

Old Station Open Day, 2013 Photo by David Hurn

TINTERN NEWS

June 2026

Produced by Friends of Tintern



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Time for the Tintern Fete!

It's a bit quieter in Tintern with the A466 closure between the Bigsweir bridge and Redbrook, but the cyclists and walkers are enjoying fewer cars on the roads. The bus detour seems well planned and it's nice to see the revised schedule on all the bus stops. Please support our local shops and restaurants who are short on customers until the road re-opens.

After months of planning, this year's Tintern Fete will have something for everyone; great music, tasty food, and stalls featuring artisan crafts, handmade jewellery and a chance to chat with special interest groups and charities. The first Wyeland Games this year will feature a tug of war, hill race and circus skills and family games, followed by World Cup action on the big screen with the Kingstone sponsored bar. So, mark your calendar for **Saturday 27 June** for our special day in Tintern!

The art at the Wye Valley Sculpture Garden is outstanding this year, and the garden has a wonderful wild feeling as the paths curve naturally through tiers of planting, drawing you from one space to another with a sense of discovery. Fantastic sculptures are found around each turn, each softy framed by the planting, ponds and a stream giving the garden an effortless, natural character. It must be a huge effort to make it look this good! Open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sundays from noon to 5pm.



St Michael's Church has started a simple and informal time of prayer and worship once on month on a Tuesday in the middle of each month. This is a gentle, reflective time, all are welcome to come. Next is on **Tuesday 9 June at 7pm**.

And the Brigade Breakfast service this month is on **Sunday June 21**, Father's Day. Again, all very welcome.

Tintern Film Night **on Friday 12 June** will show HAMNET, the story of love and loss that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece Hamlet. The Tintern Local Produce Market is on **Saturday 13 June.**

There are places available at a Tuesday life drawing class at the Mac Hall in Brockwier for a morning or afternoon session. Try out the new sauna at Forest Retreats or join the Feast and Flourish Solstice Supper on **21 June** hosted by Wye Valley Wellness to help you reset and truly enjoy life in Tintern.

How better to celebrate Welsh Wine Week, than visiting the oldest vineyard in Wales? Parva Farm Vineyard will be offering free vineyard tours and tastings on **Saturday 30 May until Monday 1 June** and also **Thursday 4 June until Sunday 7 June** from 12.00 until 4.30 each day

The next St Mary's Church volunteer clearing sessions are on **Saturday 13 June and 25 July**, 10.30-12.30, hand tools only!

Toni Harvey (tinternnews@gmail.com)

DOG FRIENDLY
TINTERN
CYFEILLGAR I GWN

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.***

WYE VALLEY SCULPTURE GARDEN

Summer Sculpture Exhibition

Set on the gentle slopes of the beautiful Wye Valley in Tintern, this *award-winning sculpture garden* hosts one of Wales' largest outdoor sculpture exhibitions. Discover work by over 40 artists placed throughout three acres of gardens, orchard and woodland, where contemporary sculpture meets a remarkable natural setting.

Garden open every Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday from 2–5pm
Sunday 24 May to Sunday 13 September (incl. Bank Holidays)

Wander the garden paths, encounter sculpture in the open air, and enjoy a peaceful afternoon where art, landscape and light come together.

Homemade refreshments • Free onsite parking
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See our socials for the announcement of the 2026 exhibiting artists







wyevalleysculpturegarden.co.uk

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Saturday 27th June

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LITTLE INDIA • BROOKE'S DAIRY ICE CREAM

SPECTATE

Watch World Cup action Panama v England on the big screen in the Kingstone Bar!

REHYDRATE

Kingstone Bar
Serving wines, ciders, spirits, largers and fine ales brewed in the village

INVESTIGATE

Shop handmade jewellery, artisan crafts, home-cooked sweets and so much more across the fabulous local produce stalls. Meet the makers, discover something unique, and support local charities, special interest groups and good causes all in one place!

Wye Valley Crafts at Abbey Mill

See all our handcrafted work in the shop or our stall at the Tintern Fete on **Saturday 27 June**!

Jackie with her wood framed mirrors and glass artist Virginia agreed to be permanent members.









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Wye Valley Crafts Association

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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



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

Tintern Sports Club by Rachel Davies



The Hundred League cricket fixtures began on 14 May with Tintern hosting Ross on Wye at home. All off the grounds work that has been going on reflected as the pitch looked lovely in the early evening sunshine. There was a good home crowd to see Tintern win the match 109 off 71 deliveries to 105-8 off 100 deliveries. The next week the 21st May we were again blessed with sunshine as supporters were treated to another great match. This week enhanced by a new easier to see scoreboard. Tintern continued their winning run by beating Parkend who scored 151-5 off 100 deliveries whilst Tintern won with 153-1 off 85 deliveries.

Following successful fundraising events, the committee have responded to the request to replace the frame, nets and mat for cricket – this is ongoing but can be used by the whole community.

June Home Fixtures – all 6pm starts: 10/6/25 Monmouth, 18/6/25 Ruardean and 25/6/25 St Bons (T20)

Reflecting on May: Elusive foxes, quiet roads, and a small favour

We are very fortunate with the view from our office window. Throughout May, we've regularly spotted deer in the field opposite and healthy-looking foxes along the riverbank. They scatter if I so much as reach for my camera, so you'll just have to take our word for it!

It has been noticeably quiet in the village recently. The road closure at Bigsweir-Redbrook hasn't helped, with signage back in Chepstow and Monmouth putting people off before they even reach us. We've certainly felt the drop in footfall, but we are still here, quietly hanging on by the skin of our teeth.

Earlier in May, we marked Deaf Awareness Week. As co-owners, Sonia and Maria were incredibly touched by the online support. It was a lovely reminder that a little patience makes all the difference across the bookshop counter.

Speaking of our online posts, we have a small favour to ask. If you use social media, simply liking, sharing, or commenting on our content - and the content of other independent businesses in Tintern - makes a huge difference right now. Every interaction helps push our posts out to a wider audience, attracting much-needed visitors back to the village, which benefits all of us.

Back on the shelves, we're working our way through a large collection of historical and political biographies, plus a lovely batch of Ladybird and Observer's books - perfect for collectors looking for that elusive final copy.

Chris, Sonia & Maria
Stella & Rose's Books

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Forest Retreats has a new sauna, by Hayley Court

Hill Farm, Tintern has a brand-new sauna overlooking The Wye Valley and nestled in nature.



The sauna itself is wood fired, and it's come with a cold plunge and a cold shower. Move between the heat of the sauna and the shock of the cold plunge and then warm back up again – it's a simple rhythm, but one that leaves you feeling completely reset.



Session times are Wednesdays and Sundays between 4pm and 10pm.

Special introductory offer to locals for £10 per person for your first 2-hour session.
Please contact Tom on 07389-834060 or email info@hillfarmtintern.co.uk.

Wye Valley Wellness



Wye Valley Wellness Festival

When: 18th & 19th July 2026

Where: Wye Valley Wellness Centre Tintern, Monmouthshire

Join us for a mix of therapy taster sessions, wellness workshops, nourishing food, and family-friendly fun, all delivered by experienced therapists and wellness professionals.

Feast & Flourish

When: Summer 2026

Where: Duckling Barn, St. Briavels, Lydney, GL15 6QY

Each gathering combines soul-nourishing food, guided movement, and mindful practices to help you rest, reset, and truly flourish.

You can choose to attend the full day retreat, supper or brunch.



Slimming World meets at

St Arvans Memorial Hall
Wednesdays at

5:30 pm and 7 pm

Contact Melanie
07887 862076



Prickly Patch update by Dylan Allman, Hedgehog Aware

The Prickly Patch wild hedgehog rehabilitation centre officially opened its doors on Friday 8th May 2026 where funders, sponsors, wildlife organisations, volunteers and supporters gathered to celebrate this milestone in helping hedgehogs in the area survive and thrive.

The project has been supported by the Welsh Government's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) in the Wye Valley National Landscape, and commercial sponsorship from Stark Building Materials UK Ltd.

Within days of opening, the centre received its first admission and has already been able to treat and successfully return three hedgehogs to the wild.

Although the centre, located just outside Monmouth town, is not open to the public, our trained volunteers have access, so anyone finding a hedgehog out in the day and/or in need of help should ring the First Response Unit on 01600 601512 as soon as possible.



Photographic credit: Richard Stanton

Dylan Allman, Founder of the First Response Unit and Lead Trustee for The Prickly Patch said: "*After discovering hedgehogs in my garden and learning about their decline, I was determined to help make a difference. Setting up the Monmouth First Response Unit showed me how many hedgehogs there were in the area, and how important it was to act quickly when they needed help. I was travelling a long way to other centres and realised there was a huge gap here for a specialist hedgehog hospital. The Prickly Patch means we can give local hedgehogs the best chance to recover and be released safely back into the wild. Opening during Hedgehog Awareness Week makes this even more meaningful, because it's exactly the moment when we want people to notice hedgehogs, care about them, and take action. I am so grateful to our funders and volunteers for making this project a reality, and am excited to see the impact we make through improving the outcomes and awareness of hedgehogs and wider biodiversity.*"

Andrew Blake, Wye Valley National Landscape Manager added: "*We're incredibly proud to support The Prickly Patch through our Welsh Government Sustainable Development Fund. This project is a brilliant example of local people taking practical action for nature, and will make a real difference for hedgehogs, one of our priority species, in the Wye Valley National Landscape and surrounding communities.*"

If anyone would like to support the work of the FRU and Prickly Patch, there is an Amazon wish list at https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/Y2PSNYNC6CXW/ or financial donations can be made at https://square.link/u/xUWuSBBG.

News and updates of our work can be found at https://www.facebook.com/MonmouthHedgehogFRU.

Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust, by Jo McCrum

Tintern Talks



We all have our theories on wild boars. I think it's safe to say that most gardeners definitely think these are best viewed at a distance! This fairy-tale image was from Keggie Carew's fascinating 'in-conversation' with Mark McCrum on 15th May. Keggie was the last of our trio of remarkable ladies who entertained us on a Friday night in the village hall with details of her award-winning books *Dadland*, *Quicksand Tales* and *Beastly*. From the riveting biography of her father, who was an undercover agent in the Second World War with the French Resistance and then Burmese insurgents to the zoologist Simona Kossak (pictured), who studied and lived alongside a variety of wild animals in rural Poland. We ended with some lively debate about whether the lynx should be reintroduced, like the pine marten, into our woods.

Tintern talks continue with **Professor Ronald Hutton and *The Pagan Religions of Ancient Monmouthshire* on 2 June.** Such was length of the waiting list for people who asked for returns that we are running the same talk next year on **8 June 2027** though anyone who has seen the electric Prof Hutton in action will know a second viewing will be as compelling. Book at www.ticketsource.com/lwvbpt.

There is a lot of voluntary work behind the scenes to run these talks – with speakers who usually perform at world-class festivals such as Hay and Cheltenham, but have travelled to Tintern and given their time to help save St Mary's. Heartfelt thanks to the speakers, their hosts, Itton Village Hall, LWVBPT committee members, Andrew Reid, Ali Law, Ludo Graham, Ellis Williams and the kind attendees who always help with clearing up at the end – too many to name here. The extra chairs, poster design, audio equipment, support - it is all noticed and appreciated.

St Mary's

Since we launched this campaign two years ago we have really seen, suffered and enjoyed a changing climate. I am writing this in a mini-heatwave, but there have also been storms, unusual north-east winds and driving rain. This has all taken its toll on St Mary's - already vulnerable to the elements by being roofless and having had no professional repairs for at least 65 years. Mortar is increasingly washing out and there has been lamination and spilling to stonework. This can be fixed – after all similar is occurring to the abbey and other ruins - but for your own safety and that of your children, please do not enter the building or its surrounds until works are completed.

Negotiations with the Crown are ongoing. It could be quite stressful, but we have had exceptional advice from our solicitors at Feakes & Co, who are not only experts in these complicated property matters, but are working pro bono for our cause.

All the proceeds of the Tintern Talks, from ticket sales to bar takings, go direct towards the consolidation fund and are also part of our match-funding bid before we can make a Heritage Lottery Fund application. We have a burgeoning membership and have also received some substantial individual donations that we are very grateful for, but every little helps (whether in-kind or financial)

and gets us a little closer to our final goal of a safe and accessible ruin preserved in its beautiful, numinous and historical surroundings.

Donations to the St Mary's campaign can be sent to the Lower Wye Valley Building Preservation Trust, Lloyds Bank, Sort Code: 30- 91-89, Bank Account 25277560, via a ticketsource booking, or anonymously to www.justgiving.com/campaign/savestmarystintern (you can dial down Just Giving commission to 0% - they already get a commission from HMRC).

Volunteering, St Mary's Churchyard



The bluebells were splendid at the churchyard this year. If you missed them there are lots of community videos and photos to enjoy on the Facebook page, @lwvbpt
Our volunteers (from Monmouthshire, Gloucestershire and the Bristol area) can't rest on their laurels though. All welcome! The next two sessions are on **Saturday 13 June and 25 July, 10.30-12.30.** All work is done with the intention of increasing the diversity and abundance of species at the site.
LWVBPT is a volunteer charity which intends to conserve St Mary's and Fryer's Wharf Slipway for public benefit. Annual membership is £10, lifetime membership £100 and gives members some special offers on activities. Events are listed at www.ticketsource.co.uk/lwvbpt
Email info@lwvbpt.org if you would like to join or have ideas or skills to share. Find us on socials - @lwvbpt.



WYE VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL (www.wyevalley-cc.gov.uk)

Minutes Wye Valley Community Council
Monday 13 April 2026 – Tintern Village Hall Ordinary Meeting – 7pm

Attendance Cllr A Ashman, Cllr L Parker, Cllr C Snell, Cllr I Mawdsley, Cllr S Shewell

To Receive apologies for absence Cllr S Evans – Accepted

5007. Declarations of Interest None received

5008. Police Reports Resolved. Llandogo report received. Contact made with PSCO for Tintern and **Police reports for Tintern** will now be circulated.

5009. County Councillor Report Resolved. Updates received.

5010. Public Participation No members present

5011. Approve the Minutes from March meeting Resolved. Proposed by Cllr Parker seconded by Cllr **Mawdsley**

5012. Clerk's Report & matters arising from last Meeting Resolved. Shared and noted.

5013. Finance report and authorise payments (tabled) Resolved. Received and accepted. BMM Account: £32,567.38 Charitable acc: £5,148.27 - Merlin Waste £139.24 - Staff costs Proposed Cllr Ashman seconded Cllr Mawdsley

5014. Renewal of One Voice Wales membership Resolved. Proposed to renew membership at cost of £233. Proposed by Cllr Ashman and seconded by Cllr Snell

5015. Consider action to deter people urinating on village green Resolved. County Cllr has reported the issue to Environmental Health at MCC. Issue not isolated to the village green, reports received of cyclists urinating in village hall car park and against the walls of properties on Chapel Hill. Action: Cllr to visit local café proprietor with a follow-up letter to be sent. PCSO to be advised when meeting in Caldicot

5016. Planning: Resolved Application objected to on the grounds of increased traffic and noise pollution generated. Clerk to respond to MCC Planning

5017. Councillor Reports Tintern Ward: Noted that Penallt road (Whitebrook) will be closed at the same time as A466 Noted that white-line painting has not been carried out on A466 within Tintern The fencing adjacent to the Rose & Crown is in a poor state of repair Planter maintenance for 2026-2027 Llandogo Ward: Noted that Monmouthshire Comprehensive School is not aware of the A466 road closure (organised by Gloucestershire County Council) Village Fete 20th June 2026 – a giant dragon will be paraded 2pm – 6pm

5018. Items for next agenda (at Chair's discretion) Village planters Grass-cutting for Tintern village green and promenade grass-area

5019. Time and date of next meeting Monday May 11th 2026 7pm at Llandogo Village Hall

DRAFT Minutes Monday 11 May 2026 – Llandogo Village Hall Ordinary Meeting – 7pm

Attendance Cllr Parker, Cllr Ashman, Cllr Mawdsley, Cllr Snell, Cllr Evans, Cllr Shewell County Cllr A. Webb Clerk: Jacob Richards-Powell

5029. Apologies for absence None received

5030. Declarations of interest Cllr Mawdsley item 5057 –professional link to the CAB organisation, Cllr did not take part in the discussion or decision making.
5031 Police reports Police Report circulated prior to meeting and noted. Noted disappointment that the PCSO did not attend the meeting. Clerk to write to PCSO to ask them to attend the next meeting
5032. County Councillor Report Cllr A Webb: Attended Tracks & Trails walk about in Tintern (May 22nd) Road markings to be renewed on A466 Tintern adjacent to Abbey Mill. Highways to review re-marking of road and decide whether further actions needed Road-closure signs for A466 works are not suitable, Cllr Webb hoping to attend a drive-along to review the signs with a member of Gloucestershire CC. Environmental Health Officer has visited a café in Tintern regarding issues with patrons using village green as a lavatory.
5033. Public Participation Item 5033 was discussed in 1900 as the meeting opened following on from the Annual Meeting. A representative (Doug Gibson) of the CAB attended the meeting to present information to WVCC proving local use of the service and an improvement of the circumstances of those who have used the service. Mr Gibson left the meeting at the end of public participation.
5034. Approval of the Minutes from the April meeting April Meeting Minutes approved – signed by Chair
5035. Financial report Bank balances; £15,239.18 BMM balances; £32,567.38 Clerk to transfer the difference (after invoices paid) from the main account into the BMM account put main account balance at £5,000.
5056. Approval of monthly payments 1. Merlin Environmental £139.24 2. Zurich Insurance renewal £558.47 3. Payroll Services £107.39 Proposed by: Cllr Parker seconded by Cllr seconded by Cllr Mawdsley
5057. Financial contribution to Citizen's Advice Bureau Cllr Shewell proposed donating £1,000 to CAB (cite) – Seconded by Cllr Ashman. Accepted.
5058. Action for Council owned planters Clerk to contact Tintern News: Adopt a planter. Potential prize-giving / competition element.
5059. Grass cutting contractor for Tintern Village Green and promenade Action: Clerk to contact G. Contractor for a one-off cut and advice on cutting schedule for June meeting.
5060. Planning applications: 1. DM/2026/00480 – Two storey rear utility extension & hard standing for parking – Greystones, Trellech Road NP16 6SN i. No objections
2. DM/2026/00441 – replace the existing marquee roof with a sheet-metal roof held up by a wooden sub-structure built on the existing floor plan – Botany Bay Camping & Activity Centre, NP16 6SN i. No objections
3. DM/2021/01764 – A change of use of land for siting 40 lodges, and associated works for tourism purposes only – Livox Quarry, Tintern Road, St Arvans a. Request for applicant to attend a meeting to discuss the plans in further details
5061. Items for next agenda Councillor reports Ongoing issues of public urination in Tintern. Pothole issues on Trellech road & parking in passing places Tracks and Trails – road / path behind Cllr Evans house Llandogo Show – Sunday 23rd August 2026 2pm (programmes available from the church) Cllr Ashman to meet contractor on site at Tintern Wharf 11th May to discuss possible further works required. Owners of Village Shop asked, if possible, to source 'warning ducks' sign as they have two ducks which cross the road residing at the shop. Site walk next Friday for Tracks & Trails focusing on Tintern Rd & Chapel Hill. There is a list of 12-roads at risk. Wye Valley Charter –
5062. Time and date of next meeting Tintern Village Hall 7:00pm - Monday June 8th 2026

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ABOUT US

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Women's Institute by Jill Rundle, President

This month Llandogo WI held its Annual Meeting, a time when we have the opportunity to appoint a new President, Officers and Committee Members, if required. This year I was appointed as the President for the coming year and that's why I am writing this today, rather than Gilly, your normal WI correspondent. But a new President doesn't mean all change, there are certain things which can always be expected of a WI.



Llandogo WI welcomes women of all ages, not just from Llandogo, but all the villages in the surrounding area, and we have quite a few members from Tintern. We are an enthusiastic group of women who are keen on getting involved in any activities that our members are interested in and hopefully succeed in making them as accessible to all as possible. For example, we have a walking group which meets weekly, together with an ambling group for those who wish to go at a much slower pace, often with a second purpose of investigating some aspect of the local flora and fauna. We are also part of the WI Walking Netball Group which meets weekly in Monmouth.

We offer a variety of trips and visits to places of interest: historic, educational, horticultural, the list is endless, as well as our monthly meetings which are held in the Millennium Hall, Llandogo, on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 10 June** when our speaker will be a local author, Justine Pullen, who writes psychological suspense stories. Come and join us for what promises to be excellent evening. If you want to know more, then please contact me on 07718 518922, use the QR code or email Llandogo.wi@gmail.com



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In Tintern Abbey,
by Herbert Girardet

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

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

Who was it
Who came along from
Somewhere far away
With sketch plans
Drawn on parchment scrolls
To make a glorious building here
By carving sandstone into sacred shapes
To make these pillars rise into the sky
Like forest trees and
Carry oaken rafters and a mighty roof

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

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

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 of the clutches
Of some greedy self-important men
To rescue the eternal god

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 was heard once more
No longer with the sound of bells
But with the songs of nightingales
And with the bleating calls
Of ewes and newborn lambs
Among the grassy graves

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

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

www.herbertgirardet.co.uk

Friends of the River Wye update, by Nick Day

Water quality continues to be headline news, with more podcasts, videos, radio and TV broadcasts and magazine articles all being brought out at frequent intervals. There are plenty of aspects to explore - nutrients from sewage and from agriculture, ways that farming has been influenced by government policies, and likewise waste disposal, other aspects of our rivers pollution and influences from changing weather patterns, impacts on nature and on lifestyles.

The topic of designated bathing sites, while seemingly a lifestyle matter, actually cover the whole of the water quality topic, and the approach has been pursued by many groups as a last resort means of forcing the agencies to monitor a place more closely, at least during the bathing season. As a by-product, we get to hear how the measurements measure up, (it'll be no surprise to hear that the answer is in the 'could do better' category) and also there is added pressure on all involved to take remedial action. Local knowledge is required, together with source attention, typically using eDNA identification.

The Riverside Code

Friends of the River Wye have launched 'The Riverside Code', a new guide endorsed by author Robert Macfarlane (Is a River Alive?) and actor and activist Jim Murray (The Crown, Masters of the Air), to equip the public with the tools to help protect and restore rivers.

Launched on 22 April (Earth Day), The Riverside Code is a practical, pocket-sized guide designed to help people understand how to care for rivers and respond to the growing crisis facing the River Wye. Inspired by the Countryside Code, it translates concern into clear, accessible actions that anyone can take.

Developed in response to the question, "What can I do to help the river?", the Code empowers individuals to become active river guardians. It sets out how to identify and report pollution incidents, understand key environmental and farming regulations, and recognise harmful practices. With agricultural pollution identified as the primary threat to the River Wye, the Code aims to raise awareness and enable communities to play a role in improving standards.

Charter of Rights of the River Wye

24 May sees the launch (at Hay-on-Wye) of the Charter setting out the Rights of the River Wye. This was initiated by Herefordshire County Council and is now backed by many of the county councils in the catchment- we hope for that to become 'all of them' shortly. Whilst not placing any further legal requirements on the duty of care for the environment, it nevertheless represents a very positive response to all the public outcry about the failings in our system which have allowed corporate greed to thrive at the expense of what should be a public 'good', namely, 'the environment'.

EA to pilot a trial of fixed penalty notices

At a meeting of the Wye Catchment Nutrient Management Board at the end of April, a representative from the EA said, "We have got a bit of a development in terms of our agricultural regulation… We are piloting a trial on fixed penalty notices".

Local environmental campaigners welcomed this news, as they have long called for enforcement action to tackle polluting practices and uphold the law. A prime example was at Friends of the River Wye's

February 2024 meeting 'Restore The River' held in the Blake Theatre, where the CEO of the EA's hesitant response met with derision. The Manifesto for the Wye, supported by a broad coalition of environmental groups, includes a demand for 'on-the-spot fines'. The Charter of Rights of the River Wye asserts *The Right to Be Free From Pollution*, which would clearly be assisted by a more equal approach to chasing up on offending parties. Both the Charter and The Riverside Code include a summary of some of the key farming rules.

Friends of the River Wye asked the EA for more information about the trial, including a timetable for when it would be rolled out across England and how it would be communicated to farmers. The EA refused to offer any further comment because the trial is in its early stages, but said they are internally considering how they can use their powers for some agricultural offences.

Nicola Cutcher, Co-Chair of Friends of the River Wye, said, "We really hope this trial marks a serious shift in approach from the EA, away from simply giving advice and to actually enforcing the law. Given how much harm agricultural pollution is doing to our rivers, we're incredulous that we're still waiting for the most basic penalties to be applied for illegal activities. The EA already has the power to issue fines and it needs to get on with it." She continued "Farmers deserve a fair playing field. We want to see farmers better supported to do the right thing, but we can't allow those who flout environmental rules to get away with it and undermine the efforts of everyone else. There must be consequences for breaking the law."

Further results of our polluted rivers

A recent research paper 'Increasing nutrients negatively impact seagrass-associated biodiversity' in the Global Ecology and Conservation journal points out the tragedy to the environment as a whole, as it becomes better known that seagrass meadows off the UK coastline are suffering due to eutrophication. This can hardly come as a surprise, as all our overburdened rivers eventually flow to the sea. What are we doing to our planet, our environment, and ourselves, when the results become significant on an oceanic scale? One of the authors of the paper said "If we want to protect the marine environment we need to look towards the land and there needs to be some integrated thinking - that's a conversation that's very rarely had"

YOUR MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER – Ann Webb



Ann is your elected Member to St Arvans, Llandogo and Tintern which provides all local services, and her wish is to represent your views and assist whenever possible.

If she can be of assistance to you, please do contact her via 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

Tintern Garden Club, by Judith Dudley



Every summer, the Garden Club hold a garden party at the home of one of their members. This year this event was hosted by Dave Tuffery at Manor House, Tintern on the evening of 12 May. There was some concern about the weather beforehand but on the night, it was fine for members and friends to stroll around the grounds although it was considered a little chilly to sit outside, and the food was served in the conservatory. Everyone admired Dave's efforts in the garden where his vegetable plot was well advanced and very tidy. The rest of the grounds were a pleasure to walk around with beautiful views of the river. There is a lovely wildlife pond which the local deer like to visit. Dave says he has 16 different species of mammal in his garden including 3 types of bats as well as plenty of birds and various reptiles. The house martins were certainly busy nesting under the eaves of the house. It's a very wildlife friendly garden except for the vegetable area which is strictly out of bounds to the deer! Everyone enjoyed the party and our thanks go to Dave for hosting it.

After the delicious meal there were a few notices. A request was made for members to bring along plants to sell on our stall at the **Village fete which is on 27 June.** Help will also be needed to man the stall. Lindsay Cobb handed out the schedules for the Village Show which is organised by the Garden Club. This year it is being held on **Saturday 2 August** in the Village Hall. Judith Dudley gave each member a geranium plug to grow for the competition for the best geranium which is judged at the Show. Our next meeting is a garden visit to "The Patch" at Brockweir. This will be on **Tuesday 16 June** at 6.15 for 6.30pm.

If you are interested in joining the Garden Club, please contact Dave Tuffery on 01291 689919 or Liz Greatorex-Davies on 01291 689861.

News from Parva Farm Vineyard, by Judith Dudley

Welsh Wine Week is celebrated by many of the Welsh vineyards and a lot of them will be welcoming visitors to see how grapes are grown in Wales to make Welsh wine. This year it is being held from **Saturday 30 May until Sunday 7 June**. Parva Farm Vineyard will be joining in the celebrations by offering free vineyard tours and tastings of our wines. We will be open from **Saturday 30 May until Monday 1 June** and also **Thursday 4 June until Sunday 7 June** from 12.00 until 4.30 each day. Our wines will be on sale alongside sparkling cider & perry and Kingstone ales.



We also have a selection of interesting home grown garden plants, various gifts and Wye Valley honey. We have a pleasant garden with picnic tables or picnics can be taken into the vineyard to eat among the vines whilst enjoying the beautiful views of the River Wye and the village of Tintern.

Why not come along to see the oldest commercial vineyard in Wales?

St Michael's, Tintern

June Services

Sunday 7th, 10.30am - Holy Communion

Tuesday 9th, 7.30pm - Bible study group (Church)

Sunday 14th, 10.30am - Holy Communion

Tuesday 9th, 7-8pm - hour of prayer (Church)

Sunday 21st, 10.30am - Brigade Breakfast service: Father's Day!

Tuesday 23rd, 7.30pm - Bible study group (Church)

Sunday 28th 10.30am - Holy Communion

MONMOUTH MARCHES MINISTRY AREA

The Church in Wales

All very welcome!

Local priest: Rev Jan Pain 01291 624017.
Dean and Rector: Rev Tim Dack timothydack@cinw.org.uk
Church wardens: Alan Carter 07873 514255, Doug Gibson 07552 887493
Email prayer requests to include in Sunday prayers to prayersatstmichaels@icloud.com

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
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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 lwvbpt2023@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
Replacement Bus schedule for A466 Bigsweir to Redbrook closure

69 Monmouth - Tintern - Chepstow during closure of A466 between Redbrook & Bigsweir Bridge

"sch": runs on school days only
"hols": runs on school holidays only

	Mondays to Fridays												
	hols	sch							sch	hols			
Monmouth Bus Station	**7:32**	**7:32**	**9:15**	**10:15**	**11:15**	**12:15**	**13:15**	**14:15**	**15:15**	**15:22**	**16:35**	**17:25**	**18:45**
Monmouth Comp	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	15:22	|	|	|	|
Wyesham Church	7:42	7:42	9:24	10:24	11:24	12:24	13:24	14:24	15:31	15:31	16:44	17:34	18:54
Redbrook Newland Rd	7:47	7:47	9:29	10:29	11:29	12:29	13:29	14:29	15:36	15:36	16:49	17:39	18:59
Llandogo Hudnalls View	8:09	8:09	9:51	10:51	11:51	12:51	13:51	14:51	15:58	15:58	17:11	18:01	19:21
Tintern The Wild Hare	**8:17**	**8:17**	**9:59**	**10:59**	**11:59**	**12:59**	**13:59**	**14:59**	**16:06**	**16:06**	**17:19**	**18:09**	**19:29**
St Arvans The Piercefield	8:24	8:24	10:06	11:06	12:06	13:06	14:06	15:06	16:13	16:13	17:26	18:16	19:36
Chepstow Hospital	8:28	|	10:10	11:10	12:10	13:10	14:10	15:10	16:17	16:17	17:30	18:20	19:40
Chepstow Comp	|	8:30	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Chepstow Bus Station	**8:33**	**8:34**	**10:14**	**11:14**	**12:14**	**13:14**	**14:14**	**15:14**	**16:22**	**16:22**	**17:34**	**18:24**	**19:44**

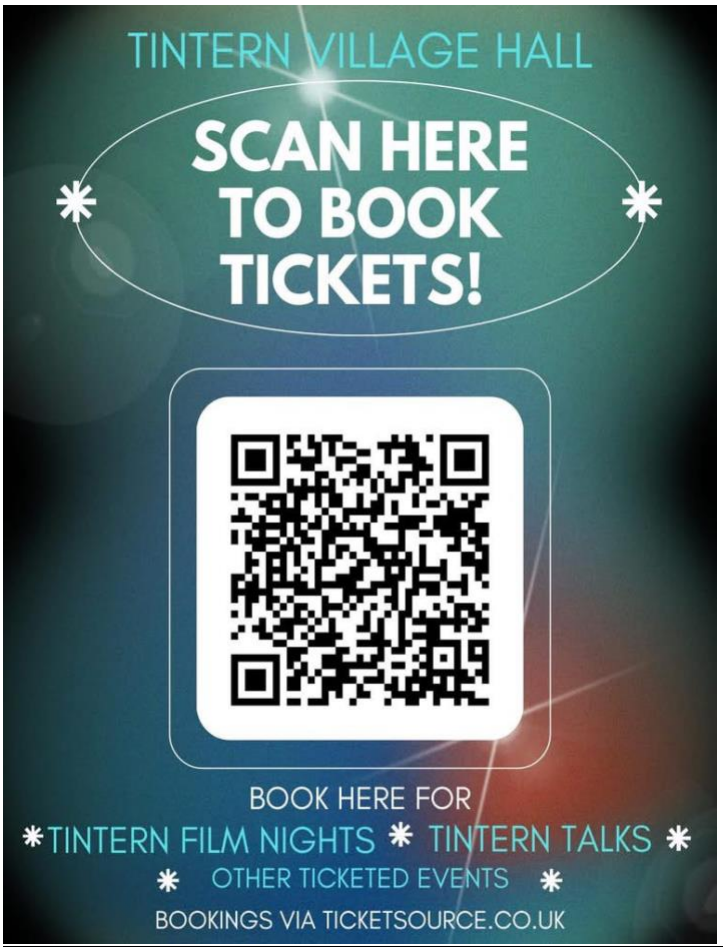
	Saturdays						Sundays			
Monmouth Bus Station	**7:00**	**9:09**	**11:09**	**13:02**	**15:02**	**17:00**	**10:00**	**12:04**	**15:06**	**17:10**
Wyesham Church	7:09	9:18	11:18	13:11	15:11	17:09	10:09	12:13	15:15	17:19
Redbrook Newland Rd	7:14	9:23	11:23	13:16	15:16	17:14	10:14	12:18	15:20	17:24
Llandogo Hudnalls View	7:36	9:45	11:45	13:38	15:38	17:36	10:36	12:40	15:42	17:46
Tintern The Wild Hare	**7:44**	**9:53**	**11:53**	**13:46**	**15:46**	**17:44**	**10:44**	**12:48**	**15:50**	**17:54**
St Arvans The Piercefield	7:51	10:00	12:00	13:53	15:53	17:51	10:51	12:55	15:57	18:01
Chepstow Hospital	7:55	10:04	12:04	13:57	15:57	17:55	10:55	12:59	16:01	18:05
Chepstow Bus Station	**7:59**	**10:08**	**12:08**	**14:01**	**16:01**	**17:59**	**10:59**	**13:03**	**16:05**	**18:09**

	Mondays to Fridays											
	hols	sch							sch	hols		
Chepstow Bus Station	**7:24**	**7:24**	**9:06**	**10:06**	**11:06**	**12:06**	**13:06**	**14:06**	**15:16**	**15:27**	**16:15**	**17:40**
Chepstow Comp	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	15:25	|	|	|
Chepstow Hospital	7:29	7:29	9:10	10:10	11:10	12:10	13:10	14:10	|	15:31	16:20	17:45
St Arvans The Piercefield	7:33	7:33	9:14	10:14	11:14	12:14	13:14	14:14	15:33	15:33	16:23	17:49
Tintern The Wild Hare	**7:41**	**7:41**	**9:22**	**10:22**	**11:22**	**12:22**	**13:22**	**14:22**	**15:41**	**15:41**	**16:31**	**17:57**
Llandogo Hudnalls View	7:50	7:50	9:31	10:31	11:31	12:31	13:31	14:31	15:50	15:50	16:40	18:06
Redbrook Newland Rd	8:12	8:12	9:53	10:53	11:53	12:53	13:53	14:53	16:12	16:12	17:02	18:28
Wyesham Church	8:20	8:20	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:19	16:19	17:09	18:35
Monmouth Comp	|	8:28	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|	|
Monmouth Bus Station	**8:30**	**8:33**	**10:09**	**11:09**	**12:09**	**13:09**	**14:09**	**15:11**	**16:29**	**16:29**	**17:19**	**18:44**

	Saturdays						Sundays			
Chepstow Bus Station	**8:03**	**10:30**	**11:55**	**13:55**	**15:50**	**18:03**	**8:52**	**11:04**	**13:55**	**16:10**
Chepstow Hospital	8:07	10:07	11:59	13:59	15:54	18:07	8:56	11:08	13:59	16:14
St Arvans The Piercefield	8:11	10:11	12:03	14:03	15:58	18:11	9:00	11:12	14:03	16:18
Tintern The Wild Hare	**8:19**	**10:19**	**12:11**	**14:11**	**16:06**	**18:19**	**9:08**	**11:20**	**14:11**	**16:26**
Llandogo Hudnalls View	8:27	10:27	12:19	14:19	16:14	18:27	9:17	11:29	14:20	16:35
Redbrook Newland Rd	8:49	10:49	12:41	14:41	16:36	18:49	9:39	11:51	14:42	16:57
Wyesham Church	8:56	10:56	12:48	14:48	16:43	18:56	9:46	11:58	14:49	17:04
Monmouth Bus Station	**9:05**	**11:05**	**12:57**	**14:57**	**16:52**	**19:05**	**9:55**	**12:07**	**14:58**	**17:13**

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Tintern Garden Club
20th Feb - Everything About Gladioli ~ Gill Hazel
20th March - Knowledge to Forage ~ Elise Goard
17th April - Hedgehog Rescue ~ Dylan Allman
NEW GARDEN PARTY DATE IS TUESDAY 12TH MAY
th May - Garden Party
16th June & 17th July - Garden Visits !
Sat 1st Aug - Annual Show
18th Sept - Industries of the Lower Wye Valley ~ Pat Lacy
16th Oct - Archaeology at Manor House ~ Dave Tuffery
20th Nov - Trees & Shrubs For Autumn ~ Duncan Coombs


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7PM
FRI
ZUMBA
9.15AM
FILM NIGHT
2ND FRIDAY EACH MONTH
7.30PM
GARDEN CLUB
3RD FRIDAY EACH MONTH
7.30PM
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TINTERN FILM NIGHT



FRIDAY 12TH JUNE 7.30PM

TINTERN VILLAGE HALL

From Oscar-winning writer/director Chloé Zhao, HAMNET tells the powerful story of love and loss that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, Hamlet.

Everyone is welcome and you are invited to bring your own wine, other drinks and snacks. Teas, coffees, biscuits and Brookes Ice Cream will be on sale. Tickets may be bought online from TicketSource.com and by card payment at the door.

More information about this film and Tintern Film Nights can be found at tinternvillage.co.uk. You can also call Andrew Reid on 07774 726860.