



TRANSITION CHEPSTOW

Acting today for tomorrow

October 2018 Newsletter



Chepstow Apple Day
Sunday 28th October 2018
11:30am to 4:30pm

The Drill Hall, Chepstow, NP16 5HJ

The organisers, Chepstow Town Council and Transition Chepstow, are pleased to announce that Anthony Barnes, Executive Chef at the Marriott St Pierre, has agreed to judge the Apple Cookery Competition at the tenth annual Chepstow Apple Day. Mr Barnes, who describes himself as “born and bred in the Forest of Dean”, grew up in Woolaston and worked at the Beaufort Hotel in Chepstow before joining Marriott in 2000. The Apple Cookery Competition is one of the regular highlights of the day. Dishes can be sweet or savoury and attract prizes of up to £50. Mr Barnes described what he will be looking for.

“First of all, I’ll be looking for presentation: first impressions really do count! Next, flavour. The dish must have depth of flavour but still have the star of the show shining through. Thirdly, I’ll be looking for a dish that tells a story - something that sets it apart from the rest.”



Elstar
Intensely flavoured, sweet, crisp and very juicy
origin
Introduced 1972 from Netherlands; Ingrid Marie x Golden Delicious
Best time for eating
September onwards



There will be apples, pears, cider and juices on sale, a range of entertainment and activities for adults and children alike, and light lunches and refreshments. Bring along your apples to press for juice or cider and enjoy outdoor activities at one of the nearby Community Orchards.

If you have a mystery apple tree in your garden, help is at hand - apple experts from the Marcher Apple Network will be on hand to identify them. Don't forget to put aside three apples, ideally with leaves.

This will be the first Apple Day since Chepstow achieved Plastic Free status in June this year, and the event will use no single-use plastic. Monmouthshire County Council recycling team will be there to answer any questions about waste and recycling.

For more details of Apple Day, visit www.transitionchepstow.org.uk. You can download the cookery competition entry forms from this site, and they will be available from the Chepstow Museum.

More volunteers are always welcome to help plan activities or get involved on the day! If you'd like to join in, please drop us a line at appleday@transitionchepstow.org.uk.



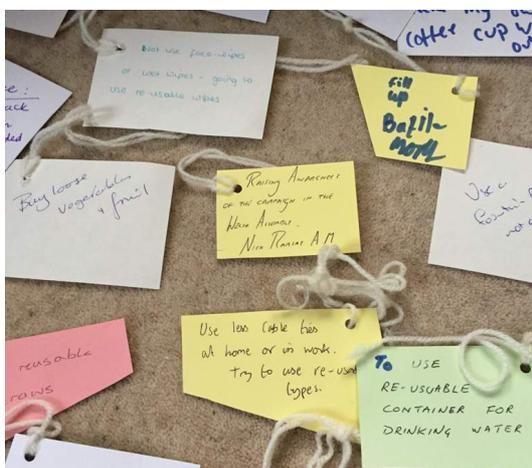
TransitionChepstow.org.uk





Plastic Free Chepstow

Our team attended the Chepstow Show on 11th August and the Usk Show on 8th September. We talked to lots of members of the public and concentrated on asking people to make just one 'plastic free pledge', whether it was cutting back on plastic items, picking up plastic waste, joining the political debate or persuading others. We had a lot of interesting contributions, some of which you can see in the photos below.



Our monthly litter pick was on 21st September, starting from the Rugby Club in Thornwell. Despite the dismal weather we collected 5 bags each of general litter and plastic or cans, including a great many crisp packets, lager cans, soft drink bottles and takeaway containers. Our next litter pick is scheduled for the 21st October, and the venue is still to be agreed. If you would like to suggest a location for our next litter pick, please email plasticfree@transitionchepstow.org.uk.

Find out more about this project:

<http://www.transitionchepstow.org.uk/groups/plastic-free-chepstow/>

IPCC report delivers dire warning on climate change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued a bleak report on carbon emissions and climate change. It shows that there has already been a 1C increase in global average temperatures, and that climate change is occurring even more rapidly than expected. The report warns that another 0.5C increase will lead to catastrophic changes and that strong efforts are needed to avoid this by reducing carbon emissions and achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

“We are already seeing loss of natural habitats and species, dwindling ice caps, rising sea levels, impacting on our health, livelihoods and economic growth. We know what is needed and we can do it relying mostly on proved technologies, such as decisively scaling up renewable energy and halting deforestation.”

Stephen Cornelius

WWF chief advisor on climate change



Hydrogen car lease service launching this year in Monmouthshire

With the support of Monmouthshire County Council, Riversimple are preparing to run a 12 month trial of 20 Riversimple Rasa hydrogen fuel cell cars in Monmouthshire. Customers will pay a single monthly fee that covers everything - the car, the maintenance, the insurance, the fuel. There is still time to have an input and possibly lease a vehicle later in the trial period. For more details visit: <https://www.riversimple.com/riversimple-rasa-beta-test/>



At the same time, a new hydrogen car refueller is in the process of being connected up and tested in Abergavenny bus station car park. It is planned to be put in use in about a month.



Marcus Perrin receives Environmental Volunteering Award

Transition Chepstow founder member and Food Group coordinator Marcus Perrin received a highly commended environmental volunteering award at the 2018 Monmouthshire Volunteer Achievement Awards, sponsored by the Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO). The award recognised his role in setting up Transition Chepstow 10 years ago and in helping it grow to more than 200 members with six active groups. With Marcus' support, the Food Group and Transition Chepstow have become core parts of the community, with close connections to the Town and County Councils and with a wide and developing action programme. Under his leadership the Food Group has been involved in a number of campaigns and actions, including the Chepstow Bag, the landshare scheme to promote local food production and to train volunteers, the town planters to improve the environment in the town centre and to demonstrate pollinator friendly planting and vegetable production, and the planting and care of a number of community fruit tree orchards.

Energy Group Meetings

Interested in sustainable energy? Join us for an [Energy Group](#) meeting on the first Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm at the [Beaufort Hotel](#) in Chepstow. Upcoming dates: 7th November and 5th December 2018.

Contact: energy@transitionchepstow.org.uk

Free training courses for volunteers

The [BE Community Leadership Programme](#) supports community volunteers in Monmouthshire by offering a blend of training courses, online learning, accreditation and networking opportunities for free. The next free training course will be on Social Media for Volunteers in Abergavenny and Caldicot.

To find out more contact Owen Wilce at owenwilce@monmouthshire.gov.uk, or follow updates on [Monmouthshire ACTS](#) and [@Owilce](#).

