



Tintern Trot 2025, Photo by David Hurn

TINTERN NEWS

February 2026

Produced by Friends of Tintern



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Looking Ahead at Wye Valley Wellness


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Sunday 15th March
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24th – 26th April

Limited Spaces



A rejuvenating weekend in nature.

We can't wait to share these moments with you...

Gently, intentionally & together 

Winter's snowdrops are followed by our cheery Tintern spring daffodils

Keep an eye out for hedgehogs emerging and you find one injured or needing care, contact the Tintern Volunteer First Response Unit on 01600 605125. And share any photos with us for the next Tintern News.

There will be a quirky and upbeat film at the Village Hall on **Friday 13 February** and this supports the Tintern News along with wonderful advertisers and a grant from the Wye Valley Community Council.

The Tintern Local Produce Market is on **Saturday 14 February**, where you can pick up some **Valentine's Day** treats for your loved ones. And then that evening the Tintern Fete Committee is hosting a **Valentine's Day Quiz**, so ask your sweetheart to join your team!

Tickets to a one-woman show at the Catbrook Village Hall on **Saturday 7 February** about the pioneering, working-class Victorian fossil hunter *Mary Anning – the Fossil Lyme* can be booked for £12 by emailing tickets.catbrook@gmail.com.



The snowdrops are amazing at the Wye Valley Sculpture Garden, which is open with 20 artists work and snowdrops on sale, on **Sunday 1 February and Thursday 5th February through Sunday 8 February**.

Try a different sort of service of quiet and reflection on Mondays before Lent, a *Compline – A Contemplative Service* at St Michael's Church on **23 February** at 6:30 pm.

Then come celebrate St David's Day at St Michael's Church on **Saturday 28 February** at 7:30 where the rousing Chepstow Male Voice Choir will welcome spring and remind us of our Welsh heritage with song, poetry, beverages and cawl. Tickets £12 on the door at Abbey Stores or Hannah's Music or [Eventbrite](#).

Monmouthshire County Council has launched its public consultation on its 2026–27 Draft Budget and Priorities. From Thursday, 22 January until 5pm on **Wednesday, 18 February**, residents are invited to have their say on how the Council will allocate its resources for the 2026-27 financial year. More information on the budget and how to make your valuable input can be found at <https://www.tinternvillage.co.uk/public.../countycouncil/>

Looking ahead, the next Tintern Talk is on **Friday 6th March** - A Conversation with Kate Humble in benefit of the St Mary's Chapel Appeal.

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 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).



Thoughts and articles from everyone in our community will continue to be very welcome.

Claire Jardine Fitness

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MuscleFit - Tuesday 6pm
Fitness Pilates - Tuesday 7pm at
St Arvans Village Hall

Fitness Pilates - Thursday 9:00am at
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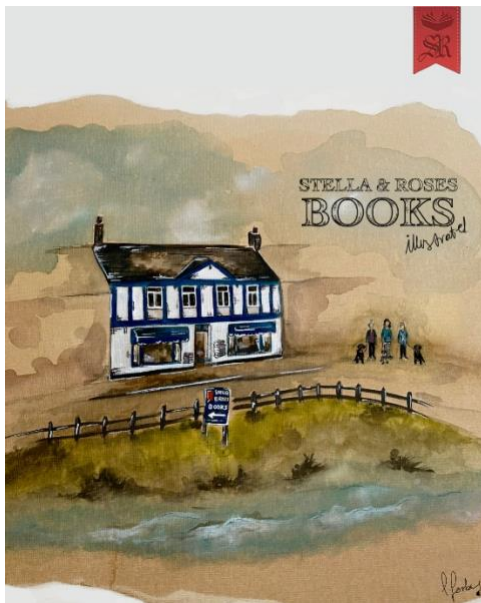
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The story of how Stella & Rose's Books became a Tintern gem



Stella Books is a Tintern family story, rooted in their love of books. Chris and Cliff were enthusiastic collectors, especially of out-of-print titles, and began selling a few books simply to fund their growing passion...

Both of their daughters, Sonia and Maria, have hearing impairments, with Sonia's being more profound. To create a way of working that suited the whole family, the idea of a mail-order book business was born. **In 1991**, Maria agreed to give it a try, and **Stella Books came into being**. A spare room in the family home became an office, where Maria carefully entered details of every book to produce catalogues that were sent out to customers. She handled correspondence by email, while Chris and Cliff returned phone calls in the evenings after finishing their day jobs. It was a **true family effort**.

In the autumn of 1992, a shop came up for sale in Tintern. Taking a leap of faith, the family bought it. One small room became the bookshop, while the rest of the building remained residential. Shelves and stock were moved in, along with Maria, and for the first time customers could visit in person. In those days, most booksellers relied on card indexes, and few kept computerised stock records. Chris still recalls a **particularly grumpy bookseller** who scoffed at the computer, saying, **"Whatever are you doing playing with computers all day? You should be selling books!"** Yet this early embrace of technology meant that when the internet became publicly available in the late 1990s, and with Sonia computerising accounts, Stella Books was ready. **Overnight**, their entire catalogue of around 30,000 books was uploaded online - something many booksellers struggled with for years afterwards.

As the business grew, Stella Books expanded into more rooms and began employing part-time staff to help at weekends. The family purchased **Rose's Books in Hay-on-Wye in 1995** and Maria moved there to manage the shop.

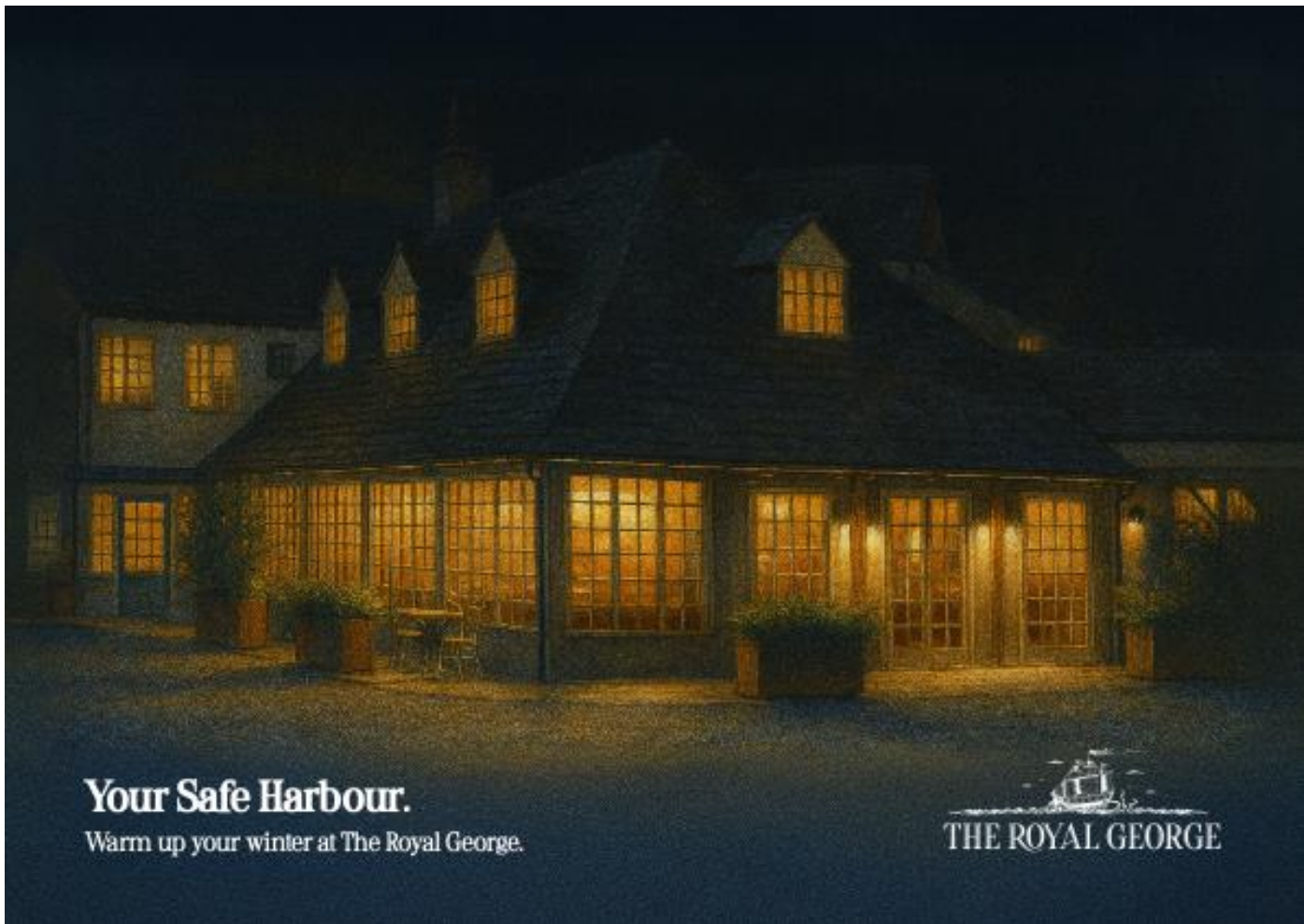


Chris, and later Cliff, gave up their other jobs to focus full-time on running the Tintern shop. Cliff sadly passed away in 2017, and 2018 Rose's Books in Hay-on-Wye was closed, with all the stock returning to Tintern, where the shop was renamed Stella and Rose's Books, managed by Sonia and Maria.

It has never been easy, battling floods, increasing cost and regulations and long hours, but they feel there are moments that make it all worthwhile when a

customer is overjoyed to find the perfect book.

Chris, Maria and Sonia have recorded their story in three parts on their [Facebook page](#) and have headed up a campaign asking people to **SHOP LOCAL** if they want small businesses like theirs in Tintern to survive. **#UseUsOrLoseUs**



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The Prickly Patch wild hedgehog rehabilitation centre, by Dylan Allman



For those of you eagerly awaiting an update on The Prickly Patch wild hedgehog rehabilitation centre, we are pleased to say that following some unavoidable delays in cabin build, the centre is now in the process of being kitted out ready to receive our first in-patient in the next 6-8 weeks.

We begin training of our new volunteers shortly and are so grateful for the offers of support we have received. Our Amazon wish list will be published shortly, so if you did want to help by purchasing day-to-day supplies, that's a good place to start!

We also have a limited number of hedgehog hutches available to sponsor once we're open, so please check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MonmouthHedgehogFRU> for more details.

In the meantime, the Volunteer First Response Unit for the area continues to operate so if you do find a hedgehog out in the day and/or injured and in need of urgent care, please call us on 01600 605125 or depending on where you are, your nearest rescue centre.

Thank you once again for all your interest and support!

Trustees of The Prickly Patch
(picture below left to right Joe,
Emily, Lorraine, and Dylan)





St David's Day Celebration Concert

**with Chepstow Male Voice Choir and
readings from poetry by Dylan Thomas**

**7.30pm Saturday 28th February
at St Michael's Church, Tintern**

**Tickets £12.00. Available from Abbey Stores,
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from www.eventbrite.co.uk**



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Chapel Hill United Charities - Over Sixties Seasonal Luncheon



This year's Over Sixties Seasonal Luncheon was held once again at the Anchor on Monday 5th January and 43 Tintern 'over sixties' residents enjoyed a glass of Prosecco followed by a Turkey dinner, a fruit crumble served with ice cream and a cup of coffee or tea to finish the meal. The festive decorations gave the room a warm and welcoming feel and guests sat around tables of varying sizes chatting and connecting with neighbours and friends over lunch.



The raffle (a Hamper filled with food & drink treats and kindly donated by Friends of Tintern and Trustees of the charity) was won by Dorothy and Dave Andrews.



County Councillor Ann Webb welcomed guests and led the toast to the benefactors of the charity Chapel Hill United Charities, which was established in 1634 by Frances Bradford, Samuel Pritchard, Philip and Thomas Hackett all Tintern residents at that time. It was through their benevolence that everyone was able to enjoy the luncheon 4 centuries on at the start of 2026.

Women's Institute, by Gilly Flashman



Happy 2026! We are a friendly, adventurous bunch and I can vouch for the warm welcome you'll receive as a newcomer. You might like a flavour of what we've been up to and some exciting talks and events coming up. We started off the year with our post-Christmas Dinner. The Fountain was our venue for a lovely evening of food, laughter and catch ups!

Other events coming up in our programme :

On **11 February Delights of Nepal and its Culture** is our theme. Lead by one of our members.

Then on **11 March Medical Mysteries**, we have a speaker Sharon Griffith who will be talking about the history of medicine. I'm sure we're in for some scary and mind-blowing facts!

The new programme for 2026/7 will be released at the March meeting. Our members come from a wide area, please do join us, you can try us out for £5 a visit with refreshments included. We are a friendly group catering for a wide range of interests and activities from supporting the local community and businesses, to engaging with ecological and environmental causes. You can see some of our past visits and talks on our Facebook page (Google Llandogo WI, other search engines are available).



Why not make 2026 the year you try something new? You'll find a warm welcome. 7.30pm every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Llandogo Village Hall. You can contact us via the QR code below, our facebook page or by phoning Sue on 07881 951137. Hope to hear from you soon!

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St Michael's Church – A focus for life in Tintern, by Nick Lewis

St Michael's Church is a focal point for life in Tintern. Each year brings renewal and joy from the many baptisms and weddings held at the Church. The cycle of life also brings funerals. Thankfully the people of Tintern, of all faiths and non, have for centuries been able to rely on the burial of their loved ones in the consecrated ground of the village Churchyards.

St Michael's has been responsible for looking after St Mary's Churchyard since the closure of the Church in 1972. Since that time all the requests from the Tintern community for burial and internment in both Churchyards have been met. St Michael's Churchyard, alongside the River Wye, contains over 370 graves going back hundreds of years, unfortunately few vacant plots remain available.



The tranquility of the Churchyard and original burial ground is well illustrated in this photograph of St Michael's. We believe that the community in Tintern wish to retain the opportunity of having a burial or cremation plot in the village. Therefore, we have embarked upon a major project to develop an extension to the burial ground. I wrote about this in the Tintern Newsletter in July 2025. Preliminary design work and surveys have been completed, and a proposal has gone to the Monmouthshire Planning Authority. The surveys include a Flood Consequence Assessment and an Archaeological Survey. Once we have planning consent, we will develop a

detailed layout to share with the local community.

St Michael's Church has raised funds each year to pay for the upkeep of both Churchyards. Volunteers have made a significant contribution. The work has included tree pollarding, wall repair and general ground maintenance. From our Church funds we will be able to purchase the land and undertake the necessary preliminary design work on the new burial ground. However, this is only the start of the story.

Once we have purchased the land, gained planning consent and developed a layout we will need to seek grants and raise funds from the community to create the new burial ground. We envisage a tranquil environment for families of the interned, friends and visitors, with improved access routes, easily maintained paths, a variety of trees and hedging in keeping with the environment, wildlife areas, an improved riverside pathway and a shelter. We would also like to install a steel memorial tree structure as a focal point with engraved memorial ceramic leaves to commemorate loved ones.

In my next update I hope to be able to share details of the layout and invite people to donate to the development fund and perhaps sponsor certain features. This is where we will need your help.

The Tintern Christmas lights, by Liz Klinker

Thanks to all of you who funded the Christmas lights! Including Abbey Stores, Code International, Friends of Tintern, O'Brien and Price, Royal George Hotel, Tintern Garage, Tintern Village Hall and the Wye Valley Hotel. Also, 15 individual donations from Tintern residents made up the remainder.

I have collected for last 3 years and if anyone would like to take over, I would be happy to liaise with the contact I have. If we would like more lights we need to put up more connections, not all lampposts have the connections. We would need to put that into action well before November and it would cost. (This year we paid £1200, with more connections I think it would be about £1500).



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Wye Valley Crafts at Abbey Mill

We are very excited that our shop will reopen on Wednesday 11 February after our winter break.

Sadly, we lost 3 members at the end of last year, but they will hopefully be coming back as guests in the future.

Happily, we have 4 new members and one returning after a year off to keep the shop full and interesting. These crafts include chopping boards, basket weaving, mosaics, stained glass, 3-D printing and spinning, dyeing and weaving.

Please come to see the new members and of course all your old favourites. Everything is locally made and such good quality and value. www.wyevallycrafts.co.uk

Wye Valley Crafts Association



TINTERN FETE COMMITTEE PRESENTS

VALENTINE'S DAY

Quiz

FEBRUARY 14TH

An evening for those who love to use their brains!

TABLES: £18 | DOORS: 7:00^{PM} | START: 7:30^{PM}

To register your team, email:
TinternVillageEvents@gmail.com

Maximum of 6 people per table. Raffle tickets just £1 each. A range of refreshments will be available for purchase on the evening.

Winners take home a cash prize + the Championship Cup!

All proceeds go towards fundraising for the Tintern Village Fete.

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Wednesdays

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Friends of the River Wye Update, by Nick Day

Citizen scientists in the catchment of the River Wye have now taken over 50,000 water samples in an extraordinary show of people power to monitor the health of an ailing river. Over 500 volunteers have contributed to this effort since 2020 to test the water quality of the River Wye and its surrounding rivers and streams. This project monitors far more locations, more regularly, than the government agencies, providing a more granular view of the health of the Wye catchment.



Nutrient pollution is a significant concern because it contributes to the risk of eutrophication, which in some years has brought about extreme algal blooms. In 2025, 28% of samples were 'poor' or 'very poor' quality for phosphate, whilst 50% had 'very high' levels of nitrate.

The proportion of samples rated 'poor' or 'very poor' quality for phosphate decreased by 7% since 2022 (when this proportion was 35%). This may partly reflect changes made within the farming community as a result of growing awareness about the problem of excessive phosphorus in the catchment. The largest poultry producer, Avara Foods, has said it is exporting the majority of its chicken manure out of the Wye catchment, though campaigners have asked for transparency about exactly where this manure is going.

It is difficult to draw conclusions about long-term trends in the data without further analysis because weather conditions vary, causing fluctuations in results. As our database grows to cover more years, we are getting to see how the nutrient levels respond to differing weather.

Whilst phosphate levels have fallen, the proportion of samples rated 'very high' for levels of nitrate has increased by 7.7% in the same period since 2022 (when this proportion was 41.9%)

Citizen scientists are also concerned by increases in turbidity. Turbidity measures the cloudiness of the water and the rise in turbidity indicates that more material is entering the water, often in the form of soil run-off. Sediment entering rivers can smother fish spawning grounds and is also a conduit for nutrient and chemical pollution. The proportion of samples reporting high levels of turbidity increased by over a third from 2022 to 2025 (from 3.5% of samples to 4.7% of samples). Here in Tintern, we're used to seeing a coffee-coloured river, but measurements show that things are getting worse.

The groups collecting this data want to see more action from government agencies to clean up the areas of concern and prevent ongoing pollution.

With agricultural pollution the primary threat, the groups are concerned by low levels of compliance with environmental regulations and the lack of enforcement action against polluters. Only 41% of Welsh farms are compliant with environmental regulations.

In England, the Environment Agency carried out 183 farm inspections in the Wye during 2024/25, of which 78 received "enforcement responses" - all of which were either warning letters or site warnings. There were no penalties given out for breaches of environmental regulations.

Anglers with the Wye Salmon Association took the first citizen science tests in the Wye catchment, inspiring a wider movement to develop. Friends of the River Wye and CPRE Herefordshire have armies of trained volunteers contributing to the project. All data collected by the different groups is available to view on an innovative data platform called [WyeViz](#), created by a volunteer and trustee of Friends of the River Wye. This data covers four calendar years and has been viewed over 100,000 times.

St Michael's Church, Tintern Parva

Please join us in St Michael's Church for 'Compline' - a short (20 minutes), contemplative service - at **6.30pm on the four Monday evenings during Lent (23 February and on 2, 9, and 16 March)**. The ancient office of 'Compline' derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (completorium) and dates back to at least the 6th Century. It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day.

St Michael's, Tintern February Services



Sunday 1st, 10.30am - Holy Communion

Tuesday 3rd, 7.30pm - Bible study group

Sunday 8th, 10.30am - Holy Communion

Sunday 15th, 10.30am - Brigade Breakfast
service

Tuesday 17th, 7.30pm - Bible study group

Sunday 22nd, 10.30am - Holy Communion



All very welcome!

Local priest: Rev Jan Pain 01291 624017.

Dean and Rector: Rev Tim Dack timothydack@cinw.org.uk

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

Email prayer requests to include in Sunday prayers to prayersatstmichaels@icloud.com

The night before St David's Day, on **28 February at 7:30 pm**, come to Michael's church for a St. David's Day celebration with the popular Chepstow Male Voice Choir. It promises to be packed with Welsh goodies, from stirring Welsh melodies, sublime poetry, beverages and cawl (traditional Welsh soup).

The Chepstow Male Voice Choir's songs will be interspersed with readings of poetry by Dylan Thomas, Wales' most renowned bard. Born of a Welsh nonconformist heritage, the often-interwoven themes of his poems are perpetually concerned with God, life, death, childhood and an enchanted nature both destructive and constructive.

Tickets for £12 are on sale on the door or advance at the Abbey Stores in Tintern, at Hannah's Music in Chepstow, online at www.eventbrite.co.uk.

A footnote: There are TWO!

St. David (500-c.589) was a Welsh bishop of Mynyw (now St. David's). According to legend, David performed several miracles during his lifetime including restoring

Paulinus' sight. It is also said that during a battle against the Saxons, David advised his soldiers to wear leeks in their hats so that they could easily be distinguished from their enemies, which is why the leek has become one of the emblems of Wales. A vegetarian, eating only bread, herbs and vegetables, and drinking water, he became known as Dewi Ddyfrwr (the water drinker). After his death at 100, his influence spread far and wide, first through Britain and then by sea to Cornwall and Brittany. In 1120, Pope Callactus II canonised David as a Saint.

But also, there is St David Lewis! David Lewis (1616–1679) was a Welsh Jesuit priest and martyr, born in Abergavenny to a Protestant father and Catholic mother. Known as the "Father of the Poor", he served clandestine Catholic communities in South Wales for over 30 years before being executed at Usk on August 27, 1679 and canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1970.

Remembering Endel Tonissoo, by Peter, his son.



Last February we said goodbye to Endel Tonissoo who died aged 97. Endel, or Tony, as many of our parishioners would have known him, had lived in Tintern since 1970. His wife Audrey, my mother, is, like Tony, buried in St Michael's Church cemetery beside the River Wye.

Born in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, Tony's recollections of life before and after Estonia entered the Second World War were chilling. Following the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 Estonia found itself living under another oppressor, Nazi Germany, and in 1944, when he was just 17, Tony was drafted into the Estonian army and assigned to an anti-aircraft battery on the eastern front. His unit, after many months of retreating westwards in the face of the Soviet advance across Poland and Germany, eventually surrendered to the Americans. He then spent the rest of the war as a prisoner of war before being transferred to a camp for displaced persons. He was lucky not to be forced to return to

the Soviet Union (where he would almost certainly have faced serving many years in a labour camp, if not worse) but was instead offered the chance to settle in Britain or Canada as a mine worker or agricultural labourer. He chose Britain for the simple reason that it was closer to home and that it would be easier to return to Tallinn after the war that he and his comrades expected to break out between the Americans and the Russians. In the end that never happened, and Tony never did return home. He never saw his parents again. He was not reunited with his brother until 1991 following the collapse of the Soviet Union and Estonia regaining its independence.

Tony came to this country in 1947 and settled in Chepstow. Not long afterwards he was found to have tuberculosis. This was before the antibiotics to treat TB had been developed and he spent two years in a sanatorium fighting the disease and eventually overcoming it whilst many others on the ward succumbed. He used his time in hospital to pore over an English dictionary, acquiring an extensive vocabulary, although he never lost his Estonian accent.

He met Audrey at a whist drive and they married in 1952, moving into Audrey's home in Chepstow, but in 1970 they moved to Trellech Road in Tintern. Little Witchwood would become Tony's home for the next 53 years.

It was his pride and joy and he would spend every free moment turning the wilderness that came with the house into a delightful garden. He laid pathways, he built steps, a fishpond and a fountain, and with little more than a crowbar he levered huge stones into position to form retaining walls. He loved nature. Come autumn, winter, spring or summer, there was little he enjoyed more than taking his cup of tea up to the summerhouse from where he would lovingly survey his creation.

Following Audrey's death in 1993 Dad married Betty with whom he enjoyed many happy years until she passed away in 2015. Through his marriage to Betty Dad also acquired a stepson, Steve, with whom he forged a close and durable bond.

Tony remained fit and healthy well into old age and lived long enough to see his granddaughters Natacha and Monica married and to meet two of his great grandsons.

Tony will be long remembered by his family and friends.

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Join the Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust for £10 to receive special rates and offers
All proceeds to St Mary's Chapel Hill Conservation Fund. Email info@lwvbpt.org for more details

Tintern Garden Club, by Judith Dudley



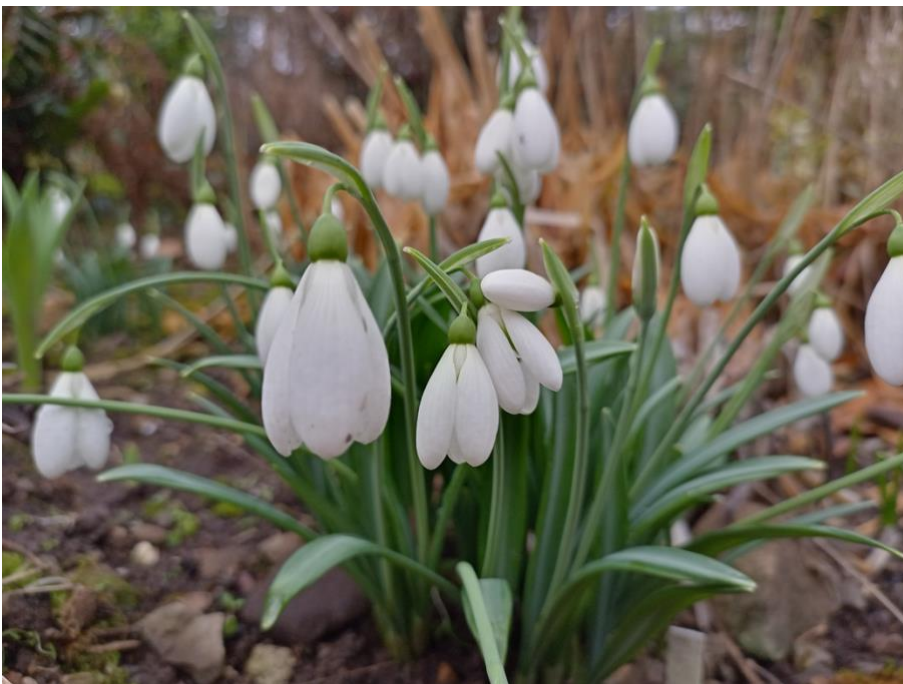
The January meeting of the Garden Club was the AGM. This was held in the Village Hall on Friday 16 January at 7.30pm. There were 11 attendees and they were treated to drinks and nibbles to help the meeting along!

The minutes of last year's meeting were read & approved, after which Dave Tuffery, the Chairman, gave his report. Dave thanked all the officers for their support during the year and said that we had had an interesting year with varied speakers and garden visits. He thanked Colin & Judith Dudley for hosting the Garden Party at Parva Farm in June.

Bernard Bradshaw, treasurer, then talked about the finances. He said he was a lot happier this year as we had made a small surplus which came about with the increase in subs., money raised on the plant stall at the Village Fete and holding a raffle at our monthly meetings. These things had covered the increase in speakers and judges fees.

The report of the Village Produce Show was given by Lindsay Cobb who said that despite the summer drought, entries in the show had increased and were of good quality. Plenty of visitors attended the show which seemed to be enjoyed by all.

Next came the election of officers. These will remain as last year with Dave Tuffery as chairman, Colin Dudley as vice chairman, Bernard Bradshaw as treasurer, Lindsay Cobb as Show secretary, Liz Greatorex-Davies, social secretary and Judith Dudley, press & minutes secretary.



Liz had sent round a copy of the forthcoming meetings but asked for help to find gardens for us to visit. Dave Tuffery will host the Garden Party this year.

During any other business there was a discussion about the meeting day. At present it is the third Friday every month, but it was decided that in 2027 we would change that to the third Tuesday as some members find that Friday is often a difficult day to attend. The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

New members are always welcome at the Garden Club. We meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the third Friday each month. The talk at February's meeting will be about Gladioli. For more details please phone Liz on 01291 689861 or Dave on 012910689919.

Parva Farm Vineyard, by Judith Dudley



The main news is that the Vineyard shop is now closed for the winter months and will re-open at Easter.

This gives us time to complete the winter pruning of the vines and hopefully replace any rotten supporting stakes (weather permitting!). Colin also has some major fencing work to do as well as cutting up the two big oak trees which have fallen into our fields from the wood at the top of the hill. Of course, one of the most important things we have to do during winter is to make sure that the sheep and cattle have a constant supply of hay as the grass is not growing at the moment. So, plenty to keep us busy!

REGULAR EVENTS 2026 TINTERN VILLAGE HALL

MON	CLCG BRIGADE YOUTH GROUP	6.30PM
TUE	CLASSIC CORE PILATES	9.30AM
WED	YOGA ZUMBA	6PM 7.30PM
THU	EVOLUTION FITNESS PILATES	7PM
FRI	ZUMBA FILM NIGHT 2ND FRIDAY EACH MONTH GARDEN CLUB 3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH	9.15AM 7.30PM 7.30PM
SAT	PRODUCE MARKET 2ND SATURDAY EACH MONTH	10AM-2PM

FOR MORE INFO FOLLOW
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TINTERNVILLAGEHALL](https://www.facebook.com/tinternvillagehall)



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 Val Welham on 01594 530214
Old Baptist Chapel Llandogo Monmouth NP25 4TW

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Tintern Abbey Cottage and Foxes Reach



Tintern Abbey Cottage is 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 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

Facebook - Monmouthshire Cottages
or telephone 01600 860341.

the
Green Parent

**FAMILY
TRAVEL
AWARDS**

WINNER • 2025

YOUR MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER – Ann Webb



A message from Ann - I have been trying for a long time to get the lighting back on the Abbey. It's been a long journey working with The Custodian at the Abbey (Pascal Bidois), a Monmouthshire County Councils lighting engineer, Cadw and the National Grid. Well, the lights are now working and it's such a welcome home when you come along the A466 into the village, I think.

Also, I applied for a small amount of Welsh Office Funding for road sign cleaning. All the road signs have been cleaned as I hope you have noticed. It makes such a difference. Lots else going on too, I love this place!!

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, Office: The County Hall, Rhadyr, Usk NP15 1GA, Office Telephone: 01633 644219, Home Telephone: 01291 689559 or Mobile 078166 78948

WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL note: new website www.wyevalley-cc.gov.uk

Minutes of meeting held on 15 November 2025

Attendance Stephen Evans, Angus Ashman, Lynne Parker, Stephanie Shewell, Ian Mawdsley Ann Webb

4029. Apologies for absence Jamie Morrison, Carla Snell

4030. Declarations of Interest None

4031. Police Reports Noted received Llandogo report

4032. County Councillor Report -Ongoing issues with Abbey lights – broken cable has been identified and is being repaired Praise for Tintern's Christmas tree

4033. Public Participation No members present

4034. Approve the Minutes from October and September meetings Minutes approved for September and October meetings

4035. Clerk's Report & matters arising from last Meeting Site visit with contractor to Tintern Wharf Payroll service has now been setup Clerk to arrange Flood Officer to attend from MCC

4036. Financial Report MCC has asked how the community Council wishes to receive its annual precept – 1x whole payment per year or 3x payments throughout the year. Clerk to report to MCC that WVCC would be happy to receive one annual payment.

4037. Approval is sought for the following payments

Christmas Tree Bluebell Farm - £160

Clerk's salary - Merlin £113.78 (November)

Merlin £113.78 (December)

4038. Internal Audit Effectiveness Review Agreed that there were no issues within the report – the internal audit

4039. External audit report response Item to be discussed at January 2026 meeting

4040. Car park terms of use at Fryer's Wharf Clerk and Councillor to visit car park to ensure boundaries are not being encroached upon. Signs to be ordered for the car park that says that the car park is

owned by WVCC and to waive any responsibility for people who park there. Clerk to draft road-signs and quotations

4041. Quotation for remarking Wharf Car Parking bays Proposed by Lynne Parker and seconded by Stephen Evans to accept Roman Roadmarking's quotation of £250 + VAT for a disabled parking space at Tintern Wharf car park

4042. finance committee budget review for 2026-2027 Date booked for Monday 19th January 2026 to review and agree budget for the financial year 2026-2027 and to review monthly ordinary meeting dates from March 2026

4043. Planning applications:

DM/2025/00495 – Proposed change of use and temporary drink / food stand Whitestone Llandogo Comments: WVCC objects to the application on the grounds that increased traffic will be a danger on the narrow roads and will create more fumes and reduce air quality in an area dedicated to natural preservation

DM/2025/01365 – Alterations to existing dwelling Wyemeadow View Llandogo Comments: No comments

DM/2025/01383 – Conversion of house into two dwellings – Stream Cottage Tintern Comments: No objections

DM/2025/01391 – information only – Harvesting track Cuckoo Wood, Llandogo for treatment of infected Larch trees Noted

4044. Grant applications received:

- Tintern Village Hall - Proposed by Cllr Shewell, seconded by Cllr Ashman

- Tintern Village Fete – More information required prior to the January meeting. Clerk to contact

- Lads & Girls Brigade – proposed by Cllr Shewell and seconded by Cllr Mawdsley

4045. Councillor Reports & update

Cllr Mawdsley: Tracks and Trails reports received

Cllr Shewell: Raised the matter of the rent agreement between WVCC and The Filling Station Café, the wall outside Tintern Village Hall still requires repair. The road markings by Tintern Village Green needs to re-applied and clarified to show that it is a 'no parking' area. –

Cllr Stephens: had a request for the damaged wall at Tintern Village Hall to be partially removed to widen the junction

Cllr Parker: Replacement keys have been produced; Cllr Parker has one. Lock to be removed from the 'public' side of the notice board to allow access. Flood relief work in Llandogo is ongoing and due to be complete in January.

Cllr Ashman: The white lines on the main road as you pass by the shop is causing issues with people knowing where to position their vehicles on the road.

4046. Other Reports

-Churches

-School

-Village Halls – Llandogo hosted a murder mystery night which was well attended.

4047. Correspondence:

4048. Items for next agenda (at Chair's discretion)

Licence agreement with Filling Station Café

To add Llandogo Village Hall accounts to January agenda.

4049. Date & time for next 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	Elsbeth 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 Church 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



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.

See www.newportbus.co.uk for current updates

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

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

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays

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

69 Chepstow | Tintern | Monmouth

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

Monday to Friday except Bank Holiday Mondays

	Hol	Sch								Sch	Hol			
Chepstow Bus Station	0735	0735	0906	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406	1516	1527	1615	1730		
Chepstow Comprehensive School	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1525	---	---	---	---	---
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0740	0740	0910	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	---	1531	1620	1735		
St Arvans The Peacefield	0744	0744	0914	1014	1114	1214	1314	1414	1533	1533	1623	1739		
Tintern The Wild Hare	0752	0752	0922	1022	1122	1222	1322	1422	1541	1541	1631	1747		
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0801	0801	0931	1031	1131	1231	1331	1431	1550	1550	1640	1756		
Redbrook The Bell	0809	0809	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1557	1557	1647	1803		
Wyesham St James Church	0817	0817	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345	1445	1604	1604	1654	1810		
Monmouth Comprehensive School	---	0825	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Monmouth Bus Station	0827	0832	0954	1054	1154	1254	1354	1456	1614	1614	1704	1819		

Sch Operates on schooldays only

Hol Operates school holidays only

Saturdays

Chepstow Bus Station	0806	1006	1206	1406	1606	1806
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0810	1010	1210	1410	1610	1810
St Arvans The Peacefield	0814	1014	1214	1414	1614	1814
Tintern The Wild Hare	0822	1022	1222	1422	1622	1822
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0830	1030	1230	1430	1630	1830
Redbrook The Bell	0838	1038	1238	1438	1638	1838
Wyesham St James Church	0845	1045	1245	1445	1645	1845
Monmouth Bus Station	0854	1054	1254	1454	1654	1854

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays

Chepstow Bus Station	0900	1105	1305	1605
Chepstow Community Hospital Main Road	0904	1109	1309	1609
St Arvans The Peacefield	0908	1113	1313	1613
Tintern The Wild Hare	0916	1121	1321	1621
Llandogo Hudnalls View	0925	1130	1330	1630
Redbrook The Bell	0932	1137	1337	1637
Wyesham St James Church	0939	1144	1344	1644
Monmouth Bus Station	0948	1153	1353	1653

TINTERN FILM NIGHT

THE BALLAD OF WALLIS ISLAND

TOM BASDEN

TIM KEY

CAREY MULLIGAN



**“A balm for battered souls...grabs
you by the heart and doesn't let go.”**

Wendy Ide, Observer

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 7.30PM

TINTERN VILLAGE HALL

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