RISCA

DIRECTORY











COPY DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH/APRIL EDITION IS WEDNESDAY 30TH JANUARY

Editor: Susan Woolford Sales & Distribution: Leslie Woolford

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It's always good to try new things and aspire to improve our lives, whether it's losing the extra pounds we put on over the festive season, attempting to become fitter, volunteering or helping a local charity, starting a new hobby or even starting a business. Trying something new and having different experiences often makes us feel focused and happier in life.

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Re-seeding & Re-growth of Twmbarlwm

Another year has gone by and it was another busy year for the Society and probably an unforgettable one for Twmbarlwm and the surrounding area.

You all know that I'm referring to the wildfires that devastated vast areas of the Cwmcarn Forest and spread over the summit of Twmbarlwm causing extensive damage to the undergrowth and compromising the underlying archaeology.

The fires raged around Twmbarlwm for nearly two weeks and once it was over, CTS met on the mountain with field officers from Cadw to examine the damage.

Then with advice from CCBC's ecologist and a Cadw appointed landscape engineer it was decided that in the short term it was vital to attempt to stabilise the surface by re-seeding as much of the damaged area as possible before severe winter weather did further damage to the landscape.

Therefore the society set about raising the necessary money, primarily from Cadw and Trustees of the Llanarth Estates, to pay for a specialised mix of native species grass seed.

With just three days before the proposed day to sow the seed we put a call out on the internet for volunteers to help with the sowing - so it was a marvellous surprise on 7th October when over 40 people turned up to help. It was a glorious sunny day with just a small breeze - perfect sowing weather - and we had the whole top of the mountain covered within three hours - it was a marvellous day and illustrates how the Twmp holds a unique place in the hearts of the local community.

We have kept our eye on the Twmp to check on progress since the re-seeding. Unfortunately, storm Callum whipped through the area just a couple of days after re-seeding, this did us no favours in giving the seed a chance to germinate. The burnt areas had a real battering from the heavy rain and strong winds, and areas that were fine ash and dust hardened into a solid clay consistency - not a good base for the grass seed.

Much of the seed was also swept off the crest of the surrounding ditch leaving a few bare patches. So for the first few weeks our efforts seemed to be futile.



Some of the re-seeding

volunteers show great sowing technique on

Twmbarlwm

However, a month further on, I visited the mountain in early December and I could see more promising signs. Now I'm no botanist, but even I could tell that there was plenty of evidence that our newly sown grass was starting to show through as well as some original, surviving grass stock – there are also new shoots of heather and wimberry coming up.

I await the experts' verdict but I believe we did a satisfactory rescue job and expect more re-seeding will be necessary in the spring – so watch our website for announcements and come and join us next time.

CTS meet at the car park below Twmbarlwm's summit for a litter pick and volunteer workday on the last Sunday of every month to which everyone is invited, it's not all hard work and it's a great opportunity to find your way around up there. We organise walks and other events up the mountain and at Crosskeys RFC throughout the year so watch our website and Facebook page for details.

www.twmbarlwm.co.uk





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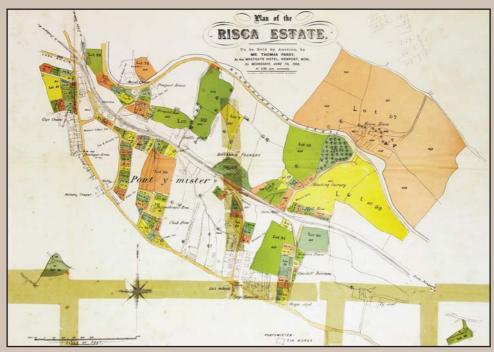
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Risca Estate Sale of 1893



Currently on display at Risca Museum is an original catalogue advertising the proposed auction of the Risca Estate, Monmouthshire. The estate was to be sold at the Westgate Hotel, Newport, by **Newport auctioneers Thomas** Parry on June 7th, 1893, on behalf of the owner. Frederick Phillips, a descendant of the legendary 'Squire' Phillips. Included in the auction was a manor house and freehold farm known as Risca House (Ty-Mawr). It was this house that gave its name to 'Manor Way', the road now leading to the modern-day housing estate known as Ty-Sign.

In addition to the manor house there were 68 acres of pasture and arable land and some 30 freehold workmen's cottages and gardens. The estate generated ground rent income of over £400 per annum. In the possession of the Phillips family since the 1750s, descendants farmed much of the surrounding neighbourhood.

By the 19th century the Parish of Risca had begun to change from a rural to an industrial society. Although many of the local populace were involved in farming, documentation records a growing workforce employed as masons, blacksmiths, foundry workers, as well as

shopkeepers and maltsters. The 1893 Risca Estate Map clearly shows that Risca had the arteries to develop and take advantage of its natural and man made resources. As the population grew, local industries became a magnet to workers from other parts of the country. New cottages, shops and public houses were centred on the earlier communities. For example, housing for the workers of Britannia Foundry was built along a branch line which served the Foundry and known as Forge Trip. Cottages were also built in nearby Mill Row. Yet more cottages were to be built in Water Lane, later

RISCA MUSEUM

renamed Mill Street. The estate map clearly shows Club Row, built in the early 1850s, and now known as Brookland Road. As communities grew, each became well served by local hostelries. The auction catalogue records long forgotten inns including: 'Western Valley Inn', 'Crown Inn', 'Apple Tree Inn', 'New Inn', 'Globe Inn'. Many of these inns were owned by the Risca brewers. Cross and Matthews. Of the auctioned inns, the 'Fox and Hounds' near Risca railway station sold for £850. However, the 'Mason's Arms'. leased to Messrs. Cross and Matthews. sold for £1010. The high price probably reflected by its location near to Britannia Foundry and its considerable workforce. The 'Apple Tree' was sold to Cross and Matthews for £605. Situated adjacent to the Monmouthshire canal was the 'Prince of Wales': this property and three nearby freehold cottages sold for £750. Meanwhile, 'The Railway Tavern' and 'Britannia Inn'. located off Forge Trip, sold for £750 and £75, respectively. Chapels serving the early communities include; Glyn, Bethany and Moriah. Sale documents record that the 99 lots generated returns of £21,600: today equivalent to £17.7 million. Lot 99, for example, illustrate that Risca House was sold to William Giles for £2,075. The sale price included arable and pasture land, orchards, as well as outbuildings such as the magnificent stables. Of particular interest, Lot 9 -Risca Mill, as well as certain water rights, was sold for £505 to Henry White, owner of Britannia Foundry. The sales agreement included an undertaking for White to

improve the property and to maintain existing machinery. The nearby Flannel Factory and three cottages were sold to Thomas Budding for £110. Ten cottages located close to the 'Apple Tree' and known as Prospect Row, sold for £140 or £14 each! One particular plot identified as 'Watling Dab' was sold to a Mr Goldsworthy for £50, the 'postal' address being 'Tydee Road, Pontymister'. That location is today identified as

Park Road and Station Road. The sale document also refers to a number of sites adjacent to the former Pontymister Ironworks - a site now occupied by a Tesco supermarket store.

N.B. It is noteworthy that the Risca Estate Map is clearly branded as PONTYMISTER, suggesting that in 1893 the location of Risca was acknowledged as being north of the Longbridge and not being adjacent to the junction of extending south, as it is today!



ust over a vear ago the Risca Museum, which is run by a small group of volunteers, suffered an increase of about £3000 in their annual rent which put the continued existence of the Museum in ieopardy. As a result the 'Friends of Risca Museum' was formed based on an annual donation of £10, very little to ensure that this special local institution continues to exist. Unfortunately, numbers fell short of what was required to meet the costs but one-off visitor donations helped and the balance was met from Museum reserves. However, if this situation continues, it would result in the Museum

reserves being exhausted within a few years and closure being the only option. We are therefore making a further appeal for 2019, hoping existing Friends will renew and that many more will decide give their support. Please consider becoming a Friend and also talk to your friends, relations and neighbours.

Whilst our preference is for Friends to complete a direct debit form, we are happy to accept other methods. Full details are available on our website

www.riscamuseum.org.uk or Facebook page or call in to the Museum any Saturday between 10am and 12.30pm.



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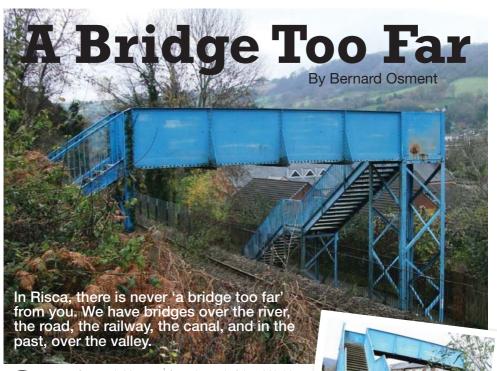
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ur most famous bridge, known as the Long Bridge, crossed over the valley. Built in the early 1800s, this 32 arched stone bridge carried the Sirhowy Tram-road from one side of the tree covered valley to the other.

By the late 1850s the tram-road was being converted into a railway. As the steam driven railway-engines and longer wheel-base wagons were unable to negotiate the sharp curves of the tram-road, the Long Bridge with its almost right angle approaches at either end, was a problem. This was overcome by the building of a new 'Long Bridge'.

The first stone arch of the bridge was erected on the skew, over the main road, alongside the old one, but instead of continuing as a line of arches, a 30ft high earth embankment joined the new bridge to five stone arches at the river end, 400 yards upstream

from the end of the old bridge.

Although the old bridge was closed to rail traffic the public continued to use it as a footbridge to cross-over the valley. Over the years it fell into ruin and in the summer of 1899 the owners, the Great Western Railway

Company, proposed, "That owing to its unsafe condition the Long Bridge should be pulled down."

It was not until March 1903 that the G.W.R. sold the entire structure, said to have been at £1 per arch, to Mr William Mogford, of Graig View, Danygraig; "On condition that its demolition began forthwith."

Work on demolishing the Bridge began on Monday the 20th April 1903. The following week newspapers reported that on Tuesday the 28th April 1903 a very serious accident occurred whilst some men were employed in pulling down the Long Bridge. A young man named William Beach fell with several tons of the debris and was nearly buried underneath, with the result that he was terribly injured. He was taken to the Newport Hospital, where he later died.

The arch of the Bridge which spanned the highway near the Bridge End Hotel was blown down on Monday 30th November 1904. The demolition of the Bridge, which had started in April 1903, was not completed until early 1905.

Many of the houses in Bridge

Street were built using stonework from the bridge. Viaduct Villa, one of the first to be built was occupied by William Mogford, who owned the stonework recovered from the bridge.

The last passenger train from Tredegar to Newport passed along the embankment and over the 'skew' bridge on the 11th June 1960. Coal trains continued to use the Sirhowy line until 1970. Demolition of the bridge began in April 1974.

It has been said by others that in the past there was a bridge over the River Ebbw. in the lower Pontymister area. It was known as the Muster Bridge, the place where the local Militia assembled. However, in an article written by a Risca historian in the mid 1800s he stated that his friend Charles Phillips had told him that the first two bridges in Risca were built in the late 1700s by his father, Squire William Phillips. One was the Pontvcwmmer Bridge at North Risca, and the other in Pontymister, the Master's Bridge or Pont-y-meistr, the name given



to it by the Squire's Welsh speaking workers.

The same historian also wrote that in Risca, there were eight bridges over the River Ebbw. The first, the Pontycwmmer Bridge, the second, the Waunfawr Bridge (access to the Black Vein Colliery), the third, the Colliery Office Bridge (access to Colliery Row and the Old Ebenezer Independent Chapel), this bridge was destroyed by a flood in 1891. It was rebuilt and repaired a number of times, and finally

demolished in the late 1960s. The fourth, the old Long Bridge (demolished in 1905), the fifth, the new Long Bridge (demolished in 1974), the sixth, the Copper Works Bridge (Danygraig Road), the seventh, the bridge leading into the Iron Works at Pontymister. The eighth and last, the bridge in Pontymister mentioned before.

Another famous bridge was an aqueduct, known by many as the 'Leaky Bridge', I knew it as Giles's Bridge. The aqueduct carried the canal over the roadway leading to Risca Manor House, the home of Squire William Phillips. It was located at the lower end of Manor Way, it was demolished in the 1970s.

Today the care of the canal is shared between Newport and Caerphilly Councils. The Risca section of the canal, in the care of Caerphilly Council, starts at Pontywaun and ends about four miles down the canal at Harry Robert's Bridge in Rogerstone.

In the past there were 18 bridges over the canal between Newport





and Pontywaun, nine of them on the Risca section. Listed as Grade II structures, we are fortunate today to have six of these original humped back bridges still in use. The Harry Roberts (No.10), Tyn-y-cwm (No.11), Moriah (No.13), Pen-y-rhiw (No.14), Darren (No.16) and the Green Meadow or Engine Bridge (No.17).

The names of the bridges are those used by the boatmen and other workers on the canal for over a hundred years. The numbers in brackets are those given to the bridges by the Great Western Railway Company when they took over the canal in the 1880s. There were two types of bridges, public and accommodation. The public bridges were built to carry existing roads over the canal. The accommodation bridges to give access from the tow-path to the other side of the canal.

No.10, Harry Roberts, known by this name since the 1850s. Henry Roberts was a 'Boatman' on the canal who lived in a cottage (now demolished) near the bridge. A 'Public Bridge' previously known as the John Jones Bridge, I knew it as Ty-melin Bridge.

No.11, Tyn-y-cwm, an 'Accommodation Bridge' built to give access to the quarries, clay pits and nearby Pont-y-graig cottages (now demolished). Many will remember it as the Donkey's Common Bridge.

In the early 1900s an iron drawbridge was built on the lower side of the bridge to carry drams of clay on a 15 inch gauge tram-way from the nearby clay pits, over the canal and down to the Tyn-ycwm Brick Works near the Welsh Oak (the lower end of today's Herbert Avenue).

No.13, Moriah, a 'Public Bridge' built to carry the road-way from Pontymister, via Ty-du road-way (Station Road), Moriah Hill, to Pen-y-rhiw and nearby quarries.

Today's footbridge over the railway near the Fox and Hounds Public House was erected in the early 1900s in place of an existing iron bridge that carried the Ty-du road-way over the railway to Moriah Hill. At the same time the subway at the bottom of Gelli Avenue was constructed to cater for road traffic.

No.14, Pen-y-rhiw, a 'Public Bridge' built to carry the 'top' road from Risca to Newport via Holly Lane.

No.16, Darren, a 'Public Bridge' built to carry the road from near the Church House to the Darren Farm, Cwm-byr Upper and Lower. It provided access to the clay and coal levels, Brickworks, and Darren cottages. For many years it carried a tram-way taking drams of clay, waste and bricks over the canal to the towpath side.

No.17, Green Meadow, also known as the Engine Bridge, an 'Accommodation Bridge' giving access to the woods, fields and pathways above the canal, the clay and coal levels and from 1860 to the Miner's Burial Ground.

In the past the lower side of this bridge was the site of a draw-bridge with a tram-way to carry drams over the canal from Green's Level connecting to a tram-way running down the side of the tow path.

Some will remember the timber draw-bridge over the canal, opposite the quarry, between the Navigation and Darran Bridges. Originally it carried a 26 inch gauge tram-way taking drams of gravel from the quarry, over the canal, 90 yards down the footpath, to be tipped down a chute to the railway siding below.

Our lost bridges are No.12, Gelli Pystil, an 'Accommodation Bridge' built to give access to Gelli Pystil Farm, Ty-mawr Farm and cottages. Also known as the Little Bridge, it had a smaller span than others, and no tow-path underneath, I knew it as Jackie's Bridge. In the 1960s it was demolished and the canal culverted to carry the Gelli / Elm Drive road to the new Ty-sign housing estate.

No.15, Navigation, also known as Temperance Hill, a 'Public Bridge', it carried the road from the Hill to the road-way along the north bank to the quarry, and access to the farm and cottages above the canal, later Taylor's Town/Fernlea. It is said that humpback bridge was demolished, and the canal culverted in the late 1940/50s.

No.18, Pontywain, a 'Public Bridge'- Lost its hump about 1915 and replaced by the iron girder bridge there today.

Not to be forgotten is the footbridge over the rail-way between Railway Street and Navigation Road. Erected in 1902 it was always known as the 'Black Bridge' but today it's painted blue.



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Welcome to

Risca East Community Council

Newsletter

November is the month when our communities of Risca East and Risca Town come together to remember members of the armed forces who lost their lives in the line of duty. This year was particularly poignant being the 100 year anniversary of the end of the Great War, 1914-1918.

Risca East Community Council and Risca Town Council ioin together with the Risca Branch of the Royal British Legion and several local groups including Risca Male Choir. Crosskevs Silver Band, 212 Risca Squadron - Air Cadets, primary and comprehensive schools to organise a concert at Moriah Church. This year, again, the concert was a great success with tearful moments. opportunities to reflect and smile, and at least one 'laugh out loud' occasion when we heard of the antics of a vound lady, during the First World War. skipping off school to be with her army boyfriend. Saturday saw the laying of wreaths at the Pontywaun County School/Risca War Memorial Garden of Remembrance and on Sunday residents. Councillors and groups gathered for the march to Risca Cenotaph, led by the Royal British Legion Riders Branch on their magnificent motor cycles. The Reverend Martyn Evans conducted the Armistice Day Service before local dignitaries and groups,

including Cadet Forces, Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies and Heddlu Bach, were invited to lay wreaths. Despite the pouring rain at least a hundred residents of all ages attended the service, taking the opportunity to pay their respects to those who lost their lives during the Great War and World War II. In the words of Laurence Binyon, 1869-1943, "We will remember them."

Who We Are and How to Contact Us

Our Councillors are: Chair, Rob Derraven; Vice Chair, John Blackburn; County Councillor Nigel George; County Councillor Philippa Leonard; County Councillor Arianna Leonard; Zoe Davies; Deb Crahart and Sue Thorne. Our contact details can be found on:

http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/ riscaeastcc/content/councillors together with agendas, minutes and statement of accounts produced by the Clerk of the Council, Mr Gwyn James.

You can keep up to date with what's happening in Risca East by following us on Facebook. No 'joining' required, just enjoy, like/dislike, and share the news of what's happening in our vibrant community of Risca East.

The Community Council meets on the third Thursday of the month at 5.30pm and holds its meetings in St David's Church,



Ty Sign and members of the public are very welcome to observe proceedings. However, if you wish to book a 15-minute slot on the agenda to bring some local matter to the attention of the Councillors or to appeal for financial support for a local club, society or charity, please contact the Clerk: Mr Gwyn James, riscaeastcommunity council@outlook.com Our meetings are also advertised on our various notice boards throughout the area: one outside St David's Church on Thistle Way, one near the Top Shops on Elm Drive leading to Holly Road, another on the iunction of Channel View and Manor Road and one at the bottom of Herbert Avenue.



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While most of the team were dancing in the rain in Stroud on 22nd September (Nov/Dec issue), a couple of our members were in the rain in Caldicot at a mini-twmpath for Ysgol Gwmraeg Y Ffin, who were celebrating their 10th birthday. The age of participants ranged from 4 to 84, never too old!

On Friday 19th October GG paid

a return visit to the Stow Park Church Centre to provide an evening's entertainment for Newport Welsh Society. Barbara Griffiths, although recovering from a hip replacement, had put together a survey to find the most popular place in Wales. GG members went through the alphabet with a brief description of Welsh places, and the audience then got to choose their favourite (St David's was the winner in case you were wondering). In between there was plenty of music and dancing with chances for audience participation. The evening finished with a lovely buffet. Now for something different, on Sunday 11th November, the 6 available dancers plus musicians Olly and Mike travelled to a blustery Cardiff Bay to be filmed outside the Millennium Centre, along with many other acts, for



the opening credits on the Welsh auditions of the next series of Britain's Got Talent. Regular readers may remember that in 2013 GG was filmed for the opening credits of the X Factor and shown for all of two seconds. I wonder how long we will get this time, or if we even make it to the screen!

Passing Welsh culture and dancing onto future generations is of prime importance to GG, so in 1981 we worked with primary schools from the former county of Gwent, enabling many schools to set up 'after school clubs' where hundreds/thousands of children have danced and enjoyed Welsh culture throughout the years. When some of these children became adults they even joined GG, bringing the average age of the members down considerably!!! As well as schools,

we invite any other children's organisations who meet on a weekly basis to join Gwyl Plant Gwent (translated: Gwent's children's festival). We have retired members who are always willing to give a helping hand to get you started.

Gwyl Plant festivals for 2019 are: Newport - Newport Sports Village, Saturday 15th June 10am -12pm

Cwmbran - Cwmbran Square, Saturday 22nd June 10am-12pm Abergavenny - Abergavenny Castle, Saturday 29th June 11am-1pm

Mini Gwyl Plant - Tredegar House Folk Festival, Saturday 11th May 11am-12pm

If you are interested please ring 01633 892697 for further details. Come and join in with the children and parents, or if you prefer just come and watch.

Gwerinwyr Gwent is always looking for new members, and beginners or experienced dancers or musicians are very welcome. We meet on Thursdays from 8-10pm at the Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg, NP10 8LG (opposite the Ruperra PH). Just come along, or ring 01495 271953 for more details, also visit our website www.gwerinwyrgwent.org.uk



GATERS



o7585 558051 **Barbershup**

SY, TREDEGAR STREET, RISCA, NP11 68W



Gaters Barbershop has moved to new premises









Gaters Barbers are pleased to welcome you to our new barbeshop which opened on Monday 2Ist March At 54 Tredegar street Risca NPII 6BW only about 80 yards form our old shop but this one offers you more luxury with a dedicated seating / waiting area which has TV and FREE WI FI so you can connect with your phones, check in and if you have kids they can play on their ipads to keep them entertained also.









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And So Another Year Ends; How Worrying Is That?

There we go! Another year is almost out, and, as usual, we're not stuck for something to write about!

One of us retired from the steel industry in 2003 after 40 years, and promptly bought a brand new car, an absolutely brilliant Ford Focus estate (CE03). That car had to be retired, exhausted, after about seven years and 273,000 miles. The stats relating to the next car, a Ford C-max are beyond recall, but from memory are

not quite so frightening. There was then another C-max (CE11) which also was retired, in October after 193,000 miles, to be replaced by yet another one. One thing is clear, these cars have accumulated well over half a million miles between them. At least 80% of this relates directly to our rescue work, and includes 'the afters' by which we mean either releasing a bird into the most appropriate location, or, if necessary hospitalising it. The latest vehicle to join us on the treadmill is yet another C-max, we have to say they have all been excellent from the point of view of comfort, economy and reliability, as has the back-up received from the staff at Newport Ford. A most sincere 'Thank you' to all concerned for that.

With this latest car (CE67), we have entered a new era, that of satnav! A part of so many calls requesting assistance has been the offer of a postcode which, in the past, we have usually declined because we have depended entirely on a comprehensive collection of A-Z Street and Ordnance Survey maps and a lifetime of successful map reading; we still have all of those, but held in reserve.

Much of our time in October and November has been taken up dealing with this year's cygnets in distress. Thus it was the last mission for which the most recent old car was required involved a young (2018) cygnet which must have taken off from within the Cardiff Bay lagoon and landed on the A4232 Link Road just short of the Butetown Tunnels. At some point, we can only guess the details, it was seriously injured, sustaining a broken leg. By the time we arrived, it was struggling to get back onto the water through the railings on the pavement on the east-bound side of the carriageway; mercifully, there was no way he

26

SWAN RESCUE

could succeed; CE11's final trip was, therefore to take this poor little bird for treatment at the National Swan Sanctuary at Shepperton.

The following day, we parted with CE11 and took delivery of CE67, to be followed the very next day with a mission to the Teifi Estuary beyond Cardigan. Satnav came into its own on this very first trip mainly because of the road closures necessitated by the very heavy rain the week before. The story of the swan we had to rescue was peculiar to say

suffered a

broken leg

the least. James and his partner live on a boat moored in the estuary. A few months prior, they had

rescued/befriended an adult swan they had spotted in a reed bed near their mooring. It appeared to be scruffy, in generally poor condition and

underweight. Over the following weeks they fed him, it seems to the point at which the swan preferred their company to that of the other swans on the estuary. Crazy though it may sound, it seems he had forgotten how to be a wild swan. With James' travel plans for the forthcoming winter in mind spending it in Greece, it was agreed it would be best to relocate the bird to Shepperton which we duly did some few days later.

Excitement in the following days included, on two separate occasions, swans 'down' on the west-bound M4 and A48. In the latter case the bird had flown



before we arrived, but in the other there was a significant build up of traffic, potentially making it extremely difficult to progress

quickly to the precise location where our experience could be put to effective use. Needless to sav. the Motorway Police and Traffic Officers were greatly relieved when we did finally turn up. In the event neither was too bad unlike on one occasion a few vears ago when a major incident occurred on the A40 at Ross-on-Wye, on the bridge over the river itself: it took nearly an hour to complete the last mile to the scene. With the benefit of hindsight. the implications of the case of the swan on the motorway are sad. A day later it was reported the adult male, the cob, from a family with its territory at Coed

Kernew had gone missing. This is a most unusual thing to have happened, a very well established family comprising an adult pair and four cvanets. This is the time of year when the young are starting to disperse, either of their own accord, or being 'encouraged' to do so especially by the cob. We've never come across a case of an adult leaving like this. Sadly, we've been left wondering whether or not the swan on the motorway could have been him. Having released this bird at Channel View in Grangetown, we have been hoping ever since he would fly back, something we do know a swan is well capable of, but so far it hasn't happened in this case. In the meantime, we continue to keep an eye on what is now a 'one parent family' resident near Coed Kernew.

Story by Peter, photographs by Ellen. For swan and all other wildlife problems please contact Peter & Ellen on 01633 895241 or 07802 472788

/hat's()/

Oxford House Museum

Open every Saturday from 10.00am to 12.30pm Risca U3A

for retired & unemployed people. Risca Youth Centre, Lyne Road MONDAY

Walking 10.00am at Risca Leisure Centre Scrabble 12.30pm

TUESDAY

Art Club 9.00am, Local History 12.30pm Walking 10.00am at Fields Road

WEDNESDAY

Keep Fit 10.30am, Short Mat Bowls 1.00pm

Bridge 1.15pm THURSDAY

Craft 9.00am, Short mat Bowls 9.30am

FRIDAY

Walking 10.00am at Risca Leisure Centre (Easy) Monthly Social Afternoon on last Thursday of the Month at 2.00pm.

Please Contact Mrs I Davies 01633 850095

Trussell Trust Food Bank

Monday: 10am - 12pm Wednesday: 10am - 12pm Friday: 10am - 12pm

Salvation Army, 66A Commercial Street, Risca

Tel: 07599 973312 or 01633 613794

info@risca.foodbank.org.uk Oxford House Industrial History Society.

If you are interested in industrial history then why not join us every Friday evening at Risca Colliers Institute 7:00 pm. Details of our talks and walks programme are available on our website www.riscamuseum.org.uk

Contact Brian Absolon 01633 264819 **Western Valley Camera Club**

Every Thursday - 7:30pm till about 10:00 Cross Keys RFC, Pandy Park, Woodward Ave, Cross Keys. We run a varied program of competitions, practical work, talks, etc. Everyone is welcome regardless of age, gender, experience, ability, or equipment. For more info contact: Vince Penticost, Chairman - 01495 271581, Chris Meaker 07730 686034. Or visit the club website -

www.westernvallev.co.uk

Sequence Dancing

Tuesday 8.15pm-10.15pm (dance and

instruction)

Saturday 8.00pm-10.30pm (social dancing) Channel View Community Centre (off Lower Wyndham Terrace) Contact: Les 01495 270798 **Shade**

A self help group for people with depression and anxiety. Every Tuesday 7.00-9.00pm and Thursday 1.00-3.00pm, Danygraig Church Hall No charge, all welcome

Risca Male Choir

Sunday 6-8pm and Thursday 7-9 pm at the old Risca UDC offices in St. Mary Street For more details call secretary Alan Davis 01495 272664 or www.riscachoir.net **GWENT CHORALE supported by COLEG**

The choir meets every Wednesday at 7pm at Dan-y-Graig Church, Risca NP11 6DR New choristers are always welcome. For more details call Colin on 01633 894914 or Nicola on 07974 111712

Or visit www.gwentchorale.com

Sequence Dancing,

Monday 8.00pm. St Margaret's Church Hall, Risca, MC's Paul & Bella, All are Welcome Contact 01633 612823 for more details

Indoor Short Mat Bowls

Every Tuesday 12.30pm until 2.30pm at the Risca Library. £1 a game. All ages and abilities welcome For more information please

Contact Derek Haines on 01633 601302

Bethany Baptish Church Hall

Friends Together Tuesday 2-4pm Chat, play table games, craft projects. Call for more details 01633 664181

Reading Group - Risca Library

1st Tuesday morning each month 11.00am -12noon, For full details please contact Gill Bartlett 01443 864780

Story, Rhyme and Play Session

For children under 4 at Risca Library Tuesday & Saturdays 11am-12noon (term-time only). Contact: Risca Library 01443 864780

Moriah Baptist Church

Friday Parents and Tots 9.30am-11.30am Secretary: Sylvia Ware 01633 612789

www.moriahrisca.org.uk 5th Risca Scout Group -

Beavers/Cubs/Scouts

Beavers: Tuesday 5.15pm-6.15pm Cubs: Tuesday 6.30pm-7.30pm Scouts: Wednesday 7.00pm-9.00pm

Contact: Gareth Tanswell (Group Scout Leader) 08432 891272

1st Pontywaun Scout Group

Beavers/Cubs/Scouts

Beavers: Monday 5:00pm - 6:00pm Cubs: Monday 6:00pm - 7:30pm Scouts: Monday 6:00pm - 7:30pm Contact: Alan Terrell (Group Scout Leader)

07977 651453

gsl@1stpontywaun.craiscouts.co.uk The Samurai Judo Club - Crosskeys St Catherine's Church, Gladstone Street Wednesday 6.15pm-8.00pm. For more information contact: 01633 614356 or 01633 601256

contact: 01633 614356 or 01633 601256 Agape Community Church, Ty-Sign

Monday 9:30am-11:30am Ty Sign Tots at Channel View Community Hall.

Monday 7:00pm-9:00pm CAP Fresh Start Group for people tackling life controlling dependencies at TLC Cafe.

Wednesday 10:30am-12:00noon at the TLC Cafe CAP Job Club.

Wednesday 7:30pm-9:30pm. Connect Group for adults.

Thursday evening 7:30pm once a month Bible Book Club.

Contact 07836 608085 for details of CAP Group courses and Bible Book Club.

Really Cuckoo Company

Sing, Dance, Act and have Fun. www.cuckoos.org.uk Risca Mini & Juniors RFC U14s

Training sessions are held every Wednesday night at Fire Station Fields, Risca throughout the rugby season.

We always welcome new players under 14 years old. Contact Andrew on 07751 033507 for more details.

Welsh Folk Dancing Group

Thursdays 8.00pm-10.00pm. Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg. Telephone 01495 271953 for details or just turn up

Aviation and Air Traffic Control

If you are interested in aviation, and would like to know more about what goes on in the air above us every day, why not come along to one of our regular meetings at the Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg? For more information call 01633 213243

La Leche of Newport

La Leche League Groups provide mother-to-mother support by holding regular meetings on various aspects of mothering through breastfeeding. Location details or further information please contact Rhiannon 01633 892505

Alcan Singers

Wednesdays 7.30pm. Rogerstone and Bassaleg Social Club (Alcan Club). Tom Claridge 01495 231761

Line Dance Class for all levels

7.00pm every Monday. Bassaleg & Rogerstone Social Club. Tel 01633 262796 or just come along to join in the fun

Nostalgia Music Society

Rogerstone & Bassaleg Social Club, Tregwilym Road, Rogerstone. 4th Wednesday of every month at 7.15pm. Admission £2.00

Further details from Dave Davies 01633 891711

Emails alumtoff0011@hatmail.co.uk

Email: glyntaff2011@hotmail.co.uk

Rogerstone Roses WI

2nd and 4th Tuesday in the month 7.00pm St Anne's Church Hall

Contact: Olive Sheward 07954 336098

Afon Belles WI

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday in the month from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at Rivermead Community Centre, Afon Village.

For more information please contact Karen Powell on 07870 116546

or email afonbellesrogerstone@gmail.com

Whitehead Steelers Junior RFC

Wednesday and Thursday evenings For more information, please contact Mitch on 07940 143315

Legs Bums & Tums, Zumba, Pilates

Rivermead Centre, Afon Village Welfare Grounds, Rogerstone

For further information call Michelle: 07957 267977

Tai Ch

Tydu Community Hall, Rogerstone NP10 9EQ Monday 7.15pm. Contact Bill James 07814 571247 Email: bill.james@live.co.uk

Newport and County Horticultural Society.

Winter talks and summer outings. For further information contact Gay Thomas on 01633 274527

Gwent Family History Society (Newport Branch)

Help Desk at Newport Reference Library 2nd Wednesday of each month 2pm-4pm Beginners Class at the Civic Centre 7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Branch Meeting at the Civic Centre

7.00pm on the Last Wednesday of each month

Contact 01633 421378

Newport Folk Club

Every Thursday 8.45 at Newport Fugitives Athletic Club, High Cross. Contact Malcolm Charnley on 07973 278932

Badminton club

Rogerstone Primary School every Tuesday and Friday 7.00-9.00pm. For adults and teenagers of all abilities. For more details please contact:

Gary: 07967 146332. Linda: 07952 583827 lindajdaniels@btinternet.com

Twitter: @PonthirBadders

Facebook: Ponthir Badminton

Fourteen Locks Canal & Heritage Centre

Why not come and join us on one of our regular monthly walks from the Centre, they take place on the first Saturday of each month at 10.00am REGARDLESS OF WEATHER.

Please phone 01633 892167 for details of the next walk

The Rotary Club of Newport

Sec: Peter Landers 01633 213049

www.rotarynewport.org

email:peter landers@hotmail.com

The Rotary Club of Newport Uskmouth

Sec: Keith Minton 01633 423368

www.nuws.ora.uk

email: keithminton44@gmail.com

The Rotary Club of Caerleon

Sec: Gerry Fulcher 07891 390255 www.rotary-ribi.org/caerleon

email: gerryfulcher369@gmail.com
The Rotary Club of St Woolos Newport

Sec: Alan Thomas

email: stwoolosnewport@outlook.com

The Rotary Club of Machen

Sec: Hugh Clatworthy 01633 893919

Are You Planning to Move in 2019?

New Year, new start and new home? If you are thinking about selling your house in 2019 now is the time to get it on the market to take advantage of the annual surge in activity from homebuyers who have made resolutions to move in the New Year.

Couple this with the increasing levels of interest from both homebuyers and investors from the other side of the now tollfree Severn crossing and we have a local house market that is (no pun intended!) moving very quickly.

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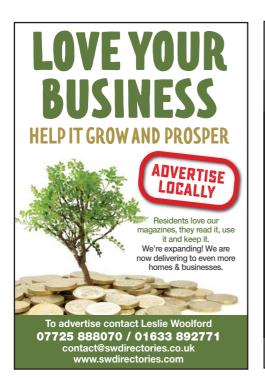
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Western Valley Camera Club

Western Valley Camera Club is one of the leading Camera Clubs in South Wales.

We meet on a Thursday evening at Cross Keys Rugby Club and operate for people who are interested in photography and wish to develop and enhance new and existing skills.

The club holds meetings throughout the year on a variety of topics and aims to provide a varied programme which features the following broad topic areas:

- Competitions
- Practical sessions
- Demonstrations
- Talks and presentations from members and quality external speakers

We hold our meetings in the Dudley Suite, Cross Keys Rugby Club (Pandy Park, Woodward Avenue, Cross Keys, NP11 7BS) at 7.30pm and aim to finish by 10.00pm



For further information please go to the club web page at www.westernvalley.co.uk

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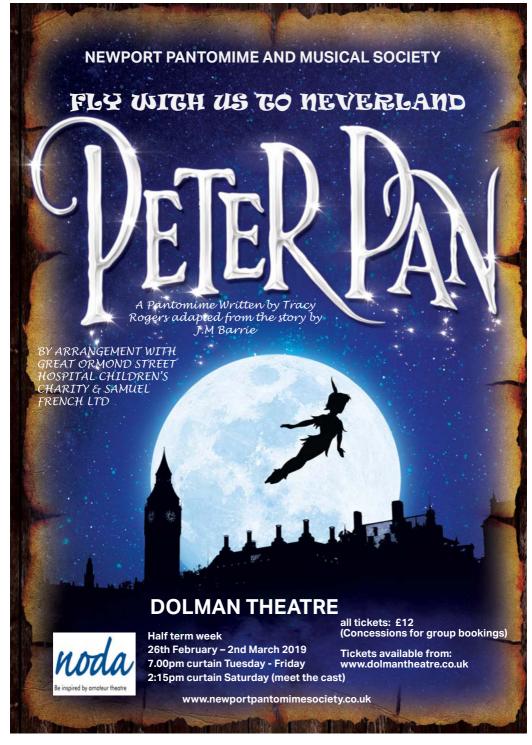
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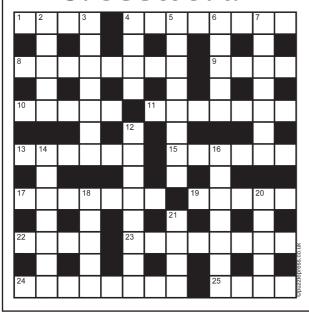
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32 **swdirectories.com** January/February 2019



Crossword



Across

- "Beware the ___ of March given to Julius Caesar (4) of March", advice
- 4 Lake on which Chicago stands (8)
- 8 Royalist supporter of Charles I (8)
- 9 Hindu or Buddhist religious leader (4)
- 10 Divisions of the school year (5)
- 11 Plait of braided hair (7)
- 13 Protruding abdomen (6)
- 15 Computer application program that uses the client's web browser to provide a user interface (6)
- 17 Outlet of a river to the sea (7)
- 19 City, the capital of Ghana (5)
- 22 Threesome (4)
- 23 Spillage caused by exceeding capacity (
- 24 Medicated lozenge for the throat (8)
- 25 Dark greenish-blue colour (4)

Down

- 2 First Englishman to
- circumnavigate the globe (5)
- 3 Itinerant Australian labourer (7)
- 4 Female domestic (4)
- 5 Prominent bishop of the Roman Catholic Church (8)
- 6 Block of metal (5)
- 7 Flight-operating company (7)
- 12 Stick of black carbon material used for drawing (8)
- 14 Country, capital Vienna (7)
- 16 World's largest ocean (7)
- 18 German submarine in World War II (1-4)
- 20 Dry red table wine from Spain (5)
- 21 French for 'father' (4)

Sudoku

6	7	9				3	8	
4					3			
			6	8				4
	8					4	7	
5		4	1	6		8		
	1	2						
	3			5	6	9		
8						1		
9	4	5		1			3	8

Solution on page 38

The object of sudoku is to insert the missing numbers in the boxes to satisfy just one condition: each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 through to 9 exactly once. This can be done by applying logic - you do not have to guess.



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LLANSANTFFRAED AND THE NARES FAMILY

(Part 4)

After our diversion in discussing American Presidential desks we will now return to the Nares Family and resume looking at the eventful career of George Strong Nares. Following his visit to the Arctic as mate on HMS Resolute, he returned back to this country and obtained merited promotion to Lieutenant. He was then sent on a gunnery course before being posted to the Crimea, where he served two years in HMS Conqueror mainly in the Mediterranean. In 1858 he joined the staff of a training ship HMS Illustrious and from her transferred to the larger HMS Britannia.

transit the canal. L'aigle was the French Imperial Yacht and would be carrying the Empress Eugenie, wife of Emperor Napoleon the third.

When night fell, Commander Nares carefully conned and sneaked his 570 ton gun-ship, without the aid of any navigation lights, through the

Nares became married to Mary Grant, eldest daughter of a Portsmouth banker, in 1858. They eventually produced quite a large family of four sons and six daughters. In 1860 Nares wrote a manual named The Navel Cadet's Guide, which was published under the title of 'Seamanship' running to several editions and was regarded as the best manual of its day. In 1862 he was promoted to Commander and in then 1863 took over command of HMS Boscawen another training ship.

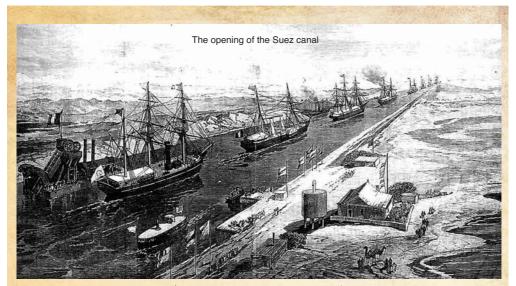


In 1865 Nares was appointed to command a small paddle steamer, HMS Salamander sailing off the east coast of Australia, where his duties included surveying. Next in



1868 he commanded HMS Newport, a small wooden threemasted screw driven gun-ship, for hydrographical work in the Mediterranean. This work includes a survey of the Gulf of Suez in 1869. The Suez Canal had been constructed between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea by the French under the supervision of Engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps. The official opening ceremony was planned for November 1869, and the night before a large group of ships of various nations gathered outside the Suez entrance to the canal, waiting to enter on the following day. First in line was the French vessel L'aigle intended to be the very first ship to lead into and

dense mass of waiting ships to the very front. The following morning, to the dismay of the French, the very first vessel to enter the canal and leading the fleet was flying the British ensign. The name of this ship was HMS Newport. The French were enraged that the very first ship to enter their canal and leading the procession make the first transit should be a British ship flying a British flag. The French, obviously, made a very strong complaint to Britain about this interruption and desecration of their ceremony. Commander Nares received a very strong rebuke from the Admiralty for his impertinence to the French. However, he was much admired for his skill and the



seamanship that he had demonstrated. The Admiralty could not have been too disgusted by his action because, within a year, Nares was promoted to Captain and continued to advance in his naval career.

The ship, HMS Newport, was probably not named after our city of Newport, but as she was laid down in 1860 in Pembroke dock yard, her name, therefore, was almost certainly borrowed from Newport in Pembrokeshire. She was a small 570 ton three-masted ship, 145 feet long, fitted with a twocylinder horizontal single steam expansion engine, developing just over 325 horsepower and driving a single screw propeller. As a gunship she was armed with one 68pounder smooth bore gun and two 20-pounder breech loading guns. Her three masts wore a barque rigged sail plan. She was finally sold into civilian service in 1881. Following the Suez Canal incident Captain Nares continued his service in the Royal Navy. He was involved in much further hydrographical work and oceanographic exploration, going on to make many discoveries. We will discuss much of his future career which would eventually lead to his promotion to Rear Admiral in 1887 and Vice-Admiral in 1892.

HMS Newport after entering civilian service was re-named several times, changed owners and was used for Arctic exploration. She finally ended up in Russian ownership and was then named the



Commander Nares

Svyataya Annaa (Saint Anne). The Russian explorer, Georgy Brusilov, employed her in 1912 to explore the North East passage between the Atlantic and Pacific. In October 1912 she became ice-locked in the Kara Sea off the Yamal Peninsula. The ship was well stocked with

supplies and the crew expected that they would be released in the next year's thaw. However, this did not happen and they remained trapped through 1913 into 1914. Supplies were now almost exhausted and scurvy broke out and their situation became desperate. Just one officer and a crewman attempted and succeeded in trekking to safety on foot, they were the sole survivors. The vessel and all her remaining crew completely disappeared, and not until 2010 was any trace discovered. Bones of a crewmember with various artefacts and a logbook were finally discovered on Franz Joseph Land. The unfortunate crew must have suffered a terrible fate resembling that of members of the better known Franklin expedition. Traditionally it has been held that to change the name of a ship would bring bad luck to that vessel. This seems to be confirmed by the present case, the ship that started life named Newport was first changed to Pandora II then became Blencathra and finally ended up as Svyataya Anna. In her final name she encountered a most unfortunate

(To Be Continued)

GWENT CHORALE

We meet at Dan-y-Graig Church, Risca at 7.00pm every Wednesday.

More information about the choir can be found at www.gwentchorale.com or find us on Facebook.

Alternatively you may like to talk to Nicola Price on 07974 111712 or Colin Harvey on 01633 894914.



per issue **888070**

contact@swdirectories.co.uk

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Crossword

Across: 1 Ideas, 4 Michigan, 8 Cavalier, 9 Guru. 10 Terms. 11 Pigtail. 13 Paunch. 15 Applet, 17 Estuary, 19 Accra, 22 Trio, 23 Overthrow, 24 Pastille, 25 Cvan,

Down: 2 Drake, 3 Swagman, 4 Maid, 5 Cardinal, 6 Ingot, 7 Airline, 12 Charcoal, 14 Austria, 16 Pacific. 18 U-boat, 20 Rioja, 21 Pére

Sudoku

6	7	9	2	4	1	3	8	5
4	5	8	9	7	3	2	1	6
1	2	3	6	8	5	7	9	4
3	8	6	5	2	9	4	7	1
5	9	4	1	6	7	8	2	3
7	1	2	4	3	8	5	6	9
2	3	1	8	5	6	9	4	7
8	6	7	3	9	4	1	5	2
9	4	5	7	1	2	6	3	8

Risca RARY

Risca Palace Unit B, 75 Tredegar Street 01443 864780 www.caerphilly.gov.uk

Monday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 6.00pm
Tuesday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Saturday	9.30am - 4.00pm

Baby Rhyne Time

meets every Wednesday 2.15pm - 2.45pm

Crafters Corner

meets weekly on Friday's at 11am-12pm (Informal craft session over tea and coffee, bring your own projects)

Story Time and Crafts

(for children under4) – weekly on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 11am-12pm



St David's Hospice Care

By supporting the work of St David's Hospice Care, you are making a positive difference to patients and their families throughout Newport, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Torfaen and South / Mid Powys. Funds raised provide, comprehensive palliative care and support to patients and their families at a very diffic<u>ult time of their lives. Our aim</u> is to ensure patients have 'real' choice to receive individual tailored care, surrounded by friends and families.









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Benefice of Lower Islwyn St. Mary's Risca St. Mary a risea Sunday 10am Holy Eucharist St. Margaret's Pontymister Wednesday 10am Holy Eucharist Reverend Martyn Evans 01633 619425 martynevans01@btinternet.com The Salvation Army Sunday - 10.30am & 5.00pm Parent & Toddlers, Tuesday 9.30am Luncheon Club – Wednesday12.00pm Rainbow Weds 5.00pm Brownies Weds 6.00pm Guides Weds 6.30pm Captain's Kingsley & Paula Layton 01633 613794 www.riscasalvationarmy.org.uk **Moriah Baptist Church** Sunday 11.00am; 6.00pm Friday Babies & Tots 9.30am-11.30am Secretary: Sylvia Ware 01633 612789 www.moriahrisca.com **Bethany Baptist Church** Sunday 10.30am; 6.00pm. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7.15pm Friday Coffee Morning 10.30–12noon The Revd. Ian Waugh. 01633 619163 St Davids Shared Church, Ty Sign Sunday 11.00; 6.00pm Crosskeys Methodist Church Sunday 11.00am Trinity Congregational Church, **Pontywain** Sunday 11.00am. Rev Paula Parish-Foley Stow Park Church Centre, Brynhyfryd Rd, Newport Sunday 10.45am Sunday 3.00pm Oedfa Gymraeg (Welsh Language Sunday 5.30pm Informal Service with Tea Wednesday Prayers 10.00am, Bible Class 11.15am Cafe with light meals and shop is now open Tuesday to Friday only. Volunteers welcome www.stowparkchurch.org.uk / 01633 843730 Hope Baptist Church, Crosskeys Sunday 11.00am; 6.00pm Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7.00pm Wednesday Luncheon Club 12.15pm Thursday Sisterhood 7.00pm Friday (term time) K's Childrens meeting 6.00pm Contact: Stuart Godfrey 01495 272227 **Clyde Street Pentecostal Church** Sunday Communion 11.00am Sunday Evening Service 6.00pm Tuesday Prayer Meeting 7.30pm Society of Friends (Quakers) Caerleon Town Hall 1st & 3rd Sundays 10.30am 01633 264210 Ss. Anthony and Clare (RC) Risca Sunday Mass 11.00am Tuesday Mass 7.00pm Wednesday Exposition 9.30am followed by Mass 10.00am. Church open to visitors 10.00-1.00pm with coffee and tea in the Church Hall Our Lady of Peace (RC) Newbridge Sunday Mass 6.00pm. Thursday Mass 1.30pm Church open to visitors 12.00-2.00pm The Sacred Heart (RC), Pontlianfraith Saturday Mass 6.00pm. Sunday Mass 9.30am Monday 11.00am. Friday Exposition 10.00am

Contact Pastor Mark Jones 07836 608085 www.agapeonline.org.uk Ty-Isaf Baptist Church Sunday 11.00am; 6.00pm Thursday Prayer/Bible Study 7.00pm Friday (term time) Children's Club 6.00pm Pastor Stephen Tucker 01633 866580 www.tyisafbaptist.com **Grace Baptist Assembly** Malpas Community Centre Pillmawr Road. Sunday 3.00pm Faith Community Church, Wern Industrial Estate, NP10 9FQ. (opposite Cedric John's). Sunday 10.30am. Pastors Mike & Helen Taylor 07454 179892. www.fcconline.org.uk **Newport City wide Family of God Church** Tydu Community Hall, Rogerstone. Sunday 10am-2pm 07888 313523 info@fogwales.com www.fogwales.com **Eglwys Annibynnol Mynydd Seion** Hill Street, Casnewydd NP20 1LZ Oedfa Gymraeg am10.30 Bore Sul ac Ysgol Sul Welsh Language Service at 10.30am on Sundays Croeso Cynnes i Bawb A warm welcome to fluent Welsh speakers and learners. www.mynyddseion.org.uk Sian Howley 01633 421427 sianhowley@hotmail.com Elin Maher 01633 243700 elin.maher@ntlworld.com **Newport Cathedral** Sunday 8.00am Holy Eucharist 10.30am Cathedral Eucharist 5.00pm Choral Evensong Every weekday 8.00 am Morning Prayer 8.15 am Holy Eucharist Everyday except Wednesdays 5.00 pm Evensong Wednesday 6.30 pm Choral Evensong Thursdays only 10.30 am Cathedral Eucharist Contact details 01633 267464 Email enquiries@newportcathedral.org.uk Website www.newportcathedral.org.uk St Martins-in-the-Gaer Sunday 9.30am Holy Eucharist Contact details 01633 267464, Email enquiries@newportcathedral.org.uk, King's Church Lower Dock Street, Newport. Sunday 10.30am and 5.00pm. 01633 244453 **Newport Christian Spiritualist Church** Orchard Lane Community Centre off Stafford Road Friday Service 7.00pm- 8.30pm Sunday Service 6.30pm-8.00pm Tuesday Healing Clinic 6.30pm-8.30pm **New Life Christian Church** 37 Llanover Street, West End, Abercarn NP11 4SX We meet at 5pm each Sunday. Haydn Jefferies 07949 220135 **New Beginnings Church** Rogerstone Primary School Ebenezer Drive, Rogerstone NP10 9YX Sunday Service 11.00am Facebook- New beginnings Church/Newport Contact 07990 540966 **Dan-y-Graig Church Risca** Sunday 11.00am and 6.00pm. Sunday School 11.00am Monday 7.00pm Guild Tuesday 10.30am Coffee morning Thursday10.30am Coffee morning Rev. Paula Parish-Foley 01633 412760 **Crosskeys Methodist Church** Sunday Worship 11am Mondays - Wesley Guild 7pm to 9pm Contact Michael Gray 01495 270253 Thursdays - Ladies Group 2pm to 4pm Contact Ruth Gray 01495 270253 General Contact Michael Gray 01495 270253, or The Minister, Rev Les Jones 01633 843322 January/February 2019

CAP Job Club TLC Cafe

Wednesday 7:30pm-9:00pm Connect Group

Thursday 7:00pm Monthly Bible Book Club

followed by Mass 10.30am

Sunday School 11.00am

catholicchurch@binternet.com

Crosskeys Pentecostal Church

Tuesday 7.15pm prayer meeting Thursday 7.15pm Bible Study

Agape Community Church Ty Sign

Channel View Community Hall

Wednesday10:30am-12:00noon

Monday 9:30am-11:30am Ty Sign Tots Monday 7:00pm-9:00pm CAP Fresh Start Group

07980 236936

Sunday 10:30am

Church open to visitors 10.00am–2.00pm Fr. Kevin Paine Tel.01495 233304

Gladstone Street. Sunday 10.30am; 6.00pm

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Blaenrhondda Waterfalls

From Merthyr Tydfil, take the A465 to towards Hirwaun, then take the winding A4061 Rhigos Road to Blaenrhondda. Take the B4522 to Blaencwm and follow the signs for Waterfall car park. Follow the footpath along the left side of the stream up to the Nant Melyn waterfall. It is possible to see the Nant Carnfoesen waterfall from the path, but for the best view, cross the stream just upstream of the tiny reservoir and head up the left bank of the other stream that enters the reservoir. Follow it up to the waterfall but there is no proper path to this point.

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