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DIRECTORY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025



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Welcome!

Hope you all had a lovely summer and are looking forward to autumn with the usual Halloween activities ahead, also the Newport Food Festival on Friday 10th & Saturday 11th October. For more details visit newportfoodfestival.co.uk

We are a small independent business and make a huge effort to produce and deliver this magazine. Our aim is to provide an informative and interesting magazine that positively contributes to both community life and local businesses. We rely totally on the revenue from the advertising to keep the magazine in production and need local businesses to support us as much as they possible can.

We deliver to over 25,000 homes all over Newport; this is an ideal way for you to reach prospective customers and support the local community at the same time. Don't forget that if you rely totally on social media to promote your business you are missing out on so many potential customers who prefer not to use social media.

Susan x

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Editor: Susan Woolford | Sales & Distribution: Leslie Woolford

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Member of Senedd for Newport West
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Gwerinwyr Gwent Diary

Our first booking of the year was at the end of February, when we spent a very pleasant evening with the ladies of Machen WI. This was swiftly followed by St David's Day at Foxhunters Care Community near Abergavenny. We danced and played for them, with Barbara Griffiths again as MC, and even got some residents to join in with one of our simple dances, most, but not all, from the comfort of their armchairs.

On 30th March we had our annual visit to Llanover for the NGS open gardens day. Lovely weather, lots of visitors, and record amounts raised for the charities.

Then a short break before the 10th May found us at another regular...the Tredegar House Folk Festival. Yet more good weather which brought out the crowds over the weekend. We danced on the Saturday and did a spot in both dance marquees. As well as the free dance displays, there were plenty of concerts, workshops, free entertainment, real ale bar, food and most importantly...sunshine.

As a consequence of having a local Hungarian dance group at the festival, GG was proud to be asked to take part in a Welsh/Hungarian day at Lisvane

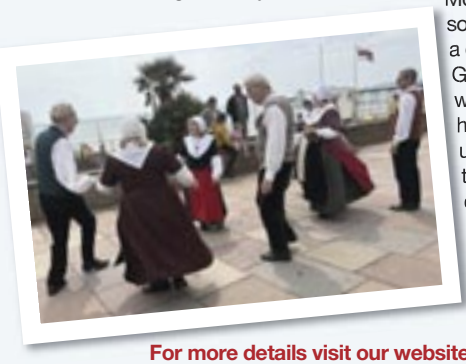






Memorial Hall in Cardiff, celebrating our two cultures. It was a wonderful afternoon and we were entertained by singer Daf Jones and Hungarian musicians and dancers. GG demonstrated three dances, then got the audience on their feet for a twmpath dance. Colourful crafts were on sale as well as tasty Hungarian food.

It is many years (well before Covid) since we have been away as a group to a weekend festival, so we thoroughly enjoyed our time at the Teignmouth Folk Festival in June. This is mainly a Morris dancing event, with some Appalachian sides and a couple of extras, of which GG was one. The forecast was for it to be exceptionally hot (which would have been unbearable for the ladies in their long woollen costumes), but fortunately it was cooler than we feared, and we even got rained on and didn't mind! We danced at three spots along the promenade on Saturday, plus we had the honour of the 45 minute guest performance at the main venue (The Triangle), all dance venues are outdoors. On Sunday we did two spots before the lunch break and then made our way back to South Wales. Quite a few of us stayed at the lovely Cliffden Hotel in Teignmouth. It has extensive grounds which, happily for us, meander down to exactly the part of the promenade where Saturday's procession started. It also has an excellent indoor swimming pool.



During the last 18 months, we have been delighted to recruit four new dancers, however, Gwerinwyr Gwent is still seeking new members, and beginners or experienced dancers/musicians are very welcome. Practice night (numbers permitting) is Thursday 8-10pm at the Graig Community Hall (opposite the Ruperra PH).

For more details visit our website www.gwerinwyrgwent.org.uk, or ring 01495 271953

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- Your spouse, children or friends would have to apply to court to get permission to make decisions on your behalf and act for you – which is far more expensive and time-consuming than making an LPA and the court could refuse the application.

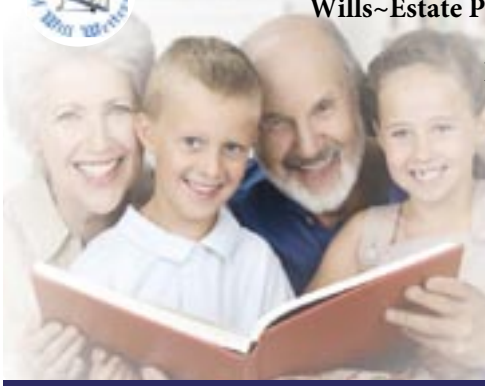
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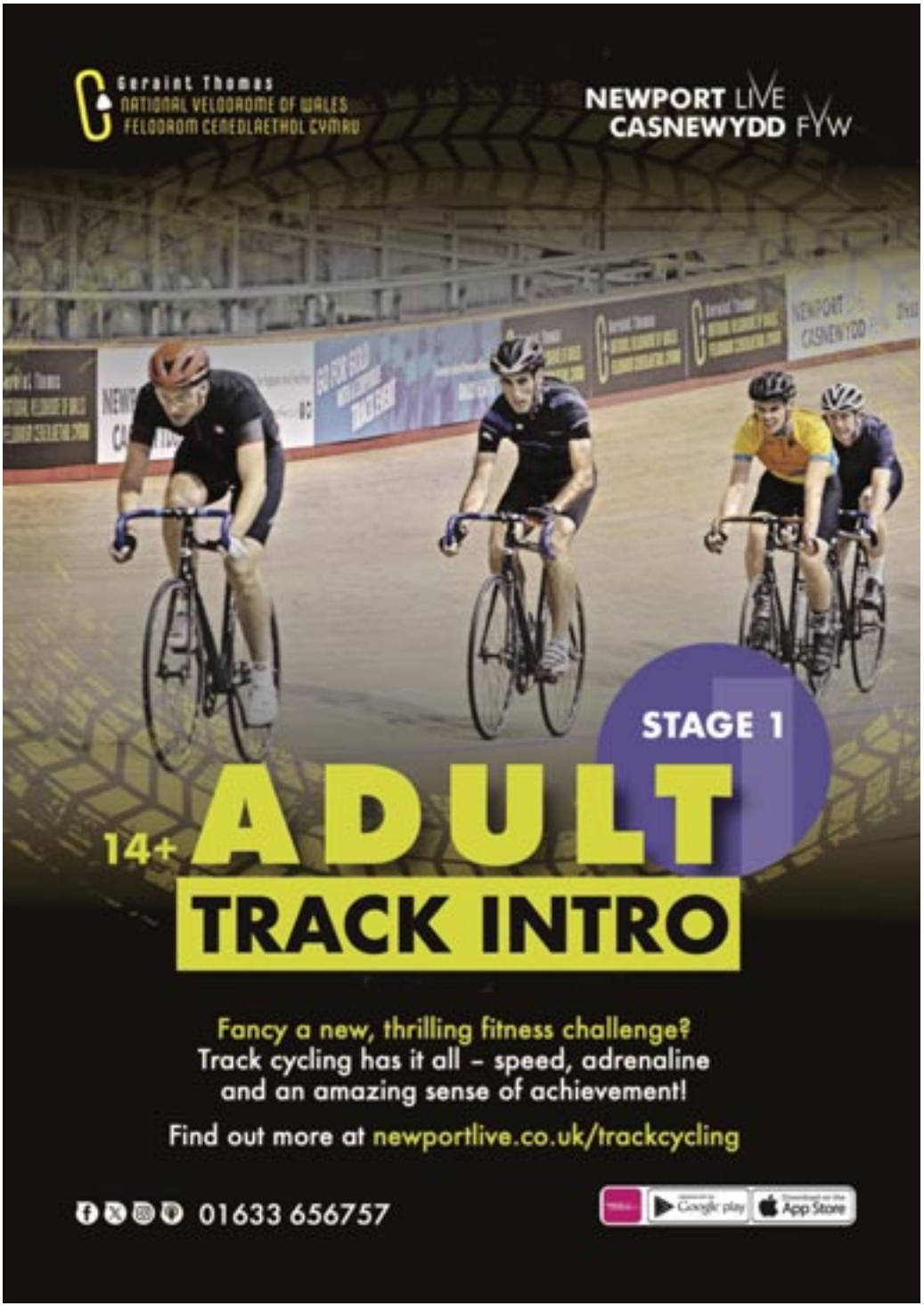
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Part 2

Changes in Rogerstone

since 1974 when it officially became part of Wales

Educational Institutions

Rogerstone has seen changes in its primary schools during this period. Firstly, the old board school near the Welfare Grounds moved to a more modern school at the Cefn Wood site and was renamed as such, then in 2003 the school was destroyed by fire. After a period of using portable classrooms and the use of an empty school at Malpas a new, bigger, state of the art school was built and opened in 2006. The other major educational development was the building of the new Jubilee Park School on the estate which opened in 2016.



The old Rogerstone Board School and the replacement Cefn Wood School



Recreational Spaces

Despite the loss of the aluminium factory outdoor sports facilities, partly due to the bypass, the village also benefited from the construction of the bypass, the old 'make do' facilities at the Welfare were replaced by a modern community hall, sports changing rooms and showers in the early 1980s. Then in 1987 Rogerstone Welfare Cricket Club secured a sports lottery grant for the building of a new two storey cricket clubhouse. More recently, the children's playground was upgraded as was the drainage on the football field. A new all-weather cricket net was also a featured addition with help from Cricket Wales/ECB and Rogerstone Community Council. There have been continual improvements at the Newport Fugitives Athletic Club, both on field and in the clubhouse, again with help from the same parties. These spaces have become integral to community life, offering residents places to gather, engage in physical activities, and foster social connections. The enhancement of these facilities underscores Rogerstone's focus on community well-being and cohesion.





The new Rogerstone Primary School in 2011 and Jubilee Park Primary School in 2025





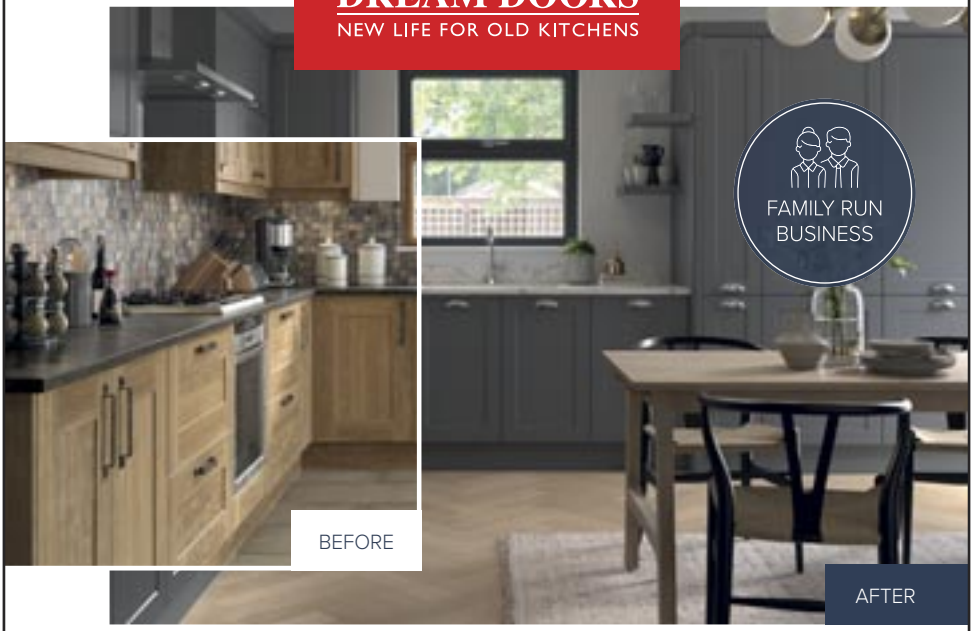


The old Welfare Grounds from the 1930s, the 1970s and the modern Grounds in 2010s

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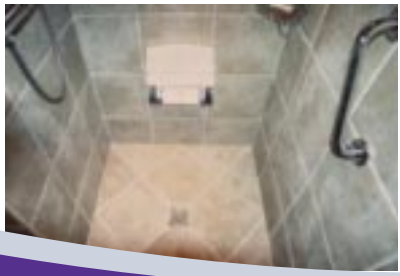
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BEACHES IN WALES

Saint Govans Head





The views along the Pembrokeshire Coast Path are magnificent. The cliffs here are important for seabirds, including guillemots, razorbills and kittiwakes. The path from the car park to the old coastguard station has been surfaced and provides a fairly level walk. Close to the car park, but down a flight of steps is the chapel dedicated to St Govan, an Irish abbot of the 6th century, unfortunately we never went down to the waters edge to see the chapel.

We walked around the stunning cliffs and saw a variety of seabirds and even some seals basking on the rocks. The Ministry of Defence has been using the area around Castle Martin as a firing range since the 1940s. It was fascinating seeing some of the old bunkers that have now been abandoned.

It's a two hour drive from Newport but if you are on holiday in the Pembrokeshire or Carmarthenshire area it's well worth a visit.





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Swan
RESCUE

The Moult


On the water again at last after how long

Memory plays funny To moult in animals and birds is to shed skin, hair or fur and feathers in order to make way for new growth. In the case of swans, of course, it's feathers and there are very many of them, providing waterproofing, insulation and streamlining. They don't last forever and need to be replaced annually, a process which starts in late July or early August and consumes a lot of energy. It can take four-seven weeks to complete and obviously, during this time they are flightless, as, are the cygnets, which have not yet learnt to fly.


Peace at last

In the context of swan rescue, it is very much the case that one learns as one goes along. Many years ago, our attention was drawn to what appeared to be a very sick adult male swan at Brynhill Golf Course (Barry). He was taken into care for a few days, given a vitamin boost and ensured he had free access to lots of good wholesome swan food, before returning him to his territory.

This memory was jogged as the end of July approached, when we received a call from the canal near the Harvester in Malpas; the report referred to a near motionless lethargic swan surrounded by a large quantity of poo.

It would be totally wrong to assume anything, such reports must be investigated regardless of inconvenience. It was as described, so we started by offering wheat on which he started to feed immediately, a good sign. Shortly he struggled to his feet, and very laboriously made his way down the bank, a long way, given the very low water level in the canal. At this point it was time to try some floating swan and duck food which was also acceptable. This was the moment which his family, female and six cygnets chose to appear. There can be little doubt they became aware 'easy access food' was available!

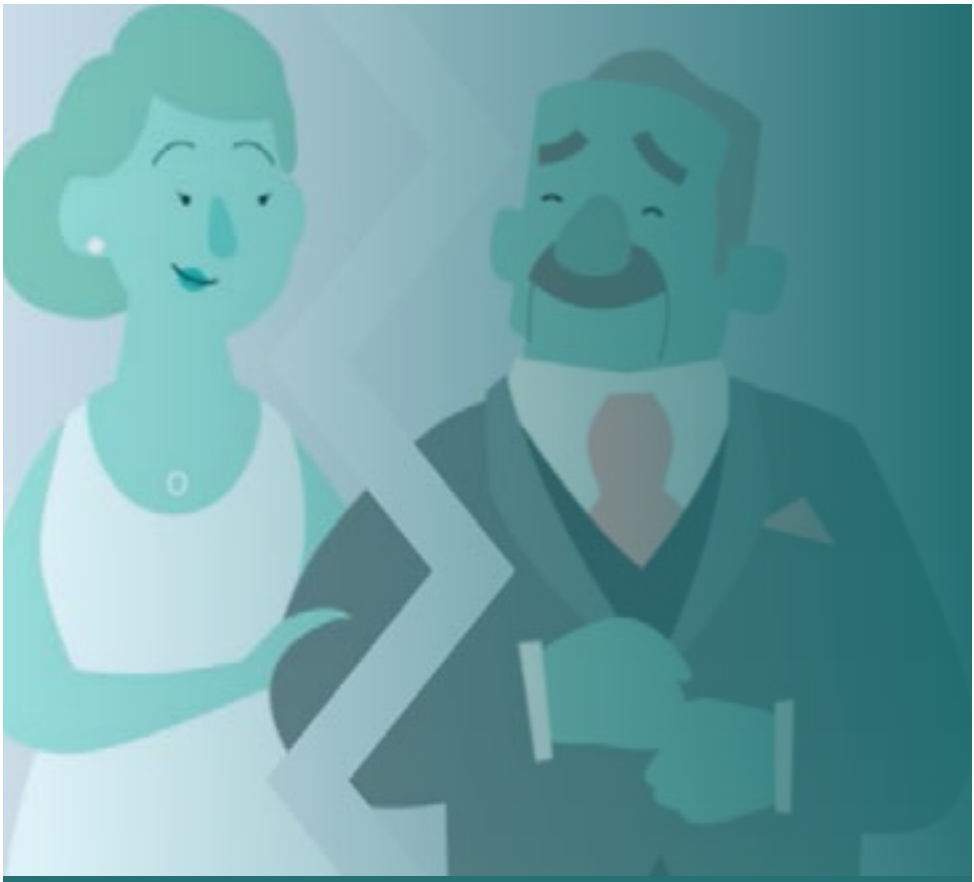
It is so easy to be tempted to superimpose human interpretations on events as they unfold. The enthusiasm with which the adult female and particularly the six cygnets were tucking in, made it look as if the cob decided he couldn't be bothered to compete. The response was to find a packet of energy and as we watched, the male was paddling away from the scene, at speed, up towards the Harvester bridge. Clearly, there was nothing more to be done here, so we followed him on our way back to the car.

Just short of the bridge, he stopped, stretched fully upwards and outwards and then started to preen. Given the nature of this story, our pictures are self-explanatory!


Family arrive with the lure of food

Two days later, normal service was resumed. We received a call that reported the same swan in exactly the same position on the canal bank, but this time there was fishing line attached to the swan's black berry above his beak by means of a small hook, trailing line and float, mercifully, an easy one to solve.

Story & Photos: Peter. For swan problems please contact Peter on 07802 472788



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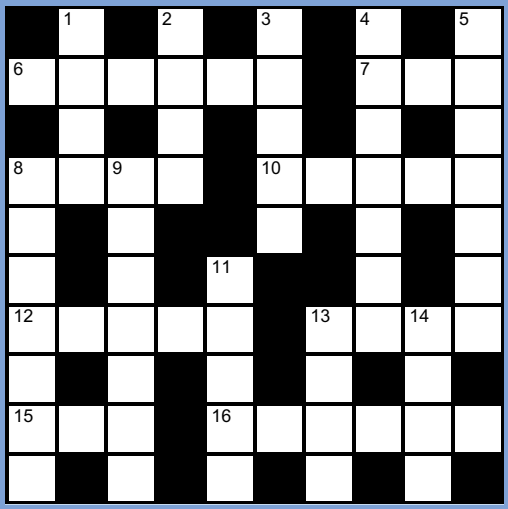
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Puzzles

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)



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

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.

Solutions on page 21



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Puzzle Solutions

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

■	1 A	■	2 D	■	3 A	■	4 D	5 P
6 S	C	H	O	O	L	■	7 E	A	R
■	H	■	G	■	L	■	F	■	E
8 S	E	9 T	S	■	10 E	V	E	N	T
P	■	R	■	■	Y	■	N	■	E
A	■	A	■	11 B	■	■	C	■	N
12 R	I	V	E	R	■	13 H	E	14 R	D
R	■	E	■	I	■	A	■	I	■
15 O	I	L	■	16 C	A	R	E	S	S
W	■	S	■	K	■	M	■	K	■

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Newport u3a

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We visited the Royal Mint at Llantrisant for their award-winning tour where we learnt about its 1100 year history including the move to Wales from the Tower of London and Tower Hill and the manufacturing process of coins. Expansion into the global currency production means it is now the world's leading export mint supplying 30 different countries each year. In addition, it produces a wide range of military, sporting and commemorative medals such as those awarded at the 2012 London Olympic Games. In the exhibition rooms we saw some of the rarest and most unique coins in the world and here we all are around a Mini covered in pennies.



u3a learn, laugh, live

Newport u3a offers 40 more active, social and cultural groups for the retired at the Dolman Theatre Wednesday to Friday during term time. If you would like to enrich your retirement, try out some free taster sessions, visit newport.u3asite.uk or phone Angela Robins on 07983 130541.

Hardy Plant Society

The HPS Monmouthshire group is for people who love plants and gardening and enjoy sharing their enthusiasm with other like-minded people. Non-members are very welcome to come along. Our meetings provide an excellent opportunity to meet people with similar interests in a friendly atmosphere and afterwards to take time to chat and enjoy refreshments and perhaps buy some plants. In addition to the monthly meetings at 2.30pm in Little Mill village hall NP4 0HE on the second Saturday of each month from September to May, the group organises garden visits and discussions, dinners, a plant sale and more.


Chris Beardshaw

On Thursday September 25th at the Blake Theatre, Monmouth at 7.30pm, we are delighted to welcome Chris Beardshaw, the well-known TV gardener and presenter, whose theme will be 'Painting with Plants'. Tickets are available by email, telephone or post from boxoffice@theblaketheatre.org at £15 for Hardy Plant Society members and £18 for non-members.
At our October 11th meeting at the Hall in Little Mill at 2.30pm, Marion Stainton will be talking on 'The Winter Garden' with lots of practical advice on your garden during the colder months. All welcome. Members £4, non-members £6.

For more information on all the above, our website is www.hpsmonmouthshire.co.uk

Belle Vue
Park & Tea Room



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

As the hot summer comes to a close, the Team in Bellevue is embracing Autumn with all the russets and reds, yellows and browns of the Park. We want you to enjoy the cooler afternoons as we head towards the exciting festive season.

Sunday September 7th 11.00am – 4.00pm Sunday Market
Sunday September 14th 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Final Sunday Session with Three O'clock Club accompanied by street food vendors and a horsebox bar.
Sunday 21st September 11.00am – 4.00pm
Little Market. You will find new traders trying out their talents at our mid-month market; plus: Belle Vue presents its own chilled food, veg and farm meat stall.
Sunday October 5th 11.00am – 4.00pm Sunday Market
Sunday October 19th 11.00am – 4.00pm Sunday Market



FOCUS ON YOUR FAVOURITE ARTISANS

Our Food and Craft Market regularly presents 30 plus stalls. We try to present you with a great selection of familiar faces such as Iona's Kitchen for Jamaican inspired pies and patties.
Dot, makes our Victoria Sponge for afternoon tea. She joins us with a tasty choice of cakes and bakes including her famous iced slices.
Shivers is a deli on its own with a range of farm and artisan products.
Unique Touch for skin care.
Fur and Feather for handmade dog treats.
You can buy new collars and leads from Rocco's.
Hannah and her White Light stall, produces by hand an amazing selection of perfumes, soaps, melts and scrubs. She even has shampoo bars.
Margaret and Tina are talented crafters, creating bespoke cards and teddy clothing respectively. Just For You is inspirational stitched and knitted items beautifully made by Elaine.
All of these crafters will make special commissions for you... but hurry, they get very busy towards Christmas!
Nos Da Bakery, a favourite in Newport comes to our markets every month.
New traders start off is open for all of your artisan bakes, makes and general creativity as our crafters and artists are joining us again. Your favourites plus new faces. plenty of delicious food for all tastes.





Our function room is open for bookings for larger gatherings provided with catering (afternoon tea or buffet). Please note we welcome bunting and banners to make your day special but we are committed to reducing our single use plastic therefore balloons and balloon arches are not allowed. Our cancellation policy is available on our website and information given on booking.

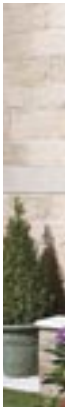


Why not try one of our afternoon teas. Book online on www.bellevuetearoom.uk or phone Jan on 07737 630657. We also offer tea gift vouchers which can be posted to you or another recipient (just added cost of a stamp).



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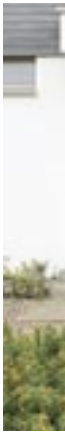
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