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Dear Readers...

I hope this issue finds you all safe and well as we continue to navigate our way through 2020.

We do have news of two series of **events** in this issue for the first time in a while! Albeit one of them is predominantly on line. The Wye Valley River Festival is mentioned on page 16 and is still going ahead from 21st-27th September with many activities accessible in some format on line - Enjoy! Following the sad cancellation of the annual Castell Roc music festival in August, comes the announcement of a Springtime Castell Roc to look forward to in April/May '21 - see page 17 for more details on which bands are playing and how to secure tickets.

We were pleased to receive an update from Chepstow Town Football Club for this issue. They are now happily back training and have news of a different league structure for 20/21. New players are welcomed across the club but in particular the U14 boys team is looking for additional members.

It was also wonderful to be sent some lovely smiling faces from the children at Pembroke Primary School, see overleaf! With updates from SARA, the Lions, the Rotary Club and Tintern Sunflower growers too - there is plenty to read and enjoy in our pages this month!

Lastly, a big shout out to all our advertisers, we could not produce the magazine without you. Please do return their support and give them a call whenever you have a need for their services.

If you would like to be included in our next issue - do get in touch, I'd love to hear from you!

Jaci x

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When Someone You Care About Dies

Here at Ian Watts & Son we like to offer support to those who have suffered a bereavement before & after a Funeral has taken place.

Before the pandemic we were able to hold Bereavement Support Group meetings but sadly this has not been possible since March due to the restrictions. We had planned to have Dr. Bill Webster from America, join us as a guest speaker at our Spring meeting. He is the author of several books about grief & supporting us with bereavement.

Dr. Webster, lost his own wife in 1983 leaving him with two young children. Bill says *"Three months after Carolyn died, I felt a thousand times worse than I had at the actual moment. The worse thing was that people's expectations seemed to be that by now I should be, in their words, 'getting over it'"* Bill added. *"In reality, 'getting over it' we always say is very unlikely. Learning to build a life around what has happened is much more realistic."*

Because of our concern for those who are grieving we have purchased a large supply of Dr. Webster's book entitled **'When Someone You Care About Dies'**. The book has 31 pages of information, advice, coping techniques & suggestions aimed at helping us through difficult times. We are extremely grateful to Bill who was so encouraged to hear that we are offering this help, he discounted the cost of the books to us. We therefore want to give these as gifts to anyone who feels they are struggling.

Simply call us on 01291 420972 or send us a message or if you can safely call into our Funeral Home on the corner of the Avenue at 170 Newport Rd, Caldicot, we have large supplies of these books here. With love from Jo, Martin & all at Ian Watts & Son.



Back to School at Pembroke Primary

Pembroke Primary School was been eagerly awaiting the children's return to school. The staff are thrilled to have their classrooms filled with the laughter, chat and learning once again and this has been very much missed. Yes, things are a little different than they used to be, however these changes have not stopped the children enjoying their first weeks back.

These faces say it all...



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Morning Nursery Spaces Available

Morning Nursery spaces are still available at Pembroke Primary and applications for rising threes are now live.

Children born between 1 September and 31 December are eligible for an early start from the January following their third birthday.

Children born between 1 January and 31 March are eligible for an early start from the April following their third birthday.

For further information please contact the School Office or Monmouthshire admissions team.

Wrap around childcare is also offered from Bluebells play groups which is on the school site.



What is SARA?

SARA Lifeboat 1 'The Jim Hewitt' had her 100th operational launch at the start of July

SARA is a volunteer search and rescue charity, with Lifeboat and Rescue Stations along the length of the River Severn. The teams based at Beachley (near Chepstow) and Newport work together, to perform rescues on the Usk, Ebbw and Wye as well as the Severn, and to conduct land search and rescue across Gloucestershire. In 2019 SARA conducted 109 different operations.

This summer, operations have belonged largely to the lifeboat crew. SARA Lifeboat 1 'The Jim Hewitt' had her 100th operational launch at the start of July: a small cruiser making her way down to Bristol from Sharpness had suffered engine failure near Severn Beach. SARA 1 was able to tow her to St Pierre Pill, where she could be safely moored. By coincidence one of our coxswains was out his jetski in the area at the time and was able to assist (and to take photos!).

Not long before that we had had 3 lifeboat callouts in 3 days. Towards the end of a Sunday morning's training session, both Beachley lifeboats were deployed to the mouth of the River Wye. A vessel with 5 persons on board had had engine failure and was taking on water, and her crew had sensibly called the Coastguard. The 'casualty vessel' had restarted the engine and made good the water ingress on arrival of SARA Lifeboat 3. SARA Lifeboat 1 arrived shortly thereafter and put a crew member aboard to monitor her on the passage back to Beachley slip, under escort of both lifeboats.

The next day SARA Lifeboat 1 was launched to support Avon and Somerset Police with an operation on the edge of the River Severn near Aust. The crew stood by close to the area, to assist if required, but ultimately the operation was resolved from the shore. And then the following evening there was a report of a car having driven off the slipway at low water and multiple

emergency services attended. SARA Lifeboat 3 was launched and searched the possible area of low water to Chapel Rock, and crew explored the end of the slip for signs of anything submerged, but couldn't find anything. The crew was stood down after the Coastguard reviewed our CCTV, and ascertained that the vehicle had in fact driven back up and then away, so thankfully this had been a false alarm!

Another false alarm was the launch of SARA 3 to reports of a dinghy in the area between the two motorway bridges, drifting downstream on the outgoing tide. The 'dinghy' turned out to be a large cluster of helium balloons, plus some stragglers. These were all collected and, following a search of the area in case there was something else, handed over to Chepstow Coastguard back at Beachley.

Return to Live Training

Throughout the early stages of 'lockdown', all training ceased, with our efforts being put into maintaining our operability in challenging pandemic times. We maintained our knowledge base and learnt new skills to enable us to use appropriate PPE to keep ourselves, and any casualties we had to deal with, safe using online, video call based training.



With the reduction in infection rates towards the end of June, and after consultation with our local statutory authorities, we were given the go ahead to commence face to face training in a socially distanced, pandemic safe fashion.

Many elements of what we do at SARA have to be practiced in a (sanitised!) hands on fashion, and without practise we would suffer from skill fade, putting ourselves and those we help potentially in jeopardy. Our first priority on returning to training was to put into practice our new policies on Covid PPE, how to take it off in a safe fashion, and carry out our normal tasks in a socially distanced way.

Working in a Covid safe fashion has brought a new challenge in the hot summer months, and a great respect for those on the NHS frontline who have to wear PPE all day long (though heaving a stretcher up a steep hillside is perhaps a different challenge).

Since training recommenced there has been a lot achieved, with many team members gaining qualifications in Sea Survival, RYA Powerboat 2 and Safety Boat, and Rescue 3 Swiftwater Flood Rescue Technician (SRT). On top of this we have revisited our land search, cliff rescue and inshore lifeboat skills.

Congratulations to lifeboat helms Jerry and Dave, who passed their RYA Intermediate Powerboat course.

SRT Success

In July, three members of SARA Beachley, as well as eight team members from the new SARA Station at Upton-upon-Severn, qualified or re-certified as Rescue 3 Europe Swiftwater and Flood Rescue Technicians ('SRTs'). The course had started in March but was then paused by the pandemic.

When it re-started in June they visited a new venue at Nafford Weir, on the Avon near Upton, with some challenging white water.

The final day of the course saw them in the Wye at Monmouth, searching for and then rescuing two casualties. All casualties had to be treated as Covid-positive at present, with the use of PPE which that entails. The teams also had to organise a landing site for a helicopter, and then swim out to rescue a whole series of logs floating past, since we can't rescue each other at present!

As part of this, it was particularly nice to welcome Glynn Lewis back to SARA. He left SARA in 2015 due to family commitments but kept in touch and will be joining the next land search training intake as well as the SRT team.

SARA depends on donations. A small monthly donation would help us immensely.

Just email info@sara-rescue.org.uk to request a Direct Debit email. From the link sent back to you, you can enter your bank details directly into a secure website.

Please don't forget to tick the 'Gift Aid' box!

SARA on TV: with Kate Humble and her producer husband Ludo at Symonds Yat for BBC Countryfile this summer.



Are you a Landlord? Can you Help Monmouthshire CC?

Monmouthshire County Council is currently experiencing unprecedented demand for homeless accommodation relating to the Covid-19 circumstances.

Due to our current accommodation being occupied at near capacity we are keen to identify new property owners, landlords and proprietors who may be able to help us secure additional accommodation. We are in urgent need of B & B/hotel accommodation to provide emergency accommodation together with self-contained rented accommodation and holiday lets to support and assist households who have unfortunately been affected or displaced by the pandemic.

Should you have any particular requirements, we are in a position to be flexible with terms, which we hope could be of benefit to you as a business owner. Equally if you have any concerns we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these with you and the assurances we can offer. We are currently working with a number of business establishments in Monmouthshire who will have benefited from the alternative income we can offer during this difficult period for businesses.

If you can help and are potentially interested, to find out more please contact:

Lindsay Stewart, Senior Accommodation Officer
LindsayStewart@monmouthshire.gov.uk or

Jane Oates, Housing Options Team Manager
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Rotary Remains as Active as Ever

In common with many other organisations the Rotary Club of Chepstow & District is using ZOOM as the medium for continuing their regular meetings and maintaining contact with their members.

Business continues and so they continue to make monthly grants to both Chepstow and Caldicot food banks and support other local initiatives.

With structural works underway at Tintern Abbey, the Club is unable to hold their annual torchlight carol service this year, which is a great shame since many consider this event to open the Christmas season. In any event, given the regulations on social distancing, such an event would be most unwise. Similarly, we had planned to hold our popular Wye Run classic car event in April but, even though we postponed it until the Autumn, current regulations still make this impossible and so the 2020 event has again been cancelled.

In August all the members felt like coming out of hiding and so they enjoyed a private Afternoon Tea Party at Abbey Mill, Tintern. The members and wives observed all of those important social distancing measures and everyone thought it a great get together. The tea was clearly excellent as you can see in the above photo with Dee Wilson, wife of immediate past President, Christopher Wilson, tucking in to the delicious Abbey Mill spread. They do a very good job!

On Wednesday 27 September the Club will join with the Monmouth Club in staging the Walk the Wye event where sponsored walkers enjoy all, or part of the walk to raise funds for Breast Cancer research. So, get a brochure from your local shop and enter this most enjoyable event. It is a very good cause.

The Chepstow Club has enjoyed a very strong relationship with their twin club in Westerwald, Germany over many years. So, they are arranging a ZOOM meeting with them and the German Consul in Cardiff will join the local Club for a wide ranging international meeting.

They are also ordering several hundred crocuses that will be planted a little later in the year. More on that later.

Rotary is organising a major donation to support the Beirut disaster victims. The Chepstow Club is in contact with the Beirut Rotary Club to whom they will be making their donation since they alone will know how best to use those funds locally. This is to avoid any corruption issues that might occur through dealing with Lebanese government agencies.

So, while the lockdown continues in its various degrees, here in the Chepstow & District Rotary Club they still functioning according to their "Service above self" motto.



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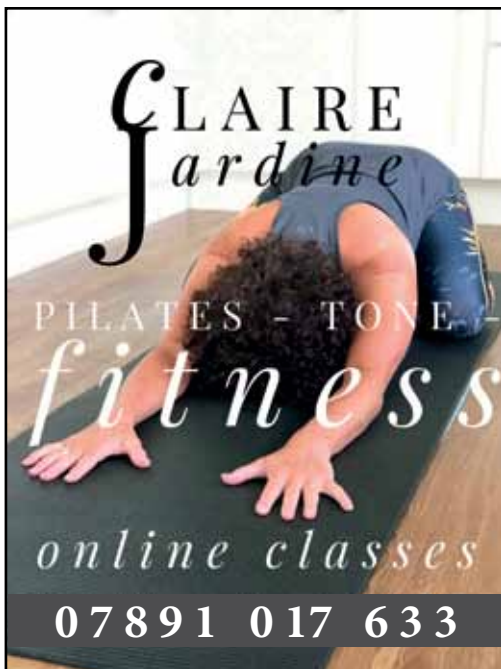
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A study* of savers and investors has found that one in 25 people have recently sought advice for the first time ever. It also highlights myths that exist surrounding financial advice, with two in five people thinking they aren't wealthy enough to seek advice and 27% thinking advice is only for those with over £100,000.

Advice throughout your life

The reality is that 77% of those who have either sought advice or who currently have an adviser, have savings and investments of less than £100,000, compared to just 5% with more than £500,000.

The pandemic has clearly prompted a proportion of people to seek advice. It is often a life event which triggers the need for advice, rather than hitting a financial milestone. Common reasons for seeking advice include a desire for a financial health check, a change in family circumstances like marriage or a decision to invest for a child or grandchild.

Measuring value

Over the years, research has produced some interesting findings that highlight the benefit of taking advice when making financial decisions.

One study** found that individuals who receive financial advice were likely, on average, to receive 4.4% more per annum in net returns. This was through a combination of financial planning, tax advice, preventing behavioural mistakes and rebalancing portfolios.

Helping you with important decisions

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*Aegon, 2020

**Russell Investments, 2019



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Wydean's Pride as GCSE Students Overcome Adversity

Gwennan Jeremiah, Principal

We are once again exceptionally proud of our students. The removal of GCSE exams is a first in the history of the modern education system and the 2020 cohort can be proud of the resilience, strength and determination that they have demonstrated throughout.

Principal, Gwennan Jeremiah stated, *"Despite no formal examinations students can rest assured that teaching staff at Wydean worked exceptionally hard to generate and moderate grades that reflected their achievement. As a result, students can have every confidence that their results are in line with previous cohorts and will have the same parity of esteem. We are now very much looking forward to welcoming our year 11 students back to Sixth Form in September along with all other year groups".*

Wydean School prides itself on its broad and balanced curriculum which was confirmed by our recent award of Most Innovative Curriculum in Gloucestershire in May. Students have excelled in the full range of traditional GCSE subjects ranging from Latin to Business Studies and whilst students are yet to receive BTEC results, we are confident that results will be equally as impressive.

The Head of Year 11, Marie Groucott, has said, *"This is an incredibly special group of young people. Despite missing out on the usual rites of passage, they have been positive and upbeat and I am delighted that their diligent work ethic has resulted in such a superb set of results. I wish them well for their future."*

Vice Principal Academic, Dr Julie Smith confirmed, *"This has certainly been a results day like no other! After the uncertainty in the run up to this year's results day, we were thrilled to be able to share in and celebrate the success of our Year 11 cohort today, and we are delighted that our students have been justly rewarded for all their hard work and commitment. We look forward to welcoming back our students to Sixth Form, and wish them all the very best for their next steps."*



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The Great Tintern Sunflower Challenge 2020: RESULTS!

update from Lindsay Cobb

It's the competition which has gripped the village all summer!

Our growers nurtured their seedlings, smothered them with attention and urged them on to survival through droughts, storms, gales ... (and COvid-19!!)

Who are the Tintern Sunflower Supremos for 2020?

Adult

- 1st Alan & Barbara Butt : 14ft 4in (436cm)
- 2nd Kathryn & John Dawson : 11ft 1in (338cm)
- 3rd Debbie Michael : 10ft 10in (330cm)

Children

- 1st Will, Maisie & Zara Adshead : 12ft 7in (383cm)
- 2nd Molly : 10ft 11in (332cm)
- 3rd Finn & Martha : 9ft 4in (285cm)

Many thanks to everyone who took part - you made the village look fabulous all summer!

Photos left to right show winners with their fabulous winning entries: John; Molly; Debbie; Will, Maisie & Zara

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Lions are a knockout at Chepstow Amateur Boxing Club

Saturday 5th September 2020 saw the official opening of the refurbished Chepstow Amateur Boxing Club, located in the Drill Hall, Church Street, Chepstow.

Significant investment has been put into the club and they have completed a refurbishment to improve their training, changing and shower facilities. The Lions Club of Chepstow and Caldicot provided funding to provide high-density safety matting for the training area. The club was most appreciative of the support received from the Lions and invited them along to view the updated facilities ahead of the official opening with other local dignitaries and sponsors.

In the main photo above Lion Ray Nash is seen with Derek McAndrew, Chairman of Welsh Boxing, and some of the team at Chepstow Amateur Boxing Club.



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Wye Valley River Festival 21st September - 27th September 2020

The Wye Valley River Festival is returning this autumn from 21st to 27th September. Whilst we won't be meeting you in the forest or beside the river like normal, we're excited to be bringing you nature talks, Cloudscapes and music sessions that can all be enjoyed from the comfort of your own home.

We have 're-imagined' this year's Wye Valley River Festival so that we can still bring the festival to you online. We will be bringing you an eclectic mix of performance, poetry, live music, nature talks and workshops, stargazing walks and some oh so relaxing cloud-gazing!

We hope that our new, online festival is going to excite, challenge and engage you just as in previous years.

You can check out the full programme on their facebook page @wyevalleyriverfestival and website: <https://www.wyevalleyriverfestival.co.uk/>



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- Thurs** - Mencap till 9pm • Ladies Darts
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In this world of doom & gloom, when everything seems unlikely, with no one knowing what the future holds and live events having ceased to exist for 2020, we must have some light at the end of the tunnel!

This is why we are planning a special

SpringTime CastELL Roc

We know how disappointed all our followers were when August 2020 was cancelled, so planning an outdoor event 8 months away seems to be the way forward! Hopefully we will be back to some sort of normality by then?

Outdoor events will be back on the agenda, but with restrictions, social distancing probably being just one, but whatever is thrown at us, we at 'Castell Roc' are determined to bring you all something to look forward to at the earliest opportunity possible

So please support us and grab your tickets now for the following shows :

Friday 23rd April

"90s - 00s" - actor & singer "Shayne Ward",
"5ive" and "Phats & Small2"

Saturday 24th April

"Craig Charles Funk & Soul Show"

Sunday 25th April

"Rock Legends" featuring top tributes : "U2UK",
"Cloneplay" and "Stereosonics"

Friday April 30th

"Twist Up Night" with the sensational "Si
Cranstoun" and "The Navarones"

Saturday 1st May

featuring blues giants "King King" and "Cats In
Space"

Sunday 2nd May

"Monsters Of Roc"- with our local legends : "UK
Guns N Roses", "Whitesnake UK", "Hells Bells"

Please keep in mind that as we have to allow for social distancing, we can only sell a percentage of the venue capacity, so tickets are really limited for these shows, so don't leave it too late to purchase tickets and be disappointed !!

For tickets and more info : www.castellroc.co.uk
or call the box office : 01291 627122



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CHEPSTOW TOWN FC



For the coming season 2020-21, Chepstow Town FC are pleased to announce that they have been granted Tier 3 status by the Football Association of Wales (FAW). We will be competing in the newly created FAW Tier 3 Ardal Southern East League along with local rivals Caldicot Town and Monmouth Town. This is part of the new FAW Pyramid System which has replaced the old Welsh League structure.

There are new faces in the management team supporting Andrew Wenzel, First Team Manager and his assistant Nathan Thomas. We welcome Mike Pratt as Director of Football and First Team Coach, Bert Abang as First Team Player-Coach, Kieran Hunt as Strength and Conditioning Coach and Nick English as Club Physiotherapist. Looking after the Second Team, we have Dave Livermore returning and he'll be assisted by Ian Turner, Richard Jago and other senior players. The East Gwent team will again be managed by Dennis Morgan who will also be assisted by some of his experienced players.

The players returned to training in July strictly following FAW Phase 2 COVID 19 Guidelines advice generated from the Welsh Government's Coronavirus Regulations for the resumption of outdoor sports. Everyone is looking forward to the new season and hoping that the move to FAW Phase 3 COVID 19 Guidelines for competitive matches will be announced soon. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates about training and the resumption of competitive football.

Facebook: [chepstowtownafc](https://www.facebook.com/chepstowtownafc) & [chepstow town jfc official](https://www.facebook.com/chepstowtownjfc)

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



Juniors

Chepstow Town Juniors continue to go from strength to strength with age groups from Under 7's right through to Under 18's as well as a thriving Girls Under 16's squad (photo right). Training has already recommenced in line with FAW Phase 2 COVID 19 Guidelines and has been well received by players and parents alike.



We are keen to hear from any players interested in joining the club, particularly the Under 14 boys who are looking to bolster their squad for the forthcoming season.

Please contact ChepstowTownJFC@outlook.com and state your player's name, current school year and age and we will put you in touch with the coach of the relevant squad.



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 ukinfo@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:
@ChepstowMatters



/ChepstowMatters

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 https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/
chepstowTennisClub enquiries@chepstowtennis.club
Contact Club on 07817 731184

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 & Tourism is a long-standing voluntary group of local businesses and individuals, operating in and around the Chepstow area; aimed at collectively promoting business and the local economy. Our Members are varied and diverse, representing a wide range of enterprises (such as service, retail, tourism, hospitality) and seek to ensure your voice and issues are heard; to make Chepstow a great place to work and live.

By joining us, you will help to raise the profile of the Chamber and of local businesses, support the promotion of Chepstow as a thriving business centre and help create a unified group of businesses in Chepstow with a strong identity. We are currently looking for more Committee Members - could you be involved in being a voice for local business in the community?

If you are interested in joining us email:

secretary@chepstowchamber.com for further information.

www.chepstowchamber.com / www.facebook.com/ChepstowAGreatPlaceTo

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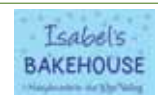
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T: 01291 627122 www.hannahsmusic.co.uk



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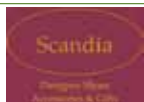
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T: 01633 881401 www.meadfarmfoods.co.uk

Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

Supporting Local Business



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



Silver Circle Distillery
Micro distillery/craft spirits producer
Pleasant View Barn, Ninewells Road, Catbrook, NP16 6UL
T: 07725 743131 www.silvercircledistillery.com



St Tewdric's House
19th Century Italianate Villa wedding venue
Mathern Rd, Chepstow NP16 6HX
T: 07477 017537 www.sttewdricshouse.co.uk



Tell Me Wine
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T: 01291 629670 www.tellmewine.co.uk



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T: 07800 874275 www.themakespot.uk



Tyrell's Family Butchers
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Beachley Road, Sedbury, Chepstow NP16 7AA
T: 01291 621089 www.tyrellsfamilybutchers.co.uk

Support Local Business: Services



A-B Connecting Communities
Chepstow to Tintern shared use path
T: 01291 626836 www.facebook.com/AtoBconnectingcommunities



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



Basepoint Centres Ltd
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T: 01291 635500 www.basepoint.co.uk



BDHC Chartered Accountants
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11 Moor St, Chepstow NP16 5D
T: 01291 624866 www.bdhc.co.uk



BEAM Denti Spa
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Chepstow Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

Supporting Local Business



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Lift the pressure of September spending

As well as the beginning of a new school year, September also marks 100 days until Christmas Day on the 16th. We know that both of these events can bring additional pressure when you're living on a tight budget. Here are a few tips to help you save a little and spend less this month.

Reuse school uniforms if you can

Due to the lockdown, your kids' school uniforms and PE kits may have had less wear than they normally would this year. If they're in good condition and still fit, this could be a welcome money saver. Check before you buy new.

Swap and save with other families

If your kids have outgrown their clothes or shoes, how about organising a school uniform swap with other families in your area? There are loads of Facebook groups set up to do exactly this so check if there's one in your area. If not, you could set one up yourself. You can bet there will be a lot of grateful parents.

Find out if you qualify for help with uniform costs

If you really do need to buy new uniform and PE kit, make sure you check what help is available in your local area via the council. Visit gov.uk/help-school-clothing-costs to check if you're eligible.

Remember that you don't need to buy everything all at once. Take the pressure off yourself and make a plan based on what you urgently need and what could wait a little while until you have more cash saved up.

Label it to keep it safe

Get yourself a laundry marker from the supermarket or online and label each item of uniform. This way, it will find its way back to you if it gets lost, and you won't have to spend money on replacements.

Plan and save for Christmas

Once the school uniforms are sorted, it only seems two minutes before we start turning our attention towards Christmas. Thankfully, there's still plenty of time to plan ahead and start saving towards the costs.

Think about what's most important to you and prioritise your spending. Is it having a nice family meal and get-together? Or is it making sure that each person has a gift to open? Maybe it's a combination of things. Either way, plan your budget carefully in advance so that you know what you can and can't afford, and how much you need to save up.

Try saving just £1 per day – that's £100 saved by Christmas Day. How many turkeys, spuds and sprouts could you buy with that?

Make a list to avoid impulse buys

To help you stick to your budget, it's a good idea to make a list of what you need to buy and tick things off as you get each item. Then have a look at what offers are available in the shops. Maybe you could have a box, storage cupboard or space in the freezer to set aside and save any tinned, packet or frozen foods that are on special offer. Why not do the same with presents? Just remember where you hide them!

Spend time, not money

Let's not forget that Christmas doesn't have to mean splashing out. What do you remember most about Christmases when you were a child? Is it the presents or the memories? We can find a lot of joy in spending time with loved ones without having to spend money. Keep an eye out for events that your local church is planning over the festive season – a carol service could be the ideal opportunity to spend a few hours together as a family.

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