



*Remembrance Day at the Village Hall, 2022 Photo by David Hurn*

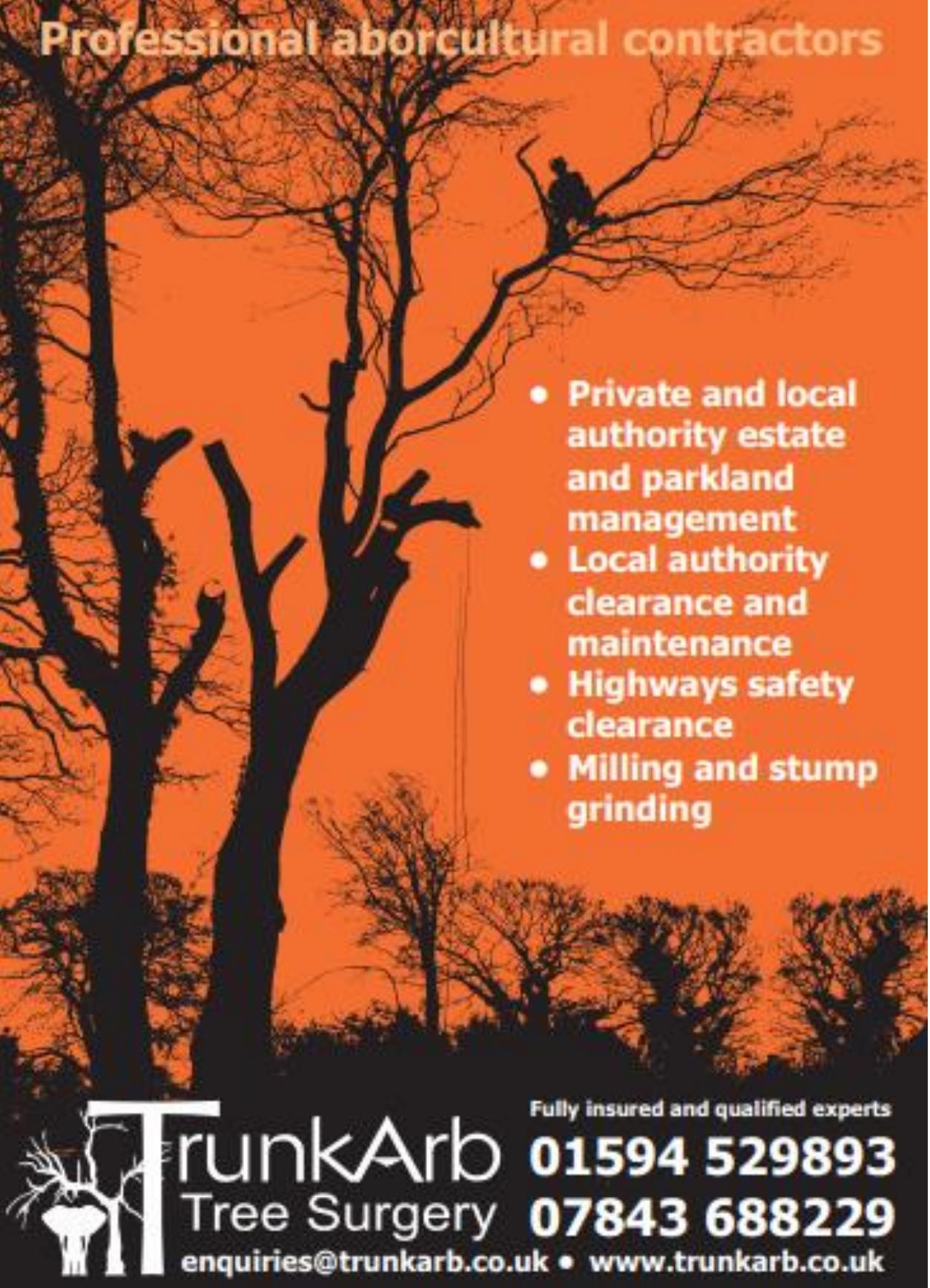
# TINTERN NEWS

## December 2022

Produced by Friends of Tintern

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## The Festive season approaches...

The best news is that the Tintern Playground Appeal has met their target and raised over £62, 500, and the new equipment should be installed before Easter next year. Thanks to everyone who donated and the team who worked so hard to organise and find external funding! Please do continue to give (e.g. buy a Raffle ticket for drawing on 21<sup>st</sup> December) for landscaping and benches.

It has felt dark and chilly recently. If you are struggling to pay high electricity or heating bills, do check out the OFGEM information ([Reduce your bills - schemes and grants | Ofgem](#)). And come warm up and meet people at the Village Hall or at local churches where many events will be held in December. Or visit local Pubs for live music and special Christmas meals.

The Chepstow and District Rotary Club's Abbey Torchlight Carol Event is on **3 December** this year and tickets are available from the Abbey shop. On Saturday **17 December** the Tintern Festival's Association is organising a children's lantern-making workshop at 2 pm at St Michael's Church which will end with a Christingle carol service. Make sure you dress warmly for both of these!

The **Tintern Christmas Candle Treasure Hunt** is open! All families are invited to join this December-long fun. There are two trails round the village, one more suited to under 8's, but both end with children's prizes at the Abbey Stores village shop – details are on the Tintern Village website.

The Tintern Christmas Bingo will be on **6 December** at the Village Hall at 7:15pm. In Llandogo, the Christmas bingo night will be held at their Village Hall on **21st December** starting at 7.30 pm. Llandogo have been holding monthly bingo sessions for 21 years and there used to be many players from Tintern but sadly attendance is now so poor that this year's Christmas event will probably be their last one.

Or do some Christmas shopping for kids who really would appreciate it ([Help make Christmas Wishes come true for Monmouthshire's vulnerable children and young people - Monmouthshire](#)). All donations will be delivered to Monmouthshire's most vulnerable children and young people before Christmas. Or put together a box for **Helping our Homeless Wales**, organised by Haley and Tom at Hill Farm – [www.ForestRetreats.co.uk](http://www.ForestRetreats.co.uk).

There is no Tintern Newsletter in January, but please send me any news to include in the February issue or contact me about advertising in the Tintern News. Any articles contributed are VERY welcome.

And mark your calendars for a fun, fancy-dress Valentine's Day disco at the Village Hall in February next year.

Thanks, Toni Harvey ([tinternnews@gmail.com](mailto:tinternnews@gmail.com))

*The Tintern News is a vehicle for the expression of opinion by all members of the Tintern community. While it does not necessarily endorse the views of any particular contributor, it does wholeheartedly support the promotion of lively debate on the development of the village and of freedom of speech in general. However, it will reserve the right to edit any contributions in order to preserve moderation and a spirit of good intent in the presentation of arguments. Thoughts from everyone in our community will continue to be very welcome.*



# Tintern Playground Appeal Amazing News!



## We've done it! We've smashed our first target & raised over £62,500 so far!

We now have enough funds to buy the core playground equipment & safety fencing. Our aim is to hold our Opening Day Party at Easter 2023 (fingers crossed!)

**But it's not the end yet - we are continuing our fundraising as we need to complete the overall project – with more playground seating, gameboard picnic tables, garden plants, beds & planters, paint....**

**Thank you so much to everyone in the community who has donated & worked so hard to raise these funds so far – THANK YOU to all of you.**

**And thank you to our generous grant-givers:**

\* Wye Valley Community Council \* Tintern Festivals Association  
\* St Michael's Church Tintern PCC \* Postcode Lottery Community Trust  
\* National Lottery Community Fund  
\* Comic Relief Community Fund in Wales  
\* Welsh Church Fund \* Starco TV (Netflix)  
\* Bernard Sunley Foundation \* Chepstow & District Rotary Club  
\* Renishaw Charities Committee \* Blakemore Foundation

**Our fundraising page is STILL OPEN at  
[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tinternvillagehallplayground](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tinternvillagehallplayground)**

**LOOK OUT FOR OUR PAINTING DAY DATE** in the Spring to repaint the existing big slide, toddler swings & the train (so they look good as new). We will need your help!

Tintern Recreation Centre & Village Hall – Registered Charity No. 505037

**Saturday 17th December**

# **Christingle Service**

**Carols and Lantern-Making**

**in St Michael's Church, Tintern**



**2.00pm      Lantern-Making and Decoration**  
**3.30pm      Lantern Parade**  
**4.00pm      Children's Christingle Service with  
                    carols and display of the Christmas  
                    story by children of Llandogo School**

**Followed by mince pies and Christmas punch**

**More information from Vanessa Dodd [vanessa51@live.co.uk](mailto:vanessa51@live.co.uk)**

Sponsored by Tintern Festivals Association



## **FITNESS PILATES COMES TO TINTERN VILLAGE HALL**

**STARTS THURSDAY  
3RD NOV @ 7:15PM**

**\*\*FREE CLASS WHEN YOU SIGN UP\*\***

**CONTACT ME ON 07891 017633**

*WORK HARD TODAY FOR A STRONGER TOMORROW*



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# Christmas Prize

## Bingo!



**Festive family fun for all ages**

**7.15pm**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**in Tintern Village Hall**

**Everyone welcome**

**Teas, coffee, soft drinks & festive snacks available**

**Donations of prizes for the raffle also welcome!**

**All proceeds will go to the Tintern Village Hall Playground Appeal !**

**Tintern Recreation Centre & Village Hall - Registered Charity No.505037**



Follow us at [facebook.com/tinternvillagehall](https://facebook.com/tinternvillagehall)



**TUESDAY**

**7.00pm: at Hill Farm**  
Zoom or in person

**THURSDAY**

**9.30am: at Hill Farm**  
Zoom or in person

**7.00pm: Flow Yoga at Hill Farm**  
in person only

£5 per class zoom or £7 in person  
Buy block of 5 and get the 6th free

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# *Tintern Christmas Lights*

*Best dressed house competition 2022*



We'd love you to join in and give your house a great big Christmas makeover for us all to enjoy.

Some easy rules:

- ★ must be visible from a road
- ★ everyone putting up lights is automatically entered - no entry forms!
- ★ it's not just for houses - bungalows, flats, garden sheds all qualify
- ★ ideally, lights will be up and on by 3rd December, in time for the Abbey Torchlight Service
- ★ £25 gift voucher for the winner plus full permission to brag far and wide

Sponsored by Tintern Festivals Association and Tintern Business Forum.

## A tribute to Jane McCorquodale 1961 – 2022 read at her funeral, by her partner Dave Tuffery



As Jane was known by many in the village through her role as bookings secretary for the village hall, I have been asked to share my eulogy read out at her funeral. I would like to thank the village hall committee for the use of the hall for the after service get together and all those in the village who attended either event, plus the messages of support.

We first met through the, some would say, unusual sport of caving at my club in the Mendip Hills in Somerset. She belonged to a caving club from South London and, because her sister Claire belonged to the same club as me in Somerset, Jane was invited to join on some of our trips underground. There was a mutual attraction and we seemed to hit it off. Who would have thought that we would be together for 35 years.

She was an adventurous person. When I first met her, she was a venture scout leader in London. It was not long after I first knew her that she bought herself a camper van and toured northern Italy on her own. Then, she travelled round the USA with her youngest brother and his university friend. She walked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and swam in the Okefenokee swamps in Florida. She soon joined in with the activities of my club and became a valued member. Most of our early holidays were caving trips abroad in France, Belgium, Spain and North America. She held the post of treasurer and membership secretary on the club committee. Because she was an accountant, she was asked to audit our accounts and even the accounts for the National Caving Conference called Hidden Earth, so clearly, she was trusted and respected. For a few years she chaired the Charterhouse Cave Committee (which is an organisation for conservation and access to certain caves in the Mendip Hills) because she could be an independent and neutral person in the turmoil of caving politics.

There was no messing with Jane. She was very much her own woman. I remember a caving trip in Belgium many years ago where the male Belgian cavers were trying to be perfect gentlemen and helping her up a difficult climb. She was having none of that and told them to leave her and she took her own route, which, as it happened, was a better way than the men showed her.

Although she had dropped out of university having decided she was on the wrong course, she made up for it by taking and passing a whole catalogue of finance exams which was to stand her in good stead for her career. This determination and sometimes pig-headedness was a trait which I saw in her many times in subsequent years. She worked her way up the career path in finance working for many different companies for short or longer contracts, often managing large teams and very large amounts of money and was well regarded by the employment agencies who would find her good and profitable positions. She always regretted not getting a degree so for several years she embarked on an Open University Maths degree and graduated in 2014. I told you she was determined.

We moved to Tintern in 2006. She wanted a big garden and she got it. Unfortunately, some of her grand designs were prevented by the herds of deer that we have roaming through the garden; however, she loved watching them, but she did manage to make a very productive vegetable plot filling the freezer and chutney jars with produce.

Although we had different interests, we still did an awful lot of things together. Visiting gardens and castles, caving of course both in this country and abroad, skiing nearly every winter, and walking up

hills and mountains. When she was fitter, she always walked uphill faster than me but was slow and cautious going down so that gave me a chance to catch up. We both liked nature and bird watching. Our several safari trips to Africa hold many happy memories.

She was the sort of person who got stuck in. Not just in the caving club but more recently in village activities. For five years she was on the Tintern village hall committee and had the role of bookings secretary. And she played her part in many of the improvements there. She also chaired our village garden club for a few years.

Unfortunately, she was not lucky with her health and was no stranger to hospitals. Developing arthritis in her hips at a young age made some of the outdoor activities challenging. A couple of weeks before her first hip replacement operation in 2016, a routine mammogram screening showed a small lump. This was removed and after chemotherapy all seemed sorted. A couple of years and the other hip needed replacing. When this was done all seemed well until in 2019 a pain in her side was found to be the result of the cancer reappearing for which, alas, there was to be no cure. Regular chemotherapy of different types enabled a roughly normal life to continue but she also suffered from vision problems and had cataracts removed from both eyes. It does seem so grossly unfair that someone who didn't smoke or drink excessively and had an otherwise healthy lifestyle should suffer so much. She did have bad days but didn't complain much to the outside world. Most of the people she knew didn't know she was ill. In fact, when she had hair loss through chemotherapy and was wearing a wig, she had a number of comments on how nice her hair looked. She didn't let on.

She was a creative person and enjoyed baking, knitting and embroidery. At the Tintern Garden Club annual show she often came away with a trophy or two. She even used to play the clarinet in her younger days.

Family was always important to Jane. Both her parents died when she was quite young and she has always been close to her siblings. She also did a lot of research into her family tree even making contact with distant cousins from the McCorquodale branch in Argentina. We once went to Phantin-lands, the McCorquodale ancestral seat at Loch Tromlee in Scotland.

She was a kind person and generous, contributing to a number of charities. In spite of all her health problems, she was remarkably positive. And always looking to the future. Right up towards the end she was talking about what should be planted in the vegetable plot next year.

Now, most of us are ordinary folk and don't become well known "celebrities" in this world, but Jane was a lovely, friendly and decent person who led a worthwhile life and so, Ladies, Gentlemen and cavers, as far as I am concerned, that is a life worth celebrating!





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## CONTACT

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## Friends of the Lower Wye, by Nick Day

In these modern times, in many places the environment- and especially natural water features- may seem remote from day-to-day living. However, in the Lower Wye, this is far from the case. In this area, the catchment narrows to squeeze through the Lower Wye Gorge, and here modern transport along the road follows closely the route of the River Wye. A significant proportion of the main settlements are clustered around the riverside, having grown historically from what was the main transport artery in times gone by, the River. The Wye was readily navigable (albeit with tidal constraints) in its lower reaches, and Severn and Wye 'trows' would have provided the main means of moving bulky or weighty cargoes. And while many former mills stand converted to modern residences and no longer milling, nevertheless in some of the steeper tributaries there are small-scale hydro-power schemes.



**Friends of the Lower Wye**  
Protecting the river's health & wellbeing

Nestled by the river, many communities are very conscious of its presence- farmers depending on it for irrigation, fishermen for fish, leisure boatmen and canoeists, wild swimmers... and the old saw about its crystal-clear waters is now tragically wide of the mark. Of course, in the tidal reaches we expect to see some amount of silt stirred up, but the land water coming down the river ought to be clear, and the bearer and sustainer of many forms of life. However, it has become used as a waste-disposal system for agro-industry and for our Victorian-era sewage systems. With a massive excess of artificially imposed nutrient loading of the water, it has become the sustainer principally of algal blooms, to the exclusion of almost everything else. Fish counts have plummeted in recent decades. And in such murky waters, with the rising popularity of wild swimming, many people risk their health swimming where all-too-frequent accidental effluent discharges are hard to distinguish from the routine state of slime.

This area so beloved of artists, canoeists, and people from all walks of life is also passed through by long-distance paths- Offa's dyke mostly on the English side, and the Wye Valley Walk providing routes along both sides of the river between Chepstow and Monmouth.

So the health of the river affects not only the biology in and on its banks, but also the physical health of those who get wet and the mental health of those who enjoy walking and cycling nearby. Restoring it to a better condition has become a critical need, for the whole riverine ecosystem and for many sectors of the human community so intimately enmeshed in its environs.

Friends of the Lower Wye is monitoring the state of the river and campaigning for recovery of the river's health and wellbeing.

To hear the latest about Friends of the Lower Wye, visit our Facebook page, and /or Email us at [FriendsoftheLowerWye@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsoftheLowerWye@gmail.com) to be put on our newsletter distribution.

This will keep you updated about:

- \*challenging environmentally damaging planning applications (with templates/ examples)
- \*group litter picks, and invasive species culls in conjunction with AONB 'WISP' events
- \*water sampling (citizen science) -together with Cardiff University, WUF, CPRE, etc.

# Tintern Chapel, Trellech Road

# Carol Service



*By this the love of God was revealed to us,  
that God has sent His only Son into the world,  
so that we may live through Him.*

1 John 4 v 9

**Wednesday 14th December**  
**7.00pm**

**All welcome**



# Christmas Eve Family Carols at St Michael's, Tintern

Carols and readings followed  
by mince pies and mulled wine.

Starts at 5.00pm.

**Everyone is welcome.**



# **Tintern Christmas Lights**

## **Best dressed business competition 2022.**

We'd love you to join in and give your business a great big Christmas 2022 makeover for the village to enjoy and be proud of. It could be fun and you'll be in a little friendly competition across the Tintern business community.

Some easy rules:

- ★ must be visible from a road
- ★ everyone putting up lights is automatically entered - no entry forms!
- ★ all businesses - shops, eating spaces, workshops and offices all qualify
- ★ ideally, lights will be up and on by 3rd December, in time for the Abbey Torchlight Service
- ★ publicity for the winner plus full permission to brag far and wide

Judging will take place on 5th December. Visit Monmouthshire and Monmouthshire County Council are giving enthusiastic support and will promote the winner on their social media platforms.

Sponsored by Tintern Festivals Association and Tintern Business Forum.

## Classes at the Wye Valley Arts Center, Llandogo, by Katherine Carruthers



We are very pleased to say that we are running the following classes in our lovely restored and converted building in the village of Llandogo and hope that you will be able to join us.

Our classes are informal and friendly and the number in the group is limited so please let us know promptly to reserve your place. Newcomers and beginners are very welcome on all our courses. Please contact us (info below) if you have any queries.

### PAINTING AND DRAWING DAYS with Ann Hulme

The basic approach to it all, is seeing and applying relative measurement, learning perspective, foreshortening and handling space. Painting on this course can be in watercolour, acrylics or oil paint. You can make good progress in a short space of time and try a new medium or mix media. Ann specializes in using a structured approach to help students gain confidence.

- Saturday, 3 December 9.30AM - 4.00PM £58 FOR THE DAY

Proceeds from the art courses help support the KIDZART charity. Please get in touch for further details. We look forward to hearing from you.

[info@wyearts.co.uk](mailto:info@wyearts.co.uk)

Wye Valley Arts Centre, Llandogo, NP25 4TW

Tel 01594 530214 or 07796 697226



### Tintern Christmas Candle Treasure Hunt Instructions and Useful Information



Welcome to our fabulous Christmas Treasure Hunt brought to you by Tintern Festivals Association and Tintern Business Forum with artwork by the children of Llandogo Primary School. This year, the Christmas symbol you are looking for is a CANDLE. You can take part until 31st December 2022.

There are two circular trails to choose from:

- A shorter route, more suitable for families with young children, from Tintern Abbey Car Park to the Wireworks Bridge. The route has been designed to minimise the number of times the A466 has to be crossed but you can complete it in any order if you prefer. (To find the location of clue 3 it is safest to cross the A466 immediately opposite the entrance to the former Abbey Hotel car park and then continue to clue 4 by following the lane that runs behind the former hotel and down to The Wild Hare.)
- A longer route begins at the junction of Forge Road with the A466 that will take you to the hillside above Tintern Parva and back again.
- Both routes end at ABBEY STORES.



**HAVE FUN !!!**

Instructions:

- First go to the TINTERN VILLAGE WEBSITE and DOWNLOAD THE CLUES (You may want to print them out and take a pen or pencil with you.)
- Each Candle is hidden in a shop or business window or outdoors and has a letter on it. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ENTER THE PREMISES to find the Candle.
- Make a note of the letter. IT'S IMPORTANT TO PUT THE RIGHT LETTER NEXT TO THE RIGHT CLUE. You will begin to see a word appear, as if by magic!
- When you have found all the clues go into Abbey Stores to claim a small prize by saying the word to the shopkeeper. (All children in each household group can choose a prize, however, there is only one type of prize that is suitable for children under three years old.)

# Tintern Village Hall



**Christmas Hamper Raffle 2022!**

**Tickets £1 each**

**Winner of the Hamper will be drawn on**

**21<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

**Buy your tickets at the Halloween Spooktacular,  
Christmas Craft Fair, Christmas Bingo, Tintern Film Nights  
or contact [LINDSAYCOBB1@BTOPENWORLD.COM](mailto:LINDSAYCOBB1@BTOPENWORLD.COM)**

**All proceeds will go towards our Tintern Village Hall Playground Appeal**

Tintern Recreation Centre & Village Hall - Registered Charity No.505037



Follow us at [facebook.com/tinternvillagehall](https://facebook.com/tinternvillagehall)

## Help the homeless shoe box collection, by Haley and Tom

This year we are again supporting this amazing charity to collect shoe boxes filled with useful items, that will be distributed to homeless people across Wales via **Helping our Homeless Wales**. If you would like to put together a shoe box/ small box - please deliver it to Hill Farm in Tintern by **Thursday 8 December** and we will take all the boxes to a drop off point. We have been advised that the following items are useful to put inside the box:

Energy drinks, Chocolate, Crisps, Shampoo, Shower gel, Deodorant, Wet wipes, Gloves, Underwear, Socks and Pot noodles.

Thanks and any questions, please don't hesitate to ask at Hill Farm – [www.ForestRetreats.co.uk](http://www.ForestRetreats.co.uk)

**CHEPSTOW & DISTRICT ROTARY CLUB**

 PRESENTS

**2022  
TORCHLIGHT  
CAROL SERVICE  
at  
TINTERN ABBEY**

**With the  
"WyeDean School Choir "**

**Saturday 3 DECEMBER 2022**  
**at 5.45pm**  
**Procession into Abbey commences**  
**at 6.00 pm**

**Entry by Programme £5.00 each adult,  
children under 16 free**

Assemble at The Anchor Inn, Tintern from 5.00 pm  
Please bring clothing and footwear for outdoor event.

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**Tintern Abbey Shop, Tintern**

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# Holmleigh Cottage

## AIRBNB IN TINTERN



Becky and Rhys have just finished the complete refurbishment of this historic home



Spacious living area with an open plan kitchen/ dining room

- 3 double bedrooms
- 3 w/c shower rooms, (1 ensuite)
- Parking
- And a two-tiered terrace overlooking the river



Holmleigh is a gorgeous 19th century cottage, centrally located in the valley of Tintern. It has stunning views, all the home comforts you could wish for and is within easy walking distance of all Tintern's shops, pubs, restaurants and of course, Tintern Abby. See - [airbnb](#) listing to book Holmleigh cottage.

## Tragedy of War, by Allan Reid



At the annual Remembrance Day Service, we remembered those who gave their lives during major conflicts throughout the last century. During my research into my wife's family history (GIBBIN), I found this tragic story of the first "Friendly Fire" incident of WW2.

Terrance Gibbin was born in March 1920, one of seven children. His father was a Blast Furnaceman employed by the Dorman Long Steel Works in Redcar. At the outbreak of the WW2 in 1939, Terrance was nineteen years old and he joined the RAF as a Radio Operator assigned to 44 Squadron at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire, undertaking intense training in preparation for future conflict. This training was completed in time for the Squadron to take part in the first offensive air operations of the war with an attempt to attack the German Fleet in the North Sea on the evening of 3rd September 1939. In the early months of the war, RAF aircraft were banned from flying over Germany so most of the Squadron's missions were limited to maritime reconnaissance operations.

On the 21st December 1939 twelve 44 Squadron Handley Page Hampdens, accompanied by twelve more aircraft from 49 and 83 Squadrons, were sent to hunt for the German battleship "Deutschland" off the Norwegian coast. Having found nothing, they were returning to their Lincolnshire base via a refuelling stop at RAF Drem in Scotland. Two of the bombers from 44 Squadron L4090 & L4089 became detached from the main formation and when these aircraft were approaching the south coast of the Firth of Forth they failed to properly identify themselves as friendly, by lowering their undercarriages and firing off a unique sequence of identification flares. This system was apparently used prior to the introduction of IFF ("Identification Friend or Foe") developed during the war with the introduction of Radar to identify friendly Aircraft and avoid any



subsequent friendly fire incidents. Spitfires from 602 Squadron RAF Drem were hastily scrambled to intercept the apparent enemy over the Firth of Forth. Taking-off in a severe period of poor visibility they wrongly identified the aircraft. In a time of heightened tension this error was made more likely as the Handley-Page Hampden bore a remarkable resemblance to a German Dornier 17 bomber. They both had the same basic configuration of twin-engines, narrow fuselage, and twin-tail fins. The Hampdens both fired flares to confirm their identity, but they were fired in the wrong sequence. The Spitfires subsequently attacked the two aircraft and both aircraft sustained substantial damage and ditched into the sea off the North Berwick coast before the Spitfire pilots realised their terrible mistake making this one of the first "friendly fire" incidents of the war and the first 44 Squadron casualty of the conflict. Remarkably, only one Hampden crew member lost his life in L4090 this fatality was Terrance. The family were told of the fatality but not the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The remaining Hampdens which made up the larger formation were escorted into RAF Drem by the Spitfires and landed safely. They stayed overnight, refuelled and rested the crews and the next morning after having taken off, they turned and roared at full throttle back over the airfield bombing the 602 Squadron buildings with hundreds of toilet rolls! Such black humour shrouded much deeper feelings of despair and terror which was later swept aside as the real threats materialised.



Terrance was later buried in Kirkleatham (St Cuthbert) Church yard near Redcar with full Military Honours. A Board of Inquiry later absolved the 602's Spitfire pilots of any responsibility for the accident, just one of many hundreds of "friendly-fire" tragedies to occur in all theatres of the war.

(credit to RAF Waddington heritage society and especially the "History of 44 Squadron RAF Waddington" )

NEW  
SEASON

# Tintern Film Nights

Brilliant films for Winter into Spring 2023

## Friday 9th December The Outfit

Starring Mark Rylance, "Top-tier cinema." *Telegraph*



## Friday 13th January Mrs Harris Goes to Paris

Starring Lesley Manville, "Another gasp-inducing great performance." *Times*



## Friday 10th February The Lost King

Starring Sally Hawkins, the life-affirming true story of a woman who refused to be ignored.



## Friday 10th March See How They Run

Starring Saoirse Ronan  
"Confirms Ronan as a comedy god." *Empire*



## Friday 14th April Living

Starring Bill Nighy, "A standout performance of an already much-lauded career." *Independent*



[www.tinternvillage.co.uk](http://www.tinternvillage.co.uk) Tickets for all shows available online now.

## Tintern composer Fiona Frank is an international prize-winner in Bari, Italy



Fiona won 1st prize at the "First International Competition of Composition Patricia Adkins Chiti" and her winning piece was premiered at the Church of San Carlo Borromeo in Bari, Italy on November 13th as part of "The Little Festival Barisien-Parisien-Napolitan". The prize was awarded for her composition "La Pizzica" for flute, soprano, tambourine, piano and string orchestra, which is inspired by the folk music of the region. Fiona received an engraved cup, a diploma, a beautiful plaque & a banner from the Lions Club of Bari. Forthcoming performances of Fiona's music in December include the

premiere of a movement from her Concerto for Double Bass, in a concert Sponsored by Stroud Arts Festival to be given in Stroud on **9th December**. Congratulations Fiona!

## Llandogo Women's Institute, by Carol Skolimowski



Llandogo WI now know a lot more about Wassailing and also the history of Folk Songs. It was great to have a speaker who could also sing. We also got notification of the WI classes at the 2023 Royal Welsh Show, so time to get our thinking caps on for the Gwent Federation heat in March. We like to enter the team "cooperative" class, built around a themed display, with a preserve, something baked, two craft items and a floral arrangement.

Our December meeting will put our member's taste buds to the test and determine the best Christmas Fayre from our local supermarkets. All visitors are welcome, and we will be having mulled wine as well as soft drinks. Wednesday **14th December** at 7:30pm in Llandogo Village Hall.

## HAVE YOU VISITED THE BROCKWEIR VILLAGE SHOP AND CAFÉ?



Cashback. **SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!**



Not only can you stock up, on a wide variety of food and drink from Freshly-Baked Bread and Deli items to Meat & Poultry; Fish; Fruit & Veg; Beers, Ciders & Wines; Cakes & Biscuits; Dairy; Ice creams and all the traditional Store Cupboard items, but there's so much more... Alongside our popular café, we also offer Postal Services, Dry Cleaning, Photocopying, a Book Exchange, Free WiFi, Greeting Cards, Gifts, and

### GREAT NIGHTS IN AND OUT!

Are you planning 'A Bit of A Do'? Do you need to bulk order some food and drink or would you like an affordable catering service to take away the strain? The Brockweir Shop & Café is happy to help. We're Event Experts and can even provide the venue if you need it. Ask us for a quote.



**Brockweir & Hewelsfield Village Shop, Mill Hill, Brockweir, NP16 7NW. T: 01291 689995**

## **Tintern Garden Club News, by Judith Dudley**

The November meeting of the Tintern Garden Club was held in the Village Hall on Friday 18th. 17 members attended and were entertained by Paul Bennell who showed us photos of the birds in his garden and elsewhere in the Forest of Dean. This came as a bit of a surprise as we were expecting to see bridges & other local places! However, the birds were very interesting.

Paul moved to the Forest of Dean from Welwyn Garden City in 2017 and he & his wife were delighted to see so many birds in their garden. He knew little about birds but was a keen photographer so he started photographing the birds and then identifying them from his pictures. He has a lovely collection of photos of both his garden birds and others from around the Forest. He did also show us photos of bridges and other places of interest- especially Cannop Ponds where he has done a lot of bird watching. I think we were all surprised by the variety of birds that are around. The competition for the evening was a photo of a bridge, which was won by Dave Tuffrey.

The December meeting is our Christmas party. This will be in the Village Hall on **Friday 16th December**, starting at 6.30pm. Please can each member bring a plate of food and a drink. There will be a competition for the best Christmas apparel, be it a jumper, skirt, socks or a hat, with a small prize. We also have a raffle and a quiz and plenty of time to eat, drink and socialise with other members.

We always welcome new members so if you would like to join us, please contact Colin Dudley on 01291689636 or Liz Greatorex-Davies on 01291689861.

## **News from Parva Farm Vineyard, by Judith Dudley**



**Best Wine in Wales!** We entered four wines in the annual Welsh Wine Awards which was held at Llanerch Vineyard Hotel on Wednesday 9th November. Our Tintern Parva Dathliad Rose was chosen as Best Sparkling Rose and then the judges re-tasted it alongside the winners of the other classes and chose it as the Best Wine Overall. We were also awarded a silver medal for our Ty Coch still red wine and bronze awards for our Bacchanalia still white and our Dathliad sparkling brut. There were 3 judges- 2 Masters of Wine and a well-known Welsh retailer of fine foods.

The rest of the news doesn't seem so important, but I should mention that we will have Christmas trees for sale again this year. We hope to have them for the beginning of December. They are British trees and all needlefast Nordmans. Last year they sold out really quickly so if you want a particular size, it is best not to leave it too late.

This will be the last newsletter before Christmas so we would like to say "Happy Christmas" to all our customers and wish you all a good 2023.



## **The Rose and Crown hosts the Wye Valley Acoustic Music Club Open Mic, by Sue Skinner**

Sally and Jason at The Rose and Crown continue to support the popular monthly open mic nights. All musicians, singers and poets are welcomed by hosts Sue Skinner and Adrian Birch.

Open mics take place on the first Tuesday of the month, from 7.30pm. So next is **3 December** - Why not pop along and give it a go! For more information, please contact Sue Skinner at [sue.tcbelfry@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.tcbelfry@btinternet.com) or Adrian Birch at [adrianbirch1@gmail.com](mailto:adrianbirch1@gmail.com).

## **Tintern Folk Session at the Wild Hare, by Joe**

As usual on the third Sunday of the month - the **18<sup>th</sup> of December at 7:30**, at the Wild Hare, there will be an informal folk session. Bring instruments and music to get involved! It's free to come and play, sing or listen. We will mostly have sheet music, or you can play by ear and we can start tunes slowly so new people can get to grips with them. See [www.facebook.com/tinternfolksession](http://www.facebook.com/tinternfolksession) for more info. Just a note that for parking you need to register your vehicle in the pub reception to avoid paying any charge.

## **Tintern Philosophy Circle, by John Clarke**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 13th of December at 7.30 on Zoom. This is the second talk by John Clarke on the history of modern Western philosophy and is on the subject of 'The Philosophy of the 18th century Enlightenment', which includes discussion of the ideas of Hume and Rousseau, and some unusual links with China. Open and free to all. For more details write to [jjclar7@aol.com](mailto:jjclar7@aol.com) or phone 01291680139.

## St Michael's Church, Tintern Parva

It was a lovely day on Remembrance Sunday and many in the village attended the special Memorial service led by Rev. Jan Pain, supported by Tintern children.

A lantern-making workshop, sponsored by the Tintern Festivals Association, will be held in the church on **Saturday 17 December** at 2 pm and a parade with the lanterns will end with a Christingle children's carol service at 4pm. Make sure you **dress warmly** and if you can, bring empty milk and softdrink containers to decorate (we'll have some on hand and all the tissue paper, glue and decorations you'll need too).



After the Christingle service and carols, enjoy free mince pies and Christmas punch with mulled wine for adults wine with a donation.

On Christmas Eve, Saturday the **24<sup>th</sup> of December** at 5pm, there will be a Family Carols Service and afterwards time to chat with free mince pies and mulled wine with a donation. Everyone is welcome!

The choir has been practicing for the Christingle carol service, but also for an event at the Priory Nursing & Residential Home in Llandogo on 15 December and for the Christmas Eve service. We need more singers so let us know if you can join us.

The Thursday-night Zoom Bible Study group continues to discuss the Gospel of Mark and leader, Rev. John Dearnley, welcomes diverse points of view!

Contacts:

Minister: Reverend Jan Pain - 01291 624017

Churchwardens: Alan Hillard - 01291 689772 and Alan Carter 07873 514255





# Llandogo Early Years

Excellent Playgroup run in Llandogo, fantastic facilities with emphasis on learning outdoors.

**We will be offering the 30 hour Childcare Offer**

**Monday - Thursday 9-3 & Friday 9-12**

**Children welcome from 2 years old.**

We offer Nursery Funding the term after children are three

We are registered with Estyn and CSSIW

Forest School Sessions with a trained practitioner

Creative Gardening sessions with Miss Daisy

For more information call Rachel Davies on 07786831401 or [Rachellou9@aol.com](mailto:Rachellou9@aol.com)

Or find us on Facebook

## SAVE THE DATE



## VALENTINES FAMILY DISCO

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Tintern Village Hall**

**Groovy fun for everyone!**

**Funky music FANCY DRESS!! Licensed Bar**  
**Keep a lookout for more details to follow...**

# NO 69 BUS TIMETABLE

Monday to Friday

<b>69 CHEPSTOW - TINTERN - MONMOUTH</b>										<b>PHIL ANSLOW COACHES</b>	<b>Ref. 69/060921</b>
<b>MONDAY - FRIDAY (Including Good Friday, But Excluding Other Bank Holidays)</b>											
	<b>A</b>		<b>H</b>								
CHEPSTOW (Bus Station)	0745	0920	1020	1120	1220	1320	1420	1520	1620	1720	
CHEPSTOW (Com. Hospital)	WS	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	C	1624	1724	
ST. ARVANS	0751	0928	1028	1128	1228	1328	1428	1528	1628	1728	
TINTERN (Royal George)	0759	0936	1036	1136	1236	1336	1436	1536	1636	1736	
LLANDOGO (Shop)	0807	0944	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1744	
REDBROOK (Bell)	0815	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1552	1652	1752	
WYESHAM (Woodland View)	---	---	1059	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1759
WYESHAM (St. James Church)	---	0958	1100	1158	1258	1358	1458	1558	1658	1800	
MONMOUTH (Bus Station)	0825	1005	1107	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	1705	1807	
	<b>H</b>					<b>B</b>					
MONMOUTH (Bus Station)	0750	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1505	1610	1710	1810
WYESHAM (St. James Church)	--	0919	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1619	1719	1819
WYESHAM (Woodland View)	--	--	--	1120	--	---	---	---	---	1720	1820
REDBROOK (Bell)	0802	0925	1025	1127	1225	1325	1425	1525	1625	1727	1827
LLANDOGO (Shop)	0810	0933	1033	1135	1233	1333	1433	1533	1633	1735	1835
TINTERN (Royal George)	0818	0941	1041	1143	1241	1341	1441	1541	1641	1743	1843
ST ARVANS	0827	0949	1049	1151	1249	1349	1449	1549	1649	1751	1851
CHEPSTOW (Com. Hospital)	C	0953	1053	1155	1253	1353	1453	1553	1653	1755	1855
CHEPSTOW (Bus Station)	0835	0957	1057	1159	1257	1357	1457	1557	1657	1759	1859
A - Operates via Monmouth Comprehensive School on school days, and arrives at Monmouth Bus Station at 0835.											
B - Operates via Monmouth Comprehensive School on school days and departs Monmouth Bus Station at 1510 during school holidays.											
C - Operates via Welsh Street and Chepstow Comprehensive School on school days and via Chepstow Community Hospital during school holidays											
WS - Operates via Welsh Street											
H - Operates via Hillcrest Road in Wyesham											

Saturday

<b>69 CHEPSTOW - TINTERN - MONMOUTH</b>					<b>PHIL ANSLOW COACHES</b>	<b>Ref. 69/060921</b>
<b>SATURDAYS (Not Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Years Day)</b>						
CHEPSTOW (Bus Station)	0740	0920	1120	1520		
CHEPSTOW (Com. Hospital)	0744	0924	1124	1524		
ST. ARVANS	0748	0928	1128	1528		
TINTERN (Royal George)	0756	0936	1136	1536		
LLANDOGO (Shop)	0804	0944	1144	1544		
REDBROOK (Bell)	0812	0952	1152	1552		
WYESHAM (Woodland View)	--	--	--	--		
WYESHAM (St. James Church)	0818	0958	1158	1558		
MONMOUTH (Bus Station)	0825	1005	1205	1605		
MONMOUTH (Bus Station)	0830	1010	1410	1610		
WYESHAM (St. James Church)	0839	1019	1419	1619		
WYESHAM (Woodland View)	--	--	--	--		
REDBROOK (Bell)	0845	1025	1425	1625		
LLANDOGO (Shop)	0853	1033	1433	1633		
TINTERN (Royal George)	0901	1041	1441	1641		
ST ARVANS	0909	1049	1449	1649		
CHEPSTOW (Com. Hospital)	0913	1053	1453	1653		
CHEPSTOW (Bus Station)	0917	1057	1457	1657		

# WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Future Meeting Dates** - All enquires to the Clerk, Mrs. E. Greatorex-Davies  
Email: [clerk@wyevallycc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@wyevallycc.co.uk)

Meetings to be held alternate months in Tintern Village Hall or Llandogo Village Hall  
commencing at 7.00pm

Monday 28th November – Tintern Village Hall  
Monday 2nd January 2023 – Llandogo Village Hall  
Monday 30th January – Tintern Village Hall  
Monday 27th February – Llandogo Village Hall  
Monday 27th March - Tintern Village Hall

The 31<sup>st</sup> October and 28<sup>th</sup> November Minutes will be published in the February 2022 Newsletter.

## TINTERN'S POST OFFICE VAN TIMES



Tina plans to open 11.30am - 12.30pm and 2.30pm - 3.30pm on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Abbey Car Park but check the notice near public toilet for any changes.

We don't know how long this will continue, sadly, but at least until 7 January 2023.

## YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE - St Arvans and Tintern

As your elected Member to Monmouthshire County Council which provides all local services, my wish is to represent your views and assist wherever possible.

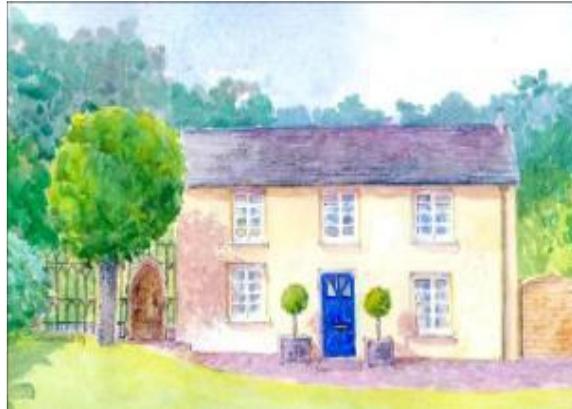
My best wishes for a peaceful and happy Christmas time to you and those who share this important Festive time with you.

If I can be of assistance to you, please do contact me.

Telephone: 01291 689559 or 07816678948  
email: [annwebb@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:annwebb@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

## COMMUNITY GROUPS IN TINTERN - CONTACT INFORMATION

Group	Contact	Contact Details
Friends of Tintern	Elspeth Reid	01291 689456 ellielynette@icloud.com
The Monday Group	Marion Derrett	01600 860134 marionderrett@gmail.com
Village Hall Committee	Noelyn Allen	07512856024 BookingsTinternVH@hotmail.com
Tintern Abbey Football Club	Martin Woodford	01594 531346 or 07825 832751 mwoodford999@aol.com
Friends of the Old Station	John Clarke	01291 680139 jjclar7@aol.com
Festivals Association	John Livermore	01291 689461 johnlivermore160@gmail.com
Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade	Alan Carter	01291 689901 or 07824365970 clcgbtintern@mail.com
Wye Valley Community Council	Liz Greatorex Davis	01291 689861 clerk@wyevalleycc.co.uk
St Michael's Restoration Committee	John Livermore	01291 689461 johnlivermore160@gmail.com
Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust (Fryers Wharf)	Mary Simpson	01291689422 mary@forestviewcottage.co.uk
Tintern Angling Club	Phil Hill	07747626928
Tintern Heritage Watch	Nick Day	01291 680023 nick.day@uwclub.net
Philosophy Circle	John Clarke	01291 680139 jjclar7@aol.com
Tintern Cricket Club	Sam Hayward	01291 689339 07986028031 swghayward79@hotmail.com
Tintern Garden Club	Colin Dudley	01291 689636 parvafarm@hotmail.com
Tintern Wine Tasting 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday of each month	Alan Hillard	alan.hillard@gmail.com



## **Tintern Abbey Cottage**

In a premier position with unparalleled Abbey views. Our totally refurbished 5-star 18<sup>th</sup> Century cottage now has a smartly contemporary interior offering deliciously comfortable, comprehensively equipped holiday accommodation.

Sleeping up to 6 in three bedrooms, it has two bathrooms (one en suite), and attractive facilities including superking 6 ft beds, a whirlpool bath, a shower with dinnerplate head, cosy woodburner, range cooker, flatscreen 37" TV, more TVs in bedrooms and kitchen and superfast WiFi internet access. A well-behaved pet is welcome (large unfenced front garden to protect the stunning view but the back garden is fenced and wonderful walks adjoins)

- Private off-road parking for three cars.
- Bike/Golf club store.
- Warmly heated and open all year for full weeks or short breaks.
- New! Electric car charging point from Spring 2022

Perfect for honeymoons, significant birthdays, families and relaxing escapes. An easy stroll to pubs hotels and wedding venues. Our other 5-star cottage, Foxes Reach, also sleeps 6 in four bedrooms, with two bathrooms, up the hill at Catbrook, approx. 2 miles from the Abbey. Credit cards are welcome and full details [www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk](http://www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk) or telephone 01600 860341

- Three individual 5-star self-catering cottages in stunning scenery in the Wye Valley Monmouthshire. Wales.
- Twice Winners of the Visit Wales National Tourism Award Best Self-Catering Place to Stay
- Spotlight Awards Best Family Business
- Twice Winners of Monmouthshire Best Hospitality Travel and Tourism Business.
- Winners of Forester Best Eco Business Award
- Winners of the Visit Wales National Tourism Award Best Visitor Welcome

Now booking ahead to Spring 2024

Facebook Monmouthshire Cottages    Follow @tinterncottages Twitter  
[www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk](http://www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk)



# The Outfit

Starring  
Mark Rylance

From the Academy Award-winning writer of The Imitation Game (Graham Moore) comes The Outfit, a gripping and masterful thriller in which an expert tailor (Academy Award winner Mark Rylance) must outwit a dangerous group of mobsters in order to survive a fateful night.

**Friday 9th December  
7.45pm  
Tintern Village Hall**

You're welcome to bring your own wine, other drinks, and snacks. Teas, coffees and Brookes Ice Cream will be on sale. Card transactions only. Ticketing online and at the door, see [www.tinternvillage.co.uk](http://www.tinternvillage.co.uk) for details.

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FREE WINE AND MINCE PIES