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# DIRECTORY

ISSUE 101 MARCH/APRIL 2023



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Hopefully, the weather will warm up a little over the next couple of months and we'll all be able to take a walk in our beautiful countryside and benefit from some spring sunshine.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

*Susan*  
x

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Carnival day at the Welfare ca.1960



The shop at the entrance to the Welfare ca. 1980. Originally a butchers shop then Dai Jarrat's shop and several others and now converted to flats.

# A Little about Tydu on the South side of Tregwilym Road

## Part Two by Derek Picken

The first part cover buildings / land on the South Part of Tregwilym Road viewed from the South. This second part covers buildings/land viewed from the North.



In the 1950s and 1960s Carnivals were held on the Cricket field. In those days the soccer field was let to grow wild in the summer and harvested by local farmers before the soccer season. The building shown is the shelter where people could sit on rainy days and the lawned area in the foreground was where older people could rest and enjoy groundsman Albert Jarret's superb flower beds. The cedar tree is still there to this day albeit without the circular bench around it.

The old house on the left was in fact three storeys high with

*From right to left, The "Town Hall", The Tydu Hotel (formerly The Rollers Arms) The adjacent shop and after the advertising hoarding , Sages Cobblers hut later run by the Samuels family and the end of Shop Row.*



*A slight change of view showing the old school ca. 1970 and the two semi detached prospect houses bottom right.*



*Prospect Houses*

only the top storey being at Road level. It was at one time the first post Office in the area and then a Boot Mart both run by the Hiley family. It is believed that it was called the Town Hall because people paid their rent there. In later years the cobblers hut was nicknamed The Town hall. The Tydu Hotel originally The Rollers was about six storeys high, three at ground level and above and three down the bank at the back.

During World war 2 if the air raid siren sounded the older pupils were told to take refuge in the hotel under the billiard/snooker tables. In the early days it was a well occupied hotel.

The cottages were all two bedroomed except No 95 which was three bedroomed and was also The Post Office and home to the Bellew family a well-known local builder, they had three storeys. The third cottage from the left was the Home of Idris Hookings the well known local Barber and football fanatic.

On the right at right angles to Shop Row was the other side of Eva Woodlands cottage. Behind this next to shop Row was the Old Tinplate Works School and headmasters house used before Rogerstone and Henlys board schools were built in 1886. Later years there was a sweet shop there.

Lastly in the area in quesPon was Tregwilym Fach farm or as the locals knew it John's farm after the occupant. Still in use until the expansion of the aluminium factory in 1950.



*The general stores next to the Tydu Hotel once owned by Mrs Davies.*



*The row of cottages known as Shop Row*



*Tregwilym Fach Farm*



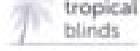
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# Disrespecting Twmbarlwm

Disrespect – that’s a word I’ve always disliked using, in a linguistic way that is. I find it a cumbersome, awkward word that belongs to youngsters and rap artists. Yes, I’m an old bloke, child of the 60s and 70s and I dislike the word in the same way my dad didn’t like me saying “far-out man”, “groovy” or “bummer”.

But by definition ‘disrespect’ is absolutely the right word to use in statements like “those off-roaders are disrespecting Twmbarlwm” or “those fly-tippers and litter louts are disrespecting Twmbarlwm”.

In order to disrespect something, that something should deserve respect in the first place and I believe our mountain with its glorious landscape, fabulous views and ancient monument at the top is a location that certainly demands and deserves respect.

For millennia the mountain has been revered by the communities that have grown up in its shadow – that’s why the local tribes built a stronghold at the top, they thought it was a special place to be.

Pilgrims have followed routes across the mountain yet left no mark, farmers have grazed their animals peacefully for centuries and



The ORPA leading up onto the mountain from the car park is a rough rocky track - so the off-roaders drive alongside the track creating another unsightly quagmire difficult even to walk on.

wildlife has flourished and evolved a bio-diverse, special landscape.

Yet nowadays there is a selfish group of individuals who can’t see that churning up the landscape with their off-road vehicles and scrambler bikes is doing irreparable damage to a fragile eco-system.

They endanger livestock and anybody on foot and they rip open the surface of the landscape leaving it to be scoured to the bedrock by the elements.

There are also those who ignore accepted common decency and see no wrong in dumping their rubbish in an area most people in the community have respected and cherished for generations.

I have talked to some of these off-roaders asking them to be more respectful and the answer I get is usually “Why? I don’t care mate!” – an attitude I can’t respect in any shape or form.

Terry Evans, Chairman  
Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society

Sights like this show total disrespect for an environment that should be treated better



## THE TWMBARLWM HOT-CROSS-BUN WALK

Good Friday  
7th April 2023

Hundreds of people trek to the the summit of Twmbarlwm on Good Friday



One of the great traditions we have in Fisca and surrounding area is the annual pilgrimage to the top of Twmbarlwm.

Again this year CTS will organise group walks and offer free Hot-Cross-Buns to those who come with us.

At the same time we will be asking volunteers to help us with reducing the bracken growing close to the top and we will be giving out instructions on how to “bracken bash” in the target areas. – please check out our website and facebook pages closer to the date for details.

Even if you don’t want to take part in our group walks we still want to encourage you to keep this tradition alive. Get up there with family and friends and why not bring a picnic with you to enjoy while you take in the breathtaking views at the top.

Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society 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 throughout the year so watch our website and Facebook page for details.

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

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# Jack the Fifer

by Paul Minton

Most people have a passing familiarity with Jack the Ripper, whose murderous exploits in Victorian London haunted the residents of Whitechapel in 1888. Ironically, his last known victim, Mary Jane Kelly, actually lived in Cardiff before her ill-fated move to the English capital. Somewhat less famous than Jack the Ripper, however, is John Rees, otherwise known as Jack the Fifer. His exploits were certainly less homicidal but that's not to say he didn't see his fair share of blood.

Born in Merthyr Tydfil in 1815, Rees acquired his nickname on account of a small flute-like instrument he played called a fife. As a young man, he emigrated to North America and at the age of 20, he joined the New Orleans Greys. This was a small military unit formed in October 1835 to fight the Mexicans in the Texas War of Independence.

In 1836, he was stationed at Goliad, a strategic fort near San Antonio, when the commanding officer, Colonel James Fannin, received orders to retreat in the face of overwhelming numbers of advancing Mexican troops. Unfortunately, Fannin's men had only made it six miles when the adversary caught up. With his soldiers surrounded by the enemy's cavalry and the prospect of more Mexican artillery on its way, Fannin surrendered. Unbeknownst to him, however, Mexico had declared all combatants to be treated as pirates and executed. And so it was that some 360 Texan soldiers were marched onto the prairie, many hoping to be repatriated. Instead, virtually all were shot. Just 28 souls evaded the massacre, including Jack the Fifer. He reached bushes beside a river and concealed himself there until darkness fell. Under the cover of night, he tried to make good his



escape but it wasn't long before he was recaptured by Mexican forces. He tried spinning a yarn about being Welsh and having been made to join the army whilst passing through Texas. Whether this lie was believed is unclear but his life was spared, nonetheless. Rees was subsequently released following the Mexican defeat at San Jacinto, an 18 minute battle that was the last to be fought during the Revolution.

After his service had concluded, Jack returned home to Wales and by 1839, he was working as a stonemason at Tredegar Ironworks. At this point, he had discovered a new battle in the form of the Chartist movement.

Despite their high profile, it was not the likes of John Frost and Zephaniah Williams, who would lead the Chartists on their doomed march down Stow Hill towards the Westgate Hotel. Instead, it was Jack the Fifer, who, with pistol and sword in hand, organised the crowd into a military formation before confronting the troops ensconced in the building. With their decisive firepower, the soldiers were victorious and the Chartists' dead and wounded littered the street.

A charge of high treason was levelled at Frost, Williams, and Rees, among others and although the former were sentenced to penal servitude, The Fifer proved a slippery customer. He fled to Newfoundland and stayed in Virginia for a few years before returning to Texas. After a further stint in the army, he put his weapons aside and moved West. He lived out the remainder of his days in California, where he had settled in the hope of making his fortune from the state's Gold Rush.

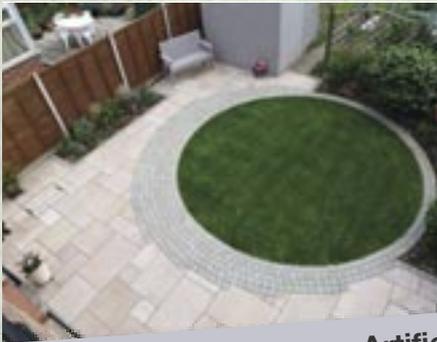
John Rees died a naturalised American citizen in 1893. He evaded death on many fronts throughout his life but old age presented no match for whatever 'natural causes' killed him. Today, he is immortalised in Tredegar, where his statue celebrates its tenth anniversary this year.

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# What a meeting

**What to write about, I'm thinking? I'm lacking inspiration just at this moment, a touch of ennui has come over me and I'm blaming the weather, its either raining, not just a shower but something akin to Biblical proportions, or interminable greyness or clear and sunny. Clear and sunny sounds marvellous but not when the thermometer is struggling to get above freezing and jaunts out become hazardous as the risk of slipping and falling is quite possible.**

So, it may come as no surprise to readers that I had to speak sharply to myself to leave my warm sitting room and head off to our W.I. meeting this week. The topic was Rolls Royce, great I thought, my interest in cars is minimal to say the least, so long as mine goes I'm perfectly happy.

Well, how wrong can you be!!! The talk was incredibly interesting. In my ignorance I had always assumed that Rolls and Royce had collaborated in the making of engines and cars but no our speaker gave an insightful presentation into the lives of these two men and they could not have been more different.

Rolls came from a wealthy aristocratic family, this much I knew as most folk from this area will have seen the statue of him in Monmouth and been aware of the golf course that carries his name. He was educated partly at Eton and partly by private tutor before going to Cambridge University to study engineering. Rolls was a daredevil and enjoyed the thrill of partaking in the dangerous sports, of the time such as driving, ballooning and flying. His interest in cars



*Mr Charles Rolls' statue in Monmouth*

was such that he set up an establishment, in London, selling them.

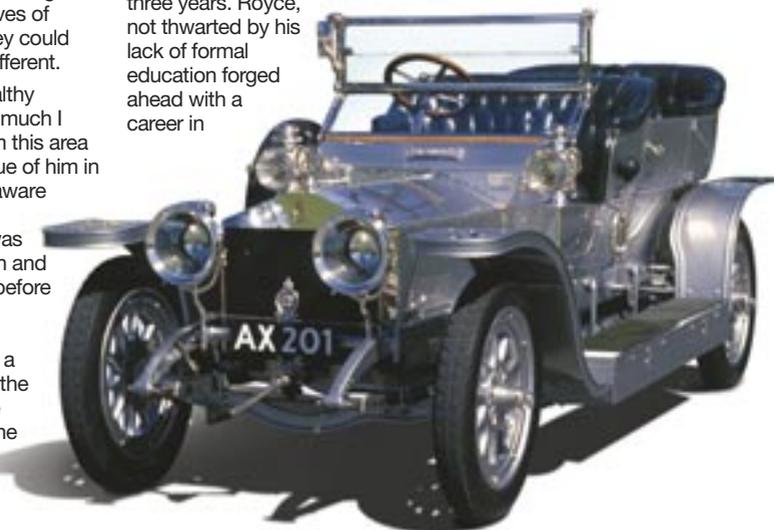
Royce, on the other hand, was a complete contrast born into poverty. He attended school for just one year aged about ten, (at that time you had to pay to go to school) and later on an aunt managed to pay for two years apprenticeship. Unfortunately there was no funding for the other three years. Royce, not thwarted by his lack of formal education forged ahead with a career in

engineering that soon found him making cars.

Rolls always interested in what was new in the car world of the early 1900s heard about Royce and paid him a visit and the upshot was he offered to sell Royce's cars and so Rolls Royce was born.

Just shows, I must not ever allow my innate idleness to dictate my movements, otherwise I would have missed this meeting and goodness only knows what I would have written about then.

Our meetings, cover a huge range of topics and activities, there is always something for everyone and plenty still to learn. Over the next months we will be covering many diverse topics, celebrating the coronation and eating outdoors to say nothing of trips and monthly lunches. If this interests you then come along and join us on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at St John the Baptist Church Hall, near the Handpost. Doors open at 7.10pm.



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# Newport Bathroom Centre

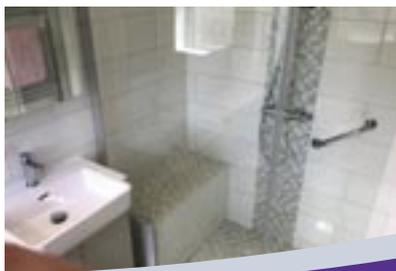


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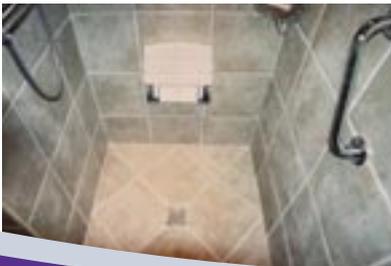
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# Be a star... help a child sparkle!

By Councillor Chris Reeks

**As Newport City Councillor for Rogerstone North, I was recently invited to the Serennu Children's Centre in Rogerstone to understand more about the Sparkle Organisation and its work with children who have disabilities. "The number of Gwent children with disabilities and special needs has increased at a rate of 10% annually each year for the last five years and will continue to do so" – this was the stark statistic underscoring the importance of the Serennu Children's Centre and the Sparkle Organisation presented within the first 10 minutes of arriving.**

Sparkle is the charity partner of the Serennu Centre, which is a unique specialist children's facility that caters for children across Gwent with disabilities and special needs from 0-18 years. A whole host of activities are offered by Sparkle through the centre to give children many of the experiences that neuro-typical and able-bodied children have, from swimming, climbing walls, trampolining to specially adapted cinemas with VIP entrances for that extra-special experience! Meeting the team was a humbling experience, the passion and dedication that each member has for making a difference to the children's lives was almost tangible. And walking around the Centre you get a real sense of the adaptations for the children. All rooms for example have signs on them preparing the children for what's behind the door, helpful to some autistic children anxious about entering strange rooms. The theme of constellations is present all through the centre, and all related wall signs and depictions at wheelchair level for full inclusiveness. The trampoline room and boulder climbing wall



*Dr Sabine Maguire & Councillor Chris Reeks*

have been designed to take all-ability children, and even the picnic tables within the five acres of outside safe access space have seating and places to welcome in wheelchair users. Sparkle's Founder, Paediatrician Dr Sabine Maguire, explained more about Sparkle's funding. The charity costs around £730,000 per annum to run and is reliant on donations and grant funding, whilst also nominally charging for some services. For example, swimming lessons are charged at £6 per session, but considering it's a one-to-one basis with up to 6 specialists in the water with the children, the actual costs are not covered. The Little Stars and after-school clubs rely heavily on volunteer helpers and leisure staff to provide the services,

which cater for 130 children across the week. Sabine pointed out that due to current monetary constraints, the centre now has a waiting list for children who need to access their services. The charity is presently advertising job vacancies on its website, including volunteer roles for its after-school clubs. This type of role is often undertaken by local school students prior to them going off to fulfil their university ambitions, so more volunteers are always required. Sparkle is also currently awaiting the outcome of its applications to Newport City Council for Participatory Budgeting to provide more workers and support for its after-school and its continuing care and leisure clubs. And in the meantime, the charity will continue to fund raise to cover its costs and keep delivering its vital services to the children of Gwent.

**There isn't the space available in this article to do Sparkle the justice it deserves and cover all the services it provides, so to find out more or to make a donation to help local children please visit their website at [www.sparkleappeal.org](http://www.sparkleappeal.org)**





THE GARDEN  
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BY PUGH'S

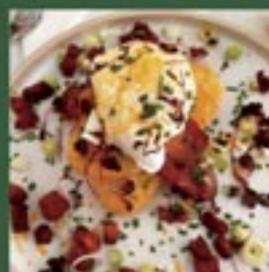
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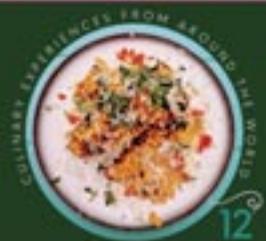
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Unlike other companies, we do not take a 'one size fits all' approach to providing care. Instead, we are passionate about delivering a personalised service designed around the needs of each individual customer to support their lifestyle.

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You might be looking for short-term help and support after a stay in hospital. Or perhaps you need long term care. It might be respite care that is required, or perhaps you are looking for someone to take care of a family member whilst you're away on holiday. Whatever your needs, Bluebird Care can help.

From 30-minute visits aimed at helping with household tasks or preparing a meal; to caring for those living with long term conditions and/or dementia – Bluebird Care provides you with the support you need.

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## A realistic and affordable alternative to Residential Care

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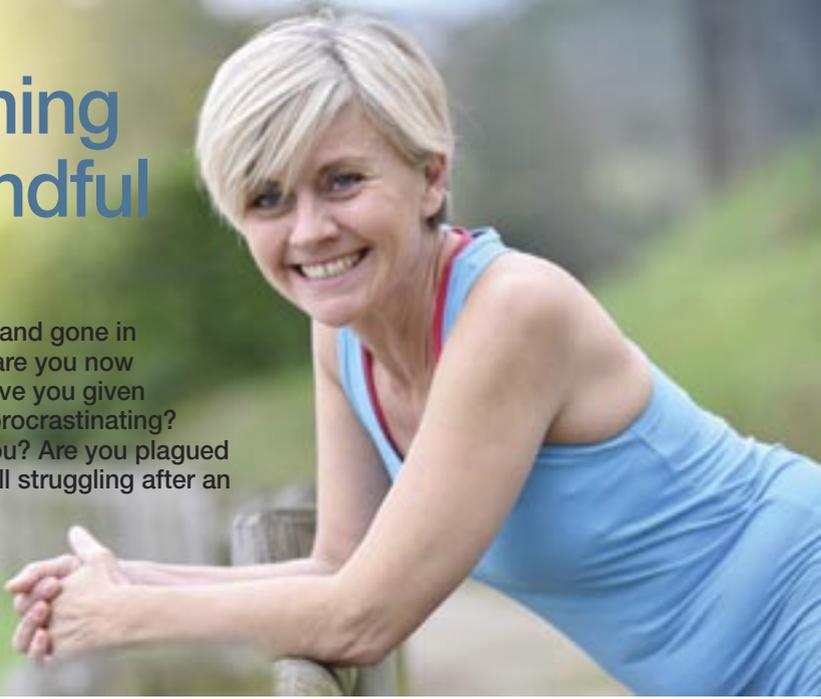
Our whole team is committed to providing the same quality of care that we would expect for our own family members.



**Call and chat to a member of our team to find out how we can help you and your family.**

# Becoming the mindful mover

January has come and gone in a flash and where are you now with your goals, have you given up or are you still procrastinating? What's stopping you? Are you plagued with an injury or still struggling after an illness?



My number one priority when I am helping my clients, is to consider how do I help them become a mindful mover? But, what does this mean? So many clients would like to perform a squat, a deadlift or run a marathon, obstacle race or even simply try a charity fitness event, but there's typically something stopping them achieving this from the outset.

Lack of mobility, injury, reduction in muscular strength or flexibility, stress, fatigue all play a part in how well we move. When did you last check your health status and had a body MOT at the local pharmacy, visited a Podiatrist to check on your foot health, seen a Chiropractor or Physiotherapist to check your bodies functionality, or did you step into exercise and expect to do what you've always done from as early as your 20s, not considering how your body has changed over the years.

Being a mindful mover is checking from head to toe how do I function, what aches and pains exist, what truly are my current physical and psychological limitations that I need to consider before moving and more importantly, how do I improve

upon them?

Limitations merely sit as a barrier to achieving your own greatness, whatever that might be. I combat this by considering my clients range of movement, posture, muscular endurance, baseline fitness and muscular strength as well as any imbalances across the body before we start. I also assess the clients desire to improve, after all we can't become better movers, without putting in the effort and being consistent. Being a mindful mover means you are a willing to



**If you need help or advice, please remember I'm always here to give friendly, professional advice. worth it and it's about time we all believed it and started making ourselves a priority and finally**  
**Karla 07791 217306**

work on the areas that need improvement in order to achieve the overall goal. So, we finally accept and work on our weaknesses and challenges, rather than keep doing the activities we find comfortable or easy to complete.

If you have a bad back, consider the health care professional advice you need, complete the rehabilitation and become mindful of target areas, such as core strength, lower and upper body stretches. Accomplishing the foundation requirements first before you jump into exercise is vital if you are to improve.

Being a mindful mover means you can then reduce the likelihood of further injury or pain and are significantly more likely to achieve your goal, boosting confidence in your own ability and fundamentally becoming more in tune with what the body needs and how to make sure you look after you.

If you ever get stuck and you're not sure how or where to start, please feel free to get in touch and I'd be more than happy to discuss your journey. Good luck, Karla!



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A MONTH

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Saturday	9.30am	Pilates in PJs - Online

**\*Hybrid class is face to face and via zoom at the same time.**

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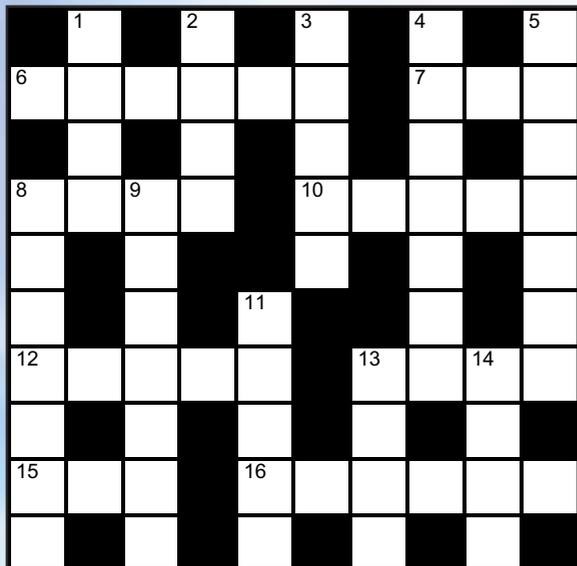


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# PUZZLES

## CROSSWORD



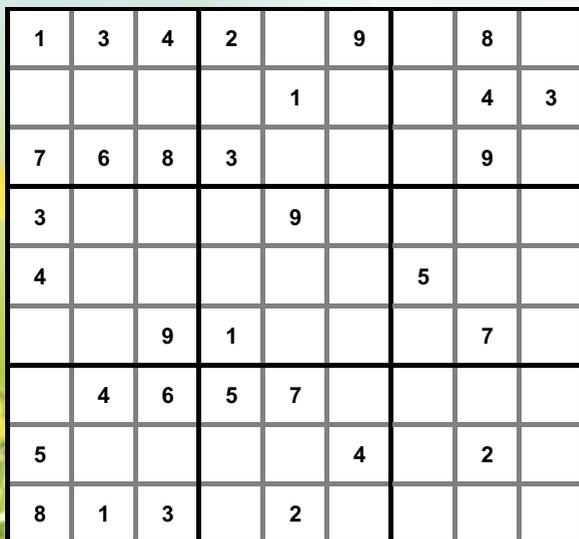
### Across

- 6 Education centre (6)
- 7 Used for listening (3)
- 8 Groups (4)
- 10 Special occurrence (5)
- 12 Flowing water (5)
- 13 Group of cows (4)
- 15 Lubricant (3)
- 16 Loving touch (6)

### Down

- 1 Dull pain (4)
- 2 Faithful pets (4)
- 3 Passageway (5)
- 4 Protection (7)
- 5 Make believe (7)
- 8 Common small bird (7)
- 9 Journeys (7)
- 11 Building block (5)
- 13 Cause injury (4)
- 14 Element of danger (4)

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



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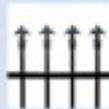
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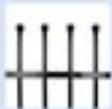
## ColourRail design options



Decorative Ring



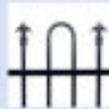
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Newport u3a has 42 subject groups including Art, Craft, Fitness, History, Gardening, Theatre, Music, Mindfulness, Languages, Literature, and I.T. In addition, we organise many Trips, Holidays and Social Events.

'LEARN, LAUGH, LIVE' is our motto - so if you would like



more of that in your retirement, come along and try a few sessions. We meet Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.45-15.00 during term times at the Dolman Theatre.



For more information pop in for a brochure, visit [u3asites.org.uk/newportsewales](http://u3asites.org.uk/newportsewales) or phone Angela Robins on 07983 130541

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We meet every 1st & 3rd Thursday between 12pm - 12.30pm in the Cafe in the Faith Church on Wern Trading Estate, The Celebration New Build, NP10 9FQ, for a chat, drink and maybe a bite to eat and then carry on at 1.00pm into the church area for our meeting, maybe for a speaker, board games or whatever else we might have planned. The session ends at 2.00pm.

**Rogerstone Roses WI**



Meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month at 7.00pm in St John the Baptist Church Hall, Risca Road - The Handpost

For more details please contact: Mary Edmunds 01633 891363

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# Belle Vue Park & Tea Room



# What's On

**March 5th**

We cannot wait to welcome you to the first Belle Vue market of 2023. Packed full of goodies from new and existing traders, we look forward to seeing you there. This year our charity is Sparkle so those small donations as an entry we collect will help a local charity do some great work.

**March 19th**

Is Mother's Day! We are offering our tasty boxed delights – afternoon tea for two for collection or delivery at £16.50 per person. Give that special lady a surprise treat. Limited places are available in the tearoom also if you would rather join us. We will add a little something extra for the mums. You can book via phone on 07737 630657 up to 24 hours before the day. We ask for a deposit



prior to the day. Simply discuss it with Jan.

**March 25th**

The Little Welsh Wedding Fair is joining us at the Tea Room to showcase ideas from a range of experts across Wales. Free tickets from Eventbrite.

After a fabulous 2022, we are raring to go into 2023. April sees the start of our spring and summer programme:

**April 2nd**

Belle Vue market 11.00am – 4.00pm once again packed with goodies and new traders.

**April 21st**

Our first Street Food Friday of the year! 6.30pm – 9.30pm. Come along to sample the delicious delights of our four street foodies plus Fairy Glen Bar. Or bring your own! No charge as usual. Listen to the Dave Williams Band who will entertain you from the bandstand.

**April 29th**

Garden Market and Plant Sale 11.00am-4.00pm. Come along to talk anything plants and gardens. We had a fantastic event in 2022 and we are hoping to have even more stalls this year.



We are hoping to make beautiful Belle Vue Park busy and bustling. Look out for more information on our notice boards and Facebook/Instagram @Bellevuetearooms and on our new website [www.bellevuetearoom.uk](http://www.bellevuetearoom.uk) Alternatively text or phone Jan on 07737 630657.

## As 2022 Merges into 2023

**It is a worrying thought; as this article is being prepared, already it is the penultimate day in January, and December seems a long time ago. Since the turn of the decade, it has become clear that we can expect routinely to 'field' in excess of 320 swan calls annually, and so it appears the trend in calls for our services is inexorably upwards. Miraculously, the phone remained silent on both Christmas Day and Boxing Day, but that's about all that can be said; December itself was amongst the busiest of the year.**

2023 has started with some pretty grim rescues, and some issues about which we can actually do very little. For example, the reality of avian influenza appeared much closer than at any other time previously; we will have to remain vigilant and careful about the foreseeable future. Our records over very many years have shown very little in the way of reports of swans stuck in the ice. Usually, swans, along with other waterfowl manage to keep a small patch of water open by keeping moving, but occasionally a swan does actually become 'stuck' on the surface of the ice, as the example from Lydney shows. Fortunately, such spells of weather tend not to last too long, and so no lasting damage is done. It is beyond our capability to respond safely to this particular problem. Cable strikes are a constant source of concern to which another variant was added in early January. The call came at dusk from Network Rail. A juvenile swan approaching The Hendre Lake (St. Mellons) from



*Stuck in the ice - Lydney*

the south hit some part of the electrification system and was extremely fortunate to survive, but with a nasty burn to the major mid-span wing joint; most definitely a Swan Sanctuary, Shepperton job. The same could be said for a horrible oiling problem, the source of which, worryingly we never did find, but it involved a pair of adults found in the reed which runs parallel to what we call the coast road from Newport to Cardiff (B4239). When first seen, the contaminant extended only as far up as the waterline, but when they started to preen it became far more widely spread, (see photograph)



*Oiled pair Newport-Cardiff coast road*

but, as picked up, it was fortunate the birds were still able to fly, otherwise they might never have been found.

Finally, having recently made a 'thing' of being 'hard-hearted' by restricting the use of our very limited resources to rescuing swans, we found ourselves responding to a desperate plea for help. Chris, with the aid of her dog found a very badly injured adult male fox in a ditch just outside the southern end of Blackwood. Our friend Dai was willing and able to drop everything to extricate it from what otherwise would have been a bitterly cold watery grave. We put everything in place for the Vale Wildlife Hospital to accept this poor creature. However, enroute, we thought it good sense to check the casualty was still alive. Sadly, he wasn't, but what was obvious from our examination was that he had suffered some extreme trauma affecting the whole pelvic area, and must have been in awful pain. We can but conclude that this was probably the result of being hit by a motor vehicle, almost certainly travelling much too fast in a built-up area the previous evening. Already we have witnessed far too much of

this irresponsible uncaring behaviour resulting in the totally needless death of some of our precious wild animals.

Text P&E. Photos Lydney Town Council, Swan Sanctuary Shepperton.  
For swan problems, please contact Peter & Ellen on 01633 895241 or 07802 472788



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# RESERVOIRS IN WALES

## Beacons Reservoir

**B**eacons Reservoir is the northernmost of the three reservoirs in the Taff Fawr valley in South Wales. It was built by Cardiff Corporation Waterworks between 1893 and 1897, and the water is impounded by an earth dam with a clay core. Since 1973 it has been owned by Welsh Water. As its name suggests, it is located in the Brecon Beacons National Park in the Powys unitary authority area and within the historic county boundaries of Breconshire.

The dam consists of an earth embankment with a clay core, which is faced with masonry. A circular valve tower with castellated stonework is located on a masonry platform which projects from the inner face of the dam. The valve tower is offset towards the east side of the dam, and there is a spillway at its eastern edge, crossed by a stone bridge. The length of the dam is 1,020 feet (310 m) and it is 61 feet (18.6 m) tall at its highest point.

Southern end of reservoir



Northern end of reservoir



Same view taken in January 2010

There is access to the Taff Trail from the car park below the dam. It can be reached from the A470 that runs from Merthyr Tydfil to Brecon. We visited it at the end of August, after the dry summer, we also drove past after a snow storm in January 2010.

## Brecon Reservoir



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# Pontymister Welfare Bowls Club

Springfield Road, Pontymister, NP11 6LY

We are seeking new and established bowlers of all ages to come and join us for the 2023 bowling season from April to September.

We are a friendly club warmly welcoming all new members.

You may wish to take part in team matches or just come along for friendly games with other club members. Coaching and guidance is readily available to all for free.

We are open daily throughout the summer months. During the winter months we hold social evenings and quizzes at our well stocked bar in the clubhouse.

Please come along and meet us.



For further information please visit our website at <https://pontymisterwelfarebowls.club> or email the club secretary at [dixontreetops@aol.com](mailto:dixontreetops@aol.com)



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# Celebrating 90 years of Cricket at Newport Fugitives CC

The early thirties was a period of depression in Wales and sporting amenities were few and far between. However, nothing would deter a group of happy young bachelors setting up a cricket club in High Cross. It was founding member, Les Ingram who, in 1933, first suggested that the name of the club should be, "Newport Fugitives Cricket Club" - The Fugitives being a group of 'good guys' shaking off the bonds of convention, with a devil-may-care attitude, but lovable nonetheless; born to be free.

As we embark on our 90th year we strive to continually develop the club, so that we offer cricket for all and 2023 is set to see the highest participation rates ever. As always, we will continue to put out competitive 1st XI, 2nd XI and 3rd XI Saturday men's sides in the South East Wales League and a friendly Sunday XI, but this will be bolstered by an ever growing women and girls section. Originally, the 'Fugettes' were a group of the wives and girlfriends of male players who entered the annual six-a-side. Today, they are an established team with their own committee that trains all year around and plays competitive softball cricket throughout the summer and winter. Their persistence certainly paid off when they were recently crowned winners of the inaugural Wicket 2 Wicket Indoor Cup.

Alongside the thriving adult sections, our junior section continues to flourish. We provide cricket for girls and boys aged 5-18. Every Monday hundreds of our youngest Fugitives, The All Stars and Dynamos, descend on the ground to have fun and learn the game of cricket, whilst during the week our u11's, u13's, u15's



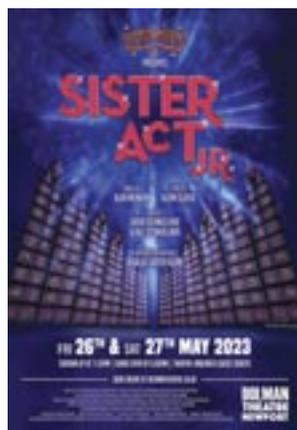
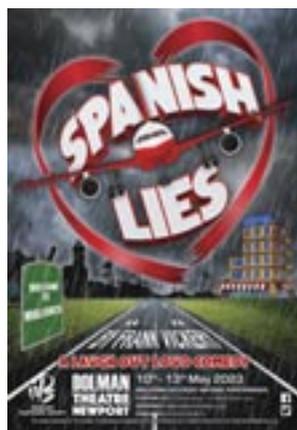
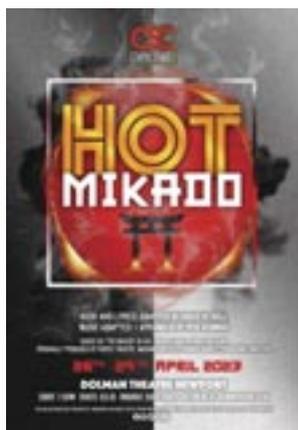
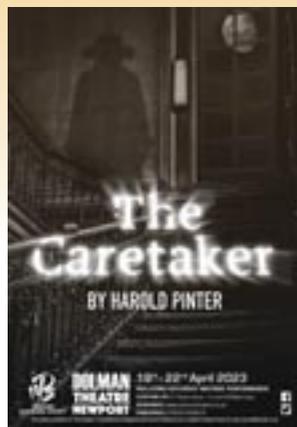
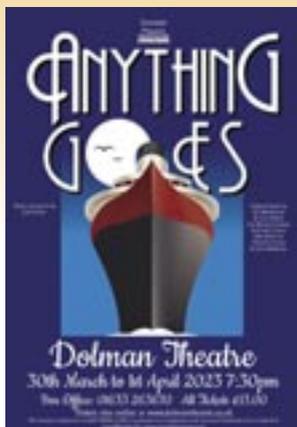
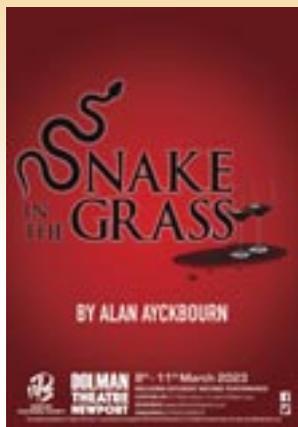
and u17's will be practising hard or competing against other clubs in South East Wales. Win or lose, or whether being a parent watching on, with our fully licenced bar there are always refreshments at hand. And there is certainly no better place to reflect on a game than sitting on a bench, beverage in hand, looking up at the Sirhowy Valley as the sun sets over Machen Mountain. So, on May 26th, we will kick off

celebrations with a prestigious game of cricket against the MCC that will be followed by a 90th birthday party where we will celebrate the current success of Newport Fugitives Cricket Club, reminisce about Fugitive folklore, remember the pioneers of 1933 and of course, look to the future and speculate what the next 90 years of cricket at Newport Fugitives will look like.



If you would like to become a Fugitive or Fugette and join in with our celebrations or are a business that could sponsor events and facilities, don't hesitate to get in touch via our website [www.fugies.co.uk](http://www.fugies.co.uk) or search 'Newport Fugitives Cricket Club' on social media

# DOLMAN THEATRE NEWPORT



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# TREDEGAR HOUSE FOLK FESTIVAL 2023

5th – 8th MAY

This year the 32nd Tredegar House Folk Festival will be extra special as it takes place over the coronation weekend of 5th – 8th May, and as Monday 8th is a bank holiday, the festival will be extended to run for the 4 days.

Also, and this is a first for this year, all ticket holders – whether whole weekend or just individual concerts or ceilidhs – will be entitled to free entry for a tour of Tredegar House.

The two international dance teams taking part are old friends Matenik from the Czech Republic, and Schwabische

Trachtengruppe Heidenheim who are from Newport's twinned town. They were invited to take part in 2022 but because of the pandemic hadn't been able to

practice enough to be satisfied with their performances, so postponed to this year. Support will be provided by many local and UK dance teams giving free dance displays on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. On Friday and Saturday evenings there will be ceilidhs for those who like to get dancing. An innovation for Friday will be an international ceilidh with dances from Wales, the UK and Europe being taught, while on Saturday festival favourites Juice are back with caller Ned Clamp. There will also be music and dance workshops across the weekend.

Concert artists are too numerous to name here with 4 top acts per concert, so please visit the website

[www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk](http://www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk) to see who is on and when and also to hear a clip of their music.

Headliners of the 3 paying concerts are Friday: Merry Hell, Saturday: Kathryn Tickell and the



Darkening, Sunday: Barbara Dickson with Nick Holland. But mention must be made of The John Kelly Band who make a swift return after their triumphant appearance last year. There will also be free concerts, sessions and singarounds. Of course all the usual festival offerings of craft stalls, real ale and lager bars, food outlets etc. will be on-site, plus on Saturday, a farmer's market.

Entry to the site, dance displays and some concerts is free but National Trust car parking charges apply.

The committee would like to thank our many sponsors, but special thanks must go to the

National Trust for allowing us to continue to use the beautiful grounds of Tredegar House, and first and foremost the Arts Council of Wales without whose financial support the festival would not be possible in its current format.

Weekend tickets and individual concert and ceilidh tickets can be purchased via the website, or by post (details on the website)

[www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk](http://www.tredegarhousefestival.org.uk)

At the time of writing, events for the bank holiday Monday are still being arranged so please check the website or facebook page for up to date information.



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Based on Caerleon Road, Newport, Dream Doors Newport is part of the UK's largest Kitchen Renovation Company. Having fitted over 500 kitchen renovations since the Newport branch opened in 2019, Nick, Catherine and their daughter Anna are delighted to have won Wales Prestige 'Kitchen Design Specialists of the Year Award' 2022/2023 again for a second year running.

Catherine tells us, "We are over the moon to have won again. As a family run business, we all work really hard to provide our customers with the best service from start to finish. We really care about our customers experience and happiness, so it's lovely when our whole team, including our fitters, get recognition for their hard work. We love what we do, and how we do it. Creating a whole new look with a quality kitchen with a lot less time, hassle, cost, and waste is very rewarding.

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To learn more about their excellent service, visit Dream Doors Newport on Checkatrade to read real customer reviews. To book in your free non-obligatory quote and design consultation, give Nick, Catherine and Anna a call at the showroom on:

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