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Dear Readers...

Well I do hope that you all managed to stay warm and safe throughout the recent storms, as I sit writing this it is not feeling very much like spring! .

There is still lots going on in Chepstow and plenty to look forward to however. A new community initiative this year will see Chepstow making a return to the Swinging 60s! See more on how you can join in overleaf - and do make sure the date is in your diary!

Something else to look forward to is the Tutshill Scarecrow trail this Easter. Taking place from 28th March -17th April this is a fun activity for all ages whilst raising funds for local purposes. You can read more on page 18.

We have sporting updates from both the Chepstow Football (p22) and Chepstow Rugby Clubs (p24-25) and also a season preview from the Chepstow Cricket Club too (p36). We also have a report from the local Chepstow Schools as they collaborated on an Eco Summit held at Chepstow Comp in January.

We welcome new advertisers on board for this issue - Sullivan's Garden Machinery and FOD Flooring Solutions. Don't forget to keep it local and make use of our advertiser's services where you can, we couldn't bring you all the news and updates without their support - and don't forget to mention Chepstow Matters when you speak to them too!

Enjoy the read!

Jaci x

If you have a story to share or you are a business looking to promote your services across Chepstow and the surrounding villages in 2020 do get in touch and we will be happy to help.

Deadline for the April edition is 15th March.

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

www.mattersmagazines.co.uk/chepstow

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Local independent funeral director Martin Watts of Ian Watts & Son Ltd. in Gloucestershire & Monmouthshire has reported a massive increase in the numbers of funerals he has been asked to carry out.

Martin commented, *"My late Father started the family business in 1968 and each year we have seen rising numbers of bereaved people who have asked us to assist them."*

"However in recent years" Martin added, *"we have experienced a huge upsurge in the number of funerals we have been asked to arrange. Similarly we have seen a large growth in the numbers of funeral plans being placed with us. Our monumental and memorials work too increases every year."*

Martin attributes this steady business growth to several things. *"Firstly"* he said, *"we keep a personal involvement with every family with no hurrying."*

"Secondly, we are transparent about costs. It is an honour to be asked to help each and every person who contacts us – we will always ensure that we listen to what they want and make certain every funeral is as individual as their loved one was."

Business partner Jo Hume, in Monmouthshire said, *"Since Martin expanded his business into Wales in 2014, we have been overwhelmed by the numbers of people who have used our services. We provide free grant and benefits assistance together with bereavement support as we want to give something back to those who are placing great trust in us. We thank everyone who has contacted us."*

Pictured above is Martin Watts (second from right) with his son Luke Watts (far right) with several staff and three of Martin's new vehicle fleet.

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Chepstow will be heading back in time to Celebrate the Swinging Sixties this June ...

The newly formed Chepstow Events Team consists of a group of volunteers whose soul aim is to try and bring back some life to our little town of Chepstow.

Organisers of the extremely popular 'NASHVILLE DAY'; (which this year is planned for Saturday 22nd August), Chepstow Events Team is now able to share another exciting day planned for the town, with support from Chepstow Town Council.

SO..... put the date in your diary folks - Saturday 13th June, as we close the town centre to traffic and take Chepstow back to the swinging sixties !!!

Matters magazines asked a representative of the events team what is in planning for everyone to look forward too:

"Well, there will be fun stalls, mods & rockers, mini skirts, twisting competition, Lambrettas, 60s cars, & lots more, plus the 60s wouldn't be complete without 'The Beatles', who will be performing on the day and 'Elvis' came back from the army in the 60s,,, may he will join us too ?!?!? The first moon landing took place, ,, etc etc !!!! I think that may give everyone an idea of what we have in store !!"

This is an event for the whole community to enjoy, so we ask you all to join in the fun, get involved, shops decorate your windows (sixties style) and If anyone would like to dress up as a favourite sixties icon, let us know, (we promise to bring you into town in style !!!!)

Let's bring our wonderful town of Chepstow to life for the day !!!

SO, dig out your mini skirts, don your beehive and lets all have some fun !!!

***IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED , DRESS UP AND ARRIVE IN STYLE PLEASE CALL- 01291 627122.**



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A Night at the Museum!

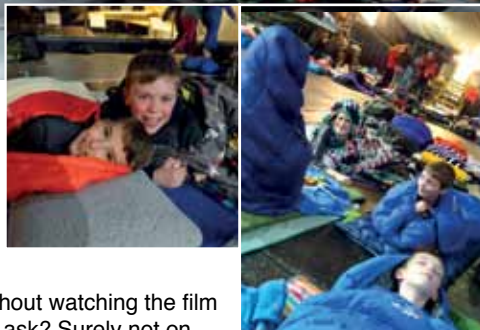
Cubs & Scouts from 1st Shirenewton teamed up with fellow Scouting members from London this weekend for an incredibly memorable experience - a real life "Night at the Museum".

66 youngsters and their leaders were admitted after hours to the Fleet Air Arm museum in Yeovil, for some fantastic activities lead by ex servicemen.

Parachutes were made and dropped from the floor above, with the idea that the precious cargo they were carrying would reach the target safely. Unfortunately many of the eggs landed with incredible force, but a few did indeed survive in tact. The second activity which was provided by the education team at the Fleet Air Arm, was to make and launch aircrafts from a simulated aircraft carrier which was met with great enthusiasm.

Of course no night in the museum would be complete without watching the film with the same name, but where did they sleep I hear you ask? Surely not on the stone floor of a hanger in the middle of winter and indeed in the middle of storm Ciara? However, when you pop Concorde over the top for protection who could resist?

All 86 members of the Scouting Association simply laid their bed rolls out, underneath the iconic aircraft for what is possibly the coolest sleepovers ever!!



World Downs Syndrome Day - 21st March

It was lovely to hear from local resident Mark Jones who wanted to let us know of an initiative to raise awareness of World Downs Syndrome Day, which this year takes place on 21st March.

"In 2002 my son, Dan, was born. He has Down's Syndrome. He is the life and soul of the family, supporting his local football team Lydney Town as well as Liverpool FC, taking a couple of trips to Anfield which he really enjoyed.

"In the last few years we noticed speech regression, and Dan now has a dual-diagnosis of Autism. This speech regression can be very frustrating for him, which is why I decided to take to social media to advocate on his behalf.

"I have designed some badges to raise awareness of World Down's Syndrome Day - 21st March. These are available from the brilliant Badgetastic (FB: @badgetasticinfo / E: info@badgetastic.com T: 07422 661970), a small company solely run by Michelle Clark. These are available in the run up to World Down's Syndrome Day, in the hope they lend a voice to those who need it."

Please support Dan (pictured top right with his grandad at Lydney FC and below on a visit to Anfield) and Mark this month by helping raise awareness of Downs Syndrome.

This year's Downs Syndrome Awareness Day is entitled 'We Decide', advocating that all people with Down syndrome should have full participation in decision making about matters relating to or affecting their own lives which is a core human rights principle. In reality, lack of understanding and negative attitudes can lead to people with Down syndrome being left behind and not having the opportunities to participate fully in decision making about matters relating to or affecting their lives. More can be found here www.worlddownsyndromeday2.org



All profits from individual sales of the WSDS badges will go to The Harvey Hext Trust- A siblings wish.

A non profit charity who supply individual bespoke Memory boxes and "Harvey" bears to children who have lost a sibling. They also organise social events for bereaved families in the South west. Reg charity number 1168844. They are also available to buy in bulk orders of 50 or more for other charitable fundraising.

WSDS 2020 pack of 5 badges for £5 is now available supporting our nominated charity. Please state postage option with order:
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New Year: Improved You! Elderfit Strength & Balance Classes

Chepstow Matters was pleased to catch up with Tom Scaife this month to find out more about the Elderfit strength and balance classes that are now taking place within the Palmer Centre on Friday mornings.

Elderfit was started by Tom and friend Gareth, who have worked together within the fitness industry for the past 18 years. Their aim is to improve the wellbeing of older people by offering fitness sessions which can be carried out by everyone, specifically designed using a variety of techniques to increase strength and balance to reduce the risk of falling. Exercises are adapted to individual's needs, to ensure that each participant feels the full benefits of the classes.

Elderfit also aims to strengthen upper body muscles, so that if a fall does happen you are more able to pull yourself back up. Creating independence is a key element to the classes, helping people re-discover their confidence and stability. The sessions also add a major social element to the week, bringing people together for the same reason. The majority of participants are between 40-90 years, but all ages and abilities are welcome.

Sessions are fun and rewarding and take place on a Friday morning at the Palmer Centre just off Chepstow High Street from 11:30am -12:15. Your first session is free and thereafter it is just £4 per session.

Tom told us: "Our classes are very different to others, using agility ladders, kettle bells, hurdles, suspension cables. It sounds a bit crazy but we have over 600 older people a week taking part across our venues, so they must enjoy it!"

For more information visit www.Elderfit.co.uk, call 07540 806 437 or email info@elderfit.co.uk

ELDER FIT



Weigh to go Simon Orgee! Slimmer shows people with diabetes CAN lose weight

Local resident Simon Orgee is celebrating after losing over 9 Stone in weight and no longer suffering from type 2 Diabetes.

Simon says "I was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes in 2004, and the doctor told me that I would need to take medication to manage it and that I also needed to control my weight to help. I was sent to see a Dietician at Chepstow Hospital. I didn't really listen and thought I could manage it all myself!" At that time I weighed 19 Stone 7lb.

"Being overweight impacted on so many aspects of my life, I was a pub landlord but the last thing I really wanted to do was be sociable. I was unable to do simple everyday tasks without feeling tired and out of breath. I always felt like I was lacking energy, I felt like I was on a slippery slope to gaining more and more weight and I didn't really see a way out!"

After a leaflet dropped on his doormat at the start of January 2017, Simon decided to join the new local Slimming World group in Tutshill. He says "Walking through those doors was one of the hardest things I have ever done, I was embarrassed about my size and scared that I would be the only man there. I needn't have worried. Everyone was so friendly (there were other men there too!) and my Consultant Amanda made sure I felt comfortable. I stepped onto the scales to see 23 Stone and 7lb, confirming I had not been able to manage my weight by myself at all. Since then my fellow members have become real friends and I honestly don't think I could have done it without their support each week."

With support from his diabetes care team, Simon followed the Slimming World's Food Optimising eating plan and started cooking healthy meals from scratch.

Today Simon has lost an incredible total of 9 Stone 3lbs and gone from 5XL to XL. He is also more active and has really been bitten by the walking bug.

"Thanks to the changes I've made, my health has improved dramatically. I no longer need to take any medication as the doctor says I show no symptoms of type 2 diabetes. I've got my life back and I couldn't be happier!"



Amanda Gibbon who runs the Tutshill Slimming World group, told us

"The changes we've seen in Simon are incredible. I hope his success will inspire other people in Tutshill and the Chepstow area. We look forward to meeting you and to helping you achieve YOUR slimming goals".

See the advert below for your local group and make 2020 the start of your new YOU!

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'Visitors Welcome to our Open House' You're invited!

Wye Knot Speakers, Chepstow's public speaking club is extending an open invitation to all who wish to develop their public speaking skills, prepare for a special occasion, or overcome a fear of speaking, to come to an Open House event.

Wye Knot Speakers is part of Toastmasters International, a not-for-profit educational and leadership programme, that operates around the globe. Set up just 15 months ago in Chepstow the club, which is open to visitors at any meeting, is hosting a special event tailored to demonstrate how the club works and supports its members development.

Club President, Charlotte Hitchings, explains:

"Our club has members from all walks of life, and they come for very different reasons. For some it is to prepare for a presentation at work, or to represent their own businesses, whereas for more experienced speakers it may be to refine their public speaking skills or practice for competitions. For others it may be to overcome a paralyzing fear of speaking in public."

"Wye Knot Speakers offers a safe, friendly environment in which to practice and perfect speaking skills."

"We provide mentors for new members to help them through the early stages of their journey and there is a structured programme that people can adapt to suit their individual needs."

The free event is taking place on Wednesday 11th March at 7.15pm at The Greenman Backpackers in Beaufort Square, Chepstow.

Charlotte adds: *"I would urge people to come along and experience a club evening. We have a lot of fun and many of our nervous new members find they pick up an amazing range of skills incredibly quickly."*



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On the first day of this term, the children enjoyed an interactive cookery workshop to launch their new food study topic, Yum Yum.

As part of the school's creative curriculum, the youngsters will be learning about sustainability, how to make eco-friendly and healthy food choices and take part in educational visits to local farms.

Last term, on their first day back at school, the boys and girls were greeted with a stunning woodland scene after their playground was completely transformed.

Children learned about geographical features, animal classification, hibernation and much more during the popular study topic, A Walk in the Woods.

"Our dedicated and hard-working team always spend a great deal of time transforming the school into an inspirational learning environment," said Mr Matt Wren, Senior Deputy Head at the Pre-Prep.

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MONEY, MONEY, MONEY – PRIZES FOR YOUR ORGANISATION – A BRAND NEW COMMUNITY DRAW

Do you support or help with a non-profit making organisation, perhaps a charity? If so, here is a clever idea through which you can raise funds for your group. Imagine a Draw where all of the organisations selling the tickets keep ALL the profits [Regards,] while someone else provides ALL the prizes. It does sound too good to be true but that is exactly what your local Rotary Clubs have been doing for some time.

Last year 25 different organisations raised over £8000 using the Rotary Community Draw. This will be the fifth year that the Draw has been run and over the past four years local charities and other non-profit groups have raised over £40,000 supporting their activities. The Monmouthshire Rotary Clubs of Monmouth, Abergavenny and Chepstow & District are again running this Community Draw that will take place at the Monmouth Raft Race on September 6th, 2020. Rotary clubs are providing all of the prize money and will be organising the event while the ticket sellers will keep every penny they raise for their chosen group.

At this stage all that is required is for volunteers from local non-profit making organisations, including charities, to simply contact their local Rotary Club member whose details are below and advise on how many tickets they require. The tickets will show the organisation it is supporting. In due course they will inform Rotary of how many tickets they have sold while returning the unsold tickets and the counterfoils that, of course, go into the Draw. Remember that the Draw is open to any non-profit organisation; you do not have to be a registered charity. This is a very ingenious idea

Friday 8th May 2020 **Beaufort Square** **2pm - 4pm**

75 VE DAY 75th ANNIVERSARY

Chepstow Town Council is participating in VE 75 to celebrate / commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe. With an afternoon of entertainment.

During the event we would like to display your stories and photos of residents who may have had any family or friends involved military or domestically in any conflict.

Please email the office via admin@chepstow.co.uk and we will arrange to collect your stories and pictures

and one that can benefit your organisation and you will have some four months to sell the tickets.

The 2020 schedule is:

By 31st March - Advise a Rotary Club that you wish to participate

By week of 13th April - Collect Draw tickets from the Club

Week of 17th August - Return Draw counterfoils to the Club

6th September - Draw at the Raft Race

So, if you would like to learn more about this Draw then simply contact the appropriate club contact below for additional details.

Contacts:

Monmouth Rotary
Bob Handley, rotarymonmouth@gmail.com
Chepstow Rotary
Paul Durrant – bristolclothingco@btconnect.com
Abergavenny Rotary
Don Cecil – don@doncecil.com

As they say, grab a bargain.....

Chepstow Pupils Gather for Eco Summit

Representatives from each of the Chepstow schools got together for an Eco Summit meeting at Chepstow Comprehensive School on Friday 17th January.

The children worked collaboratively to discuss and learn more about the environmental impacts of food, transport, clothing, energy, deforestation and global goals. The children also considered what actions they could be taking themselves, along with their family, friends and teachers, to reduce their impact in these areas, such as: walking to school, donating old clothes, buying food locally, responsible use of energy, community planting initiatives and litter picking to reduce the effects on marine life.

After generating and sharing information together, they returned to their respective schools with their ideas and intend to start putting them into practice.

The meeting was attended by approximately 24 pupils and their teachers from The Dell, St. Mary's, Thornwell, Pembroke and Shirenewton Primary Schools, in addition to Chepstow Comprehensive.

Sue Parkinson and Rebecca Blount, Monmouthshire County Council Waste and Recycling Education and Awareness Officers attended for support, along with a member of Transition Chepstow. The children had prepared questions for Sue and Rebecca to answer in relation to what causes climate change and what measures they could take at school and at home to help slow it down.

Said Donna Shewan of the Dell School, "This was a very worthwhile activity. The children all conducted themselves maturely and demonstrated clear concern for the environment and our local community and are also committed to taking action."



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National School Categorisation - Pembroke Primary School

Pembroke Primary School is very proud that its achievements have been recognised by Welsh Government - moving the school from 'yellow' to **GREEN** category for 2019/20.

The categorisation process is very rigorous with standards of learning, school improvement processes and leadership being at the core of what make a 'Green' school.

Much of the focus was around improving leadership across the whole school, with every member of our community being considered a leader in some way – pupils, staff, governors, families and the community.

Everyone has the same goal – 'To Be the Best We can be!'



Step 2 (Improvement Capacity)	Step 3
A	Green

'A highly effective school, which is well run, has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvement. These schools have a track record in raising the standards that pupils achieve and have the capacity to support other schools to do better.'

Headteacher Mrs Helen Hampson says that an awful lot of work and dedication has been put into improving standards of learning with continued emphasis on Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competency, as well as ensuring that the children are happy, with Health and Well-being high on the agenda. The school will continue to challenge themselves and embrace the changes of the new curriculum to ensure that the children become ready for their lives ahead and are life-long-learners.

Come and see why
St John's is rated 'Excellent'
in all categories

Open Mornings: Friday 6th March 9-11am | Friday 15th May 9-11am

ISI Inspection Report 2019

- Pupils academic and other achievements are excellent.
- Pupils are highly motivated and embrace opportunities.
- Pupils are highly articulate, eloquent and confident.
- The wide and well-planned curriculum supports all.

For further information please contact:

admissions@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk



Tutshill, Chepstow NP16 7LE.
Tel: 01291 622045
email: admissions@stjohnsonthehill.co.uk
www.stjohnsonthehill.co.uk

A co-educational day and boarding school welcoming children from 3 months to 13 years

The Big Garden Bird Watch at Pembroke Priary School

The staff and pupils at Pembroke Primary have had a great couple of weeks celebrating The Big Garden Bird Watch. Children have been involved in providing homes for nature, identifying birds, collecting data and sketching the birds identified within our school grounds.

The Big Garden Bird Watch is a national initiative led by the RSPB to encourage people to watch and record the birds in a local green space to help the RSPB better understand how our feathered friends are doing.

We are fortunate to have wonderful grounds at Pembroke and the children thought carefully about the most suitable areas to sit and observe the birds using the RSPBs online counting tool. We then submitted our results providing a vital snapshot of the UK's winter birds so the RSPB can monitor trends and find out how our garden birds are doing.

Year Five have created their own database of birds. Much time was spent discussing the fields that we could populate for each species such as name, wingspan, length, clutch size, lifespan, diet, habit etc, images were also included.

The children have also decided to continue this topic as part of their home learning, showing their enjoyment of this topic.

It has been wonderful for children to identify the variety of birds that have appeared on our school grounds, with the common gulls definitely being the most confident and very greedy and always showing up on our school yard after lunch.



AN AFTERNOON OF ENTERTAINMENT
Join us to celebrate the 75th anniversary of
VE day- Friday 8th May 2020 in Beaufort
Square from 2pm



Bring a chair, a picnic and participate in the
nations toast to the hero's of WW2

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St Mary's Arcade, Chepstow



Name the Children's Book Titles on the Tutshill Scarecrow Trail

The annual scarecrow trail will be open once again at Tutshill, with yet more excitements and intriguing challenges to suit all ages.

For 3 weeks from **Saturday 28th March until Friday 17th April** the sound of families eagerly debating the name of the many scarecrows will be heard all around the route. Some scarecrows have been made by the householders themselves and others have been made by residents, schools or groups, businesses and clubs based in the area but off the route. These are kindly hosted in other people's gardens. The variety and design of this year's scarecrows is ingenious; ranging from traditional book titles known and loved across the generations, to the many popular books available more recently.

THE ROUTE starts at the local Lifestyle Express store on the Beachley Road (NP16 7YB), where you collect the quiz sheet, winds its way round the village and ends up at St Luke's Church Tutshill where there is a special post box. Look out for the bright posters.

Funds raised by the sale of the quiz sheets this year include a donation to Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA) and other parish activities. Everyone can choose their favourite scarecrow when they buy a quiz sheet, and the one with the most votes will be awarded a prize.

The RESULTS SHOW LIVE event will be at the spacious Tutshill Church on 18th April from 2.30-4pm, taking advantage of the church's refurbishment, which allows for community events like this. There the quiz prize winners will be announced and also the title of the favourite scarecrow, as decided by those who bought a quiz sheet. There will be an afternoon of crafts, childrens' activities, and delicious refreshments for all Scarecrow Trailers, young and old.

The event attracts more visitors every year with people from all parts of Britain as well as overseas walking the route and guessing the name of the 30 or so scarecrows so come along and join in the fun. Last year over 600 quiz sheets were sold!!

The organising team are grateful for the marvellous support of the whole community. Jane Penny, Children and Families Minister for the Tidenham Parish said *"There is a lot of hard work and community good will and partnership put into getting this competition ready, including making, hosting, collating the entries, designing & printing the trail sheets, marking the answer sheets and helping with the Results Show. On behalf of the Vicar of the Parish and the team I would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone."*



Income Flexibility in Drawdown

Did you know that over-55s in drawdown can vary the amount of income they receive? If you didn't realise that was a possibility, you're certainly not alone, as a recent YouGov survey commissioned by Zurich¹ discovered.

Despite income flexibility being a key feature of drawdown, the survey revealed that more than half (52%) of over-55s taking an income in drawdown are unaware they can reduce their withdrawals, and a greater number (56%) didn't know that they can stop them altogether. It's not surprising to learn that for those who don't take financial advice, the findings are even more bleak, with just 35% of non-advised retirees aware they can reduce their drawdown income.

Need to Know

This research highlights a critical gap in awareness. There is a real danger to this ignorance as it puts investors unwittingly at risk of draining their pension pots if stock markets fall. Referred to as 'pound-cost-ravaging', this is where people are forced to sell more investments to achieve unsustainable income levels.

Taking a fixed level of income could leave people unable to sustain their pots throughout their retirement. Drawdown provides the flexibility to move your income up or down as your spending needs change or as markets fluctuate. You may perhaps choose to revert to natural income for a while.

Take Control

Engaging with your drawdown savings is vitally important. Don't make complex choices in drawdown without fully understanding how it works. We're here to help you plan effectively.



Dr Josh Lewis
 MBChB MBA MRCGP DipFA MLIBF ACSI
 CertPFS CII(MP)
Director

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Mobile: 07979 157259
Chepstow: 01291 626373
Abergavenny: 01873 854488

Email: joshlewis@thinkpositive.co.uk
 Web: www.iamfinancial.net

¹ Zurich, June 2019

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AT 2 PM
ADMISSION £3

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15

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 NSP £39.99

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 NSP £3.99

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New Look at the Burnt Barn Social Club, Bulwark

It was lovely to be invited along to the Burnt Barn Social Club in the New Year to see the end result of the new build and refurbishment works that took place during 2019. I met up with long-term Officer of the Club Bob Beckett who showed me around the fabulous new space.

"We felt the Club had gone as far as it could in its current size of premises" Bob explained "We had money in the bank which was earning next to nothing in interest so thought investing in the premises so that it could offer much more to the community was more worthwhile." With 100% support from the Committee, Club Secretary, Bob, and Chairman, Neville, set about planning the new space. Local club member John Morgan, a builder by trade, took on the 'Project Manager' role, organised the materials and brought in local labour to help with the initial build. Bob and Neville were responsible for the internals, and coming up with the theme of 'The Barn' aesthetic and carrying out as much of the works themselves as they could manage.

On discovering how costly buying in the envisioned furniture could be, old brewery barrels were sourced directly from Scotland and then treated, trimmed up with the metal and internal lighting on site. Table tops were hand made for a truly rustic feel and hey presto some great looking tables! The light casings were made from old wheels and the lights over the pool tables and towards the dart boards were fashioned to look like upside down pig troughs! Add in some authentic stable props and the overall effect is really impressive. Of particular note is the internal steel railings (above right) and the blind across the window (above centre) which gives the farm yard view, catching your eye as you enter through the new and improved Club entrance. Also new is the male, female and disabled toilet facilities which is another great improvement for the Club. There is a new, spacious darts area, much appreciated by the Men's and Ladies darts teams which play weekly at the Club, as well as the extended skittle alley which is also available for external hire to non members. Great idea for a work or club night out!

With Phase I of the refurbishment now completed, Bob is looking forward to continuing the effort through 2020 with the completion of the garden area and another new build project, the offices/function room being built in the car park.

Phase III is also planned, which will consist of an extension to the current main function hall enabling an additional 50+ seats so that larger weddings (120+) and social functions can be accommodated.

The Burnt Barn Social Club is a private members club, with membership just £10 per adult (£8 for seniors 65+). It is a busy club with active teams of Skittles, Darts and Pool and it's facilities are also available for external hire (see main advert opposite).



Burnt Barn Community (Sports) & Social Club

Burnt Barn Road, Chepstow NP165AR

Club Activities:

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

The Club has FREE WiFi

Club Associates:

Little Acorns Playgroup
 9.15-12.45 Mon-Fri in term time only
 Contact: Kelly 07999 357600

Slimming World Tues - 5.30pm
 Contact: Carol 07988 598447

Opening times:

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

Large function hall available for hire for all types of parties / gatherings

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

Resident disco and catering available.

Annual Membership:

£10 per adult / £8 for Seniors 65+

Email: beckett012@btinternet.com
 T: 01291 626090 / M: 07850 534 370
www.burntbarnclub.co.uk



Chepstow Town Football Club

It has been a tough few weeks for the senior teams since the start of the new year!

Whilst the First Team picked up just the one point out of a possible 12, this didn't reflect a great effort from our youthful team in games against sides above them in the table. They will learn from the experience and the management team is hopeful of a return to their earlier winning form. The Reserves also had mixed fortunes gaining just one point from a possible 9. The Third team have been the most successful recently with two wins out of three including moving into the semi final of the Fishwick Cup.



Photos courtesy of Gareth O'Sullivan Photography

The home ground at Larkfield Park has undergone a number of improvements, including a brand new 100 seat covered stand. First Team home fixtures are advertised on a board outside the Two Rivers Hotel. Supporters, both regulars and new, are always welcome and the players really appreciate their vociferous support. The clubhouse has a well stocked bar and is open for refreshments on match days.

Contributing to the football future! Over 3 million active female players and growing!

Chepstow Town FC is steeped in history with generations of male football players, we are in the 21st Century so why not give the girls a chance? The South Wales Girls League was established in 1994 and was the largest league in Wales. The FAW Women's strategy has a target of 20,000 affiliated players by 2022 and we wanted to help them get to that figure.

What started as one of the dads giving into his daughters demands and inviting friends, we have evolved and now at the point where we are playing competitive football and entering team/s into the SWWGL League.

We currently have two teams registered U13 & U15's consisting of over 45 girls! Whatever the weather, come rain or shine, they attend weekly training & games. We recognise by playing Football, it has helped our girls with improved self-confidence, self-esteem, wellbeing, feelings of togetherness, motivation and life skills!



We have a fantastic coaching team consisting of parents and volunteers. Along with our team Sponsors who help fund kit and equipment needed and with the continued support from the girls/families we wouldn't be here doing what the girls love.

The best thing about the girls playing football at Chepstow is that they leave all their other worries at home. Whatever's happening, it's gone when they step on the pitch. It's an opportunity to create another group of friends and family!

Anyone interested in more information can get in touch via our social media pages.

Facebook: [chepstowtownafc](#) & [chepstow town jfc official](#)

Twitter: [@ChepstowTownAFC](#)

Sullivans Garden Machinery

When we describe ourselves as a family business – we mean it.



We are a small but efficiently run family business with over 70 years' experience in the Garden Machinery Trade. We like it that way, and our customers love dealing with a family team whose heart and soul really is in the business.

We offer Sales, Service and Repair on a wide variety of garden machinery and tools, from ride-on mowers to chainsaws, strimmers and hedge cutters.

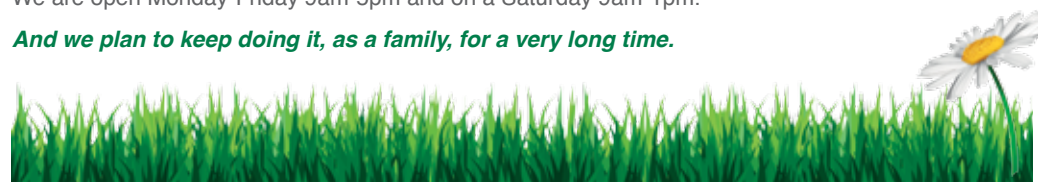
Our customer base has been built over time, many of which choose us over and over again because of our honest, down to earth advice and our quick response to breakdowns and repairs throughout the season. We are based in spacious premises in Thornbury, next to The Sort It Centre.

We have maintenance contracts with a number of schools, as well as customers both sides of the Severn who demand the best standard of care for their machinery.

Quite simply, we offer the best choice of both new and reconditioned lawnmowers and garden machinery in the local area, plus unbeatable customer service.

Why not pop in and see us at our Showroom in Thornbury?
We are open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and on a Saturday 9am-1pm.

And we plan to keep doing it, as a family, for a very long time.



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Atco GT 36H Garden Tractor
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SHOWROOM: Unit D3, Ashville Park, Short Way, Thornbury BS35 3UU

OPEN: Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm; Saturday 9am - 1pm

www.gardenmachinerysuperstore.co.uk • enquiries@gardenmachinerysuperstore.co.uk

Chepstow RFC 1st VXI

Chepstow 1st VXI started 2020 sat at the top of the League, with three games during January.

Chepstow RFC 79 Vs Blackwood Stars RFC.

Top of the table Chepstow hosted bottom club Blackwood Stars in what turned out to be a one-sided affair.

From the kick off Chepstow gathered the ball and made immediate inroads into their opposition's 22 metre area. The move saw Nick Williams go under the posts for the first try, converted by Jonathan Thomas. More tries followed from Josh Adams, Andrew Morris, Wayne Morgan and Ben Horder, with Jonathan Thomas converting two of them. The home pack was well on top and debutant Hooker, Andrei Sterpu was next on the score sheet, picking up from a ruck and crashing through would be tacklers to go under the posts. Jonathan Thomas again added the conversion. Just before half-time a sweeping move from the home backs saw Sam Thomas cross the whitewash and then convert his own try. H-T 45-0.

The second half started slowly with Blackwood enjoying some rare possession inside their opponents half. But the home defence held out and eventually made their way down the field and into the visitor's territory. Andrew Morris got his second try from a rolling maul, and Ben Horder crossed for his second shortly after. Lee Kelley then scored two tries in a row, one converted by Sam Thomas. In fairness to Blackwood, their heads



never dropped and they kept fighting right to the end. But it was Chepstow that ended the game as they started, with Ben Horder scoring his third and fourth tries of the day, one converted by Ashley Mustoe, to make the final score 79-0.

Nantyglo RFC 33 Vs Chepstow RFC 7.

A depleted Chepstow side came crashing back down to earth against a strong Nantyglo side, who now replace them at the top of the table. With 6 players unavailable for selection, Chepstow struggled to match the opposition pack and therefore had little good possession to work with. They were 14-0 down at

the break and things didn't get much better with injuries forcing Nick Williams, Christian Griffiths and Morgan Freeman to leave the field in the second half. The home side capitalised on this and went into a 26-0 lead before Chepstow's man of the match, Ashley Mustoe scored a try, converted by Brad Bamford. Nant had the last say with a converted try to make the final score 33 - 7.

Division 3 East B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Fleur de Lys RFC	13	11	1	1	408	114	55
2 Nantyglo RFC	13	11	0	2	422	114	54
3 Chepstow RFC	14	11	0	3	424	215	52
4 Whiteheads RFC	12	8	0	4	330	162	42
5 Trinant RFC	11	8	1	2	338	129	40
6 Newport Saracens RFC	13	8	0	5	375	153	40
7 New Tredegar RFC	13	8	0	5	272	183	37
8 Aberbargoed RFC	12	4	0	8	163	263	19
9 Hafodyrnyns RFC	14	3	1	10	216	415	19
10 New Panteg RFC *	13	3	0	10	125	509	12
11 St Julians HSOB RFC	13	0	1	12	137	397	6
12 Blackwood Stars RFC*	13	0	0	13	56	612	-1

Chepstow RFC Vs 28 Trinant RFC 16.

Chepstow bounced back from their loss away to Nantyglo the previous Saturday with a hard fought victory against promotion rivals Trinant. The game started at a frantic pace, with the home side camped in the opposition 22 metre area. From a well won lineout, the ball was moved along the back line for wing, Ben Horder to cross in the corner for the first score of the game. From the kick off, Trinant collected the ball and their inside centre beat a number of defenders to even the score



at 5-5. This score seemed to spur the visitors on and they went into the lead with a well struck penalty after Chepstow were caught offside at a ruck. The hosts then struck back with Jonathan Thomas scoring their second try of the day. The teams exchanged penalties just before half time, to make the score 13-11 in Chepstow's favour at the break. The first quarter of the second half was

all Trinant, but the home defence held firm and they eventually got out of their half and after some clever interplay between backs and forwards, Ben Horder crossed for his second try, which was converted by Jonathan Thomas. Trinant put the pressure on once again and this time were rewarded with a close range try to bring them within a score at 20-16. Chepstow took the game back to their opponents and we're awarded a penalty, which Jonathan Thomas slotted between the sticks. With time running out, veteran prop Wayne Morgan put the game to bed with a try from a rolling maul to make the final score 28-16.

There are 8 fixtures left of the season, Chepstow need to keep their winning streak, if they want to see promotion this season. As we went to print the next game was due to be at New Tredegar on 15th February.

Come on down to Chepstow RFC on a Saturday afternoon to support your local team.

Photos © 2020 Going2Press

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MOTHER'S DAY, 22ND MARCH!

Bargain Booze

Prices are correct at the time of going to print. Offers are available from 25.02.20 to 23.03.20 unless otherwise stated, subject to availability, while stocks last, E&OE. Maximum purchase may apply on certain products, see in store for details. All was prices are based on the lowest maximum usual selling price implemented across our stores. Please note that not all varieties/packs are stocked in all stores. Promotional prices available at participating stores only. We operate a challenge 25 policy. Enjoy Responsibly.

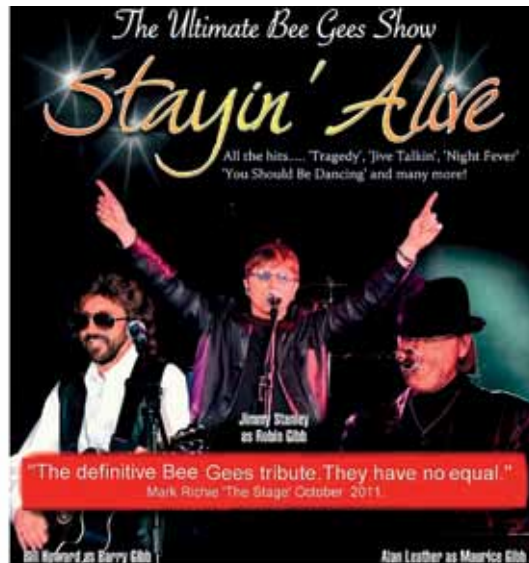
drinkaware.co.uk for the facts

Opening Times:
Monday - Saturday: 9am-9pm
Sunday: 12pm - 8pm

Unit 2A Bridge Court
55 Bulwark Road, Bulwark
Chepstow NP16 5JW
Tel: 01291 623199



The Ultimate Bee Gees Show
Stayin' Alive
 All the hits... 'Tragedy', 'Live Talkin'', 'Night Fever', 'You Should Be Dancing' and many more!



Jimmy Stanley as Robin Gibb
Alan Leather as Maurice Gibb

"The definitive Bee Gees tribute. They have no equal."
 Mark Riches 'The Stage' October 2011


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BASH

CHEPSTOW DRILL HALL
 Saturday 21st March 19:00 - 22:30

CHEPSTOW DRILL HALL
 Saturday 18th April 19:00 - 22:30

THE JERSEY QUARTET
 FEATURING THE SMASH HIT BOYS FROM THE FRANKIE SINATRA AND THE FOUR SEASONS



This all star West End cast features performers who have been in the smash hit musical THE JERSEY BOYS & other musicals.

The Jersey Quartet have recently been nominated for a time out 2019 Dubai for best theatrical production and have been lucky enough to have toured all over the world.

Tickets £18.00 (plus booking fee)
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JAMES ARTHUR
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SATURDAY 6TH JUNE
 TICKET INCLUDES A FULL DAY'S RACING
 FOLLOWED BY A JAMES ARTHUR LIVE PERFORMANCE



Soulful superstar and number one artist James Arthur will be playing live at Chepstow Racecourse on Saturday 6th June!

After an exciting day of racing, James will join us straight from his massive European tour to play all his best-known hits, like 'Impossible,' 'Quite Miss Home' and 'Say You Won't Let Go'.

The racecourse will also be joined by Capital FM drivetime presenters Josh and Kally!

With stunning views across the Welsh countryside and the horses thundering past you to the finish line, thoroughly enjoy your day at the races before you letting your hair down for a night of amazing music. If you are looking for things to do in Wales this summer, this event can't be missed at South Wales' premier outdoor venue.

Save by booking through the racecourse, with tickets just £37.50 for all the top-quality Welsh racing plus the brilliant James Arthur live on stage. Get your tickets at Chepstow-racecourse.co.uk or by calling 01291 622260.

Wednesday 25th March 2020

Chepstow and District Garden Appreciation Society (CADGAS)

"Dig For Victory" - talk by Fiona Warin, Allotment Officer, Cheltenham Borough Council

7.30pm Chepstow Leisure Centre
 All Welcome Visitors £4

THE PENTERRY PROMS:
11 July 2020

Date for your diary:
The Penterry Proms
Saturday 11 July 2020, 7.30pm.

Entrance from 6.30pm to set up your picnic rugs, tables chairs, candelabra etc! (Hopefully umbrellas won't be needed, but the team do have 14 marquees in reserve!). This is a repeat of a beautiful occasion and lovely community event held 15 years ago with the Penterry Philharmonic and associated musical guests (see attached photo).

Tickets will be £15 adults and £5 children with any proceeds going to Penterry Church restoration fund and SARA. Tickets can be reserved with Laura Kelway-Bamber - tickets@penterryproms.co.uk



GWENT WILDLIFE TRUST

Wednesday 18th March 2020

"Focus on Nature - a Wildlife Photographer's Year" - an illustrated talk by Chris Hatch, Vice-President of the Gwent Wildlife Trust. Chris always has beautiful photographs to share and not only that, he has wonderful stories to tell about all kinds of wildlife.

All above events 7.30pm, Chepstow Leisure Centre.
 £3.00 entry, refreshments provided.
 For more information please contact Hilary on 01291 689326.

Saturday 16th May 2020, 9.30am to 12.30pm
ANNUAL PLANT SALE at the Palmer Community Centre, Corneilles Square, Chepstow. Free entry.

The Gwent Wildlife Trust's Chepstow Group will again be hosting their ever-popular Annual Grand Plant Sale and Bazaar. All excellent value, there will be a wide range of small shrubs and perennial garden plants, with annuals and vegetable plants also available. Plus experienced gardeners on hand to advise!

Donations of plants welcome. For more information please contact Hilary on 01291 689326.

Tintern Village Hall



Table Sale & Bric-a-Brac Fair
Sunday 15th March
11.00 am to 4.00 pm
Free entry

Tables only £7

Bric-a-Brac
 Local produce
 Books

Local crafts
 Toys
 and more....

Light refreshments and tasty bakes available

To book a table call 07512 856024
 Follow us at Tintern Village Hall

Cash only



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

Citizens Advice Monmouthshire County, The Gate House, High Street, Chepstow NP16 5LH

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

Adult Community Learning Wydean School Beachey Road, Sedbury NP16 7AA 01291 625340 www.wydean.gloucs.sch.uk

Bulwark Senior Citizens Club Contact Gil Shackley 01291 637437 weekly activities, various social trips and get togethers.

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, Mounton and Pwllmeyric Villages in Bloom Meet 7pm last Thur of the month, bi-monthly (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov) Mathern Village Hall email: mmpvb@btinternet.com

Movie Night at Bulwark 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 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

Tidenham Historical Group meets from Sept-April last Tues of the month, 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

Stroat Church, Gloucester Road, Stroat, Chepstow, NP16 7LR 01594 529209 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 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. Every Weds 10-11.45. First session free. T: Ami Cooper 0788 668 0262 E: ami_balance@yahoo.co.uk

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

NURSERIES / PRESCHOOLS

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

Chepstow Leisure Centre Playgroup 07591 356101
chepstowleisurecentreplaygroup@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

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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

Mounton House Special School Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16
6LA, 01291 635050 www.mountonhouse.org.uk/

Wydean School 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
markb1228@hotmail.com 01291 622126

Chepstow Cycling Club www.chepstowcyclingclub.wales/
Chepstow Darts League contact Nigel Wright - nigel64.nw@
gmail.com

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

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

Chepstow Ladies Hockey www.pitchero.com/clubs/
chepstowladieshockeyclub 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 Taekwondo Monday and Thursday evenings. Age
4+ chepstowtkd.org.uk Contact Tom Baxter 07590 847662

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

St Arvans Taekwon-Do Club runs every Monday and
Thursday from 4:30 for ages 4+. At St Arvans Memorial Hall.
Contact: st_arvans_tkd@yahoo.com or tel: 07707 801150

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. If you are interested in joining us email secretary@chepstowchamber.com for further information. www.chepstowchamber.com / www.facebook.com/ChepstowAGreatPlaceTo



What's the latest on the High Street?

There has been some bad press regarding Chepstow High Street in recent weeks but it's not all doom and gloom, with a lot of positive activity taking place in the background and in the pipeline. Julian Bladen of Bladen Property Consultants brings us up to date with some of the latest developments:

Retail wise, the former estate agents at 27 High Street is under offer and the new owners could be open in Spring 2020. The former Pound Shop, 21 High Street, is also under offer to a national retailer and is also due to open in the spring. Unit 3 Conrad House on Beaufort Square is under offer with an exciting new enterprise for Chepstow.

The former Herbert Lewis store will soon be the focus of attention as we consider the options for the building. It is likely to be split into two separate units with some residential above. Architects for the scheme will be appointed in the near future.

The former Countrywide Stores building at Larkfield is now under offer to four separate retailers.

This is all good news for Chepstow – more details to follow in due course.



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T: 07342 05355 (Anne Winfield); www.barclays.com



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Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

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Chepstow & Caldicot Lions

Ty Hafan Presentation

In early December the Club President and Immediate Past President presented a cheque for £1,010.00 to Helen Morgan, Senior Fund Raising Manager of Ty Hafan. During the subsequent tour of the hospice it was very humbling to see the work that the staff carry out in caring for the children in such unfortunate circumstances. (see photo Ty Hafan right - Pictured left to right - Lion Brian Prout, Helen Morgan & President Glyn Williams standing in front of the Funding Tree).



Plastic In The Ocean

On 23rd January the Club hosted a presentation evening at Mounton Brook Lodge for members of all Primary Schools in our area. There was a very good turnout on the part of the teachers with ten schools sending representatives (see photo above left - Teachers). A total of twenty six sets of books were issued and our picture shows members of the Dell School proudly showing off their books (photo above right).

Lions To The Rescue?

On a quiet Sunday morning Club members descended on the SARA Rescue Station at Beachley. Following a guided tour of the station given by Ron Harris, Station Manager, the Club were pleased to present to SARA a C.P.R. dummy and AED Training Monitor.



We had not realised the wide range of rescue tasks that are covered by the SARA members, including inland water and flood rescue, land searches cliff and steep ground rescue and NHS ambulance support in times of bad weather. It really was an informative visit given in a typically understated manner.

Don't forget, just like the Lions, they are always looking for funds and new members!



Chepstow Cricket Club 2020 season preview

Preparations are underway for what promises to be an exciting season for Chepstow Cricket Club. A successful 2019 season saw the 1st XI win the South East Wales Cricket League and earn promotion to the South Wales Premier Cricket League.

The 1st XI start the season with an away trip to Ynystawe Cricket Club, Swansea. They also play fixtures against Carmarthen Wanderers CC and Gorseinon CC as well as more familiar opponents in Newbridge CC and Malpas CC.

Chepstow will retain its youthful 1st XI squad, led again by captain Jason Dobbie, who is looking forward to getting started: *"Several younger members of the squad played key roles in us winning the league last season and this will do them the world of good as we play in the South Wales Premier League this season. We're looking forward to a new challenge."*

Chepstow will again be an 'All Stars Cricket' centre in 2020 aimed at boys and girls aged 5-8 to introduce them to the sport. New for this summer the club will also be hosting 'Dynamo Cricket', a brand-new programme designed for children aged 8-11 years old.

The Club will also continue to run youth sides at Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 who will be playing in the newly reformed Monmouthshire youth cricket league. Chepstow will again run a joint under-19 team with Sudbrook Cricket Club after getting to the finals of the Welsh Under 19 competition last season.

Ladies training will continue after a successful first season, and there will also be the usual 3 senior teams playing league cricket on Saturdays. Pre-season training has already started for the junior age groups, and senior pre-season training starts in March at St Johns on the Hill School, Tutshill.

Chairman Tim Rees stated *"We aim to provide an opportunity for people of any age and any ability to play cricket in Chepstow. If you or your children are*



interested in playing or trying cricket at a welcoming local club then please get in contact"

Chepstow Cricket Club is currently looking for sponsors for the upcoming season. There are various sponsorship opportunities available so if you are interested in sponsoring a successful local sports club then please contact the club either through the club's social media accounts or via the club secretary Malith Madurasinghe (MMADURAS@its.jnj.com)

Chepstow Cricket Club caters for all ages and abilities, so if you are interested in playing or trying cricket this summer then please contact via our social media pages or Chairman Tim Rees (Timccc@sky.com).

Fixtures are published on the Chepstow cricket club website (www.chepstow.play-cricket.com) and advertised on our social media accounts. Supporters are always welcome at Chepstow Athletic Club for home games and the players appreciate the support. The Athletic Club is open for refreshments on match days.

For more information and day to day news follow Chepstow Cricket Club on Twitter (@chepstowcricket) or Facebook (Chepstow C.C.)



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