

NEWPORT

DIRECTORY



SEPTEMBER/
OCTOBER 2019



SW DIRECTORIES

Welcome!

Hope you all had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to Autumn and the usual seasonal activities ahead.

We are a small independent business and our aim is to provide an informative and interesting magazine that positively contributes to both community life and local businesses. A full list of local events, activities, groups and churches are available on our website, www.swdirectories.com

Please don't forget to get in touch soon if you would like to advertise your business in our November/December edition. This will be our Christmas edition so may be an excellent opportunity to promote your business to lots of potential customers at this time of year. We deliver to 30000 homes all over Newport; this is an ideal way for you to reach prospective customers and support the local community at the same time. Advertising in the Directories has proved successful for so many of our advertisers, some have been with us since the very first magazine in May 2006.

A huge thank you to all our advertisers - we are grateful for all your support.

Best wishes

Susan
x

Advertising enquiries:

Telephone Leslie on 07725 888070 or 01633 892771
or email contact@swdirectories.co.uk

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Newport Uskmouth Rotary boost Charity funds to over £180,000

Newport charities and volunteer organisations continue to benefit by thousands of pounds each year by taking part in the annual Newport Uskmouth Rotary's City Draw **and there is an opportunity for new organisations to join the 2020 Draw.** Affectionately known as the **NURD**, the event is genuinely a win/win scheme first introduced in Newport in September 2008. The concept is simple and hugely beneficial. The Club obtains prizes from sponsorship from various commercial and private sources. The Rotary Club prints the raffle tickets, **gives them** to the participating organisations who **keep the income from the sale of tickets.**

On average each year, more than £17,000 has been pumped into the charity sector of the City. The first Draw was in May 2009 and the most recent on 1st May 2019, when the Mayor of Newport drew the winning 11 tickets which were shared by Friends of the Newport Ship, Newport Philharmonic Choir, Newport MIND, Lliswerry Heart Link, Zimbabwe Volunteers Association, Adams Chorale, Cantorion Sanctaidd Choir, and ETA-mined. **£20,000 worth of tickets will be available for the next Draw (NURD20) and registration will take place in late October.** Beneficiaries of the Draw say:

RN Association (Newport): "A big thank you for inviting us again to take part in the Annual Draw. They provide everything – all we have to do is sell the

Newport Uskmouth
Rotary
& Satellites



tickets and keep the money and, this year, our funds were swollen by £1,500".

Parkinson's Newport: "We may not have won a prize but it was all in a good cause and we raised £395 for our funds".

"Opt to Adopt" Dogs'

Home: "We really appreciate the opportunity to take part and the funds raised will be put to good use".

NURD19 first prize

Winner: "Winning the top cash prize means that I can afford a holiday for the first time for many years. Thank you Rotary".

The Draw promoter, Keith Minton, says "This is just part of the contribution Newport Uskmouth Rotary makes to the City: other activities include the award-winning 'Young Carers' project, developing work in the City's first 'Men's Shed', the annual summer cycle ride for Prostate Cancer and the 'Tree of Light' at Christmas in Friar's Walk.



“ The event is genuinely a win/win scheme first introduced in Newport in September 2008. ”

If you are involved in running a charity, a youth activity, keep-fit class, PTA, church, choir etc. etc., you may be eligible to take part in the 2020 Draw. To learn more contact Keith Minton on keithminton44@gmail.com

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Thursday 26 September



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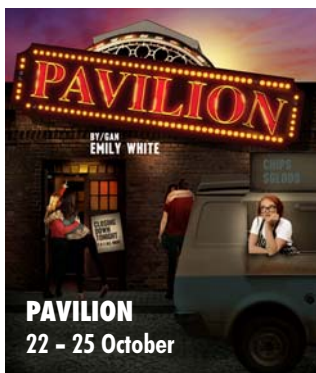
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18 October
(in English)



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Tornado in Newport

Early on a sunny morning in July a Tornado passed through Newport leaving a trail of steam and a group of happy railway enthusiasts, young and old, all feeling that the early start had been well worth it. Built in 2008, the Tornado is the

first mainline steam engine to be built in the UK since the 1960s. The magnificent steam engine set off on its Pembroke Coast Express journey from Bristol, travelling to Newport, Cardiff, Bridgend, Port Talbot, Swansea, Llanelli, Carmarthen and Tenby.



The £3m locomotive is owned by a trust and was built over an 18 year period.



BEACHES IN WALES

Caerfai Bay



A small rocky cove at high tide, sandwiched between towering cliffs, one mile south of the UK's smallest city, St David's. The beach is accessed by following a path through the craggy cliffs and down a steep set of steps. At low tide, a sandy beach is revealed with lots of rock pools to explore. You

won't find much in the way of beach amenities at Caerfai Bay and there is no lifeguard, so care should be taken if swimming here as currents are strong and changeable. If you are passing or on holiday in the area, the magnificent Cathedral is definitely well worth a visit.



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Fifteen Seconds to Create the Right Impression!

Our experience has shown that most potential buyers will decide whether they have a good feeling about a house within 15 seconds of entering it!

Whilst it would be ridiculous to suggest that this is the major contributing factor as to whether an offer is made or not, we strongly recommend that home owners looking to sell their properties take note and do what they can to present their house in its most favourable light.

We encourage our sellers to look at their own home through the eyes of a potential buyer and ask themselves what would you like to see, how would you like the house to be presented?

Tidy Up Before Viewings

You would be amazed by the number of houses we show people around where the current owners have made no effort to clean the main living spaces. Plates, mugs, clothes, toys etc are left on display instead of being tidied away.

- Keep a few family pictures on display but if possible pack away your knick-knacks, ornaments and other items that some might consider as clutter. Whilst it is still your home, potential buyers want to be able to see themselves living there and constant reminders of you won't help!

- If your kitchen worktop space is limited, make it look as large as possible by putting kettles, toasters, microwaves, storage jars/containers and other items in cupboards.

You might also be interested to know that almost 95% of buyers are looking to buy a house that they can move straight in to. Even though buyers are encouraged to overlook the current furnishings and decoration of a property, ripped or marked wallpaper and stained or worn carpets can turn buyers off.

Some sellers might think that because they are moving they needed invest the time or go to the expense of replacing things like this but we strongly recommend you reconsider because what will cost you a couple of hundred pounds to do might save you thousands when it comes to negotiating the sale price.

Don't Forget Your Garden

Spend a bit of time and money preparing the exterior of your home. Create the right first impression and keep the gardens and driveway well maintained, clean the fascias and guttering, paint the front door if necessary and please remove the gnomes from the lawn!

Speak to the Experts

We pride ourselves on our honesty and integrity. If you are unsure what you need to do to show off your house in its best light, ask us.



Book A Free Valuation and Let Us Help You to Sell Your House

If you are thinking of buying, selling, renting or seeking a professional company to manage your properties, get in touch to find out how we CAN help you.

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Tel: 01633 262628 Email: sales@kingston-newell.com www.kingston-newell.com

These Days, it's a Computer with Four Wheels and a Spare

(and the spare's often an option!)



By Mike Joenn, Founding Director of AJ Garage Services, Ponthir

When I finished my apprenticeship as a HGV mechanic, we were living in a different century and from where we stand now it has never seemed so far away.

Back in the 1960s, cars came in one flavour – petrol. Only HGVs & buses ran on diesel and the only thing on the road that was powered by batteries was the dairy's milk float. In 2019, we can look back in awe. We've seen the rise **AND THE FALL** of the diesel car and more recently, the dawn of the age of the electric car (and Hybrid). But it's going to take time for us to go all electric. There's a LOT of conventional vehicles out there to be maintained and serviced, so we certainly don't see the need for our skills declining in the foreseeable future.

That said, life in vehicle servicing and repair isn't what it used to be. The car today is tantamount to a fancy computer with four wheels and whilst the fundamentals remain the same... pistons, gearboxes, wheels, brakes, they have become 'computer peripherals'. The modern vehicle is governed, controlled and enabled by computers. Consequently, the modern service centre must employ new technology to service and maintain them and believe me,

it's expensive. Our business, for example, has invested over £45,000 in just the last two years tooling up with new computer systems and the software to analyse customers' vehicles to identify problems and fulfil other specialist functions. And just like your home computer, the software needs constant updating, upgrading and replacement. Troubleshooting a vehicle fault these days often starts with a technological diagnosis before we can get down and dirty with the nuts and bolts.

And have you noticed, we're no longer 'mechanics'. We are 'Vehicle Technicians' reflecting the fact that it's simply not good enough to be able to use a spanner. We've got to be 'systems analysts' and we have to understand technology as well as know how to use a socket set. Training is both essential and on-going.

The introduction of Technology to the workshop has also been instrumental in opening up the market for vehicle servicing. Vehicle manufacturers can no longer 'tie you in' to their service regimes with proprietary diagnostics and threat of invalidated warranty. Software and system diagnostic tools are available to non-franchise garages.

Few motorists realise that

today, they have the option to have their vehicle diagnosed and serviced by an accredited garage of their choice - without invalidating the warranty. So long as you choose an accredited garage, you can rest assured that the work will be carried out to the manufacturer's standards using genuine parts. ***And here's the thing, it can be a highly cost-effective choice – particularly on premium brand motor vehicles.***

So, look out for the accreditations that offer assurances that you are dealing with a professional garage which has invested in the technology, equipment, the tools and the training to offer you the service that you need. And here's the plug... Our business – **AJ Garage Services** is affiliated to the **Retail Motor Industry Federation, The United Garage Services Group, the Trust My Garage Network** and we are members of the **Guild of Master Craftsmen**. When you are looking for your next motor vehicle service and start to compare pricing, give me a call.

**Mike Joenn, AJ Garage Services, Star Trading Estate.
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Caerleon ANTIQUES & SOCIAL HISTORY CLUB 2019-20

Caerleon Social History Club takes place in Caerleon Town Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening of the month, apart from the event in October, which is on Tuesday 1st. Our first evening of the season is on September 10th and begins at 7.15 p.m.

Everyone will have the opportunity to listen to a variety of speakers on a wide range of subjects. Membership for the year (September – April) is £25 but it is possible for anyone to join us for an individual evening too. You will be made very welcome.

Refreshments are available and the evening finishes at 9.00pm

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact:
Maggie Bain - Chairperson Tel 07714 008796

Programme Sept-Oct 2019

September 10th

Saving Treasures, Telling Stories – Dr Rhianydd Biebrach, National Museum of Wales. A Heritage Lottery Grant Funded Project – acquiring archaeological objects for local and national collections. An interesting evening to start our year!!

September 24th

The Auction Market Today plus questions and valuations - Caroline Hawley, a regular on Flog It and Bargain Hunt. Caroline has dealt in antiques and collectables since a teenager.

October 1st

Please note date as it's the 1st Tuesday of the month
The Living Levels - Gavin Jones, Community Engagement Officer. The heritage, wildlife and wild beauty of the historic landscape of the Gwent Levels

October 22nd

The Plas Gunter Mansion, Abergavenny – Dr Gill Wakley. A hidden chapel, illegal Catholic masses and martyrdom.

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The Golden Age of Smuggling

by Paul Minton

I write this article at the height of summer, when the country has recorded its hottest July ever temperature. Welsh beaches have been invaded by throngs (or should that be thongs?) of sun worshippers, whose modesty is protected only by scanty bikinis and budgie smugglers. Of course, budgie smuggling is not the only sort of smuggling that takes place in the UK. Trafficking in both drugs and people is an ever-present blight but old school smuggling of goods is never out of fashion. In 2012, for instance, contraband consisting of 25,000 bottles of red wine, 67,000 cigarettes and 92 kilos of tobacco was recovered from just a single container at Newport Docks.

According to estimates, Britain once had as many as 25,000 smugglers with another 100,000 people actively involved in distribution. The Royal Navy, with its complement of 50,000 sailors, struggled to police national waters and it was only after the conflict with France had ended with the defeat of Napoleon that the war against the smuggler gained traction.

As a major port, Newport has been awash with illicit goods for hundreds of years, depriving HM Customs and Excise and its

predecessors of millions of pounds in lost revenue. The manner in which contraband was brought ashore varied but there have been persistent rumours of secret tunnels running beneath the city, such as between the River Usk and Christchurch and from the River Ebbw to St Woolos Cathedral.

The earliest reports of the illegal trade around Newport possibly date back to 1649 when 2,000 lbs of tobacco were seized at Redwick. Attempts by customs officers to board moored vessels suspected of smuggling were often less than plain sailing. During one such episode in 1791, a ship's crew, brandishing both cutlass and pistol, swore to the official that "if he presumed to come on board, they would blow his brains out!" Many merchant seamen who were found guilty of smuggling were later pressganged into the Royal Navy as a punishment and a deterrent. From 1830, it was generally recognised that smuggling was in decline nationwide, although Newport did not see a similar change in the tide. Instead, it reported increasing numbers of offences and it has been suggested that the opening of the Monmouthshire Brecon Canal may have contributed to the rise.

One interesting case involved the inaptly named ship, *Good Intent*.

Owned by a group of Newport businessmen, the 72-ton schooner ran a seemingly respectable operation between Britain and France. However, an inspection in 1837 revealed a series of false bulkheads that concealed 1100 gallons of brandy in 259 kegs. As a result, the *Good Intent*'s master was sentenced to a stint in Monmouth Gaol, whilst the vessel itself was confiscated and broken up.

On another occasion in 1891, the *South Wales Echo* reported that the master of a German ship named the *Leocadia* had been summoned to Newport Town Hall following the discovery of undeclared brandy stowed beneath some canvas in his bath. The steward had claimed the barrel was empty but the truth was revealed when customs officers heard the liquid sloshing about inside. That same year, the *Western Mail* printed a story about a runner for a Newport butchers, who was charged with smuggling cigars. Upon being confronted when bringing them ashore, the man literally did a runner, although he was apprehended some two hours later. The sentence was one month's imprisonment with a two guinea fine and no doubt, his dreams of becoming a big time smuggler went up in smoke at the same time!

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Saturday 21 September 2019

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Christmas Cinema Night

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Of Ducklings and Gulls

Those of our readers who have been with us for any length of time will know it's not only swans which need our help, but it is true that by far the majority of our rescues do involve 'water' birds in the broadest sense. This time, its ducklings (mallard) and gulls (Lesser Black Backed); the two stories are not related.

We received a family of eight tiny day old ducklings, their catastrophic separation from mother duck in a totally regrettable incident involving a speeding motorist on the outskirts of Cardiff. We have years of experience in dealing with these tiny creatures; at some stage this always involves moving them on for 'finishing' prior to release, due to limited capacity this might be sooner rather than later. And so it was with this group. A characteristic which marks some mallard families is they are incredible 'athletes', capable of jumping considerable heights from a standing start; doubtless a very useful attribute in their survival kit! So we loaded the ducklings into what we considered a suitable box and set off for Vale Wildlife Rescue at Beckford. Horror of horrors, when we arrived and booked the birds in, we found we had only six ducklings. Despite emptying the back of the car we could find no trace of the two missing ducklings and neither could we hear them, we would have expected their characteristic high pitched contact calls to have been apparent. There was nothing, so we set off for home. Stuck in traffic at some point during the return journey we did hear that call, and eventually found two little ducklings in one of my wellington boots. Clearly, they had jumped from the bottom of the box, locating one of the



carrying slots and transferred themselves to the boot. So, for these two, the whole process had to be repeated, for which, it seems, they were none the worse.

A local food manufacturing /processing company has learnt how careful they have to be regarding the management of open topped road-going containers, by ensuring they are fully covered when they are not in use. One such recently emptied container (but not washed and cleaned because its use is for unwanted leftovers) was found by four adult gulls at some time during the night, and clearly was thought to contain some tasty food items. Whether it did or didn't, the actual residue was in fact a curry sauce colour; let's say turmeric yellow!

The discovery was made at about 5am by members of the workforce. They had to find a certain amount of sophisticated kit in order to remove them from their predicament, whereupon we were



called to arrange transport, care and rehabilitation. In fact we were in a near identical situation three years ago, and so had no hesitation in, once again, involving Vale Wildlife Rescue. The gulls are recovering well. By an odd coincidence, on 6th July, The Times carried a picture of a Herring Gull which had met with a similar misfortune some 100 miles or so away, and was cleaned by the staff at another local wildlife hospital.

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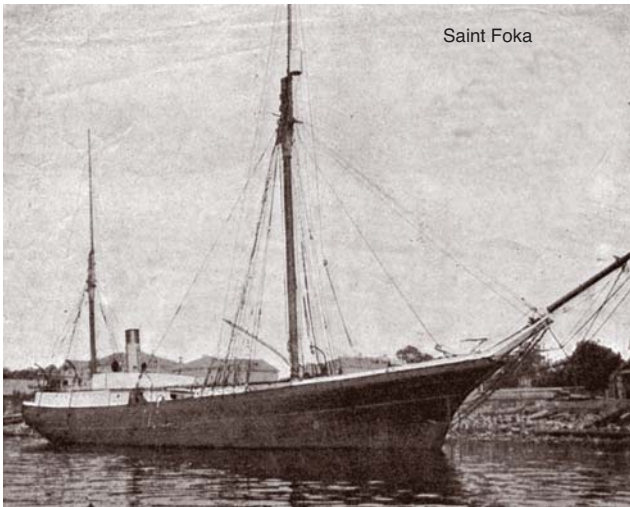
THE FINAL FATE OF H.M.S. NEWPORT

(Part 3)

Albanov and Konrad paddled their Kayak out across the sea to meet the approaching ship, the *Saint Martyr Foka*, which then dropped anchor. The relieved pair then clambered on board and were made welcome. The ship was calling at Cape Flora in order to search for fuel supplies for the steam engines. They had used up most of their coal supplies and were forced to rely on sail power.

Once on board they learned that the original expedition commander Sedov had died previously and that

three days and, hopefully, take them clear of the ice. The ship was very old and had



the expedition leader was now a Dr. P. Kushakov. It was agreed that the fortunate pair, Albanov and Konrad, could stay on board the *Saint Foka* for the trip back to Archangel. The next morning the crew went ashore to search for fuel and they dismantled a large cabin and transported the wood back to the ship to use as fuel. This salvaged wood fuel would give the ship enough steam power to last about

sprung a leak which required pumping for a couple of hours every day to prevent it from sinking. The shortage of fuel caused much concern and care had to be taken to avoid frequent collisions with ice floes. Before heading back towards Archangel, the ship made a search of other islands of the archipelago for any surviving missing members of the *Saint Anna* party, but no trace of any of these

people was found. Albanov and Konrad must be the only survivors of the forlorn party that had set out from the icebound ship *Saint Anna*. After completing the unsuccessful search the ship set off in the direction of Archangel, making use of any favourable winds to use sail power. The crew were desperately ransacking the ship for any wood that was not a vital structural part and could be burnt as fuel to raise steam. They even considered burning the ship's piano and also dismantled all the ship's cabins in the search for fuel. This meant that everybody would have to sleep on the bare deck!

The *Saint Foka* made very slow progress on her return voyage, they were blocked by fog and had difficulty in avoiding icebergs. The ship became trapped in the ice and had to anchor itself to a berg. They were now desperately short of fuel and resorted to dismantling the topmast, the jib boom and spritsail gaff, to saw up for fuel. They even piled up in the coal bins spare sails, coils of rope, mattresses and anything not absolutely necessary that would burn.

In the morning the fog finally lifted and the winds became favourable and they were able to hoist sails and maintain a southerly progress at four to five knots. Eventually, the ship broke free of ice and was able to set a straight course for Cape Svyatoy and it was hoped that they might meet a steam ship that would

tow them to Archangel. They eventually began to meet other vessels, but despite the *Saint Foka's* signals none of them would stop. Finally, they made contact through a fishing boat and managed to send a message which resulted in two motor boats towing the ship into a fishing port.

From here they were able to arrange a lift on board a steamer, *S.S. Emperor Nicholas*, which would take a party on to Archangel including Albanov and Konrad. This then finally achieved the homecoming of a pair, who after two years voyaging, were all that remained of the crew of 24 who had left St. Petersburg on September 1st 1914.

From his diary records that he had kept so carefully over the last few years, Albanov later went on to write a book detailing the story of this tragic expedition and survival. The book was initially written in



Russian then translated into French and finally in English. I managed to find such a copy entitled 'In the Land of White Death' via Amazon from which I have taken details for this article.

Albanov continued as a sailor serving on board various ships including an icebreaker. He, unfortunately, died in 1919 some reports say of typhoid and others say that he was killed by the explosion of a munitions wagon at a railway station in Siberia.

Konrad also continued at sea sailing with Albanov on board the icebreaker *Canada* and then he worked as an engineer and mechanic on the Baltic Steam Ship Line. He outlived Albanov, dying of pleurisy in Leningrad in 1940. Now the final question must be 'What happened to the *Saint Anna* and remaining crew members?

I am afraid that you must wait until the next and final instalment to find out.

(To be continued)

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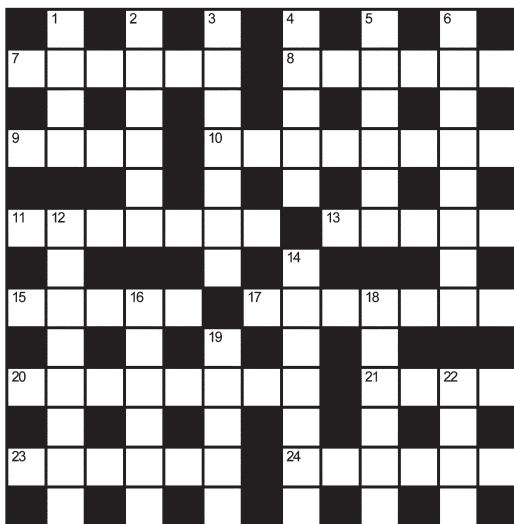
Crossword

Across

- 7 Wait upon (6)
- 8 Educated (6)
- 9 Leave out (4)
- 10 Buy (8)
- 11 Rebuked (7)
- 13 Cost (5)
- 15 Areas within a house (5)
- 17 Covered with thorns (7)
- 20 Against the current (8)
- 21 Curve on bottom of foot (4)
- 23 Edible bulbs (6)
- 24 Employ (6)

Down

- 1 Very small particle (4)
- 2 Relating to the teeth (6)
- 3 Modified (7)
- 4 Celestial bodies (5)
- 5 Writer (6)
- 6 Involving the body (8)
- 12 Cutting with an axe (8)
- 14 Metal wind instrument (7)



- 16 Technique (6)
- 18 Alter (6)
- 19 Sound practical judgment (5)
- 22 Wire enclosure used for birds (4)

Solution on page 34

Sudoku

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

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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	10.15-11.00 Independent 3-4yrs*	10.15-11.00 Under 2yrs	10.30-11.15 Independent 3-4yrs*	10.30-11.15 Independent 3-4yrs*		10.15-11.00 Yr3-Yr6
	11.15-12.00 Parent/Child 2-4yrs	11.15-12.00 Parent/Child 2-4yrs	11.30-12.15 Parent/Child 2-4yrs	11.30-12.15 Under 2yrs		11.00-11.45 Rec-Yr2
	12.30-1.15 Independent 3-4yrs*	12.30-1.15 Parent/Child 2-4yrs	12.45-1.30 Independent 3-4yrs*	12.45-1.30 Independent 3-4yrs*		11.45-12.30 Rec-Yr2
	1.30-2.15 Independent 3-4yrs*	1.30-2.15 Independent 3-4yrs*	1.45-2.30 Parent/Child 2-4yrs	1.45-2.30 Parent/Child 2-4yrs		1.00-1.45 Independent 3-4yrs*
	2.15-3.00 Independent 3-4yrs gym/cheerleading	2.15-3.00 Independent 3-4yrs gym/cheerleading				1.45-2.30 Parent/Child 2-4yrs
3.45-4.30 Rec-Yr2	3.45-4.30 Rec-Yr2	3.45-4.30 Rec-Yr2	3.45-4.30 Rec-Yr2	3.45-4.30 Rec-Yr2		
4.30-5.15 Rec-Yr2	4.30-5.15 Rec-Yr2	4.30-5.15 Rec-Yr2	4.30-5.15 Rec-Yr2	4.30-5.15 Rec-Yr2		
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Puzzle Solutions

Crossword

Across: 7 Attend, 8 Taught, 9 Omit, 10 Purchase, 11 Scolded, 13 Price, 15 Rooms, 17 Prickly, 20 Upstream, 21 Arch, 23 Onions, 24 Engage.

Down: 1 Atom, 2 Dental, 3 Adapted, 4 Stars, 5 Author, 6 Physical, 12 Chopping, 14 Trumpet, 16 Method, 18 Change, 19 Sense, 22 Cage.

Sudoku

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

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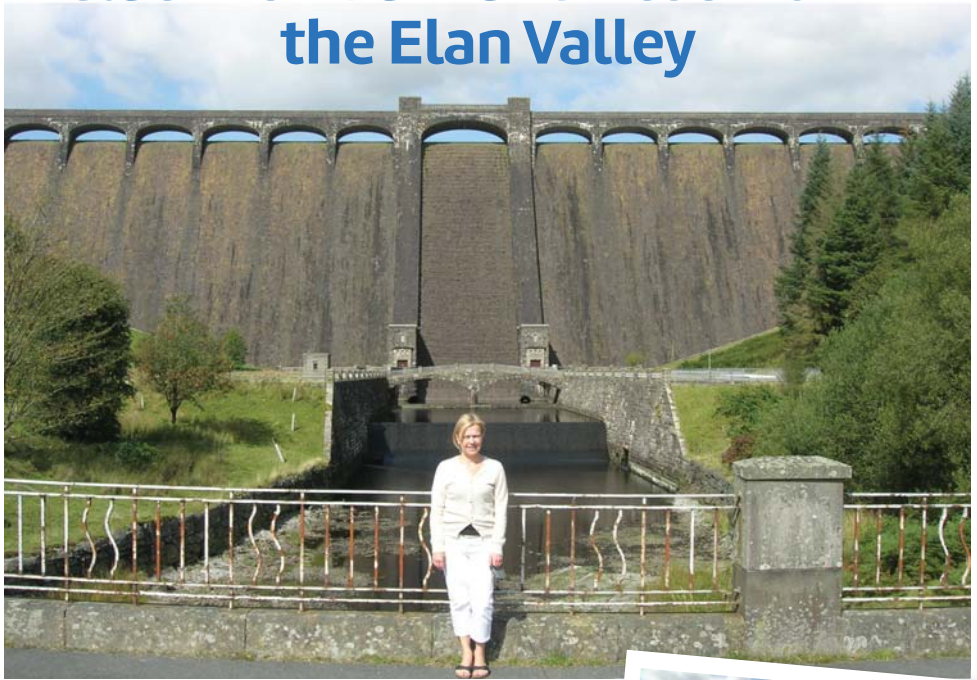
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Gwerinwyr Gwent Diary

On the 12th June we had our second conference booking of the year, this time at Caldicot Castle. International delegates at a medical conference in Cardiff were holding their gala dinner in a marquee in the castle grounds and GG was part of the welcoming events before their meal.

With about 200 people arriving, the timings were well planned and precise, but unfortunately traffic from the M4 to the castle was so heavy that the coaches were over 30 minutes late arriving. This meant our plans to dance for two separate groups and then get people to join in had to be curtailed. We completed our display, and then as the rain started, found some space in the marquee to get a few people to join us - half the delegates were still exploring the castle grounds. A shame but I think particularly the foreign delegates enjoyed seeing our Welsh costumes and dancing, even if it was only for a short while.

The 27th June saw us back at the adult special needs school on the Treforest Industrial Estate. This has become an annual event and



our visit is always eagerly anticipated. Barbara Griffiths had again put together a Welsh culture session with questions for the students to answer, some dance demonstrations, including clogging, music from our band and some simple audience participation dances.

Usually our bookings are arranged well in advance, sometimes almost a year, but at the end of May we had an invitation to dance again at Llanover, this time in the village, on the 4th July for a visiting VIP. Sometime later we were informed that the VIP would be Prince

Charles, who after visiting a school and the Winding House in New Tredegar with the Duchess of Cornwall, would be arriving alone to tour Elizabeth Murray's lovely gardens and hear about the work of her ancestor Lady Llanover. GG would be dancing Llanover Reel for his arrival at the village hall and another dance as he departed.

The 4th July turned out to be a really hot day, and in our woollen costumes with the ladies wearing bonnets and tall hats, we were feeling the heat as we waited for almost an hour past the intended start time. Finally HRH and Mr & Mrs Murray arrived and we started dancing, they then entered the village hall to meet various local dignitaries and we began to prepare for our second dance. Prince Charles' equerry suddenly appeared to say not to dance again but to form a group as HRH wanted to meet us. He shook hands with everyone, was very charming, and suggested we go into the hall for a cup of tea and get out of the sun.

Many thanks to David Owen for the two photos from Llanover



Gwerinwyr Gwent would love to recruit some new dancers, especially men!

Welsh dance steps are basic and few, it is just the patterns of the dances that need to be learned. We would also be delighted to welcome extra musicians to join our little band. Practice night is Thursday 8-10pm at the Graig Community Hall, Bassaleg (opposite the Ruperra Arms). Either just come along, ring 01495 271953 for more details, or check out our website www.gwerinwyrghwent.org.uk or Facebook page.

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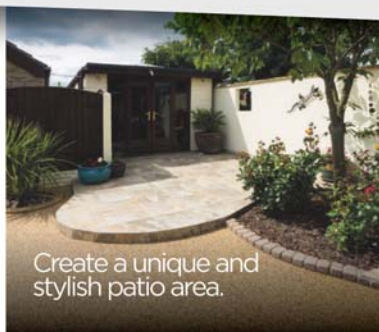
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