

Shirenewton

Parish Magazine

September 2014



The Bell Tower, Shirenewton Hall
Image by Terry Walters

Price: 50p

FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear People of the Parish,
Your starter for ten points:

Questions: What is the Parish Share?
What is it used for?
How is it implemented?

Answers: It is the annual amount charged on each parish by the diocese.
Among other things, it pays for parish clergy and those in training for full-time ministry.
It is a levy set on all individual parishes (it used to be called the 'Quota') by the diocese.

How much is the 'Parish Share' for the churches in our group?

Answers: Mathern, approximately £20,000 per annum.
Mounton, approximately £11,000 per annum.
St. Pierre, approximately £14,000 per annum.
Shirenewton, approximately £15,000 per annum.

A total in the region of £60,000 per annum.

Question: WHAT ELSE DOES THE PARISH CHURCH PAY FOR?

Answer: Among the chief items are (just like at home) heating, lighting and insurance. In addition, there are costs relating to a proportion of Parish and Vicar's expenses.

Question: HOW DOES EACH CHURCH FIND THE MONEY TO PAY FOR THE PARISH SHARE AND OTHER EXPENSES?

Answers: Giving
By regular giving in church (e.g. the collection in the Sunday service).
By bankers order, Gift Aid, etc.
By donations
Fees
Weddings
Funerals
Permission to erect Grave Monuments
Fund – Raising
Social Events
50/50 Club

NB. Smaller churches that have little income from weddings, funerals etc. Obviously have to undertake more fund-raising events in order to pay their Parish Share. Conversely, larger churches are also under financial pressure as their Parish Share obligation is greater than the smaller churches.

Question: HOW IS THE PARISH SHARE FIGURE WORKED OUT?

Answer: The Parish Share is based on the following factors:-
The parish area is 'banded'. Banding is graded from (A) to (D).
Where (A) would be considered an affluent area to (D) which would be considered a deprived area. Our group of parishes are included in Band (A).
Income that the church derives from fees, giving etc.
Average attendance.
Financial reserves.
Population of the parish.

The issue of reduction in full-time clergy upon their retirement – and the amalgamation of what was the group of parishes entrusted to their care with a neighbouring group without any paid replacement – needs to be considered also.

At the time of going to press, a representation from all four of our parishes will meet with the finance director at the Diocesan Office in Newport to discuss these and other financial matters.

I hope to bring you some clarification on this subject in the next edition of the magazine.

With every good wish and blessing,

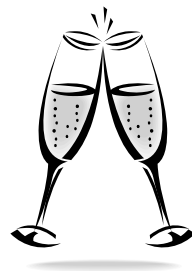
FROM THE REGISTERS

St Thomas á Becket Church Shirenewton

The Marriage of
Katherine Mary Waters to Richard Thomas Hicks
Saturday 26th July 2014

The Marriage of
Alexandra Mary Wood to Dylan Matthew Wilson
Saturday 9th August 2014

The Marriage of
Claire Philippa Penney to Peter Anthony Radmall
Saturday 9th August 2014



The Funeral of
June Kathleen Jorgensen
Thursday 17th July 2014



OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES

On Sunday 17th August the congregation was treated to a talk about well drilling in Ghana in the Church room after the morning communion service . For many years the Church has supported the Bondo District well drilling project and two representatives of the project, Charles and Faustina, were visiting supporters in the UK. Faustina lives in the Bondo district and was able to give us a first-hand account of living in a community where the nearest well was several miles away. As a single mother with four children she had to carry huge loads of water on her head three miles from the well to her village several times a day. This is not unusual in this part of Ghana, where drinking polluted water combined with a lack of proper toilet facilities is a major cause of disease, chronic illness and death. Part of Faustina's role is to educate the local population in health and hygiene, and win them over to give the project their full support so that when the drilling rig arrives there is a collaborative and supportive labour force available to ensure all goes well with the drilling and laying concrete bases. We were told how over the life of the project many wells have been refurbished or automated, and many more new wells have been drilled, all of which contributes to a better standard of life in some of these isolated and dispersed villages. The most moving story of all concerned the local hospital where there was insufficient water to keep the wards clean. Many patients were too ill to reach the latrines in time and as a result the hospital stank most unpleasantly and patients became more and more ill, rather than recovering from their afflictions. No one wanted to eat in the hospital in that atmosphere, and this clearly had an impact on the health of patients as well. The next major project in the region will be to address the water supply to the hospital. The collection for Sunday's service was donated to the Bondo Water Project, and there was a spontaneous collection at the end of Faustina's talk.

On Sunday 24th August the recently-established maintenance gang of volunteers and supporters of the Church met in the churchyard after the morning service for the annual Bake and Rake - or in this case Beer and Clear - when the happy band of pilgrims tidied up all the grass cuttings and other varied and diverse detritus around the graves and memorials in order to keep it all looking neat and respectable. There have been a number of weddings and baptisms in the Church this summer, and the gang have been most responsive in leaping to the challenge when called on by the Churchwardens to make sure that brides' trains and babies' christening robes do not get dirty trailing on the ground. The extra cake rations - or in this case beer rations - go a long way to keep the rakers and clearers happy. Any more volunteers for the maintenance gang?

Bill Clark

SHIRENEWTON CLOCK ON STRIKE AGAIN!

Many of you may have heard that the Shirenewton Church Clock is back working and striking again and you may also have noticed that the North Face, which has been disconnected for some years now, is again working properly.

The clock mechanism and bearings have been overhauled by the Cumbria Clock Company. This has involved removing the hands from the outside by top clock man David Clarke using a Bosun's chair and then removing all the drive mechanism to be repaired in their own workshop. They were then replaced by reversing the process and set up to run smoothly and accurately.

The Church Clock was installed in 1921 and is actually a WW1 memorial; this is recorded above the stone memorial in the centre of the village. It is fitting that we have been able to restore it this year and we are grateful to the War Memorials Trust, the Lower Wye Valley and Welsh Church Act funds and Shirenewton Community Council for generously providing grants to allow this to be achieved. We hope it will now give good service again for many years to come.

Charles Eickhoff and Glynis MacDonald

200 CLUB

Results of the July 200 Club:

£40 Sally Saysell No 96
£30 Jamie Williamson No 5
£20 Lisa Bonsey No 75
£10 Nansi Davies No 181

There was no draw in August

MOVE TO USK

Phil and Shan Henshall have moved to Usk and would like to thanks friends and neighbours for many happy years in Shirenewton. They look forward to seeing you all again

Best wishes, Shan

THE BELLS, THE BELLS

The Shirenewton ringers have traditionally arranged two tours each year to visit different parts of the country and ring the bells in that area: one tour takes place in the summer and the other in the winter, and named accordingly. Touring around is a common activity for ringers and the majority of church towers welcome visitors. Our mission this year was to visit the Garden of England - Kent, a county perhaps now only visited fleetingly by many on their way to Dover or the tunnel to escape these shores. We decided on our own pilgrimage to rediscover Kent – our own Canterbury Tale.

Fourteen ringers set out on the Friday afternoon of August 15th to the campsite just outside of Sturry, north east of Canterbury. The vagaries of the M25, M26 and M20 plus some late starts meant that for the first tower arranged for Friday evening only 6 ringers had actually arrived. The church was at Littlebourne and the 6 ringers were warmly welcomed and rang the 6 bells. However, at the next church at Bekesbourne (pronounced locally as Beeksbourne) others then joined us raising the number to 11 and the 6 bells here were then rung. Onto the final 8 bells at Wingham where we attempted some method ringing on 7 of the 8 bells (in ringing jargon – *Triples* – as the maximum number of single place changes on 7 is 3 pairs: hence *Triples*). The majority of the band then travelled to the campsite to erect or finish erecting tents and a gazebo, whilst the others tracked down the fish and chip shop in Sturry village for what has now become the traditional first night supper. After darkness had fallen the 3 final ringers arrived and after a few drinks the band retired to prepare for the busy morrow.

Saturday dawned bright and after a light breakfast we headed out to Margate [8 bells] but did not see any of the town or beach as the church is set inland. Then onto Birchington [8 bells] and thence to the highlight of the morning and a first for the Shirenewton band alone - the 12 bells at Quex Park. The bells are a secular ring set within a purpose built folly - The Waterloo Tower - a bell tower containing 12 bells (tenor 15 cwt) hung for change ringing and set in the middle of a field at the back of the parkland. The tower is built of red brick and is 66 ft high. On top of the tower is a white painted cast iron spire which rises a further 65 ft. The tower was built in 1819 by John Powell Powell a wealthy landowner, yachtsman and ringer of his time. It is unique among secular bell towers for its size and location and was the first twelve-bell tower in Kent, predating the 12 bells at Canterbury Cathedral. The acoustics were difficult but the band performed admirably and entertained a group of ramblers who were visiting the park. Then a complete change as we visited the 4 bells at Monkton, the 5 bells at Minster and the 6 bells at St Nicholas at Wade. Lunch was held at the excellent and aptly named Bell Inn in the village.

In the afternoon we visited Chislet [6 bells], Sturry [6 bells] and utilising the Sainsbury car park in Canterbury and a short walk down the river bank visited the ancient church of St Alphege (now part of the Kings School as the drama department but retaining its 6 bells for ringing). The final ring of the day was the 6 bells at Thannington situated on the southern edge of Canterbury.

After such a busy day the evening was spent with holding a barbeque and having a few celebratory drinks to toast the recent exam successes of our younger ringers - Chris Eickhoff (to read Ancient History at Birmingham), Hannah Leney (to read for a Nursing Degree also at Birmingham) who unfortunately could not with us on the tour, Rhiannon Millar for success in her AS level results and to Maddie Stanley on her degree in Biochemistry and attaining funds to support a PhD at Manchester. This was not the end of the tour however!

On the Sunday morning before the full breakfast everyone headed first to St Nicholas, Sturry, visited the previous day. We had been requested to help out for the service ringing as many of the local ringers were on vacation. To this we readily obliged. Then into Canterbury first to ring at St Dunstan [6] for service and then onto the truly impressive Cathedral. We had been joined at St Dunstan by one of the Cathedral ringers so we were led to the exclusive Cathedral Car Park and gained entry. Then we met the local ringers in the south transept and climbed the spiral staircase into the roof space above the cathedral vaulting on the south of the nave. A walkway under the massive buttressing to the nave led west to the south west tower entered through a large antechamber library and into the ringing chamber. For many of the band this was second visit to a medieval English cathedral (Lincoln in 2013) but the first experience of ringing on a heavy 12 bells tenor weighing 34cwt (compared to Shirenewton's 5½ cwt). We were made most welcome and *following* rounds and call changes a couple of the band rang the method *Grandsire Cinques* – changes on 11 bells with the same nomenclature as applied to *Triples* above as the maximum number of single place changes on 11 is 5 pairs: hence *Cinques*).

Afterwards back to the campsite for what was now brunch, packing up quickly as rain was due and returning back to Wales. In the evening we were all guests of Jane and Charles Eickhoff for a post-tour celebration: the end of another truly memorable Shirenewton Ringers' Summer Tour. Where next? Watch this space!

M.D.Penney

SHIRENEWTON CHURCH WEBSITE

I hope everyone had a virus-free summer holiday. As I write this it has been brought to my attention (via Radio 2) that it is exactly 4 months to Christmas day! Given the weather outside on this bank holiday Monday one could be forgiven for thinking it was sooner. Apparently it's colder here than in Lapland.

I'm fresh back from Neville Hall A&E – good news the foot isn't broken -no metatarsal stress fracture for me!

But you don't want to read about me. You want to know the exciting news from the Church website? Well the first bit of news is that we are going to make a determined effort to keep the 'community calendar' on the website up-to-date. Thank you to Mr Charles Eickhoff for volunteering for the task! If, over the next few months you notice the community calendar quietly disappearing off the website then you know that he failed or lost interest in this task ;-)

One of the key truths about websites is that they need to be maintained unless they are total 'brochureware', or, in other words, the equivalent of a printed brochure. If they are to be a source of reference they need constant maintenance. Just establishing a reference 'presence' is one thing maintaining a living website is quite another. This is where things such as Facebook have got it right. They make it very easy to maintain your own personal website. Why would you want a personal website – to share stuff with your friends and family of course. The same is true of a business or a society or a Church! The website exists to share stuff, impart information and, I believe, to provide a historical record. Now I don't claim to be a perfectionist in maintenance of the Church website but I usually get there eventually. For example we have photos of the village fete going back to 2006. We have photographic evidence of other fund raising events going back to 2004. The Parish magazine going back to June 2005 and community council minutes going back to February 2005.

I don't expect everyone to rush to the website to learn that on 6th August 2007 (to choose one random example) a male "Prowler" was seen to the rear of a property on 31st July 2007 at 1am. The (home owner?) shouted and the main ran off. The aforementioned Councillor C Eickhoff missed this riveting bit of news as, it transpires, he had sent his apologies. It's alright Charles, the minutes further record that there was no damage or theft – it all happens in Shirenewton/ Mynyddbach/Earlswood. But I hope that at some point in the future some of the stuff recorded will be an interesting reference for someone.

Of course, in our case, the Church website is not just designed as a historical reference and to share stuff. It is there to raise funds via the shopping portal. The good news is that, to date in 2014, it has raised £729.11 – as always this is cash into the Church account. Last year we raised a total of £1,365 but had reached £978.97 at the same stage of the year. So it looks unlikely that we will match last year's total but I'm hoping we will clear £1,000.

Which brings me neatly back to the fact that there are only 4 shopping months to Christmas – less by the time you come to read this. So, please continue shopping !

through the website. Every little helps – to borrow a phrase

And, of course, a big thanks to those who having been supporting the website throughout the year.

Safe Browsing David Cornwell

SHIRENEWTON, MYNYDDBACH AND EARLSWOOD COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENT NOTIFICATION

I am setting up system so people can register to be notified of community centered social events and other such community activity via email. To register please send an email to: Shirenewton.events@gmail.com

If you send an email to Shirenewton.events@gmail.com we will add you to the mailing list and you will receive notification by email of appropriate events. To unsubscribe please send an email to the same address indicating you want to be removed.

Although I am associated with the Shirenewton Charity Committee the use of this email list is not designed to be solely for the events we organise although, of course, our events are designed to be community centered social events and therefore will be included in the notifications.

Therefore any other community organisations are hereby invited to use this list. To use the list please contact me on Shirenewton@outlook.com with details of the event and I'll send it out if it is appropriate and meets the criteria of being a community centered social event.

As a general guide, events which will not be considered community centered social events include things like an agm and other such society or regular meetings (it is assumed you have a membership list for this type of thing). Things which will be considered community centered social events are things like quiz nights, coffee mornings/afternoons, open days (which do not require membership), and other such events open to the entire community where you can meet other like-minded people living in the village or be advised of what is happening in the community. So, if there are public meetings over things like the recent solar panel planning application, I will consider it a valid community notification opportunity!

Ultimately the success of such a list depends on two things: (i) people signing up – so please do so, and (ii) the list not being abused. Your email address will not be shared or used for any other purpose. I'll ultimately be the arbiter of what goes out – trust me I'm a professional ;-).

For the avoidance of doubt this list is an entire new list and is not associated with any other mailing list – such as those you can sign up to on the Church website or 'informal' lists. So, even if you get the informal events notifications which occasionally go out, sign up for the real deal.

David Cornwell (contactable via numerous email addresses!)

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Planning applications considered

DC/2014/00679 3 Usk Road, Shirenewton

Proposed single storey extension to front of existing dwelling

Recommendation - Refusal, with the following observations:

- The house is located in a row of nine properties and would be the first one to build on the front.
- The proposal would alter features common to all nine houses.
- The proposal would alter the building line and detract from the visual aspect as the road is a main gateway to Wales.
- Council suggested a Planning Officer visit the site to look at the building line.

DC/2014/00603 'Porthcerrig', Shirenewton

Porch at front of house.

Recommendation - Approval

DC/2014/00667 Home Farm, Shirenewton

Stationing of mobile home for use of equine trainer.

Council noted the secluded, well screened location, 3 year tenure and all services on site. Recommendation - Approval

DC/2014/00666 Home Farm, Shirenewton

Retention of agricultural storage unit as stables (amended design to DC/2008/01204), timber stables and manege.

Council noted this was a retrospective application, the buildings were well constructed and in keeping with the area. Recommendation - Approval

DC/2014/00810 1 Usk Road, Shirenewton

Erection of detached garage and hobby room.

Recommendation: Refusal with the following observations:

- the two storey building is of excessive size and out of character with the other properties,
- it is located approx 30m from the house which is questionable,
- The plan for the garage floor level includes provision for a toilet/shower room, but the application makes no mention of how waste from this unit is to be dealt with. The effluent from these nine houses is a treatment plant in Llewyn-Celyn wood at the rear of the properties, its capacity is questioned, as is the ability to connect this new building to this system.
- It is noted that a new access needs to be constructed for this proposal, which in fact has already been done, from Llewyn-Celyn lane. Highways should check this complies with its requirements.
- The application states that the proposed building is not visible to the public, but it is visible from both Llewyn-Celyn lane and the Chepstow to Usk road, a main tourist route into mid Wales.

DC/2014/00108 'Oslo', Mynyddbach

Amendment to siting of proposed development to reflect the siting under the previously approved outline permission.

Recommendation: Refusal with the following observations:

- The semi-detached houses are located in the NW corner of the site with parking some distance away, this implies increased use of the pedestrian access for deliveries, dropping off etc, this is a concern to neighbouring properties.
- as stated in the past, this Council considers three properties to be over development of the site, wherever they are located, which will create problems with access and parking and have a negative traffic impact.
- the current owners did not contribute to the maintenance of the unadopted lane as they did not use it, however, this development would access it.
- because of repeated applications and amendments neighbours are exasperated at the number of times they have to repeat their observations.

3. DC/2014/00843 Gaerllwyd Farm, Newchurch

Change of use of the land to the N/E from agricultural to the keeping of a horse.

Within the garden curtilage the erection of 2 stables, hay barn, tack/storeroom and garage together with hard standing to the front and south of the stables. Fence off a section of the existing 1 metre high stone wall to the front of the property securing the garden area whilst hedging is given time to establish.

Recommendation: Approval

Extracts from the minutes

Mr Foster, newly appointed Brookacre Manager attended the July meeting. He explained his background and acknowledged previous difficulties at the Home. He assured the Council that there is now a strong management team in place, with regular staffing which is already settling down. He confirmed that the Home can accommodate up to 4 girls aged up to 18 years and there are currently two residents. He explained that the girls are very vulnerable and Brookacre staff are working closely with multi-agency teams on their behalf. They encourage the girls and help them to feel valued, with staff offering structured and fulfilling opportunities - one resident is currently working in retail in Newport. Staff are looking to develop an on-site education programme.

Ms Evans, Gwent Missing Children Team explained her role, she reinforced Mr Foster's explanation and suggested that staff need to work in partnership with the community to safeguard young people. Mr Foster requested help from the community in reporting service users seen outside the Home - what they are wearing, car registration (if appropriate) and whether they are being followed.

Continued on Page 12

Continued from Page 11

Mr Foster agreed to allay the fears of local residents by visiting them to explain any incidents that occur.

Finally, Mr Foster invited Councillors to visit the Home and meet with staff to view the positive changes that have taken place.

Best Kept Village Competition 2014

Results should be known during September.

Telephone kiosk - Council resolved to approve expenditure on the refurbishment at the July meeting. The kiosk should be back in position by the end of August.

Update on traffic calming proposals - At the August meeting C Cllr down advised that responses made at the public exhibition on 15 July were being analysed and will be made available to the Council and the working party.

Meetings attended - Meeting with Mr Dew, owner of the Tan House pub - Cllr Hughes reported that the site has been tidied, electrical wiring and aerial removed, along with bags of sand, etc. The property has been gutted, and a lot of interior work done - including weather proofing, central heating and rewiring. Owner assures that he will not be seeking change of use, still proposing a pub/ Post Office/shop/day time facility. Owner is currently seeking a business partner to progress the project. This Council to continue to keep in touch with owner.

Dates of next meetings: Monday 1 September and Monday 6 October at 7.30 pm at Shirenewton Recreation Hall.

Mobile Police Station visits during September:

Thursday 11th September, 9.30 - 10.30 am, Tredegar Arms Car Park

Sunday 14th September, 9.30 - 11 am, Great Barnets Wood Car Park

Find full information in the draft copy of the minutes on the Community Council notice boards. Previous minutes of meetings can be found on the Council's page of the church website.

Contact the Clerk to the Community Council -

Mrs Hilary Counsell Tel: 01291 421307

E-mail: Shirenewtoncc@gmail.com

STARGAZING IN JULY 2014



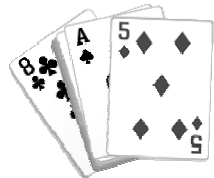
The seven stars of the Plough can be seen in the northern evening sky whilst the “W” of the constellation Cassiopeia lies to the northeast. The constellation Pegasus includes a large square that lies to the south. The Summer Triangle made up of the bright stars Deneb, Vega and Altair continues to dominate the night sky to the South. Deneb forms the tail of the constellation Cygnus, the Swan which lies pretty much overhead. Its brightest stars form a cross against the background of the Milky Way. The head of the Swan is a beautiful double star called Albireo. Viewed through a small telescope it can be seen to be a striking pair of stars, one coloured blue the other gold.

The bright planet Jupiter lies to the east in the early morning sky. The crescent moon is close to Jupiter on the 20th. At the beginning of September the very bright planet Venus can be seen to the left of Jupiter and close to the horizon.

James Bradley was vicar of the parish of Bridstow, near Ross-on-Wye in Monmouthshire until 1721, when he changed vocation and became a full-time astronomer. Isaac Newton considered him to be the “best astronomer in Europe” and he was eventually made Astronomer Royal. Bradley carried out measurements that proved the Earth orbits the Sun, and that led to the first estimates of the distances of stars.

WHIST DRIVES

I apologise for missing the July deadline and therefore news of the June and July Whist Drives. Our numbers for those two months were 21 players at each drive. I am glad to report that we went up to 24 players in August on our warmest evening of the year. New players are always made welcome, please join us; our Table fee is £1.50 per person which includes light refreshments. We also have a Raffle that raises funds for the upkeep of the Recreation Hall, where we play - opening at 7 and starting to play at 7.30 p.m. promptly. We will continue through the year playing on the first Thursday of each month – we would love to see even more new faces.



Auriol Horton. 01291 641844

SHIRENEWTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Where did the summer go? It's September already and the beginning of yet another year for our society. We finished our year in July with the unveiling of the blue plaque to commemorate Edward Joseph Lowe. We were blessed with glorious weather, when fifty members and invited guest gathered on the terrace of the Hall. Madeline Coxe F.R.S.A. who hails from Nottingham, Lowe's birth place, and was the librarian for the society of astronomers, and now in retirement is the Chair of the Society of the History of Astronomy, she had written a number of articles on Lowe over a number of years and we felt she was just the person to unveil the plaque. We were also very pleased to see Mrs Lisa Backhaus who is Lowe's great great granddaughter who travelled up from Winchester to attend the ceremony. Speeches made, plaques unveiled and bouquets presented we all retired back to the terrace for refreshments very kindly supplied by our generous hosts, Mr & Mrs P. Bailey. The rest of the afternoon was spent visiting the Japanese garden and enjoying the beautiful view of the estuary.

Our meeting for July was well attended with a talk from Prof. Ray Howells and Dr David Howells, who gave an account of their archaeology dig at Llanfyan-gel-tor-y-Mynydd. The more they dig the bigger the mystery of what the building was used for. We look forward to further reports on next years dig.



As we start our new year we look forward to new members joining the society as a new programme of talks and visits are already planned for 2014/2015.

Dates for your Diary:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Monday, 8 th September | Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall, Shirenewton 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm |
| Tuesday, 30 th September | Meeting at the Huntsman Hotel, 7.30 Talk entitled 'Events leading up to W.W.1' given by Bill Clark |
| Monday, 13 th October | Archive Meeting at the Recreational Hall, Shirenewton 2.00 pm — 5.00 pm |
| Tuesday, A.G.M. & Talk | Meeting at the Huntsman Hotel 7.00 pm Talk entitled 'Mr Rolls & Mr Royce', given by Roger James |

I'm sure there will be something of interest for everyone in our new programme and everyone is welcome to join us at our meetings.

FAIRTRADE NEWS



Agriculture is the cornerstone of most developing countries' economies:

2.5 billion people make their living from agricultural production

1.5 billion of these are small holder farmers, labourers, fishermen and women and pastoralists

500,000 smallholder farms play an integral role in global agriculture and help put food on the plates of 2 billion people.

Apparently the UN has designated 2014 as the Year of the Family Farmer.

Fairtrade is focused on improving the lives of small scale farmers by rewarding them appropriately for their produce and helping them develop more successful and environmentally sustainable methods. Too often the vast profits of international trade simply steamroller all other considerations - both environmental and ethical.

The environmental point was brought home to me very forcibly recently when I went to a presentation given by Compassion in World Farming. It was publicizing the launch of Farmageddon, a book detailing the production of cheap meat and factory farming. Leaving aside the fact that the average Brit eats 11,047 animals in his or her lifetime (!) one horrifying vision has stayed with me described by the co-author of the book Isabel Oakeshott - a well-respected political journalist who had no particular axe to grind - she explained that she and the other author Philip Lymbery were driving through kilometres of blossoming almond orchards in the central valley in California. When they got out of the car there was not a blade of grass to be seen, no insect, no bird. Only the rather soapy smell of chemicals pervaded the air. How can this be? Where are the pollinators? Trucked in when necessary of course.

Traidcraft's Palestinian almonds are clearly a good alternative - and perhaps even more so given the current situation.

Incidentally if you would like some encouragement to choose your meat more carefully do read Farmageddon - it's not a horror tract (although it easily could be) but a well researched argument for a profound rethink about food production. The Traidcraft autumn catalogue is now available.

EARLSWOOD VALLEY METHODIST CHAPEL

Harvest Festival Sunday 21st September at 3:00pm

Also Monday 22nd September at 7:30pm

All very Welcome

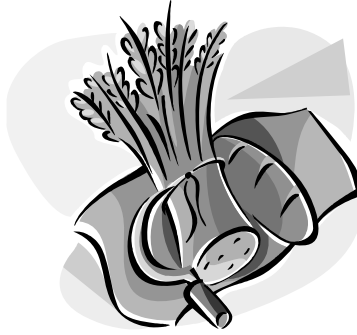
EARLSWOOD HOPE METHODIST CHAPEL

Harvest Festival Sunday 5th October at 3:00pm

Also Monday 6th October at 7:30pm

All very Welcome

St Thomas à Becket Church



HARVEST LUNCH

EARLSWOOD HALL

SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER

12.30 FOR 1.00PM

Admission by ticket only

Adults £6.00 or children £4.00

For tickets contact:-

Sally 01291 641369 sally.saysell@tiscali.co.uk

Barbara 01291 641338 barbaraw@lters.org.uk

SHIRENEWTON WI SUMMER 2014



How nice to have some proper summer weather, no need for coats but plenty of sun cream. June 15th we had a lovely outdoor meeting at Wyndcliffe Court Sculpture gardens. Wyndcliffe Court is a lovely place with delightful gardens sitting above St. Arvans and blessed with glorious views over the Severn. Through the summer from May to the end of September, it is open Friday to Sunday 11am to 6pm with group bookings at other times. Around the gardens and terrace are displayed sculptures of many forms sizes and materials. To be able to see so many artists work displayed in such a lovely setting is a sensual feast.

Wyndcliffe Court has another delight in its lovely tea room café, the food and drink is very good and can be enjoyed inside with an exhibition of pictures to look at or out on the lovely terrace, looking at the gardens and views. Everyone enjoyed their evening and said it would be a great place for lunch or afternoon tea with so much to see.

July 10th saw us back at the Rec Hall with an evening of flower arranging. Jane Kennedy and Margaret France from Llangwm and Llansoy WI gave us a wonderful demonstration with lots of helpful tips. Most members had been able to bring some plant material from their gardens so that there was plenty with the flowers from Margerat and Jane for everyone to have a go and be creative.

Jane and Margaret provided dishes and oasis, making sure we knew how to soak and secure it : providing help and encouragement where needed. When the arrangements were finished they were all displayed, Jane and Margaret chose 1st 2nd and 3rd as our competition for the night. We all enjoyed our evening, it was fun doing it all together.

August 14th we had our annual summer dinner. This year we went to the Anchor at Tintern, it was lovely evening inspite of the weather forecast. Not everyone was able to attend and our thoughts were with Jenny, our president in particular who had to go in for an operation that week. The evening went well and we all enjoyed our meals, the food at the Anchor was lovely and very well presented.

Our next meeting will be a talk about Hypnotherapy by Andrew Griffiths on September 11th at the Rec Hall 7:15 pm.

October 9th we will be having a talk from the ' Fudge Fairy'.

Notes on the Shirenewton Community Council Meeting Monday 4th August 2014 Glynis MacDonald

The Police Report

Zilch. And no police presence either. You know I miss all that urgent rural news about roaming cows , rampant sheep, stones in the road and loose horses.

Public Discussion.

The first part of the meeting was given over to a discussion about the Traffic Calming Meeting held in July. Even Cllr Graham Down suggested that the proposals put forward by MCC fell far short of what had been suggested. But he reported that the responses to the questionnaires were being analysed and quantified and the results will be available soon.

However, one Member of the Public voiced the suggestion that the proposals were all about Shirenewton and there was nothing about Mynnyddbach. Exactly! said one councillor, Shirenewton gets proper road surfacing and poor Old M/B just gets a bit of top dressing. The Member of the Public continued that part of the speeding problem on the very narrow lanes was at school times and how fast some parents drive. Also what about the Usk Road? THE MOTOR BIKES! Once again, 'Can anything be done about the excessive speed and appalling noise?' It was noted that Mynnyddbachians have their Sundays ruined by the noise of the heavy duty bikes and by what was described as 'anti-social behaviour'. And once again we heard that the Gwent Police do not have the right sort of equipment to monitor the level of full throttle roaring. 'But why can't they borrow the equipment from a force that does?' someone understandably asked. And one terribly brave person was heard to suggest that the police were perhaps being a tad too chummy with the bikers up at Abergavenny but as there was no police presence at the meeting there was no one to rebuff this suggestion. Or to clap him/her in irons.

Planning.

1. DC/2014/00810 1 Usk Road, Shirenewton, "Erection of detached garage and hobby room."

There was a bit of disquiet on this one as it seems that some of the building work has already taken place and not only that but it's 'out of character'. It's now a very large building with a double garage with toilets and shower rooms above. "What about the issue of sewerage?" someone asked. And the Chairman was moved to voice his concerns over retrospective planning and he suggested that they should be much sterner. Refusal was unanimously recommended.

2. DC/2014/00108 'Oslo', Mynyddbach

"Amendment to siting of proposed development to reflect the siting under the previously approved outline permission." (?)

Despite the local residents' objections, MCC have given outline planning permission and so therefore little could be done. The residents are very concerned about parking, the number of vehicles especially the number of builders' vehicles and also, that pedestrian access would be compromised. It was pointed out that it's a private lane and all the other residents have to team together to pay for its maintenance. Refusal was unanimously recommended.

3. DC/2014/00843 Gaerllwyd Farm, Newchurch

"Change of use of the land to the N/E from agricultural to the keeping of a horse. Within the garden curtilage the erection of 2 stables, hay barn, tack/storeroom and garage together with hard standing to the front and south of the stables. Fence off a section of the existing 1 metre high stone wall to the front of the property securing the garden area whilst hedging is given time to establish" There was nothing to object to and so therefore the application was unanimously recommended.

4 Planning application DC/2013/00925 Buckwell Farm Solar Panels.

Despite much local opposition to this vast enterprise it sounded as if the Planning Officer for MCC will be recommending approval.

Strangely the plan has no reference to 'Connections'. There was talk of a small shed with a big switch. But there was no detail of how the power will be taken to where it's got to go. Will there be expensive and disruptive underground cabling? Or perhaps rows of pylons marching through the countryside taking the power to a substation?

It was presumed that the answer to this would be by way of further Planning Applications

Continued on Page 20

Continued from Page 19

High Finance

And any guesses as to how much it costs to empty the poo bins? Well it's £27.12

Talking of which there was some bru ha ha about how much the solicitor wants to now charge SCC for (finally) registering the Earlswood Field formally known as the Poor Field and once, because of a typo, as the Poo Field. Negotiations will continue.

One cllr suggested that the lease should include the proviso that if the field is ever sold, the resulting sum of money should go to Earlswood and the Earlswoodian peoples. But at the moment the leasing arrangements mean that the grass crop is sold off once a year. Hardly mega bucks. But anyway a subcommittee has been set up to manage this field.

There was an external audit of the a/c and as there were absolutely no issues, the Clerk was congratulated and cries of, 'Well Done Mrs. Clerk' were heard to echo around the chamber. And did I hear that the Chairman will take everyone out for a drink? Maybe not...

Best Kept Village? Sit tight. The results will be announced in September.

The SCC Village Web Site. More excitement. Things are progressing really speedily now and it is hoped the council will be able to have a 'Presentation' in a couple of months time.. It was suggested that mug shots should be taken of each of the Councilors and put up on the web site so that everyone would know who they were. I thought they knew who they were. But anyway, the issue of security was raised and so this was turned down. So what about a group shot? Again this was turned down. Maybe just of the Chairman? Err No.

But the councillors are anticipating much engagement with and by local people who will be able to enter into an on-line correspondence on all the local issues which are dear to their hearts.

Telephone Box. It's still being sandblasted ready for painting, glazing and replanting. Its new flat base is ready and waiting.

Redhouse Stables. The problem of the Stock Pile of Manure is now in the hands of the Enforcers. Oh.

The World War 1 Memorial Clock. This has now been repaired and is in full working order. All four faces are now showing the same (and hopefully correct) time. The bill came in under budget and so SCC will only need to contribute £50 and not the anticipated £500.

Wild Flowers. Nigel Leaworthy from MCC who came to give the council a talk about wild flower verges in the spring has said that this scheme has been so successful that should SCC want flowery verges then they will now have to pay for the seeds whereas originally the seeds had been a freebie. But in order to find out how many seeds would be needed, the area would first need to be measured. It was suggested that puny little patches would be feeble, great swathes of wild flowers were needed. But like... where? Maybe on the entrances and exits to Shirenewton? But there was fighting talk about Mynnyddbach having its fair share of flowers too. (And what about Earlswood? And Newchurch West?) And would this new scheme entail local care and preparation? Would rotovators need to be deployed? And who would pay for them? And Health and Safety issue would have to be considered, traffic calming measures would have to be put in place and hard hats worn. Discussions flourished until the chairman wilted and suggested that they move on as they were only going over old ground. And the topic was kicked into the long grass.

AOB. Nothing much to report on except how the NATO conference in the Celtic Manor 4th and 5th September will impact on local services, schools, transport, roads and policing but I expect all that will have been done and dusted by the time this mag comes out and the circus will have gone home. Unless President Obama has decided to extend his stay a bit to sample the delights of Newport.

Next Meeting – Monday 1st September – 7.30. But apologies, as I will be unable to be at that meeting as I will be involved in the rehearsals for the Old Time Music Hall up at Earlswood Hall. (Got your tickets yet?)

And Hot Off the Press 1979

A couple of weeks ago, Mike Gambold gave me a copy of the 'Parishes of Shirenewton and Newchurch Magazine' March 1979.

This report sounds strangely familiar.

Continued on Page 22

Continued from Page 21

SHIRENEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

“We are presently repairing equipment in the children’s area; negotiating with the County Council on tree planting schemes and Highway matters. We are proposing to build a bus shelter at Earlswood and hope to have the piece of common land in Mynyddbach tidied up. The Council is kept constantly busy with Planning applications. During the last 12 months we have dealt with some 50 applications some of which have been very controversial...”

And am I imagining an air of weariness there too?

Not unrelated:

Overheard in the Budgens Car Park one Sunday morning.

“I got this good ideal, while we eats our pasties, Fred you pootle up to Abergavenny. When you gets there give me a call and report if you have seen any speed traps along the road, if you haven’t we will see you in around 5 minutes”.

If you sees a copper, as you pass shout “get off my land”

Later on in Abergavenny

“George its your turn to pootle back to Chepstow, Give us a ring when you gets there and report if there are any speed traps. Grab yourself a Pasty in Budgens and we will see you in around 4 minutes.”

“Last one back to Brisle buys the Pasties.”

Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society



First meeting will be on Monday 22nd September
at the TA at 8.00

All Welcome! Even if you've not been involved before, even if you don't want to tread the boards, what about prompting or sewing costumes or making props or even writing a script?

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GARDENING CORNER

I don't think anyone can complain about the summer we are having this year, and certainly not the farmers among us. I don't think I have ever seen so much silage, haylage or good old fashioned hay flying around the countryside as I have this year. Combining must also be progressing apace as twice in recent days I have almost been hit clean off the road on my daily trip to Bristol, by an extremely large wagon loaded up with straw, heading along the Usk road. From the gardening point of view I mustn't complain, although lack of rain and the daily heat have been taking their toll on some of the crops as beans have failed to set and beetroot and radish, as well as onions, lettuce and fennel have either gone to seed or grown very 'woody'. On the plus side the soft fruit has done well, as have the tomatoes, cucumbers, melons and peppers. Our winter squash and pumpkins have gone absolutely berserk, with the growing tips of the pumpkins appearing among the runner beans, the Brussels sprouts as well as the spinach. The 'Day of the Triffids' has got nothing on this garden at the moment! To get to the small tunnel I'm almost at the point of getting the jungle knife out to cut back the rampant growth of Jerusalem artichokes and a Clematis Montana that is in a pot waiting to be planted, but which, in its impatience to get free, has now rooted out of the pot and has grown everywhere in the warmth and moisture of the last few days!

The deep freezers are now full to the brim with produce. So much so, that we were on the point of contemplating buying a further one (the third). Instead we have decided to buy a dehydration unit. This will allow us to dehydrate fruit and vegetables and store in jars, saving the freezer space. Top of the list to start with will be the nectarines that are now ripening in the big tunnel, as well as plum tomatoes (our very own 'sun dried'). Although we haven't got a massive glut of apples this year (unlike last year), there will still be some (provided I can pick them before the Jays ruin them all), so rather than eat apples six times a day, we will try slicing these up and dehydrating them as well. It is too late for this year, but we also want to try soft fruit 'leathers'. These are simply pureed fruit spread on special paper and then dried to form a sheet (a leather) of dried fruit puree. Apparently these make a wonderful alternative to sweets and a lot better for you being just natural fruit with nothing added. The machine itself is American. Reading through the 'recipe' book it covers drying meat to make 'Jerky' and also fish, but I'm not so convinced of these, perhaps another day!

Out in the vegetable beds we have already harvested our early and salad potatoes. The crops generally were very good, although when pulling the tops I noticed the odd early signs of blight. Several potato tubers have succumbed, but nothing as bad as last year when we lost probably half of the crop. Being dry for some time has had a positive in that slug damage has also been minimal. Also harvested early has been the garlic and shallots. The latter were all cooking varieties, as we pickled enough last year to keep us going until next. I noticed

yesterday that the onions are now pretty well ready for pulling as well, although with rain in the forecast for the next few days I'll leave this until it dries up a bit. The garlic and shallots are drying on the bench in the small greenhouse, so I'll box these up shortly to make room for the onions.

I've started sowing a few quick maturing autumn crops to make use of the space left behind after harvesting, so turnips, broccoli and some more kale are currently growing on in the propagating bench. In my haste I sowed the main purple kale crop too early (in the Spring), so what should be a winter time fresh cut crop, is now four feet tall and will be of little use, simply because we can't eat it with all the other produce in the garden! Going back to the dehydration unit, I was reading one of the user reviews which was extolling the virtues of 'kale crisps'. I'm not sure I'm quite signed up to that yet, but who knows, when I retire from the day job I may want to try all sorts of different things!

Last magazine I mentioned the trials and tribulations of having had the bee inspector pay a visit. Our two best hives had lost their queens and having read that buying new, already mated queens was not the easiest of options. I decided to try an alternative method, introducing a frame of young eggs and larvae into each hive. These frames were obtained from other hives where the queens were laying well. Fortunately I found two excellent frames and introduced each to the hives lacking a queen. The intention being, and this is the clever bit, that the bees know they are without a queen, and so, being presented with some new brood, immediately set about the task of making a new queen from scratch (making a special queen cell and feeding the larva 'royal jelly'). Some days later I opened the hives up to see what was going on, and sure enough, there was a nice newly capped queen cell on each of the introduced frames. I then left the hives alone for a couple more weeks to allow the queen time to hatch, mate and then start laying eggs. Opening up the hives last week I was greeted with frames with loads of newly laid eggs – a big success all round. As a bonus, whilst there was little house work to be doing whilst waiting for the new queen, the bees have busied themselves with bringing honey in to the hives, so I now have several supers that can be removed and the honey harvested. Whilst checking the other hives I found two more that had no queen. The one was the first swarm that turned up from elsewhere, which has never really got going. The bees must have realised the queen was no good, so there was a newly capped queen cell already in place, so I have left this to its own devices. Unfortunately I think that there are insufficient bees for this hive to be successful so I don't anticipate that this will survive. The other hive was extremely nasty and I ended up being stung quite a few times, mostly through my gloves. However I tried the trick with new eggs and larvae again and shut the hive back down, very quickly! Again I'm not sure how this will go, but I'm giving them the benefit of the doubt for now.

Happy gardening until next month.
Steve and Felicity Hunt.



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SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2nd, 3.00pm

ST MARY'S PRIORY CHURCH CHEPSTOW

Commemoration Concert for World War 1

Chepstow Choral Society will commemorate the centenary of the commencement of World War 1 in 1914 with a programme of appropriate music, choral items and readings

The programme will include contributions from students of Chepstow Comprehensive School and the 1st Battalion Rifles based at Beachley Barracks.

Music includes "Let us now praise famous men" (Vaughan Williams), "My soul there is a country" and "There is an old belief" (from H Parry's "Songs of Farewell"), extracts from "The Armed Man" (Karl Jenkins), "In Paradisum" (from Faure's Requiem) and a cantata entitled "1914" by Alan Gray, as well as other choral items, appropriate readings linking with the music, and solo items.

THIS CONCERT HAS NO ADMISSION CHARGE, BUT A RETIRING COLLECTION FOR "CARE FOR CASUALTIES" (the Rifles' Charity) WILL BE TAKEN FOR ALL WISHING TO CONTRIBUTE.

Notes for your Diary

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14th – 3.00pm – Christmas Music & Readings

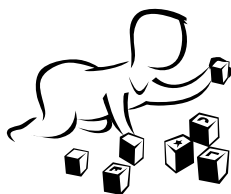
SATURDAY MARCH 21st 2015 – 7.30pm – Spring Concert, with CCS Orchestra – Haydn's "Nelson" Mass, Schubert Mass in G, & orchestral items

SATURDAY JUNE 27th – Summer Concert featuring popular Choral classics with organ.

All above concerts at St Mary's Priory Church, Chepstow.

For further information about singing membership, please contact Marjorie Duerden (tel. 01291 623310). website (www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk) for more!

SHIRENEWTON TODDLER GROUP



Meet every Thursday

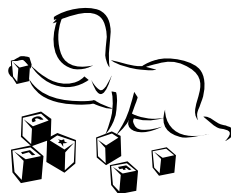
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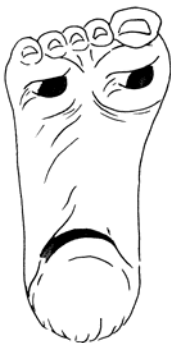
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*Ladies, you could wear a long skirt or a long dress with a shawl
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caps. Trousers, of course. Impressive Curly Moustache too if
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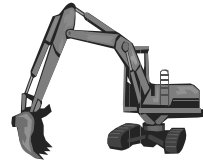
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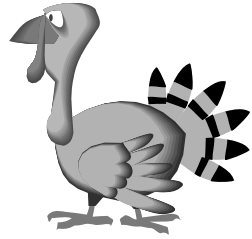
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NERYS'S NATTY NOSH

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Turkey Thai Curry (serves 4)

Ingredients

1½ tablespoon Olive oil
1 onion, thinly sliced
1 small red pepper, cored, cut into thin strips
1 small yellow pepper, cored, cut into thin strips
1 bunch of spring onions, washed and chopped thinly
1 tablespoon Thai green curry paste (add more for a hotter taste)
3 cups minced, turkey meat
800ml coconut milk
4 kaffir lime leaves (optional)
20ml (1 tablespoon) fish sauce
125g snow peas, thinly sliced on the diagonal
2 tablespoons chopped fresh coriander
Cooked Jasmine Fragrant Rice, to serve

Method

- 1 Heat the oil in a large frying pan over medium heat.
- 2 Add onion, peppers and spring onions and cook over low-medium heat for 5-6 minutes, stirring, until softened.
- 3 Add the curry paste and cook for a further minute.
- 4 Add the turkey, coconut milk and lime leaves and simmer gently for five minutes or until the turkey is cooked, stirring occasionally.
- 5 Add the fish sauce, snow peas and coriander just before serving with jasmine rice

Enjoy!

NERYS'S NATTY NOSH



Plums come in a variety of colour; red, yellow, purple and white. They are a rich source of beneficial antioxidants needed to protect us from harmful free radicals. Fully ripen plums contain the most antioxidants. Plums bought for cooking should be poached in a little water and eaten with the juices as some of the nutrients will leak into the water.

Cinnamon and Plum Cobbler (serves 6)

Ingredients

1kg (2¼lb) plums, stoned and halved
50g (1¾oz) light soft brown sugar
1tsp cinnamon
25g (1oz) unsalted butter chilled and diced
The Cobbler
225g (8oz) self-raising flour
2tsp baking powder
75g (2½oz) caster sugar
Pinch ground cinnamon to taste
75g (2½oz) unsalted butter
1 egg
100ml (3½floz) buttermilk
1 tbsp. light brown sugar

Method

- 1 Preheat the oven to 190C, 375F, Gas Mark 5.
- 2 Place the halved plums, diced butter and sugar in the baking dish.
- 3 Make the Cobbler. Place the sifted flour, baking powder, cinnamon into a bowl. Rub in the butter until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs.
- 4 Whisk together the buttermilk and egg. Add to the dry ingredients and bring together until it forms a soft dough.
- 5 Make scone like shapes out of the dough and place on top of the plums. Sprinkle with the light brown sugar.
- 6 Bake in the centre of the oven for 30 minutes or until golden and bubbling. The cobbler is ready when a skewer inserted comes out clean.
- 7 Serve with ice cream, fresh cream, crème fraiche or custard.

Did you know?

Plums originate from China and Europe and have been eaten for the last two thousand years. There are over two thousand varieties of plums. The darker the colour the more nutritional value.

Enjoy!

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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*

Church of St. Thomas à Becket Shirenewton

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Rector | Revd. Julian White | 01291 622317 jel.white@btinternet.com |
| Parish Priest | Revd. Nansi Davies | 01633 400519 |
| Parish Visitor Co-ordinators | Revd. Nansi Davies Diane Marlow | 01633 400519 01291 641407 |
| Secretary and Church Warden | Monnica Williams | monnica.williams@virgin.net |
| Church Wardens | Sally Saysell Andrew Baker | 01291 641369 01291 641925 |
| PCC Secretaries | William Clark | 01291 641783 |
| PCC Treasurers | Kevin Bounds | 01291 641818 |
| PCC Members | Mark Broughton Charles Eickhoff Janet Horton Dr James Leney Allan Saysell Jane Smith-Haddon | 01291 641797 01291 641716 01291 641783 01291 641271 01291 641369 01291 641525 |
| Gift Aid Secretary | Ruth Savagar | 01291 641411 |
| Organists | Karen Millar Ruth Savagar | 01291 650521 01291 641411 |
| Sunday Club | Kerry Baker | 01291 641925 |
| Tower Captain | Mike Penney | 01291 650653 |
| Church Hall Booking | Glynis MacDonald | 01291 641818 |
| Safeguarding Officer | Dr. Kerry Baker | 01291 641925 |
| Church Flowers | Maureen Moody | 01291 641524 |
| Parish Magazine Editor | Terry Walters | 01291 641338 |
| 200 Club | Bob O'Keefe | 01291 641686 |

MP/Monmouth CC & Community Council Representatives

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Clerk to Community Council | Hilary Counsell | 01291 421307 shirenewtoncc@gmail.com |
| Shirenewton Ward: | David Adams Tony Hughes Mario Lenza Phil Moles Beverley Moore | 01291 641792 01291 641360 01291 641333 01291 641521 01291 641532 |
| Mynyddbach Ward | Lynne Prosser Ian Moore, Chair | 01291 641666 01291 650766 |
| Newchurch West | Louise Dyke | 01291 650076 |
| Earlswood Ward | Paul Harris Ken Morton | 01291 650871 01291 650268 |
| MCC for Shirenewton | Graham Down | 01291 621846 grahamdown@monmouthshire.gov.uk |
| Member of Parliament | David Davies | 020 7219 8360 daviesd@parliament.uk |

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 | Bev. Leaf | 01291 641680 |
| | Jaci Crocombe | 01291 641681 |
| Church Fete | Seirian Edmonds | 07980 757802 andyandseze@aol.com |
| Earlswood Hope | Mrs Sylvia Jeremiah, Mr Raymond Jeremiah | 01291 641726 |
| 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 cannhelen@gmail.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 | Enid Heritage | 01291 622708 |
| Shirenewton Local History Socty | Dorothy Brabon | 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com |
| Shirenewton and Mynyddbach Fields Association Ltd (SAMFAL) | Stu Dutton | 01291 641677 stu@dutton47.freereserve.co.uk |
| Shirenewton & Mynyddbach Initiative for Local Enterprise (SMILE) | Charles Eickhoff | 01291 641716 eickhoff@shirenewton.org |
| Caerwent Group Mothers Union | Rosemary Carey | 01291 425010 crcandkili@tiscali.co.uk |
| Treasurer | Auriol Horton | 01291 641844 aur10l@btinternet.com |
| Shirenewton Operatic and Dramatic Society (SODS) | Glynis MacDonald | 01291 641818 glynis.macdonald@btinternet.com |
| Shirenewton Play Group | Beverly Lindsay | Shirenewtonplaygroup@gmail.com |
| Shirenewton Primary School | Jayne Edwards | 01291 641774 jayneedwards@monmouthshire.gov.uk |
| Shirenewton Tennis Association | P Brabon | 01291 641376 brabonn1@hotmail.com |
| Shirenewton Toddler Group | Jude Langdon | 07981 368213 Paula Rimmer rimmerpaula@mac.com |
| Fairtrade/Traidcraft | Marion McAdam | 01291 641316 |
| Whist drive | Auriol Horton | 01291 641844 aur10l@btinternet.com |
| Womens Institute (WI) | Jenny Bonner | 01291 641929 |

DIARY DATES

| Sept. | Event | Location |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Community Council Meeting | Recreation Hall |
| 4 | Whist Drive | Recreation Hall |
| 6 | Shirenewton Golf Classic | St. Pierre |
| 8 | Shirenewton Local History Socty. | Recreation Hall |
| 11 | Shirenewton WI | Recreation Hall |
| 12 | The Good Old Days | Earlswood Hall |
| 13 | The Good Old Days | Earlswood Hall |
| 21 & 22 | Harvest Festival | Earlswood Valley Methodist Chapel |
| 22 | Shirenewton Operatic & Dramatic Society (SODS) | Tradegar Arms |
| 30 | Shirenewton Local History Socty. | Huntsman Hotel |
| Oct | Event | Location |
| 5 | Shirenewton Church Harvest Festival Lunch | Earlswood Hall |
| 5 & 6 | Harvest Festival | Earlswood Hope Methodist Chapel |
| 9 | Shirenewton WI | Recreation Hall |
| 13 | Shirenewton Local History Socty. | Recreation Hall |

| | Saint Thomas a Beckett Shirenewton | Sunday Services | Start 10.00 a.m. Unless stated otherwise |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Date | Service | Readers | Sides-persons |
| 31 st August | Group Service | | |
| 7 th September | Twelfth Sunday after Trinity | Mark Broughton Wendy Baker | Mark Broughton Wendy Baker |
| 14 th September | Holy Cross Day | Joanne Tomlin Francis Grey | Joanne Tomlin Claire Lewis |
| 21 st September | St Mathew | Bob Grattan Shan Henshall | Bob Grattan Shan Henshall |
| 28 th September | Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity | Bill Clark Janet Horton | Bill Clark Janet Horton |

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EDITORIAL INFORMATION

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The views expressed are those of the contributor.

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