



Flooding of football and cricket pitch, Tintern 1989, Photo by David Hurn

TINTERN NEWS

April 2024

Produced by Friends of Tintern

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Recovering from record high tide and rain last month

Sadly, some homes, businesses and St Michael's Church were flooded last month, but it's all dry now and April high tide on the 10th will not be as high. The March 12 tide (8.0 m at Newport) was the biggest since 2015 and hopefully not a level we will experience again soon. Here are photos of the Abbey Mill and road by the cottages ... Lindsey and Mike's chickens did make it to safety to high ground!



If you've just received this newsletter, make sure you get to the Easter Eggstravaganza craft fair and egg hunt on **1 April**, Easter Monday, at the Village Hall. The local produce market at the Tintern Village Hall will be on **Saturday 13 April** at 10am-2pm and the Annual General Meeting of the Tintern Village Hall Management Committee is on **Monday 22 April** at 7pm - a great opportunity for you to get involved in our community.

From 1 April there is a new electric bus service to Tintern by NEWPORT BUS replacing the Phil Anslow Coaches and a new timetable for the [Chepstow to Monmouth 69 route](#). One important change is the drivers carry no change, so you either need to pay exact cash, use contactless or pay using the app. You can download the app and a schedule from newportbus.co.uk.

Congratulations to Megan Sadler who completed her 100-mile walk raising over £300 for Cancer Research!

Thanks, Toni Harvey (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.





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Wye Valley Greenway diversion in place, by Jeremy Cowen, Wye Valley Greenway volunteer coordinator

The Wye Valley Greenway Tidenham tunnel is not yet open because of two obstacles: firstly, a recent landslip on Forestry land above Ferry Farm has resulted in the closure of the Greenway at this point. Forestry England have been unable to offer a timeline for a fix, due to a backlog of works and cuts to their funding. There is a diversion signposted, although this is not suitable for cyclists ([link to OS Map with diversion for walkers](#)). We're aware some people are ignoring the closure, but we would ask that the public respect it on grounds of safety.

And then in October, unannounced utility works to lay electric cables in Tintern Quarry caused a substantial rockfall onto the Greenway. The section of the path between the quarry and the tunnel has been closed since. Whilst contractors have cleared the fallen material, we're still awaiting confirmation that the slopes above the Greenway have been made safe at this point. We will not reopen the Tidenham tunnel until this has been resolved. Check updates on <http://www.wyevalleygreenway.org/>

New Signage in the village by Fiona Wilton

The new signage in the village was commented on in the March newsletter. I felt this report wasn't quite the full story and I asked the Tourism Department of Monmouthshire County Council about it. In these days of extreme lack of public funding grants are very few and every pound of Government money has to be competed for against communities across the whole of Wales. Communities can only apply for funds for a limited range of purposes and within extremely strict parameters, and the village has been very lucky to get any money for any improvements whatsoever against such stiff competition. The County Council staff have worked tirelessly to obtain and retain funding, despite issues outside their control which threatened to derail the whole grant and should be congratulated that we do have improvements due to their efforts.

Nicola Edwards, Head of Tourism, offered this reply which perhaps helps understanding, "The new visitor signage, including welcome, finger post and brown & white highway signs in Tintern are part of a Welsh Government funded Brilliant Basics project led by Monmouthshire County Council.

The project also includes redesign and resurfacing of the Lower Wireworks car park – due to reopen this week- and the forthcoming installation of EV charging points. The project aims to improve the visitor experience at Tintern while benefiting locals by distributing visitors (and their spend) more evenly across the village, easing congestion on the highway (through improved signage) and reducing car parking problems (by increasing capacity). All key stakeholders including Cadw, Wye Valley Community Council, Tintern Business Forum and the Wye Valley National Landscape unit have been consulted at all stages of the project regarding the design and location of signs, some of which have also required Cadw consent.

There is a second phase of pedestrian finger post signs due to be installed over the next couple of weeks. The reason the finger post sign opposite the village hall has been heightened is to prevent the fingers being damaged by the large tanker which is driven down this road on a regular basis.

Please let me know if you would like further information or clarification on any of the above. We would welcome any feedback received from readers of the newsletter on signs already installed or on the car park improvements."

Want to boost profits and biodiversity on your farm?

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Photo: Wye Organic, certified Pasture for Life

The programme is being run by Pasture for Life and funded by the Farming in Protected Landscapes.



Words written inside Tintern Abbey, by Herbie Girardet

Who was it
Who heaped these stones
On stones upon more stones
Where an eternal river descends
From misty hills
To meet the rippling tides
That surge in from the sea

Who was it
Who came along from nowhere
Or from somewhere far away
Across a blustery sea
With sketch plans drawn
On parchment scrolls
To make a sacred building here
And fashioned sandstone into sacred shapes
With iron hammers and with chisels
To make these pillars
Rise up high like forest trees and
Carry oaken rafters and a mighty roof

But who was it then
Who said that all this had to end
There's no more room for prayer now
That all this should come crashing down
A sacred place turned into a shadow church
Where monks would wander now
As restless spirits of a half-forgotten world

And as the living trees moved back
Inside the pillared church
As flowers made their home again
And butterflies and bees flew in
The voice of god began to call once more
No longer with the sound of bells
But with the songs of nightingales and robins
And with the bleating calls
Of ewes and new born lambs
Among the grassy graves

And who is it
Who reminds the flood of visitors today
Who come inside this glorious ancient house
It's here where blossom trees once stood
And that in long forgotten times
This was a home of prayer
And of a bold enchanted brotherhood

Who was it
Who made this church appear in forest land
Where there had been a void of humid air
Of blackbird song and agile swifts
Dissecting the forgiving sky

And who was it
Who made these arch-shaped windows
Frame a wooded pasture land
Turn it into a world of prayer and of evensong
By ringing copper bells across this valley
And calling them the voice of the eternal god

But every ending also is a resurrection
A door left open swaying in the breeze
And so it was
That nature could come wandering back
Inside these empty halls
To cloak them in the glittering green of life
And wrench them from the clutches
Of some greedy self-important men
To rescue god

But who was it then
Who said this too must stop
Who hollowed out
This living church again
Ejecting all that surging life
Who made a roofless house stand barren
And pared back to naked quarry stone

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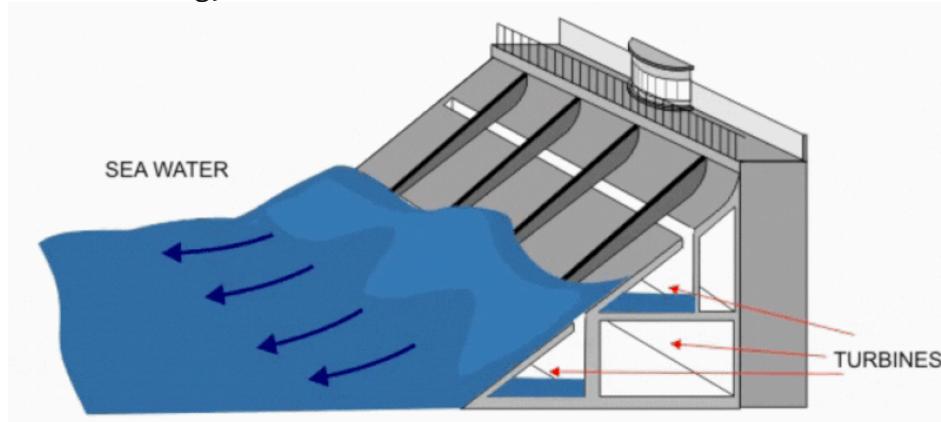
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07843 688229



Tintern project wins in Welsh Government tidal challenge by Wade Bank

The successful applicants of the Welsh Government's £750,000 Tidal challenge were announced on Thursday 14 March. The challenge was first launched by First Minister Mark Drakeford in March 2023 where he said the funding would be made available for at least three research projects working on tidal technology.



electricity before being returned to the river with the falling tide. The installation offers the added benefit of constraining the river at high tides mitigating against flooding.

The project will require an Environmental Impact Assessment, but is in alignment with the [NRW Flood Risk Management Plan for South West Wales](#) and [Welsh Government's National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy Objectives](#) for managing flooding and measures to be taken over the next decade. Tintern Parva and Chapel Hill are on the [Communities at Risk Register \(CaRR\)](#) that considers a number of factors to identify the communities at greatest risk of flooding. The estimated power generation from a 1.2 mile long barrier from the Old Station to Tintern Abbey would also contribute to meeting the [Welsh Government's Net Zero Strategic Plan](#) 2030 target date. 39.5% of the UK energy mix was from renewables in the 12 months to January 2024. Wind 29.0%, biomass 4.9%, solar 4.5%, but hydro contributed only 1.2%. This project is estimated to generate 5 MW, enough to supply 4000 homes.

One project now confirmed by the British Hydropower Association to go to the formal planning stage is a tidal power generation plant along the Wye at Tintern. The concept is for rising tide water to water drain into internal reservoirs which cascade down through turbine blades, generating



A similar power generation concept has been successfully trialed in Norway along a sea wall in Bleivika. A walkway along the sea wall is popular with residents and visitors.



The [Wye Valley AONB Villages Plan for the Future](#) six point plan for change to the villages highlights the need for sustainable transport, particularly during high season. A shuttle bus could run along the walkway from a 'mobility hub' and parking at Tintern Abbey, reducing road traffic through the village. A river access point could be added for water sports with the removal of the Fryer's Wharf sewage pumping station.

[editors note: Ok if you've read this far, you might be horrified of the potential impact on the ecology of the river bank or might be relieved that future flooding can be avoided, but the biggest obstacle would of course be funding for such a huge project. But we all felt the amazing power of the Wye River goddess last month in the King tide, and there must be some way to harness that power... not just for April fools!]



Wye Valley Crafts at Abbey Mill

We have 3 April guests:

Cath, ceramics. This is her last month as a guest for now but will be back later in the year.

Naomi, candles. You may remember Naomi who was a guest in December with her beautiful scented candles.

Helen, ceramics. Helen's work is very different from Cath's. It is lovely to have 2 such talented ceramicists in the shop.

Some of us are also at the craft fair in the village hall on Monday 1st April, so perhaps we will see you there too.

Wye Valley Crafts Association



CLASSES WITH CLAIRE

RHYTHM WALKING
THURSDAY @ 6:00PM

FITNESS PILATES
THURSDAY @ 7:00PM

CONTACT ME ON
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WORK OUT WITH ME!

Tintern Garden Club Report, by Judith Dudley

On Sunday 10th March several members of the Garden Club got together to plant daffodils around the village. These were special Welsh daffodils, the small wild ones and Tenby daffodils which are slightly larger and a brighter yellow. The idea to plant more daffodils in the village came from Helen Beardsell who also obtained the plants. The funding for the purchase was part of the money given to the Garden Club by T.A.P. when they wound up their business. It was given on the understanding that it would be used for the good of the village. We hope that next year the village will be a bit brighter in the spring for the enjoyment of all.

On Friday 15th March there was a good attendance of members for the talk in the Village Hall given by Dede Liss on the subject of “Grain to Bread”. This was an interesting talk about the origin of wheat and how it has been developed by man over the years. Also about how the varieties and types of wheat have diminished because of this. So much so that some farmers are growing the older types again so that they are not lost. Dede reckons that the older types produce better flavoured bread so we should not lose their genetic qualities.

Our next meeting is on **Friday April 19th at 7.30** in the Village Hall when Gail Reynolds will be giving us a talk about moths. Visitors are welcome to join us – admission £2.00. If you would like to become a member of the Garden Club just come along to our monthly meeting or ring Dave on 01291689919 for more details.

News from Parva Farm Vineyard, by Judith Dudley



The vines have been pruned now but the job of replacing the rotten stakes has had to be put on hold until the ground has dried out a bit!

The shop is open for wine, perry, ales and other local produce, jewellery and cards as well as the plants I have been growing! Our opening hours are 1.00 until 4.00pm every day except Tuesday and Wednesday. To call at other times, please ring 07484670302 to make an appointment.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who has brought me their spare flowerpots. I now have plenty to continue potting up plants to sell in the shop and at the Village Produce Sale in the Village Hall.

Unfortunately, the comments I made about the weather last month hold good for this month too- wet, wet and more wet! At least it is mild too, so the grass is growing for the sheep and cattle. Our first lambs are out in the fields already and enjoying life the way only lambs do.





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River Wye Pollution Response Update, by Nick Day

'Restore the River', an evening at the Blake Theatre, Monmouth

On 23rd February, Friends of the River Wye hosted a landmark event in Monmouth. We brought together 14 speakers to discuss action to restore the Wye, in front of an audience of nearly 500 people. The overwhelming message was that we need the regulators to enforce the law to protect the Wye. We were joined by major poultry company Avara Foods and major egg company Noble Foods, as well as the Chairs of the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales. For those who missed the evening, a full recording is now available to watch on YouTube. It can be found via our website, <https://friendsoftheriverwye.org.uk/> We'd also like to thank Monmouth Haberdashers School for allowing us use of the Blake Theatre.



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

Legal challenges

On 7th February, we joined River Action and Feargal Sharkey outside the Cardiff Civil Justice Centre to support their court case.

River Action brought a Judicial Review against the Environment Agency for failing to enforce critically important environmental regulations which should protect the River Wye from diffuse agricultural pollution. We're now awaiting the judgement and don't know how long that will take, but we're hoping for news soon, as 'early April' has been mentioned.

Recently, the legal firm Leigh Day has announced their intention to prosecute Avara Foods for pollution of the river. Avara has said that it will cease polluting the river in the future. However, Leigh Day will argue that Avara Foods is responsible for the damage that has already been caused and should clean up the River Wye and the surrounding land, as well as pay hundreds of millions of pounds to people and businesses whose lives, livelihoods and enjoyment of the area has been impacted because of the effects of pollution.

The legal claim will also look to prevent Avara Foods from polluting the river further if the company doesn't carry out its pledge. People who can join the legal claim will have a claim alleging private and public nuisance. The claimants will include people affected by the pollution such as swimmers, canoeists, walkers, clubs, organisations, anglers and businesses whose lives and trade has been hit by the worsening condition of the river, or the nuisance effects on those living near chicken farming, such as smells, insects and noise. The businesses affected will include those working in tourism, hospitality and leisure.

Soil Association Campaign

Intensive chicken farming has left the Wye on the verge of collapse. If we don't act immediately, this is coming not only on the Wye but also to other rivers near you too. Intensive, industrial-scale poultry units (IPUs) are killing our rivers. Tonnes of chicken manure are spread on the land around rivers, which leaches into them. Destructive algal blooms and habitat devastation are the result, and our rivers can't take any more. The Welsh government has placed all new planning applications for IPUs on hold pending a review, but across the UK intensive poultry units are spreading, not reducing. We produce a billion chickens a year in England and Wales alone, and 95% of them are from industrial poultry units. This places rivers throughout the UK at significant risk. We're supporting The Soil Association's Stop Killing Our Rivers campaign, which calls for urgent government action. Please sign the petition at https://soilassociation.co/rivers_ngos



Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, yet he shall live.”

John 11 v25

To learn more, read the Bible or visit Bethel Chapel, Trellech Road, Tintern

Sundays 11am or Thursdays 11am

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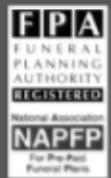


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Women's Institute Update, by Jane Avery

At our March meeting Lynne Boddy came to give us an illustrated talk on the importance of fungi to our ecosystem. And it turns out that they are the most essential part of it. Sadly, the IT system and projector at the Hall ceased to operate shortly after she started, and we were only able to continue by gathering together in a tighter group to see the images on her laptop and hear her talk. But the images were worth seeing and the information often new and rather startling.

Llandogo WI is the proud possessor of a large tablecloth that was instituted about 50 years ago and bears an embroidered motif designed and worked by Mrs Hilda Crum, an accomplished needlewoman, who was its president for some years. Since then, all members have been invited to add their name to the cloth. It is a touching reminder and tribute to those we have known in the past and encouraging to see the names of those who have more recently joined.

Shortly, Llandogo will be taking part in the Gwent WI annual quiz with a team of three. We haven't done spectacularly well in the past few years (understatement) but it is a fun evening and includes supper out. Who knows what might happen this time! Maybe come in the top ten?

The WI continues to run the Friday morning café at the village hall. It's a great chance to meet old and new friends and catch up on the local news – and, being the WI, the cakes are pretty blooming good.

We also collect any soaps, shampoos or items for personal care that are not wanted, to donate to Monnow Vale hospital for those people who are admitted without the necessary items.

WI meets every 2nd **Wednesday 7.30** at the Hall. We have a programme of interesting speakers and outings planned. Do come and meet us and enjoy a taster session.

Contact Details: Sue President 07881951137 and New Members Officer Carol Ann 07875622135

Brockweir Village Shop and Café has reopened, by Sally Vivian



We are open! Our team including volunteers have done a great job in bringing a refreshed look to the shop and café.

While part of the building is still under structural repair, the remaining two thirds has been recovered and renovated to provide an interim, slightly restricted shop and café. The full building should be ready at some point later this year. Whilst in the interim facility, we will be operating with reduced hours. The shop and café will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, with the shop open 10-4 Wednesday through Sunday with late opening until 6 on Friday.

The café is open 11-3 Wednesday through Sunday. We have also changed our dog policy to reflect the number of our customers who have dogs, well behaved dogs will be allowed inside.

We are so looking forward to welcoming you back!

Holmleigh Cottage in Tintern

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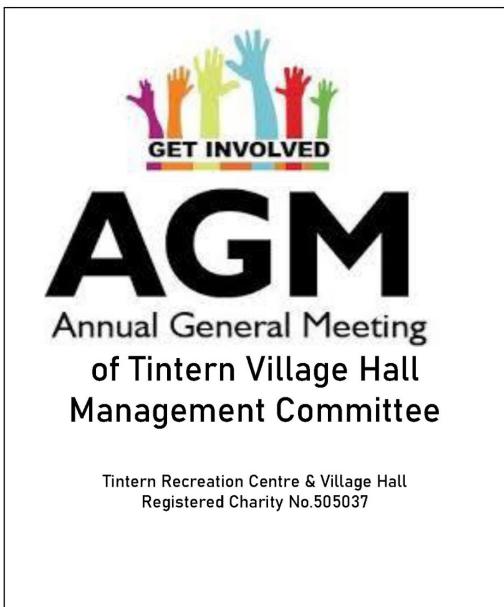
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TINTERN VILLAGE HALL



Monday 22nd April 2024
at 7pm
in Tintern Village Hall

We need YOU to join us!

- Get involved in your community
- Join the Village Hall Committee and bring along fresh ideas!
- Vote on Village Hall Committee roles
- Have fun & help keep this essential village resource alive

To find out more about joining the Village Hall Committee come to the AGM or contact our Chair via helencarter2006@yahoo.co.uk

WANTED - Young Entrepreneurs For A New Feature At This Year's Tintern Village Fete.



We are offering stalls at a reduced rate to local young people (up to 16 years old) at this year's fete. Whether you want to raise money for a good cause, a school project or to earn some money for yourself, please contact helencarter2006@yahoo.co.uk for more details.

Classes at the Wye Valley Arts Centre, Llandogo

Ann Hulme's Painting and Drawing Saturday Day Course 6 APR 9:30 – 4:00 pm (£60 per day)
Botanical Painting: Saturday Day Course 13 APR 10:00 – 4:00pm (£60 per day)

Proceeds from the art courses help support the KIDZART charity **KIDZART** (www.kidzart.uk).

Please get in touch for further details about classes or the KIDZART charity contact Val via info@wyearts.co.uk, Tel 01594 530214/ 07796 697226, Wye Valley Arts Centre, Llandogo, NP25 4TW

St Michael's Church, Tintern Parva



The church was flooded at high tide on 12 March, as water bubbled up through the floor and leaked under the floodgates but the pews and vestry were safe above high water and after the turning of the tide, the water quickly flowed out of the church.

Thanks to people who helped clean up the next day!

Looking ahead, mark your calendar for the Late May Bank Holiday weekend for a 'Bach on Bank' concert on **26 May** of cello music and poetry, with tea and coffee and homemade bakes on offer.

A joint service will be held on **Sunday 30th June at 11am** at St Nicholas Church, Trellech for all the Monmouthshire Area Diocese churchse, so there will not be a service at St Michaels on that Sunday.

But do come along any other Sundays at 10:30 and give us a try!



St Michael's Church Tintern Annual Parish Report 24 March 2024

Mission and Outreach

We seek to increase awareness of God's love and to help people grow and learn as Christians through regular weekly worship, Bible study and community-based projects. The Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade continues to grow and thrive in association with St Oudoceus Llandogo. The restoration of the Church has enabled us to offer music events, quizzes and an art exhibition in 2023, all of which have been very well attended. The advert below asks your views on activities and events at the church and what we should be planning for the future.

Fabric Report

The restoration of the church, completed in 2023 has given us confidence as to the sound fabric of the Church. Both internally and externally the building is in a good state of repair. Both church wardens have been actively involved in the work of the Restoration Committee and are fully aware of their responsibilities, particularly in relation to matters of health and safety. Flooding remains an issue, but the installation of a French drain and floodgates has enabled us to protect St Michael's from most, but not all, of the Wye high tides.

The organ is no longer fit for purpose, but active fundraising means that we can now replace it with a replacement instrument that will suit our purposes in the short term. We hope to erect a second notice board by the lychgate.

St Mary's Church Tintern

This church, whose remains can be seen above the Abbey, ceased to function in 1972 and was destroyed by fire in 1977. It had been annexed by Tintern Parva in 1902. The Church was in private hands and is now owned by the Crown; the churchyard is owned by the Church in Wales. It contains a listed sarcophagus tomb which has been restored using traditional methods. This was achieved through the support of (amongst others) Tintern Community Council, the Welsh Government, and the Wye Valley AONB. Whilst burial is occasionally still requested at this site, the steepness and rough nature of the approach makes this difficult. Funeral directors do not wish to drive to the churchyard. In addition, the site of the church and churchyard are of potential danger to visitors. A very recent meeting attended by the RB and our representatives leads us to feel confident that funding can be found to make this peaceful and important place safer. £1400 was spent on basic maintenance of this churchyard by St Michael's.

Churchyard Report

Number of burials: 3, Churchyard account: £9,847, Churchyard income: £3,246, Grants: £500 from Wye Valley Community Council

Churchyard management: The churchyard is managed by volunteers and part of it has been designated a wildlife and wildflower area following guidance from the Gwent Wildlife Trust. The remaining space of which there is little (probably enough for 6 cremations and 8 burials) is prone to flooding. The PPC six years ago, being conscious of the rapidly diminishing space available voted to restrict burials to Tintern residents unless there were extenuating circumstances.

The Church received a Green Church award from the Wye Valley AONB in 2020. We have a long-established colony of masonry bees at the west end of the south wall. Through the churchyard runs a right of way that forms part of the Wye Valley Way.

Finance Report

The finances of the church are in good order due to the diligence of the outgoing treasurer, an increase in planned giving and significant efforts in fund raising. As a result, we will be able to pay our share this year but cannot afford to become complacent about our financial position.

A fund for a replacement organ was begun, and monies raised specifically from fundraising events have been transferred into this fund. Grants totalling £4030 were received to stage music events in the church. £2530 from WNOB and £1500 from WVCC.

Thank you!

Minister: Reverend Jan Pain - 01291 624017

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

Advertisement – St Michael's Church Survey

We are seeking to understand how St Michael's Church can best serve the Tintern community. We're here for weddings, funerals, and our services on Sundays, Easter and Christmas, but please help us by sharing your views on activities and events you've attended at the church and what we should be planning for the future.

Event	Attended y/n	Review 1-5 (1 poor to 5 great)	Would you attend a future event?	Comment?
Tintern Photo exhibit
Quiz Night
Art Show
Choir concert
Gospel choir concert
Classical music concert
EcoFest Lectures
Folk music concert
Lenten lunch
Duck race
Wine tasting
Lantern Making
Craft Fair
Art Lessons
Drama show
Summer afternoon teas
Jumble Sale
Christmas carolling
Christingle

Any other suggestions/comments are welcome!

.....
.....
.....

How would you feel about a wider variety of Sunday services; for example, continuing the traditional and Brigade-led services, but also adding some with other music forms in place of traditional hymns, or more casual talks in place of a formal sermon with no communion offered?

Please comment.....

.....
.....

Do you always feel welcome in the church? y/n please
comment.....

.....

Your name / email to be entered into £20 prize draw, but anonymous response very welcome too

.....

Please return completed surveys to the response box located in the church, or email a photo or scanned form to tinternstmichaelschurch@gmail.com.

Llandogo Early Years, by Rachel Davies



Join our excellent playgroup run in Llandogo with fantastic facilities and emphasis on learning outdoors.

Monday – Thursday 9-3 & Friday 9-12. Children welcome from 2 years old.

We offer Nursery Funding the term after children are three and the 30 hour Childcare Offer. We are registered with Estyn and CSSIW, Forest School Sessions with a trained practitioner and have Creative Gardening sessions with Miss Daisy.

For more information call Rachel Davies on 07786831401 or Rachellou9@aol.com or or find us on Facebook

Chepstow Walking Festival



Chepstow Walking Festival will come through Tintern in April. The programme is now live with 39 routes in the programme - full details can be found [Chepstow Walking Festival 2024 \(walksinchepstow.co.uk\)](http://ChepstowWalkingFestival2024.walksinchepstow.co.uk)

Three walks come through **Tintern Walk** **Wednesday 3 April** - The 2024 Big Walk: Peaks, a Rock God Lair and an English Castle – 22 miles, **Walk 8 Wednesday 3 April** - Walk for Health at Offa's Dyke, Devil's Pulpit and Poor's Allotment – 3 miles, and **Walk 34 Sunday 7 April - The Wye Valley and Cleddon Falls** - 9 miles Check the website for more details.

Walk The Wye 2024 going ahead on Sunday 12th May by Norman

For the past 15 years, the Rotary Clubs of Monmouth, Chepstow and Ross on Wye have organised a sponsored walking event in the Wye Valley. Known as “Walk The Wye”, this years’ event is taking place on **Sunday 12 May**. The event will again be raising funds for the breast cancer research team at Velindre, Cardiff.

The event is based at Monmouth Show Ground and there are 6 separate walks to choose from with distances of between 2 and 15 miles. The concept for the event is unique. Registration on the day is at Monmouth Show Ground. But for 4 of the walks, walkers are taken down the Wye Valley by a free bus to the start of their chosen walk. They then walk back to Monmouth Show Ground on riverbank footpaths. The remaining 2 walks start and finish at the Show Ground: again using well defined footpaths in the Wye valley. Comprehensive route instructions are issued for each walk.

Why not choose a walk; invite your friends to join you and have a great day out in the beautiful Wye valley, whilst raising money for breast cancer research. There will be the usual free car parking at Monmouth Show Ground. Burgers, bacon rolls, coffee and tea will be on sale at the start and finish, plus ice cream, for when walkers return from their walk. Full details about the event are at www.walkthewye.com

New!!! NO 69 BUS TIMETABLE

Welcome from Newport Bus

We've partnered with Monmouthshire County Council to operate the bus services in your area from April 1 2024. The routes are the same, but there are some changes to the drivers, buses, timings and the way you pay for your tickets.

Let us introduce ourselves...

We've been the main provider of buses in Newport for over 120 years. We're still locally owned and managed too. We run a comprehensive network of services across Newport as well as services to and from Bristol, Cardiff, Cwmbran, Monmouth and of course, Chepstow – including the local town routes.

All our buses are clean and green, either the latest Euro VI diesel buses or smart and comfortable zero-emission electric buses – some with USB chargers and onboard WiFi.

We have a small team of drivers dedicated to your local routes, so you'll soon see some familiar, friendly faces.

One important point if you have not used us before – if you need to pay cash for your tickets, our drivers cannot give change. You can use contactless and mobile pay, or even get your ticket on the Newport Bus app.

We look forward to welcoming you onboard!



Monmouth | Tintern | Chepstow

via Wyesham, Redbrook, Brockweir Bridge, Llandogo, St Arvans, Chepstow Racecourse & Chepstow Community Hospital

Mondays to Fridays except bank holiday Mondays

Monmouth bus station	0745	0745	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1517	1625	1720	1830
Monmouth Comprehensive School	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1517	▼	▼	▼	▼
Wyesham St James Church	0755	0755	0919	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1526	1526	1634	1729	1839
Redbrook Newland Road	0800	0800	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	1531	1531	1639	1734	1844
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0809	0809	0933	1033	1133	1233	1333	1433	1540	1540	1648	1743	1853
Tintern The Wild Hare	0817	0817	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341	1441	1548	1548	1656	1751	1901
St Arvans The Peacefield	0824	0824	0948	1048	1148	1248	1348	1448	1555	1555	1703	1758	1908
Chepstow Comprehensive School	▼	0830	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0828	▼	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1559	1559	1707	1802	1912
Chepstow bus station	0833	0834	0956	1055	1156	1256	1356	1456	1604	1604	1711	1806	1916

Saturdays

Sun & public hols

journeys shown in red boxes
run on school days only

Monmouth bus station	0710	0910	1110	1310	1510	1710	1006	1206	1506	1710			
Wyesham St James Church	0719	0919	1119	1319	1519	1719	1015	1215	1515	1719			
Redbrook Newland Road	0724	0924	1124	1324	1524	1724	1020	1220	1520	1724			
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0733	0933	1133	1333	1533	1733	1029	1229	1529	1733			
Tintern The Wild Hare	0741	0941	1141	1341	1541	1741	1037	1237	1537	1741			
St Arvans The Peacefield	0748	0948	1148	1348	1548	1748	1044	1244	1544	1748			
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0752	0952	1152	1352	1552	1752	1048	1248	1548	1752			
Chepstow bus station	0756	0956	1156	1355	1556	1756	1052	1252	1552	1756			

journeys shown in blue boxes
run in school holidays only

get in touch

We'd love to know what you think, and are here to answer any questions

01633 670 563



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Fares & tickets

Monmouthshire County Council is working on your new fares, which will vary on how far you travel. Full details are on our website. If you travel regularly, use our All Zones tickets - they're valid on every Newport Bus including Abergavenny, Bristol, Brynmawr, Cardiff, Chepstow, Cwmbran, Newport, Pontypool & Monmouth.

Adult All Zones City Day
£8.40

Adult All Zones Weekly
£25.50

Adult All Zones 4-Weekly
£75.60

You can pay on the Newport Bus app, or with contactless or cash onboard. You'll need exact change, please - drop your coins in the slot by the ticket machine.

You can still use your Welsh Concessionary bus pass - valid all day, every day. You can travel between any stop in Wales to a stop in England and make the same journey in return. English Concessionary bus passes are valid after 9.30 am from a stop in England to any stop in Wales, and back again. You can't travel between stops solely in Wales with an English pass.

Chepstow | Tintern | Monmouth

via Chepstow Community Hospital, Chepstow Racecourse, St Arvans, Bigsweir Bridge, Llandogo & Wyesham

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Mondays to Fridays except bank holiday Mondays

Chepstow bus station	0735	0735	0906	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406	1516	1530	1615	1730
Chepstow Comprehensive School	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	1525	▼	▼	▼
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0740	0740	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	▼	1534	1620	1735
St Arvans The Peacefield	0744	0744	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1533	1536	1623	1739
Tintern The Wild Hare	0752	0752	0922	1022	1122	1222	1322	1422	1541	1544	1631	1747
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0801	0801	0931	1031	1131	1231	1331	1431	1550	1553	1640	1756
Redbrook The Bell	0809	0809	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1557	1600	1647	1803
Wyesham St James Church	0817	0817	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345	1445	1604	1607	1654	1810
Monmouth Comprehensive School	▼	0825	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
Monmouth bus station	0827	0832	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1456	1614	1617	1704	1819

Saturdays

Sun & public hols

journeys shown in red boxes run on school days only

journeys shown in blue boxes run in school holidays only

Chepstow bus station	0806	1006	1206	1406	1606	1806	0900	1105	1305	1605
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0810	1010	1210	1410	1610	1810	0904	1109	1309	1609
St Arvans The Peacefield	0814	1014	1214	1414	1614	1814	0908	1113	1313	1613
Tintern The Wild Hare	0822	1022	1222	1422	1622	1822	0916	1121	1321	1621
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0830	1030	1230	1430	1630	1830	0925	1130	1330	1630
Redbrook The Bell	0838	1038	1238	1438	1638	1838	0932	1137	1337	1637
Wyesham St James Church	0845	1045	1245	1445	1645	1845	0939	1144	1344	1644
Monmouth bus station	0854	1054	1254	1454	1654	1854	0948	1153	1353	1653

WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Precis minutes of a meeting of above Council held 29th January 2024 in Tintern Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Mawdsley, Ashman, Shewell, Snell, County Cllr Webb & the Clerk.

3638. Police Reports: Query raised as to why it took so long to clear the tree which partially blocked the A466 by the first house on the left entering Llandogo from the south.

3639. To receive apologies for absence: Cllrs Evans, Morrison & Parker.

3640. Public Session: No one present.

3641. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda: None.

3642. To receive & approve minutes of previous meeting: Approved & signed as correct.

3643. To receive Financial Report: Charitable A/C £15,721.37, BMM A/C £3,206.78.

Amount spent to date £30,921.41p.

3644. To consider & approve accounts for payment:

Clerk's Salary & Expenses - Approved for payment.

3645. To discuss Planning Applications:-

DM/2023/01729 – Conservation Area Consent, demolition of existing boiler house building & erection of replacement building for use as a hotel library/meeting room & bat roost. Approval recommended.

DM/2023/01577 – Beechwood, Trellech Road, Tintern. Following request from January 8th meeting for clarification on the description of what is proposed, approval was recommended.

Report on public consultation on plans for the former Abbey Hotel & Wild Hare. Cllr Ashman attended and gave councillors a brief resume of what is intended. Clerk to ask the Agent from Savills to attend the May council meeting to give a presentation on the plans they have. Substantial renovation works being carried out at The Wild Hare, hoping to open end of May.

3646. Matters Arising from Minutes: None.

3647. To receive Reports from outside bodies:-

Schools – Governors meeting held the 16th February.

Tintern & Llandogo Churches – Tintern – Chepstow Male Voice Choir 1st March. Michaelmas Festival planned for September & a Spring Quiz, date to be confirmed.

Llandogo – Bubble Service held for the children. Next one 11th February.

Village Halls – Tintern – Quiz for Fete funds 10th February. Next Produce Market 10th February.

Easter Bingo 12th March. Easter Egg Hunt & Craft Fayre 1st April. The Hall will be closed for redecorating and other work on 12th February for 3 weeks. Cllr Shewell pointed out that part of the roof is leaking and the Council may be asked for a contribution towards roof repairs. The VHC to be asked to give the Council a report on the roof by the February meeting.

Wye Valley Villages Delivery Group – Meeting held 10th January attended by Cllr Mawdsley. Chepstow Station under consideration for Levelling-Up Fund bid. Spend may be concentrated on highways improvements in Chepstow. Progress is slow on sustainable themes.

3648. Reports from Sub-Committees:- Finance. Slight over-spend on this year's budget of approximately £3,000. Cllrs agreed to set aside £250 per village towards St David's Day Celebrations. Cllr Mawdsley proposed the finance committee agree a reserves policy. He will look into this. All Cllrs agreed to approve the budget for 2024/25 being set at £31,066.

3649. To set the precept for 2024-25: Cllrs agreed to set this at £31,066.

3650. Correspondence: Email from Mark Hand, MCC who will be leaving MCC.

Email update from Nicola Edwards, MCC re WG Brilliant Basics funded visitor experience improvements in Tintern.

3651. AOB: Request from Tintern Fete Committee for a donation towards the Tintern Fete. Clerk inform them WVCC have the sum of £500 set aside in their budget.

Cllr Mawdsley reported a tree which fell on Tanglewood causing damage to the roof and bathroom wall is on land in private ownership and not MCC. Also reported the footpath up the side of Cleddon Gorge is very overgrown but is also privately owned. He will make AONB aware of the situation.

The Freedom Lane is constantly being used by over-sized vehicles and has several large potholes. Signs needed to warn vehicles it is unsuitable for large vehicles. Clerk report.

Reports of a camper van parked on the promenade opposite the old Moon & Sixpence. Some no-overnight parking signs needed. County Cllr Webb will report.

20mph sign in Llandogo still blacked out. The SIDS sign in Llandogo, St Arvans & by Lidl still reads 30mph. Clerk to report. Clerk to ask Christian Schmidt, MCC Transport Planner what their plans are for bike storage in Tintern as the Council have had a request for bike racks on Fryer's Wharf due to increase in cyclists coming to the village.

Cllr Ashman looked into the cost of line paint for parking spaces at Fryer's Wharf. Cllrs agreed for him to purchase this item.

Comments have been received from visitors that the village is looking untidy & overgrown.

White lining through the village is due to be done shortly.

Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Mrs E. Klinkert at The Old Malt House for organising the Xmas lights in the village.

3652. Date of next meeting: February 26th.

YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE is Ann Webb for St Arvans, Llandogo and Tintern

Ann has provided the following info from Natural Resources Wales about tides.

Telephone: 01291 689559 or 07816678948 email: annwebb@monmouthshire.gov.uk

High Tides in Tintern 2024			
Date	High Tide Time (Tintern)	Estimated Height (m)	Comments
12/02/2024	09:42	7.4	
13/02/2024	10:23	7.3	
11/03/2024	08:40	7.5	
11/03/2024	21:02	7.3	
12/03/2024	09:22	7.7	
12/03/2024	21:42	7.4	
13/03/2024	10:01	7.6	
09/04/2024	09:15	7.5	
09/04/2024	21:36	7.3	
10/04/2024	09:57	7.6	
10/04/2024	22:15	7.3	
11/04/2024	10:36	7.3	
21/08/2024	22:14	7.2	
22/08/2024	22:55	7.3	
18/09/2024	21:09	7.4	
19/09/2024	09:33	7.2	
19/09/2024	21:52	7.7	
20/09/2024	10:13	7.3	
20/09/2024	22:32	7.6	
17/10/2024	20:43	7.4	
18/10/2024	09:06	7.3	
18/10/2024	21:27	7.6	
19/10/2024	09:47	7.3	
19/10/2024	22:09	7.4	
			British Summer Time (BST) begins: 31/03/2024
			British Summer Time (BST) ends: 27/10/2024

Note:

This information is intended as a guide only. If you are concerned about flooding you are advised to check river levels and flood warnings on the Natural Resources Wales website: www.naturalresources.wales/flooding

The above levels are those forecast at Newport. Natural Resources Wales typically issue Flood Alerts and Flood Warnings for the Wye Estuary at Tintern when tides at Newport are forecast above 7.2m and 7.5m respectively. However, Flood Alerts & Warnings may also be issued at other times should weather and atmospheric conditions result in increased water levels.

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	07873 514255 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)	John Clarke	01291 680139 jjclar7@aol.com
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	Dave Tuffery	01291 689919 dave.tuffery@talk21.com
Tintern Wine Tasting 1 st 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 18th 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)

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- Winners of Forester Best Eco Business Award
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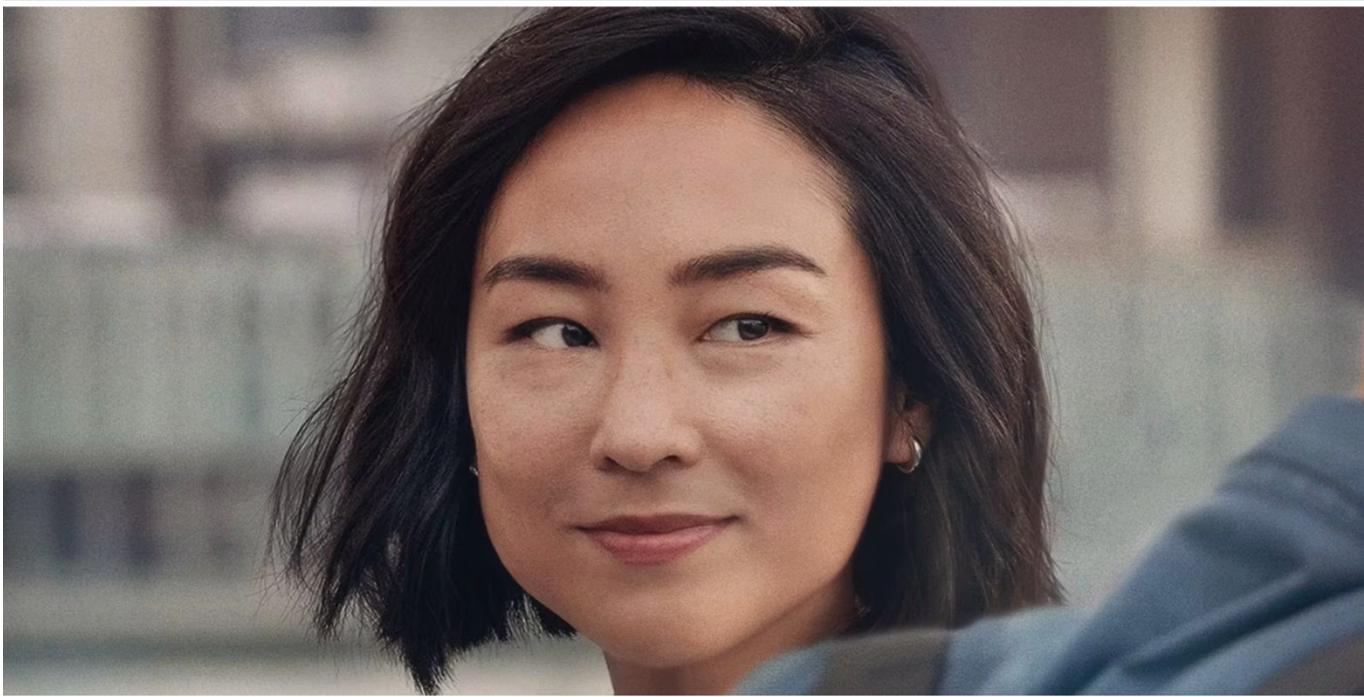
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TINTERN FILM NIGHT

“QUITE BREATHTAKING”

MARK KERMODE, OBSERVER



FRIDAY 12TH APRIL 7.45PM TINTERN VILLAGE HALL

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CELINE SONG

PAST LIVES

WITH GRETA LEE TEO YOO JOHN MAGARO

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