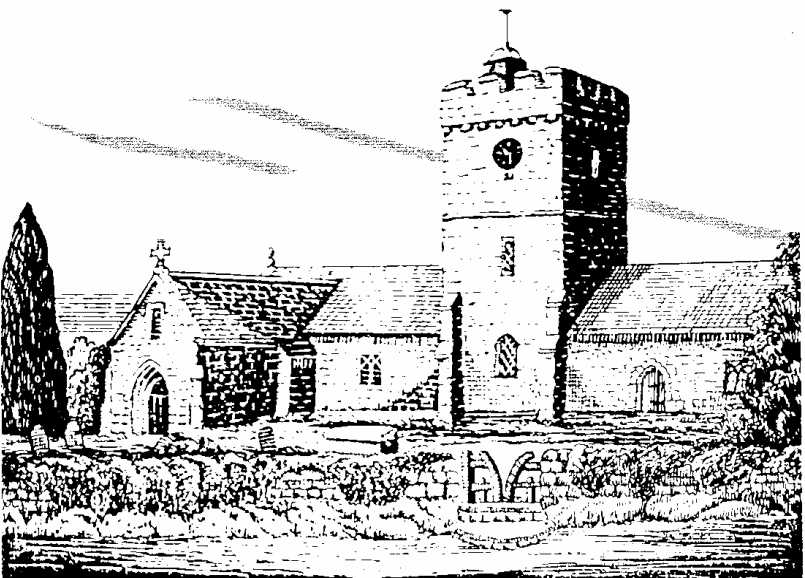


June 2007

Price: 50p

THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET SHIRENEWTON



Parishes of Shirenewton and Newchurch

READERS AND SIDES-PERSONS ROTA FOR JUNE 2007

DATE	SERVICE	READER	SIDES-PERSON
3rd June	Trinity 9.45 a.m.	Peter Jones Jean Jones	Peter Jones Jean Jones
10th June	1st Sunday after Trinity	James Loney Ruth Savagar	Bernice Bowen Claire Lewis
17th June	2nd Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m.	Family Service Shirenewton Parish Church	
24th June	3rd Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m.	Bob Grattan Cynthia Smith	Bob Grattan Cynthia Smith
1st July	4th Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m.	Sally Saysell Margaret Lock	Allan Saysell Margaret Lock

Newchurch the first and 3rd Sunday of each month at 2.30 p.m.

INCUMBENT:	The Revd Hugh Trenchard	424984
CURATE	The Revd Nansi Davies	01633 400519
CHURCH WARDENS:	Sally Saysell	641369
	Andrew Baker	641925
	Mrs Kath Whittington – Newchurch	641600
	Mrs Susan Lenthall – Newchurch	626389
PCC SECRETARIES:	Andrew Baker - Shirenewton	641925
	David Heritage- Newchurch	641549
PCC TREASURERS:	Kevin Bounds - Shirenewton	641818
	Enid Heritage - Newchurch	641549
GIFT AID SECRETARY	Ruth Savagar	641411
CHURCH MAINTENANCE & SAFETY OFFICER	John Nicholas	641368
ORGANISTS:	Karen Millar	650521
	Ruth Savagar	641411
	Kath Whittington	641600
SUNDAY SCHOOL:	Jane Smith-Haddon	641525
TOWER CAPTAIN:	Mike Penny	650653
MOTHERS UNION:	Auriol Horton	641844
CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER:	John Waters	641449
CHURCH FLOWERS:	Maureen Moody	641524
PARISH MAGAZINE:	Bob O'Keefe	641686
200 Club	Pauline Dutton	641677

NAMES TO NOTE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL	John Harvey (Chairman)	641279
Clerk to Community Council	Carole Jones	641791
WI:	Sally Saysell	641369
SCOUTS:	Dave Richardson	620356
GUIDES:	Helen Cann	650835
BROWNIES:	Jackie Broughton	641797
CUBS:	Diana Such	650638
BEAVERS:	Gill Norris	622703
POLICE CONTACT:	P.C. Andrew Mason	01633 838111
REC. BOOKING SECRETARY:	Beryl Saysell	641637
TRAIDCRAFT:	Marion McAdam	641316
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR		
S'NEWTON & MYNYDD BACH	Beverley Moore	641532
Local History Society	John Clelland	650595

Please send notes, discs or emails for the July magazine to Bob O'Keefe at: 15 Newton Manor, Shirenewton, (641686) or email to bobandwenche@aol.com by Friday 22nd June for inclusion in the July magazine.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29th May	Local History Society Meeting 7.30 –The Huntsman See report inside.
4th June	Community Council Meeting Recreation Hall—7.30 p.m.
4th – 29th	Best Kept Village competition judging.
5th June	Neighbourhood Watch AG at Llanishen Village Hall 7.30 p.m.
7th June	Whist Drive—7.30 Recreation Hall.
9th June	Church Fete—The Recreation Field followed by a Hop at The Huntsman 8 p.m.
11th June	Local History Society Resource session –Recreation Hall from 2 p.m.
16th June	Joint surgery with Police & Community Councillor at the Recreation Hall 10 a.m.—12.
18th June	Launch of the Village Plan Available 8 p.m. at the Recreation Hall.
21/22/23rd June	- Kids Ad Lib play at Earlswood & Newchurch West Hall
30th June	Coffee Morning— For Marie Curie (Wales) Cancer Support Fund from 10.30 a.m.
2nd July	Community Council meeting at the Recreation Hall.
9th July	PACT Meeting Police & Local Meeting 7.30 Recreation Hall

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Dear Friends,

As I write Christian Aid week is coming to an end; it began on Sunday 13th May and ends on Sunday 19th May. If you missed the red envelope there is still time to donate to this wonderful charity by either contacting someone from your church or by going on line www.christianaid.org.uk.

Christian Aid is Britain's longest running door-to-door fund-raising drive, it is 50 years old this year. In 1957 £26,000 was raised for its overseas work collected by some 200 supporters up and down the country. That was a lot of money then and today, due to inflation and other factors, the figure needed is £15.5 million. It is likely that some 300,000 volunteers will be posting the red envelopes through letter boxes and returning to collect them with, hopefully, generous donations enclosed. When gift aided, a donation provides an added bonus to Christian Aid.

Christian Aid works with 700 organisations in 50 developing countries. As well as its work on HIV, education, health and sanitation, and peace and reconciliation, the charity is training people to deal with the effects of climate change which is already destroying the lives of thousands of vulnerable people across the world. As well as door-to-door collections Christian Aid is encouraging us not only to give money, but also to plant trees in our gardens, community spaces and churchyards, as a way of reflecting on the impact of deforestation and climate change on poor communities around our fragile planet.

I suspect that many of us enjoyed gifts and festive food at Eastertide and we enjoy our homes, gardens and a lifestyle which two thirds of the world's population cannot even dream about as all they have experienced is just surviving from day to day. As we approach Pentecost, we are reminded in our Sunday Scripture readings, that after Our Lord's Ascension to his Father, he gave us the power of the Holy Spirit to be with us to strengthen our faith to follow in the way that Christ had taught as being God's plan for his world and for all his people. I know that a number of events have taken place in our parishes to give added support to Christian Aid and there will be others during the year supporting a number of projects in developing countries but we can give even more by supporting Fair Trade as much as possible in our shopping and in our general awareness of the needs of the hungry, the poor, the homeless, the orphaned children, the widows and elderly. This is the teaching of Our Lord.

SHIRENEWTON SUNDAY CLUB

Dates for This Term

Date	Time	Venue
3rd June	9.45	The Chantry
10th June	9.45	The Chantry
17th June	9.45	Family Service—Church
24th June	9.45	No Sunday Club
1st July	9.45	The Chantry
8th July	9.45	The Chantry
15th July	9.45	The Chantry
22nd July	9.45	The Chantry

*We have been invited to visit Beth, Miahael and Amy
Down by Pandy Mill one Sunday morning—we'll let you know
the date when it's been chosen*

*Shirenewton Sunday Club welcomes
all children from 3 years. Do come and join us.*

Jane Smith-Haddon 641 525

Glynis MacDonald 641 818

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH 200 CLUB

The Winners of the May Draw were:

Ticket no	Winner	Amount
No 1	Sarah James	£40
No 130	Ernie Jones	£30
No 186	Mrs DL Hughes	£20
No 170	Paul Noble	£10

I sat down (yes it does happen occasionally!) with a cup of coffee the other morning and watched a number of blue tits hopping from one plant to another in the nearest flower border. Were flying away with bills full of little green caterpillars, so at least they were earning their keep! Talking of earning their keep the cats continue to bring back a steady supply of rabbits, which hopefully will keep them away from the garden! In fact the other morning the under gardener warned me that there was half a rabbit left on the drive that needed clearing away! I was a bit shocked when I went to do this 'nasty' task to find that it was actually a squirrel! We haven't had a cat catch one of these since we lost our tortoiseshell some five years ago. I can only think that it is the nutty one (Alice— so called as she has black eye patches just like Alice Cooper the punk rocker!) as she attacks anything that is about. Underneath the fluff she is tiny, so if it was she must have had a bit of a tussle. I can't think it was either of the other two black and white cats as they are too idle! Anyway I digress. Bugs! Oh yes we have had the usual attack of lily beetle and I see also that the verbascums are showing the first signs of mulleon moth attack. Unfortunately the caterpillars of these are black, yellow and white – very similar to cabbage whites and the birds seem to leave these alone. This means I will either have to resort to hand squashing (not a task I particularly relish!) or getting the sprayer out – another task I don't particularly relish!

I have managed to prune most of the soft fruit canes for this year at long last. The final ones will come under the cutters this weekend. A bit on the late side but never mind! Another outstanding job that I'd like to get sorted is the small box hedge around the formal garden. This was lightly trimmed towards the end of last season, but with no late frosts and this warm spring the hedge has the look about it that it never actually stopped growing! Still must get on otherwise none of these 'little' jobs will get done. Look forward to seeing some of you at the garden openings this year. Happy gardening until next month. Steve Hunt.

many of our herbaceous plants that we sell, and she has also kept on top of the many vegetable plants. The tomatoes have all responded well to being put into bigger pots, as have the cucumbers and Melons. The squashes and courgettes just kept growing and growing so I had to bite the bullet and plant them out in the vegetable garden. These should continue growing well now with the rain – just as long as we don't get any late frosts! I can't believe that we will now, but we all know just how funny the British weather can be! We'll just have to keep the fingers crossed and hope for the best as I took the bull by the horns and planted out the first climbing French beans and also the dwarf variety as well. These really do not like a sniff of cold weather and will soon get covered in horticultural fleece if even a cooler night is predicted!

Elsewhere in the vegetable garden I managed to sow the bulk of the carrot seed and beetroot just before the rain came. Hopefully this will mean a bumper year for germination, but over the last few years this seems to have been very erratic, although I can't really understand why? The first sowing of parsnips has produced just about enough plants for a crop, but I certainly won't need to thin them out! I have bought another packet of seed and this will get sown this weekend. It is almost too late for this, but they will only have two chances! The green plants (Brussel sprouts, broccoli, cabbage and cauliflowers) have all been placed in the cold frame to harden off a little before planting. These will go into the raised beds this weekend and be covered over with some fine netting at the same time. Hopefully this will keep the cabbage white butterflies away until the produce can be picked.

Unfortunately I have a feeling that this year is going to be a bad one for pests and diseases! Already the roses and lupins have been covered in greenfly, but fortunately the mild weather has encouraged the ladybirds as well. These are voracious predators of greenfly and the young mop up this pest in quick order. The aquilegias have been well and truly attacked by the sawfly caterpillars, with a few plants being stripped of every leaf before the birds found the bounty! clearing away!

A Note for your Diary

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

Saturday 22nd September

Sunday 23rd September

And back by Popular Request:

The Soft Animal Parachute from the Tower

Live Music

Refreshments

Local produce stalls

Competitions

Extension Tours

and

The Local Dog Show

SHIRENEWTON SCOUTS ARE BACK IN THE RECYCLING BUSINESS

If you have any old mobile phones or printer cartridges please do save them as the Scouts can recycle them.

We are trying to establish collections points in the village so if anyone would like to offer to act as such a point please contact David Cornwell.

In the meantime please call David Cornwell on 641614 and we will try to arrange to take the old phones and printer cartridges off your hands.

Thanks.
David Cornwell

THE CHURCH EXTENSION

Work continues on the building of the Church Hall and toilets.

The construction of the internal walls for toilets and kitchen area are now very nearly complete., and work has now started on the process of laying the first courses of stone cladding for the exterior walls. This will result in the exterior of the new building blending in with the overall structure of the existing Church. The stone being used has come from local quarries enabling stone of the same type to be used. With the newly dressed stone being slightly lighter in colour, but with weathering, will in a short time blend to same colour as the existing building. It is estimated that some 40 ton of stone will be needed, all to be hand dressed.

The picture below shows the first batch of dressed stone.

Opposite, Mr. Joe Remnant at work on the next batch, with more than 30 odd tons yet to be started.



Gardening Corner

Well the cuckoo eventually arrived, although it wasn't until the 22nd of April before we heard his distinctive call. Nearly a week and a half later than usual, which was surprising given just how unseasonably warm the weather has been. It's only in the last few days that his calling has become a regular sound in the woodland opposite Barn farm. I say surprising because many of our usual garden birds, the ones that act as surrogate mothers for the cuckoo chick, have been nesting for some time and many have already had their first hatch of youngsters. That cuckoo may just have to wait a bit longer for a second clutch of eggs! The artificial nests for the house martins have been a distinct success. Scout birds were already flying low around me whilst I was trying to fix the nests to the walls. Within a couple of days all eight were taken. Two of them are very close to our bedroom window. I love waking up in the mornings to the sound of these little birds 'talking' to each other before they fly the nest for their breakfast.

Well as predicted the weather did eventually break and lo and behold we seem to have had continuous rain ever since! Of course things are never right! The ground is now well and truly digable again but unfortunately too wet to get on it in most places. The good side is that at least I have been able to get on and plant up some of the bare areas in the borders. The main flowerbeds have really responded to the warm soil and rainfall with the growth in the last week or so being phenomenal. Of course this means that many of the flowers are getting well advanced, with some varieties coming out well before their official flowering period. Fortunately for us here the garden is only open twice this year, once at the end of May and then middle of June. Hopefully this will mean that visitors will catch it right for sheer 'flower power'. Our last opening in July 2006 was starting to lose its impact as the hot dry weather was really starting to bite by then and many flowers were shutting down early. We did get a late flush, with many varieties still flowering in November, which was good for us, but not the visitors!

In the greenhouse the under gardener has been busy re-potting many of our herbaceous plants that we sell and has also kept on top of the many vegetable plants. The tomatoes have all responded well to being put into

 **Songs of Praise** 

Devauden Green
Sunday 10th June at 6pm.

**Come and join the school choir of St.
John's on the Hill.**

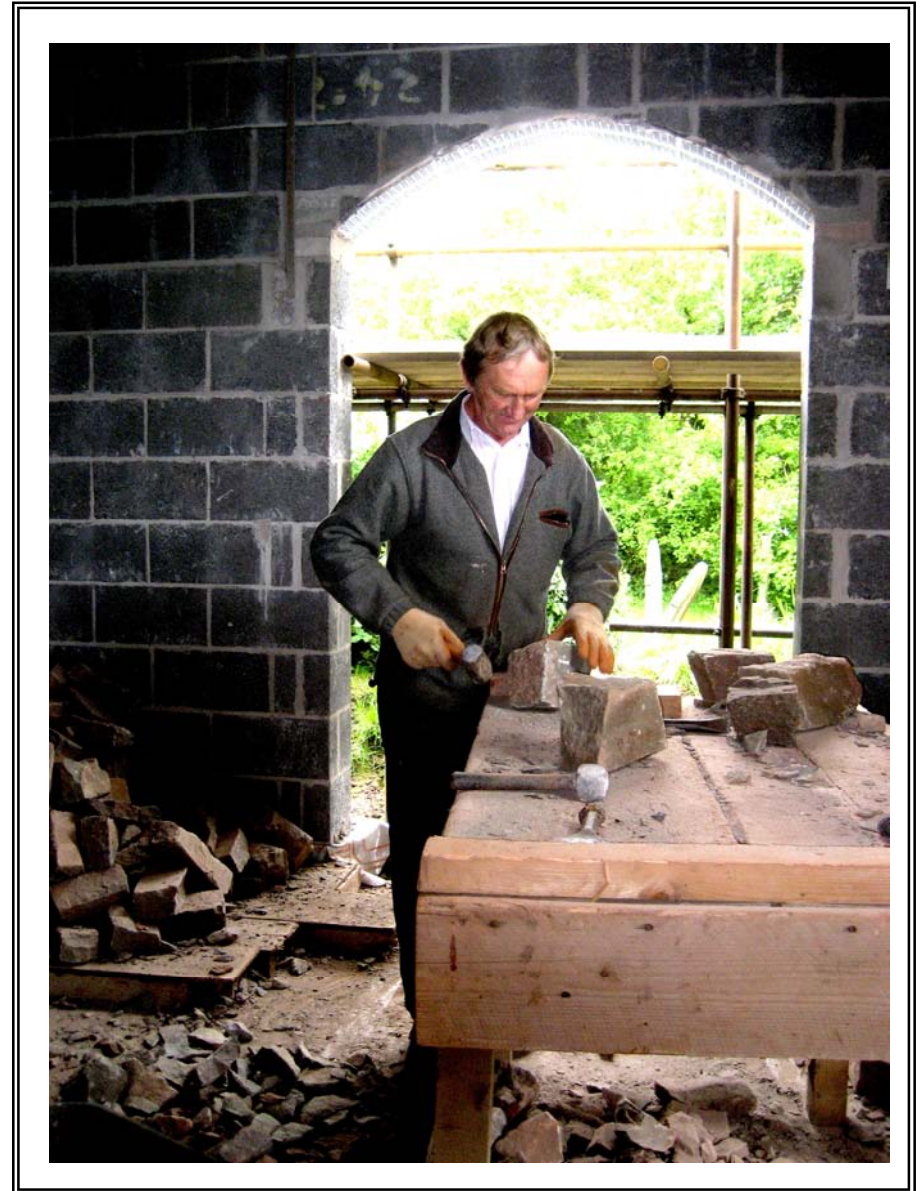


Music by Chepstow Town Band.



Bring your own seating.
Cake stall and refreshments available.
**Bucket collection in aid of St James,
Devauden.**

All donations for the cake stall very welcome!



Keep at it Joe, there's plenty more waiting to be dressed

SHIRENEWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school PTA, governors and most residents of the community will be well aware of the traffic problems around the school at the start and end of the school day. This is a result of the very limited space for parking, and dropping off the youngsters attending the school. Although there are special buses serving the school, there are a number of children travelling in from surrounding villages and districts, who are not served by these busses and as such they are brought to the school by car.

Should you have any positive suggestions regarding the management of traffic around the School that would help to for improve this situation , please pass on your ideas (constructive please) to the school either by letter or e-mail to:- shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

Tesco School Vouchers

If you shop at Tesco, please collect the vouchers that are offered with purchases from the store. The School can exchange these vouchers for sports equipment and musical instruments that would otherwise have to come from the teaching budget. The vouchers can be taken directly to the school or passed on through one of the pupils / parents that visit the school.

COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF VELINDRE HOSPITAL

Mrs Moody would like to thank all those who supported the recent Coffee Morning in aid of the Velindre Cancer hospital.

The morning was a great success with over £600 being raised.

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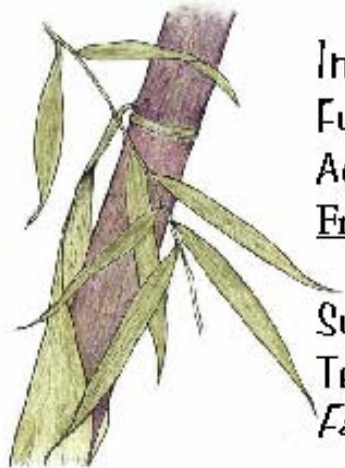
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SHIRENEWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA SUMMER FETE

THIS YEARS FETE WILL BE HELD
ON
30TH JUNE FROM 2—4 PM
IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.

ALL THE COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME

THERE WILL BE:

BOUNCY CASTLE - ICE CREAM

LUCKY DIP - HOOK A DUCK

BOTTLE TOMBOLA

WHITE ELEPHANT STALL

HOT DOGS - REFRESHMENTS

TUCK SHOP

AND LOTS MORE



Shirenewton Church



Carnival & Fete

Shirenewton Recreation Field

On

Saturday 9th June 2007

Opening at 2.00pm

Parade leaves Tan House at 1.45pm

Followed by a
Hop at the Huntsman
From 8 p.m.
Tickets £10

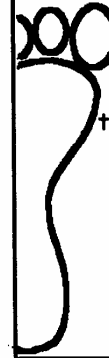


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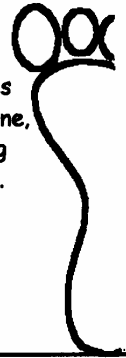
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Caroline's Cookery Corner

Before we moved to the village we used to live in Pangbourne where I had various, sometimes very interesting cooking jobs. The first recipe was from one of the "Large houses" I worked in—very easy—the second was for a "Home cooking" Freezer farm shop.

Easy haddock with mushrooms & cream.

A couple of pieces of fresh haddock - 1/4 chopped onion
8 sliced mushrooms - 1/2 pint double cream - Butter

Fry the onion, 8 sliced mushroom in butter, turning gently until soft. Spread a quarter of the mix over an oven-proof dish, add the haddock, cover with remaining mix, pour over the cream and bake in a moderate oven until cooked.

Fish Crumble

This quantity is enough for a party, it can be made in advance and frozen.

2lb. White haddock	2lb smoked haddock	1lb prawns
4zos mushrooms	a little white wine	2 pints of milk
1 tsp Dijon mustard	flour	margarine
1 1/2—2 lb onions	parsley, bay leaf,	pinch of mace
The Crumble		
12 oz. flour	6 oz margarine	3 oz grated Cheddar
2 oz grated Parmesan.		

Finely chop the onion & fry until golden.

Cook the fish in milk with sliced onion, bay & mace. Cool, drain (reserve) and skin, bone and flake. Make a roux with wine, flour, margarine & reserved strained milk—add mustard, parsley & onions. Gently mix in the fish and put into an oven-proof dish.

Mix the crumble, place on top of the mix, and bake in a moderate oven.

Once again our thanks to Caroline Davies



Shirenewton Church

SUMMER BUFFET

at the
HUNTSMAN HOTEL
on
Saturday 9th June

8.00 till late

*Tickets available from:
Steve White 641804 or
Noelyn Proud 641261*



£10.00 each



COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 14TH MAY 2007

The meeting started with the AGM which resulted in some changes of seats on the Council, so current responsibilities are:-

John Harvey elected Chairman for 2007/2008 (his 20th year on the council!) with Robin Mitchell as Vice Chair.

Representative on other committees:-

One Voice Wales - John Harvey

Shirenewton Recreation Association – Sally Saysell & Jo Morgan

Monmouth County Planning Committee – John Harvey/Robin Mitchell

Shirenewton & Mynyddbach Fields Association – Charles Crundwell

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

Police Report

1. Four accidents on the Usk Road including one involving a stolen car and two involving motor bikes.
2. Suspicious people hanging around the school grounds were arrested over a crime committed in Tintern.
3. The Rave – PC Mason could not give too many details as its sub-judiciary with several arrests made and equipment confiscated. But he did say it was the biggest rave in the country broken up by Police (*eventually!*), who only went in when the fires started. It was a particularly well-organised, international event, with the venue not known except by organisers until the last minute, so very difficult for the police to prepare for. However the police in South Wales are looking more widely at local responses to major incidents of this nature. The Council will be writing to the Chief Constable outlining local concerns about the rave and it's handling.

The Police Web Site

www.police.co.uk, the main service is suspended while work on an upgrade to system takes place, but can still follow links to Gwent Police, etc. from the webpage.

Three police surgeries have been held to date with a very poor response so far, but maybe we don't have any worries about crime in the area.



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SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 1090167

At our April meeting Dr Edith Evans gave a very interesting talk on 'Churches in Gwent'.

Dorothy Brabon has been holding Resources Sessions at the Recreation Hall which have been well attended and will continue throughout 2007.

In conjunction with the Parish Church, a walk was held on Rogation Sunday as part of the tradition of "Beating the Bounds". In spite of the weather, half a dozen souls braved the rain to cover a section of "The Bounds". After a couple of hours walking in the downpour they were welcomed back at the Church, soaked but adequately re-vitalised with tea, cakes and some sympathy.

For those that would like some history on beating the bounds, the History Society of published a new set of five half day walks with extracts from the original survey, illustrations and maps that cover the area based on a survey of 1725. The set is laminated as a pack of individual walks and is available through the History Society at £3.50 a pack, and the will shortly be available though the other local outlets. They will also be available at the Fete on 9th June.

You can now find out all about us and view this year's programme by logging on to www.shirenewton-history.co.uk.

Our meetings for the coming months are:

Tuesday 29th May- 'A walk in the past' by Mr Ernie Jones -7.30pm Huntsman Hotel.

Monday 11th June- Resources Session with Dorothy Brabon 2.00pm Recreation Hall.

Tuesday 26th June- 'How we know what we know about Roman Caerleon' by Mark Lewis- 7.30pm Huntsman Hotel.

Monday 9th July- Resources Session with Dorothy Brabon 2.00pm Recreation Hall.

Tuesday 24th July- 'Lave Fishermen' – 7.30pm Huntsman Hotel.

Tuesday 31st July- Visit to Dewstow Gardens followed by supper-7.00pm.

Planning

Approval recommended for:-

Pentwyn Bach, Newchurch West extension to existing dwelling, revised plans

2 Orchard Rise, Shirenewton. Increase size of a dormer window from previous plan

Renewal of planning at Larkfield Cottage, Usk Road

Refusals recommended for:-

The Village Shop, change of use on ground floor from shop to residential Arnog, Shirenewton. Access and driveway (landscaping scheme)

Land at Great House Farm, erection of a polytunnel.

Other Matters of Local Concern

The village plan will be launched to the rest of us on June 18th at 8pm at the Recreation Hall – with the promise of refreshments for anyone attending.

There is no money available to improve the school routes through the village at the moment.

Discussions still on going with the Post Office about an additional post box in Shirenewton.

Stiles on the golf course have, for the most part, been replaced by gates.

Water disconnection – Dwr Cymru do intend to install a generator to take over when the power fails but are still in discussion with the Forestry over fuel storage in the area.

Tan House planning application seems to have stalled. No one is chasing the MCC for a response.

Llanmelin Hill Fort has been purchased by the Welsh Assembly and there are plans for a car park in the area. There will be a management committee drawn from Caerwent and Shirenewton councils.

A member of the public attending the meeting asked for signs to be erected between Gaerllwyd and Shirenewton warning motorists that there may be horses on the road.

And finally someone has apparently been removing Community Council notices and minutes from the notice boards, particularly in Earlswood. If you need a copy they are available from the church website.

Next meeting will be on June 4th at 7.30 p.m.

WHIST DRIVES

Whist Drives resume at the Recreation Hall without interruption from the first Thursday of each month commencing 7th June. We start at 7.30 p.m. promptly and look forward to seeing regular and new players.

Enquiries to Auriol Horton 01291 641844.

Shirenewton Community Council

Village Plan for Shirenewton, Mynyddbach, Earlswood and Newchurch West

As a result of the recent survey carried out, a Village Plan has been produced which draws together individual views into a way forward for the whole community.

A brief overview of the plan will be given and copies of the Plan will be available on
Monday 18th June at 8pm
in Shirenewton Recreation Hall

You will have the opportunity to ask questions and air your views
(and also partake of a glass of wine!)

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Antropolis

Thursday 21st June..... Friday 22nd
June.....Saturday 23rd June
74 local children in a small play
Earlswood Hall

Tickets: Adult £5.00

Concessions £3.00

Contact: Jackie Budd on 641 547
or Glynis MacDonald on 641 818

Why not visit us at : www.kidsadlib.org.uk

Shirenewton Hall's Famous Japanese Gardens!

(With Thanks to Mr and Mrs Bailey)

On August Bank Holiday - Monday 27th August

From 2.00 – 6.00

Tickets £5.00

Concessions £4.00

Fund Raiser for the Shirenewton Church Extension

Also available:

Cream Teas Tea and Coffee

Raffle

And hopefully Live Music

Dog Fouling in Shirenewton

The Council and the Dog Warden have received complaints of dog fouling in the village, particularly in the area around the outside of the Church wall and on the road from the centre of the village to the Shop.

The Dog Warden will be making random calls to the Village.

On the spot fines of £75 can be levied.

Bags for collecting your dog's waste are available free of charge at the One Stop Shop in Chepstow.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2007

Shirenewton has been entered into this competition and a panel of judges will inspect the village between 4th and 29th JUNE.

As well as looking at the general appearance of the area, judges will inspect the following:-

- Churchyards
- Bus stops, shelters and telephone kiosks
- Playing fields
- Hedges, fences and walls
- Cleanliness of verges
- External appearance of public houses and shop
- Car parks
- External appearance of sheds and garages
- Tidiness of flower & vegetable gardens
(as seen from the Highway)
- Absence of litter
- Orderliness of Notice boards and advertisements

If you are concerned about any area of the village please don't hesitate to contact the Clerk to Shirenewton Council on 01291 641791

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Using Lifecoaching and Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) techniques

****Build your confidence****

****Identify specific areas for change in your life****

****Prioritize your goals****

****Develop effective action plans****



Provider: Sue Felton Dip.RSA, MASC (NLP), MinstLM, MinstCG, MIVA

Lifecoach, NLP Practitioner and Career Adviser

Saturday 21st July, 10a.m. – 5p.m.

Venue – The Equilibrium Holistic Centre, 19 St Mary St., Chepstow, NP16 5EW

Light refreshments provided, bring your own lunch.

Cost: £45 – a deposit of £5 required in advance.

To book your place on this life changing workshop

Tel: 01291 622107



ENVIROTEC



Helping To Recycle Future Technology products In Environmental Ways

What's this all about!!!

You will not be able to throw your old Mobile Phones in the Bin from

April 2007

Supporting

NSPCC 

Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

Approximately 15 million mobile phones will be bought from shops this year and over 12 million will end up in drawers, cupboards etc.

Do your bit!!

Dig out your old mobile phones and recycle them with Envirotec Diverting Electronic waste from landfill sites.

Mobile Phones Contain Toxic substances such as Cadmium and Mercury If they end up in landfill sites these could leak into the soil and pollute the surrounding Environment

Wales Environment Trust

All Products recycled to the WEEE Directive

Contact: Envirotec@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 01291 425599 Mobile: 07790308952

Recycling Box Point: Carpenters Arms Shirenewton

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

The Church website continues to deliver income to the Church so a big 'Thank you' to those who continue to shop through it. I can't help but feel however, that we only get a small percentage of the total online shopping of the village passing through.

We have well over 100 shops in the following categories: Art & Literature; Business to Business; Comparison Sites; Computers & internet; DIY; Entertainment; Finance & Insurance; Food & Wine; Gift ideas; Health & Fitness; Home Electricals; Home & Garden; Lifestyle & Fashion; Sports & Outdoors; Telecoms/Mobile Phones; and, Travel & Holidays.

New shops are being added the whole time and we have most of the major high street names. So if you are shopping online it will take you just a few seconds to ascertain whether the Church website has the shop and to click through from the church website. It doesn't cost you anything and we get some commission. Why wouldn't you do that?

On another subject, the Sunday papers scheme has been discontinued due to lack of support. It seemed like a good idea at the time but clearly it didn't gain popular support.

Never one to be short of ideas, I'll be launching www.sewales.com over the next couple of weeks. The intention of www.sewales.com is to act as a small ads site for Chepstow, Caldicot, Magor and the surrounding areas. There is a whole section for 'free stuff' with the idea being that if you have something in your garage or you want to throw out which is worthless to you but valuable to someone else and you can't be bothered to take it to the skip, you can advertise it for free and someone will come and take it off your hands. This is the freecycle mentality. So, if you have stuff you want to get rid of please post it on the Website. The site will be advertised around the local area to try and drive traffic.

Why do I mention it - because, of course, any profit will go to the Church. All adverts on the site are the same as the church shopping portal and contribute to the Church and any cash we get from advertising will go to the Church. Clearly the site will live or die by traffic so please help drive traffic by posting the stuff you want to get rid of.

Finally, don't forget to book your airport car parking through Holidays Extras and watch out for Marks and Spencer and 'wegolo' which is a single portal for easily checking out multiple route and low cost airlines - coming shortly to a portal near you soon.

Dave Cornwell—Webmaster



Chores R Us

Is there anything more likely to add a bit of sparkle to your life than a clean and tidy home?

O.K. apart from Robbie Williams, a bar of Galaxy and Mary Poppins babysitting!

Sadly, we can't conjure up Robbie or Mary but we can wave a wand over the jobs you hate - dusting, ironing, polishing, scraping chewing gum off carpets – you name it we've done it.

Chores R Us offers a flexible, reliable cleaning service so put your feet up, grab the phone and give us a call.

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Decorative, Ornamental or Functional

Gates, Railings, Furniture, etc.

Mike Gambold: 641773
mike.gambold@googlemail.com

The Oxfam Shop

Have you got a morning or an afternoon to spare?

Then the Oxfam Shop in Chepstow NEEDS YOU!

Meet lots of nice people

Learn lots of new skills

(including ironing, steaming, pricing, sorting and culling)

Contact Judith Broadribb on 641 598

ITTON VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW

at

Itton Village Hall on Saturday 7th July

Opening at 2.30pm.. All exhibits must be in place on the morning of the Show by 12pm.

Schedules can be obtained by contacting
Gerdien Versteeg on 01291 628091

Besides vegetables and flowers, there are craft items, painting, photography, wine making, cooking and preserves. The children's section has a variety of entries also.

COMING SHORTLY ON THE WEB

I'm going to be introducing a new feature. "Interesting Websites". I will regularly update this page with new and interesting website. My aim is to add one every couple of weeks. The 1st website to feature will link to a non-partisan website which aims to make it easy for people to keep tabs on their elected and unelected representatives in Parliament, and other assemblies. Type in your postcode and, for example, get a complete list of our local MP's voting records and most recent appearances in the House of Parliament. What fun!

SHIRENEWTON MOTHERS UNION

10 members and 2 guests attended the Deanery Festival at Magor on the evening of the 8th May. There were 105 communicants at the Service and 85 members enjoyed fellowship and refreshment in the Church Hall afterwards.

There had been doubts about attendance at an evening Festival in this Deanery (ours had usually been held in the afternoon) but these doubts proved unfounded. There will be an Open Deanery meeting at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 20th June in the Vicarage garden at Mathern (if wet in the Church (St. Tewdric's) (Incidentally, St. Tewdric's is worth a visit if you haven't yet been there).

The evening will be of FASHION – wear your prettiest dress with accessories FUN a light-hearted quiz of music from the Shows, past and present and NOSTALGIA – how about bringing along your wedding albums, or even those of your parents or any interesting photos. Non-members are welcome to attend and find out more about the MU.

At our meeting on the 13th June we will be welcoming Captains Gerald and Jayne Nicoll of the Salvation Army as our speakers. Visitors are welcome.

Our meeting will be at The Recreation Hall and will start at 2.30 p.m.

Auriol Horton, Branch Leader

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA
Musical Director: Graham Bull

presents

Elijah

by
Felix Mendelssohn

Lynsey Docherty (Soprano) Sian Menna (Alto)
Christopher Bowen (Tenor) Edward Price (Bass)

**St Mary's Priory & Parish Church,
Chepstow**

7.30 pm, Saturday, 14th July 2007

Musical Director: Graham Bull

Tickets (£10 / £8 conc) available from Chepstow Bookshop
Further information relating to ticket sales/booking etc. may be
obtained by telephoning (01291) 623310/622465/623421

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one of the great choral masterpieces by your local choral
society, professional soloists and orchestra.*

*Chepstow Choral Society is affiliated to the
Welsh Amateur Music Federation.*



FAIRTRADE NEWS

Did you know that eBay has launched eBay for charity? It allows you to donate a percentage of the sale price to verified charities like Traidcraft Exchange. After your item sells your donation is paid into Traidcraft Exchange's bank account along with Gift Aid (if you've ticked the box) and an eBay fee donation. Go to <http://pages.ebay.co.uk/community/charity/sellerinfo.html> for more info!

Traidcraft are continuing to offer new products: 1 litre cartons of orange juice (which recently beat Del Monte in a 'best tasting fruit juice from concentrate' taste award from a top food mag) £1 50 (Somerfield used to stock these, but no longer) and a new flavour for the very popular Geobars : blueberry and raisin. As you can no longer borrow catalogues from Spar DO contact me direct so that I can get one to you! There are many really lovely things available now.

AND it's 2 years since a quarter of a million people gathered in Edinburgh to Make Poverty History. On June 2nd in London Traidcraft (and many other groups) will be reminding the PM of the promises that were made. Our Tony talked the talk, let's hope.

(By the way a couple of kind souls have offered to help me out by buying some of the Spar's ex-stock but it's only ground coffee I have in excess!) Contact me for info or a catalogue Marion McAdam 641316 or email on msm316@gmail.com

A COFFEE MORNING

will be held in aid of the

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE (Wales)

on

SATURDAY JUNE 30th

**6, Tan House Court
Shirenewton**

From 10.30 a.m.

SHIRENEWTON VILLAGE SHOP.

You may already be aware that a formal application to convert the Village Shop for fully residential use. The application number is DC/2007/00490 and the notice was posted on the 11th May. Needless to say, if the change of use is granted, the last chance we had to retain the the shop will have gone, and Shirenewton will never have a village shop again.

You can view the application itself via the Monmouthshire CC website (there is a link from the Church website (www.shirenewtonchurch.com) under the Community section.

Please object to this change of use in order that all may be done to retain this important facility for the village. For your convenience details of how to object and a template objection are available under the Community Planning Permission page.

CHRISTIAN AID PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

Once again Christian Aid Week approached. And once again my heart sank. Knocking on doors requesting money via an envelope is not my favourite task, especially as it comes just after Red Cross Week and just before the Fete (requests for cakes, bottles, bric-a-brac...)

So this year, the foot soldiers on envelope duty decided to do something different. 'A Ploughman's Lunch!' So much easier – and so much nicer! So, from 12.00 to 3.00 on Saturday 19th May, we offered bread, cheese, salad and pickles (and a freebie glass of wine) for a small sum of money.

And loads of people turned up to support Christian Aid. It was fantastic! Thank you to every one who came along. We raised £391.20. And this, along with the £90.50 collection at the Family Service in church the following morning will go to Christian Aid. (Christian Aid supports people who are so much less well off than ourselves, irrespective of race or religion.)

So thank you once again, Glynis, Kevin and Jane

SHIRENEWTON W.I.

May 2007

This month's meeting was the Annual General Meeting. The President, Sally Saysell, welcomed Therese Casemore from Gwent Federation who was attending as a W.I Advisor. Sally had enjoyed her time as President, and thanked the committee for their help and support through the year. She was very pleased to see a good turn out of members for the AGM, which is an essential business meeting, but not one that often attracts high attendance. Winnie expressed the thoughts of all members when she thanked Sally for the time, effort and good humour that she had brought to the role.

The outgoing Treasurer presented the financial accounts which will be passed to an independent auditor from the Federation. She was pleased to announce that the Recreation Hall Committee had been able to keep their charge for the hall unchanged. This was pleasing news, in view of the considerable improvements that have been made to the building.

The outgoing Secretary presented the Annual Report. Membership numbers had remained stable; and members had enjoyed a wide variety of speakers and activities. Some members had been able to participate in County Federation events at various times during the year. The group were very proud that their outgoing President had recently been elected onto the Gwent Federation Executive Committee.

Therese oversaw acceptance of the newly proposed committee, and the election of a new President. She also expressed a hope that members would continue to support Federation events, giving special mention to a forthcoming Eisteddfod, and Drama festival. Winnie gave a report on the Federation Resolution Meeting. This year's resolution expresses the W.I.'s concern about the closure of Community Hospitals; and the financial pressures on local primary healthcare.

Jenny Bonner was elected as the new President. The next meeting will be on 21st June at 7:15pm in the Recreation Hall, when our new President will welcome her daughter Lucy, to speak on 'Forest Schools'. All visitors will be welcome.

STARGAZING IN JUNE 2007

The conspicuous constellation of the Plough lies high in the evening sky to the northwest. The two stars at the ploughshare end are called the Pointers, and are so-called because they point to Polaris, the North Star. Polaris is one of the stars in the constellation of Ursa Minor which looks like a smaller, fainter copy of the Plough.

The W-shape of Cassiopeia lies in a north-easterly direction. Leo the Lion, shaped rather like a reversed question mark, can be seen in the west. Cygnus the Swan lies in the eastern sky. It is one of the most distinctive constellations, often nicknamed the Northern Cross.

Venus is the brilliant Evening Star in the north-west. At the end of June the planet Saturn is moving close to Venus. Jupiter rises later in the evening. On the 6th June, Jupiter is at "Opposition", where it is closest to Earth and so at its brightest. The Crescent Moon and Venus are close together on the 18th June and should make a fine sight.

The great Italian scientist Galileo used his telescope or what was then called an "optic tube" to map the Moon, and estimated the height of its mountains to be roughly 5 miles. This is surprisingly accurate considering his measurements were made 400 years ago.

On the 21st June the Earth's axis is tilted towards the Sun to its greatest extent and the Sun reaches its highest position in the sky at noon. This is the longest day or summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere.

Dave Thomas



Girlguiding UK

1ST SHIRENEWTON GUIDES.

Discussions are underway in the unit regarding our entry for the fete procession. As a parent, ease of preparation is paramount but, the girls have a different prospective - watch this space. We are planning a new game for the fete and hope you will all come along and support the girls.

In the last few weeks we have held a football and hockey tournament and had the misfortune to have to cancel an evening of water games due to torrential rain! We do try and get out and about a bit this term so you may well bump into groups of girls around the village on a Tuesday evening. With this in mind, if you are a Guide parent please make sure your Guide brings a coat to meetings as, even on the most pleasant of days, it is often quite cool by 8.30pm.

Camp is getting ever closer and the leaders are busy planning a weekend of activities to keep the Guides busy - with a back up plan in case of inclement weather.

Yours in Guiding,

Kestrel Helen Cann tel. 650825; Amanda Turner tel. 650763
Kitten, Zebra, Tiger, Bumble, Bee and Koala.

SHIRENEWTON BROWNIES

OUTDOOR FUN

In Brownies this term we had a mini Olympics evening. We did hurdles, Welly Wanging and hop, skip and jump. Our favourite was the hurdles. The next week we went outside and found different things to match different colours. The hardest colours to match were bright yellow and white. Three Brownies flew up to Guides and three new girls came to Brownies. They think Brownies is brilliant.

Written by the Brownies that aren't going in the Technquest trip

Seventeen girls will be joining the leaders on a trip to Technquest on Wednesday 23rd May. This is to go attend a special Brownie evening where the girls are hoping to earn their Science Investigator Badge.

Jackie Broughton