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Lets hope the weather will carry on being kind to us over the next couple of months and we'll all be able to continue walking in our beautiful countryside, on lovely beaches and benefit from some summer sunshine.

Susan x

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Editor: Susan Woolford | Sales & Distribution: Leslie Woolford

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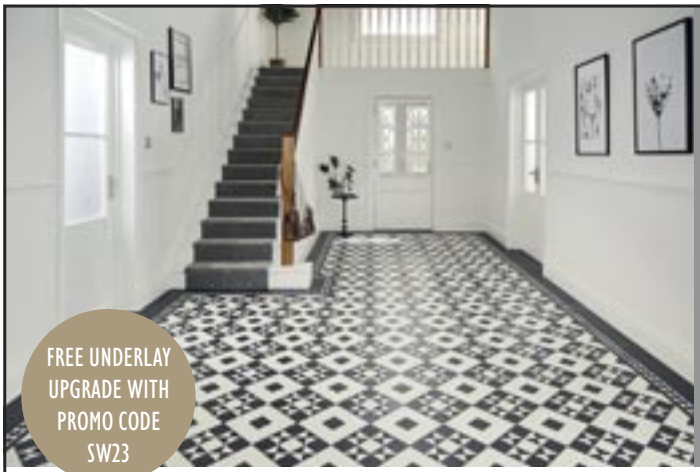
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What's On

July

Sunday 2nd 11.00am - 4.00pm
Belle Vue Artisan Market
Our popular monthly market returns with new and regular artisan bakers, makers and creators. We collect a donation as an entry fee for the Serennu charity campaign, Sparkle. We have collected nearly £700 on the first four markets. Well done all who have donated.

Sunday 2nd 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Newport Symphony Orchestra will be joining us at the market.

Sunday 9th 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Rogerstone Community Band will be with us on the bandstand.

Sunday 16th 1.00pm - 3.00pm
The Cardiff Melingriffith Brass Band will once again be joining us.

Sunday 23rd 1.00pm - 3.00pm
The Tongwynlais Temperance Band will join us for their second appearance on the bandstand this year. It is so lovely to see so many bands and music events on the lovely bandstand.

Friday 22nd 6.30 pm - 9.30pm
Streetfood
We welcome back the Three O'clock Club to sing their favourites and new songs. We shall have the Fairy Glen bar and at least five foody stalls to tempt all tastes.

August

Sunday 6th 11.00 am - 4.00pm
Belle Vue Artisan Market
Between 1.00pm and 3.00pm the Markham and District Brass Band will entertain all you lovely supporters of Belle Vue and its events.

Friday 19th 6.30pm - 9.30pm
Street Food
Music with the Blue Evolution Band, full electric show to set the park rocking. Street Food vendors, bar and cocktails. All welcome. Café will be open serving hot and cold beverages, cakes and ices.

Saturday 20th 1.00pm - 3.00pm
The Newport Male Voice Choir will be singing for us on the bandstand.

Monday Bank Holiday 28th
Our partners Green Top Markets will once again join us to host a family fun day with children's entertainment and family activities. The café will be open and music will play on the bandstand. Everyone welcome and the donation entry (just 5p per adult) will go to MOTs, Multi Organ Transplant Support.

You can still book our popular afternoon teas every day, served from 2pm at £18.50 per adult. We can cater for most food intolerances and allergies. We require at least 24 hours' notice to ensure that we have the freshest possible ingredients for you.









Look out for more information on our notice boards and Facebook/Instagram @Bellevuetearooms and on our website www.bellevuetearoom.uk. Alternatively text or phone Jan on 07737 630657.

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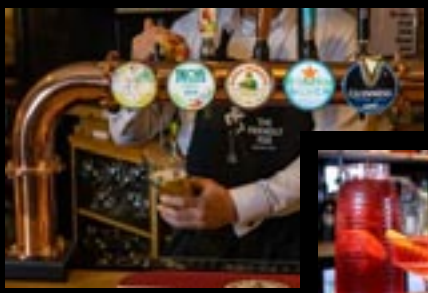
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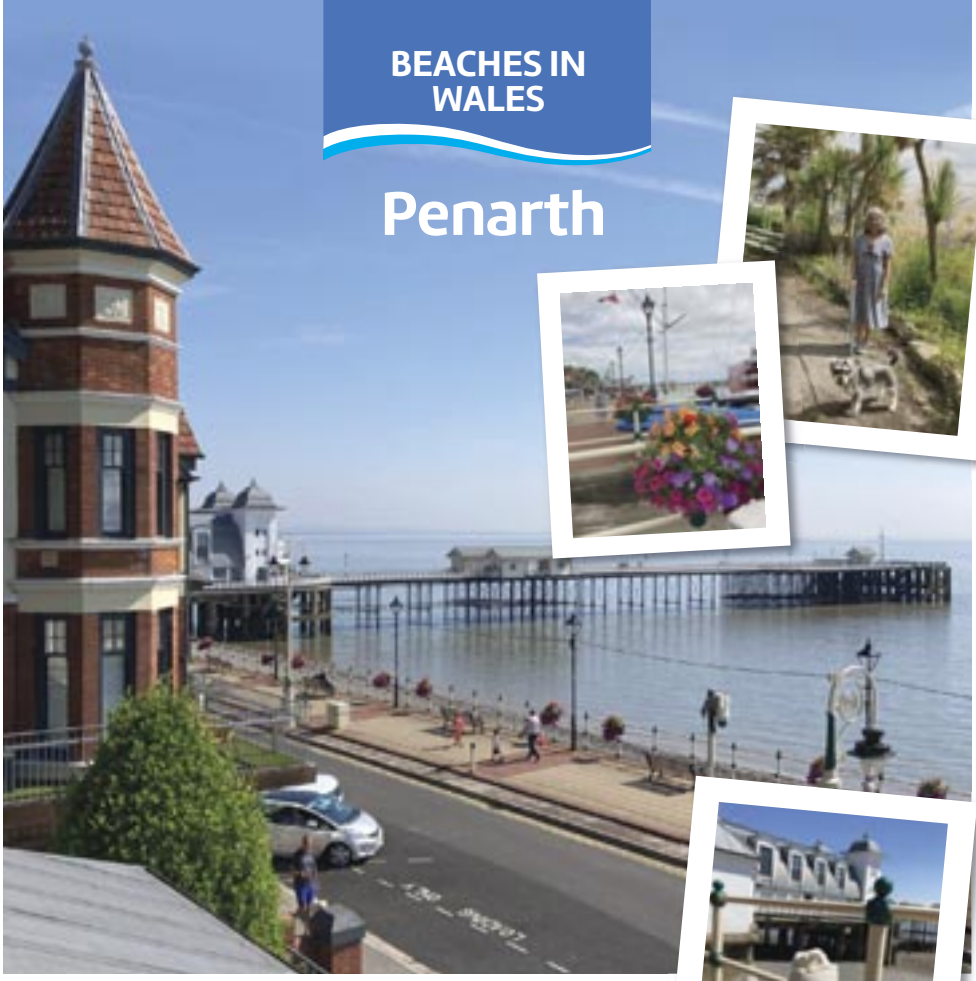
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BEACHES IN WALES

Penarth



In 1856 the Cardiff Steam and Navigation Company started a regular ferry service between Cardiff and Penarth, because of the growing popularity of Penarth beach and the need for better communications with Cardiff. Boats were loaded and unloaded at Penarth using a landing stage on wheels which was hauled up the beach.

The Penarth Pier Company was formed to make a second attempt at building a permanent pier. The foundations were laid in 1894 and the pier successfully opened in 1895, at 750 feet (230 m) long.

In March 2011, planning permission was granted for a £3.9 million revamp of the pier to re-open the pavilion as a major tourist attraction. The new plans included a cinema and observatory. The work was completed and the pavilion reopened in Autumn 2013. The pavilion hosts a variety of exciting and interesting events throughout the year.

On the seafront itself is the Victorian Italian Garden that displays many unusual palm trees and exotic plants.

During the Victorian era Penarth was a highly popular holiday destination, promoted nationally as "The Garden by the Sea" and was packed by visitors from the Midlands and the West Country as well as day trippers from the South Wales valleys, mostly arriving by train.

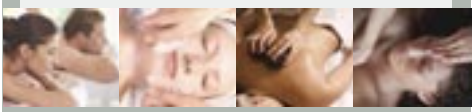
Penarth is delightful stop along the Wales Coast Path, and a bonus is that you can easily walk to Cardiff Bay and the barrage. Take a walk along the pleasurable esplanade with its bars and restaurants or the pebble beach with an ice-cream in hand and enjoy the long views out over the Severn estuary and across to England.

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Newport U3A is back

Newport u3a is back on track with its full programme of 40 leisure, cultural and active groups for the retired. In addition, members made up for lost time and arranged a bumper year of excursions and holidays, organised by Out & About Newport.

We have been on Day trips to Swindon Railway Museum & Outlets Shopping Centre, Glastonbury & Haynes Motor Museum and the BBC's most advanced Radio and TV studios, packed with cutting-edge technology and robotic cameras. There we spoke to



Wynne Evans (singer, comedian, broadcaster and star of the 'Go Compare' adverts).

We explored the gardens at RHS Wisely with a tour of the Cotswolds after an overnight stay, a four day weekend based in Plymouth and a week in Northern Ireland

Newport u3a meets at the Dolman Theatre Wednesdays to Fridays during term time until 14th July and will resume activities on 6th September.

members to learn more about the trips, holidays and events on offer.

u3a learn, laugh, live

If you would like to broaden your horizons during retirement, visit u3asites.org.uk/newportsewales, pop in for a brochure, or phone Angela Robins on 07983 130541.

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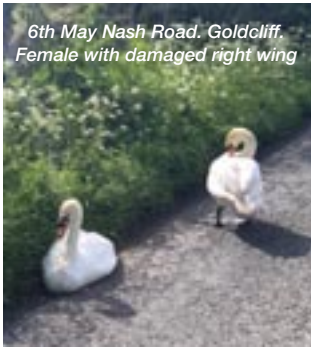
Jottings from a Crazy Month of May

This article is being prepared with just a few days left before June begins; it really has been some month with a very wide range of incidents to cope with; limited space allows a brief reference to be made to only a few of them.

Avian influenza (AF) is still around, although at the time of the actual rescue, we did not make a connection between the fact the adult swan in question was almost totally blind, having what appeared to be cataracts in both eyes. It is now a known fact this is one of the several possible consequences of being an AF survivor. This bird had strayed from the slipway area at Channel View in Cardiff, but mercifully had not got as far as any of the busy roads in the area. Of logistical necessity we had to hold him here in South Wales for 48 hours, during which time he fed extremely well, before transporting him to Shepperton. Interestingly, the swan did respond to changes in light and shade.

The second story for this time would be better described as a saga; it began on the afternoon of Wednesday 19th April, with a call from a member of the public concerned about a swan with a possible wing injury on the road in the vicinity of The Farmers' Arms at Goldcliff. With the best will in the world, travel time to this location is unlikely to be much less than 45 minutes, so it was hardly a surprise to find no trace of the bird when we arrived in the area. As it happens, the police had also been called (Incident No 233) and they too had not encountered the swan.

Forward now a week to the 26th, and a local farmer reported what must have been the same swan on his land. Again, it was no surprise to discover, by the time we arrived, there was no sign of the swan; the area is criss-crossed with drainage ditches – reens – which are used by swans as 'highways' and so can cover relatively long distances undetected unless one happens to have the advantage of a drone or a helicopter!



6th May Nash Road. Goldcliff. Female with damaged right wing



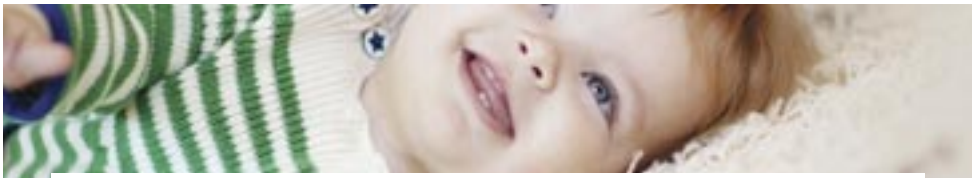
Nash Road. Pair exploring their new home in Kent

Forward again to May 6th. Two motorists on the same stretch of road had encountered a pair of swans – the female with an injured wing, or was it an unusually 'light' case of angel wing? These two wonderful ladies had done a superb job; protecting the swans 'cwtched' down against the grassy verge with a car pulled in close either side. Immediate removal of the birds was obviously essential. So, we picked up the uninjured male first in the belief, rightly, that if he had been left 'til later he might well have been much more difficult to catch. As it was, the female did cross the verge and dropped into the ditch on the far side, but, with the judicious use of the extended swan hook was not too difficult to catch. Having loaded them securely into the car, the decision as to the next move had been made already; Shepperton tout de suite.

Later a relatively simple tidying-up on the damaged wing, and the luck continued to hold with a beautiful lake in rural Kent providing a new home for this very lucky pair of swans.

For the record, having described May as 'crazy', what was been related here are just two of the 22 missions completed as the month end approaches, totalling almost 2000 miles.

Story by Peter & Ellen, photographs by Emma & Mel. For swan and all other wildlife problems please contact us on 07802 472788. Please note, because there are so few of us, there is a limit to the volume of rescue work we can carry out; for Swan Rescue South Wales, swans are our priority.



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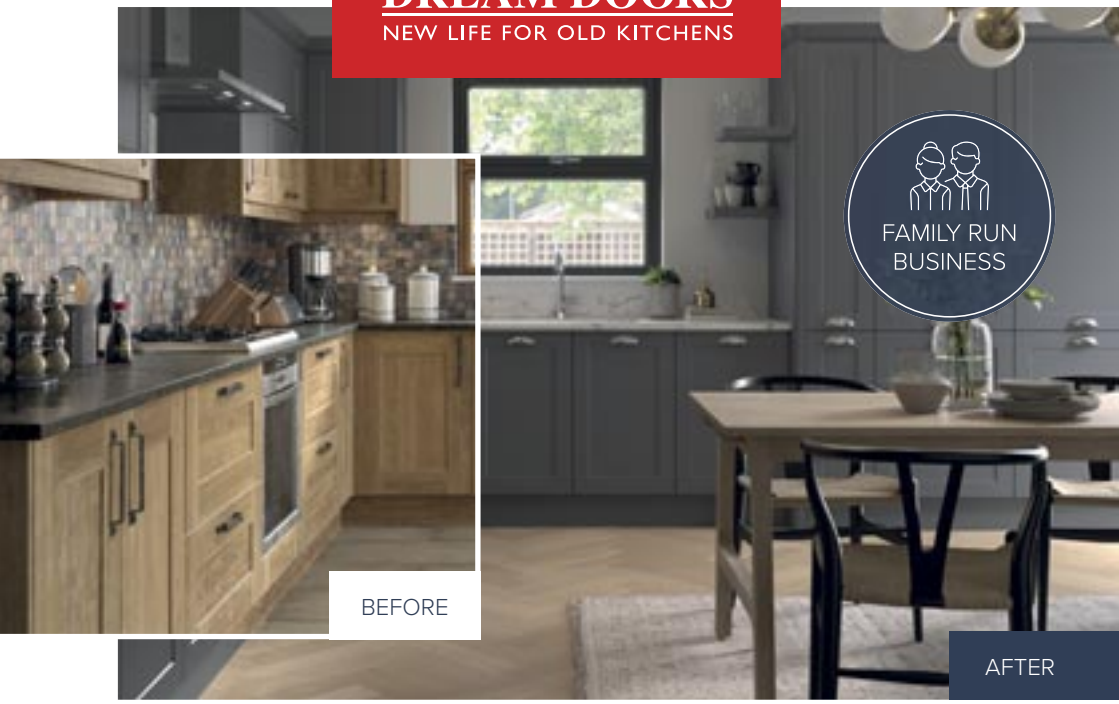
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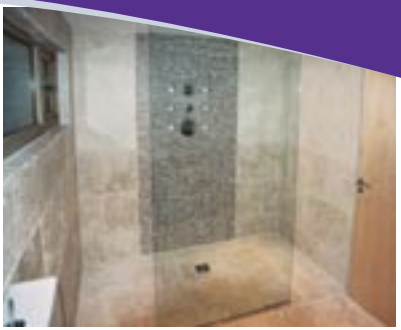




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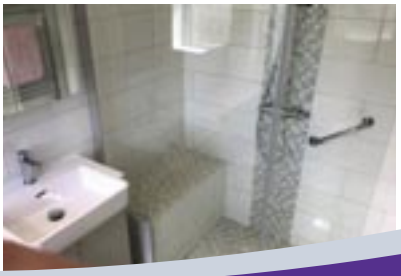
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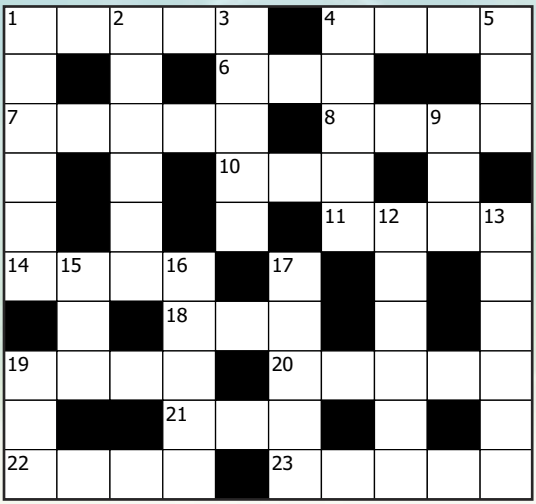
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Puzzles

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)

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.

Solutions on page 24

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Conservation Grazing on Twmbarlwm's SAM

Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society have been involved with helping maintain the landscape and environment of the iconic iron-age hillfort and medieval motte of Twmbarlwm for over 12 years.

Now an innovative project sees the society working with local farmers, the Llanarth Estate, Cadw and Caerphilly County Council to implement a programme of 'Conservation Grazing'. The aim is to improve the condition of the grassland, to increase biodiversity, reduce the risk of wildfires and protect the Scheduled Ancient Monument for future generations.

Since a catastrophic series of wildfires in 2018, the grassland on Twmbarlwm has been the subject of study by Gwent Wildlife Trust (GWT) and Cadw, to understand the impact that the blazes had on the grassland and the effect that the vegetation could have had in prolonging the fires. The research has shown that the density of bracken and woody species such as heather and whimberry may have caused the fires to burn hotter and for longer, causing damage to the soil and underlying archaeology. In areas where the fires burnt for longest the vegetation has struggled to recover, which, in turn is causing erosion on the scheduled monument.

The course of action outlined in GWT's report advised that grazing a small herd of Welsh Black cattle will hopefully, reduce the woody vegetation and dense patches of grass whilst manuring and seeding the areas of bare earth, improving the condition of the grassland across the monument. The herd will be regularly monitored to assess the impact of the grazing on the grassland and numbers decreased if over-grazing or damage to the scheduled monument occurs.

Cattle are being used rather than sheep because they are likely to have a more significant impact on the vegetation – they are less selective feeders than sheep and their larger feet are more effective at crushing invasive plants like bracken.

'Conservation Grazing' is being increasingly used to manage land for wildlife across Britain, with organisations like the Wildlife Trusts and National Trust employing grazing animals on their estates. Native breed cattle are also being used with great success to control invasive vegetation and improve grasslands and biodiversity on other scheduled monuments in Wales.

Commoners were always allowed to graze their sheep and cattle on the ridgeway of Mynydd Henllys and Mynydd Maen but the livestock was excluded from the scheduled monument as it was not part of the common. However, fences have now been erected at Twmbarlwm to ensure a controlled number of cattle are confined to the area around the hillfort.

Visitors are asked to keep to the Countryside Code when visiting Twmbarlwm (details can be found on the .gov.uk website) but in particular to ensure they close all gates behind them. Welsh Blacks are naturally docile and do not pose a risk to walkers, however, visitors are advised not to approach them or startle them, and to keep dogs on leads when around them.

There are other aspects to the landscape management plan that visitors may see in action – such as re-seeding with native grasses, erosion control and bracken bashing – but it's safe to say that all the groups involved in this project see this as an exciting new chapter in the history of Twmbarlwm, one that will see an ancient breed of cattle returned to the hill. Welsh Blacks have been grazing the landscapes of South Wales for at least 1000 years and may well have been the cattle of choice of the people who built the hillfort over 2000 years ago!

Terry Evans, Chairman
Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society



Cattle are regularly seen on the Common of Mynydd Maen and now they will also enjoy the pasture of the SAM itself

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

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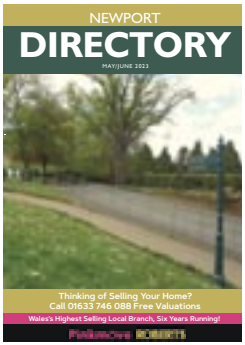
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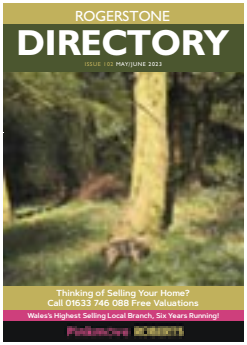
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Harding Evans Solicitors has chosen Sparkle as their Charity of the Year for their Newport Office for the next 12 months

Sparkle supports children and young people with complex needs within the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area. It is the official charity of Serennu Children's Centre in Newport, Nevill Hall Children's Centre in Abergavenny, and Caerphilly Children's Centre.

The guiding principle for Sparkle is to ensure that children and young people with disabilities and/or developmental difficulties, and their families, are fully supported and able to participate in valued childhood experiences, with access to the same range of opportunities, life experiences, activities, and leisure services as any other child and their family.

Harding Evans Solicitors has over 90 employees based at their Newport office, who will be participating in a range of activities to raise vital funds for Sparkle Appeal throughout the year.

Ian Edwards, Fundraising Manager at Sparkle, has said:



L-R: Ian Edwards, Luke McCarthy-Reed, Jade Burton, Brooke Boucher, Matt Brewer, Vic Smithyman, Emma Sweeney, Debra King, Tracey Holloway.

"Sparkle relies on valuable corporate partnerships to enable our team to provide support and deliver leisure activities for children and young people with complex needs.

"So, we are delighted Harding Evans chose us to be its charity of the year and look forward to a fun and rewarding year with its team."

"Having been based in the heart of Newport since the 1870s, it is really important to us that we give back to the communities around us" added Ken Thomas, Chairman at Harding Evans, "our team here voted unanimously to support the great work that Sparkle do and we look forward to raising as much money for them as we can over the next 12 months – and having some fun while we do so!"

About Harding Evans:
Harding Evans is one of South Wales' most progressive law firms, offering a full range of legal services to businesses and individuals from its offices in Cardiff and Newport. With a 100-strong team of solicitors and support staff, their wealth of knowledge and expertise covers all areas of the law; whatever your legal needs, they are there to help.

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About Sparkle Appeal:
Sparkle is a charity based in Newport that supports children and young people with disabilities and/or developmental difficulties, and their families, living in Gwent.

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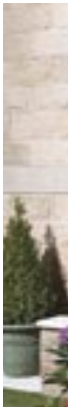
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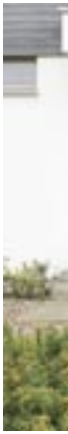
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