

CAERLEON

# DIRECTORY



ISSUE 79  
JANUARY/  
FEBRUARY 2021



SW DIRECTORIES

# WELCOME!

Your local shops and business need you, make a real difference and try to use them as much as you can.

If you are interested in advertising your business in the directory, please contact us to find out about the very competitive advertising rates. You will always deal with us directly, like many of the businesses that advertise in this magazine, we are a small, independent business and fully appreciate how much your business means to you.

**COPY DEADLINE  
FOR THE  
MARCH/APRIL  
EDITION  
FRIDAY 29th  
JANUARY**

We wish you a Happy New Year  
Best wishes

*Susan*  
x

Advertising enquiries:

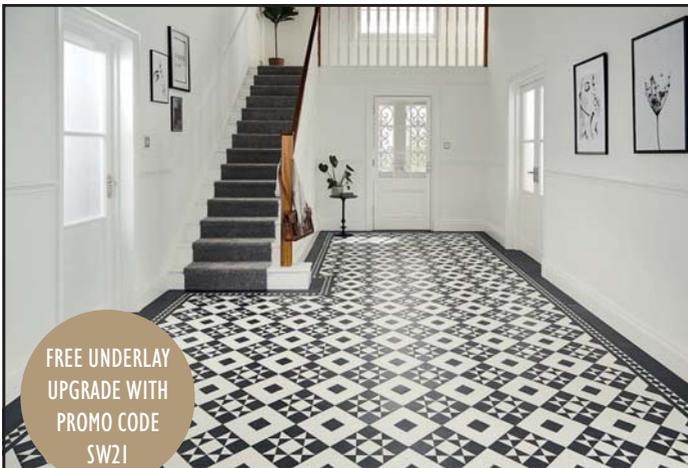
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# CAERLEON THEN & NOW



Caerleon Station was opened in December 1874 by the Pontypool, Caerleon and Newport Railway Company Ltd which was absorbed by the Great Western Railway Company and closed by British Railways in April 1962 around the time this photo was taken.

Below is the same scene taken in August 2020. It is now used as the Veterinary Surgery.



Extract taken from Norman Stevens's books of Caerleon. They can be purchased from Caerleon Post Office





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# SW Directories

Local Business & Community Magazines

SW Directories offers a low cost and effective way to acquire more business.

Established in 2006, the Directories are extensively used and respected by our readers.

25,500 copies are delivered to homes and local businesses six times a year. The seven Directories cover Alltynryn, Bassaleg & Rhiwderin, Caerleon, Malpas, Newport (Beechwood, St Julian's, Celtic Horizons, Duffryn, Lysaght Village, Glan Llyn, Mon Bank), Rogerstone, Risca (Crosskeys, Pontywaun & Cwmcarn).

It's easy to be in the magazine, call us today to find out about our special offers.



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## Newport House Prices have *Increased by 38%*

**The Newport housing market is certainly on the up due to a variety of factors including the value for money homeowners can achieve here compared to neighbouring towns and cities, the growing appeal of Newport as a city to live in due to the extensive redevelopment of the city centre and improvements to the transport infrastructure.**

According to the latest land registry statistics, house prices in Newport have increased by 37.69%. If you bought your house in the city in the 1990's, you might be pleasantly surprised to know that the value of your home might have increased by an incredible 223.17%.

If you are considering your house, we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to provide our expert advice and provide an accurate appraisal regarding the value of your property.

### **Reasons to Consider Choosing Kingston Newell to Sell Your House in Caerleon**

#### **- Only Charge a Fee Upon Completion of a Sale**

We will only charge a fee when we sell your property, unlike the budget competitors and online companies who often will charge upfront and regardless of a successful sale.

#### **- Realistic Property Valuation**

Our estate agents all have in-depth knowledge of recent sale prices achieved in the local market and will

provide more accurate valuation to help sellers achieve the optimal sale price for their property. Others don't necessarily have this knowledge that can result in a failure to sell or selling to cheaply.

#### **- Viewings and Negotiation**

Property viewing should always be accompanied by an estate agent. It can be time consuming and will require greater flexibility but unlike online and budget companies it ensures your property will be professionally promoted with selling points personally explained. Unfortunately, online companies do not attend viewing and budget competitors are prone to not showing up!

#### **- Sales Progression**

Our estate agents are experienced professionals who will ask the necessary questions of would be buyers to establish affordability and their current situation. We will also negotiate on your behalf to secure the right deal rather than leave you to fend for yourself. Local estate agents convert more viewings into sales.

#### **- Sale & Completion Process**

It's a personal process and our estate agents will be with you every step of the way from start to finish and deal with any questions or snags along the way. This provides peace of mind as well as saving buyers and sellers a great deal of time in the completion process.

**To receive your FREE non-obligatory appraisal by an experienced estate agent not an online calculator, please phone 01633 262628 or email [sales@kingston-newell.com](mailto:sales@kingston-newell.com) and a member of our team will be happy to help you.**



**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.**

**Kingston Newell Estate Agents, 70 Bridge Street, Newport, South Wales NP20 4AQ  
Tel: 01633 262628 Email: [sales@kingston-newell.com](mailto:sales@kingston-newell.com) [www.kingston-newell.com](http://www.kingston-newell.com)**



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### **Covid-19 Update - Crawfords Working Practice**

Due to the major impact the coronavirus has had on everyone, Crawfords working practice has changed to comply with our customers' needs and our safety in these difficult times.

When Crawfords arrive at your home or property to clean your soft furnishings or carpets we will be:

**Wearing disposable overalls, gloves, overshoes and a face mask**

**Keeping a two-metre social distance**

As a company we take our responsibility to our customers as paramount when working at their home or property and will endeavour to keep them safe whilst we are working.

On completion of the clean an application of Formula 429 plus (a water based anti-microbial with multi surface broad spectrum kill factor 6) will be applied to your fabrics and carpets, this will ensure that they are contamination free.

I would like to say to all my customers - please stay safe.

James Crawford

**01633 265458 / 07840 554485**

**info@crawfordscleaningservices.co.uk**  
**www.crawfordscleaningservices.co.uk**

# Talybont Reservoir



**Expanding industrialisation in Newport in the early 20th century created an urgent demand for drinking water and following extensive searches a narrow valley two miles south of Talybont was identified as a suitable site. The main river, Caerfanell, and two smaller water courses of the Cynafon and Tarthwynni drained a large catchment area flowing east from the edge of the Brecon Beacons and these, combined with high rainfall, promised a good reliable water supply.**

The first scheme completed in 1926 comprised of a substantial water treatment works and an intake weir to extract water directly from the river without the need to build a dam. Within two years the Newport Corporation found they had made a huge error as the engineer in charge had not realised that in dry conditions the river partially disappeared into the post glacial gravels in the valley bottom. A new scheme commencing in 1931 involved the construction of a dam. Hope of using the existing

treatment works was dashed when they failed to find solid rock at a suitable depth resulting in a new site offering solid foundations being found a quarter of a mile downstream. In drought conditions the remains of the



old works still emerge from the surface.

The new treatment works was built with many materials brought in by a spur from the now disused Brecon Merthyr Junction Railway. By early 1939 treated water started to flow the 39 miles to Newport along a dual pipeline.

Today, in spite of being man-made the reservoir with the surrounding forests, fields and open mountains offers natural tranquility and quiet enjoyment for all. We went there in late Autumn after a long period of heavy rain and the reservoir was over flowing down the spillway.

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**H**ere at **Kingsley Garden Rooms**, we specialise in building high end luxurious outdoor wooden buildings.

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Our brand is now synonymous with offering high-quality workmanship and creating high end outdoor living space.

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We can create outdoor living space so you can relax within your summerhouse or even work from your garden room

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- Summerhouses
- Offices
- Home gym
- Timber structures



**Tel: 07764 883 532**

**[www.kingsleygardenrooms.co.uk](http://www.kingsleygardenrooms.co.uk)**

# Leaky Shower?

## We have a Shower Pod Solution



### ◀ Are you fed up with your leaking shower area?

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We have a special offer for a shower door, with a thermo shower mixer and leak free shower pod.

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## Newport Bathroom Centre Ltd

Based @ George Street Furnishers 19-24 George Street, Newport. NP20 1EN

Tel: 01633 26 26 29

info@newportbathroomcentre.com

## Reliable, plumbing services in Newport and South East Wales

Newport based NBC Plumbing is a professional plumbing service and is the sister company to Newport Bathroom Centre, which are based at the largest furniture store in Wales, George Street Furnishers, in the Centre of Newport.

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### Looking for a New Bathroom?

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Create an amazing bathroom in even the smallest of spaces.

### Why use NBC Plumbing?

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**Newport Bathroom Centre Ltd**

Based @ George Street Furnishers 19-24 George Street, Newport. NP20 1EN

Tel: 01633 26 26 29

[info@newportbathroomcentre.com](mailto:info@newportbathroomcentre.com)

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

**HERE TO HELP | YMA I HELPŪ:**

# Jayne Bryant MS/AS

for Newport West | dros Gorllewin Casnewydd

✉ Jayne.Bryant@senedd.wales ☎ 01633 376627 🌐 www.jaynebryant.wales



I am sending residents of Newport West a **weekly Covid-19 update**, please **get in touch** or **scan the QR code** if you would like to sign up.

Rwy'n darparu diweddariad **wythnosol Covid-19** i drigolion Gorllewin Casnewydd, **cysylltwch â ni neu sganwch y cod QR** i danysgrifio.



Welsh Labour / Llafur Cymru



Talwyd costau'r cyhoeddiad hwn gan Gomisiwn y Senedd, o gronfeydd cyhoeddus.  
The costs of this publication have been met by the Senedd Commission from public funds.

## GRAVE CARE



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Est. 1951

# George Street Furnishers

## Wales' largest furnishers store launches a new Hot Tub & Sauna Department

**G**eorge Street Furnishers was established in 1951, now going into their 70th year. A family owned and operated business with 2nd and 3rd generation holding key roles within the business.

George Street Furnishers has 3 floors of all things for the home to include sofas, beds, furniture, carpets and flooring with in-store concessions to include bathrooms, kitchens, curtains and blinds, outdoor furniture and even waterbeds!

The new norm is staycations during these challenging times. All things for the home have seen a huge increase in demand, with particular emphasis on luxury feel good items - Hot tubs and Saunas are no exception to the new norm for people looking for leisure facilities at home.

George Street Furnishers is Wales' largest furniture store with over eighty thousand square feet of retail space, the huge space allows George Street to have a number of concessions within the store, this makes George street a destination hub for home products. Luke Sheppard said "we have a large retail space and this gives us lots of options. We



decided to undertake this joint venture with our in store bathroom concession, Newport Bathroom Centre, and offer our customers hot tubs, saunas and steam rooms. Utilising our collective skill base will enable our team to deliver a professional service with installation handled in store by our team".

Initially George Street Furnishers will have five Hot Tubs and two Saunas, thus creating a wellness area in store. Dave Viggers from Newport Bathroom Centre said, "We have a large number of hot tubs on order, demand is very high in the world for spas and saunas with us all spending more time in our homes, but we have pre ordered and we will have a number of hot tubs and saunas on display and in stock ready for 2021, it is our plan to officially launch end of January 2021".



### The BIG Winter Sale

**Starts Monday  
28th December.**

Covid restrictions permitting, visitors to George Street Furnishers will be able to see the new hot tub department being created in early January.

19 – 24 George Street, Newport, NP20 1EN  
01633 214 241

**STORE NOW OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 9:30AM-5PM**

Contact [websales@georgestreet.co.uk](mailto:websales@georgestreet.co.uk)  
Website [www.georgestreet.co.uk](http://www.georgestreet.co.uk)





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FURNISHERS EST 1951

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## Gater's Barbers Covid 19 Statement

**At Gaters Barbers we want all our staff and customers to be confident that we have done everything to perform our tasks safely and follow all the recommended government guidelines.**

**We have all completed both the attached certificates and we have all the necessary PPE and cleaning products to be able to provide as safe a service as possible.**

**We also respect if you can also help us by following any advice we offer.**

**Looking forward to a healthy future together.**

**Thanks,  
Luke**



### Certificate of Achievement

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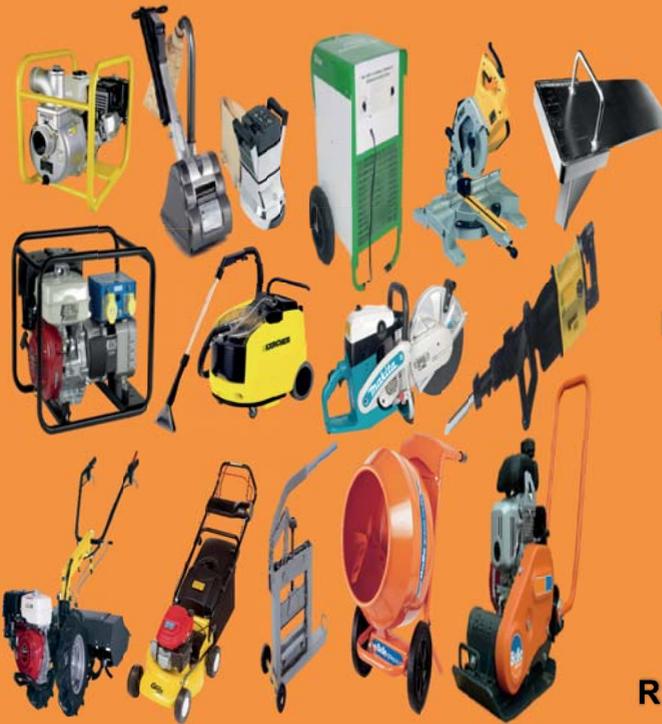
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# What's On



See our website for a full list of what's on locally.

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## DIABETES UK

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### Cwmbran Diabetes UK Group

Our meetings and occasional trips take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. CWMBRAN R.A.F.A. CLUB, GREENHILL ROAD, FORGE HAMMER, CWMBRAN, NP44 3DQ

Cwmbran group contact - Mrs Val Carnegie  
T: 01633 872553 E: slasher45@btinternet.com

Further info on Diabetes contact - Diabetes UK Cymru  
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## Aviation and Air Traffic Control

### Established 1987

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

# Newport U3A

Newport U3A is the 21st largest charitable organisation in the UK and its aims are to advance the education of retired people; their Gardening & Wildlife Group meets twice a month for talks, day trips and social events.

Gwyneth Hawkes, a convenor of the group, gave a talk on 'Rewilding': a worldwide conservation movement whose aims are to reverse environmental damage. To get involved, Gwyneth proposed a tree-planting initiative which was well received by the members: a scheme that would enable us to help reverse the catastrophic impact that centuries of deforestation has had on our climate. Their fundraising events have been curtailed due to Coronavirus restrictions, so



donations were requested from the full membership of Newport U3A to purchase several Welsh fruit trees.

Gwyneth and co-convenor Jan Howells have been liaising with

Newport CBC which has suggested planting the trees at Allt-yr-yn Nature Reserve, helping to restore the old orchard. A small group of members will assist at the planting.

Visit [u3asites.org.uk/newportsewales](http://u3asites.org.uk/newportsewales) 'News' page for more information or call Angela Robins on 07980 970967



Newport Uskmouth  
**Rotary**



## **LAPTOPS 4 HOME LEARNING**

### **Upcycling old computers to benefit High School home learning**

Covid 19 has had a devastating effect on children's education. Whilst many pupils have been able to access online learning and support from their schools during Lockdown, there are too many who have not received this because they do not have the necessary IT equipment.

Newport Uskmouth Rotary are setting up a scheme to support these disadvantaged pupils and we

## **NEED YOUR HELP**

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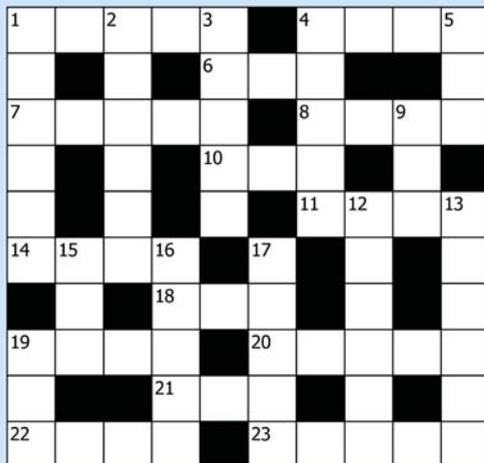
# Crossword

## Across

1. Seat (5)
4. In addition to (4)
6. As well as (3)
7. Romantic partner (5)
8. Bird of peace (4)
10. First woman (3)
11. Telephoned (4)
14. Appointment (4)
18. Large seed (3)
19. Worry (4)
20. Desired, wished for (5)
21. Devon river (3)
22. For always (4)
23. Having ascended (5)

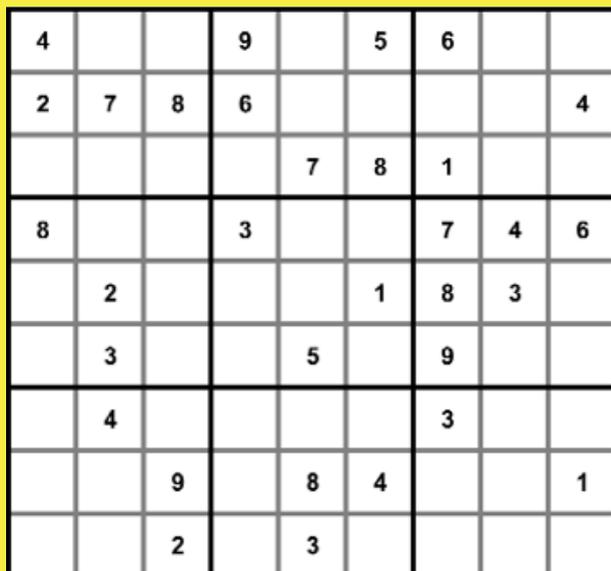
## Down

1. Named (6)
2. Business promotion (6)
3. Scarcer (5)
4. Poisonous snake (5)
5. Single number (3)
9. Commercial vehicle (3)
12. Takes as ones own (6)
13. Place for fruit & veg (6)
15. Atmosphere (3)
16. Go into (5)
17. Surgical spirit (5)
19. Enemy (3)



Puzzle Solutions on page 33

# Sudoku



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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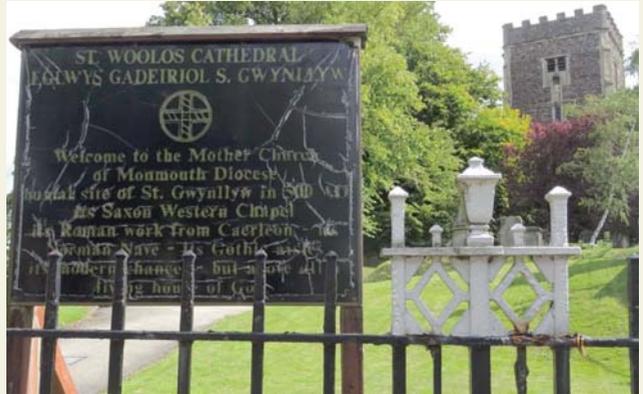
# The Church of many Names

by Paul Minton

For many years, I believed the closest link that South Wales had to the Vikings was when a certain Roald Dahl was born to Norwegian parents in Llandaff. As many, more informed people will know, Welsh-Scandinavian ties go back a tad further than that. Before the discovery of the famous Newport medieval ship in 2002, a much older vessel was unearthed in 1878. Thought to have been a Danish Viking boat, it was found during excavation work in the Alexandra Dock, lying under 12 feet of silt. It was reported to be 70 feet long, constructed of Dantzig oak and waterproofed with clinker. The consensus at the time was that it had been repurposed as a dam and had probably lain undisturbed for the best part of a millennium. For a distinctly less muddy reminder of our Nordic connections, however, one need not look further than Newport Cathedral.

The holy site was first established by a local chieftain called Gwynllyw, who, after his conversion to Christianity, had a vision of a white ox with a dark spot upon its forehead. When he observed a similar beast on what is now Stow Hill, he built a hermitage at the location. This became an important shrine following his death in AD 500 and a more permanent stone edifice, known as Eglwys Gwynllyw (church of Gwynllyw), was later constructed. Some have suggested that St Woolos is simply an anglicised version of St Gwynllyw. In fact, scholars believe that the names of Gwynllyw and Woolos relate to completely different people.

From the turn of the 9th century onwards, the Vikings plundered large areas of coastal Wales and



many of their number are believed to have settled here. Perhaps that is why certain local landmarks bear decidedly Scandinavian monikers like Flat Holm, Steep Holm, Skomer, and Ikea, although I must admit that I'm not too sure about the latter.

One memorable Norseman was Olaf Haraldsson, who joined forces with a Danish chieftain named Thorkell the Tall to attack southeast England. After three years of pillaging, from Canterbury to Oxford, King Ethelred the Unready had had enough and paid them to clear off. Olaf made his way to Normandy, where he ultimately found his faith and was baptised. In 1015, he returned to his homeland of Norway and captured the throne, becoming its first Christian monarch. He was eventually slain at the Battle of Stiklestad in 1030 but tales soon began to circulate of miracles and strange lights close to his burial site. The former king was subsequently canonised and as St Olave, he became a favourite saint among the Scandinavians, including those living in Britain. Indeed, there are a number of English churches that still bear his name, not to mention an entire village in Norfolk.

But what has all this got to do with St Woolos Cathedral? Well, from the mid to late 16th century onwards, the church of St Gwynllyw began to be referred to as St Olave's. It has been theorised this might then have been corrupted to St Olaues, which in turn became St Olaus (pronounced "ollowes"). In the early 17th century, there is evidence that the church was called St Twollowes and by 1796, the name had morphed into a more familiar-sounding St Wollas. Frustratingly, there does not appear to be any obvious explanation why a religious building dedicated to a Welshman should alter its allegiance to a Viking. Normally, I would say it's because there's nothing like a Dane but since he was Norwegian, it just wouldn't be appropriate!



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# Puzzle Solutions

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

1	C	H	2	A	3	I	3	R	4	A	L	5	O
A	6	D	7	E	8	R	9	A	N	D	10	N	
7	L	O	V	E	R	11	E	V	E	12	D	O	V
L	13	E	14	R	15	R	16	E	17	A	18	A	
E	19	R	20	R	21	11	R	12	A	13	N	14	G
14	D	15	A	16	T	17	E	18	19	D	A		
I	22	18	N	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	O	R	
19	F	R	E	T	20	21	H	O	P	E	D		
O	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
22	E	V	E	R	23	24	R	I	S	E	N		

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'How do you ensure the plans you make are going to get you to where you want to be financially?'

'How can you achieve the life you want?' Your financial roadmap should provide you with clarity about your future. It should detail every aspect of your vision – your hopes, fears, and goals. It should also describe exactly how your future will look and help you to know exactly where you are headed and when you are likely to arrive.

Life can change – the birth of a child, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, a major purchase – which will readjust your financial roadmap. At these major life events, it is important to chart a new course to ensure you meet your financial, lifestyle and retirement goals.

## TAKE SOME TIME AND ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS:

- Can I sleep comfortably knowing I will have enough money for my future?
- Do I have the security of knowing where I am heading financially?
- Am I going to be able to maintain my current lifestyle once I stop working?
- Do I feel empowered financially to live the life I want today and tomorrow?
- Have I made sufficient financial plans to live the life I want?
- Do I have a complete understanding of my financial position?
- What is 'my number' to make my current and future lifestyle secure?

## MAKING WISE FINANCIAL DECISIONS

Part of this process is to understand 'your number' – in other words, the amount of money you will ultimately need to ensure complete peace of mind in knowing your future lifestyle is secure and making sure you do not run out of money before you run out of life. The process starts by identifying your goals for the future and following up by setting a timeline for achieving them.

If you do not know where you are going, how will you know when you get there? This is very true about financial goals. You need to set financial goals



to help you make wise financial decisions, and as a reward for your efforts. Goals should be clear, concise, detailed and written down. Unwritten goals are just wishes.

## HOW TO MAKE SMART CHOICES FOR THE FUTURE

To achieve all your goals, you will need a plan. Starting from assets you already have available; you will need to determine how much more you need to accumulate and when you will need it. Do not neglect to consider that the price of your goal items might increase as well.

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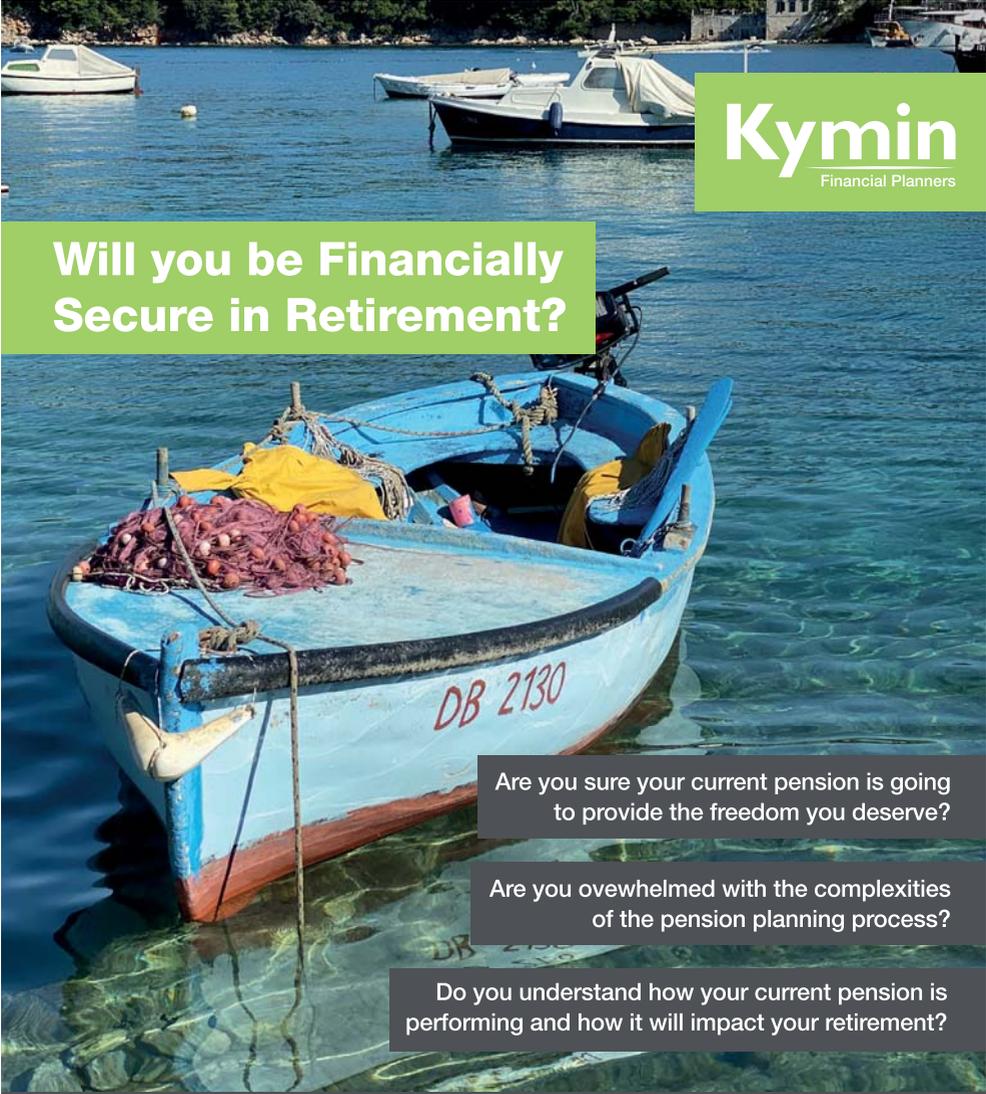
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## Leaving Home - One Way or Another

**This article is being prepared as December and the end of year 2020 comes into view – a year which will never be forgotten; let’s hope 2021 brings some real relief from what we have all had to endure these last nine months. For the swans too, it is the case that the annual cycle is well into the final phase – that of dispersal of this year’s crop of surviving cygnets. This is a necessary prelude to the start of the next breeding season. Already we have seen examples of adult pairs on, for example Roath Park Lake and The Knap at Barry brazenly displaying to one another!**

As rescuers, we have been accustomed over many years to having to rescue ‘teenagers’ from all kinds of inappropriate places – they having taken off from ‘home’ with no idea what lies outside the immediate home territory. It genuinely is a flight into the unknown. For us, this process has normally started in late September/early October, but this year it started a full two weeks earlier. This transition from adorable fluffy day-old cygnet weighing a couple of hundred grams to a full size teenager weighing anything upwards of say 8kg in just five months is quite astonishing.

What is also noteworthy is that departure can be peaceful or brutal. Obviously, it is preferable if cygnets leave of their own free will, but many are the occasions when the young birds show a very marked reluctance to move on. It’s when the latter applies that things can turn ugly, and the adult male drives the young birds off, and if that doesn’t work then



*Roath Park Lake Dad (right) vs Junior (left)*

the ultimate measure is to corner the young bird and drown it. This transition from supremely protective parents to things ending in the way described is hard to accept but that’s the way it is. As with all so called general rules, there are exceptions; we’ve written in a past article of the strange goings on Cyfarthfa Lake at Merthyr, where until earlier this year there were representatives of three generations of swans present – most peculiar!

Just by way of illustration of what can happen here are a few examples. In the autumn of 2019 we felt we were the owners of season tickets to Tredegar; we lost count of the number of times we rescued novice teenagers from various locations around the area - obviously refugees from a large family at Bryn Bach Park. Sometimes the call comes from the police such as an occasion when it was necessary to rescue a cygnet near the two big ponds at Porthcawl. More recently there was the sad occurrence of a cygnet fleeing from the parents hit by a speeding motorist on a lane between two ponds at Belmont outside Hereford. Despite



*Grounded juvenile from the Wilderness Porthcawl.*

hospitalising it, it died two days later – possibly from a combination of shock and undiagnosed internal injuries. The motorist did not stop – unforgivable. Finally, last week, at Roath Park, a cygnet, fleeing from its parents ended up in the enclosed area adjacent to the outfall from the lake. Almost, without exception, we take the uninjured birds rescued successfully and release them onto The Knap at Barry.

PS. As this article goes to press, there is the very worrying news that there is what appears to be a fairly widespread outbreak of avian flu. We ourselves have encountered an unusually high number of dead swans - adults and juveniles – between Uskmouth and The Lighthouse public house at St. Brides. Potentially, this leaves us with a serious problem – for obvious reasons, the swan hospitals we use are effectively closed for fear of importing infected birds.

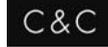
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# Divorce... the different stages explained

The first working Monday after Christmas is often referred to by family lawyers as 'Divorce Day' since enquiries and internet searches about divorce proceedings rise dramatically each year after the festive break.



**W**ith the stresses of lockdown restrictions putting many rocky relationships under enormous strain, divorce lawyers have already seen a huge spike in enquiries throughout 2020 so, sadly, it seems likely that this year's 'Divorce Day' will be busier than ever.

If you are one of the many people whose marriage has broken down during the pandemic, you probably have a lot of questions. We've outlined the main stages of divorce proceedings here, so that you have some idea of what to expect.

## **Stage One – Filing a divorce petition**

In order to start divorce proceedings, a petition will be prepared and filed at Court. For the petition, you will need to prove that your marriage has irretrievably broken down by setting out particulars relating to one of the following grounds; adultery, unreasonable behaviour, desertion, separation for the last two years (you will need your spouse's agreement to divorce in this case) or separation for the last five years (you do not need your spouse's agreement).

When submitting your divorce petition, you will need to provide the court with your marriage certificate. You'll also need to state how you intend to deal with arrangements for looking after your children and

any arrangements you've made for your finances.

## **Stage Two – Acknowledgment of service**

The next stage involves the court sending a copy of the divorce petition form to your spouse. They will need to complete and return the acknowledgement of service form within 7 days. This confirms that they have received the papers, are happy with the reasons for the divorce and the wording used, and will give them the opportunity to state whether they agree to the divorce or wish to contest it.

## **Stage Three – Decree Nisi**

Once your spouse has acknowledged your divorce petition, you will need to prepare a Statement in Support to proceed, which will then lead to pronouncement of a Decree Nisi (the first decree). This basically means that the court can see no reason why your divorce can't go ahead.

Once you have a pronouncement date, you can apply for your Decree Absolute

(final decree) six weeks and one day after this date.

## **Stage Four – Application for Decree Absolute**

This is the final step in the divorce process. The Decree Absolute is the final decree and is what legally finalises your divorce. An application for the decree absolute typically takes two weeks. This formally and legally ends your marriage.

Occasionally, there are financial reasons to delay an application for the Decree Absolute, and these would need to be carefully considered.

In terms of financial issues and any arrangements for children, these may be dealt with by agreement by using a local mediation service, or in the absence of an agreement, via an application to Court to request that the Court determines the distribution of matrimonial assets and also the arrangements for children.



Harding Evans is one of Wales' top 10 law firms and has a specialist team of family and matrimonial lawyers who have years of experience in dealing with a wide variety of divorce cases.

**If you would like to speak to one of the team, please give us a call on 01633 760678 or email [hello@hevans.com](mailto:hello@hevans.com).**

# A New Normal Needed on Twmbarlwm

It's that time of year again when I search through my computer files and photos to compile a report on the activities and achievements of Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society over the past year. Unfortunately there's only a few megabytes of information in the 2020 folder, due to obvious reasons.

This got me to browsing through the many gigabytes of information I have on my hard drive for the past 10 years. Yes, CTS has been in existence for 10 years and before 2020 nothing has ever got in our way to prevent us fulfilling our original aims...

*"...to restore, research and protect Gwent's most iconic landmark".*

In fact when I look at our records it's great to see what we have achieved as shown by the photographs – and yet I realise that if we are to continue making our mark on the mountain we need more community minded people to help with our campaigns.

In the early days, when CTS was first formed we set about lobbying the council and police to help with the serious problem of scramblers and 4x4s that were destroying the landscape and we soon had the council building us a new car park and repairing damage to the Twmp itself. We also instigated the appointment of a specialised police officer to the area.

Soon after that we were awarded a grant from Welsh Government that enabled us to build nearly a mile of double fencing, 4,000 trees were planted, several kissing gates installed and stone paths were laid. To round it all off an impressive stone cairn was erected to carry a "Welcome to Twmbarlwm" sign.

All this work has gone a long way to reduce the number of off-roaders and the amount of fly-tipping. But these issues still consume much of the Society's energy, time and resources.

It was therefore a welcome change when the Society won

funding and support from Cadw to prepare professional archaeological research on the Scheduled Monument for the first time in its history. This project started in 2019 but is particularly affected by the lockdown and it will continue once current restrictions are relaxed.

In the past month we have been informed that some much needed maintenance and repair work for which we have campaigned for three years will be started in spring 2021 – watch this space.

Over the years work behind the scenes has always been frenetic as we forged links with the Commoners Association, local councils, the police, the landowners and other organisations to keep a dialogue open discussing longer term solutions to the anti-social behaviour that blights all our countryside.

The Society still has similar membership numbers that we first started with but not many are able to help with any physically demanding activities and not everyone has the time or technical skills to help with the running of the society.



2010 - before we started work



2012 - we built a car park



2014 - we built fences



2012 - we built paths



2014 - we built a cairn



We really need some young blood in the Society, people who are conscious of the importance of looking after our landscape and heritage to hand on to our children, their children and their children's children. [Contact us via email: twmbarlwmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:twmbarlwmsociety@gmail.com)

Terry Evans, Chairman,  
Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society

**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](http://www.twmbarlwm.co.uk)

# Creative Coding

Introduction to programming, computer generated art and animation



## objects & animation

**No programming experience needed.**

The course is aimed at students who are going to university to study maths, science, engineering and art degrees which have an optional/compulsory programming module.

Using the processing (java) language, free to download(below), it has an easy to use reference library and excellent online tutorials.

All the programs, (full code) and course notes are supplied.

The course covers the usual programming syllabus plus, program design (big programs, classes), program flow, 3D graphics, reusable code, camera angles, perspective, lighting, 3D shape rotations, import images & libraries, and some supporting maths (rotation matrix, trig and vectors).

You need your own laptop and charger; external mouse is useful.

The course will run over one week - two full days or three 4-hour sessions.

An open evening and morning will be arranged for you to view the course content and ask questions.

<https://processing.org/download>

12 hours Henllys Village Hall, max 4 people per course, £240

[williamparton@btinternet.com](mailto:williamparton@btinternet.com)

BSc Hons(open), post grad Program Design and Implementation(open), Creative Coding Monash University (Australia), Tcert.

# The LBJ 's Fatball League Match

Reporters - Angela Robins and Mike Brown.

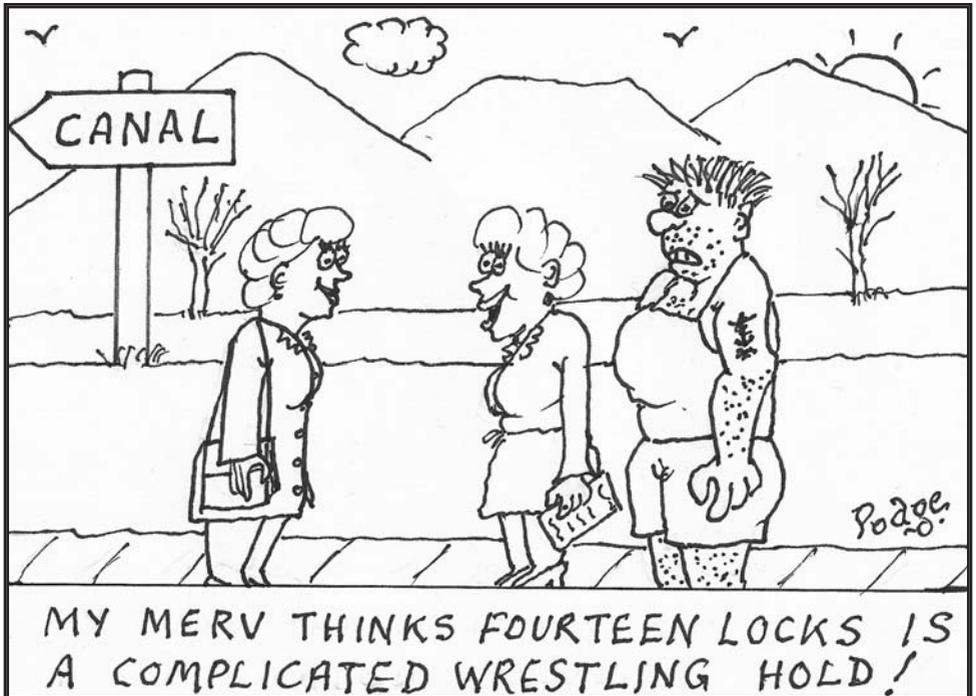
**We have had even more time to watch the antics of our garden birds recently. We were in stitches, laughing, when the remains of a fatball fell out of the feeder and the following really did occur - or so it seemed!**

Immediately it was pounced upon by a sparrow that came running with it onto the pitch (I mean patio). He was followed by the rest of his team and in hot pursuit came the Dunnocks Team. A blackbird, wanting a bite of the action, joined in the fray but couldn't keep up and chased around like a demented referee. After the kick off a young winger did well to get his pass to the fly half, who touched down with ease at the rockery end of the pitch.



Number 8 converted and piled on the pressure. There was some great interplay from the Dunnocks' backs and the fatball was beaked into touch. A stolen lineout allowed a full-back to pluck up the fatball and he flew off into a stiff breeze. It went right

along the back line and was drop kicked over the patio table. It's up for grabs! They were getting tired and considering bringing on some substitutes when a jackdaw swooped in and stole the fatball - **They think it's all over... it is now!**





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