



TRANSITION CHEPSTOW

Acting today for tomorrow

August 2019 Newsletter



Summer pruning in the community orchards

Sunday 18th August 2019, 10am

Tourist Information Centre, Castle car park

Help to prune and undertake general maintenance of the [community orchards](#) in the Castle Dell and Town Centre.

Learn new skills - no previous experience or equipment required!

Please wear sturdy footwear and come dressed for the predicted weather conditions.

Email orchards@transitionchepstow.org.uk for more information.

Find your local community orchard on the [Orchard and Wildlife Trail Map](#).

PLASTIC FREE CHEPSTOW SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE SUMMER CHALLENGE

for 11-18 year-olds who live or study in Chepstow

Win £50-100 and the chance to work with design professionals to develop your campaign idea

create an attention-grabbing anti-litter message - poster, song, video, poem....your choice!

email entries by 6 September 2019 to PlasticFree@TransitionChepstow.org.uk

For terms and conditions and entry form see

TransitionChepstow.org.uk



Illustration by [Art Matters Studio](#)

Keep Chepstow Tidy

The [Community Litter Pick](#) in June saw 11 volunteers, including some new faces, revisiting Thornwell. We collected 3 bags of general waste, 2 of plastic and 1 each of glass and tins and these were recycled or disposed of. The next Community Litter Pick will be in September.

Following its successful work with primary schools last year, [Plastic Free Chepstow](#) has launched its Summer Challenge for 11-18 year-olds: create an anti-litter message for your own age group, in the form of a poem, song, video, poster or whatever medium, to be used in a social media campaign. The closing date is September 6th and it is open to individuals or teams living or studying in Chepstow (NP16). Prizes are £50 for individuals and £100 for teams, and one winner will get the opportunity to work with Monmouthshire County Council's professional design team. Further details and entry forms are available on the [Transition Website](#).

We are grateful to [Monmouthshire Country Council](#) and [Chepstow Town Council](#) for financial support and to our other partners [CAFY](#) (Chepstow Action For Youth) and [Keep Wales Tidy](#).

Any questions? Find us on [Facebook](#) or email plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk.



TransitionChepstow.org.uk



Extinction Rebellion Summer Uprising, Cardiff

Extinction Rebellion blocked Cardiff's Castle Street between 15th and 17th July to highlight the unprecedented global emergency we are facing. The UN has warned that if we do not act immediately, there will be global food shortages, mass starvation and social collapse around the world.

Tim Melville, Coordinator and Andrew McDermid, Treasurer of Transition Chepstow, took part in the event asking the Welsh Government to declare a climate emergency and work with others to communicate the urgency for change. The protest was also requesting the Welsh Government to act now to halt biodiversity loss and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2025.

The response of passers-by was very positive with 80% of people taking leaflets and 50% saying well done.



“Towns in Wales are already being lost to sea level rises such as Fairbourne near Barmouth. 75% of insects have been lost in Europe which feed our birds and pollinate our crops. Climate change is happening in Wales and Welsh government must act now to reverse the damage to our beautiful planet.”

Tim Melville, Transition Chepstow Coordinator

“A few of the suggestions coming out of the people’s assemblies caught my interest, such as making an arrow pointing down drains saying “the sea begins here”, or slogans on flags attached to lampposts reminding oncoming traffic of the climate emergency. For Chepstow it might for instance include a sign at the most egregious sites of littering saying that volunteers cleared up all the litter recently with details for anyone who would like to join the next litter pick.”

Andrew McDermid, Transition Chepstow Treasurer

Plastic Free businesses

A total of 13 Chepstow businesses are playing their part in removing plastic and have recorded the removal of 3 or more plastic items, therefore qualifying as [Plastic Free](#). Each has been or will soon be awarded a plaque and a certificate in English or Welsh provided by [Surfers against Sewage](#).

Signed up businesses range from fashion outlets to opticians and include paint activity, cafés, food preparation, language training, estate agents and a wine shop. A number of others are working on reducing their use of plastic and hope to sign up soon. A number of these businesses have also signed up to provide a water refill service and will be approached to follow this up and display stickers to show they are participating.

Refill campaign

Chepstow is now officially registered as a Refill Town with [Refill Wales](#). We already have some local businesses signed up and hope to get more in the next few weeks. We will also have a formal launch of Refill Chepstow in the next few weeks - Watch this space!

Energy Group meetings

Interested in sustainable energy? Join us for an [Energy Group](#) meeting on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm at the Beaufort Hotel in Chepstow. Upcoming dates: 3rd September, 1st October and 5th November 2019.

Contact: energy@transitionchepstow.org.uk



Congestion Free Chepstow

Following the public meeting organised in Chepstow recently, Tim Melville and Gerry Moss met with Welsh Government's Richard Morgan representing Ken Skates, Minister for Economy and Transport, and with Cllr Peter Fox and CEO Paul Matthews from Monmouthshire County Council on 12th July. After a very positive meeting, plans are being drawn up for a new public meeting in the autumn to address Chepstow's traffic and air pollution woes. A whole package of solutions are being proposed that not only ease traffic flow, but also encourage people to use their cars less.

<https://www.transitionchepstow.org.uk/groups/transport/>

Keep an eye on Transition Chepstow's [events page](#) for updates on all events!

Be. Community Leadership Programme

Please see below a selection of training and networking opportunities available free to community volunteers across Monmouthshire and Rural Newport Wards through Be. Community Leadership Programme, working with a range of partners.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/be-community-leadership-programme-18657790658>

