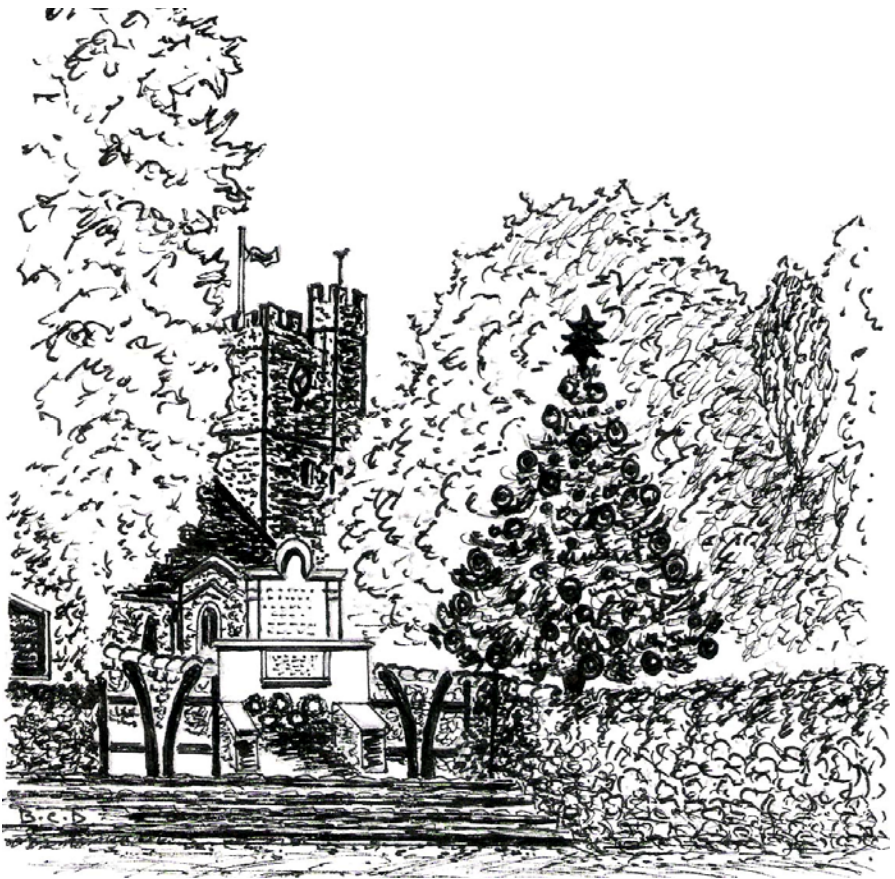


Shirenewton & Newchurch  
Parish Magazine  
December 2012  
January 2013



*Sketch by Barbara Davies*

Price: 50p

Dear Friends,

Few can have missed the news of the Church of England's recent meeting of the Synod at which the vote of admitting women's consecration to the Episcopate thus for the first time allowing women to be Bishops. There has been an extraordinary outcry from across a wide spectrum of opinion against this decision often declaring outrage or complete bafflement. Earlier this year I wrote in my letter to this magazine that the Church in Wales had agreed, in principle, that women would be consecrated as Bishops in Wales, however yesterday I listened to an interview with the Archbishop of the Church in Wales, Dr. Barry Morgan, when it became clear that I had misread an earlier report of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales (GB) (the equivalent body of the Synod in England) in which I had missed the word 'hope'; it is the hope of the Archbishop that legislation would be agreed next year allowing the consecration of women 'in principle' followed by a second proposal providing arrangements for those who are opposed on grounds of conscience. Oh dear! At the last vote of the GB it was the House of Clergy who voted against whilst the Bishops and Laity were overwhelmingly in favour. You may be wondering how people become our representatives on the GB. This process begins at parish level when Parochial Church Councils vote for a representative to the Deanery Conference where in turn voting takes place for membership of the Diocesan Conference and it is at that annual meeting that clergy and laity are voted onto the GB. At each stage of this process the numbers of representatives are governed by the average annual number of worshipers at parish level. The outcome of decision making at GB crucially depends on the parishes in the first place and an understanding of the views of those who put themselves forward to be representatives. If you have views on such issues as the ministry of women or indeed on any other subject that the Church is considering, then being on the Electoral Role of your Parish Church is the place to begin in order to put forward your views and to perhaps be elected to the various bodies. It is also clear that in voting for someone to represent your parish their views on matters arising for debate and voting are questioned. There are some folk who think that the Anglican Church is too democratic and thus slow in moving forward and should reduce the number of stages of voting and extend the age limit of representatives beyond 75 years – especially given the present age profile of church members - but this has recently been rejected. If you want to have a say come and join us and put your name on the Electoral Roll which gives you the power to vote!

You will recall that last month I indicated the latest stage in the process of our joining the Mathern Group of Parishes. Since then the PCC's of the four parishes have met and have agreed the joining of Shirenewton to the Mathern Group. The Area Dean, who is also the Vicar of the Mathern Group, has reported the result to both the Archdeacon and Bishop who have now to carry out consultations with various groups involved before a date can be arranged for the necessary legal actions to be completed. I will, of course, report progress as it emerges although I fear it will not be swift!

The first Sunday in December hails the beginning of Advent when Christians begin the preparation for the 'coming of Christ'. The period offers the opportunity to reflect on our spiritual progress since Lent. It is traditionally when the ecclesiastical year begins, that is the Church's new year. It is the time when the Collects, Epistles and Gospel readings change from one set using, in the main, one of the Gospel Books of the New Testament and one of Paul's letters to the emerging churches of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century; interestingly, the first clear reference to Advent is in the latter half of the 6<sup>th</sup> Century when the period began mid November. Here in the Anglican Church this changed at the Reformation with the introduction of the Book of Common Prayer in 1549. Advent was originally kept as Lent but with less strictness and fasting is no longer formally ordered, though festivities are discouraged and the solemn character of the season is marked by the liturgical use of purple for Sunday vestments at the Eucharist. The season of Advent is thus observed as a time of preparation not only for Christmas but also for the Second Coming of Christ as Judge at the Last Day when ever that will be and for which we need to be prepared as I outlined in the September magazine.

As we approach Christmas I look forward to meeting you at the celebrations of Carol singing and other services of preparation for the joyous time of Christmas, especially at the Midnight Christ Mass and the family service on Christmas Day.

I send you my prayers for a Happy Christmas and Blessings for the New Year.

Nansi Davies, Parish Priest.

## **SHIRENEWTON PARISH VISITORS**

We have a team of five Parish Visitors who are members of the Church of St Thomas á Becket's congregation.

They are trained and supported to offer a listening ear and time to chat with those in particular need -- the housebound, the sick, the bereaved, or those facing some other kind of crisis. They are also there to welcome new people into the village and help them to integrate into the community more quickly.

They are not professional counsellors, carers or social workers, but ordinary people who are willing to be alongside you when you most need it. Their service is free to those of all faiths and none, with no strings attached.

### **Confidentiality**

Our Parish Visitors work within a strict code of confidentiality so that you may be confident that whatever is shared with them goes no further.

The one exception to this is that Visitors may share the minimum information necessary to obtain support and advice themselves, if necessary, from our clergy or other appropriate person. This would only happen with the persons consent

### **How to Find Out More**

Contact our coordinator, the Revd Nansi Davies Tel 01633 400519 or Diane Marlow Tel 01291 641407 for an informal chat about your need.

If you would like to become a member of the Parish Visitors team please contact Nansi or Diane.

## **MANY THANKS:**

### **From St Davids Hospice Care to Shirenewton Parochial Church Council**

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you for forwarding the very generous donation of £642.50.*

*Your support is extremely valuable to us, as it enables us to provide care and support to over 2,800 patients and their families throughout Newport, Torfaen, Caerphilly and Monmouthshire each year.*

*Our nurses provide care 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to help bring care home when it is needed most. We would not be able to maintain any of our services without the help of the local community, which has supported us so generously.*

*Thank you once again for your support.*

Jan Wall St David's Hospice Care

### **From Dementia UK To Shirenewton Church Charity Committee**

*For organising a Trumpet Concert and raising £225.*

*The money you have raised will enable Dementia UK1 to continue its work developing services to support the many people affected by dementia.*

*We hope that you enjoyed the event and would consider fundraising for us again in the future.*

Amy Cudmore Community Fundraiser

## **200 CLUB**

### **October winners**

1st prize	Sarah James	£40
2nd prize	David Thomas	£30
3rd prize	Val Edwards	£20
4th prize	Jan Adams	£10

### **November winners**

1st prize	David Adams	£40
2nd prize	Anna Baker	£30
3rd prize	Beverley Leaf	£20
4th prize	Vivien Ginley	£10

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

### **Baptism**

Emilia Grace daughter of Philip and Lucy Winterborne was baptised on 21st October 2012

## **EARLSWOOD VALLEY METHODIST CHAPEL.**

Sunday 16th December at 3:00 pm, Carol Service with refreshments, all are welcome.

## **ST PETERS NEWCHURCH**

Carol Service 16th December at 2.30pm  
Christmas Day Service at 11.15 am

# SHIRENEWTON OPERA & DRAMA SOCIETY

P R E S E N T S

PRICE  
ADULTS: £6.00  
CHILDREN: £4.00



## THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

EARLSWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

THURSDAY 24TH, FRIDAY 25TH & SATURDAY 26TH JANUARY 2013

@ 7:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM SUE PHILIPSON  
T: 01291 641799 E: sue.philipson@talk21.com

## SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL NOTES

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Sadly, not all the fireworks in the land could keep me awake. Yes I throw my hands up and confess. I had a little zizz. Only for a nano second. I had hoped it had passed unnoticed by the councilors – but apparently not.

Full marks for the Chair of the Community Council Liz McCombe who turned out for this month's meeting despite her leg being in plaster and her in a wheelchair. She also had a very croaky voice and was suffering from laryngitis. That is dedication.

### **Police Report.**

PC Louise Thorpe wasn't at the meeting to give her report (I expect she was at a firework display) But here are some of the messages I've received from the Neighbourhood Watch.

27<sup>th</sup> Oct Damage was caused to an 'off duty' bus while in the depot in Bulwark.

29<sup>th</sup> Oct A large plant pot was smashed in Chepstow.

31<sup>st</sup> Oct Property was stolen from the lockers at Chepstow Leisure centre and the victim's car was then stolen from the car park.

4<sup>th</sup> Nov A large quantity of tools were stolen from an outbuilding from a farm in Shirenewton.

6<sup>th</sup> Nov Domestic oil was stolen from a dwelling in Devauden. And on the same day a large picnic bench was stolen from the Memorial Hall.

6<sup>th</sup> Nov In Bulwark, things were stolen from a skip. From a skip?

6<sup>th</sup> Nov And a freezer and an old ironing board were stolen from a garden in Bulwark. It was a defrosting freezer.

### **Theft of Horse Rugs**

Horses grazing peacefully in their fields have had the rugs stolen from their backs just recently - as well as from their stable blocks

### **The Whitebrook Post Box Error**

A Neighbourhood Watch message had gone out alerting people to the theft of a 'George Regina' post box which had been stolen from a telegraph pole at Whitebrook. This of course should have read a 'George Rex' post box... Anybody who has found the George Regina post box - it's a fake.

Latest Home Office Figures show that Gwent Police has the biggest reduction in crime in England and Wales.'

Not only that but Newport also won recognition for having the only polling station in the country where 0 (zero) people turned out to vote for a Police Commissioner.

### **Planning**

1. DC/2012/00823 (Listed Building Consent) Cea-pw-cella

Demolition of conservatory buildings, to be replaced with an extension of similar proportions.

The applicant revealed that the old conservatories were over 40 years old and needed to be updated. Approval was recommended. The owner was pleased to suggest that these new conservatories would be able to capture the glorious sunshine.

2. DC/2012/00773 Agricultural Notification Information Only Agricultural Storage Building, Buckwell Farm, Penycycaemawr

The plans sent by MCC for this barn were apparently, incomprehensible. The councilors turned the plans this way and that, but the new barn wasn't marked on the map. It's not that anyone objected – after all an agricultural owner merely has to notify that there will be a new agricultural building but nevertheless it seemed to the gathered councilors that at least the 'planning people' could get the plans right

3. DC/2012/00656 The Old Sawmill, Itton Court Road

Construction of a timber framed stable block to include two stables, tractor and feed store.

But this is over the Usk Road... over the stream... in foreign territory. But it is ours. The land there is 'low down and boggy' and although Approval was Recommended, concern was raised about horse poo, the closeness of the brook and the 'f' word was mentioned. Effluent.

### **Proposed diversion of part of Public Footpath 51, Yew Tree Cottage, Shirenewton.**

The councilors thought that the problem with this proposal was that it would result in people having to walk for a greater distance along the Usk Road – and at a place where the traffic can go at particularly high speeds. It was felt that this diversion could well put walkers and ramblers at risk. The clerk of the council said that she would talk to Mr Pritchard the Footpath Man - one of the few MCC people she has actually heard back from. It was also suggested that for additional safety measures there should be kissing gates and not styles along the footpath. Then all the non-councilors had to leave the room whilst the Clerk's remuneration was discussed and the four of us had an interesting discussion on local matters such as the non working church clock face, pensions and what to do with dog poo ie which recycling bag it should go in. At this point we were asked if we'd like to rejoin the meeting.

### **Matters of Local Interest**

**Queen Elizabeth 11 initiative** update and Deed of Dedication. This will be going ahead – it means that the Rec will have protection in perpetuity  
Feedback on skateboarding proposal. The councilors reluctantly came to the conclusion that it's not feasible and so decided to put the proposal 'to bed for the time being'

**Village Green update** – It was glumly suggested that the outcome of this meeting in Shire Hall in Monmouth on 11<sup>th</sup> December was pretty obvious.....

**Village Shop Update** The new owner of the Tan House is 'interested in shops' but because of his other pub commitments, work is progressing slowly. However, he will keep the Shirenewton Council Shop Working Party informed.

**The Future of the Unappropriated Land at Blethyn Close.** This will be discussed at a future date.

*Continued on page 8*

*Continued from page 7*

**Traffic Calming Update.** A bid has been put in by Paul Keeble for funding next year – for what or for why I'm not quite sure. No traffic calming plans for the village have put forward recently and no one was able to report on any community chatting on this topic. One councilor suggested that there was more traffic on the Green Lane down by the Rec especially big vehicles and big lorries but on the other hand this was seen as A Good Thing because it kept the big vehicles and big lorries away from the centre of the village. And it was suggested that anyway, we only want local lorries in the area...local lorries for local people.

The War Memorial The names were now a little difficult to read as the memorial needs a bit of a clean and Philip Blatchely was going to be approached to see if this could be done before Remembrance Day

**Shirenewton Telephone Kiosk.** Only local councils or registered charities are allowed to adopt kiosks. It has been suggested, as my reader will remember from last month, that the box should be adopted by SCC and be made into a lending library which will be maintained and looked after by the WI. A few local people still wanted to maintain it as a working call box but BT said that only 4 calls were made from it in the last year. This could be because everyone now has land lines and mobile phones at home or on the other hand it could be that as there is no dialing tone, people have assumed that the phone is dead. But BT said that they have not received any complaints about the phone. Now let's just think about that shall we.... Another interesting suggestion was that it could be turned into micro brewery. I've then written, 'this would be alright on sunny days' 'and that the insurance would be trivial. I suspect that this was where I began to doze off.

**Llanmellin Fort** CADW are doing some work up at the fort and members of the public have been invited to go and look at the excavations. However, there has been some trouble with parking which isn't easy but even so, it is hoped that cars and chariots will park more sensibly because at times it has been difficult for farm vehicles to get by.

**Pot Holes.** There have been complaints as to the huge number and the humongous size of the potholes in the roads up in Earlswood and the Earlswood councilors thought they were getting a bit of a bad deal as the roads in Shirenewton which according to them were not nearly so bad anyway, got mended whereas Earlswood is ignored. And it is a bus route as well. But MCC have said 'No' this year as there is no money left in the pot. And talking of roads the steep hill by the Huntsman Pub has lost its stickiness. (Stickiness?) This will be looked into.

**Overhanging Hedges.** On the whole the local farmers are very diligent in keeping their hedgerows back but private owners aren't always quite so good and sometimes the overhang can be dangerous as it obscures drivers' views. It is to be hoped that home owners trim their hedges when they get too big/high/lush but the council was reminded that they have no Enforcement Remit. But perhaps a polite friendly jocular approach might do the trick? A gentle reminder?



**Balloons.** The council was encouraged not to take part in balloon releasing events as cattle and wildlife ingest these balloons to their detriment. Luckily, SCC don't engage in such activities.

**Fox Hounds.** Last month, they were all over the Usk Road causing minor mayhem. Also the Hunt should not be exercising (as it's illegal to hunt) their hounds on council land, woods and fields as they have not been given permission to do so.

**Mynders Cottage.** The owners must replace and restore the hedgerows and will be subject to an MCC Enforcement Notice.

The **Neighbourhood Watch** is encouraging people especially in rural areas to put their House names closer to the roadside and to make them clearly visible. This is so the Emergency Services can see them easily and aren't blundering around in the dark struggling to find the house/farm to put out a fire or to take people to hospital. This would be particularly useful if your house name/farm name is similar to one nearby.

### **Local Issues**

A couple of councilors had gone to the MCC Planning meeting but felt that it was a complete waste of time and that there was no point in being there. MCC had made their decisions and local council members representing the wishes of local people were completely ignored. It was just going through legislative motions - the deal was done and dusted, it was just a rubber stamping exercise to legitimize the MCC's decision.

Graham Down has asked me to let you know he is on Twitter – if you would like to follow him. He is also growing a 'tash to support Movember to increase awareness of Prostate Cancer.

There is trouble with the Spout and the Council will get in touch with the Waterboard. And there was an early plea to grow a few more plants for next year's Best Kept Village Competition.

### **The Clerk's Report**

I'll keep this to the minimum. Councilor training is delayed, the Poor man's Deeds are lost, the doors to the Mynyddbach notice board are swinging in the wind, and the painting of the playground equipment will need to be done again as the paintwork on the old nag wasn't good enough. The MOD Curry Night down at Caerwent will be a good bash. And finally, there was something about the apathy towards OVV but hey it was getting late by this time.....

**Next meeting** will be Monday 3rd December – at The Rec – 7.30.

Be there or you'll miss all the fun.

## **MOBILE POLICE STATION**

Revised dates: Thursday 20th December 0900—1100 at the Recreation ground



## **Carols Around the Village Christmas Tree**



Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December @ 6.30  
in the Tredegar Arms Carpark  
(Thank you Julie!)

The collection will go to Chibolya School in Lusaka in Zambia  
Bring a torch. And some gloves.  
And a warm hat...

We will be accompanied by the renowned  
Chepstow Town Band!



## **Sunday Club's ADVENT FAIR!**

Come along for Coffee, Cake and a lovely selection of  
Homemade Christmas Goodies at our  
**Advent Fair at Shirenewton Church**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 11.00 - 12.00

The money this year will go to Chibolya School  
Chibolya is an urban slum of about 100,000 people in the middle of  
Lusaka, the capital of Zambia. The money raised will go directly to  
support orphans where they will receive education at Chibolya School.  
Education is the way out of poverty



**Come along to our  
Christingle and Carols!  
Shirenewton Church  
4 o'clock on Christmas Eve  
Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the  
Church Room afterwards.  
Everyone is very welcome.**



## FAIRTRADE NEWS

'Solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short' is how Hobbes described the lives of the overwhelming majority of people throughout almost the whole of human history. I keep this quote in my kitchen to counter the moments when I feel frustrated that progress towards a fairer society seems painfully slow. For now, absolutely undoubtedly, many more people around the globe enjoy a significantly better life than at any time in the past.



Yet much has not changed. Reading the very interesting book 'About Chepstow' by Ivor Waters I find a copy of a handbill circulated in Chepstow in 1843 : 'Worthy of Notice'.

Ivor Waters notes 'By the end of the 19th century Chepstow shopkeepers were beginning to find it cheaper to buy goods at the wholesale houses in Bristol rather than to make the articles themselves.'

The handbill states 'As there is a great advertising competition now existing between the Drapers and ready-made Clothes-vending establishments, it behoves the Inhabitants, and all parties interested in the welfare of our Town to pause 'ere they lay out their ready money, and enquire whether it will tend to the advantage of our neighbourhood as well as to themselves individually.' It ends with 'Do unto thy neighbour, as thou wouldest thy neighbour should do unto thee'.

Although 'Drapers and ready-made Clothes-vending establishments' do not figure very largely in our lives now, many of our purchases are made with little or no thought of the impact on producers' lives. Much in international trade and indeed in all trade is genuinely unjust.

I'll leave you with the thought on the facing page of 'Worthy of Notice' - Ivor Waters notes in passing that there was a general prejudice against retail trade until the end of Queen Victoria's reign (and beyond - think of Downton's Mama!) Ivor Waters remarks

*'Probably the first tradesmen who were also thought of as gentlemen were the bankers'.*

Happy Christmas - and make it a 'neighbourly' one!  
Marion McAdam 641 316 msm316@gmail.com ccc

## SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

[www.shirenewtonchurch.com](http://www.shirenewtonchurch.com)

Well it's that spending time of year again and I'd ask you where possible to purchase your Christmas gifts through the Church website shopping portal. There are currently 223 shops on the portal including most of your favourites. Just to pick a few: Amazon, Argos, ASDA, Boden, Cadbury, Cotswold Outdoor, Countrywide, Carphone Warehouse, Eden4flowers, Evans Cycles, FloraQueen, Goldsmiths, Hotter Shoes, Holland & Barrett, Homebase, Hotel Chocolat, iTunes, John Lewis, JD Sports, Lingerie, Lovell Rugby, Laura Ashley, Marks & Spencer, Mobile Fun, National Express Coaches, Outdoor Megastore, Pixmania, Perfume Plus Direct, Republic, Sainsburys, Swarovski, Screwfix, Tesco, Thorntons, The White Company, TomTom, multiple travel companies and even a category called "Gift ideas" - mainly for the men.

Also keep your eye on the website for community events over Christmas I'll try and keep it updated.

Happy Christmas and many thanks for your support over 2012.

David Cornwell Webmaster.



**MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL**

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 3.00pm.**

**A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

**With**

**The Dell Primary School Choir  
Beachley Military Wives Singers**

**Peter Cook (Organ)  
Graham Bull (Musical Director)**

**ST MARY'S PRIORY & PARISH CHURCH**

**Tickets (£8.00) available from choir members (Tel. 620414,  
623310), Chepstow Bookshop or on the door.  
Under-18s, students free**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**SATURDAY MARCH 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 7.30pm**

**W.A. Mozart -- Vesperae Solennes de Confessore  
Anton Bruckner -- Requiem in D minor  
Orchestral items**

**With**

**CCS Orchestra (leader Paula Kempton)**

***For further information about any of the above, please tel.  
(01291) 623310, 620414. Tickets (students/under 18s free),  
available from Chepstow Bookshop or above contact numbers. If  
you enjoy singing, please contact Marjorie Duerden (tel. 623310)  
about singing membership.***

**WE CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU!!**

## SHIRENEWTON WI NOVEMBER 2012

The weather held its breath and gave us a quiet evening for our November meeting. A good turnout of members gathered to enjoy a talk by Fiona Ashley on what our modern libraries have to offer.

Fiona is library manager at Caldicot and very enthusiastic about the diverse facilities available to members of all ages. We were amazed at what is available but those of us who used the mobile libraries are sorry that they no longer operate, though there is a new van service which delivers to people who cannot get to the library. The van runs on a three week rota and customers order what they want delivered.

Children are very much encouraged to be interested in books, stories and rhymes with special sessions at the library supported by 'Book Start Bear'. Babies are provided with a book start pack via their health visitor at nine months and again at two years. There is a story sack pack for playgroups and nurseries and a chatter book pack used in the library. Libraries accept that young children can cause heavy wear on books, but it's using them that is important.

In Monmouthshire books can be obtained and returned to any of the libraries and there is help available on any subject such as family history or college courses. Some libraries have a book club or a knit and natter.

If you want audio books, they are available on cassette, CD and 'play aways' (preloaded player which you just plug in earphones to listen), also audio books can be downloaded from the libraries website (which is full of information) and e-books are available but don't match the Kindle.

If you don't have a computer, libraries have ones with free internet access and help is available such as –First Click for internet access.

Job seekers sessions are held, Learn Direct does courses at the library and there is a writers group which meets in Caldicot library.

Fiona brought a selection of books, audio books and children's packs for us to look at and described how various sections of Caldicot library have been updated and improved to make it more inviting and user friendly- a great place to visit and spend time.

Libraries certainly have moved with the times and are a very useful part of the twenty first century life.

Our last meeting for 2012 is our Christmas meal at the Hunstman on the 13<sup>th</sup> December. Looking forward to Christmas and 2013, wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.



## WHIST DRIVES

Regrettably our November Drive was decimated by the Half Term School Break and we filled only five and a half tables. We really need seven full tables to be viable and I hope that the weather will be kind on the 6<sup>th</sup> December for our Christmas Special which will start as usual promptly at 7.30 p.m. at the Recreation Hall. The first two Drives of 2013 will be on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup> – please help keep our numbers up. The table fee per person is £1.00, which includes light refreshments. A raffle is held to raise funds for the Recreation Hall. New players are always made very welcome. Auriol Horton. 01291 641844

**SHIRENEWTON  
COMMUNITY  
LUNCHEON CLUB**

**Tredegar Arms  
Shirenewton**

**01291 641274**

tredegararmsshirenewton@hotmail.com

Please book early to secure  
your place for lunch

Nov 28th

Dec 19th

**SHIRENEWTON  
PARENT  
&  
TODDLER GROUP**

Every Thursday

1.30 to 3pm Term Time

and the

Summer Holidays

Drinks, Snacks, Crafts,

& Songs. £2

Shirenewton Recreation Hall

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/181560798590317](https://www.facebook.com/groups/181560798590317)



**The Tredegar Arms wins Top Prize!!**

Why did Richard hear about the Tredegar Arms way up in Liverpool the other day? Because The Tredegar Arms in Shirenewton has been chosen from over 770,000 Barclay's Business Customers across the UK to be the face and voice of the bank's national radio and TV campaign which supports small businesses across the country. Well done Julie!

Julie employs 8 local members of staff - many of them local youngsters - to help her in the pub and all of them are delighted that she has won this prize! It's not easy running a pub these days but it's great that she has been recognized in this way.

Oh, and at the moment Julie is offering a fab Meal Deal. On Mondays and Tuesdays between 6.30 - 9.30 you can choose two meals from the Specials Menu with a bottle of wine for only £22 for two! Sounds good to me

## Do You Need Help When You Are Away On Your Holidays?



I am a reliable and trustworthy 13 year old girl and live locally in Mynyddbach. If you would like my help whilst you are on holiday give my mum or dad a call on 01291 641970.

While you are away I will.....

- Feed and look after your pets
- Water the plants/pots and hanging baskets
- Close curtains and turn on lights

&/OR if you also need someone to regularly walk your dog when you are busy or delayed home from work I would love to help you with that too!



## TRUE COLOURS REFURBISHMENT

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All aspects of decorating  
Interior, exterior, Wallpapering  
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Small building works

Free, friendly advice and quotation

Tel: 01291 625451

Mobile: 07825221326

## SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The society's Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> October at the Huntsman Hotel. The chairman reported a successful year with varied and interesting speakers and visits to such places as Sir Roy Strong's garden in Herefordshire, Allta Bella, the medieval house outside Usk and Raglan Castle. Membership has stayed steady but new members are always welcome, this helps our finances as annual costs have risen considerably since we set up the society twelve years ago. The officers and committee were elected and the business of the day completed and we continued with our speaker for the evening.

Our speaker for the evening was intended to be Frank Olding but unfortunately he was unable to attend and instead Ivor Cavill gave us a talk entitled 'How Industrious was our Valley', this was a title referring to the paper mills on the Mounton Brook, which was of interest to everyone, as this now quiet valley was a busy, noisy and smelly place churning out tons of paper during this period in its history.

### **Dates for your Diary:**

Monday, 10th December at the Recreational Hall, Shirenewton at 2.00 – 5.00 pm  
Resource Meeting

Tuesday, 18th December a visit to Caerwent Church at 7.00 pm. A talk given on the history of the church with mince pies and mulled wine

Thursday, 27th December a walk up to Grey Hill to see the sun rise on the winter solstice. Meeting at the Woodland Tavern car park at 7.30 a.m. Sun rise 8.10 a.m. Afterwards meeting at the Woodland Tavern for breakfast, everyone welcome.

Monday, 28th January 2013 Meeting at the Huntsman Hotel, at 7.30 pm  
(Please note this is a changed venue) A not to be missed talk given by Dr Caroline Pudney (CADW Community Archaeologist) who will give us a report on the recent archaeological dig held at Llanmelin Iron Age Hill Fort, (in which some of our members participated). Everyone welcome, please come early as we anticipate a good crowd.



**Stacey Smith**  
**Mobile Personal  
Fitness  
Instructor**

Train in the comfort of your own home or a one to one gym setting



**Ex-military medic with 8 years experience**

**Level 3 Qualified**

**Personal Programmes**

**Bridal Boot camps**

**Expert Nutritional Advice**

**Sports Specific Programmes**

**Weight loss Specialist**

**Tone Up**

**Bulk UP**

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> SHIRENEWTON GUIDES



Girlguiding UK

The Shirenewton Guide unit was registered at Headquarters on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1973 which makes us 40 next February! We feel this is an occasion to celebrate and would like to invite all past members, helpers and leaders to join us in the Shirenewton church rooms for afternoon tea on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February from 3.30 to 5pm.

Please bring all your old photographs and share your guiding experiences with our present Guides and Senior Section members. Spread the word – I am sure many of you are connected via social media – but please could you drop me an e mail to give me some idea of the number of tea bags to buy?

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Kestrel            Helen Cann            [cann71@btinternet.com](mailto:cann71@btinternet.com) or 01291 650835

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SHIRENEWTON SENIOR SECTION UNIT

We are pleased to announce the opening of a Senior Section unit for young women aged from 14th birthday to 26th birthday in the village. To quote the Girlguiding web site

“ At Senior Section we talk and talk, but we talk about stuff that matters too, and actually do something about it. We can volunteer overseas and a lot of us help out with other units.

Hanging out with people doing such cool stuff inspires you to do way more than you thought possible. Plus it's a great way to make some pretty good friends for life!”

Well, we're quite good at the talking bit, but we are also working on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and the Look Wider challenges. Meetings are at the same time as Guides and sometimes we join in with the Guides and sometimes we do our own thing.

If you are interested in finding out more, then contact Kestrel (as above).

## STARGAZING IN DECEMBER '12

The planet Jupiter is in the evening sky to the south-east, above the constellation of Orion. Jupiter and the Moon are very close together on Christmas Day. At the start of the month there is a fine display of the planets in the morning sky to the south-east. Brilliant Venus is accompanied by Saturn to its upper right and Mercury to its lower left. As the month progresses Saturn rises whilst Venus drops closer to the horizon. On 11<sup>th</sup> December the Crescent Moon is close to Venus.

In the evening, to the southeast the constellation Orion is particularly impressive – three bright stars make up his belt; two stars are his shoulders, and two more make his legs. The bright blue-white star in Orion's right leg is Rigel. The bright star at Orion's left shoulder is Betelgeuse (pronounced "beetle-juice"). Betelgeuse means "the armpit of the giant"! Betelgeuse has a reddish colour – it is a vast red super-giant star, large enough to contain the entire path of the Earth round the Sun. Because massive stars burn their fuel at a much faster rate, Betelgeuse has an estimated lifetime of only 5 to 10 million years. This can be compared with our Sun's lifetime of about 10 billion years.

We reach the Winter Solstice on Dec 21<sup>st</sup>, the shortest day of the year. On the bright side it gives a nice long night under which to do a spot of Stargazing!

Dave Thomas

## **SHIRENEWTON SCOUT GROUP**

**JOIN THE ADVENTURE!**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**LOCAL BEAVERS/CUBS/SCOUTS**



We are an extremely popular Scout Group with currently over 80 boy and girl members and many more on our waiting list! Ages range from 6 to 14.

Beavers and Cubs meet weekly on Wednesday Evenings in term time in Shirenewton and Scouts in Devauden on a Thursday Evening. Our Scouts come from a wide area from Caerwent, Chepstow, Llanvair Discoed, Llangwm, Trelleck, Devauden, Shirenewton, St Arvans and in between!

We have a committed team of Leaders to run these groups but as always we are in need of more volunteers to help run the groups. If you can give a little time (or a lot!) to help improve young lives in this community, we'd love to hear from you.

Can you spare a couple of hours a week to help with one of the groups? If so please contact Kate Wacey, our Group Scout Leader.

We're also looking for volunteers to help occasionally or maybe even just once.

Do you have an area of expertise or have a hobby that would be of interest to the local Scouts? If you have any special interests you think the Scouts would find interesting or useful, then your skills could be fantastic for basing a whole evening on. We have had guest speakers before and the children always enjoy new topics and activities. Our groups have recently enjoyed camping, hiking, cooking, photography, canoeing, climbing and more.

If you can help in any way please call or email Kate.

01291 650617 or email [shirenewtonscouts.kotick@gmail.com](mailto:shirenewtonscouts.kotick@gmail.com)

## VISION FOR THE SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY

*adventa*, part of Momouthshire's Rural Development Plan, invited people living in the Shirenewton community to attend an Open Meeting on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November in the Recreation Hall, to encourage the community to take their future into their own hands and to develop a 10-year vision for their community, in the form of a Community Led Plan. (see November Parish Magazine - page 17)

Shirley Hughes, Social Enterprise Development Officer said "Developing a Community-led plan is a wonderful opportunity for people to take responsibility for making things happen locally. The process starts and ends with the community. It enables residents, young and old, to get involved in and contribute to improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the place where they live. Once the plan is developed, it can be used to make things happen – to influence local area planning decisions, support funding applications and influence service providers".

Best laid plans etc. etc. ....but 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. could not have been a worse evening weather wise - monsoon type weather making sure that most routes leading into the village being either flooded or strewn with branches and debris.

10 intrepid residents ventured out and the meeting went ahead, but it was agreed that maybe another Open Meeting would be held in the New Year, when it is hoped the weather will be drier!

In the meantime, if residents, young people and children would like to send any comments to help start the consultation process on the following 3 topics:

- **WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY?**
- **WHAT DO YOU DISLIKE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY?**
- **WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE/CREATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?**

Also if any residents would like to be involved in the Steering Group to write the Community Plan, please send Shirley your details.

Please send to [shirley@adventa.org.uk](mailto:shirley@adventa.org.uk) or ring 07793 259016

## MOTHERS UNION

### "The Road to Bethlehem"

Two delightful figures, Mary, Joseph - and the donkey, have been knitted by ladies from Caerwent Church. From Advent Sunday 2 December they will set off on the journey through Advent, to Bethlehem, arriving back in church on Christmas Eve. Would you like to welcome them to your home for a night or two as they travel? The figures stand about 12 inches high and would bring Christmas warmth to any home, placed on a windowsill, small table or mantle-shelf. You will receive the figures with a little prayer-card for use while they are with you and as you pass them on to others. Please let Patsy Lewis know if you would like to join in this "Road to Bethlehem."

### Mothers' Union Notes

We were pleased to welcome Barbara Haydn-Jones on 14 November, who gave us a lovely personal and illustrated account of her pilgrimage earlier this year to the Island of Iona and to the Christian community there. From there the great evangelists St Columba and St Aidan set out to bring the Gospel to Scotland and the north of England in the 6th and 7th century. The bird life on Mull and Iona is spectacular and brings many visitors but it is the overwhelming sense of history, beauty and faith reflected in the community and their worship which inspires Iona





as a place of pilgrimage and will always do so.

### **Backpack Appeal**

A very big thank you to all who helped us in the MU to collect and fill a total of 34 school backpacks with educational material and basic commodities like soap, toothbrushes and items of clothing. They were transported to "Mary's Meals" distribution warehouse in Glasgow prior to being sent to Malawi. This is the organization which provides school meals in 18 of the world's neediest nations, as well as the newer backpack venture. Thank you all again.

See website <[www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org)>

**Our MU December meeting** will be at Patsy and Paul Lewis' home on Wednesday 12 December at 2.30 p.m.

The Focolare house fellowship group will meet next in January.

Rosemary Carey, MU Branch Leader 01291 425 010

Patsy Lewis, MU Branch Secretary 01291 420 602

## **SHIRENEWTON TOWER NEWS**

First to report is the arrival of an official envelope from Buckingham Palace containing thanks on behalf of the Queen following the peal rung at Shirenewton on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee – this was Chris Eickhoff's first peal. It was acknowledged in the letter that the overwhelming number of celebratory events throughout the UK had delayed the response. The letter will be displayed in the ringing chamber together with previous Royal affirmations. It was interested to note that a first class stamp was required for this missive and the Queen is not exempt from the Royal mail tariffs!

Remembrance Sunday this year fell on the actual date of remembrance – 11 November. The ringing on this day was half-muffled which results in a distinctive haunting sound. To achieve this effect the clapper of the bell has a large leather pad (muffle) attached to one side to cover the point at which the clapper strikes the sound bow of the bell. For full circle ringing the bell rotates from the inverted position (mouth facing skyward) through 360° at which point the clapper strikes the bell, which is then followed by the bell back-rotating to achieve its original position when again the bell strikes. These are the two strokes of the bell known as handstroke and backstroke. The leather pad is attached to muffle the backstroke, thus the ringing results in first an open (normal) note from each bell which is then followed by a muffled note, giving an echo effect. The only other time half-muffled ringing is practised is at the funeral of dignitaries when specifically requested, and at the end of each year just before midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> December – to mourn the passing of the year. The muffles are then removed at midnight and open ringing occurs to celebrate and welcome the New Year. There is a debate as to whether full—muffled ringing should ever occur. One view is that this is only practised on the death of the monarch so is hopefully a decision we will not have to take for many years to come.

So if you wish to experience the sound of half-muffled ringing then come to Shirenewton church on 31<sup>st</sup> December around 11.45 pm for the aural and visual experience.

Mike Penney (Tower Captain).

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## The Anchor makes The Times.

For those who may not have seen it, we featured in the centre spread of The Sunday Times Travel Supplement on Remembrance Day, where they featured and recommended The Anchor Inn and Tintern Abbey Cottage as the ideal destination for a high quality visit to Tintern. Great publicity for the whole village.

Now as the darker nights close in around us The Anchor offers a warm and cosy atmosphere in which to enjoy a memorable party or intimate dinner with friends and family. Our Head Chef Rob Parkin has created a delicious festive menu with something for everyone. Please enquire for our Christmas Party and group bookings specials at very competitive prices.

We sampled the Caerphilly & Basalmic Onion tart with sliced Apple Salsa followed by a main course of Pan Fried Turkey Escalope which comes stuffed with sage, onion and cranberry, with Pigs in Blankets and roast gravy. We topped this off with Raspberry Crème Brulee with white chocolate shortbread biscuit. Finally we had a freshly ground latte from our new Italian Barista coffee centre. Truly scrumptious.

Previously we introduced you to Graham G Maiden of Aardman fame, and once again he has been working hard to create more of his exciting pieces for our Christmas decorations.

It's also been a rewarding month for all the efforts of our loyal and hardworking staff as we have received a 5 star accreditation for our main kitchen from the Environmental Health Dept. to follow the 5 stars awarded to the tea rooms earlier in the year.

We look forward to entertaining you over the Festive period and would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our customers, both new and old, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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## ***Nerys's Natty Nosh***

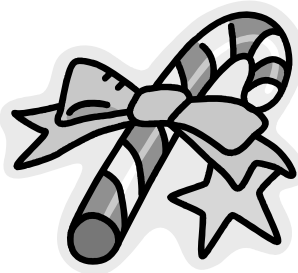
### ***Having a party this Christmas ?***

Make some delicious canapés of various fillings to fill everyone with festive cheer. Serve as an appetizer or accompaniment to cocktails or mulled wine. Use toasted bread as a base or if you prefer, fry the bread in a mixture of oil and butter. Rye bread makes a delicious alternative.

Once the base has been prepared cut into squares or rounds.

### ***Suggested Fillings***

Smoked Salmon Mousse and Chives  
Goats cheese and Sun Dried Tomato  
Mozzarella and Black Olives  
Asparagus and Gruyere  
Quail Egg and Guacamole  
Chicken and Onion Chutney  
Prawns Marie Rose  
Salmon and Pickled Cucumber  
Smoked Ham and Piccalilli  
Fried Mushrooms and Goats Cheese  
Parma Ham and Cream Cheese  
Beetroot, Smoked Salmon and Fromage Frais  
Tapenade and Smoked Salmon  
Roast Chicken and sweet Chutney  
Asparagus and Parma Ham  
Prawns Garlic Coriander Cream  
Crisp Pancetta with Apricot  
Cream Cheese and Toasted Pine Nuts



### **Tips.**

The bread base can be prepared two days in advance and placed in an airtight container in a fridge.

Don't be tempted to add the filling too early or you will end up with soggy bread.

### ***Smoked Fish Bites- makes 27***

#### **Ingredients**

100g (3½oz) full-fat cream cheese  
100g (3½oz) skinned smoked mackerel, or other smoked fish  
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon  
3 rye bread slices  
1 tablespoon chopped fresh chives.

#### **Method**

- 1** To make the pate mix the cream cheese, mackerel, and lemon zest briefly in a food processor. Season to taste.
- 2** Cut each slice of rye bread into 9 equal pieces.
- 3** Spread the mackerel pate equally onto the bread.
- 4** Garnish with chopped chives.

## *Sticky Sausages - makes 30*

### **Ingredients**

30 cocktail sausages  
2 ½ tablespoons hoisin sauce  
1 tablespoon wholegrain mustard  
1-2 tablespoon sesame seeds

### **Method**

- 1 Prepare the oven to 200C, Gas Mark 6.
- 2 In a small roasting tin, mix together all the ingredients.
- 3 Cook for 20-25 minutes until the sausages are cooked through.
- 4 Serve on cocktail sticks, garnish with watercress.

## *Drunken Devils On Horseback - makes 24*

### **Ingredients**

24 ready to eat pitted dried prunes  
¼ cup Armagnac or brandy  
12 slices of bacon

### **Method**

- 1 Soak the prunes overnight in the Armagnac or brandy.
- 2 Prepare the oven 200C, Gas Mark 6.
- 3 On a board, spread the bacon thinly and cut in half.
- 4 Roll the soaked prune in the bacon. Secure with a cocktail stick.
- 5 Repeat with the remaining prunes, wrapping each one in bacon.
- 6 Place them on a lined baking sheet .
- 7 Bake for 10-15 minutes.
- 8 Cool before serving

## *Sloe Gin Cocktail- serves 10*

### **Ingredients**

Sloe gin  
Champagne, chilled

### **Method**

Pour one measure of sloe gin into each 10 champagne glasses. Top with the chilled fizz and serve immediately. *Cheers!!*

*Wishing you all a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year.*

*Nadolig Llawen A blwyddyn Newydd Dda.*

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## GARDENING CORNER

The weather isn't being very kind to gardeners at the moment. Too much rain followed by days of never ending greyness, have meant that the soil just hasn't had a chance to dry out at all. This has meant that early autumn preparations have not been possible in the vegetable plot. Since planting the garlic in early October it has been impossible to get on outside. It has therefore been a case of trying to sort those jobs that can be fitted in at any time, such as hedge cutting, and just plan for the rest, hoping that the weather will change at some stage or other. So currently, nearly all the hedges here at Barn Farm have been cut and tidied away, the only bits that haven't being the arches that need the higher steps to reach! I'll get around to doing them one day soon as they look a bit like a punk's hairdo at the moment – four bits that stick out above everything else!

So with the weather as it is I've retreated back into the relative comfort of the tunnel and greenhouses. In the small greenhouse I've turned on the heated bench for a short period of time. This is because I wanted to start the sweet pea seed off early. I've purchased four different lots of mixtures, all selected for the flower arranger in the house! The germination has been quite patchy however, with one variety having all but failed. I'll need to order some more seed, but this can wait for the time being. Whilst the hot bench has been on I took a number of cutting from some new penstemons that I had purchased. I ended up taking nearly 50 cuttings from 7 different varieties and when I looked last night it appeared that most had taken root. I had also sown some lettuce seed which has germinated well. This is the leafing variety (cut and come again), and has been sown into individual cells. The actual hot bench is divided into two parts. One has a cover and is where I do the germination, and the rest is open. I use this open part to bring things on as you get bottom heat, but without the humidity. I've moved the lettuce onto this part of the bench so that it gets a little bit of warmth through the roots and so will carry on growing and providing a crop of fresh leaves for the sandwich box! I'll turn it off now shortly as it's not cost effective to keep this running for too long – unless it is full up with produce that is.

In the tunnel the broccoli and spring cabbage plants have now established and started to grow. The broccoli was meant to be for autumn harvesting, but I seemed to have messed up on the timing, so hopefully they will provide an early harvest in the spring instead! This will mean that they will need to be protected from the worst of the winter weather using horticultural fleece, especially as the weather forecasters are suggesting that it's going to be the worst winter for 100 years! We have just about picked the last of the tomatoes and peppers. The recent frosts have all but finished the plants off, so these will be cleaned out in the next couple of weeks.

This last season we didn't pick many strawberries due to the squirrels. We have the apricot and peach trees in the tunnel, and when these are in full leaf and growing well, they limit what can be grown in the beds they are rooted in. I've therefore decided that the best option would be to plant these beds up with strawberries. This way they should crop well before the trees get too big and hopefully the squirrels won't find them! I took plenty of strawberry runners earlier in the season and these are growing well in pots in the bigger greenhouse. I'll prepare the beds now over the next few weeks and then get the strawberries planted in probably February, so that they get established well in time for cropping next year. The extra protection in the tunnel should mean that we are picking in May, provided the plans work out.

In the vegetable garden we are still digging carrots and have also started to harvest the first Brussel sprouts, curly kale and parsnips. The leeks will suffer if this wet weather continues, so given that we have quite a few stored potatoes that aren't the best, the boss has decided that we ought to get on and make some leek and potato soup. There is also an ample supply of trout in the freezer, so whilst we are at it we will make up an ample supply of fish cakes as well. Nice quick 'ready meal' when needed!

The larger of the two greenhouses, as well as the strawberry plants, is full up with numerous perennial plants that I have divided up and potted on so that they produce well established plants for moving out into the garden in spring. I've also started to move in the pots of agapanthus, which will also be divided up and repotted. These also fare better if given some frost protection – something I didn't manage to do last year, which resulted in losing some of the more tender varieties.

On good days, the bees are out flying around, but to all intents and purposes are closed down now for the winter. On really wet days I can retreat to my work room in the garage as I have a lot of odd bee type jobs to do whilst I have the time. The first hives I ever bought were secondhand and I have now had these for probably twenty years. As a result, some of the frames are now rotten and need to be replaced with new ones. Similarly with the hives themselves, some parts have rotted through and so I need to inspect these, breaking some of them down and making one good one from two or three that have seen better days. These will then be painted up before being stored ready for next year. I have a number of hive sections that take the actual frames, that are covered with bee glue (propolis) and wax. These also need to be scraped clean and then sterilized using a gas blow torch, before being stored away in the garage roof. This will mean that I have a supply of bits ready for when they are needed next year. Anyway, it's raining again so best get out to the garage and carry on. Happy gardening until next year and we hope that you and your families enjoy a great festive season. Steve and Felicity Hunt.

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## LOCAL CONTACTS

*If you know of any changes or omissions please contact the Editor Terry Walters  
Telephone 01291 641338 or email [terencewalters@hotmail.com](mailto:terencewalters@hotmail.com)*

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<b>Parish Visitor Co-ordinators</b>	Revd. Nansi Davies	01633 400519
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<b>Church Wardens</b>	Sally Saysell	01291 641369
	Andrew Baker	01291 641925
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<b>PCC Secretaries</b>	William Clark	01291 641783
	David Heritage	Newchurch 01291 622708
<b>PCC Treasurers</b>	Kevin Bounds	01291 641818
	Enid Heritage	Newchurch 01291 622708
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	Charles Eickhoff	01291 641716
	Janet Horton	01291 641783
	Margaret Lock	01291 641884
	Dr James Leney	01291 641271
	Mrs Diane Marlow	01291 641407
	Allan Saysell	01291 641369
	John Nicholas	01291 641368
	Jane Smith-Haddon	01291 641525
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<b>Maintenance &amp; Safety</b>	John Nicholas	01291 641368
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	Ruth Savagar	01291 641411
	Kath Whittington	01291 641600
<b>Sunday Club</b>	Kerry Baker	01291 641925
<b>Tower Captain</b>	Mike Penney	01291 650653
<b>Church Hall Booking</b>	Glynis MacDonald	01291 641818
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Dr. Kerry Baker	01291 641925
<b>Church Flowers</b>	Maureen Moody	01291 641524
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<b>200 Club</b>	Nerys Wilson	01291 641935
<b><u>MP/Monmouth CC &amp; Community Council Representatives</u></b>		
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	Tony Hughes	01291 641360
	Carol Jones	01291 641791
	Phil Moles	01291 641521
	Beverley Moor	01291 641532
<b>Mynyddbach Ward</b>	Lynne Prosser	01291 641666
	Ian Moore	01291 650766
<b>Earlswood Ward</b>	Paul Harris	01291 650871
	Ken Morton	01291 650268
<b>Newchurch West</b>	Liz McCombe	01291 652957
<b>MCC for Shirenewton</b>	Graham Down	01291 621846 <a href="mailto:grahamdown@monmouthshire.gov.uk">grahamdown@monmouthshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Member of Parliament</b>	David Davies	020 7219 8360 <a href="mailto:daviesd@parliament.uk">daviesd@parliament.uk</a>

## **Police Neighbourhood Watch Contacts**

**Comm. Police Officer** Louise Thorpe 01633 642068  
louise.thorpe@gwent.pnn.police.uk  
**Shirenewton & Mynyddbach** Beverley Moore 01291 641532

**Earlswood** Sue Leat 01291 641207

## **Other Local Organisations**

**Beavers** Julie Hitchcock 01291 650548

**Brownies** Jackie Broughton 01291 641797

**Comm. Carol Services** John Nicholas 01291 641368  
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**Church Fete** Diane Ward 01291 641843 lordward99@hotmail.com  
**Cubs**

**Earlswood Hope** Mrs Sybil Cullimore 01291 641563

## **Earlswood & Newchurch West Memorial Hall**

Glynis MacDonald 01291 641818  
glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com

## **Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel**

Avril Smith 01291 650733

**Gaerllwyd Baptist** Mrs E Remnant Brooklands, Usk Road NP16 6SA

**Girl Guides** Helen Cann 01291 650835 cann71@btinternet.com

**Kids Ad Lib (KAL)** Karen Millar 01291 650521 Gail Jones 01291 650861

**Recreation Association** Gordon Hughes 01291 641356 gordon.hughes3@tesco.net

**Recreation Hall booking** Beryl Saysell 01291 641637

## **St Peters Church Newchurch**

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## **Shirenewton Local History Socty**

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## **Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Fields Association Ltd (SAMFAL)**

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## **Shirenewton & Mynyddbach Initiative for Local Enterprise (SMILE)**

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**Traidcraft** Marion McAdam 01291 641316

**Whist drive** Auriol Horton 01291 641844 aur10l@btinternet.com

**Womens Institute (WI)** Jenny Bonner 01291 641929

## DIARY DATES

<b>December</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
2	Advent Fayre	Shirenewton Church
6	Whist Drive	Recreation Hall
9	Chepstow Choral Society	St Mary's Priory Church Chepstow
9	Carols around the Christmas Tree	Tredegar Arms Car Park
10	Mothers Union	Patsy & Paul Lewis Home
10	Shirenewton History Society	Recreation Hall
12	Mothers Union	Patsy & Paul Lewis Home
13	Shirenewton WI	Huntsman Hotel
16	Carol Concert	St Peters Church Newchurch
18	Shirenewton History Society	Caerwent Church
16	Mobile Police Station	Recreation Hall Car park
21	Winter Solstice	Everywhere
24	Christingle and Carols	Shirenewton Church & Church Rooms
27	Shirenewton History Society	Woodland Tavern/Grey Hill
<b>January</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
3	Whist Drive	Recreation Hall
24,25,26	The Emperors New Clothes by SODS	Earlswood Hall
28	Shirenewton History Society	Huntsman Hotel
<b>February</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
3	Shirenewton Guides 40th Anniversary	Church Rooms
7	Whist Drive	Recreation Hall

## FIREWORK DISPLAY WARNING

There will be a fireworks display on 22nd December near West End, Earlswood [Lower House Cottage] starting 9.30 - 9.45. and lasting about 6 minutes.

<b>Saint Thomas á Beckett Shirenewton</b>		<b>Sunday Services</b>	<b>Start 10.00 a.m. Unless stated otherwise</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Sides-persons</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	1st Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist	Bill Clarke Janet Horton	Bill Clarke Janet Horton
9 <sup>th</sup> December	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Morning Prayer	Mark Broughton Ruth Savagar	Mark Broughton Margaret Woodliffe
16 <sup>th</sup> December	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent Carol Service	Bob Grattan John Nicholas & Others	Bill Clarke Janet Horton
23 <sup>rd</sup> December	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist	James Loney Mark Broughton	Mark Broughton Claire Lewis
25 <sup>th</sup> December	Midnight Mass at 11.30 p.m. Holy Eucharist	Sally Saysell John Nicholas	Allan Saysell John Nicholas
30 <sup>th</sup> December	1st Sunday of Christmas Holy Eucharist	Bill Clarke Janet Horton	Bill Clarke Janet Horton
6 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany Holy Eucharist	Margaret Lock Cynthia Smith	Margaret Lock Cynthia Smith
13 <sup>th</sup> January	Plough Sunday Epiphany 2 Matins	Wendy Baker Ruth Savagar	Wendy Baker Claire Lewis
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Epiphany 3 Holy Eucharist	John Nicholas Jane Smith-Haddon	John Nicholas Jane Smith-Haddon
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Septuagesima Epiphany 4 Holy Eucharist	Andrew Baker Margaret Lock	Margaret Woodliffe Margaret Lock

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The views expressed are those of the contributor.

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