



TRANSITION CHEPSTOW

Acting today for tomorrow

October 2017 Newsletter



Chepstow Apple Day

Sunday, 29th October 2017

Apple Pressing Day

Saturday, 28th October 2017

The Drill Hall, Chepstow

The annual Chepstow Apple Day is a great event celebrating everything connected with the humble apple! Bring your own apples for pressing juice, and start a traditional cider on Apple Pressing Day on *Saturday*! Don't forget to bring along a container for the juice.

Then on *Sunday* there will be apples and apple-related products on sale, with competitions for all the family and children's crafts and activities. Light refreshments on sale throughout the day. Free entry.

If you would like to help out with activities, or your business or organisation would like to take a stall, or to find out more please contact food@transitionchepstow.org.uk.



*Apple from Chepstow
Riverbank Orchard*

Monmouthshire Wellbeing Plan

Thursday, 23rd November 2017, 7.30pm

The Florence Room, The Beaufort Hotel

All welcome to the upcoming Health & Consciousness Forum with guest speaker Hazel Clatworthy, Sustainability Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

According to *The Well-being of Future Generations Act*, April 2016, every Public Service Board in Wales must publish their own Wellbeing Plan by March 2018. The Plan will set out what public services will work together on to support the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of local communities long-term.

The Monmouthshire Wellbeing Assessment was published in March 2017 and can be seen at:

<http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/our-monmouthshire>

Energy Network Meetings

Upcoming dates: 7.30pm at the Beaufort Hotel, Chepstow, on Wednesday, 4th October, 1st November, and 6th December 2017.

To prune or not to prune... that is the question!

Each year, Transition Chepstow helps to maintain the town's community orchards planted by Chepstow Town Council and Transition Chepstow. A significant part of the care is the pruning of the fruit trees. In November we are planning to arrange some free pruning training. If you'd like to attend with a view to helping with the orchards, the prospective date is **Saturday 4th November**. Anyone interested, please contact food@transitioncepstow.org.uk.

A Food Hub for Chepstow?

[Dean Forest Food Hub](#) is a very successful local social enterprise that helps residents in the Forest of Dean access a wealth of locally produced food, drink and other items. Due to popular demand, the hub is hoping to expand south and offer a service in the Chepstow area. If you'd like to help lead a project to establish the new hub, please get in touch via food@transitioncepstow.org.uk.



TransitionChepstow.org.uk



Remembering Karl Daymond

As many of you will be aware, Chepstow resident and musical and theatrical wonder, Karl Daymond tragically passed away last month. Alongside his singing and music clubs, Karl worked continuously in support of good causes and was a frequent supporter of Transition Chepstow events, including Apple Day and Green Gathering. Karl will be missed by so many of the people whose lives he lifted and lit up. The memory and energy of Karl will live on through much of our town's culture of creativity and community.



Karl Daymond and Singers at Apple Day 2009

Fully Charged Wales

[Gwent Energy](#) has started installing electric vehicle charging points at around 20 tourism, hospitality type businesses across the Vale of Usk (rural Monmouthshire and Newport) as part of a project funded by the Rural Development Programme. The businesses get the charger for free, in return for advertising the charging facility and they can buy the charger at a discount after a year. Hopefully many new customers will visit Monmouthshire as a result of Fully Charged Wales providing electric vehicle chargers in the area!

GAVO Volunteer Achievement Awards 2017

Transition Chepstow was nominated and received a 'Certificate of Appreciation' in recognition of outstanding contribution to volunteering in Monmouthshire from the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations. Well done and thanks to all group members!

Recycling at local events

[Gwent Energy](#) are starting to take on recycling work at local events. They will be offering paid work to local residents to help with the recycling. For each Transition Chepstow member who participates, they will also make a donation of £5 to our group. If you are interested in joining future recycling or litter picking events, contact Paul at: litter@transitionchepstow.org.uk.



Storing and enjoying the harvest for all year round

This time of year fruit and vegetables are harvested in very large quantities - one apple tree in our garden gifted 40kg of apples this year. We have been treated to numerous smoothies and fresh apples. But what can we do to make this harvest last all year? Unblemished fruit can be washed and carefully stored somewhere cool and airy and can last until spring, however that is only a proportion of the fruit. When we visited some friends who had a food dehydrator, we were served with dried apple rings, 'sun dried tomatoes', and a vast array of other fruit and vegetable snacks, and we decided to invest in one of our own. We store the dried fruit in jars which are easily accessible for a winter snack. The dried fruit and vegetables kept for a year and our teenage daughter had dried apple rings to enjoy until the new harvest.

- Tim Melville

