduction and general foot care advice too.

Ceri is based in Tutshill but if this is difficult for anyone she is happy to travel to you and fit in around your busy life.

**Why not get in touch with her to see how she can help you?** Her details are in the advert below and you can also seek her out on Facebook – **Ceri Crossland Therapies**

### Christmas is coming! Looking for Gift ideas?

Ceri also offers gift vouchers for Reflexology, Bowen and Foot Health. The perfect gift whatever the occasion!



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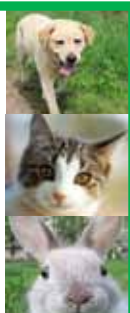


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# Christmas Around

## **Chepstow Baptist Church** *Lower Church Street , NP16 5HJ*

### **21st December**

6.30pm Community carol sing outside  
'The Boat Inn', Lower Chepstow

### **Christmas Eve**

10:30am Family Carol Service

### **Christmas Day**

10:30am Christmas Day short worship time with  
all the family

## **Chepstow Parish** **St Mary's Priory & St Christopher's**

### **St Mary's Priory**

#### **Sunday 10th December**

10am Crib Service

#### **Saturday 23rd December**

2pm Christingle and Carols

### **Christmas Eve**

8am Said Eucharist

11.30pm Midnight Mass

### **Christmas Day**

10am Family Service

### **St Christopher's Church, Bulwark**

#### **Sunday 17th**

9.30am Crib Service

### **Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Family Christmas Carol Service

### **Christmas Day**

9.30am Family Service

## **Parish of Mathern, Shirenewton, Mounton & St Pierre**

### **Mathern Church**

#### **Sunday 17th December**

4pm Carol Service

7pm Christmas Carols in The Millers Arms

### **Christmas Eve**

11.30 Midnight Mass

### **Christmas Day**

9am Holy Eucharist



## **St Thomas a Beckett Church, Shirenewton**

### **Sunday 17th December**

10am Carol Service

### **Christmas Eve**

4pm Carols and Christingles

Everyone is welcome to this lovely warm family-  
friendly service. Refreshments of mulled wine  
and mince pies will be served afterwards

11.30pm Holy Eucharist

### **Christmas Day**

10am Family Service

### **St Pierre**

#### **Sunday 17th December**

10:15am Carol Service stay for coffee and  
mince pies served after

### **Christmas Eve**

9pm 'Midnight Mass' Service

## **St. Mary's Catholic Church**

*Old Bulwark Road , Chepstow*

## **& St. Paul's Catholic Church**

*Longcroft Street , Caldicot*

### **Christmas Eve**

6pm Vigil Mass at St. Mary's (which is oriented  
very much to young families)

11.00pm Quiet Personal Prayer (with  
appropriate reflective music)

11.30pm Christmas Carols

12.00 Midnight Mass at St. Mary's

### **Christmas Day**

9am Christmas Day Mass at St. Paul's

## **Stroat Church**

### **Friday 15th December**

Carols around Woolaston.

6pm Meet at the Christmas tree, process  
through the village. Arrive at the Methodist  
church for mincepies and a hot drink at 7.15pm.

### **Christmas Eve**

10.30am Join with Churches from  
lydney, carols outside the Co-op.

### **Christmas Day**

10am Family celebration

# Chepstow

## **The Bridge Church Chepstow**

*Unit 1a Critchcraft Buildings,  
Bulwark Industrial Estate, NP16 5QZ  
[www.thebridgechurchchepstow.org](http://www.thebridgechurchchepstow.org)*

### **Sunday 17th December**

4.30pm-5.30pm - Christmas Celebration  
Carol Service

### **Christmas Day**

10.30am-11.15am Christmas Day Family Service

### **Sunday 31st December**

10.30am New Years Thanksgiving Service

## **Sedbury Evangelical Church**

### **Sunday 17th December**

10:30am Carol Service

### **Christmas Eve**

10:30am Christmas Family Service



## **Tidenham Parish**

### **Sunday, 10th December**

4:30pm St Luke's, Tutshill –  
Christingle Service  
followed by light refreshments

### **Sunday, 17th December**

10:45am St Luke's, Tutshill – Nativity Family  
Service followed by light refreshments

3pm St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham –  
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
followed by mince pies and wine

### **Christmas Eve**

4:30pm St Luke's, Tutshill –  
Family Crib Service

11:15pm St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham –  
Midnight Mass

### **Christmas Day**

9am St Michael & All Angels, Chase –  
Holy Communion

10am St Luke's, Tutshill –  
Family Service followed by  
Holy Communion


### **Sunday, 31st December**

10:45am St Luke's, Tutshill –  
Christmas Songs of Praise

*You are invited to:*  
**Carols in the Park**

**SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER**  
**4:30PM AT THE BANDSTAND**

Come and celebrate Christmas together with something for  
all the family; live brass band, food, hot drinks and something  
for the children. It's Christmas with a difference, and it's all FREE!

HOSTED BY  **VICTORY CHURCH CHEPSTOW**



## Rugby Star Shane Williams Visits St John's on-the-Hill School for a Wonderful Rugby Skills Day

Shane Williams MBE, Wales' most capped winger and British & Irish Lions player visited St John's on-the-Hill School on Tuesday 7 November. He gave an inspirational talk about his career and ran coaching sessions with the children to develop their rugby skills.

Williams had been told so many times that he was too small to play rugby. He knew he had to work extra hard to change this perception of him and when the chance came to play for Wales against New Zealand he played the game of his life.

Williams said: "When I got the opportunity to play that day I felt 12ft tall. I was never dropped again from the Welsh team and just five years later was voted the best rugby player in the world. Work hard, believe in yourself and you can do anything. Make sure you do it with a smile on your face."

Williams was hugely impressed with the standard of rugby at St John's and was amazed by their unbeaten record this year. Never wanting to stand still, the school is working with local rugby clubs to encourage participation in the sport and will be hosting more skills days. All this will further enhance the excellent standard of rugby at St John's.

Shane has also promised to return!



# St John's on-the-Hill

- UK Top 10 Best Value Prep School - Good Schools Guide
- Set in beautiful countryside with excellent teachers, small classes and extensive facilities
- A caring community with wrap-around care to help working parents



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## A Good Rating for Hedgehogs Nursery

Hedgehogs Nursery is Tutshill has been given another glowing review last month, with inspectors praising its "highly motivated and enthusiastic" team.

The Ofsted report, which followed an inspection in October, highlighted that:

*Staff provide a welcoming, stimulating and exciting environment where all children demonstrate they feel safe and secure as they play.*

*Children are happy, confident and develop strong attachments with their special person. Staff who work with the youngest children support their emotional well-being extremely well. Staff know the children well and support their growing confidence and self-esteem successfully.*

Manager Nicole Ricketts (pictured right) said she was delighted with the report. "I am so proud of our team and this recognition of the good standards we provide. We welcome this report and will continue to work hard to provide the very best childcare."

You can view the full report via the website <http://www.stjohnsonthehill.co.uk> under hedgehogs nursery.



## HEDGEHOGS NURSERY

- modern, purpose-built building on one floor
- highly qualified and experienced team
- homely, caring, safe, fun-filled environment
- French, dance, swimming and music lessons
- shared facilities of St John's on-the-Hill School
- large, grassy, outdoor spaces

Castleford Hill  
Tutshill  
Chepstow  
Monmouthshire  
NP16 7LE

T: 01291 628344  
E: [hedgehogs@deanclosenurseries.co.uk](mailto:hedgehogs@deanclosenurseries.co.uk)



**Kestrel's younger gymnasts enjoyed the day at the South East Gymspire Championships in Cardiff. The young gymnasts had to perform routines on Floor, Trampoline and Vault.**

In the Level 1 Boys 6-7 yrs age group Ted Watson won 5th place Ribbon on Trampoline, 4th place Ribbon on Floor and on Gold on Vault, Brereton Trim won Bronze on Trampoline, Silver on Floor, and Gold on Vault, and took the second place Overall Trophy, Leo Childs won Silver on Trampoline, Bronze on Vault Gold on Floor, and won the Overall Champion Trophy. The boys came out beaming with their medals. The 6-7 yrs Girls' Team Bronze was won by Amelie Thomason, Hollie Smith, Laci Watkins, Carys Fullerton and Annie Efremenko, with Laci also winning 5th place Ribbon on Vault. Georgia Vine in her first competition won Silver on Trampoline in the 8 yrs Level 2 Section, and Annika Watkins also won Silver on Trampoline in the 9-10 yrs Level 2 Section.

**Top right photo: BACK ROW Annika Watkins FRONT ROW Amelie Thomason, Hollie Smith, Laci Watkins, Carys Fullerton, Annie Efremenko. Lower right photo: Brereton Trim, Leo Childs, Ted Watson**



**Kestrel's Trampoline gymnasts bounced away in Sport Wales National Centre in Cardiff, competing in the Welsh Club Grades Championships.** In Club Level 1 eight year old Lowri Christie won the Bronze Medal, and 9 yr old Sophie French competing Club Level 3 executed good bounces winning Bronze. Not to be outdone by the girls, 12 yr old William Dent competing Club Level 3, won the Bronze Medal in the Boys' section. A very good start to the competition season.

**PHOTO left: Lowri Christie, William Dent, Sophie French**



**What a fantastic day Kestrel gymnasts had at the Welsh National Gymspire Championships held in Ebbw Vale.**

Representing South East Region in the 11-12 yrs boys' section, were James Davies, Finley Stenner and Evan Thomason, competing on Floor, Trampoline and Vault. James took the Bronze Medal on Floor and Trampoline, and 4th Place Ribbon on Vault, and 4th place Overall Ribbon. Evan won 5th Place Ribbon on Floor, 4th Place Ribbon on Trampoline and Bronze Medal on Floor, 5th Overall Ribbon. Finley won Silver Medals on Floor, Trampoline, Vault, and Took the Overall Champion's Trophy.

The three boys pulled together taking South East Region through as National Team Champions winning themselves a Gold Medal!

In the 13 plus mixed section, Tom Hook was on excellent form, winning Gold Medals on Floor, Trampoline, Vault, and also the Overall Champion Trophy, and another Gold Medal as part of his team also being National Team Champions.

Clare John entered as an individual entry, was very pleased with her performance, winning Bronze on Trampoline, Silver on Vault and 6th Place Overall Ribbon.

**PHOTO top Evan Thomason, James Davies, Finley Stenner  
PHOTO bottom Tom Hook, Clare John**



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**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

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

**Adult Classes:** Wednesdays 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](mailto:kestrelgymclub@live.co.uk)

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



## Carols Around the Village Christmas Tree



with Chepstow Town Band

6.30pm Friday 15th December  
Tredegar Arms Car Park,  
Shirenewton

Bring a torch and loud voices!  
(if wet will be inside Church)  
Tin collection for local charities

## Advent Fair & Coffee Morning

Sunday 3rd December

11am-12noon

Coffee, Cake and a lovely selection of  
Homemade Christmas Goodies in the  
Sysell Room, Shirenewton Church  
All proceeds to Children's charity

## Chepstow Choral Society

Conducted by Graham Bull  
presents

## A Christmas Celebration!

A selection of festive music & readings  
With special guests

St John's-on-the-Hill School  
Chamber Choir

Musical Director - David Mitchell

Peter Cook - Organ  
Richard Kubiak - Piano

Sunday 10th December 2017  
3.00pm St Mary's Church, Chepstow  
£8 per adult, U18s & Students FREE

Tickets available from Choir members, Chepstow Bookshop, on the door  
or tel 01291 623310, 620414

© 2017 Chepstow Choral Society. All Rights Reserved.  
Further information: 01291 623310



www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

## CHRISTMAS FAMILY QUIZ EVENING

doors  
open  
7pm



Come and test  
your general  
knowledge

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9th.  
in  
DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL  
£5.00 entry includes a cold supper.  
BAR and RAFFLE PRIZES.

## CHEPSTOW Male Voice Choir

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday 17th December 2017  
Chepstow Leisure Centre

7.00pm

With

7.00pm

The Serenata Ladies Choir  
Lydney Training Band

Tickets £10  
Herbert Lewis, Chepstow Leisure Centre,  
Paul 01633 400295, Choir Members

New members welcome  
Rehearsals Monday and Thursday evenings at the  
Dell School Welsh Street Chepstow 7-9 pm

Come along and see how enjoyable choral singing can be  
and see if this could be for you

Choir website, [www.chepstowmvc.co.uk](http://www.chepstowmvc.co.uk)



Shirenewton Village  
Local Produce & Christmas Market  
16th December 2017  
10am-midday in the Rec Hall



Christmas Evening of Entertainment

Sunday

10th

December

Bulwark Community Centre

6.30pm - 8.30pm

Come along  
bring your family &  
friends.

come and taste  
mince pies,  
mulled wine  
warm atmosphere.

For more information call 01291 624138



## CHEPSTOW ANNUAL WASSAIL AND MARI LWYD

Saturday  
20th Jan

1.30pm until 11.30pm

SEE THE ACTION  
ON THE BIG  
SCREEN



Ceilidh  
Tickets £7.00  
Under 18's £3.00

CATS CLAW CEILIDH BAND at THE DRILL HALL

Mari Lwyd at The GreenMan Backpackers 1.30pm  
Apple Tree Wassail at The Castle Dell 3.00pm  
Mari Pageant at Chepstow Castle Inn 4.30pm  
Meeting Welsh /English at the border 6.30pm  
Grand Mari Lwyd outside The Museum 7.15pm  
Country Dance Ceilidh at the Drill Hall 8.00pm  
Morris Dancing and Music throughout the event  
Food Vendors - Crepes - Burgers - Hot Dogs - Soup  
★ for program and further details please contact us below ★  
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web site [www.chepstowwassailmari.co.uk](http://www.chepstowwassailmari.co.uk)

## DEVAUDEN VILLAGE CHRISTMAS BINGO & CHARITY AUCTION NIGHT.

in  
Devauden Village Hall  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 2nd.

CHRISTMAS BINGO EVENT  
EYES DOWN 7:15 pm

BAR

FOLLOWED BY CHRISTMAS GOODIES  
AUCTION  
(Starting 9:00 pm)

Proceeds in aid of SARA

Event organised by Devauden Village Hall Committee  
[www.devauden.org.uk](http://www.devauden.org.uk)

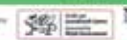
# 2018

NEW YEAR PARTY!  
CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY AND  
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DEVAUDEN VILLAGE HALL  
Dance the night away with cover group

It all  
Starts at  
9.00pm.  
December  
31st.  
Doors  
open 8.30pm.  
Extensive Buffet  
Supper and  
Bar until 12.30.



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at [www.devauden.org.uk](http://www.devauden.org.uk)



Wednesday 17th January 2018  
Chepstow Leisure Centre, 7.30 pm  
"Pine Martens as Neighbours?"  
- an illustrated talk by Andrew Stringer,  
who is the Pine Marten Project Manager  
for Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.  
Admission £3 - all welcome





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

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 COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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

**Chepstow Hub** Manor Way, Chepstow, NP16 5HZ 01291 635730 [chepstowlibrary@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:clerk@chepstow.co.uk)

**Chepstow Tourist Information Centre** Castle Car Park, Bridge Street, Chepstow NP16 5EY. 01291 623772 [chepstow.tic@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:ctcdrillhall@aol.com)

Bulwark Community Centre, Laburnam Way, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5RF 01291 624138 [bccbulwark@btconnect.com](mailto: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 440065

Mount Pleasant Practice, Tempest Way, Chepstow NP16 5XR 01291 440154

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

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

### LOCAL CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS

**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](mailto:chaosinchepstow@live.co.uk) Jon Stow 07926 584 661

**Chepstow Archaeological Society** [www.chepstow.org.uk](http://www.chepstow.org.uk) 1st Thursday of the month 7.30 Chepstow Conservative Club

**Chepstow (Archway) Bridge Club** meets Mon, Weds, Thurs 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](mailto:chepstowcarers@yahoo.co.uk) 07592 503757

**Chepstow Choral Society** [www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk) [info@chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.chepstowtwinning.wordpress.com)

**Chepstow and District Amateur Radio Society** [www.gw4lwz.org.uk](http://www.gw4lwz.org.uk) contact James Hewitt [chairman@gw4lwz.com](mailto:chairman@gw4lwz.com), meet at Chepstow Athletic Club

**Chepstow and District Gardening Club** Caroline Duchet [cdgclub@gmail.com](mailto:cdgclub@gmail.com)

**Chepstow and District Lions** [www.caldicot.com/lions](http://www.caldicot.com/lions) 0845 8339565

**Chepstow Folk Dance Club** Wednesdays 7.30 pm Function Room Conservative Club, Moor Street. <http://chepstowfolkdance.weebly.com/>

**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](http://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 7.30-9.30pm. Contact Margaret Payne 01291 630580

**Chepstow Male Voice Choir** [www.chepstowmvc.co.uk](http://www.chepstowmvc.co.uk) Mon & Thurs 7pm The Dell School contact Stuart Vigus on 01291 626566 / 07733 804317 or [stuartvigus@aol.com](mailto:stuartvigus@aol.com).

**Chepstow Photographic Club** [www.chepstowphotosoc.org](http://www.chepstowphotosoc.org) [admin@chepstowphotosoc.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.chepstowsociety.co.uk) Secretary Henry Hodges, 01291 625865.

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

**Chepstow Walk for Health.** Meets 10.00 am every Monday (except Bank Holidays) at the rear of Chepstow Leisure Car Park. Walks no longer than 3 miles with few if any stiles. Come and make new friends and get fitter at the same time. For further information contact Helen 01291 641856

**Chepstow Womens Institute (WI)** [www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk) Shirenewton, St Arvans and Tidenham

**Chepstow Group of Gwent Wildlife Trust** Contact Hilary Lee 01291 689326 [hilary-lee@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:hilary-lee@tiscali.co.uk)

**ComBat Communities of Bulwark and Thornwell**, community group Chairman Ric Hayes [ric.hayes@talktalk.net](mailto: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](http://www.lowerwyeramblers.org.uk) 01291 637416

**Mathern, Mouton and Pwllmeyric Villages in Bloom** Meet 7pm last Thur of the month, bi-monthly (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov) Mathern Village Hall. <https://www.facebook.com/MMPVB/> email: [mmpvb@btinternet.com](mailto:mmpvb@btinternet.com)

**Movie Night** at Bulwak Community Centre and St Arvans Memorial Hall see [www.monmouthshiremobilemovies.co.uk](http://www.monmouthshiremobilemovies.co.uk)

**Musical Youth Theatre** [www.cmyt.org](http://www.cmyt.org) Chepstow Baptist Church Tues and Thurs

**Pottery** Thursdays 7-9 Chepstow Comp School Cathy 07917 261511 [www.monmouthshirepotters.org](http://www.monmouthshirepotters.org) hello@monmouthshirepotters.org.uk

**Rotary Club of Chepstow and District** [www.chepstowrotary.org.uk](http://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 427266 [tmoran@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:kendavies131@yahoo.co.uk)

**The Singing Club** for anyone who wants to sing [www.singingclubber.co.uk](http://www.singingclubber.co.uk) Karl@operaplayhouse.com

**University 3rd Age U3A** [www.u3asites.org.uk/chepstow](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/chepstow) Meets the 1st Tuesday of the month 2pm, Chepstow Drill Hall. Check out the website for more information.

**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](mailto:peter@trap-farm.freemove.co.uk)

### CHURCHES

[www.chepstowchurchestogether.org.uk](http://www.chepstowchurchestogether.org.uk)

**Chepstow Methodist Church**, Albion Square, Chepstow, NP16 5DA 01291 627014 [www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk](http://www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk)

**St Marys Priory**, The Vicarage, Mount Way, Chepstow NP16 5NF Rev Phillip Avery 01291 620980 [www.chepstowpriory.org](http://www.chepstowpriory.org)

**St Christophers**, Bulwark, (linked to St Marys) [www.chepstowpriory.org](http://www.chepstowpriory.org)

**Chepstow Baptist Church**, Lower Church Street, Chepstow, NP16 5HJ 01291 622987 [chepstowbaptist.org.uk](http://chepstowbaptist.org.uk)

**St Marys Catholic Presbytery Church**, Bulwark Road, Chepstow, NP16 5JE 01291 622649 [admin@stmarysrchepstow.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysrchepstow.org.uk) [www.stmarysrchepstow.org.uk](http://www.stmarysrchepstow.org.uk)

**St Luke's Church**, Coleford Road, Tutshill NP16 7PT 01291 624868 [www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk)

**Stroat Evangelical Church**, Gloucester Road, Stroat, Chepstow, NP16 7LR 01594 529209 [pastor@stroatchurch.org.uk](mailto:pastor@stroatchurch.org.uk) [www.stroatchurch.org.uk](http://www.stroatchurch.org.uk)

**The Bridge Pentecostal Church**, Unit 1A Critchcraft Buildings, Bulwark Road NP16 5QZ 07943 851799 [thebridgechurchchepstow@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgechurchchepstow@gmail.com)

**Victory Church**, Palmer Community Centre, High Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LH 0845 4092449 [www.victorychurch.co.uk](http://www.victorychurch.co.uk)

### BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS

**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

**Chepstow Leisure Centre Playgroup.** Contact: Karen Isaac 01291 623392 [karenisaac61@aol.com](mailto:karenisaac61@aol.com)

**Chepstow Methodist Church Parent and Toddler Groups** mornings 10am term time [www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk](http://www.chepstowmethodist.org.uk)

**Cylch Ti A Fi Cas-Gwent** Chepstow Library contact Mai Jones [mai.jones@meithrin.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:acornsplaygroup@aol.com) Tuesdays term time 1-3pm.

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

**Shirenewton Parent and Toddler** Shirenewton Recreation Hall, contact Paula Siddall [p.rimmer10@btinternet.com](mailto:p.rimmer10@btinternet.com) every Thurs 1.30-3pm

**St Arvans Baby and Toddler** St Arvans Memorial Hall contact Sabrina 07701027313 [sabrinaortner@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:babsmiddleton80@gmail.com) Wed 3.45 term time, all age siblings welcome FREE



Please support us and connect with us:  
@ChepstowMatters



/ChepstowMatters



### NURSERIES / PRESCHOOLS

**Bluebells Playgroup** Fairfield Road, Chepstow 01291 628908  
bluebellsplaygroup@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. 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 Cycling Club** www.chepstowcyclingclub.wales/  
**Chepstow Darts League** contact Rob Mordin - murdrobe@  
sky.com or Chris Smith - smudger391@hotmail.com, tel -  
07445 287018.

**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  
information@swimchepstow.co.uk

**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.clubwebsite.co.uk/  
chepstowtownafc. Contact Stuart Carter 07592 323 770

**Chepstow Garden City Junior Football Club** www.  
gardencityjfc.com

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



Early in November Lion President John Robinson and Chairman of Welfare Lion Ray Nash, were delighted to present to St. Mary's RC Primary School in Bulwark four play houses for use in the playground.

The playground has now been fully refurbished to make playtime more educational, with games and letters set out on the ground and even a wood train to sit on.

Head Teacher Ali Szwagrzak stated that he "was very grateful to the Lions Club for the donation and that the children love playing in them".



*Picture shows Councillor Paul Pavia, Lion President John Robinson, Head Teacher Ali Szwagrzak and Lion Ray Nash, the club's Chairman of Welfare.*

November and December are busy months for the Lions Club, starting on the 17th and 18th of November, the club has been invited to commence the Annual Christmas Parcel Collection at the Coop in Magor.

The Club would like to thank the Manager Luke and his staff for the opportunity to try somewhere new to assist with one of its favourite projects.

December will see the Lions at Waitrose in Caldicot on the 1st and 2nd and Tesco on the 15th and 16th.

Chepstow and Caldicot Lions are always grateful to the people of Chepstow and Caldicot area for the generosity at this time of year.

Last year the club was able to provide nearly 180 hampers for those in need. Our aim this year is to beat that figure and possibly achieve 200.

The club is very proud to announce that so far this year they have managed to help fund

nineteen defibrillators and have two awaiting application approval.

Lion Ray Nash and his team have worked tirelessly with local community councils and clubs to ensure that these machines are placed in areas of the greatest need.



Another notable achievement was completed this month with 1000 used spectacles being sent off for refurbishment. When completed, these refurbished spectacles are sent all around the world to under developed countries.

If you have any old spectacles please get in touch with the Secretary on 0846 833 9565.

**Have you ever thought that you might like to put something back into the community, if so the Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot are looking new members or volunteers to help with projects around the area, why not come along to one of our meetings and see for yourself what the Lions do, we meet on the first Wednesday of every month in The Chepstow Castle inn at 19:30, again ring 0845 833 9565 for further information.**





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**T: 01291 622045**

**W: www.stjohnsonthehill.co.uk**

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## Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism



Chepstow Chamber of Commerce and Tourism is a long-standing group of local businesses who work together to benefit the economy and community in and around Chepstow. Our Members are varied and diverse, include retail, hospitality and service businesses and the Chamber provides a voice for them with the Town and County Councils. We hold regular meetings and introduce new initiatives to help businesses grow and do business with each other.

Email [secretary@chepstowchamber.com](mailto:secretary@chepstowchamber.com) for further information  
[www.chepstowchamber.com/](http://www.chepstowchamber.com/) [www.facebook.com/ChepstowAGreatPlaceTo](https://www.facebook.com/ChepstowAGreatPlaceTo)

### Support Local Business: Services

**AluK (GB) Ltd** *Design, engineer and manufacture industry leading aluminium façade systems* Newhouse Ind Est, Chepstow NP16 5UD T: 01291 639739 [www.uk.aluk.com](http://www.uk.aluk.com)

**Andrew Miller Photography** *Wedding, family and corporate photographer* T: 07891 408266 [www.andrew-miller.co.uk](http://www.andrew-miller.co.uk)

**Associated Professional Hypnotherapists** *Hypnosis helps with many problems, inc. weight, smoking, stress, confidence, insomnia & more* The Summerhouse, Shirenewton, Chepstow NP16 6RL T: 01291 641964 / 07921 130098 [www.hypnosiscanhelp.co.uk](http://www.hypnosiscanhelp.co.uk)

**Barclays Bank Business Managers for Barclays Bank** Beaufort Square, Chepstow NP16 5XL T: 07766 360114 (Moir Wearing); T:07342 05355 (Anne Winfield); [www.barclays.com](http://www.barclays.com)

**Basepoint Centres Ltd** *Maintained & serviced office space* Riverside Court, Beaufort Park, Chepstow NP16 5UH T: 01291 635500 [www.basepoint.co.uk](http://www.basepoint.co.uk)

**BDHC Chartered Accountants** *Accountancy, business & tax advisors* 11 Moor St, Chepstow NP16 5D T: 01291 624866 [www.bdhc.co.uk](http://www.bdhc.co.uk)

**Bespoke Music Services** *Live music services for all occasions* Forge Road, Tintern NP16 6TH T: 01291 689227 [www.chepstowcommunitybigband.weebly.com/live-music-for-hire](http://www.chepstowcommunitybigband.weebly.com/live-music-for-hire)

**Chepstow Dental Care at Fairlight** *General & specialised dentistry in modern, friendly practice* Welsh Street, Chepstow NP16 5LR T: 01291 622450 [www.chepstowdental.co.uk](http://www.chepstowdental.co.uk)

**Chepstow Matters** *Affordable and locally targeted advertising options for businesses of all sizes* T: 01291 606900 FB/ChepstowMatters [www.mattersmagazines.co.uk](http://www.mattersmagazines.co.uk)

**CHIP** *Information for parents and families about the surrounding area, activities, groups, events and useful information* Facebook - CHIP Chepstow; Twitter@chipchepstow

**Crown Estate & Letting Agents** *Property services for sales and rentals* 6 High St, Chepstow NP16 5LH T: 01291 500100 [www.crown-estateagents.co.uk](http://www.crown-estateagents.co.uk)

**DW Osteopathy** *Fast, effective pain relief for any aches or pains from a qualified professional* 10 Hocker Hill St, NP16 5ER T: 07870 492293 [www.dwosteopathy.com](http://www.dwosteopathy.com)

**ETP Property Consultants** *Commercial property consultants & chartered surveyors* 10 Beaufort Square, Chepstow NP16 5EP T: 01291 440100 [www.etpproperty.co.uk](http://www.etpproperty.co.uk)

**Hallux Podiatry** *Professional podiatry & chiropody services* 16a Moor St, Chepstow NP16 5DB T: 01291 623193

**Help u at Home** *Homecare services & support for the elderly and infirm in the Chepstow area* T: 07708 519374 [www.helpuathome.co.uk](http://www.helpuathome.co.uk)

**Homelink Lettings Ltd** *Property letting & management* Office B, The Greyhound Building, 17 Moor Street, Chepstow NP16 5DB T: 01291 470126 [www.homelinklettings.com](http://www.homelinklettings.com)

**Honeybadger Construction** *All aspects of building and hard landscaping* Picton House, Church St, Chepstow NP16 5HJ T: 07801 288400

**IAM Financial** *Financial advisors to individuals & businesses* 2 Union Road East, Abergavenny NP7 5UW T: 01873 854488 / 07979 157259 [www.iamfinancial.co.uk](http://www.iamfinancial.co.uk)

**JG3Design** *Architectural and energy surveyor; 3D visualisation* Bridge St, Chepstow NP16 5EY T: 07870 988410 [www.energysurveyor.co.uk](http://www.energysurveyor.co.uk)

**Kudos Printing** *Printed products, branded clothing, schoolwear, signage & displays* Kudos House, Bulwark Ind Est, Chepstow NP16 5QZ T: 01291 620091 [www.kudosprinters.co.uk](http://www.kudosprinters.co.uk)

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Take a gorgeous Welsh Castle, add a big stage with professional sound and lighting, put in a really good bar selling local ales/ciders/wine/spirits, include some lovely food and of course some incredible entertainment usually reserved for city centre venues, and you get a taste of what Castell Roc offers...

The Festival continues to go from strength to strength, gaining national praise and recognition for not only great entertainment but for its relaxed atmosphere, enchanting location and superb acoustics.

Castell Roc Festival is now pleased to release details of the first of its star studded 2018 shows, held inside Chepstow Castle.

**Friday 17th August 2018 - "Alabama3"**. The band are notable for their fusion of styles, ironic lyrics, intentionally humorous personae, and outrageous live performances. Oh. and of course they wrote the intro music to the hit TV show 'The Sopranos'.

**Saturday 18th August 2018** - the incredible **"Dr Hook"** starring Dennis Locorriere. All the hit singles including Sylvia's Mother, A Little Bit More, When You're in Love with a Beautiful Woman and Sexy Eyes, plus many, many more.

**Friday 24th August 2018** sees the welcome return of a 2017 sell-out show: back by popular demand **"The Magic Of Motown"** bring top Motown hits, glittering costumes, dazzling dance routines and an incredible party atmosphere to the castle.

**Sunday 26th August 2018** flying in from Australia is none other than the Grammy award winning, International chart topping, British music legend **"Leo Sayer"**! Also including support from **"Mari Wilson & The New Wilsations"** an amazing evening awaits!

**Monday 27th August 2018** is a unique chance to see two full theatrical show's in one evening with **"Return Of The King meets Prince Experience"**. Leading tributes to Prince & Michael Jackson, both Artist's with their full bands and backing singers in a show never seen before.

*Will they perform together, in a duo?*

**Saturday 1st September 2018**, fresh from the big theatres is **"Fastlove"**. An opportunity to re-live the passion, flare and the unique sensitivity of **George Michael**. Accurate, captivating and heart-warming, with all the big hits.

**If you haven't checked out Castell Roc before, you really should!**

**Make memories ... Show tickets make great Christmas present too!!**

All shows are standing. Guests are welcome to bring foldable chairs or blankets (for use in dedicated areas). Limited tickets are on sale now (with special "earlybird prices") from Hannah's Music, Chepstow (01291 627122), or online via the Festival website at [www.castellroc.co.uk](http://www.castellroc.co.uk). All we suggest is 'be quick or miss out'.....

**More shows to be announced soon...**

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