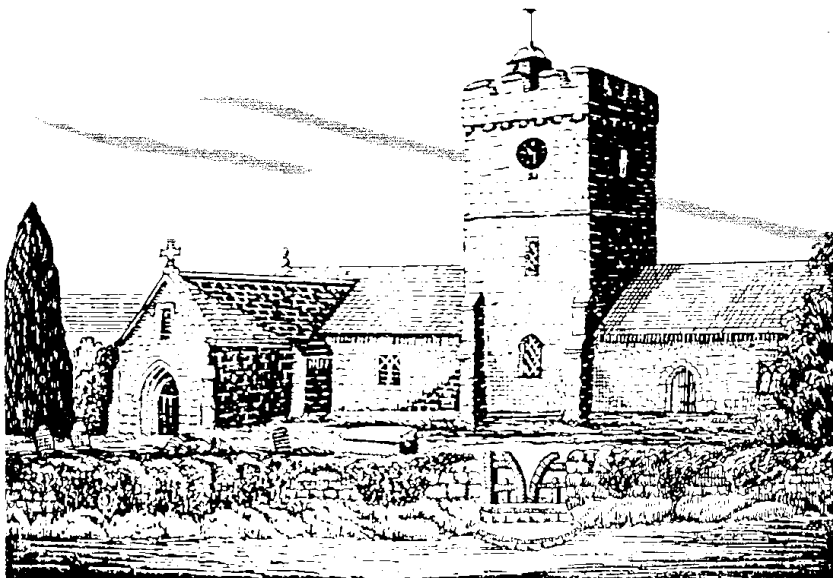


PRICE: 50P

SEPTEMBER 2004

**THE CHURCH OF ST THOMAS A BECKET
SHIRENEWTON**



PARISHES OF SHIRENEWTON AND NEWCHURCH

MAGAZINE

INCUMBENT:	The Revd Hugh Trenchard	424984
CURATE	The Revd Nansi Davies	01633 400519
CHURCH WARDENS:	Auriol Horton	641844
	Sally Saysell	641369
	Mrs Kath Whittington – Newchurch	641600
	Mrs Susan Lenthall – Newchurch	626389
PCC SECRETARIES:	Andrew Baker - Shirenewton	641925
	David Heritage - Newchurch	650380
PCC TREASURERS:	Kevin Bounds - Shirenewton	641818
	Enid Heritage - Newchurch	650380
GIFT AID SECRETARY	Ruth Savagar	629890
CHURCH MAINTENANCE & SAFETY OFFICER	John Nicholas	641368
ORGANISTS:	Karen Millar	650521
	Ruth Savagar	629890
	Kath Wittington	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:	Felicity Hunt	650604
PARISH MAGAZINE:	Bob O'Keefe	641686
200 Club	Pauline Dutton	641677

NAMES TO NOTE

WI:	Sally Saysell	641369
SCOUTS:	Dave Richardson	620356
GUIDES:	Helen Cann	650835
BROWNIES:	Jackie Broughton	641797
EXPLORERS:	Pete Maggs	650930
CUBS:	Diana Such	650638
BEAVERS:	GILL NORRIS	622703
POLICE CONTACT:	P.C. Dino Lantzoz	01633 838111
REC. BOOKING SECRETARY:	Beryl Saysell	641637
TRAIDCRAFT:	Marion McAdam	641316

Please send notes, discs or emails for the October magazine to Bob O'Keefe, 15 Newton Manor, Shirenewton, (641686) or email to bobandwenche @aol.com by Saturday 18th September.

September 2004.

Dear Parishioners,

Time is one of those every day things that we seldom think about. When we are enjoying ourselves time seems to fly but if bogged down with a problem or doing something dull or monotonous, time can drag to the point that no end seems in sight. Yet time is such a precious gift that we ought to value it and make the most of every moment.

So often you hear the response "I haven't got time!" or "I can't make time!" and yet it is always the busiest of people who always seem to find the time and the space for someone or for some activity or other. Time like age is really in our minds. The Bible is constantly giving us hints to help us to really make the very most of the time we have.

Time and eternity are often contrasted and Jesus kept urging his followers to live each day as if it were their last. In a unique way we are to try to let the quality and brightness of eternity fill time. It's an opportunity to banish that awful chant countlessly rehearsed, "boring!" It's not just the younger generation by any means who come out with that one. We live in a world where many people resort to drugs of various kinds, to casual relationships where thrill replaces value all in a vain quest for some thing or some one different.

To begin to fill our time with some of the true fascination of what it is to be a human being spectacularly created with the gifts of perception and a capacity to care. These gifts do still show themselves when disaster strikes, adversity binding a new neighbourliness and community is reborn.

We have had a period of strange and frightening weather and as horrific as things have been in the hurricane torn states of America, the millions in Bangladesh are quickly forgotten, and the Sudan slips from view.

Part of finding the eternal in time is to strive for a view of what it is to be "neighbour" globally. To challenge ourselves to see that where ever there is want or distress we are all diminished. We rectify it not by being miserable and feeling defeated but by beginning to celebrate the wonder of what life can offer in a world where we begin to acknowledge that we need each other and the only time we have to do something about it is now.

Harvest festivals will soon be celebrated and one aspect we can all include is to take a look and the harvest of our own lives and make a point celebrating the precious gift we harvest every moment we draw breath – the time we enjoy.

With every good wish,
Hugh Trenchard.

Come and join us!

at
SHIRENEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We meet at

*The Chantry, Shirenewton (opposite the church)
from 9.45 to 10.45 on Sunday mornings.*

*Here's a list of the dates for the next couple of
months:*

Date	Time	Venue
12 th Sept	9.45	Sunday School – The Chantry
19 th Sept	9.45	Family Service – Church
26 th Sep	t.b.a.	Sunday School Outing
3 rd Oct	9.45	Harvest Festival - Church
10 th Oct	9.45	Sunday School – The Chantry
17 th Oct	9.45	Family Service – Church
24 th Oct	9.45	Sunday School – The Chantry
31 st Oct	9.45	Group Service – (not sure where yet)
7 th Nov	9.45	Sunday School – The Chantry
14 th Nov	9.45	Remembrance Sunday – Church

- Nativity Play rehearsals will begin in the middle of November
- Make a special date in your diary for:

**Our Sunday School Outing to
Old Down Farm
Sunday 26th September**

**If you would like more info - phone:
Jane Smith-Haddon - 01291 641 525
Glynis MacDonald - 01291 641 818**

Looking forward to seeing you

FAMILY FUN DAY

**At Caldicot Leisure Centre
on Saturday 18 September from 1 p.m.– 4 p.m.
Contact Auriol Horton (641844) for details**

FROM THE REGISTERS:

- Marriages:** 24th July 2004 of: Lesley Amanda Goulding to
Paul James Deakin
- 1st August 2004 of: Sarah Enid Britton to
Oamar Al-Nuami
- 22nd August 2004 of: Tracey Anne Phillips to
Richard Geoffrey Stone
- Holy Baptism:** 14th August 2004 of: Oliver James son of
Helen Catherine Cole and
Wayne John Edwards
- Burial:** 11th August 2004 of: Ivy Doris Beale age 94
Many Thanks to Mrs. Maureen Moody for once again
generously providing and arranging the flowers for the Church.

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH 200 CLUB
July Draw

118	Mike Sayce	£40
223	Elaine Rigby	£30
168	Mrs. N Strachan	£20
211	Mrs Gladys Lloyd	£10

THERE WAS NO DRAW IN AUGUST

GAERLLWYD WOMEN'S MEETINGS: – AT GAERLLWYD BAPTIST CHAPEL

Meetings for September will be held on – 1st September at 2.30 p.m.
speaker Auriol Horton - 15th September at 2.30 p.m. Speaker Sally Price.

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Annual Meeting held 5th. July 2004

Six members were joined by the retiring Chairman, John Bonsey and County Councillor Graham Down together with 2 members of the community.

Ms. Beverley Moore was appointed Chairman for the next year and John Eede appointed as her Vice-Chairman.

John Bonsey was thanked for his excellent work as Chairman over the previous 2 years. John Noble, Robert Lutkin and Ernest Jones have also decided to step down.

Martin Sutherland was elected and will join the Community Council at the next meeting. Three vacancies exist for possible co-opted members. A special meeting will be held on 19th. July to meet potential candidates for co-option.

There were no **Matters Arising** from the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting.

The **Community Council Accounts** to 31st. March 2004 were adopted.

PC Lantz reported a low level of crime in the area during June. Incidents had included a burglary, a car break-in and the attempted theft of a horse box. He thanked members of the public for their vigilance and promptness in reporting anything suspicious to the Police. He will be holding a "surgery" at Earlswood Hall on 3rd. August between 6 – 8 pm and will be pleased to discuss matters with local residents.

Planning Matters

Three Applications were received for consideration. These involved a single storey extension at **Tantivy, Usk Road**, erection of stables and a feeding area at **Beech Grove, Earlswood** and the conversion of a barn into a separate dwelling at **Tredegar Farm, Newchurch**. Members recommended each application be approved.

The County Planning Authority informed us of the following decisions. Permission has been given for the construction of a new dwelling at **Ty Twr, Mynyddbach**, for Phase 1 of the development programme of **The Recreation Hall, Shirenewton** and for a single storey extension at **The Laurels, Mynyddbach**.

We were also told of a Tree Preservation Order along the length of the drive at **Great House, Newchurch**.

The appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the ménage and stable block at **Penyrheol, Penyaemawr** will be heard on 27th. July.

Matters of Local Concern

Unfortunately our entry into this year's Best Kept Village competition has not been registered. However a number of points were raised which would not have enhanced our chances of winning. Apparently a corner of the green field area between ***Blethyn Close and Tan House Court*** is being used as a meeting place by a group of young people. The area is being left littered with a variety of debris. The Police are to be involved with the problem. The ***area in the vicinity of The Tan House*** is also reported as becoming untidy because of excess litter.

Residents throughout the community are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure their ***roadside hedges*** are not interfering with traffic visibility.

The date of the next Community Council meeting was set as 2nd. August 2004.

Special meeting held 19th. July 2004

This meeting was held to discuss co-option of members to the Community Council.

7 members plus 3 candidates for consideration for co-option attended.

It was unanimously agreed to invite all 3 candidates to join the Council as co-opted members. The brought us back to a full 10 members.

Your Community Council now comprises of :-

Shirenewton	Ms.B.Moore, Chairman	641532
	J.Eede, Vice-Chairman	641257
	Mrs.S.Bushell	641845
	J.Harvey	641279
	M.Sutherland	641653
Mynyddbach	C.Crundwell	641878
	Mrs.S.Saysell	641369
Earlswood	C.Eickhoff	641716
	K.Moreton	650268
Newchurch West	P.Jones	641627

Your local Community Councillor will be pleased to talk to you and raise any problems you may have in your particular ward.

Two **Planning Matters** were considered and recommended for approval. These involved an upper floor extension at **Kinvara, Shirenewton** and the replacement of a flat roof with a pitched roof at **Cae Golwg, Mynyddbach**.

Members confirmed there is no current need or desire to have a bus-stop created at the entrance to the Recreation Field and will inform Monmouthshire County Council of their views.

Meeting held on 2nd. August 2004

Five members were joined by Cllr. Graham Down, PC Lantzoz and a member of the community.

PC Lantzoz told us that since the last meeting there had been a shed burglary in which items of machinery had been stolen and a car break-in. There had also been 2 minor motor accidents on the B4235 between the Shirenewton junction and Gaerllwyd.

He told us the speed analysis exercise on the Usk Road (near The Huntsman) had been completed. Results indicate there is no serious speeding on the road with less than 1% actually exceeding the permitted 60 mph.

PC Lantzoz reminded us that he is now holding regular “surgeries” alternating between Earlswood Hall and Shirenewton Recreation Hall. Advance notice of the meetings will be posted on the Notice Boards.

Again there were no significant **Matters Arising** from the minutes of the last meeting.

Planning Matters

Only one Application was presented for consideration. This involved the proposed change of use of the existing accommodation at **Shirenewton Golf Club** to residential units in the form of 10 dwellings with garaging and parking facilities and an amended site access.

Because this is such a significant proposed development members decided to arrange a public meeting to discuss the matter. It is hoped all interested parties will attend the meeting which will be held on Tuesday 7th, September at 8 p.m. at the Recreation Hall. Plans of the proposed development will be available for viewing at the Rec. on Sunday 5th, September between 3 and 7 p.m.

The following developments have all been given Planning Permission by the County Planning Department: -

Stable block / ménage at **Great House Farm, Newchurch**

Single storey extension at **Barn Cottage, Shirenewton**

Two storey extension at **Little Brook Cottage, Earlswood**

Two storey side extension at **Westfield Cottage, Mynyddbach**

Single storey extension at **Red House, Earlswood**

Addition of Solar Panels at **The Paddock, Weyloed Lane**

Single storey annexe at **The Old Barn, Lower Argoed,**

Earlswood

The appeal against refusal of planning permission for a development at **Penyrheol, Penyaemawr** has been heard but, as yet, no decision has been reached.

Matters of Local Concern

A local resident joined us to pass on her complaints about a **recent event held at The Tan House**. A large group of motorcyclists arrived

at the pub and enjoyed an evening of music and drinking until the bar closed. It seems the event continued in the car park with loud music and revelry until about 2 am. A number of residents living in the vicinity of The Tan House, including young children, were unable to get to sleep until the "party" eventually finished. The Community Council will investigate the matter further. Residents are reminded that excessive noise pollution should be reported to the Police.

The 3 **telephone kiosks in Earlswood are scheduled for closure**. Following strong objections from residents in the area, a letter is to be sent to BT asking for the decision to be reconsidered and all 3 kiosks to be left in service.

The date of the next meeting was set as Monday 6th. September 2004

Peter Jones

SMU (SHIRENEWTON MOTHERS' UNION)

We resume our meetings after the August break on Wednesday, 8th September at 2.30 p.m. with a Corporate Communion led by Revd. Hugh Trenchard at St. Thomas ↔ Becket Church.

Midday Prayers were held On 9th August, the anniversary of the death of Mary Sumner in 1921, by which time her vision and energy had brought 400,000 members to the MU following the first branch meeting held in 1876. She was one person that did live long enough to see the fruit of her labours. Her vision has been expanded and adapted during the succeeding 128 years, and there are now 3.5 million members in 75 countries who are showing "Christian care for families world-wide".

The Marketing Unit of Monmouth Diocese MU is holding a **FAMILY FUN DAY** in celebration of the 10th International Year of the Family at **CALDICOT LEISURE CENTRE** on **SATURDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. There will be something to appeal to all the family and there is no entrance fee. See notice in the Church Porch for details. Do make it a family day out and give us your support. Netherwent Deanery MU which includes Shirenewton will be running the bottle stall and we already have some nice prizes.

We welcome new members – come and meet us on the 8th September or contact Auriol Horton, Branch Leader on 01291 641844.

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**WILL BE HOSTING A
PUBLIC MEETING at**

**7th September at 8pm on
at**

THE RECREATION HALL

**For members of the community to express their
views
and comments on the Planning Application that has
been submitted for the change of use at
SHIRENEWTON GOLF CLUB
and the building of garages for 10 dwelling units .**

In addition

**The Plans will be available for inspection on Sunday
05.09.04, between 3pm and 7pm at**

THE RECREATION HALL

EMOTIVE GARDEN DESIGNS



Innovative Design Concepts
Full Working Drawings
Advisory visits, Planting Plans,
Free Initial Consultation

Sue Bullock
Tel: 01291 641245
Fax: 01291 641713
email: Sue.Bullock@btinternet.com

FAIRTRADE NEWS

I have just received my first copy of the winter catalogue. Well, it is just about September!

Many of the food items remain the same. Additions include 150 gram packs of Bombay Mix (80p) and Spicy Plantain Chips (90p).

As usual there is an interesting selection of seasonal gifts, cards etc I have recently become a Great Aunt (I keep wanting to burst out with 'A Handbag! Edith Evans/Judi Dench?') and I will simply have to buy the beautiful Alpaca teddy bear, with his stunning wardrobe of poncho and hat, or his more formal jacket and trousers in the natural colours of the alpaca :grey, brown and cream.

There are about 3 million alpacas in Peru (90% of the world's population). Each community living in the high Andes has its own herd of coloured alpacas, which are sheared annually and often provide the main income for the families. The cream yarn is more successful commercially and these coloured alpacas are in danger of becoming worthless and consequently extinct. Minka, the fair trade organisation works with these poor communities to ensure a fair price for the yarn and the knitted garments, and helps provide training and other community improvements.

The new catalogues will be in the Spar in a week or so.

For more info or a catalogue contact me at 641 316 or marion@mcadam100.freeserve.co.uk

SHIRENEWTON W.I.

The July meeting took place in the beautiful surroundings of Mr & Mrs E Jones lovely garden. All members enjoyed the challenge of solving the quizzes, riddles and knowledge of tools of past years, set by our hosts.

The Hestercombe garden trip was successful despite the rain in the afternoon. It is hoped we can arrange another similar trip next year.

Six members have been very busy with our entry for the Chepstow Agricultural Show on 14 August entitled "On the Riverbank".

Members will next meet up at the Woodlands Tavern in August for the summer dinner.

Next branch meeting will be on Thursday 16 September 7.15pm, when Cassandra Harris will talk about the "Forensic Labs".

Visitors are very welcome to come at any time. Meetings take place every 3rd Thursday of the month at the Recreation Hall.

Shirley Bonsey



PYP- Parish Youth Page

Hiya folks,

The season of wasps and mellow fruitfulness is here. My owner has been really pleased with the fruit trees in our garden. (We dogs like trees for other reasons but we needn't go into details) Anyway my owner was looking forward to the bumper crop of plums, apples and pears and she was planning to make tons of jam. Anyway the wasps have got there first and they are having a great time. My owner is so cross she wants to know why wasps were invented. Answers on a postcard please.

Anyway here is a Seasonal Teaser. The first clue is referring to the vegetable not what my owner would like to do with the wasps. I think.

The first is in squash but not in squeeze,
My second is in beans and also in peas.
My third is in bread but not in bake,
My fourth is in loaves but not in cake.
My fifth is in eggs and lots in cheese,
The sixth's not in fruit but is in trees.
My seventh is in thank you, with food all to share

So it's Earlswood Hall 3/10- see you all there!

The editor will have hidden the answer somewhere near the back of the mag! (page 26) I'm off to check the trees.

See ya! PYP

Do come along to Shirenewton's Harvest Festival at Earlswood Hall on Sunday 3rd October. No Wasps allowed.

WITH EXAM RESULTS JUST RECEIVED SOME LOVELY HOWLERS:

The following were answers provided by 6th formers during history tests. Watch the spelling! Some of the best humour is in the misspelling.

1. Ancient Egypt was inhabited by mummies and they all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that all the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.
2. Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. He died before he ever reached Canada.
3. Solomon had three hundred wives and seven hundred porcupines.



1st Shirenewton Guides.

Well I hope the Guides are enjoying their “summer” break. As I write it is puring down with rain. Being an optimist – what comes down now can’t come down again in September, and we are looking for a warm, dry and preferably sunny weekend for District Day Camp. I know we call it day camp but some brave Guides (and their intrepid Leaders) will be sleeping under the stars(monsoon permitting) so we would like a good weekend ! Any Guides or parent helpers who have not yet completed their forms for the Camp need to get them in to the District Commissioner as soon as possible as seats are being allocated on the coaches – no forms no Camp. If you intend coming to Camp, but cannot make that meeting, you should contact a Leader to ensure you know what kit is required.

Yours in Guiding,

Kestrel Helen Cann	650835
Raven Kate Godwin-Tate	629360
Zebra Tracey Ashton	650692

**HARVEST FESTIVAL LUNCH
3RD OCTOBER 2004
EARLSWOOD MEMORIAL HALL**

**TICKETS FROM PCC MEMBERS
COME AND ENJOY
ANOTHER GREAT SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER**

SHIRENEWTON WHIST DRIVES

At the beginning of July, with some of our regular members on holiday we still numbered thirty at the Drive – it was lovely to be able to go home after the drive in daylight after a warm evening.

In August, 38 people enjoyed the Drive again on a warm evening with the doors and windows open until 10 o'clock. Our next Drive is on Thursday 2nd September at 7.30 prompt. Do join us for a pleasant social evening.

Auriol Horton. 01291 641844.

The Church Shopping Portal

As we return from holidays (I'm typing this on MH004 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia --> Heathrow) and get into the new term, the Autumn, the run up to Christmas and so on, lets not forget the church website is still operating and producing cash for the church. More cash would be produced if more people used it. I'm not asking for people to use the site in place of better deals on non-supported sites - simply to remember to use the site when shopping on-line at the stores thereon.

Remember all the most popular on-line stores are represented. I'm thinking Amazon.co.uk; e-bookers, Screwfix, Tesco, etc. So, those of you who shop on-line, go on tie a knot in a hankie or something (sooooo many people tell me that they've just brought something on-line and forgotten to use the church site) and use it. It's really quite simple!

www.shirenewtonchurch.org.uk.

On a forward-looking note, I'm hoping to give the site a face-lift over the coming months.

Thanks
David Cornwell
Webmaster

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THE BELLS, THE BELLS.....

SHIRENEWTON NEWS/NEWYDDION TRENEWYDD GELLI FARCH

Such has been the gap in our bell ringing reports that this months offering has an historical feel to it this month.

On Sunday 20 June 2004 a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at Shirenewton. The band was as follows:

Sally Utting	Treble
David Price	Second
Bob Millar	Third
Pip Penney	Fourth
Mike Penney	Fifth
Alex Osley	Tenor

The quarter peal was the first for Bob Millar on an inside bell.

On 26 June a Shirenewton Band won a striking competition against three other bands from the Monmouth and Llandaff bell ringing branches. The band included one of the youngest of Shirenewton bell ringers, Claire Eickhoff.

The Summer Ten Towers Tour took place on the weekend of 20-22 August. Although it sounds like a Lord of the Rings sequel the Ten Towers Tour is in fact the opportunity for the Shirenewton band together with various honoured guests to travel, "grab" new towers (see *The Bells passim*), and check out the local hostleries of the area selected.

This year the tour was in the Knaresborough area of Yorkshire. A fuller description of the tour will appear next month.

Ian Griffiths

Shirenewton Local History Society

70 members and friends visited Dewstow hidden gardens and grottoes on a perfect June evening we were welcomed by the owner Mr W. E. Harris. The Head Gardener gave us a brief history of the grounds. She told us that the gardens were laid out for Mr Henry Oakley who brought the estate in 1893. He had the grounds and underground ferneries and grottoes laid out. They used an artificial stone called Pulhamite as well as natural stone. During the war the gardens were covered over and the land used for agriculture. The present owners brought the house in 1988 and when a cow fell into a grotto the underground features were discovered.

We were divided into two groups, half of us wandered through the gardens admiring a series of ponds and rills, and the interesting plantings of the different areas. The rest were further divided into three groups and led through the extensive underground tunnels that opened into a number of grottoes with skylights, and planted with ferns.

We were all astounded by the original design of the gardens and with how much had been done to restore them. We were also impressed with how mature they looked. We would like to thank our guides for showing us round and passing on their enthusiasm for the project. We would also like to thank the Harris family for letting us see their garden.

Our next meeting is on 28 September at 7.30 p.m. at The Shirenewton Golf Club.

Jenny Bonner

S.O.D.S

It's Panto Time again!!!

(Oh no it isn't.....)

Fancy treading the boards? Do you like dressing up?

Want to be in a chorus line?

Feel like making costumes?

Want to go back stage? Enjoy making props?

Could you design a backdrop?

Or paint by numbers

Could you prompt for Shirenewton?

Would you enjoy applying a bit of slap?

Then Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society is the
place to be!

S.O.D.S are a merry bunch of amateurs who would welcome
with open arms anyone with (or even without) talent.

Turn up on

**Tuesday 7th September at 7.30 at Earlswood
Memorial Hall**

to find out what this year's panto is going to be!!

Tony Broadribb 641 598 -Director;

Glynis MacDonald 641 818 Stooze

Earlswood Hall News

Hello Readers,

It's nice to be back after the summer break. We trust that those who have been on holiday have had good weather, while some parts of the country have been unlucky enough though to suffer flash flooding.

First an apology for the obituary in the last magazine where it was printed Mrs. J Jones of the Bungalow Newchurch West had passed away, in fact it was Mrs. Jean Smith, our most sincere apologies to all concerned.

Now with autumn nearly upon us and winter approaching, the time has come once again to organise events in order to help the hall funds.

The first date is Friday 3rd September when we will be holding the Big Night Out Show, which we really need to be a success in order to secure funds to pay for the heating of the Hall through the coming winter. So please support this event in order that we can continue to provide a warm good facility for the other events held at the Hall.

Tickets are £10.00 each and can be obtained from the Shirenewton Village Shop, or from Glynis at the Chantry on 01291 641818, or from 641779; 641627; 240270; 650268 (all 0191 numbers).

Congratulations to the new owners, Anne and Paul in taking over the shop. The shop is a great community asset, one that we need to support, and we are grateful to Paul and Anne for their support in assisting with the sale of tickets and continued support of these community events.

More news in the next letter. .

John Spary
Entertainment secretary.

To hire the Hall at competitive rates contact Glynis MacDonald on
01291 641818

"Thinking of a holiday in Orlando with all its attractions".
Why pay hotel rates?

Rent a villa.

Check out www.adisneyvilla.com

Mention this magazine when booking for a 5% discount on published rates."

NFU Ad

Shirenewton Kids Club

Staff Vacancies from September 2004

Shirenewton Kids Club based at Shirenewton Primary School provides after school care for up to 24 children, 5 days a week (term time).

We have vacancies for play assistants to work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday or Monday to Friday 3pm to 6pm term-time only. Rate of pay £5.50p per hour.

The play assistants work closely with the play leaders in providing a safe and caring environment and ensuring that the club meets the relevant standards.

Please contact Penny Davies (01291 650709, Jacky Hale 01291 421287 or Louise Leader 01291 641566 for an informal chat / application form.



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COOKERY CORNER

Over thirty years ago, my mother used to write a cookery column for the local newspaper in West Wales. I still have all the cuttings and use many of these recipes often. She was given the following recipe bt what seemed like a very old gentleman (probably my age) who said his moth used to make it when she was alive. Whether the name refers the age of the gentleman I do not know but we have always called it:

HASBEAN:

<i>2-1/2 lb. Runner or French beans.</i>	<i>½ pint spiced vinegar</i>
<i>½ teacup mustard powder.</i>	<i>½ teacup plain flour.</i>
<i>1 tablespoon turmeric</i>	<i>1 large onion</i>
<i>1 lb. soft brown sugar (Use less if liked)</i>	

Boil the beans as usual. Boil ¾ pint of vinegar & sugar together. Mix the flour, mustard and turmeric with remaining ¼ pint of vinegar. When well mixed, add to the boiling vinegar and sugar. Boil for 5 minutes stirring all the time, add the beans and finely chopped onion. Boil for 5 4 minutes and pot.

Another favourite pickle I make every year:-

CUCUMBER CRISP PICKLE:

<i>3lb. Cucumber thinly sliced.</i>	<i>1 Green pepper –de-seeded</i>
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------

½ lb onions very thinly sliced.

Cooking salt.

For the liquid:

½ lb moist brown sugar.

1-1/2 teaspoon mustard seeds

½ teaspoon celery salt.

½ teaspoon turmeric

½ teaspoon mustard powder

4 dried chillies

1 cup wine vinegar.

½ cup tarragon vinegar

Put layers of cucumber, onion and pepper mixed into a colander and sprinkle each layer liberally with salt. Leave for 4 hours or over night. Meanwhile bring the rest of the ingredients to a boil and simmer for two minutes and cool.

*Rinse the veg with cold water, drain well and pat dry, then tip into the vinegar mixture. Bring to boil **SLOWLY** stirring often. Don't worry if it looks a lot of cucumber to a little liquid – the veg shrinks.*

When just boiling take off the heat, stir well, pot and seal. The veg should be crisp and stay the way, so don't allow it to boil madly.

Thanks again to Caroline Davies

Mary Vittle

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GARDENING CORNER

Welcome back after the summer break! It strikes me that whenever I write one of these pages that I always start with the weather. Still I suppose that when you are working with (or is that against) nature, all the time then it is hardly surprising. Its seems that autumn is creeping up very quickly this

year and yet again the fortunes in the garden here at Barn Farm have been very mixed. The weather has been very challenging to say the least, ranging from weeks of dry and heat. Oh yes there was some! To the current, what appears to be, never ending heavy rain. Many thanks to Ernie by the way for supplying the rainfall figures after my request in a previous article. Still more of that later!

Generally the open days that we had for the National Garden Scheme went very well, at least the ones we had on the three Sunday afternoons did! Unfortunately the one evening opening coincided with one of those stormy days when a lot of damage occurred around the country. I wasn't going to put any signs up at all but in the end thought that perhaps I should. Surprisingly five intrepid gardeners decided to arrive, including two that had travelled all the way from Southampton! The journey had taken approaching four hours and this had included some time sitting in a car park on the new Severn Bridge due to the old one being closed. Now that must go down to complete dedication! Yet again many thanks to all those that came along and supported us on these days. We managed to raise just under a thousand pounds for charity of which the Macmillan Nurses and Marie Curie receive the largest share. In addition the Devauden Green W.I. donated a very nice sum to our local air ambulance. Special thanks go out to Bernice and Glynis for being our meeting and greeting committee, not to mention the collectors of ticket money. Most important! Without this help it would be very difficult to manage. Any volunteers for next year will be gratefully received!

The flower garden itself has generally been quite successful, but by the time we were open in mid June, it was really starting to suffer from lack of rain. This may be good for the weeding (meaning that there weren't any, weeds that is!), but it seemed to make everything flower earlier than usual. The only problem with that is that everything appears to be finishing earlier as well. This process could probably have been delayed a bit by deadheading the flowers, but with a garden this size it would mean 12 hours a day, seven days a week of snipping. Willing though the under gardener might be, I think that requests for this action would probably have met with a derisory comment. Either that or the garden trug would have been thrown to the ground followed by a staged sit-in, in the summerhouse. Rain did of course eventually arrive, but at the time not enough to make a lot of difference. With it came high winds on a couple of occasions and it was these that did the damage to many gardens. Fortunately the worst of these blew from the east and this is one direction that we are sheltered from. It did leave the garden covered in branches and leaves, but nothing worse. The other was from the south, again an unusual direction and this did do some damage, mainly plants falling over. A couple of days then had

to be spent with sticks and twine tying up those plants that could be rescued, but cutting off the stems of those that couldn't. At the moment it is warm, but wet and the weeds are now getting going with a vengeance. Hopefully I'll be able to get these sorted but a little dry weather would help if anyone were listening?

The vegetable garden as always has had successes and the usual failures and this year seems to have been a complete reverse of last! Onions and garlic were pulled up in June and put to dry on the greenhouse staging before the rains came. These were planted in October and the early maturing does allow for the maximum use of the ground as they were harvested and then replaced with a crop of salad stuff. Carrots and parsnips, lettuces, courgettes and early French and broad beans have all done well, as have the sweet corn (unlike last year when they only reached a foot high!). Later bean crops have suffered from lack of rain however. Greens started well, but as with last year it has turned into a battle with the caterpillars. Yet again these have won and a number of the crops have had to be directed towards the compost heap. Next year will be the last attempt to make a success of these and over the winter I will have to plan my strategy. Horticultural fleece will have to be the answer, but the problem will be in trying to keep the cats from tearing it to pieces first. Get rid of the cats you say? The only trouble is they are good mousers and rabbits' so guess I'll have to live with them! Fortunately the badgers haven't found the sweet corn and destroyed it this year. Judging by the excavations around they are busy digging out wasp nests. This is just as well as we are inundated with wasps this year. Experts say that they are very beneficial but they are not my most favourite of creatures. At the moment they are busy trying to raid my beehives and they have already killed off three of the weakest hives. I have restricted the entrances to narrow gaps so that the bees have a chance to defend themselves, but the number of wasps is overwhelming. Even though this year is not over we are already making plans for next. We have ordered some asparagus crowns for planting in the autumn so it will be interesting to see how these get on. Still time for work. I'll have to update you on the rest next month. Happy gardening until then, Steve Hunt.

Steve Hunt.

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MARIE CURIE COFFEE MORNING

On a very rainy Saturday back in June, the sum of **£515** was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care (Wales). Sincere thanks to all whom supported this event with their generous gifts and donations. Particular thanks to all the helpers on the day (especially Derek Watson who manned the outside stalls) without whose help this annual event would not be possible.

Grateful thanks

The answer to PYP's Seasonal Teaser is 'HARVEST'.

Job Wanted!!!

Want to go on holiday but don't know who will feed the cat? Or walk the dog? Or water the plants? Or fetch the newspaper? Whatever! If so call me, Alistair Bounds on 01291 641 818 or contact Glynis Macdonald who will tell me. I am 13 years old & willing to do most jobs for a fee decided by you. So call 01291 641 818.

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SHIRENEWTON MOTHERS & TODDLER GROUP

Meets every Thursday at 1.30 p.m. during term time at Shirenewton
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All mums and their children 0 – 4 years are welcome to come and
join us for fun, craft activities, snacks (including tea and coffee), and
a chat.

For more information please contact:

Helen on 01633 400516 or Jo on 01600 869077

Or just pop in!

Piers Propert

Some Dates for your Diary

2 nd Sept.	Whist Drive – Recreation Hall – 7.30 p.m.
3 rd September	Earlswood Hall – Variety Show night.
5 th Sept.	Plans of proposed development at Golf club available for viewing at Recreation Hall – 3 p.m. to 7p.m.
6 th Sept.	Community Council Meeting – Recreation Hall
7 th Sept.	Public meeting re. Planning application for development at Shirenewton Golf Club. Recreation Hall 7.30 p.m.
7 th Sept.	S.O.D s. Panto Meeting Earlswood Hall - 7.30 p.m.
18 th Sept.	Family Fun Day – Caldicot Leisure Centre – 1p.m.- 4p.m.
22 nd Sept.	Police Surgery – Earlswood Hall – 6 to 8 p.m.
28 th Sept.	History Society meeting at Shirenewton Golf Club.
3 rd Oct.	Harvest Festival Lunch – Earlswood Memorial Hall.

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READERS AND SIDES-PERSONS ROTA - SEPTEMBER

Date	Service	Reader	Sides-person
5 th Sept.	13 th Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist	Cynthia Smith Andrew Baker	Cynthia Smith Andrew Baker
12 th Sept.	14 th Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist	Kevin Bounds Winnie Jones	Kevin Bounds Winnie Jones
19 th Sept.	15 th Sunday after Trinity	FAMILY SERVICE 9.45 a.m.	
26 th Sept.	16 th Sunday after Trinity 9.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist	John Nicholas James Leney	John Nicholas James Leney
3 rd Oct.	17 th Sunday after Trinity t 9.45 a.m. Holy Eucharist Harvest Festival Service	Barbara Davies Bob Grattan	Barbara Davies Bob Grattan

HARVEST FESTIVAL FOLLOWED BY HARVEST LUNCH AT EARLSWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Newchurch Every Sunday at 2.30 p.m.