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May 2019

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## Dear Readers...

I don't know about you but it feels as if this year is simply flying by! Here we are with our May issue already and, if the weather reports are to be believed, about to enjoy a stunning Easter weekend (as we go to print on this edition).

In this month's issue we bring you a follow up report to last month's town meeting called to discuss the problems with congestion - see over leaf for an update on this. I was pleased to attend the opening of the newly refurbished Palmer Centre on 13th April and hear about the new 'Dementia Friendly' Cafe for families living with this frustrating condition (see page 7). Chepstow Bowling Club has started the new season - see more on page 13. The U3A choir are looking for a new accompanist from September - if this could be you see how you can get in touch on page 28.

As usual, 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 saw them.

**Keep it Local in 2019 and help our local community thrive! If you are a business looking to promote your services across Chepstow and the local villages do get in touch with us and we will be happy to help. Deadline for the next issue is 15th May.**

Enjoy the read!

Jaci x

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Joanne (Jo) Hume, co-owner at Ian Watts & Son Independent Funeral Directors in Monmouthshire talks about the confusing subject of funeral plans:

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## New Ideas to Alleviate Chepstow's Congestion and Air Pollution

Thursday 11th April saw a fantastic turnout to a Congestion Free Chepstow public meeting hosted by Transition Chepstow.

The meeting explored options for swiftly reducing congestion and air pollution in Chepstow, which has one of the highest rates of air pollution in the UK. 100% of politicians invited<sup>1</sup> attended and over 270 members of the public including Chepstow town councillors, and councillors from surrounding areas including England. It quickly became apparent many solutions need cross border collaboration.

There were several in depth presentations including proposals for changing the layout at High Beech roundabout, lift sharing and encouraging more children to walk to school. Members of the public also put forward suggestions including improving public transport, increased active travel and a Hays Gate junction to divert traffic from Rogiet and Caldicot off the High Beech roundabout.

At the end of meeting, chaired by Tim Melville (Coordinator Transition Chepstow), attendees voted by a show of hands for the top 5 swift resolutions as follows:

- 90% Improving public transport
- 85% Improving traffic flow at High Beech roundabout using white lines
- 70% Major redevelopment of High Beech roundabout
- 50% Hayes Gate Junction diverting traffic from Caldicot and Rogiet before High Beech
- 50% Increase of active travel – cycling and walking

Transition Chepstow, in partnership with elected representatives, will pursue swift solutions to congestion and air pollution.

There was also very strong support for a bypass, but this was outside the remit of the meeting, which was focusing on swift solutions.

Ken Skates AM provided a statement read out at the meeting 'As Minister for the Economy and Transport I'm always keen to work with



*communities in order to identify ways of reducing pollution and congestion. Unfortunately I'm unable to attend this evening's meeting, but applaud the initiative taken by Transition Chepstow to bring people together to discuss possible solutions to these problems. My officials will brief me fully after the event and I will give careful consideration to any solutions that can be taken forward.'*

**Anyone wanting to get involved in shaping the proposals should contact Tim on [transport@transitionchepstow.org.uk](mailto:transport@transitionchepstow.org.uk)**

**People with a good knowledge of public transport infrastructure developments would be particularly welcome.**

<sup>1</sup> *Invited Political representatives:*

- David Davies MP
- Nick Ramsey AM
- Cllr Peter Fox (leader Monmouthshire County Council (MCC))
- Cllr David Dovey (Chair Monmouthshire Strategic Transport Group MCC)
- Cllr Dimitri Batrouni MCC - (leader opposition MCC)
- Representatives from Ken Skates AM, Minister for Economy and Transport

# MOUNTON BROOK — LODGE —



## Introducing Chepstow's stunning Wedding & Events Venue

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Mounton Brook Lodge is simply stunning and will exceed your expectations. Situated in Pwllmeyric, this enchanting venue has stunning panoramic views of the surrounding countryside, acquiring its name after Mounton brook/stream which runs alongside the property and winds its way down to the Severn estuary.

The unique Grade II listed 17th Century former coaching Inn has recently undergone an extensive renovation which included the addition of a wonderful blue lias Welsh stone extension, blending contemporary and modern chic with authentic and traditional character. The renovation has created an elegant and stylish space to host your special event. Attached to Mounton Brook Lodge is The Old Forge barn which is the 300-year-old rustic and pretty licensed ceremony room, offering the complete wedding venue.

Owner Charlotte Hayes has years of experience specialising in event management and beautiful bespoke wedding and events packages that will allow you to experience the once in a lifetime memory that your special day deserves. Mounton Brook's friendly and experienced team will cater for your every need, from providing celebratory drinks on the pretty balcony to a large variety of catering options – buffets, 3 course sit down meals, hog roasts/ BBQ'S to indulgent feasts..... whatever you have in mind you can be confident that Charlotte will do her utmost to fulfill your preferences, giving you unforgettable memories within the heart of the beautiful Mounton Brook Lodge.

All prices, additional photos and further information can be found on the website and if you would like more information or arrange a viewing, please contact Charlotte directly via [charlotte@mountonbrooklodge.co.uk](mailto:charlotte@mountonbrooklodge.co.uk)



Mounton Brook Lodge • 01291 621490 • [www.mountonbrooklodge.co.uk](http://www.mountonbrooklodge.co.uk)  
Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 6LF

## Dementia-Friendly Café Now Open

*Helping support local people with dementia and their families*

It was lovely to pop along to the opening of the remodelled Palmer Centre on Saturday 13th April, where quite a crowd of cafe users, volunteers, council members, and the U3A choir amongst others had gathered to celebrate the opening of this wonderful new-look facility.

The Dementia-friendly Café in the Palmer Community Centre has been co-funded by Monmouthshire County Council and the Welsh Government ICF Fund. The Cheptow and Caldicot Lions have also donated funds to help improve the kitchen area. The completed project is set to provide tremendous benefit to local people and families living with dementia.

Margaret Gore, Operations Manager at the Centre commented, "Popping into town for a coffee and a chat is something that many of us take for granted, but for someone suffering with dementia this can be a deeply frustrating and difficult experience. Café layouts and colour-schemes can be confusing to a person with dementia, poor lighting can cause illusions and noise deemed acceptable to café staff and customers may be distressing and disorientating. We are so excited to have redeveloped the café into a dementia-friendly café, where people can feel safe and secure, enjoy refreshments, socialise and take part in activities.

Margaret's team are partnering up with charities and other organisations to hold regular and organised meetings, groups and classes at the new facility. "We hope to be even more appealing to the general public too, with plenty of space for families to enjoy, and lovely home-cooked style food made by our team of staff and volunteers" she added.

With the number of dementia cases set to rise by 82% in the next 12 years (source: NHS Wales), providing safe and secure environments is of vital importance to the community. Various methods for helping people with dementia have been put in place at the café, including sound baffling to reduce echoing in the room, solid colour schemes to reduce the risk of visual confusion, variable and natural lighting modules to recreate daylight, and clear signposting to and from the café.



Cutting the ribbon:  
County Cllr Penny Jones, Cabinet Member for Social Care, Safeguarding & Health and Peter Farley, Chair of Chepstow Senior Citizens Welfare Trust





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## A Warm Welcome Awaits you at Pierrette's!

My daughter and I were pleased to visit the lovely Pierrette's Hair Salon in March and experience first hand their friendly and welcoming salon.

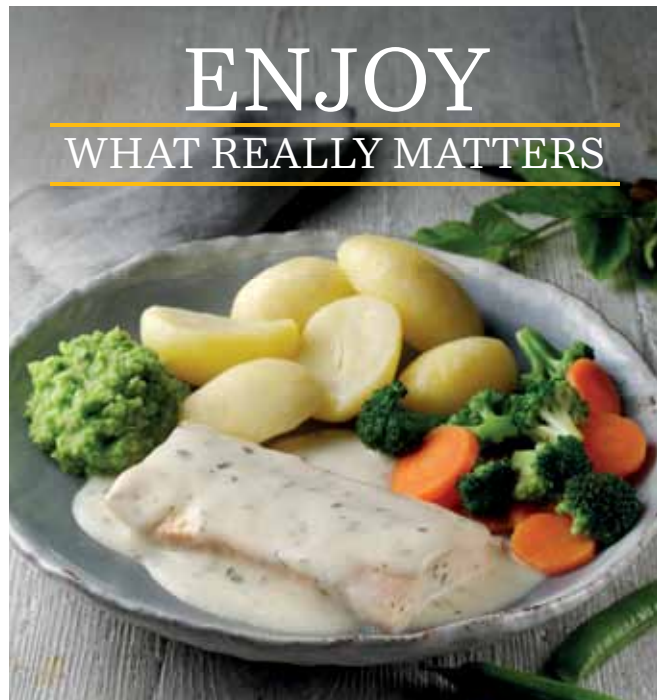
Pierrette herself moved to Chepstow from France some 28 years ago. After training in Paris, she had her own salon in Brittany for 10 years before making the move to the UK. Pierrette managed a local salon in Chepstow for 13 years before opening her own smaller salon in the town centre in 2004. In 2011 Pierrette's moved to larger premises in its current position in the lovely, tranquil St Mary's Arcade.

Nine years ago Pierrette's daughter Audrey joined her in the salon. Audrey also did all her training in France, as both a ladies hairdresser and a barber. Another current stylist, Stella, originates from Russia and has been with the salon for 4 years.

Pierrette's has a reputation for being respectful and accommodating and will do their utmost to give you the style you are looking for, catering for all ages, styles and trends. Young children are welcome and Pierrette enjoys being able to give a good hair-cutting experience, appreciating that it can be frightening for some little ones.

The salon is open 9am-5pm on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (until 1pm). Earlier/later appointments can also be accommodated with advanced booking.

On a Monday and Wednesday the salon is pleased to offer a £2 discount for anyone aged 60+. Call **01291 625544** to make your appointment.



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## BAM - Chepstow School's Young Enterprise Team

*submitted by Eleanor Morely, Year 10, Chepstow School*

Over the past few years Chepstow school has been entering into Young Enterprise which is an event where comprehensive schools all over Britain participate in creating the best new and innovative product.

This year's team consists of thirteen Year 10 students, assisted by our Assistant Headteacher, Mr Goddard. The aim of our project is to participate in the National Enterprise Competition but, also, to help the local community by significantly reducing plastic use.

This year's group, BAM (Bamboo and More), have created a bamboo travel mug which is plastic free and re-usable. This is important in order to help reduce the amount of plastic found within the oceans and all the negative impacts made from the 8 million metric tons that's added into the ocean annually. If we all don't act now we could be facing 250 million metric tons in less than 10 years! Our product has already impacted the school's use of plastic through 60+ sales to staff to date (as modelled in the attached photos!).

If you wish to support us through our journey of competing and raising awareness, whilst also helping to minimise the amount of plastic being put into the oceans every year, you can order from the school reception or email us at [bamproductschepstow@gmail.com](mailto:bamproductschepstow@gmail.com).

We have also negotiated deals with local businesses, such as The Orange Crate and Tiffin who will offer money off your hot drink whilst using our BAM mug. By supporting us and using your BAM mug, you will receive 15p off your order at Tiffin and 10% off at Orange Crate!

**The price for a plain bamboo travel mug is £4 and just £5 for a personalised mug - Remember ... Father's Day is coming up next month!!**

If you would like to find out more information, you can visit Main School Reception from 8.00am to 4.30pm in term time, or contact the team via social media:

**Email:** [bamproductschepstow@gmail.com](mailto:bamproductschepstow@gmail.com)

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**Thank you for your support!**



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## Do you have your own pony? Have you thought about Pony Club?

**In 2019 the Pony Club as a international organisation will be celebrating 90 years!**

The Pony Club is 'the' starting place for anyone with an interest in horses and riding, who wants to learn and have fun in a safe and caring environment.

Membership is open to anyone up to the age of 25; from total novices to those with more experience who aspire to the highest standards of riding and horse care, developed by training, assessment and access to a wide range of equestrian sports. Branch membership is for those with access to a horse or pony, and Centre membership is for those without access to a horse or pony.

Like many other Pony Club branches, Chepstow's local branch of the pony club, The Curre, is named historically after the local hunt pack. Our branch was founded in 1958 and celebrated 60 years last year. Its celebrity former members include top international show jumpers Mary Broome and Liz Edgar and current junior show jumping European silver medallist James Winter.

We are in Pony Club Area 10, which covers South Wales and the Borders and regularly compete with other branches in the area. We are proud to be one of the friendliest branches



around. Everyone is encouraged to join in activities whatever your age, ability or particular interest! We actively encourage parents and guardians to get involved and are pleased to give help and advice when requested.

### What we do...

Our branch year is jam-packed with activities which include something for everyone, whether you are an ambitious competitive rider or simply want to have some fun whilst improving your riding and pony care skills.

### Rallies

The most important regular activities are monthly rallies which take place throughout the year. Everyone, whatever your age or ability, is welcome. Most rallies involve both riding instruction and horse & pony care learning. They all involve LOTS OF FUN with your horse or pony and your friends.

### Tests and badges

You'll have the chance to work towards a range of achievement badges linked to horses and the countryside. You'll also be encouraged and supported to polish your riding and care skills to work up through the highly-respected Pony Club tests.

### Competitions and training

We organise our own competitions for members of all abilities. In addition we have active training programmes in all the disciplines such as show jumping, dressage, cross country, mounted games, endurance etc. Our teams compete at inter-branch, area and national level.



### Camp

The highlight of the year. Four or five days of non-stop riding and fun with friends, tailored to suit your ability level. Seniors can also go to their own tailored two-day training camp.

### Getting together

Now and again we just get together just to have some fun, either at one of our regular club nights or for a quiz, a family walk or BBQ.

**If this sounds interesting to you why not get in touch and come along to our next rally to try it out?**

Have a look at our website

<https://branches.pcuk.org/curre/>

where you will find lots more information about our club! We look forward to seeing you soon!



# Yoga

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---

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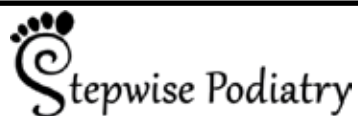
Top Stop Youth run a coffee shop style youth club on Thursday evenings 6pm-8pm at Bulwark Community Centre, Chepstow.

Coffee shop is open to all young people aged 11-25 living in Chepstow and the surrounding areas. The activities on offer include dance classes, drama, arts & crafts, board games, gaming and cooking! Entry is £1.50 (£4 for dance). If you don't want to get involved with any of the activities that's fine! Just come and hang out with your friends, enjoy a drink and a chat!

During the Easter Holidays on Thursday 18th and 25th Top Stop Coffee Shop will be hosting Big Screen Gaming nights with consoles including; PS4, PS3, PS2, Wii, alongside table top games and board games.

For more information contact: [topstopyouth@gmail.com](mailto:topstopyouth@gmail.com) or

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The Green opened on Saturday, 13th April, and men's league fixtures commence the following Saturday, 20th April. The ladies league season begins on Thursday, 9th May, with a Casnewydd home match against Beechwood BC of Newport. The men's MBA (Monmouthshire Bowling Association) side maintained their place in the first division, under the leadership of Peter Bailey, who will again captain the side this year. The men's GBL (Gwent Bowling League) side came runners-up in the first division, under the captaincy of Mike Roy, who will again lead the team this year. The men also compete in the Newport OSL (Over 60s League) and will again be led by Dave King. This season's OSL Chairman will be Chepstow bowler and former club secretary Peter Shapland. The Ladies teams who had a very praiseworthy season, and competed well in all competitions, are led this year by Sandra O'Leary in the South Wales and Monmouthshire League and by Sylvia Pensom in the Casnewydd League. There are also Mixed Friendly matches, on nearly every Wednesday and Thursday throughout the season, against teams from the Forest of Dean, Bristol and Gloucestershire, and this side will again be led by Alan Harris. Coupled with internal and external competitions bowlers are also able to compete in county matches. This makes for a very packed outdoor season for Chepstow bowlers and the

committee wish everyone representing the club a very happy, successful and rewarding season ahead.

The Club are always on the look out for new members, of any age, who wish to take up bowling competitively or recreationally. Qualified coaches are always on hand at the Club and will offer guidance and support to any new members who wish to join. If you are brand new to the sport or a seasoned international, you will get a very warm welcome from the committee and fellow bowlers. All contact details are on our website **[ChepstowBowlingClub@gmail.com](mailto:ChepstowBowlingClub@gmail.com)**

**We had a very successful 'Open Day' last year, gaining seventeen new members. We intend to hold another 'Open Day' this season on Sunday, 19th May.** Two sessions are planned, the first commencing at 11am and the second at 2.30pm. The gates will be open at 10am. If you intend to take up the sport or would just like to ask a few preliminary questions about playing, the full committee and all our qualified coaches will be there to assist on the day.

Let's all hope we have a wonderful and successful summer and, whether you're a club regular or a new member, it will be great to see you 'on the green'.

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## Ladies Evening returns to Chepstow Racecourse on Friday 12th July 2019

We are thrilled to announce we will have a live performance from chart-topping, BRIT award-winning girl-group ALL SAINTS live after racing!

With multiple number one hits such as Pure Shores, Black Coffee and Never Ever, it is going to be a fantastic evening not to be missed!

So get your biggest hat and best suit ready and head to the races for an afternoon and evening of great racing and brilliant entertainment.

Grandstand & Paddock tickets are £20 in advance for this meeting and Premier admission tickets are on sale for £25pp in advance, this includes the live music from All Saints after racing. These tickets will be £25 and £30 respectively on the day.

We also have a great Pure Shores admission package to get your night off to a great start, for just £29 in advance this includes a Premier admission ticket, two glasses of Prosecco and a racecard!



## Madness: The iconic group are set to play after racing on Saturday 8th June!

With great racing on the card from 6pm, Madness will take to the stage after racing at 9:15pm.

Come along and celebrate over 40 years of one of the most iconic British bands as they perform live to thousands of racegoers after racing on Saturday 8th June. With 15 top 10 UK singles including One Step Beyond, It Must Be Love and the number 1 hit House of Fun, this is an event not to be missed!



## Plus on Friday 26th July it's Caribbean Racenight with The Trenchtown Experience



*Join us for our calendar event of the year, the hugely popular Caribbean Racenight!*

Hear the sounds and feel the tropical vibes of the Caribbean at our Caribbean Racenight which, as well as the great racing on the track, boasts a great party atmosphere with the sound of steel drums in the air and the tropical Trenchtown Experience playing after racing. Grandstand & Paddock tickets are just £20 in advance for this meeting and £25 on the day. Premier Enclosure tickets are £25, these tickets will be £30 on the day.



Let people know you saw them in Chepstow Matters!



## Burnt Barn Community (Sports) & Social Club

Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow, Monmouthshire NP16 5AR

### Club activities

Mon - Crib/Skittles/Bingo  
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Wed - Men's Darts incl Gwent Super League  
Thurs - Mencap till 9pm.  
Ladies Darts  
Fri - Family night (incl children)  
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T: 01291 629020 / M: 07850 534 370

www.burntbarnclub.co.uk

### Club Associates

Little Acorns Playgroup, 9.15-12.45  
Mon - Fri in term time only.  
Contact Rachel 07904 212135

Tues - Slimming World

Thurs - Kung Foo Club

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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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## Chepstow's Historic Structures

A new Information Leaflet on Chepstow's Historic Structures – the 6 Grade 1 Listed Structures – has been produced to help local residents, young people and visitors to the town learn more about the incredible history of Chepstow and its local heritage which has national and even world significance.

The new leaflet looks at Chepstow's 6 'Grade 1 Listed' structures – the Castle, the Priory Church, the Town Walls, the Town Arch, Chepstow Bridge, and the Severn Bridge – all in one leaflet.

The new Information Leaflet also mentions the town's border location and its unique Wassail Festival held every January as well as some words about the world record tides at Chepstow.

Of particular importance this year, the leaflet has some information about **William Marshal**, Lord of Striguil (Chepstow) and Earl of Pembroke. William Marshal was one of the greatest knights of the Middle Ages, who built the Gatehouse and most of the outer walls of Chepstow Castle and who was key to the signing of the Magna Carta in 1215. He became Regent (ruler) of England from 1217 to 1219 (as King Henry III was 9 years old) and died on 14 May 1219 exactly 800 years ago this year.

The Information Leaflet adds to 4 others already published by Chepstow Town Council on:

- Chepstow's 950th anniversary • Chepstow's 'mega' tides
- Chepstow's splendid 200 year old iron arch road bridge
- and the 50th anniversary of the old Severn Bridge.

Mayor of Chepstow, Cllr Tony Redhead (pictured right) commented: "Chepstow has a fascinating history and we want residents, young people, and visitors to our town to know more about these outstanding historic structures and their significance which goes far beyond Chepstow, and some are of world-wide significance".

As per the above this latest Information Leaflet is the 5th in the series. It should really have been the first as it provides an introduction to the other 4 leaflets. However the 200th anniversary of the iron bridge (Chepstow Bridge) in 2016, the 50th anniversary of the Severn Bridge later in 2016 and the 950th anniversary of the Castle, the Priory Church and the Town in 2017 required the production of leaflets on those subjects first. Hopefully the Chepstow Historic Structures Information Leaflet will encourage interest in, and visitors to, Chepstow and help local businesses.

The significance of the Grade 1 Listed 'Structures' (usually 'Buildings', but Chepstow has 2 Grade 1 bridges also) is set out on the front of the leaflet (as pictured above).

Leaflets will be available around the town at Chepstow Town Council Offices at the Gatehouse, the Library, the TIC, the Museum, the Castle and hopefully many other outlets and will be available for downloading from the 'History and Heritage' section of Chepstow Town Council's website [www.chepstow.co.uk](http://www.chepstow.co.uk).

For more information on any of the above - [johnwburrows@btinternet.com](mailto:johnwburrows@btinternet.com)

INFORMATION LEAFLET

## CHEPSTOW'S

### Historic Structures

The 6 'Grade 1 Listed' Structures

A spectacular Castle of 'European' significance,  
a Norman Church, a Town Gateway and  
Medieval Town Walls, and  
two Bridges of 'world' significance.

Wales  
CHEPSTOW  
MONMOUTHSHIRE

England  
FOREST OF DEAN  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE



**1. Chepstow Castle** (1067 - 1293) One of the oldest and most spectacular castles in the UK, and the oldest castle gates in Europe.



**2. Priory Church** (C11th - C19<sup>th</sup>) Superb Norman nave and west door (1071 - 1120s).



**3. Port Wall / Town Wall** (1272-78) Nearly 750 years old - surround the town.



**4. Town Arch** (1524) The only way into the town for 750 years. Rebuilt 500 years ago. It is still the main way into the High Street.



**5. Chepstow Bridge** (1816) World's largest iron arch road bridge built before 1830 - in the first 50 years of iron structures.



**6. Severn Bridge** (1966) World's first aerodynamic road deck. Now aerodynamic decks are used on all the world's main bridges.

### Grade 1 Listed Buildings and Structures.

Only 2% of UK buildings are 'Listed' as being 'of special architectural, historical, or cultural significance' - of these: 92% are Grade 2; 6% are 2\*; 2% are Grade 1 (of which 45% are churches). Chepstow has 5 'non church' Grade 1 structures.



# FIVE TOPICS YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT IN 2019

As we embark on a new year, although it's likely to be overshadowed by uncertainty surrounding Brexit, it's important to keep your personal financial goals in mind and ensure you continue to plan for the future.

## Revisit your investment goals

It makes sense to take stock of your investment goals. Over time your priorities can change and your appetite for risk may alter too. Arranging a review will help ensure that your portfolio remains well diversified and provides a good opportunity to see if any of your holdings need rebalancing.

## Plan for the future

If you made your Will a while ago, does it still reflect your wishes? You might want to review its contents to ensure that everyone you want to benefit is included.

If you have concerns about what might happen if you can no longer manage your finances, you should consider putting a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) in place whilst you have the mental capacity to do so. Many people wrongly believe that their family could simply step in and take charge. However, they wouldn't have the legal authority to do so, and would need to apply to the Court of Protection. An LPA gives you the opportunity to appoint in advance someone whom you trust to manage your financial affairs and / or your health and welfare on your behalf.

## Think about your IHT position

Each year, more families find themselves drawn into the Inheritance Tax net. There are a number of ways that you can legitimately dispose of your estate to reduce the tax payable. Taking professional advice will help you assess your liability and put appropriate plans in place.

## Don't fall for scams

The sad fact is that scams are becoming more sophisticated every day. Many involve bogus or unauthorised investments or promise to liberate your pension savings before age 55 and are backed up by glossy brochures and



authentic-looking websites. As has often been said, if it looks too good to be true, then it probably is. Many scams start with a telephone call, so be very careful and don't give out financial or personal information to people you don't know.

**It makes sense to take stock of your investment goals. Over time your priorities can change and your appetite for risk may alter too**

## Get good advice

Before making any major financial decisions, it pays to talk to us; we are experienced and qualified to provide you with a range of solutions tailored to your individual circumstances.

**The value of pensions and the income they produce can fall as well as rise.**

**You may get back less than you invested.**

## Dr Josh Lewis

MBChB MBA MRCGP DipFA  
MLIBF ACSI CertPFS MAQ

**Senior Financial Planning Consultant**

**IAM Financial**

Mobile: 07979 157259

Chepstow: 01291 626373

Abergavenny: 01873 854488

Email: [joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk](mailto:joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk)

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## Wydean Principal Rob Ford moving onto exciting new post as 'Director of Heritage International Group'

With effect from 31 May 2019, Rob Ford, Principal at Wydean School and Sixth Form Centre, will be leaving Wydean to become the Director of the Heritage International Group, based in Eastern Europe with schools in several countries. The flagship school and group's headquarters is in Moldova.

Rob has made a huge positive impact on Wydean in the 4 years he has been Principal.

The Chair of Governors commented: "We are delighted for Rob and grateful for all his work and vision and the consequential successes he has brought to Wydean. It is a school like no other, with happy students and staff, where all individuals can better themselves in a caring and supportive community and much of this ethos is the result of Rob's tireless and expert leadership."

Wydean's growing success in recent years, evidenced by a "Good" OFSTED judgment in January 2018, a broader curriculum than ever, improved results matching those of the selective grammar schools in other parts of Gloucestershire and increasing student numbers. For Year 7 in September 2019, Wydean is over-subscribed again and based on a ratio of applications to places, the most popular school in the County. We are also proud of the school's culture of "outward facing", extensive partnerships, national and internationally recognised global education as well as the wide recognition we have for our holistic approach towards our rich curriculum.

Wydean has a very strong and experienced Leadership Team, ably supported by a brilliant team of support and teaching staff which is effective from 1 June 2019 the Board of Governors has appointed Senior Vice Principal (Academic) Gwennan Jeremiah to the post of Interim Principal. Ms Jeremiah will fulfil this role until September 2020 and applications will be sought for a permanent Principal thereafter in January 2020.

The Board of Governors is confident that Ms Jeremiah, her Leadership Team and entire staff will maintain Wydean's exciting upwards trajectory as the first choice in the area for non-selective, comprehensive secondary education.

We wish Rob every success for the future.

Andy Lord, Chair of Governors  
Wydean School and Sixth Form Centre



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School and Sixth Form Centre

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01291 627122



## The Wizard of Oz delights audiences

St John's on-the-Hill School's musical The Wizard of Oz wowed audiences with superb singing, comedy and high energy dancing. The 47 strong cast of Year 7 and 8 pupils put on three performances of the classic tale at the end of March to packed-out audiences at the school.

Connie Davies shone in the lead role as Dorothy. A tornado takes her to a strange land, full of small people called Munchkins, witches and magical characters. Despite being far away from home Dorothy makes friends – a scarecrow who can talk (Lily Salter), a tin man (Ollie Taylor) and a very fearful lion (Wilfred Green) who embark on a journey together in the hope that the Wizard of Oz (Finlay Gemson) will make their deepest wishes come true. Dorothy realises that there is 'no place like home' and that life is not always what it seems.

Rachael Shakeshaft, Head of Drama and Director of Studies at St John's, said: "Audiences were thrilled to be transported over the rainbow by our talented pupils. They worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, the songs and choreography needed to pull off this challenging production."

*It was a brilliant team effort with the cast supported by a professional orchestra and many people behind the scenes working on the set, amazing costumes and props, all of which made it truly memorable."*



## Castell Roc 2019

Chepstow is steeped in history, none more so than the breath taking Chepstow Castle situated on a clifftop above the River Wye. Dating back over 950 years the Castle is the oldest surviving post-Roman stone fortification in Britain as well as having the oldest surviving Castle doors in Europe. It's a wondrous place to visit at any time, but in August the Castle transforms in to a simply stunning and world-class concert Arena hosting a variety of evening shows to suit all tastes.



Castell Roc Festival has become a mecca for music lovers, undoubtedly drawn by its quite intoxicating mix of 'big stage' music that is all neatly wrapped up within its gigantic and historic walls. A huge stage complete with theatrical lighting and sound is installed along with local sourced food vendors and a rather good bar selling a collection of real ales, local ciders & lagers plus wines and spirits. When you mention 'Festival' don't think of Glastonbury's mud, think more about 'drinks on the perfectly manicured lawns' and you start to get a picture of what this little gem is all about! It's a rather personal Event. Relaxed, cosy, welcoming and definitely intimate.

Tickets for 2019 are on-sale now from the Festival Box Office on **01291 627122** or via the very informative Festival website at [www.castellroc.co.uk](http://www.castellroc.co.uk).

### This year's Festival features:

**8th August** – Legends Of Roc (with tributes to The Police, Dire Straits & U2), **9th August** – The Shires, **10th August** – 80's v 90's Extravaganza (with Martin Kemp, S-Club + more), **11th August** – Big Girl's Don't Cry (celebrating Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons), **15th August** – Los Pacaminos (featuring 80's teen idol Paul Young), **16th August** – Showaddywaddy, **17th August** – A Country Night In Nashville, **18th August** – Abba Mania (from London's West End), **22nd August** – The Dualers (ska & reggae), **23rd August** – SOLD OUT A Night Of Queen + Fleetwood Bac, **24th August** – Reef, **25th August** – Ben Portsmouth (World #1 Elvis).

**For a chance to win a pair of tickets answer the following question:**

Which 80s heart throb sang Everytime You Go Away, Come Back & Stay and Love Of The Common People" and is appearing with his new band at this years Castell Roc; answers to [community@mattersmagazines.co.uk](mailto:community@mattersmagazines.co.uk)

**Chepstow Musical Youth Theatre**  
**Summer School 2019**  
**MAMMA MIA!** 29th July—2nd August  
 5th-9th August **MATILDA**  
**DISNEY SPECTACULAR** 12th-16th August

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**Kestrel Gymnastics Club's younger gymnasts were beaming after medal presentation at the South East Wales Prelims Championships in Newport.**

Competing in the 8 yrs section, performing three Tumbles and two Vaults, Imogen-Mae Page won individual Silver on Vault and Tumble, taking the Overall Champion Trophy. Daisy Brandon took 5th place Ribbon on Vault, Gold on Tumble, and third Overall Trophy. Ingrid Zina won 6th place Ribbon on Tumble, Carys Fullerton took 4th place Ribbon on Tumble, and Robin Kedward won Bronze on Vault. They worked really hard as a team, and were delighted to receive their Gold Medals as SE Prelims Team Champions.



*Photo L To R Imogen-Mae Page, Daisy Brandon, Robin Kedward, Ingrid Zina, Carys Fullerton*

The boys in the 9-10 yrs Section kept up the pace with Ted Watson winning Silver on Vault and Tumble, and was very pleased to win the Overall Champion Trophy. Leo Childs took fourth place Ribbon on Tumble, Bronze on Vault and second place Overall Trophy. Henry French took 6th place Ribbon on Vault, Gold on Tumble and Overall third place Trophy. Daniel Kucharczyk was Vault Champion winning Gold, and tied together with Charlie Jones both winning 6th place Ribbon on Tumble. An excellent start to their competition year, and are all putting some good work towards the National Prelims at the end of the month.



*Photo L To R Back Row Charlie Jones, Daniel Kucharczyk, Front Row Henry French, Ted Watson, Leo Childs*

## 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

Saturdays  
9.00am-10.00am

For children aged  
4yrs onwards -  
£4.00 per session  
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Please email us at: [kestrelgymclub@live.co.uk](mailto:kestrelgymclub@live.co.uk)

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ISI Inspection Report 2019



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## News from the Lions Den...

**Chepstow & Caldicot Lions Club: "Serving the Community"**

### Egging you on for charity

Your local club has been visiting several pubs in the area – all in a good cause!

The Pierce field, The Coach & Horses (Chepstow), The Two Brewers, The Coach & Horses (Caerwent) and The Woodlands Tavern at Llanfair Discoed had all 'volunteered' to sell our wonderful Easter basket raffle. A member of the staff will pull the winning ticket and all proceeds will go into our charity account.

*Right: Easter basket at The Two Brewers, Chepstow.*

*Far right: Barmaid at The Coach & Horses, Caerwent.*



### Lions in the kitchen

On Saturday 13th April at The Palmer Center opened it's doors again to the public after extensive renovations. You can read more about this on page ...

In addition to an extended meeting room and updated toilet facilities. The wheelchair-friendly Palmer Cafe has been redecorated to a very high standard and the kitchen now has a new dishwasher and induction hob cooker to provide even tastier meals for customers.



### We appreciate you....honestly!

For many years several business premises in the area have promoted our 'Message in the Bottle' scheme and more recently played host to our collecting boxes for unwanted glasses. The 'Message in the Bottle' scheme provides a container for all medical and personal information, so that emergency services can quickly react in life threatening situations. Again through chemists and surgeries and by our own efforts we have been able to distribute many thousands of MIAB's to the local communities which we serve.

So, in a poor attempt to show our gratitude to the organizations who have helped us over the years, Lions Nigel Gibby and Rowland Searle distributed certificates of appreciation in the Chepstow & Caldicot area.

Roland is seen here (above right) at Darlington's of Caldicot and

Nigel Gibby (far right) with Charmaine and Jane at St Davids Hospice Care, also in Caldicot.



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## Celebrate National Mills Weekend at Mathern Mill

**On Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May  
Open 2pm to 5pm each day. FREE!**

Here at Mathern Mill, 2 miles outside Chepstow, we will have plenty to see and do for all the family. This is a grade 2\* listed watermill in the village of Mathern, NP16 6LG.

Our mill dates back beyond the 17th century but the machinery is Victorian, installed when an engine house was added to accommodate a steam engine for extra power. The engine has not survived but most of the machinery is still here. The mill is something of a time capsule, and whilst not operational, gives an excellent insight into how it would have been during its working life.

Mildred Cookson, Chairman of the SPAB Mills Section, says:

*"Mills have always been a focal point for communities. National Mills Weekend is always a wonderful family event - an opportunity for everyone to explore their local windmill or watermill, to learn about our rich milling heritage and its place in our landscape."*

We know a great deal about the people who lived and worked here from the earliest known miller, Joh'es Watkyn, in 1571 to the Harris family in 1969. There are fascinating stories to tell about the men and women of Mathern Mill but while the people changed the milling process remained essentially the same. Corn from the fields came to the mill to be ground into flour to provide the families of the local area with their daily bread.

The mill is owned by Dave and Jan Bowen who began opening it to the public in 2015 on



selected days throughout the summer.

*"We really enjoy showing the mill to people who are often surprised and delighted by what they find inside. Because it is unrestored the mill has an extraordinary atmosphere often commented on by our visitors. Mills Weekend is our largest event and this year we will be welcoming our 1000th visitor."*

We look forward to showing you our wonderful mill; there is no charge to visit!

If you are unable to make mills weekend we are open again on **Saturday 22nd June, 2-5pm**, and other days through the summer. Ring us for details.

We open for visits from groups and societies at other times and also do talks about the mill.

Contact us on **01291 622282** or email

**bowendf@btinternet.co.uk**



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Chepstow Library : Thursdays 1pm – 3.00pm**

*for more information or to book an appointment, contact*

**07584 509 259**

**penny.latham@natwest.com**



## Chepstow Male Voice Choir Busy As Always!!

The Choir welcomes new choristers and most recently Ash, plus Tom and Jack, returning to the choir after a break. The choir is adding some new songs to their repertoire so they are in learning mode at the moment.

Also new is the refreshed choir website [chepstowmvc.co.uk](http://chepstowmvc.co.uk) which supplements their Facebook page. If you ever consider joining the Choir then the website is a good starting point for information and will tell you who to call if you want to chat to someone first.

Recently, the choir was delighted to sing for the pupils of The Dell School to mark St David's Day. As well as hearing traditional Welsh songs the school children actively participated in the Grand Old Duke of York which went down particularly well, even though some of the choristers didn't know whether they were up or down with their clapping and arm raises up or down. It was great fun!

The choir is off on a weekend tour to Cornwall in October and amongst other activities will raise money for the RNLI through performing in their own concert in the Looe RNLI Boathall. They will also sing in Buckfast Abbey and join in a concert with Loveny MVC in St Neot.

**Before then of course is the Choir Summer Concert which will be at 7pm on Saturday 15th June at St Mary's Priory Church. Please put it on your calendar now!**



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### **Chepstow U3A Choir - Vacancy for a Accompanist**

Following the retirement of our dedicated accompanist in July 2019 the Chepstow U3A Choir is seeing a replacement to join us in September when we will be starting to learn our Christmas programme.

We meet Tuesday afternoons from 2pm-4pm in the Palmer Centre and we are a very friendly, happy group of choristers. Our Musical Director, Ted Darling, provides us with a varied programme, which we sing either in unison or in harmony, as appropriate.

We then perform 4 or 5 concerts at local care homes in November and early December. We are currently practising for our summer concerts which we will be performing in May and June.

If you would be interested in joining us as our Accompanist, please contact Anne Davies via email:

[amcdavies@btinternet.com](mailto:amcdavies@btinternet.com) or by phone on 01291 622970 for further information.



The Friends of Chepstow Library and the Friends of Chepstow Library Reading Garden are holding a

### **Plant Sale**

at Chepstow Library on

Friday 10 May 2019 from 10am until 4pm and  
Saturday 11 May 2019 from 10am until 12.30pm

All funds raised will help support the community work of these two Library voluntary groups

### **Mathern Mill Open Days**

**To celebrate National Mills Weekend on  
Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th May 2019**

This historic water mill in Mathern, nr Chepstow is open both days from 2-5pm.

With much of it's machinery intact there is plenty to see and do for all the family.

Entrance FREE.

Postcode NP16 6LG. Tel: 01291 622282

### **SHIREFEST**

**Saturday 15th June**

**The Huntsman, Shirenewton**

Please come along and support us in our charity music festival raising funds for Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, Cardiff and other charities.

Tickets are £10, and there will be transport home available to chepstow and caldicot.

#### **Line Up:**

##### **Indoors / outdoors**

2.15 Bob Evans / 2.30 The Tourists  
3.25 Tarion / 3.40 Something sultry  
4.35 Snow on the mountain / 4.50 Velvet Mangod  
5.45 Wyld Bird Seed / 6.00 Oceans  
6.55 Fat Dad / 7.10 King's Alias  
8.05 Maharaja Blues / 8.20 The Brightoner's  
9.30 Soul'd Out

#### **Function Room**

10.45 ish Big Sky

### **Gwent Wildlife Trust, Chepstow Group GRAND PLANT SALE & BAZAAR**

**SATURDAY 18 MAY 2019**

9.30am – 12.30pm

THE PALMER CENTRE, CORMEILLES SQUARE,  
CHEPSTOW NP16 5LH

Admission free

A great selection of plants of all kinds at bargain prices

Donations of plants welcomed, please contact Hilary on 01291 689326

For more information please visit  
[www.gwentwildlife.org](http://www.gwentwildlife.org)

### **Chepstow and District Garden Appreciation Society (CADGAS)**

**Wednesday 22 May 2019**

Mary Stevenson, Horticulturalist, Landscaper  
and Plantswoman will be giving a talk entitled

### **"Trees for Small Gardens"**

7.30pm Chepstow Leisure Centre All  
Welcome Visitors £4



### **Combined Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Clubs**

**Chepstow and Lydney**

**Together We Served**



### **There Is No Stronger Bond ...**

**Good Food, Good Company, Good Banter**

Meet First Saturday of Each Month - 09:30 hrs  
Watney Hall, 3 Hill Street, Lydney, GL15 5HW

Meet Third Saturday of Each Month - 09:30 hrs  
Two Rivers Pub/ Bistro, Newport Rd, Chepstow NP16 5PR

Contact: Ray Taylor 07745 043665 - Jim Wernock 07523 582945  
or alternatively please email: [cafbc@gmail.com](mailto:cafbc@gmail.com)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/686045528100851/>  
**Join a Breakfast Club near you!**

Bristol North - Bristol South - Bristol East - City of Bath - Chippenham  
Cheltenham - Stroud - Cirencester - Chepstow and Lydney - Monmouth and Ross

**JOIN US FOR A QUIZ AT TELL ME WINE**  
(Rifleman's way, Chepstow NP165EJ)  
**AND WIN A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE**  
**Thursday 16th of May - 6.30pm to 8pm**  
(and then every 3rd Thursday of each month)

**- Fee Entry: £2 per person for charity -**  
This month we have selected the « Kestrel Gymnastics Club »  
Help the club to restock fuel and repairs the damages after the theft and degradation of their tank and allow children to train in a health and safe environment again.

**Wine by the glass from £3 - Pint of Cider £2.50 - Beer bottles from £2.50**





## 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

**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 Men's Choir** meet in Mathern Village Hall on Mondays at 8.00 pm. New members welcome. Neil Jones 01291-628410

**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

**Movie Night** at Bulwak Community Centre and St Arvans Memorial Hall see 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 hello@monmouthshirepotters.org.uk

**Rotary Club of Chepstow and District** Secretary Geoff Sumner 01291 624758 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 tvmoran@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

**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.

**U3A** <http://www.u3asites.org.uk/chepstow> Discover 70 activity groups for the retired or semi retired. Make new friends. Contact Irene on 01291 629055

**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**

**Chepstow Methodist Church**, Albion Square, Chepstow, NP16 5DA 01291 627014 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

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

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

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

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

### BABY AND TODDLER GROUPS

**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

**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

**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

**Stroat Church Toddler Group** 10am on Thursdays, term time only 01594 529209 www.stroatchurch.org.uk

**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  
bluebellspg@outlook.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### PRIMARY SCHOOLS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**Chepstow School** Welsh Street, Chepstow, NP16 5LR 01291  
635777 www.chepstowschool.net

**Mountain House Special School** Mr P Absalom, Headteacher  
Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16 6LA, 01291 635642  
www.mountainhouse.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 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  
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 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



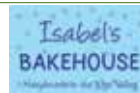
**First Stop Stationers**  
*Town centre printer with Fuji Photo Lab. Greetings cards, art & craft; stationery* 3 Library Place, One Manor Way, Chepstow NP16 5HZ T: 01291 623999 www.firststopstationers.co.uk



**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



**Mint and Mustard**  
*Fine Indian restaurant and street food*  
13-14 Nelson St, Chepstow NP16 5HT  
T: 01291 623222 www.mintandmustard.com



**Runway**  
*Independent boutique for ladies clothes, jewellery, shoes, handbags & accessories* 8 High Street, Chepstow NP16 5LH  
T: 01291 622033 www.runwaychepstow.com



**Scandia**  
*Shoes, accessories & gifts*  
35 Moor St, Chepstow NP16 5DE T: 01291 627272  
www.facebook.com/scandia-shoes

# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

## Supporting Local Business



**Sparkle**  
*Gifts & accessories*  
3A The Courtyard, St Mary's Arcade, Chepstow NP16 5EU  
T: 07872 349 011 [www.sparkleonlinestore.co.uk](http://www.sparkleonlinestore.co.uk)



**Stonerock Pizza**  
*Artisan Pizzeria & takeaway*  
9-10 Upper Church St, Chepstow NP16 5EX  
T: 01291 621616 [www.stonerockpizza.co.uk](http://www.stonerockpizza.co.uk)



**St Pierre Marriot**  
*Hotel & Country Club*  
St Pierre Park, Chepstow NP16 6YA  
T: 01291 625261 [www.marriottspierre.co.uk](http://www.marriottspierre.co.uk)



**St Tewdrics House**  
*19th Century Italianate Villa wedding venue*  
Mathern Rd, Chepstow NP16 6HX  
T: 07477 017537 [www.sttewdrichouse.co.uk](http://www.sttewdrichouse.co.uk)



**Tell Me Wine**  
*Quality wine shop, beers and spirits*  
Old Bell Chambers, Riflemans Way, Chepstow NP16 5EJ  
T: 01291 629670 [www.tellmewine.co.uk](http://www.tellmewine.co.uk)



**The Royal George Hotel, restaurant and pub**  
Main Road, Tintern, Monmouthshire NP16 6SF T: 01291 689205  
[www.theroyalgeorgetintern.co.uk](http://www.theroyalgeorgetintern.co.uk)

**Tyrell's Family Butchers**

**Tyrell's Family Butchers**  
*Local, quality meat & products at affordable prices; catering & takeaway*  
Beachley Road, Sedbury, Chepstow NP16 7AA  
T: 01291 621089 [www.tyrrellsfamilybutchers.co.uk](http://www.tyrrellsfamilybutchers.co.uk)



**Associated Professional Hypnotherapists** *Hypnosis helps with many problems, inc. weight, smoking, stress, confidence, insomnia*  
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 (Moira 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)



**Bevan-Evans & Capehorn Solicitors**  
Bevan-Evans House, 24 Moor Street, Chepstow NP16 5DB  
T: 01291 630180 [www.bevan-evansandcapehorn.co.uk](http://www.bevan-evansandcapehorn.co.uk)



**C & D Pest Control (BPCA registered)**  
*Commercial and domestic pest control services*  
Sedbury, Chepstow  
T: 07725 809853 [www.canddpestcontrol.co.uk](http://www.canddpestcontrol.co.uk)



**Cake House 21**  
*Celebration cakes for every occasion, fresh bakes, cupcake bouquets and cake pops*  
Bulwark, Chepstow T: 07904 212135 [www.facebook.com/21cakehouse21](http://www.facebook.com/21cakehouse21)

**Retail & Hospitality**

**Services**

# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

## Supporting Local Business

**Chepstow Beacon**

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*Independent, family owned newspaper*  
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# Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

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## Services

## Stuffed, Pickled & Pinned

Wonders of nature discovered in Welsh Museums in an exhibition just opened at Chepstow Museum - Last chance to see this special exhibition on its tour around Wales

**Chepstow Museum, Bridge Street, NP16 5EZ**  
Open daily 11am-4pm FREE ENTRY - Exhibition runs until July

Museums across Wales house some amazing natural treasures. Stuffed, Pickled and Pinned is a special exhibition which draws on just a tiny fraction of the rich natural science collections in 18 of those museums. The unusual and extraordinary come together in this 'cabinet of curiosities' which has just opened at Chepstow Museum, the final venue of this touring exhibition which has been travelling around Welsh Museums over the last few years.

The exhibition is the culmination of three years' work behind the scenes at local museums across Wales to find rare, beautiful and often unexpected natural history objects, some of which have never been seen before. The aim of the Linking Natural Science Collections in Wales project was to find about these collections and share information about them with the public. To do this, staff and volunteers in the museums worked with experts at Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales to examine and identify specimens and learn more about over 70,000 natural history objects in the regional museums across Wales.

Minerals, fossils, insects, taxidermy, bones, shells, plants and preserved animals – these amazing natural treasures help us to understand the world around us and our place within it. The exhibition explores the collections and how these specimens can still help to answer vital questions in modern research. It also challenges us to consider our relationship with nature and to consider humanity's impact on the natural world.

A delicate watercolour by Ladybird book illustrator Charles Tunnicliffe, a seaweed 'book' created inside a scallop shell, a fossil seashell found at the summit of Snowdon, a rare auroch's bone from the Severn estuary and a mummified cat, rub shoulders with rare curiosities from all four corners of the globe such as a stuffed platypus from Australia and a dessicated poisonous porcupine fish.

From our own collections at Chepstow Museum is a watercolour showing the stages of development in the life cycle of a Turnip moth drawn by Georgiana Ormerod to illustrate her more famous sister Eleanor Ormerod's work as an authority on insects that were harmful to agricultural crops. The sisters grew up at Sedbury Park, Chepstow, but Eleanor's career only began once her authoritarian father the antiquarian George Ormerod had died.

Visitors of all ages will be intrigued and amazed by the array of exhibits, and there is a special table with extra things to explore and activities specially designed for younger visitors. Don't miss this last chance to see this fantastic exhibition at its last stop on its tour around Wales.



Let people know you saw them in Chepstow Matters!

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Our Caldicot showroom is the perfect place to visit - walk away knowing more about which windows and doors may suit your needs and budget. We have a wide selection of home improvements on show including sash and casement windows in different colours, composite doors, uPVC doors and colour and tile choices.

### Our friendly team are on hand to help!

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

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**Friday 27th September**  
**An evening of MURDER & MYSTERY**

*Can you solve it? An interactive evening of "Who killed the ship's captain" based in the 1920's. Includes a delicious three course dinner. 1920's style dress optional. Tickets £30pp*



**Saturday 16th November**  
**A WINTER fundraising BALL**  
**in aid of Tŷ Hafan**

*Enjoy a two course dinner, casino tables and a fantastic DJ to dance the night away. The Chepstow & Caldicot Lions will be fundraising in aid of Tŷ Hafan. Formal Dress. Tickets £30pp*



**Saturday 26th October**  
**A night of HORROR (Adults only)**

*If you dare, be brave and come and have fun at our Phenomenal Halloween party where you will enjoy a fabulous night of fun!*

*(Fancy dress costume is a must!) Tickets £15pp*

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**Party Dates:**

*Saturday 7th,  
 Friday 13th,  
 Saturday 14th,  
 Friday 20th,  
 Saturday 21st (tbc).*



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