



*Tintern Seniors Luncheon 6 January 2025, Photo by David Hurn*

# TINTERN NEWS

## December 2025

Produced by Friends of Tintern

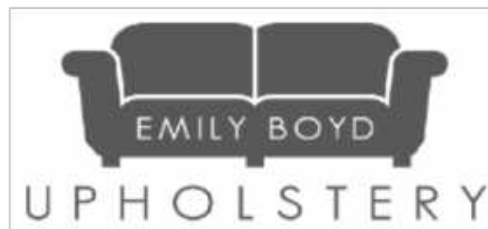
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## The festive season in beautiful Tintern and looking into 2026!

Thanks to Liz Klinkert's effort in organising a collection, we'll have festive lights on the lampposts again this year, but donations are a bit slow in coming in. Please do contact Liz [l12kkt@gmail.com](mailto:l12kkt@gmail.com) to support this effort!

The Rotary-sponsored Torchlight Carol Service at the Abbey is on **Saturday 6 December**. LED Flicker Sticks at £4.00 each will be on sale with programmes / tickets at Tintern Abbey Shop or the Abbey Mill.

You saw the cameras following David Hurn at the Tintern Fete, and now ITV will finally show the biography about David on **Thursday 11 December** at 8.30 pm [ITV TONIGHT show](#) - and on replay

The Tintern Business Group lights competition is on again, so if you have put up Christmas lights near the village which are visible from the road, you are automatically entered for judging during the week commencing **Sunday 15 December**.

The Tintern Abbey Sports Club is hosting a Christmas Quiz at the Village Hall on **Saturday 6 December**, but there are only a few tables left. On **Tuesday, 9 December** join the fun at Christmas Bingo at the Village Hall. The Tintern Local Produce Market is on **Saturday 13 December** and a great place to pick up stocking stuffers. **SHOP LOCAL!** And then again, a Tintern Local Produce Market on **10 January**.

The Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust is hosting a Quiz Night at the Wye Valley Hotel on **29 January** support the St Mary's churchyard restoration.

Don't miss an evening of soulful music and powerful vocals at St Michael's Church Gospel Choir Christmas concert on **Saturday 13 December**. Whether you're a long-time gospel music lover or simply seeking a memorable Christmas experience, the Renewal Choir will raise your spirits.

The Christingle Service with the Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade will be at St Michael's Church on **Sunday 21 December** and the Christmas Eve Carol Service on **Wednesday 24 December at 4pm**.

And looking ahead into 2026, the Tintern Senior's Lunch will be hosted at the Anchor Inn on **6 January**, so get your name in for the limited number of free parking places. Call Noelyn Allen on 07501 529681 or email [noelynallen@hotmail.com](mailto:noelynallen@hotmail.com).

For new resolutions in 2026, there are lots of ideas in this edition to help you feel better. Try Pilates, yoga, Zumba, holistic treatments, or Slimming World classes in January. Our local Tintern Chiropractic and Podiatry practitioners can also offer relief. And there is always retail therapy 🛍️....

You'll need some laughs in the new year, so come see [The complete works of Jane Austin Abridged](#) at the Mackenzie Hall Brockweir on **Thursday 22 January** where three actors will tackle the entire canon!

If you wanted to support the re-opening of the Brockweir Inn, but the price of the shares was too steep, you can now donate any amount you can spare - <https://gofund.me/1a908cd38>.

Enjoy the holidays and next Tintern News is in February! 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 contributor, it does wholeheartedly support the promotion of lively debate on the development of the village but reserves the right to edit in a spirit of kindness (and sometimes just to fit into a page).*



**IF WE WANT INDEPENDENT SHOPS TO  
STAY, WE HAVE TO CHOOSE THEM -  
AND THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, THOSE  
CHOICES MATTER MORE THAN EVER.**

*In places like Tintern*, small businesses aren't just shops - they're part of the landscape, woven into the rhythm of everyday life. They're the familiar faces you pass on the street, the lights glowing on winter evenings, and the hands that quietly keep local craft and knowledge alive.

After the recent floods across Monmouthshire, it feels especially important to stand with the independent businesses that give our towns and villages their character. Every purchase, however small, helps real people preserve their livelihoods, their skills and the heritage they care for.

At Stella & Rose's Books, your support allows us to continue caring for rare and beautiful books, sharing our love of craftsmanship, and keeping this little corner of the Wye Valley thriving.

If there are local businesses you treasure in the surrounding areas, please tag them below - ***let's help them be seen, supported and celebrated.***



STELLA  
& ROSE'S

BOOKS

**#UseUsOrLoseUs**

**@STELLAANDROSESBOOKS**

# Claire Jardine Fitness

**Fitness Pilates** - Monday 7pm at  
Llandogo Village Hall

**MuscleFit** - Tuesday 6pm

**Fitness Pilates** - Tuesday 7pm at  
St Arvans Village Hall

**Fitness Pilates** - Thursday 9:00am at  
The Narth

**Fitness Pilates** - Thursday 7pm at  
Tintern Village Hall

*Improve your posture, gain strength, mobility and flexibility in our friendly group sessions. Every week is a different routine.*

*All fitness levels are welcome.*

To join in, contact Claire on:-

WhatsApp/MSG:- 07891 017633

FB or Instagram:- [clairejardineevolutionfitness](#)

via website:- [clairejardinefitness.com](#)

*claire jardine*  
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Dinner*



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- ✓ **Loved by our patients.** We're proud to have all 5-star reviews from people who trust us with their care.

**Book online today!**



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





## Wye Valley Crafts at Abbey Mill

We have 4 guests in the shop for December:

Maria with her willow weaving.  
Jane with her Mosaics.  
Steve with his funky 3-D printing.  
Jess with her beeswax candles.  
Also, June has made some lovely felted Christmas creatures.

Sadly, we are losing Barbara and Sue when we close on 4th. January, so this is your last chance to buy their lovely work.

Time to start your Christmas shopping and local is best!

<https://www.wyevalleycrafts.co.uk/>

Wye Valley Crafts Association



**GREAT FAMILY FUN**

# CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO!

7.15PM

**TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

**TINTERN VILLAGE HALL**  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO HALL  
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# Stepwise Podiatry

**Wye Valley Wellness Centre  
Ashweir Lodge, Main Road, Tintern, NP16 6SE**

Appointments are available at our Tintern clinic on  
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Routine foot care, Diabetic foot checks, Ingrown toenails, Verrucas  
Sports injury and foot pain

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**[www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk](http://www.stepwisepodiatry.co.uk)    [info@stepwisepodiatry.co.uk](mailto:info@stepwisepodiatry.co.uk)**

Appointments also available at our Chepstow Clinic



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**[bandhvillageshop.co.uk](http://bandhvillageshop.co.uk)**  
Mill Hill, Brockweir, NP16 7NW  
phone 01291 570002



## **We're back!**

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### **Shop opening hours:**

Mon to Sat 09:00-18:00

Sunday 10:00-16:00

### **Café opening hours:**

Mon to Sat 10:00-17:00,

Sunday 10:00-15:00.

Lunch served every day 12:00-14:30

## The Gift of Wellness, by Lucy Fear

This season, offer someone you love the chance to pause, breathe, and reconnect. Our personalised gift vouchers make thoughtful, meaningful presents—perfect for anyone who deserves a little nurturing.

Choose from a range of uplifting experiences:

- Holistic treatments – massage, restorative therapies, and tailored wellbeing sessions
- Retreats in the Wye Valley – seasonal guided walks, delicious local food, movement practices, and peaceful glamping stays
- Courses & workshops – meditation, breathwork, mindful movement & personal wellbeing.

Each voucher is beautifully personalised and can be used whenever the recipient is ready to slow down and give back to themselves.

A gift that supports rest, restoration, and real wellbeing.

Because the best presents aren't things—they're moments of peace.

To enquire, email [hello@wyevalleywellness.uk](mailto:hello@wyevalleywellness.uk)



Your holistic wellbeing hub in Tintern.  
We're here to help you pause, grow and flourish.

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### COURSES & TRAINING

Practical workshops and professional training programmes designed to deepen your knowledge, increase your confidence, and support personal growth.



### RETREATS & EVENTS

Escape into nature, slow down, and reconnect with yourself. Our seasonal retreats offer space to restore, reflect and connect in peaceful surroundings.



### WELLNESS CENTRE

From massage and chiropractic care to podiatry, shiatsu and aesthetics – our centre in Tintern is your go-to for nurturing your body, calming your mind and supporting your whole wellbeing.

Come exactly as  
you are and grow  
from there

Life moves fast. Our retreats, courses, and wellness events are your invitation to step away from the noise, nurture your wellbeing, and rediscover what it means to truly rest and care for yourself.

Visit our website for all upcoming retreats and courses:

-  [www.wyevalleywellness.uk](http://www.wyevalleywellness.uk)
-  [hello@wyevalleywellness.uk](mailto:hello@wyevalleywellness.uk)
-  [@wyevalleywellness](https://www.facebook.com/wyevalleywellness)
-  Wye Valley Wellness Centre  
Tintern, Chepstow NP16 6SE





Specialist bottle shop offering natural wine, cider and perry.

We serve wine and cider by the glass. Come up for a drink!

Supper Club coming soon with food by Tori at The Hop Garden Kitchen.



Branch and Vine, The Hop Garden, Tintern, NP16 7NX  
07444 891329  
[BranchAndVineTintern.com](http://BranchAndVineTintern.com)

## Slimming World – St Arvans Memorial Hall Christmas & New Year Opening Times



**Monday 22 Dec**  
5.30pm & 7pm  
(Weds 24th closed).

**Monday 29 Dec**  
5.30pm & 7pm  
(Weds 31st closed).

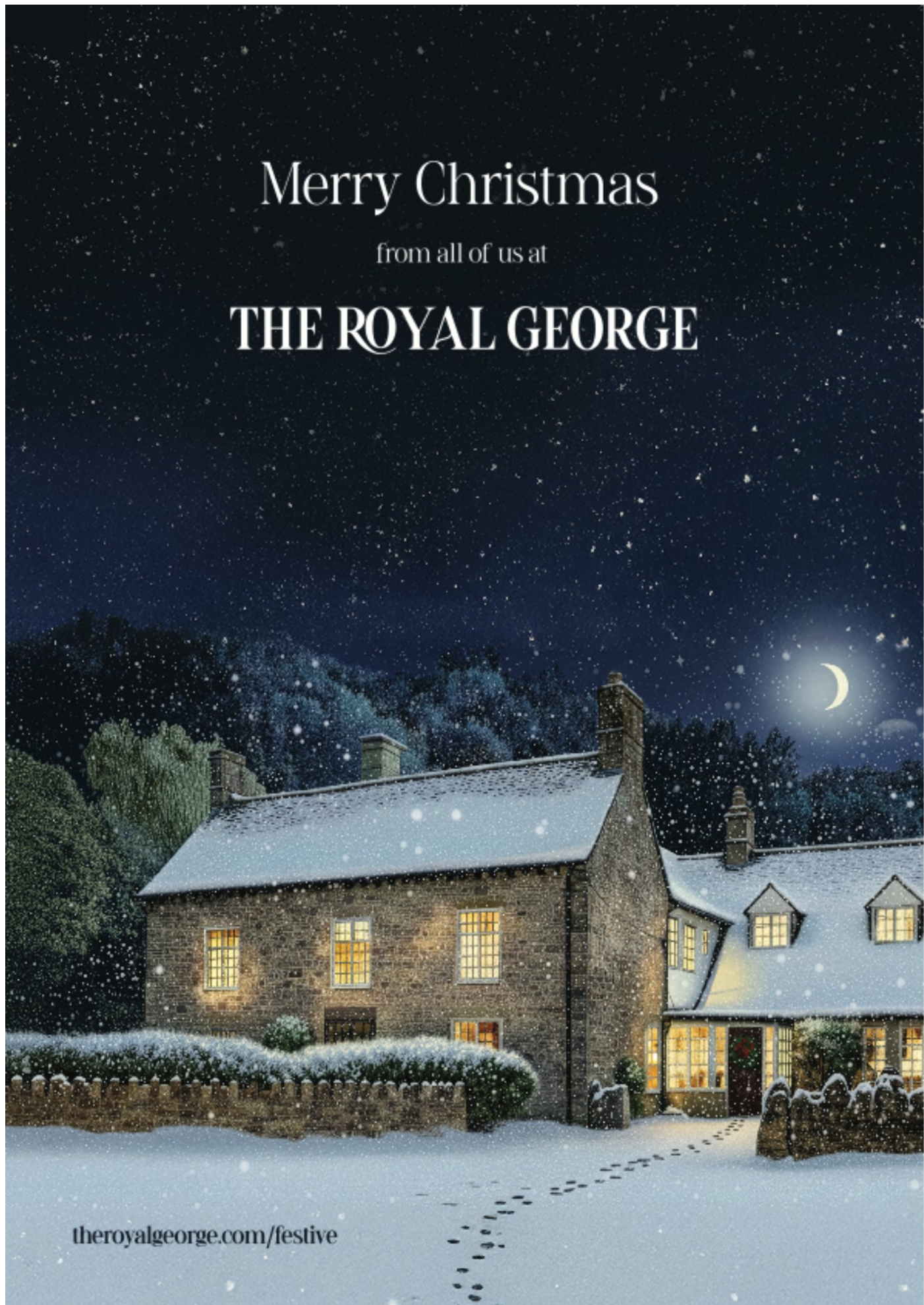
**Weds 7 Jan**  
as normal  
5.30pm & 7pm.

Merry Christmas

from all of us at

**THE ROYAL GEORGE**

[theroyalgeorge.com/festive](http://theroyalgeorge.com/festive)



## Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust, by Jo McCrum



*Vanessa Dodd and Catherine Fookes, MP*

Since the last newsletter LWVBPT trustees met with Catherine Fookes, MP for Monmouthshire, to discuss our campaign to restore Fryer's Wharf and St Mary's. It was a productive meeting, and she is willing to make representations on our behalf beginning with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water.

We set out the problems on the site and how DCWW's actions run counter to their own stated investment policy which promise to replace aging infrastructure and use innovative technology to enhance efficiency; that it does not assist with climate-change goals, environment standards or customer focused improvement.

Fryer's Wharf was bequeathed to the village for free public access and is the only remaining slipway below Monmouth that has direct road access and where equipment can be rolled and launched.

A restored slipway would be a vital ingress/egress point for pleasure-craft as well as for Severn Area Search and Rescue Association (SARA) and other emergency services (between private landings at Monmouth and the Beachley Army Camp). Infill of the slipway and construction of the pumping station on ancient archaeology detracts from the natural and historical environment of Tintern. It has pushed floodwaters closer to housing, ruined a beauty-spot, blocked a landmark view of St Michael's Church from the village centre, and has generally been to the detriment of river-based skills - reducing, leisure, tourism and economic opportunities. Full details of our meeting will be sent to LWVBPT members.



We left Catherine with one of our St Mary's mugs which she promised to take to Westminster meetings to remind decision-makers that Monmouthshire's beautiful heritage should be protected. Don't feel left out - our mugs are available and can be delivered for free to a Tintern address.

### **Christmas Gifts**

Of course our St Mary's mug makes a lovely small gift that will help LWVBPT (go to Brockweir shop or email [info@lwbpt.org](mailto:info@lwbpt.org) to arrange a delivery), but you can also help us as you do your Christmas shopping.

*£9.99 with a presentation box and free Tintern delivery*

We have signed up to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). Download the app and when you online shop 8,000 participating stores (Boots, Ebay etc) will donate a small percentage of their profit to your selected charity. There is no cost to you (other than a bit of time to sign up) and it does not change what you pay, but it could make a huge difference to us. 2.5 million users and 190,000 charities benefit from this easy fundraising.

## Quiz Night

Beat the January blues, test yourself (and your team!), get the pints in and bond with friends at our convivial quiz night at the **Wye Valley Hotel, Thursday 29 January, 7.30-10pm.**

Eight teams of 4-6 players will battle it out in eight rounds of brain-teasers posed by our quizmaster Ali Ashman. Thinking minds lead to hungry stomachs, so at 8.30pm each quizzier will be served a bowl of Sue's Rancher's chilli - succulent slow-cooked chunks of beef and a trio of pulses mildly spiced with chipotle and smoked paprika, Mexican oregano and served with rice. Vegetarians and vegans won't miss out - your version will be loaded with veggies. And if you like it hot, we can provide some extra spicy sauce on the side! By 10pm(ish) we will have a winning team, but you can still be victorious! Bring some cash for the **raffle**. There will be plenty of prizes - so don't miss out on an individual win!

Places can be booked [www.ticketsource.co.uk/lwvbpt](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lwvbpt)

or in person at the Wye Valley Hotel bar provided that you bring in the exact cash for your team. The bar is open from 6pm each evening. Let us know if you want some extras for your team - we are happy to buddy up a couple with, say, a group of 4 who want some extra brainpower.

Advance booking recommended - tickets: £10.50 LWVBPT members or £12.50 per person.

*LWVBPT is a volunteer charity which intends to conserve St Mary's, Chapel Hill and Fryer's Wharf Slipway, Tintern Parva for public benefit. Annual membership is £10 and gives members a reduced rate to fundraising events and other special offers. Please email [info@lwvbpt.org](mailto:info@lwvbpt.org) if you would like to join or have ideas and skills to share. Find us on socials - @lwvbpt.*

## The Tintern Christmas lights competition is back for 2025! By Fiona Wilton



As usual there will be a class for domestic houses and a class for businesses. Your lights will be judged from the road so must be clearly visible from a public highway.

We would encourage everyone to put their lights up in time for the Carol Service at the Abbey on 6 December but the judging will take place on **Thursday 11 December** from 5pm so make sure they are shining out by then!

Our judge will drive from the Chepstow end of the village, right through to Old Station, up Forge Road as far as the furnace, and up Trellech road as far as the Catbrook junction and including all the side roads such as Parva Springs etc. The best entries will get a certificate to be collected from Tintern Stores and the winners will be shared online! It's all part of making the village special for residents and visitors alike- so do have some fun and take part. The more the Christmassy-er!



# Renewal

## Gospel Choir

*For Tintern  
at Christmas*

**Saturday 13th December  
7.30pm**

**St Michael's Church,  
Tintern**

**Tickets £15**

Available at

Abbey Stores, Tintern / Hannah's Music, Chepstow /  
at the door / online from [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)



# The Complete Works of Jane Austen Abridged

📍 Mackenzie Hall Brockweir, Chepstow, NP16 7NP

📅 Thu 22nd January 2026 7:30PM

One newbie and two self-professed Janeites, through almost all means imaginable, tackle the entire canon of Jane Austen's works – in just 90 minutes.

Come along for a fun, funny, and fast-paced romp through the masterpieces of Jane Austen with The Complete Works of Jane Austen, Abridged. Three nimble actors take on all of Austen's beloved heroines, friends, and love interests—and her incisive social satire—in just 90 minutes. It is a truth universally acknowledged that an audience in possession of high spirits must be in want of a ticket to this big-hearted comedy that will delight Janeites and newcomers alike.

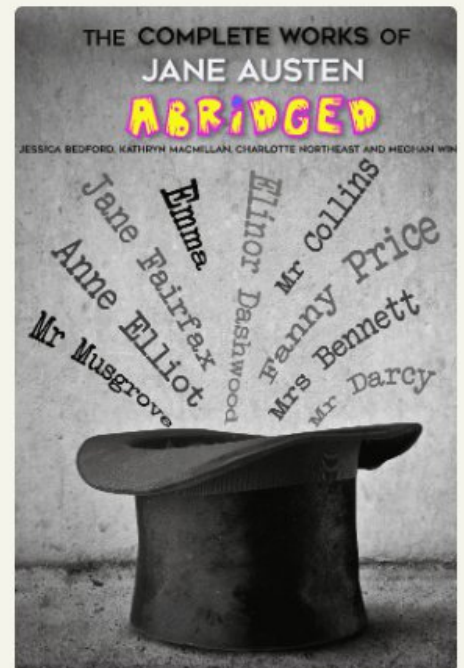
## Event Details

Doors Open at 6:45PM

From 7:30PM to 9:30PM

## Location

Mackenzie Hall Brockweir, Chepstow, NP16 7NP



**Ticket link:** <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/chepstow/mackenzie-hall-brockweir/the-complete-orks-of-jane-austin-abridged/2026-01-22/19:30/t-zogomgn>

**“I WISH IT WAS LONGER. I WOULD VERY HAPPILY SEE THIS FOR AN ENTIRE 3 HOURS. . . NERDY COMEDY AT ITS FINEST.”**  
- VOICE MAGAZINE



## Friends of the River Wye Update, by Nick Day

We send our sympathies to all those affected by the recent floods.



Introducing the Run-Off Reporter! We have a new initiative to try to understand more about how pollution is entering the River Wye. Any time you see soil running off a field, either on to a road or into a water course, this is pollution. [Our new tool](#) enables anyone in the catchment to quickly capture the details of a pollution event and report it to the appropriate authority.

<https://friendsoftheriverwye.org.uk/run-off-reporter>



With run-off causing more than 80% of the Wye's pollution issues according to the latest figures, we desperately need everyone's help in identifying where and how soil is entering the river and damaging the ecosystem that we all hold dear.

[Afonydd Cymru has an excellent page explaining why healthy soils are crucial for healthy rivers](#). For starters, healthy soils hold more water, reducing flood risk. Excessive soil entering a river smothers the gravels, destroys fish spawning grounds and changes the

ecology of the river. Soil can also carry nutrients and chemicals. A major reason that soil ends up in our rivers is through inappropriate land use, with a lack of vegetative cover.

If you see a stream which is significantly more discoloured than the receiving watercourse, this is a sign of excessive soil loss. So, if you see soil run-off, please take plenty of photos and report it right away via the tool - it will store all the key information and give you straightforward instructions on the quickest and most effective way to report to the Environment Agency or Natural Resources Wales, depending on whether you're in England or Wales.



### Red Tractor

If you haven't yet written to your supermarket urging them to up their environmental standards, please visit

<https://upyourstandards.riveractionuk.com/>

Now [Red Tractor has been exposed for greenwashing](#), we need an assurance scheme that we can trust to protect our environment.

Megan McCubbin is supporting this vital campaign. [Megan's two minute video for River Action](#) offers a useful explainer, so please watch and share to spread the word. The supermarkets can't ignore us if we make our voices heard.

**Get ready for the big night out!**

# **The Wye Valley QUIZ**

**Thursday 29 January 7.30pm**

**At The Wye Valley Hotel, doors open 6.00pm**

**8 teams, 1 winner, teams of 4 to 6**

**Tickets £12.50pp (£10.50 LWVBPT members)**

**Book online\* or with exact cash at The Wye Valley Hotel**

**Rancher's Chilli Supper - meat or vegan**

**Raffle**

**\* at [TicketSource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) - scan QR code on the right**

**Join the Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust for £10 a year to receive special rates and offers. All proceeds to the St Mary's Conservation Fund. Email [info@lwvbpt.org](mailto:info@lwvbpt.org) for more details.**

*Scan QR code  
below for ticket  
sales.*



## Chair Pilates: Strength and Flexibility for Every Body by Heather Davies

I run Classic Core Fitness, and my aim is to help others gain the same benefits from Pilates that I have found over the last few years. I am an active mum of three who loves gardening, caring for my animals and walking. I have lived in Tintern for the past 9 years.

Some people who want to start Pilates have limited mobility, are wheelchair users or just find that mat Pilates is not suited to their body. I'm often asked, 'what can I do'?



**Chair Pilates** is a gentle yet powerful way to build strength, improve posture, and increase mobility—all while sitting down. By adapting traditional Pilates exercises to a chair, this form of movement makes the benefits of Pilates accessible to everyone.

I've recently started teaching a **Chair Pilates** class for the Chepstow U3A - which is a charity whose aim is to promote lifelong learning in ways that exercise both mind and body. You can come along for free to do a taster session. If you decide you want to continue, then you will need

to become a U3A member. This costs just £12 for the whole year and allows you to join in any other U3A organised activities. If you would like to come along to try out a class, please email Nicky Lee [njlee\\_99@yahoo.com.as](mailto:njlee_99@yahoo.com.as).

For **Chair Pilates**, a sturdy chair is used for support while performing controlled movements that target the core, posture, balance, and flexibility. It combines strength training and stretching with focused breathing to create a full-body workout that's safe and effective.

We focus on **strengthening the core** to improve posture, balance, and stability. We activate the abdominal muscles, back, and pelvic floor—helping you sit and move with more ease. Improved posture also relieves tension in the neck and shoulders.

We gently stretch and lengthen muscles, improving **flexibility** without straining joints. Over time, this can ease stiffness, increase **mobility**, and make everyday movements like reaching, bending, and twisting more comfortable and safer. It's especially beneficial for people with arthritis or reduced range of motion.

Classes challenge **balance** in a safe, supported way, helping to strengthen stabilizing muscles and improve **coordination**, which can reduce the risk of falls and boost overall confidence in daily activities.

Classes follow a similar format each week but with new variations of exercises added every fortnight. We set up in to our 'working posture' position, complete 10 mins gentle cardio, 10mins mobility and balance, 10mins strength building then 10 mins of 'cool down' and stretching.

We all really enjoy our time in class. We have fun, lots of laughing and joking but everyone comes away feeling that they have worked hard and ready for lunch!!

The U3A CHAIR PILATES CLASSES ARE HELD IN ST ARVAN'S VILLAGE HALL every WEDNESDAY MORNING and due to popular demand, there are now 2 class times available: 11:10am to 11:55am or 12:10pm to 12:55pm.

If you feel that this is something that you would like to try then do get in touch, we would love to see you in class in the new year

If you would like to try one of my Mat Pilates classes, please see details on my Classic Core Pilates advert within this edition of Tintern news or visit [www.classiccorefitness.com](http://www.classiccorefitness.com).



Classic Core  
Pilates

Relaxed  
Friendly

Focused tuition

## Full Pilates Class Schedule

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### **Mondays**

Monmouth Priory	5:30-6:25pm
St. Arvans Village Hall	7:15-8:15pm

### **Tuesdays**

Tintern Village Hall	9:30-10:25am
Monmouth Priory	11:30-12:25am

### **Wednesdays**

Chepstow Yoga Space	9:30-10:25am
St. Arvans Village Hall (Gentle chair Pilates)	11:10-11:55am
Monmouth Priory	5:30-6:25pm



All ability levels  
catered for

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*To book or enquire go to:*  
[www.classiccorefitness.com](http://www.classiccorefitness.com)  
*or email:*

[heather@classiccorefitness.com](mailto:heather@classiccorefitness.com)

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Either sign up for a  
course of sessions or  
try it out for a single  
session.

## Women's Institute, by Sue Smith



Llandogo WI have had another busy month. At our November meeting, Wentwood Young Farmers gave an interesting talk about the objectives and activities of their group, which includes promoting social connection, learning new skills as well as social activities. They take members from the age 10 to 28 years old, and many members do not come from a farming background.

The weekly walking group have had some lovely walks admiring the beautiful colours of the Autumn tree canopy. One of the members had a birthday, so it was a good excuse after a walk to have lunch at The Lion Pub, Trelleck. A group of members also went to a guided tour at Newport Wetlands to see the starling murmuration. We were lucky it was a cold, clear day and the murmuration was against a dramatic skyline. To add to the spectacle were 2 Marsh Harriers hunting over the reed bed.

At our December Meeting, we have a wine tasting and other Christmassy tasting eats to get us into the Festive Mood. Llandogo WI meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month 7.30pm at Llandogo Hall. We are a progressive group, and members come from the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean. For further detail please contact Sue on 07781951137

## 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. Also, we are a Flying Start provider.



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



Yoga classes suitable for all levels to support your mind, body and spirit.

**TUESDAY**

**7.00pm**

**THURSDAY**

**9.30am or 7.00pm**

ALL CLASSES ARE 75 mins on ZOOM or IN PERSON at HILL FARM

£8 per class zoom or £10 in person

Buy block of 5 and get the 6th free

[www.forestretreats.co.uk](http://www.forestretreats.co.uk)

## Malcolm Robinson, by Rev Jan Pain

Malcolm George Robinson of Botany Bay passed away at home, on 26 October surrounded by his loving family, after a long, courageous fight.

I officiated at his funeral service held at St Michael's Church and he was buried in the churchyard on 19 November on a bright cold day, with friends and family wearing flashes of yellow representing friendship, joy and the enduring spirit.

Malcolm was described as a remarkable, energetic, witty man who led a full active life, always displaying immense kindness, patience and optimism. He will be much missed by his heartbroken family and friends. Yvonne and her husband Malcolm enjoyed a lot of love and laughter during their married life together.

Donations in memory of Malcolm can be made to the Severn Area Rescue Association - [Tribute to Malcolm George Robinson](#).





YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR  
**CHRISTMAS**  
SERVICES

**Gospel Christmas Concert**

SATURDAY 13th 7.30pm  
DECEMBER TO 9.30

**Christingle Service**

SUNDAY 21st 10.30am  
DECEMBER TO 11.30

**Carols by Candlelight**

WEDNESDAY 24th 4pm  
DECEMBER TO 5pm

**Christmas Day**

Holy Communion  
THURSDAY 25th 10.30am

**St Michael's Church, Tintern**



**All very welcome!**

Local priest: Rev Jan Pain 01291 624017.

Dean and Rector: Rev Tim Dack [timothydack@clnw.org.uk](mailto:timothydack@clnw.org.uk)

Church wardens: Alan Hillard 01291 689772, Alan Carter 07873 514255

Email prayer requests to include in Sunday prayers to [prayersatstmicrohels@lcloud.com](mailto:prayersatstmicrohels@lcloud.com)

## St Michael's Church, Tintern Parva

Don't miss the Renewal Gospel Choir's warmly-welcomed return to St Michael's Church!



Founded in 2005, this Bristol-based community

ity of dedicated gospel music enthusiasts has grown from a small group of singers and musicians into a vibrant 60-member choir with a band. For the concert on **13 December**, a smaller ensemble will join us to suit the church's intimate setting. Known for their uplifting performances and inspirational message, the Renewal Gospel Choir brings joy and energy wherever they go.

The choir will perform a rich selection of gospel songs sure to warm the heart and lift the spirits. Whether you're a long-time gospel music lover or simply seeking a memorable musical experience, this is a concert not to be missed. Bring your friends and family and share in a night of music, community, and uplifting spirituality with the Renewal Gospel Choir!

Tickets are £15 and on sale at Abbey Stores, Tintern and Hannah's Music, Chepstow. They will also sold on the door and online at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).



**The Christingle Service will be on Sunday December 21 at 10:30** where every child will be given an orange studded with candies – *a Christingle*

Each part of the Christingle has a specific meaning:

- Orange – Represents the *world*.
- Red ribbon (or tape) – Symbolizes the *blood of Christ* and God's love.
  - Cocktail sticks with sweets or dried fruit – Represent the *four seasons* or the *fruits of the earth and the blessings of creation*.
- Candle (inserted at the top) – Represents *Jesus as the Light of the World*.

**We are looking for singers to join an informal Christmas carolling group! We'll be singing in church, at care homes and in pubs to share the Christmas spirit.** You're also very welcome to join the lively Bible study group held in the church fortnightly.

**Prayers of intercession upon request.** Do you have a family member or friend recently deceased, with health problems or struggling with difficulties? Just email your message to us so that we can include a mention in Sunday prayers.

For more information email [tinternstmichaelschurch@gmail.com](mailto:tinternstmichaelschurch@gmail.com) or stop by the church for any of the Services or Bible Study and have a chat with us. We'd love to talk with you.

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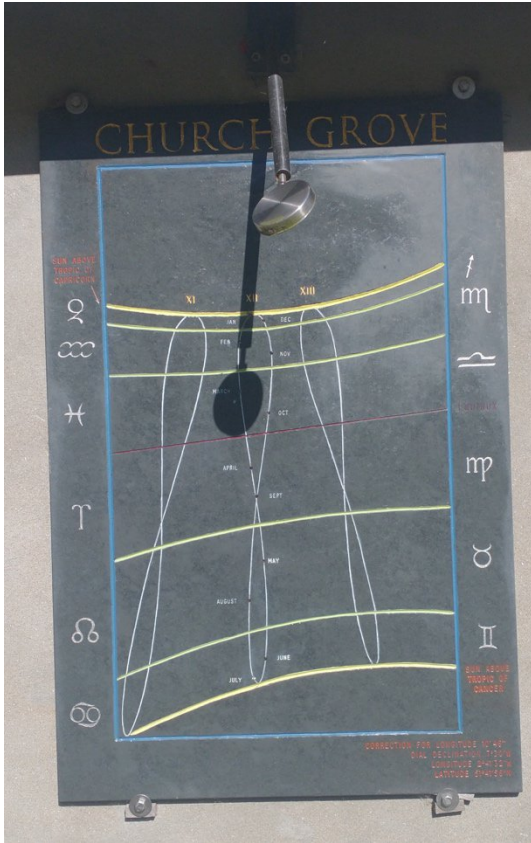
**01594 529893**

**07843 688229**



## Tintern Garden Club, by Judith Dudley

After some very cold & frosty days and nights, it was not surprising that the turnout for the November meeting of the Garden Club was small. However, those that braved the weather were treated to a fascinating talk about sundials by Alan Parker, one of our own members. Not only does Alan know an awful lot about sundials, but he also makes them. The lovely sundial on the Village Hall is one of his creations.



Sundials have been made since prehistoric times. Harold's stones at Trellech are an ancient form of sundial as are many stone circles. We were shown slides of lots of different styles of sundial from huge, complicated ones to simple ones above old church doors which showed the people when it was time to attend mass! The precision required when making sundials is very important as if one of the lines is slightly wrong, the sundial won't be accurate! We would all like to thank Alan for a very enlightening talk.

Our next meeting will be more light-hearted as it is our Christmas party which is to be held on **December 19** in the Village Hall at the earlier time of 6.30pm. We hope the weather will be kind and that all members will be able to come along bearing a plate of goodies and a drink to enjoy. There will be the usual quiz and raffle, and we hope a good time will be had by all.

As there is no January Tintern News, this is also a reminder that our AGM will be held in the Village Hall on **Friday 16 January** at 7.30pm. Please try to come along as although we do have business to attend to, we also try to have fun with drinks & nibbles provided.

## Parva Farm Vineyard, by Judith Dudley

November's weather has certainly not been helpful for farming activities! Very wet weather always makes it difficult when feeding animals out in the fields. Storm Claudia was worse than expected with huge amounts of rain falling in a short time. We are lucky being on a hill which obviously drains well but our sympathies go out to others who suffered in the worst floods for 70 years.

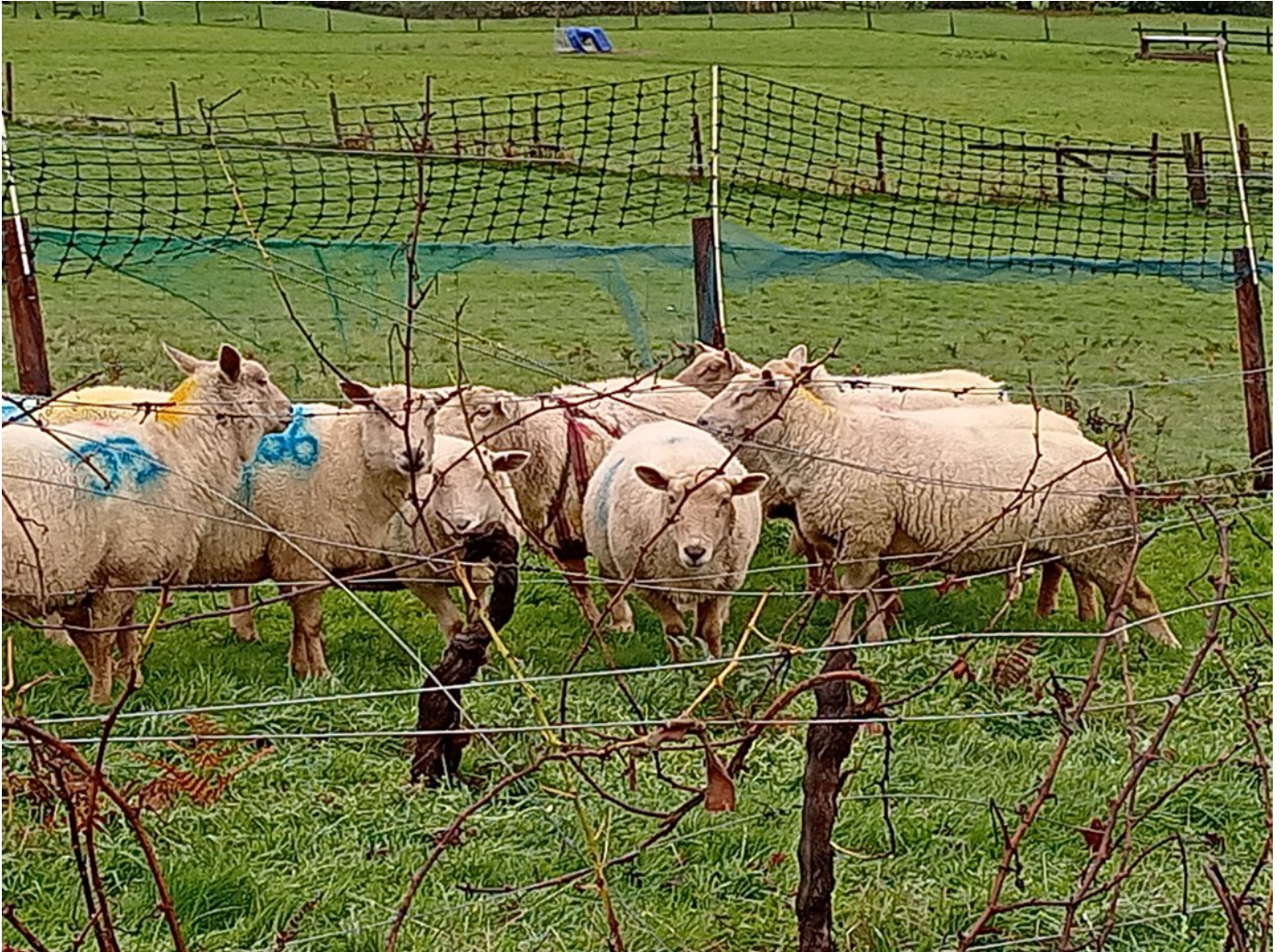
The cold snap was rather unexpected too and a number of my plants suffered from the frost. Hopefully they will recover but the damage was worse because the weather had been so mild and



the weather had been so mild and

the plants had no time to acclimatise to the cold. Enough of the weather but it is not surprising that we in Britain are always talking about it!

The grapevines are resting now but hopefully I will be able to start pruning them next month ready for new growth in the spring. We have put a few sheep in the vineyard as the grass in there had got rather long and needed a bit of a trim. Hopefully they will not knock over too many stakes.



We have had a sort out of the cattle too with the young bulls being banished to the top of the hill away from the cows and youngstock. From now on it is our job to make sure all the animals have plenty to eat, whatever the weather throws at them.

Fungi have also been prolific this year with lots of field mushrooms (which Colin loves) in September. Now many other varieties are popping up in the fields- some types I have never seen before and am having trouble identifying. We will not be eating these!!!

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PRESENTS

**2025  
TORCHLIT  
CAROL SERVICE  
at  
TINTERN ABBEY**

With the  
Choirs of Wydean School

and Guest Choir from St. Briavels Ukraine Hub

**Saturday 6 DECEMBER 2025**

**Assemble at The Anchor Inn,  
Tintern from 5.00 pm**

**Please bring clothing and footwear for outdoor event.**

**ON SALE at:**

**MILES MORGAN TRAVEL - CHEPSTOW**

**TINTERN ABBEY SHOP - TINTERN**

**ABBEY MILL - TINTERN**

**STEPWISE PODIATRY - CHEPSTOW**

**Procession commences 6.00 pm**

**IN AID OF ROTARY CHARITIES**

**Entry by Programme £8.00 each adult**

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*A very Merry Christmas from all of us at Kidzart*

KIDZART is a registered charity dedicated to providing FREE creative days for primary school children from under-resourced areas in Monmouthshire and neighbouring counties where their access to the creative arts is limited and to give them the chance to experience the potential offered by these subjects. Once imagination is sparked, free-thinking and problem-solving and confidence can follow. Working in small groups with our skilled staff and volunteers, the children also learn the value of kindness and generosity to each other.

We are based in the heart of the picturesque village Llandogo, on the banks of the River Wye in an area of outstanding natural beauty. Our art studio in the refurbished former Hephzibah Baptist Chapel, is full of charm and history, an environment flooded with natural light that is spacious and inviting, the perfect place where children can be curious and connect in a joyful and active way with visual arts projects and music. We can accommodate up to 15 children per visit, accompanied by one adult from the school.

- Our FREE bus will collect and return the children to their school
- Our experienced teachers guide the children through 2 visual arts projects during the morning, one of which will always be a clay-based project, and the afternoon will be dedicated to music and the performing arts.
- We provide breakfast on arrival, healthy snacks during the day and a well-balanced healthy lunch.

The children will also have access to our field and orchard (weather permitting).



Please check us out online at <https://kidzart.uk>

For information and bookings, please phone ValWelham on 01594 530214

Old Baptist Chapel Llandogo Monmouth NP25 4TW

## Tintern Abbey Cottage and Foxes Reach



**Tintern Abbey Cottage** is 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 ensuite), 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).

Enjoy private off-road parking for three cars with EV charger and a bike/Golf club store.  
Warmly heated and open all year for full weeks or short breaks.  
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 and its own hot tub, up the hill at Catbrook, approx. 2 miles from the Abbey. Credit cards are welcome and for full details see

[www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk](http://www.monmouthshirecottages.co.uk)

Facebook - Monmouthshire Cottages  
or telephone 01600 860341.

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**WINNER • 2025**

**YOUR MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER – Ann Webb**



A message from Ann -  
As we celebrate this festive season, I extend my warmest wishes to everyone in our community. May this be a time of togetherness, gratitude, and hope for the year to come.

**Photo is of Ann Webb checking out the new sandbag shed in the Wireworks Car Park, Tintern.**

It took almost two years in the approval process to have this shed installed full of sandbags for this shed for anyone who needs some for flood defence in Tintern.

As your elected Member

to St Arvans, Llandogo and Tintern which provides all local services, my wish is to represent your views and assist whenever possible. If I can be of assistance to you, please do contact me. email:

[annwebb@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:annwebb@monmouthshire.gov.uk), Office: The County Hall, Rhadyr, Usk NP15 1GA , Office Telephone: 01633 644219, Home Telephone: 01291 689559 or Mobile 078166 78948



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# WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting held on 29 September 2025

Present: Cllrs Ashman (Chair), Evans, Mawdsley, Shewell, Snell & Clerk: Jacob Richards-Powell

3974. Apologies for absence: Cllr Parker, Cllr Morrison

3975. Declarations of Interest: None

3976. Police Reports: The July Llandogo Report has been received and the information circulated to Councillors. Clerk has contacted Police for Tintern report but has not received any response.

3977. County Councillor Report: Not in attendance

3978. Public Participation: No members of public in attendance. Correspondence received from resident concerning an overgrown hedge. Clerk to signpost to MCC and the My Mon app.

3979. Approval of Minutes: Minutes accepted.

3980 To Receive a Clerk's Report & matters arising from last Meeting

Action points reviewed and updates provided.

3981 Planning Applications

DM/2025/01025 – Fryers Terrace, Fryers Row, Tintern – No objections or comments against the planning application.

3982 Financial Report - Financial report was circulated: BMM: £28,318.26, charitable £4,652.19

3983 Approval of Payments: -Merlin Environmental - £133.78, -Viking Direct - £417.54

-Clerk's Salary & Expenses - £636.00

-Salary adjustment previous Clerk - £63.78 (backdated pay award)

Payments authorised to be made. Payment sheet signed by signatories.

3984 Council Debit card: A debit card has been approved with an upper spend limit. Clerk to investigate minimum spend limits on HSBC.

3985 Councillor Reports & updates

Cllr Snell reported that the 'no smoking sign' has been removed from the gate at Llandogo play park. Cllr Mawdsley reported that a building of structural concern in Llandogo is being repaired, and the works have started. CAN – 6th September 65 & 69

buses will be provided for free. Events at the One Planet Wales venue. Water Testing event in Tintern. No update from Tracks & Trails. Cllr Shewell reported that more action needs to be taken against the unlawful caravan that is sited just off the main road in Tintern. The damage to the wall by Tintern Village Hall will be assessed.

3986 Other Reports

Churches – Extension to churchyard at Tintern Church. A programme of fundraising is due to start with lots of activities coming before Christmas. Breakfast club before Sunday services is being held. Food bank at Llandogo Church – information to be added to website.

School - Nothing to report as it is not term time.

Village Halls- Tintern Village Hall starting works on manhole replacement, car park will be closed whilst this work is carried out.

3987 Correspondence: A thank you email was sent to The Clerk on behalf of the grant for the churchyard at St. Oudoceus Llandogo. An email was received concerning a hedge, sender will be signposted to the 'My Mon' app.

3988 Items for next agenda (at Chair's discretion): No items brought forward.

3989 Date & time for next meeting: **29 September** at 5:30 at Tintern Hall – Finance Meeting and **September** at 7:00 at Tintern Hall ordinary meeting.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS IN TINTERN - CONTACT INFORMATION

Group	Contact	Contact Details
Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade	Alan Carter	07873 514255 clcgbtintern@mail.com
Friends of Tintern	Elspeth Reid	07780 566610 ellielynette@icloud.com
Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust (Fryers Wharf & St Mary's Church)	Vanessa Clarke	01291 680139 lwvbpt20232@gmail.com
St Michael's Prayers of Intercession	Rev Jan Pain	prayersatstmichaels@icloud.com
The Monday Group	Marion Derrett	01600 860134 marionderrett@gmail.com
Tintern Abbey Football Club	Martin Woodford	01594 531346 or 07825 832751 mwoodford999@aol.com
Tintern Angling Club	Phil Hill	07747626928
Tintern Cricket Club	Sam Hayward	01291 689339 07986028031 swghayward79@hotmail.com
Tintern Garden Club	Dave Tuffery	01291 689919 dave.tuffery@talk21.com
Tintern Festivals Association (including Tintern Fete)	Julie Ward John Clarke	07951672681 julie@wardcreative.co.uk jjclar7@aol.com
Tintern Wine Tasting	Alan Hillard	alan.hillard@gmail.com
Village Hall Committee	Noelyn Allen	07512856024 BookingsTinternVH@hotmail.com
Wye Valley Community Council	Jacob Richards-Powell	clerk@wyevalleycc.co.uk
Wye Valley Greenway	Jeremy Cowen	wyevalleygreenway@yahoo.com



### Benefit concert for Monmouth flood victims

Sunday 14 December, 2025 3:00 pm

At St Mary the Virgin Church, St Briavels, GL15 6QE

Pianist Daniel Tong and musicians from Wye Valley Chamber Music will perform a programme of popular chamber music.

All funds raised donated to the Monmouth Relief Effort.

Organised by Wye Valley Music and Wye Valley Chamber Music.

Tickets £20. <https://www.wyevalleyfestival.com/events/charity-concert-for-monmouth-floods/>

Donations welcome on the day.

We will be donating funds raised to the Just Giving Mayoral Flood Relief Fund. If you can't make the concert or would like to donate direct, the link is here:

[Monmouth Mayoral Flood Relief Fund - Just Giving](#)

**69 Monmouth | Tintern | Chepstow**

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

**Monday to Friday except Bank Holiday Mondays**

	Hol	Sch							Sch	Hol			
<b>Monmouth</b> Bus Station	0740	0740	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1517	1625	1720	1835
<b>Monmouth</b> Comprehensive School	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1517	---	---	---	---
<b>Wyesham</b> St James Church	0750	0750	0919	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1526	1526	1634	1729	1844
<b>Redbrook</b> Newland Road	0755	0755	0924	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	1531	1531	1639	1734	1849
<b>Llandogo</b> Hudnalls View	0804	0804	0933	1033	1133	1233	1333	1433	1540	1540	1648	1743	1858
<b>Tintern</b> The Wild Hare	0812	0812	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341	1441	1548	1548	1656	1751	1906
<b>St Arvans</b> The Peacefield	0819	0819	0948	1048	1148	1248	1348	1448	1555	1555	1703	1758	1913
<b>Chepstow Comprehensive School</b>	---	0825	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
<b>Chepstow Community Hospital</b> Main Road	0823	---	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1559	1559	1707	1802	1917
<b>Chepstow</b> Bus Station	0828	0829	0956	1056	1156	1256	1356	1456	1604	1604	1711	1806	1921

Sch Operates on schooldays only

Hol Operates school holidays only

**Saturdays**

<b>Monmouth</b> Bus Station	0710	0910	1110	1310	1510	1710
<b>Wyesham</b> St James Church	0719	0919	1119	1319	1519	1719
<b>Redbrook</b> Newland Road	0724	0924	1124	1324	1524	1724
<b>Llandogo</b> Hudnalls View	0733	0933	1133	1333	1533	1733
<b>Tintern</b> The Wild Hare	0741	0941	1141	1341	1541	1741
<b>St Arvans</b> The Peacefield	0748	0948	1148	1348	1548	1748
<b>Chepstow Community Hospital</b> Main Road	0752	0952	1152	1352	1552	1752
<b>Chepstow</b> Bus Station	0756	0956	1156	1356	1556	1756

**Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays**

<b>Monmouth</b> Bus Station	1006	1206	1506	1710
<b>Wyesham</b> St James Church	1015	1215	1515	1719
<b>Redbrook</b> Newland Road	1020	1220	1520	1724
<b>Llandogo</b> Hudnalls View	1029	1229	1529	1733
<b>Tintern</b> The Wild Hare	1037	1237	1537	1741
<b>St Arvans</b> The Peacefield	1044	1244	1544	1748
<b>Chepstow Community Hospital</b> Main Road	1048	1248	1548	1752
<b>Chepstow</b> Bus Station	1052	1252	1552	1756

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

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<b>Chepstow</b> Bus Station	0828	0829	0956	1056	1156	1256	1356	1456	1604	1604	1711	1806	1921

Sch Operates on schooldays only

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<b>Monmouth</b> Bus Station	0710	0910	1110	1310	1510	1710
<b>Wyesham</b> St James Church	0719	0919	1119	1319	1519	1719
<b>Redbrook</b> Newland Road	0724	0924	1124	1324	1524	1724
<b>Llandogo</b> Hudnalls View	0733	0933	1133	1333	1533	1733
<b>Tintern</b> The Wild Hare	0741	0941	1141	1341	1541	1741
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<b>Chepstow Community Hospital</b> Main Road	1048	1248	1548	1752
<b>Chepstow</b> Bus Station	1052	1252	1552	1756

TINTERN FILM NIGHT

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# FOUR LETTERS *of* LOVE

THE GREATEST MIRACLE IS LOVE

**Friday 12th December**  
**7.30pm Tintern Village Hall**

Nicholas and Isabel are made for each other, but as destiny pulls them together, family, passion and faith drives them apart. As they embark on journeys of heartache and misplaced love, fate soon contrives to pull the threads of their lives together.

For more information please see [www.tinternvillage.co.uk](http://www.tinternvillage.co.uk)