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February 2019

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## Dear Readers...

Brrrr! As I write this the cold weather has finally found us although this year's annual Wassail & Mari Lwyd which took place at the weekend (19th Jan) was a bit of a damp affair. However this did not deter the participants or the spectators! With a record-breaking 34 Maris in attendance it was the biggest celebration yet. You can see some photos of the event, shared with Chepstow Matters courtesy of Misty Morning Photography, over the page.

We have lots of music events to look forward to in this issue as we bring you details of the Devauden Festival in May on p10 and more acts are revealed in this year's Castell Roc Festival (p16-17). We also have information on the Black Mountain Jazz Club in Abergavenny on p27 as well as an update from the Chepstow Choral Society who are celebrating their 40th anniversary in 2019.

We have news from Plastic Free Chepstow, who are working hard to improve the Town's litter problem (p6-7), and also the Severn Area Rescue Association (p8-9).

We couldn't bring you all the community news and events without the support of our fantastic advertisers, so a big shout out of thanks to them. Please do return their support by utilising their services where you can - and don't forget to mention Chepstow Matters too so they know where you found them. Keep it Local in 2019 and help our local community thrive!

If you are a business looking to promote your services in 2019 do get in touch with us and we will be happy to help. Deadline for the next issue is 15th February.

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

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## Christmas (Parcel) with The Lions

Our work of collecting food items to be distributed to the less fortunate members of our community saw your local Lions at Waitrose in Caldicot and Tesco in Chepstow.

Once again, the generosity of the shoppers was truly staggering, and our trolleys were soon bulging to bursting point.



We are indebted to the Caldicot Methodist Church for allowing us to use their hall for making up the parcels – you do need an awful lot of room.

Following our traditional routine of making up double bags for families and single bags for individuals, this year we were able to fill 160 bags.

Soon the Lions were out and about delivering the parcels to homes in the Chepstow and Caldicot areas, spreading a little Christmas cheer to children and parents.

SO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND LOOK OUT FOR US AGAIN NEXT DECEMBER!

Top photo shows: - Lion John Bennett, Lion Glyn Williams, Tesco Customer donating trolley full of goodies, Lion Nigel Gibby, Lion Robert Pring and Lion Denise Harrison. Above Lion Nigel Gibby delivering food parcels



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## Chepstow Wassail & Mari Lwyd 19th January 2019

Thank you to Misty Morning Photography for sharing the above photos with us.  
Facebook: MistyMorningPhotography



## 'Litter is the responsibility of all of us' says Chepstow's Litter Summit

More than 70 people attended the Litter Summit in the Drill Hall on Thursday, hosted by Transition Chepstow's Plastic Free Chepstow Group together with Chepstow Town Council. The aim of the meeting was to identify practical solution to the town's litter problems.

After a welcome by Mayor Tony Redhead, the evening began with a presentation from Wayne Dixon who, with his dog Koda, is halfway through walking the British coastline picking up every scrap of litter he encounters along the route – he reckons he has picked up more than 50 tonnes so far. He spoke movingly about the 'blanket of litter' he encounters in streets, villages and country lanes, and suggested that litter is a result of ignorance – not just on the part of those who drop it, but also of those who ignore it.

*'Litter affects all of us, so it's the responsibility of all of us. We wouldn't walk by a child or animal that was suffering, so why should we walk by something that will harm people, pets or wildlife?'*

Encouragingly, he spoke of the upswing in community action on litter, citing the numbers involved in beach cleans and litter picks across the country, including his home town of Blackburn where the numbers involved in picking up litter have risen from 20 to 2,000 as a result of the 'red bag revolution'. But, he emphasised, none of this should be necessary and there is a real need for culture change.

The audience also listened to presentations from Keep Wales Tidy, the Marine Conservation Society and Monmouthshire County Council. They heard of



Wayne and Koda pictured above with Paul Gowen of Transition Chepstow

## PLASTIC FREE CHEPSTOW SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

the problems caused by the upsurge in eating on the move, as well as flushing of items like wipes and cotton buds down toilets. After this, the participants joined in animated group discussions.

Graham Eele, Co-ordinator for the Plastic Free Chepstow Group, commented after the Summit, 'It was really encouraging to see so many people turning out and joining in the discussion with such enthusiasm.

*Of course there is a lot yet to be done to turn these ideas into practical actions. It was disappointing that very few businesses were represented as it's really important to work alongside local businesses, especially shops and takeaways. I would like to invite any of them who feel they can be part of the solution to contact me at [plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk](mailto:plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk)*

  
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Good turnout for Chepstow's first Litter Pick of 2019

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24<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Programme information available from February 2019 at  
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13 adults, including Councillor Paul Pavia, and three children came along on a drizzly Saturday morning to clear litter from Piggies Hill and the surrounding streets.

The group collected five bags of general waste, and recycled two bags of cans, three bags of plastic and one of glass.... not to mention a street sign, an old umbrella, a very large wine glass and a traffic cone!

Graham Eele, Co-ordinator of Transition Chepstow's Plastic Free Chepstow group, said, 'It's really good to see so many people turning out for the first litter pick of 2019. We left the park in great shape and I hope it stays that way – I hope it will make people think twice before they drop drink cans or crisp packets. A number of people stopped to tell us that they regularly pick up litter there and I hope others will do the same. Litter is the responsibility of all of us'.

**The next Transition Chepstow/Plastic Free Chepstow Litter Pick will be on 16th February – for more information contact [plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk](mailto:plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk) or Facebook: Plastic-free Chepstow.**

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SARA is an Inshore Rescue Boat and Land Search and Rescue organisation covering the Severn Estuary and the surrounding area, supporting HM Coastguard, Fire & Rescue and Police services 24/7, 365 days of the year. Membership is made up entirely from volunteers, with no paid staff. As a registered charity, all funding is raised by way of donations.

SARA currently operates from five bases, at Chepstow (Beachley), Newport, Sharpness, Tewkesbury and Kidderminster (Wyre Forest). The need for SARA is increasing with more callouts evident year on year, as well as the variety and range of callouts increasing. Typical incidents involve boats or persons in difficulty on one of the rivers SARA covers, but also searches for missing persons, animal rescue and flood relief are also becoming common.

Beachley is the Headquarters Station for SARA and houses the equipment used by both the lifeboat crews and the other search & rescue teams. Crew members are trained in boat, mud, land and swift-water rescue. The Station is ideally located to cover the water from Sharpness in the north, to Avonmouth and Cardiff in the south. The Rivers Avon, Usk, Monnow and Wye are all part of its operational area.

Beachley was SARA's first purpose built lifeboat station and is situated under the M48 (Old) Severn Bridge. The slipway was originally used by the car ferry service between Beachley and Aust, before the opening of the Severn Bridge in 1966.

Beachley has also been a designated Mountain Rescue post since 1985, with specific regard to cliff rescue on the cliffs of the Lower Wye Valley.

### Recent Operations

The weekend before Christmas, the team was called out to Caerleon, to support Gwent Police with a task on the river bank. This required the Newport lifeboat to work together with an SRT

party on the shore, and members of the Ambulance HART Team as well as the police.

On Christmas Day itself, lifeboat crew were woken at 04.40 by a page from the Coastguard. It turned out that no response was needed - but then around 11pm there was a callout for real, which involved SARA Lifeboat 1 searching the River Avon (again, together with RNLI Portishead and others) before eventually being stood down early on Boxing Day!

### Please Join Us!

SARA is always looking for new operational crew members, both as Lifeboat Crew and Land Team Members. In addition, Fundraisers are needed to help raise the essential money needed to keep the Station operational. Other Specialist Members have skills such as administration and vehicle mechanics, which are all essential to keep the operation going.

All operational team members need to be physically fit; lifeboat crew should ideally live within 15 minutes of Beachley or Malpas, and must be able to swim. Full training is provided, regular attendance during the training course is needed to become operational, and then continuation and progression training can follow.

**Could this be you?** For more information contact [info@sara-rescue.org.uk](mailto:info@sara-rescue.org.uk)

During 2018, the Severn Area Rescue Association conducted 109 separate operations (just over two per week) together with over 100 separate tasks supporting the NHS during the two periods of heavy snow in March.

Of these operations 56 were lifeboat callouts, 37 land search and 24 involved inland water search and rescue.

Two of the operations lasted for two days and one for three days. There were 11 days with two or more operations on the same day, and sometimes individual crew members attended two callouts in a day.

## SARA Fundraising News

Just before Christmas SARA received a cheque for an amazing £2,170 from the wonderful Devauden Village Hall Committee, following their Christmas Auction. Committee Chairman John Rowlands came down to Beachley to present the cheque, which will be used to support the Beachley Land Search Team.

Many thanks to the Hall Committee and everyone who has supported events at Devauden throughout the year!

Thanks also to the Unite Branch for the Severn Bridge, and both Tidenham and Christchurch Parish Councils for their recent donations.

Collections at Tesco Chepstow, Lydney Coop and Cwmbran Shopping Centre during November netted over £2,000. We are very grateful to our many supporters and love meeting you!

Severn Area Rescue is a registered charity (505504), and all of our specialist equipment is funded via donations from the public. It costs approximately £30,000 a year just to keep each of our stations running, and this is before we look at replacing any of the equipment that current equipment that we have.

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## Devauden Festival 17th-18th May 2019

**The fabulous, family-friendly Devauden Festival celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2019 with another fun-filled weekend planned!**

*"We have grown so much since day one, learning from mistakes, listening to your feedback and implementing changes year upon year. We can't thank you all enough for your support over the years. It would be nothing without you." Kevin McElroy, Festival organiser.*

Running Friday night and all of Saturday, three stages feature a wide range of some of the best local talent from across South Wales and surrounding areas. The main stage and second stage are situated in our Glastonbury Big Top, so you can enjoy the vast array of music, no matter what the weather, in a setting that is hard to beat! The acoustic stage is located in the main building, conveniently close to the well stocked bar, serving a selection of real ales, cider and other drinks. If you are looking for something to soak up the drinks, there will also be a variety of food vendors, catering for all tastes.

As well as the great music, food and drink, there is plenty to keep the younger visitors happy in the Kids Zone. Activities include the ever-popular music workshops, circus skills tent, kids play area, kids crafts, face painting and plenty more.

**HEADLINING the TENTH BIRTHDAY festival celebrations are:**

### Friday 17th May - Rusty Shackle

These local lads have been with us on our journey since the very first festival nearly ten years ago. It would be down right rude not to celebrate this moment together. Expect all your favourites from over the years as well as brand new music from their soon to be released album "The Raven, The Thief & The Hangman".



### Saturday 18th May - Tankus the Henge

Quite simply the best festival band on the circuit. Their funk-fuelled repertoire is wildly eclectic, ranging from New Orleans inspired swing to heavy rock riffs, and since their beginnings in the ratty alleyways of London's Soho, the band has evolved into a wild groove machine. A spectacle NOT TO BE MISSED!!

*"..I love that. It reminds me of a mixture of early Kinks, Squeeze and a bit of Blur mashed in. His voice is his own, ...so great. I love it."*  
Dave Davies – The Kinks



**The team at Devauden Festival look forward to seeing you at what is shaping up to be the best festival so far on the 17th & 18th May 2019. The small festival with big ideas!**

**MORE INFO & TICKETS:**  
see website  
[devaudenfestival.com](http://devaudenfestival.com)

**GENERAL ENQUIRIES:**  
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**Feeling the Love? Check out our FB page for details of our February "Valentine's Day" & "Bubbles" Tasting nights!**



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## A new year – a new language

The new year has arrived and your local linguist - Charlotte Moore, from Moore Language Solutions, Chepstow - is looking forward to a new intake of students.

Within a week of finishing the Autumn Italian for Beginners course last year, one of Charlotte's students left for Italy to work as a teaching assistant! *Bravissimo, Stephen!*

Charlotte is now advertising a follow-up 8-week Italian for Improvers course aimed at those with some previous knowledge of basic Italian. In this course, students will explore grammar structures including the past tense and will hone their Italian speaking skills using real life scenarios as inspiration. For more information about the Italian for Improvers course (starting on Monday 25th February) please see the advert below.



As well as offering regular classes and private tuition, Charlotte also runs a monthly Italian language social club – **‘Ciao, Chepstow!’** - which takes place every first Tuesday of the month at Mythos (that's right; we discuss Italian at the Greek bar!) Visitors enjoy 2 x no-obligation visits and low-cost club membership is then available. Members generally share an interest in travel and language-learning and may have family/work links with Italy. Each month, everyone brings a different perspective to the table when discussing the Italian language included on the club handout. If you'd like to try our club on Tuesday February 5th, we'll see you there! *Ci vediamo!*

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## ISI Inspectors state Pupil Development is Amazing at Tockington Manor School

A recent ISI inspection of Tockington Manor School and Nursery found the quality of pupils' personal development to be **EXCELLENT**, commenting that *"pupils develop resilience as they are guided through increasingly challenging curricular and co-curricular activities"* and *"attainment is above average in relation to national age-related expectations"*.

Mr Stephen Symonds, Headmaster of Tockington Manor School said, *"We are delighted with the feedback from the ISI. Throughout the school and nursery we put the child at the centre of learning developing their aptitude and attitude to help them to fulfil their potential. Our pupils know that our small class sizes mean they get better feedback from teachers and that helps them improve."*

*As an independent school, pupils stay until aged 13 (Year 8) where we work closely with them and their parents to identify the best next step for them. We have an enviable success rate in delivering entry into their first choice senior schools with many being awarded scholarships in Academia, Sport, Music, Drama and Design Technology."*

The ISI inspection found that *"pupils enjoy a healthy lifestyle and make full use of the outdoor opportunities afforded to them"* in the school's 28 acre grounds. Outdoor activities are a key part of the curriculum, ensuring all pupils have regular access to the onsite dedicated sports pitches, cross country trails, 25m indoor swimming pool and national standard all-weather pitch.

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 Washingpool Hill Road, Tockington, BS32 4NY [www.tockingtonmanorschool.com](http://www.tockingtonmanorschool.com)

Images of children in school uniforms and a school building.





## Chepstow Choral Society Celebrates 40 Years

**Founded in 1979 (although its origins go back much further), Chepstow Choral Society is celebrating 40 years of singing and bringing great music to Monmouthshire this year.**

During those four decades, it has presented work by most of the leading European classical composers from the past, including Mozart, Schubert, Vivaldi and Haydn, often performing the Chepstow premier of internationally acclaimed choral works, and has also interpreted popular music ranging from Abba to Gilbert & Sullivan.

Every year has seen the choir presenting exciting and ambitious programmes, and 2019 is no exception... This will begin with the **Spring Concert in St Mary's Church on 6th April**, which will include Beethoven's Mass in C, alongside work by Handel and Vaughan Williams. The choir will be joined by four outstanding young soloists from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and a full professional orchestra, giving Chepstow's music-lovers an outstanding evening. Tickets will go on sale in March from Chepstow Books or any choir member.

For over half of its history the choir has been led by Conductor and Musical Director Graham Bull, loved by the choir for his combination of outstanding musical knowledge and robust sense of humour, both of which make rehearsals hugely enjoyable. He is ably assisted by Assistant Musical Director Marjorie Duerden, who was the choir's accompanist for many years until 2016, when the talented musician Richard Kubiak took up the role.

Although the choir strives for excellence, Chepstow Choral Society welcomes anyone who can hold a tune, regardless of experience or knowledge of music. All voice parts are always warmly welcomed soprano, alto, tenor or bass (though male voices are always doubly welcome!), and whilst many members are first rate musicians, there are numerous members who rely on learning parts by ear, and there are lots of sources of assistance available for novices, from fellow choristers to online apps.

**If you fancy giving choral singing a try, come along to Chepstow School at 7.30 any Wednesday evening, or call Marjorie on 01291 623310 for more details.**

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## Could this be YOU in 2019?

**An inspirational slimmer in Chepstow has transformed her life after achieving an amazing 12 stone weight loss.**

Heather Haines was also voted this year's 'Miss Slinky' in her local group after her fellow members were wowed by her emotional story and achievements. Slimming World's annual Miss Slinky competition recognises those members who have transformed both inside and out by becoming healthier and happier, slimmer and more confident.

Before joining Slimming World, Heather was over 23 stone and after seeing her picture on the swing she knew she had to change her life for the sake of her health and her life with her family. She could barely walk up and down the stairs and wasn't able to play with her children in their early years.

Heather joined a local Slimming World group and began following the Food Optimising healthy eating plan, which encourages members to satisfy their appetite on healthy foods like pasta, rice, potatoes, lean meat, fish, fruit and veg and more. Slimmers are able to lose weight without ever going hungry and still enjoy treats without feeling deprived, so there's no need to miss out on their favourite foods.

Heather has never looked back and is now able to enjoy a more physical and fun relationship with all her 3 children, something she feels she deprived her first child of. Her family and fellow Slimming World members are so proud of her and the way she has changed her life forever.

*"It has changed my life completely, I can do anything with the kids now and I can even fit in the seats for rides and on the plane for holidays, when before I would have avoided these embarrassing situations. I am more confident and much happier. This is something Slimming World has helped me to achieve and I will never go back. The ultimate thing is all the help and support you get from the group. I've made some wonderful friends that support me on my journey and I wouldn't have been able to do it without them".*

**Anyone who has been inspired by Heather is welcome to join us in on of our friendly welcoming groups in Chepstow.**

**New members can simply pop along or if they'd like more information they can call one of the local consultants David, Amanda or Lisa for more details.**



***"It has changed my life completely... I am more confident and much happier."***

**'Miss Slinky' - Heather Haines, who has lost an amazing 12 stone with the local Slimming World.**



## live happy!

with  
Slimming World

<p><b>MONDAY</b> Chepstow Methodist Church Hall (By M&amp;S Food Hall) 5.30pm &amp; 7.30pm <b>David 07912 054286</b></p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> St Arvans Memorial Hall Tintern Road, St Arvans, Chepstow (Just past the Piercefield) 5.30pm &amp; 7.30pm <b>David 07912 054286</b></p>
<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Burnt Barn Social Club Burnt Barn Rd, Bulwalk, Chepstow 5.30pm <b>Lisa 07490 706047</b></p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> Tidenham War Memorial, Tutshill, Chepstow 5.30pm &amp; 7.30pm <b>Amanda 07557 132121</b></p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Palmer Centre, High Street, Chepstow (Behind Peacocks) 9.30am <b>Lisa 07490 706047</b></p>	
<p>find this delicious recipe online     <a href="https://www.slimmingworld.co.uk">slimmingworld.co.uk</a> </p> <p><b>0344 897 8000</b></p>	





## Castell Roc Festival 2019

**Castell Roc announce details of the show set for Friday 9th August 2019 at Chepstow Castle, and it's a guaranteed sell-out!**

It's not very often that you get a cohesive bond between Artistes, fans AND a Venue. This band have publically discussed their love and appreciation for our humble Festival with comments such as *"its such a beautiful place. I mean this Castle is just absolutely amazing", "it's such a nice vibe here", and "just chill out and enjoy your night, enjoy the music, enjoy everyone else's company"*. With back to back sell-out shows at Chepstow Castle and so many requests from the public to have them again (the list really is as long as the queue to get in to the Venue on their show nights), the Festival are over the moon to reveal the most welcome return of the incredible global superstars of Country music - **"The Shires"**.

We so look forward to welcoming Ben, Chrissie and the band back to Chepstow. They are such lovely people as well as such wonderful performers. The Shires first played here back in 2016, with the show both selling out and going on to be featured in the BBC documentary *"The Shires: New Country"*, which detailed their incredible rise to fame and how they spearheaded today's interest in Country Music within the UK (plus footage and interviews of their impact in another little Town, called 'Nashville').

Get in quick, tickets are sure to sell fast!



Thursday 8th of August - **"Legends Of Roc"**, featuring three of the finest UK tributes to 'The Police & Sting', Dire Straits & U2 performed meticulously by 'Police Synchronicity', 'Dire Straits UK' and 'U2UK' respectively.

Friday 9th August - the most welcomed return from the incredible global superstars of Country music **"The Shires"**. Guaranteed to sell out fast!

Saturday 10th August - **"80's vs 90's Extravaganza"**, promising a retro Party with a huge feel good factor. Some of the biggest Artists from that era combine with visuals and support from retro DJ's. The first two Artists to be named are Spandau Ballet's Martin Kemp, plus S Club 3. Fancy dress is encouraged with prizes given out on the night by the actual Artist's....

Sunday 11th August - **'Big Girls Don't Cry'** showcasing the amazingly talented Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons. This theatrical masterpiece will be enjoying its 10th anniversary and The East Coast Boys with a full live band will be authentically recreating Sherry, December 1963 (Oh What a Night), Walk Like a Man, Rag Doll and Big Girls Don't Cry, Grease, Let's Hang On, Working My Way Back to You, Beggin', I've Got You Under My Skin, Who Loves You and many more.

Thursday 15th August will see Chepstow Castle become 'el Cantina', (complete with Taco's, Tequila and thigh slapping tunes) when one of the UK's most popular touring bands **'Los Pacaminos'** rides in to Town. Featuring non-other than 80's superstar **Paul Young** the Stetson wearing band will play the very best in Tex Mex Border music, from The Texas Tornados and Ry Cooder through to Los Lobos and even Roy Orbison. This show also features firm festival favourites Mad Dog Mcree.

Saturday 17th August is an absolute must for all lovers of Country Music, when **"A Country Night in Nashville"** rolls into Town recreating the scene of a buzzing Honky Tonk in downtown Nashville and perfectly capturing the energy and atmosphere of an evening in the home of country music. Featuring songs from its biggest stars both past and present.

Sunday 18th August - **Abba Mania** From London's West End, Abba Mania has been delighting audiences since 1999!

Thursday 22nd August is a night for the lovers of reggae and ska as the infectious **'Dualers'** roll back in to Town, supported by **The Navarones**. The nine piece Jamaican Rhythm & Blues band from South-East London were an undeniable highlight show of 2018 and the Organisers have been quite simply been inundated with fan requests to bring them back, so they have!

Friday 23rd August is a chance to see two full shows for the price of one, firstly with **'Fleetwood Bac'** the world's first and best Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band. A band that are proudly endorsed by Big Daddy himself, Mick Fleetwood. Rounding off the night and being performed by **The Bohemians** is a high energy roller coaster ride of a concert,

featuring the back catalogue of one of the world's most popular and iconic rock acts of all time, Queen.

Saturday 24th August - firm Festival favourites **REEF** hit the big stage. If you want to see an iconic band in an iconic venue then this show is for you. With a superb new Album in 'Revelation' as well all the favourite songs including 'Place Your Hands', this will be a night to remember.

Sunday 25th August - back by incredible popular demand after his 2017 performance, the No1 Elvis impersonator **Ben Portsmouth** returns with his show, **Taking Care of Elvis**.

Tickets available to purchase from the Festival Box Office at Hannah's Music, Chepstow (01291 627122) or online via [www.castellroc.co.uk](http://www.castellroc.co.uk)



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*and proud Organisers of:* **Castell Roc Festival**





**Former Housemartin turned children's author Stan Cullimore paid a visit to St John's on-the-Hill school on 18th January.**

After wowing them with poems, songs and anecdotes, the Bristol Post columnist was treated to the school's Chamber Choir performing some Housemartins' songs, including the Number 1 hit Caravan of Love.

Stan said: "Great school, great kids, great staff", whilst head of English at St John's, Andrew Downie, said: "It was a brilliant day. Stan is a natural performer and the children were so enthused by his visit that they couldn't wait to get back into class and write some poetry of their own."

St John's has an exciting line-up of visitors at the school including artists, famous authors, musicians, theatre companies, academics and professional sportsmen and women.

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## Are YOU A Financially-Aware Family?

**In many families, having a frank discussion about money remains a taboo.**

Many married couples reportedly don't know how much money their spouse earns. Well off parents can sometimes shy away from letting their children know too much about their wealth, in an effort to prevent them becoming complacent about what they might inherit in the years to come and losing their work ethic.

### Teaching the basics

With financial issues rarely discussed, children can sometimes find it hard to manage their money when they get older.

Involving children in decisions that impact the family finances will help them understand that sometimes, choices have to be made in order to keep within a budget. Knowing how interest rates affect the amount you have to repay on a loan or credit card is a valuable lesson that will stand them in good stead in later life.

Explaining the positive effects of compound interest on money that's saved over the years can spark a child's interest in opening their own savings account, especially when they hear that Einstein referred to compound interest as "the eighth wonder of the world".

Although retirement is a lifetime away, it's worth talking about pensions too; ideally, everyone

should start contributing to their pension the day they begin work, so understanding the need to save for retirement as early as possible makes good sense.

A Junior ISA is a great way to teach children about tax-efficient savings, giving them an opportunity to watch their money grow over the years.

### Looking to the future

Experiencing difficulties in talking openly about money isn't a problem confined just to teenagers. The Bank of Mum and Dad is often called upon to help their offspring get on to the housing ladder. Discussing



**Involving children in decisions that impact the family finances will help them understand that sometimes choices have to be made in order to keep within a budget**

as a family the impact this could have on their living standards in retirement is an important conversation for parents to have.

With the older generation living longer and potentially needing help with their finances in their later years, it's important for children of any age to be able to communicate effectively about financial issues with their parents. With more families finding themselves drawn into the Inheritance Tax net, effective planning strategies can reduce the amount of tax payable.

Taking the time to discuss important matters like Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney with other family members will help to ensure that the right plans are in place to safeguard family interests and help prevent misunderstandings, squabbles and administrative problems arising later on.

The value of pensions and investments and the income they produce can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than you invested.

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

### Dr Josh Lewis

MBChB MBA MRCGP DipFA  
MLIBF ACSI CertPFS MAQ

**Senior Financial Planning Consultant**

**IAM Financial**

**Mobile: 07979 157259**

**Chepstow: 01291 626373**

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Whatever your query, no question is too much hassle (or too simplistic!) Our expert showroom staff will give you information on any of our products, and wider knowledge relating to home improvements. For example, perhaps you are wondering about planning permission, energy efficiency, security or maintenance. Any such information will be plentiful at our Caldicot showroom, and you will leave far better informed and confident about investing in your home.

**We're easy to find!** Our showroom is located at 164 Newport Road, Caldicot NP26 4AA and we're open Mon - Fri: 10-4pm T: 01291 430353

We also have a show site in Raglan at the Wyevalle Garden Centre, Abergavenny Road, Raglan NP15 2BH which is open 7 days a week: 10-4pm

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### Maguire's Glen

Mixes hurdling and chasing and has already won five times, three over hurdles plus two chase wins.

### Karakoram

Dual purpose horse and has just started his career over hurdles, taking to it very well when finishing 3rd in novice hurdle at 100/1!



### Grace Harris Racing

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## News from Kestrel Gymnastics

Kestrel Flyers were flying high in January with all qualifying in the Welsh Trampoline NDP Regional Gradings held at Sport Wales National Centre in Cardiff. All the girls had routines with set elements, and also had to perform a Range and Conditioning set to show strength and flexibility. They gained the qualifying scores, and will now go on to compete in the third Regional Gradings next month in Abertillery before competing in the Welsh Finals. In 13 years+ NDP level 1 section, Poppy Wayman won Silver, and together with Amelia Prosser-Davies, Darcy Howells and Holly Heal, they won Team Bronze. In NDP Level 3 section, Gemma Heal was Champion winning Gold.



In December six Kestrel gymnasts flew to Malta to compete in the Gym Stars International, which took place in Cottonera Sports Complex, Cospicua. It was a great experience for the girls aged from 12 years to 16 years, to meet gymnasts from many countries, and making friends with gymnasts from South Africa and Spain.

14 yr old Georgie Davies won Silver on Vault, and 16 yr old Jessica Ham won Gold on Floor, Vault, Bars and Beam. Erica Denby, Olive Dunster, Maisie Edwards and Erin Roberts all had a great competition executing new skills, and thoroughly enjoyed the atmosphere and support from those who travelled to the competition. It all finished off with a Banquet, and memories to last a life time.



## Kestrel Gymnastics Club

### Artistic Gymnastics and Trampoline Classes for Girls & Boys

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

**Tweeties** (Age 3 1/2 - 4 years): A class led by a qualified coach working on various apparatus. Mondays 13:45-14:30 & 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** Fridays 16:15-17:15 and Saturdays 10:00-11:30

**Competitive Squad Gymnasts** - Selected Gymnasts with potential to compete at regional and national levels.

**Parkour**: Wednesdays 20:00 - 21:00 pm



### Open Gymnastics Fun Session

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

## Tutshill Community Pre-School

### Tutshill Community Pre-School now have SPACES AVAILABLE.

If you are looking for high quality childcare that promotes independence and encourages child-based learning then why not get in touch?

We are able to take children from 2 years of age and we accept the 15 hours (NEF) free funding for children living in England AND Wales. We offer 30 hours extended funding for eligible families without any restrictions on when you can use these hours for children over 3 years of age. We also have no formal catchment and accept children from all the surrounding counties.

The Pre-School itself is a registered charity which means that we rely on fundraising activities and grants to enable us to upgrade our facilities and equipment. Currently we are trying to update our décor and also our equipment.

Thanks to the local community we recently were successful in winning the Tesco Bags of Help vote in Chepstow which means that we can now buy an interactive whiteboard for the pre-school. Thank you to everyone who voted for us – it really will make a huge difference to the children's learning.

If you'd like to find out more or have any questions then please don't hesitate to email us on [tutshillpreschool@talktalk.net](mailto:tutshillpreschool@talktalk.net) or message our Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/tutshillpreschool](http://www.facebook.com/tutshillpreschool).



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# 2019 CHEPSTOW

## RACE FIXTURES

FRI 1ST FEBRUARY	THE FAUCETS 2-4-1 RACEDAY (J)
SAT 23RD FEBRUARY	SUPER SIX NATIONS RACEDAY (J)
WED 20TH MARCH	SPRING AFTERNOON RACING(J)
THUR 21ST MARCH	SPRING AFTERNOON RACING(J)
SAT 6TH APRIL	GRAND NATIONAL PARTY RACEDAY (J)
MON 22ND APRIL	EASTER MONDAY FAMILY RACEDAY(J)
FRI 26TH APRIL (E)	THE DUNRAVEN BOWL FREE RACENIGHT (J)
FRI 3RD MAY	FRIDAY AFTERNOON RACING (F)
TUES 14TH MAY	SPRING AFTERNOON FLAT RACING(F)
THUR 23RD MAY	SPRING AFTERNOON FLAT RACING(F)
SAT 8TH JUNE (E)	MADNESS RACENIGHT(F)
FRI 14TH JUNE	GIN & JAZZ RACEDAY (F)
MON 24TH JUNE	2-4-1 RACEDAY (F)
TUES 2ND JULY (E)	SUMMER EVENING RACING(F)
FRI 12TH JULY (E)	LADIES EVENING (F)
THUR 18TH JULY	SUMMER AFTERNOON RACING(F)
FRI 26TH JULY (E)	CARIBBEAN RACE NIGHT (F)
THUR 15TH AUGUST (E)	SUMMER EVENING RACENIGHT (F)
THUR 22ND AUGUST	SUMMER AFTERNOON RACING (F)
MON 26TH AUGUST	BANK HOLIDAY FAMILY RACEDAY (F)
MON 2ND SEPTEMBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (F)
THUR 12TH SEPTEMBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (F)
TUES 17TH SEPTEMBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (F)
FRI 11TH OCTOBER	JUMP SEASON OPENER (J)
SAT 12TH OCTOBER	JUMP SEASON OPENER (J)
TUES 29TH OCTOBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (J)
WED 6TH NOVEMBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (J)
WED 20TH NOVEMBER	AUTUMN AFTERNOON RACING (J)
SAT 7TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY RACEDAY (J)
FRI 27TH DECEMBER	CORAL WELSH GRAND NATIONAL (J)

Key: J: Jump Race F: Flat Race E: Evening Race

# CHEPSTOW

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# Young Picasso

## A New Exhibition on Screen film for February

Everyone, art lover or not, has heard of Picasso - Pablo Picasso is one of the most famous names in art history, one of the greatest artists of all time, his image and his art are everywhere. Right up until his death in 1973 he was the most prolific of artists. Many films have dealt with these later years – the art, the affairs and the wide circle of friends. But where did this all begin? What made Picasso in the first place? Few know the remarkable story of his rise to greatness.

Young Picasso, a new Exhibition On Screen film released this month is being screened by Chepstow Museum at the Drill Hall on Thursday February 7th, at 7.30pm takes an in-depth look at the journey of Picasso's life and traces his path to genius.

The film explores those formative years that helped to shape the man and his art, the upbringing and the learning that led to his extraordinary achievements. This extraordinary detective story looks in detail at the elements that drove one small boy from southern Spain to such heights. Three cities play a key role: Málaga, Barcelona and Paris. 'Young Picasso' visits each and illustrates why they were so significant.

In close collaboration with five major European museums - in Málaga, where he was born; Barcelona, where the most extensive collection of his early works is held and in Paris, the city Picasso called home - Young Picasso, focusing on specific artworks from these early years, explains how this young artist acquired his craft. It offers unique insight into the artist's masterpieces at each of these remarkable institutions as well as additional insight from historians, curators, letters from friends and lovers, and Picasso's grandson Olivier Widmaier Picasso. The film takes us all the way to 1907 and the creation of a critical painting in the history of art – Les Femmes d'Alger, which has been on permanent display in New York since the 1930s. It was a painting that shocked the art world but changed it irrevocably. Picasso was only 25 years old.

Tickets £10 are available in advance from Chepstow Museum tel 01291 625981 a fundraising event in support of Monmouthshire Museums

### Images:

*Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), 1904 French Photographer, Musee de Montmartre, Paris, France / Archives Charmet / Bridgeman Images ;*

*The Acrobat Family, 1905, Picasso, Pablo (1881-1973) / Goteborgs Konstmuseum, Sweden / Bridgeman Images © Succession Picasso/DACS, London 2018 ;*

*Pablo Picasso, Les Femmes d'Alger, 1907, © 2018 Estate of Pablo Picasso / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York*



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## Black Mountain Jazz Club Keeping Jazz live in Abergavenny

The classic jazz love songs of the Great American Songbook have been part of the "Lexicon of Love" for a Century now. Representing love in all its guises; from butterflies and daydreams, to the perfect meeting, to heartbreak and despair, these timeless tunes chart the stories of the human heart that touches us all.

How do you choose your favourite with over 1500 songs expressing love in all its glory? Do you prefer the golden oldies sung by Frank Sinatra or Ella Fitzgerald? Or the more contemporary voices of Amy Winehouse, Diana Krall, Jamie Cullum and Gregory Porter?

Whichever your preference there is a song to reflect your feelings whether in or out of love and their timeless messages form a very special backdrop to our lives, whether in an advert, enhancing the moment in a film or listening to your favourite artist perform on CD, Spotify or even vinyl.

**There is however, no substitute to hearing music performed live!**

Here at Black Mountain Jazz Club we aim to bring you the best of jazz musicianship to Abergavenny.

If you love listening to the Great American Songbook, we are proud to say that we have some real vocal gems in our BMJ programme this year.

Look out for Grammy nominated jazz vocalist and saxophonist Becki Biggins (top right) returning to BMJ after a sell-out performance at The Angel Hotel opening our festival in August 2018. She will be performing in The Melville Theatre in Abergavenny 19th May. In addition, Jazz Vocalist of the year 2018 Ian Shaw (bottom right), who also performed at our wall2wall Jazz Festival in 2017, returns to open our wall2wall Jazz Festival with a Festival Jazz Supper at The Angel Hotel 29th August.

Both of them world class performers, performing in Monmouthshire.



Black Mountain Jazz Club hosts a monthly club night, sponsored by Domino's Pizza, on the last Sunday of the month in the intimate performance space of the Melville Theatre.

**Live jazz @ The Melville Theatre, Pen y pound, Abergavenny NP7 5UD**  
**TICKETS: £10 Standard, £8 Friends of BMJ, Students £3 on the door**

The bar is open from 7.30pm with live jazz from 8pm. Join us, sit back in the raised seating of the auditorium and listen to world class musicianship performed at close hand. Only 70 seats are available for every gig making this a truly exclusive musical experience.

## What's on at BMJ this spring?

Sunday 24th February 2019 -  
Adam Glasser and The John Paul Gard Trio  
[www.adamglassermusic.com](http://www.adamglassermusic.com)

Sunday 31st March 2019 -  
Chube featuring Jazz Harpist Ben Creighton Griffiths

Sunday 28th April 2019  
The Gareth Roberts Quartet

**For more info and to book online:**

**[www.blackmountainjazz.co.uk](http://www.blackmountainjazz.co.uk)**  
**or pay on the door.**

**Thursday 29th August –Sunday 1st September Abergavenny wall2wall Jazz Festival 2019**

Now in its 6th year and hosted at various venues in Abergavenny, the Black Mountain Jazz Club annual wall2wall jazz festival goes from strength to strength keeping quality jazz live in Monmouthshire.

We are proud to say that several of this year's artists have been voted UK Jazz musicians of the year 2018 and we are delighted to have hosted musicians of this quality.



# Community Noticeboard

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

## Film Nights at Tintern Village Hall

Friday 8th February, 7:45PM  
A STAR IS BORN  
starring Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga

Friday 8th March  
THE LITTLE STRANGER  
with Domhnall Gleeson, Charlotte Rampling, Ruth Wilson, Will Poulter and Darren Kent

Friday 12th April  
STAN & OLLIE  
with Steve Coogan and John C Reilly

Sponsored by Friends of Tintern, Tintern Film Nights shows recent releases of major films using the high quality built-in projection and surround sound system acquired for the village hall. All films are officially licensed through Moviola and are supplied to us on Blu-ray discs.

Shows are held on the second Friday of every month in Tintern Village Hall and start at 7.45pm. Admission is £4.00 for adults and £2.50 for 15s and under. All tickets may be purchased on the night at the door. Refreshments available. Parking is available in front of and behind the Village Hall and elsewhere nearby.

## Chepstow and District Garden Appreciation Society (CADGAS)

Nick Morgan, M Hort RHS, Former RHS Horticultural Specialist and Superintendent RHS Wisley will be giving a talk entitled

## "A Considered Approach to Managing Garden Pests and Diseases"

Wednesday 27 February 2019 7.30pm  
Chepstow Leisure Centre  
All Welcome Visitors £4

## Wye Knot Speakers

is a group to help develop public speaking skills.

Meeting Wednesdays  
13th and 27th February @ 7.15pm at GreenMan Backpackers, Beaufort Square, Chepstow.

Find us at  
Facebook/WyeKnot Speakers  
or call Stephen Dance  
on 01291 620819.

## Films Showing at Bulwark Community Centre

Saturday 23rd February 2019  
A Star Is Born

Saturday 23rd March 2019  
The Children Act

Saturday 27th April 2019  
The Wife

Ticket Price: Adults £3 - Available on the door  
Screening time: Usually 2.00pm - Doors open 1.30pm.  
Refreshments available  
Parking available on site  
Disabled facilities:  
No steps - Entry via Double Doors. Disabled Toilet.  
Induction Loop System

Bulwark Community Centre  
Laburnam Way Bulwark, Chepstow, NP165RF  
01291 624138

## Live in Devauden?

Thursday Tea in  
Devauden Village Hall  
every third Thursday  
in the month from  
2-4:30pm.

Join us for a cuppa and  
homemade cake for £1.

Swop table available  
with books and  
magazines and  
unwanted new items.

Play cards or a game or just enjoy a chat.

Any funds raised will go to the village charity.

www.devauden.org.uk/events for more information  
and events.



## Islands in the Stream –

## The Music of Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers

The Savoy Theatre Monmouth, Church Street NP25 3BU  
Friday 8th February 2019, 7.30pm

Enjoy the songs of the Queen  
and King of country music  
- Dolly Parton and Kenny  
Rogers. Leave your 9 to  
5 worries at the door and  
get ready for a night in the  
company of Country Music  
Royalty!



Enjoy a superb score and  
supreme musicianship as we  
bring the house down with the  
ultimate tribute to two country  
music legends.

BOX OFFICE: 01600 772467

WEBSITE: <http://www.monmouth-savoy.co.uk/>

## Tutshill Scarecrow Trail

6th-26th April

A family friendly trail around the Tutshill  
area to spot Scarecrows on this year's  
theme. Entry forms available from  
Lifestyle express, Tutshill.



New Dates

21st October  
18th November  
16th December  
20th January  
17th February  
17th March

3pm till 6pm

If you bring a cake it's  
£4 on the door  
£5 if you don't

St Arvans Hall, Chepstow, NP16 6DN

## GWENT WILDLIFE TRUST

Wednesday 20th February 2019,

**"An Otter Obsession"**  
an illustrated talk by Jeff Chard.

Jeff is a GWT member who is definitely  
obsessed with otters! Since his  
retirement he has discovered so much  
about their lives, habits and anatomy  
that he is now recognised by GWT and  
otter conservation bodies as an expert.  
Otters are difficult to photograph and  
Jeff has some wonderful images to show  
us.

Wednesday 20th March 2019

**"Swifts are in Trouble"**  
an illustrated talk by Alan Rosney of  
the Glamorgan Swift Group,  
with contributions from the Chepstow  
Swift Group about their local swift  
nests surveys.

Discover fascinating facts about these  
amazing birds, find out why they are  
struggling and how volunteers help to  
conserve and provide safe nesting sites  
for these much-loved summer residents.

Events take place at 7.30pm at  
Chepstow Leisure Centre  
£3.00 entry, refreshments provided.

For more information please contact  
Hilary on 01291 689326  
or see [www.gwentwildlife.org](http://www.gwentwildlife.org)

Sunday's Tease ...

Swingdicat is a not-for-profit group dedicated to the  
promotion of 1930's, 40's and 50's Swing Dance in  
the South Wales area.

To further the popularity of Swing Dance in the  
Chepstow area, it is hosting monthly Tea Dances on  
Sunday afternoons at St Arvan's Hall. Reduced entry  
fee if you bring a cake!

They will be hosting dances on the 3rd Sunday in the  
month throughout the winter - two dates remaining!  
(see poster) [www.swingdicat.com](http://www.swingdicat.com)





## 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

**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.

Sedbury Space, 11 King Alfred's Rd, Sedbury NP16 7AG, info@sedburyspace.org.uk, 01291 626158, community activities & rooms for hire

#### 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; Beachley Road, Sedbury NP16 7AA 01291 626041

**Mount Pleasant Practice**, Tempest Way, NP16 5XR 01291 440154; 12A Main Rd, Portskewett NP26 5SG 01291 425242

**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.

**Care Support:** Joy's Gift Shop, Bulwark. Free Activity Sessions for people with Alzheimers \ Dementia Related Illness. Phone Toni to book a place on 01291 629392

**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 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 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** 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

**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 Mon & Thurs 7pm The Dell School contact Elvin Hart on 01291 620438 or 07956 891 234.

**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 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 Shirenewton, St Arvans and Tidenham

**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

**Mahjong Group** meets weekly on Monday afternoons in Tidenham Chase. For new and current players please contact David Green on 07813 200808

**Mathern, Mounton 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

**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 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

**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.

**Royal Naval Association Chepstow Branch** meets at the Conservative Club, Moor 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](http://www.singingclubber.co.uk)

**Tidenham Historical Group** meets from September to April on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Sedbury Village Hall NP16 7AQ. Visitors welcome. For details ring 01291 623736 or e-mail info@tidenhamhistory.co.uk.

**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. Contact: Elaine Moore 01291 629666

**Wye Knot Speakers** a group to help develop public speaking skills. Find us at Facebook/WyeKnot Speakers or call Stephen Dance on 01291 620819.

### 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  
**St Christophers**, Bulwark, (linked to St Marys) Rev Phillip Averay 01291 620980 <http://www.chepstowparish.co.uk/>

**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](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 [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

**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 Tuesdays 10.15-11.15

**Devauden Mother and Toddlers**, Devauden Village Hall contact sarah\_trim@rocketmail.com Mondays 10-12 including holidays

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

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

**Shirenewton Parent and Toddler** Shirenewton Rec Hall, Paula Siddall p.rimmer10@btinternet.com every Thurs 1.30-3pm

**St Arvans Baby and Toddler** St Arvans Memorial Hall. T: Sabrina 07701 027313 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

**Sedbury Stay & Play**, Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall, Wednesdays 9.30-11am. Glos term times only. Contact Jane Penny 07856 679377

**Tutshill Baby & Toddler group**, Tutshill Memorial Hall, Tuesdays, 9.30-11.15am Glos term times only. Contact Jane Penny 07856 679377



Please support us and connect with us:  
**@ChepstowMatters**



**/ChepstowMatters**





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

### NURSERIES / PRESCHOOLS

**Bluebells Playgroup** Fairfield Road, Chepstow 01291 628908  
bluebellisplaygroup@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

**Ysgol Y Ffin (Welsh medium)**, Sandy Lane, Caldicot, NP26  
4NR 01291 420331 Headteacher: Mr J Hallett

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

**Mounton House Special School** Mr P Absalom, Headteacher  
Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16 6LA, 01291 635642  
www.mountonhouse.org.uk/

**Wyedean School** Robert Ford, Headteacher Beachey Road,  
Sedbury NP16 7AA 01291 625340 www.wyedean.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 Ben  
Ponting 07872 532145 secretary@chepstowboatclub.co.uk

**Chepstow Bowling Club** www.chepstowbowlingclub.co.uk  
Mike Roy 01291 626137

**Chepstow Cricket Club** www.chepstow.play-cricket.com  
markb Birch1228@hotmail.com 01291 622126

**Chepstow Cycling Club** www.chepstowcyclingclub.wales/  
**Chepstow Darts League** contact Rob Murdin - 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 Jamie Clifton (Secretary) email:  
jamie.clifton@hotmail.co.uk

**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

## Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Supporting Local Business

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. Email secretary@chepstowchamber.com for further information. www.chepstowchamber.com / www.facebook.com/ChepstowAGreatPlaceTo



**Baa Brewing Ltd**  
*Brewers of fine Craft beers for the trade & public*  
Unit 4, Station Yard Ind Est, Chepstow NP16 5PF  
T: 01291 408240 www.baabrewing.com



**Castle Picture Framing**  
*Picture framing, tool & knife sharpening*  
Hanbury House (inside Chepstow Buy & Sell, opposite Wilko), Welsh St,  
Chepstow NP16 5LL T: 07716 801967



**Chepstow Racecourse**  
*Racing and events*  
Chepstow NP16 6BE  
T: 01291 622260 www.chepstow-racecourse.co.uk



**Country Clutter**  
*Independent gift retailer*  
2 St Mary St, Chepstow NP16 5EU  
T: 01291 630036 www.shop.giftshopuk.biz



**Deacons Florist**  
*Creative, award winning floral designers*  
4 Bank Street, Chepstow NP16 5EL  
T: 01291 623768 www.deaconsflorist.co.uk



**Eden Rose**  
*Independent fashion boutique*  
11 St Mary Street, Chepstow NP16 5EW  
T: 01291 627340 www.edenroseonline@icloud.com



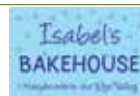
**First Stop Stationers**  
*Town centre printer with Fuji Photo Lab. Greetings cards, art & craft; stationery* 3 Library Place, One Manor Way, Chepstow NP16 5HZ T: 01291 623999 www.firststopstationers.co.uk



**Greenman Backpackers Ltd**  
*Affordable accommodation for tourists, walkers, families & cyclists*  
Raglan Lodge, 13 Beaufort Square, Chepstow NP16 5EP  
T: 01291 626773 www.chepstowbackpackers.com



**Hannah's Music**  
*More than just a music shop. Musical instruments, lessons, rehearsal room – all under one roof!* 6 Moor St, Chepstow NP16 5DE  
T: 01291 627122 www.hannahsmusic.co.uk



**Isabel's Bakehouse (award winner)**  
*Handmade celebration & wedding cakes. Mobile crepes catering & cookery classes*  
Chepstow T: 07966 592368 www.isabelsbakehouse.com



**Mathern Palace**  
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# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

## Supporting Local Business

# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

## Supporting Local Business

### Retail & Hospitality

### Services

### Services



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# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

## Supporting Local Business



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## Services

## Love to dance? Why Not Join us?

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Research shows that social dancing for health is a great work out, toning and strengthening bones and muscles, it improves your fitness and helps maintain a healthy body weight.

For the "steps per day" conscious, you can clock up to 2500 steps during an evening without noticing you're doing so. It's simple and it's structured so you're not worrying what to do with your feet. We explain dances before we do them.

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**Chepstow Folk Dance Club Every Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30 pm Function Room @ The Chepstow Club, Moor Street, Chepstow NP 16 5JN**

Further details 01291 641 537 <http://chepstowfolkdance.weebly.com/>



## Burnt Barn Community (Sports) & Social Club

Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 5AR

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

The Club has Free WiFi

Email: [beckett012@btinternet.com](mailto:beckett012@btinternet.com)  
T: 01291 629020 / M: 07850 534 370  
[www.burntbarnclub.co.uk](http://www.burntbarnclub.co.uk)



**Club Associates**  
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Thurs - Kung Foo Club

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





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