

## Meeting approves Wales International Convention Centre



Architect Scott Brownrigg's impression of the new Wales International Convention Centre

Construction work on the new Wales International Convention Centre at the Celtic Manor – the largest facility of its kind in Wales and the south west of England – is due to begin early next year.

Last month, the council's planning committee welcomed the proposal and gave it the green light subject to conditions.

Designed to attract major events from across the world, the proposed state-of-the-art auditorium, exhibition hall and associated facilities will have capacity for 4,000 delegates.

Celtic Manor Resort vice-president of facilities and development Russell Phillips said: "We are excited by the news that this project has won full planning approval from Newport City Council.

"We secured outline planning last July and, since then, we've been talking with local residents, the council and environment agencies, as well as our conference clients and experts from the convention industry, to ensure our final planning submission was as comprehensive as possible."

More than 200 jobs will be created during the three-year construction phase and the centre is expected to sustain around 250 permanent jobs once it becomes fully operational in 2019.

Independent economic impact studies show it will bring a substantial boost to the Welsh economy, creating demand for around 110,000 bedroom nights per annum for hotels throughout South Wales.

Councillor Bob Bright, leader of Newport City Council, said:

"Congratulations to all involved in this exciting and prestigious project which will raise the city's profile even further after the successful hosting of global events such as the Nato summit.

"We should be proud that the Wales International Convention Centre will be in Newport and it will bring people from around the world to our doorstep. It is another sign that our city is a place where people want to invest which will benefit everyone who lives and works here."

## New shops step into Friars Walk

Footwear retailer schuh, Yankee Candle – run by a Newport businessman – and Coffee#1 have signed to Friars Walk.

Opposite the new H&M, schuh's store will be the company's first in the city and will include a broad range of branded casual shoes and sports footwear as well as its own products plus a children's department.

It joins a strong and growing catwalk of fashion retailers with many making their debut in Newport or returning to the city centre – including a 90,000 sq ft Debenhams, Next, Topshop, New Look and River Island.

Friars Walk also incorporates a significant leisure and restaurant offer with Cineworld alongside the likes of Las Igaunas, Le Bistro Pierre, GBK and Prezzo.

With less than four months to go to opening, construction of the retail and leisure scheme is now well advanced.



How Friars Walk will look

Inside...



Dementia friendly Newport



Velothon loves our city



New Mayor calls for charity support



Healthy eating at Newport schools



Food festival fast approaching



## Newport bus services 'on-demand'

Bus services in certain rural areas of Newport are changing from a regular timetable to an 'on-demand' service.

Bus service 31 from Marshfield, St Brides & Peterstone to the city centre is following the lead of the 62 from Bishton and Redwick by operating to suit customer demand.

Customers can book a bus when they want to travel and the buses will only run when they are required instead of operating to a fixed timetable.

Bookings should be made 24 hours in advance when a pick-up point and time are agreed.

Multiple bookings on different days can be made up to two weeks in advance.

You can still ask to travel on the day but you will only be able to do this at the times the bus has already been booked by other passengers.

It is a more cost-effective way of running this bus service and also offers greater flexibility catering for appointments, work schedules, shopping and other commuter needs.

Customers are picked up and dropped off at defined bus stops which for the Marshfield service includes Tesco on Cardiff Road and the Royal Gwent Hospital, while the Bishton and Redwick service stops include Newport Retail Park.

To book a seat call Newport Bus on 01633 211202 between 9am and 5pm.

## Nominate your local High Street hero



Support your local High Street

People are being encouraged to nominate the businesses and individuals who make the biggest contribution to their local high streets.

For the second year, the Support Your High Street campaign will celebrate the valuable contribution local shopping areas make to the economy and the community.

It is a key part of the Welsh Government's vibrant and viable places programme. Heroes awards close on 10 August and entries

can be made on the Support Your High Street Facebook page where more information can also be found. The winners will be announced during High Street Week, 19-26 September.

Help to promote the campaign via Facebook and Twitter @highstreetwales For more information visit [www.gov.wales/topics/housing-andregeneration/regeneration/high-street](http://www.gov.wales/topics/housing-andregeneration/regeneration/high-street)

## Newport pharmacy's prescription for success

A Newport business which featured in March's Newport Matters was named Independent Pharmacy Practice of the Year in the Welsh Pharmacy Awards 2015.

Pill Pharmacy was also a finalist for the Business Development Award.

Asim Ali, pharmacist and owner of the business which also includes the local Post Office, spent two years refurbishing the property – and received a grant from the Pill Regeneration Project for work to the façade – so it could provide essential services to the community.

Around £6 million was spent during the Pillgwenlly Regeneration Project led by Newport City Council with support from the Welsh Government's European Regional Development Fund.

## Worker receives praise

As well as Shereen, the team is made up of representatives from Gwent Police, other Gwent councils, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, National Probation Service, Coleg Gwent, Coleg y Cymoedd and the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

The PCC's award recognises the importance of working in partnership to deliver improved services to the citizens of Gwent.



Shereen Williams with Mike Davies, Gwent Police community support officer

Shereen Williams, from Newport City Council, was a member of a team recognised at a Gwent Police awards ceremony for their work in tackling extremism.

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Ian Johnston presented his Working in Partnership award to the agencies who deliver the 'Prevent' strategy – a joined-up response to the challenges presented by terrorism and aspects of extremism.

## We can help you stay safe, warm and secure

Newport City Council has launched Safe, Warm and Secure, a new home improvement loans scheme funded by the Welsh Government.

Safe, Warm and Secure will offer interest-free loans of up to £25,000.

It is primarily aimed at owner-occupiers but tenants with a long lease,

or landlords looking to improve a tenanted property may also qualify.

People who cannot easily obtain commercial lending but who need home improvements are encouraged to apply.

There is an administration fee of 15 per cent of the value of the loan, but this can be repaid with the loan in instalments.

The applicant's ability to repay the loan will be assessed by Newport Credit Union as part of the application process.

For further information contact Sandra Batten on 01633 656656 or email [sandra.batten@newport.gov.uk](mailto:sandra.batten@newport.gov.uk)

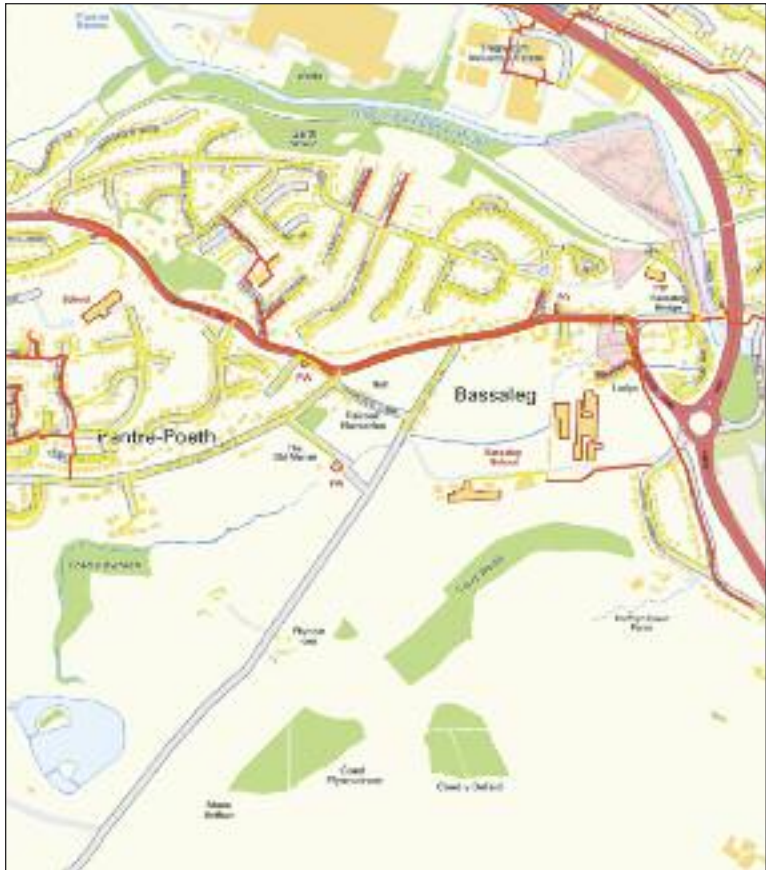
## Members' allowances 2014/15

Members' allowances for the year 2014/15 are now available to view on the council's website [www.newport.gov.uk/allowances](http://www.newport.gov.uk/allowances)

Levels were set by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and the council is not legally permitted to vary them.



## Works to replace old gas pipes



Map showing where the pipes will be replaced

Work by Wales & West Utilities will soon get underway to replace five kilometres of old gas pipes across Bassaleg, Centre-Poeth and Machen.

It is anticipated that the work will start in the middle of July and should

be completed by spring 2016. Further details are expected to be released closer to the start date.

The old metal gas pipes will be replaced with new plastic pipes that have a lifespan of more than 80 years. Over time,

the old pipes have fallen into disrepair, increasing the likelihood of them being breached. The work is considered essential to avoid further, unscheduled repairs.

According to Wales & West Utilities, the new plastic gas pipes will eliminate the potential for leaks on this stretch of the pipeline network.

As with any repair works of this nature, there is likely to be traffic disruption.

Wales & West Utilities will be sending newsletters to businesses and homes giving more details about the work and how it will benefit them and their communities.

The Wales & West Utilities customer service team can be contacted with any queries on free phone 0800 912 2999 and email [enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk)



## Enjoy the complete Riverfront Walk

Work to finish the final section of the Riverfront Walk and make it fully accessible to the public was completed by Newport City Council.

Connecting the east and west of the city centre, the pedestrian and cycle way runs along both sides of the River Usk from Town Bridge to City Bridge.

Councillor Deb Davies, cabinet member for streetscene and city services, said: "The walk, which includes part of the Wales Coastal Path,

features viewing platforms, benches and even special features such as words from poet WH Davies. It is a very special place right in the heart of the city."

Councillor John Richards, cabinet member for regeneration and development, said: "The transformation of the Old Town Dock, which was once a derelict brownfield site, has been remarkable and it is fantastic that the riverfront path is now fully accessible."

You can contact the council by calling **01633 656656** or visit [www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk)

This edition of Newport Matters has been proofread courtesy of Rothwell Editorial [www.rothwelleditorial.co.uk](http://www.rothwelleditorial.co.uk)

## Bassaleg pupils give former World leaders a choral welcome

Bassaleg school choir gave a special welcome to 20 former heads of state who visited the Celtic Manor Resort last month for the 32nd InterAction Council conference of former world leaders.

The choir entertained the former world leaders including the former prime minister of Canada Jean Chretien and the former prime minister of Ireland Bertie Ahern.

This significant gathering in Newport of leading international politicians followed on from the city's successful hosting of the Nato summit last September, and a number of key global issues were discussed including the world economy, Ebola and the Middle East.

The leaders also visited Caerleon for a tour taking in the amphitheatre and National Roman Legion museum.

## Fifth Newport Food Festival approaching



The teen chef competition

Newport Food Festival will take place on Saturday 3 October in the city centre focussed on Newport Market and the surrounding streets. Make sure you have the date in your diary!

Now in its fifth year the food festival has firmly established itself as a 'must visit event' for all food lovers and last year attracted more than 10,000 people.

Teenchef will be back and the final competed for on the day of the festival in the market.

This year's festival will celebrate Newport's own food and drink offering which is growing in popularity. As well as the tasty exhibitor stalls there will be chef demonstrations from well-known local chefs.

Applications for stall holders are still being taken and if you are interested in having a stall then please visit [newportfoodfestival.co.uk](http://newportfoodfestival.co.uk) or email [newportfoodfestival@newport.gov.uk](mailto:newportfoodfestival@newport.gov.uk)

There will be details of the event programme and a map of the festival in the next edition of Newport Matters.





## Velothon Wales wins hearts of riders



Velothon Wales riders on their way through Newport

**The inaugural Velothon Wales took place last month and saw thousands of cyclists pass through Newport on their epic cycle journey.**

Below we share some of the many positive comments made about the event from cyclists from across the UK.

"I would just like to extend my thanks (to the councils for the regions through which the Velothon passed this year) for your support of this fantastic event. It was well organised and thoroughly enjoyable. I look forward to enjoying it again next year."

"I'm part of a small triathlon club called 'Cr@pTri' in South Wales and we had 29 riders taking part in the Velothon Wales."

"I am just writing to thank you for your input into Sunday's event. It was great, hands down the best sportive I have ever ridden in. The support from the locals was excellent and was exactly what I needed to get me to the finish!"

"I enjoyed the event enormously and I'm proud that so many visitors were able to ride through the beautiful scenery of South Wales in such a welcoming atmosphere – the support from local people along the route was wonderful."

"On behalf of the club (including those who only supported but reported having a fantastic day) I would like to thank everyone involved including the organisers and councils for allowing & arranging the event."

"Most thanks needs to go to the local business owners and general public who had to deal with the road closures and disruption throughout the day."

"There was a real festival feeling about the whole day and I for one was made to feel very proud of South Wales."

"I hope next year will be just as good if not better than this year, and hopefully this event will take place for many years to come so people from all over can have the chance to experience the spectacular scenery, and closed roads."

## School Holiday Fun in Newport this summer

Enjoy a summer of fun in Newport over the holiday with lots of activities and events for children, young people and families.

Activities will be held at Newport Museum & Art Gallery, Newport libraries, The Riverfront as well as the Active Living Centre, Newport International Sports Village (NISV), and Newport Centre.

The full list of activities will be available to view at [www.newport.gov.uk/holidayfun](http://www.newport.gov.uk/holidayfun)

where booking information can also be found.

Activity brochures can be picked up from your nearest leisure centre, library or at Newport Museum & Art Gallery and The Riverfront Theatre.

## Changes to city's library service agreed

**The council's cabinet has approved changes to the library service as a result of budget savings.**

Leader Councillor Bob Bright said the council would be willing to work with local groups to explore ways of retaining facilities.

"We recognise libraries have played an important role in Newport and the lives of its residents for educational, cultural and leisure purposes and people have an emotional connection with them.

"We share those feelings, but we are increasingly finding ourselves having to make incredibly difficult decisions as the cuts bite deeper and deeper."

The changes agreed include:

- Central Library building to remain open with the reference and lending library merged on one floor
- 20-hour provision at Malpas Library based on a community management group taking over responsibility for the building
- Close Carnegie and Maindee Libraries

## New cycle route linking Newport and Cardiff opens



New cycle route between Newport and Cardiff

**An exciting six kilometre cycling route linking Newport and Cardiff has opened to the public.**

The route will provide a safe, continuous path for commuters between Newport and Cardiff.

The route will be partially off road and in places use minor public highways and rural unclassified roads.

The route also links directly to sites such as Tredegar House and the All Wales Coastal Path.

The new route connecting Newport to Cardiff is a culmination of several years of planning by the council.

In the past, there was no cycle route serving the Wentlooge Levels, between St Mellons, Trowbridge, Marshfield and Duffryn. Cyclists commuting to work had to use the A48 link which is a 50mph dual carriageway or Lighthouse Road – neither of which are cycle-friendly routes in places.

## More savings needed to balance council's books

Newport City Council has had to make savings of over £60 million, around 20 per cent of its total spending, in the past five years and the difficult financial position facing the council shows no sign of changing.

The council, like all local authorities, is in the middle of the most severe government funding cuts ever experienced and is having to make difficult decisions about where the next budget savings will have to come from.

Last year many residents responded to our budget consultation and you were asked where you felt the council could make savings. Below we address some of the points you raised.

### Why does the council have to make savings?

What we can spend is mainly dependent on the amount of money we receive from Welsh Government. Since 2010 we have faced a reduced budget every year and this has had a big impact on the services we can deliver.

The media is reporting that the economy is actually growing and more jobs are being created so why does the council still have to make cuts?

Despite media reports on the growth of some parts of the British economy, the same cannot be said for the position of local government. Central government has said that funding for local council services will continue to be cut as they look to reduce the multi-billion pound national deficit. We have to find further savings over the next two years which will result in more reductions to the services we provide.

### Why has my council tax increased?

Council tax is collected to help pay for council services. It contributes less than 20 per cent towards the council's total income. Despite the difficult financial pressures facing the council we have been able to keep Newport's council tax as the second lowest in Wales. The average Band D house in Newport pays £1,154 a month, the highest Band D council tax in Wales is £1,635 a month.



Newport City Council has had to cut services as a result of a reduced budget and the situation shows no sign of improving

### What are the pressures facing the council?

As well as reduced money from Welsh Government, there has been an increased demand on many services.

In the 2011 census Newport's population was recorded as 145,700, and a 2014 mid-population analysis had shown this had increased to 146,800.

Since 2011 almost 1200 new homes have been built and this adds to the demand on services with extra refuse collections, street lighting and demand for school places.

School pupil numbers in the next four years are predicted to increase putting an average of 300 extra pupils into Newport's education system a year.

### Why don't you reduce staff numbers?

The council is responsible for providing nearly 1,000 different services that have an impact on our daily lives. Many of these services have to be delivered by people. In 2010 we employed 7,820 people and in 2015 we employ 6,600 and we have streamlined the way we provide a number of services.

### What does the council spend its money on?

The council's overall budget for 2015/16 is £261.3m. The main areas where the budget is spent on include: education 31.55%, social services 20.54%, streetscene 5.86%, corporate services 4.91%, public protection 1.31%, cultural, learning and leisure services 2.43% and housing and council tax benefit 16.56%

### What's the point in me contributing to the budget consultation – can I realistically change anything?

The council is facing reduced budgets meaning some services have to be cut but we take on board all your comments and feedback.

For example, in last year's budget following your comments we reviewed proposals to close the central library and museum and art gallery building and made the decision this facility would be kept open.

We decided not to charge residents for disposing of DIY rubble and waste.

There was also money (£6,000) to ensure that the health and safety

inspections in Newport's parks continue.

We recently asked people in Newport about what services were important and how we could make things better. We had more than 3,000 responses and we will be using this information to help us plan the budget for 2016/17.

### What happens next?

If you have any comments or ideas about how we can provide services in a different way or save money please email [changing.services@newport.gov.uk](mailto:changing.services@newport.gov.uk) or use our social media channels to get in touch on [@twitter @newportcouncil](https://twitter.com/newportcouncil) or on Facebook [www.facebook.com/newportcitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/newportcitycouncil)

If you would like to be kept up-to-date with the council's budget decisions and invited to participate in consultation sessions then register for a Keep Me Posted council budget news update by visiting [www.newport.gov.uk](http://www.newport.gov.uk)

Council officers will also be at various locations during the summer asking for your general thoughts about the council and how it could save money.

## Disruption anticipated by Network Rail work on two bridges

Newport City Council leader Councillor Bob Bright called on Network Rail to do all it can to minimise disruption when electrification work is carried out to railway lines.

Closures are due to be in place in Somerton Road and Bridge Street when essential bridge reconstruction is carried out by Network Rail.

He said: "I recognise that this work has to be carried

out and that, ultimately, the electrification of the line from London to Swansea will have far-reaching benefits.

"However, closure of these important routes for a significant length of time will cause considerable

disruption and inconvenience to those living and working in the city."

Councillor Bright asked Network Rail to install temporary road bridges but, if this is not possible, to give as much notice

as it can about diversionary routes.

Inquiries about the work should be made direct to Network Rail on 03457 114141 or [rwales@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:rwales@networkrail.co.uk)



## Conversation continues on proposed Welsh-medium secondary school

A proposal for a permanent Welsh-medium secondary school located in Newport is progressing following the publication of a statutory notice.

The proposed new school would be located on part of the site of Duffryn High School in Newport with the site split in two to allow entirely separate English and Welsh schools to continue.

Pupil forecasts show that from September 2016 there will be insufficient places to accommodate Welsh-medium secondary learners in the current school at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw.

The new school would provide education for pupils in Newport's three Welsh-medium primary schools along with Ysgol Y Ffin in south Monmouthshire.

The council held formal consultation on the proposals earlier this year and 79.9 per cent of respondents supported the proposal.

A statutory notice was then published to allow the public to have a final say before a decision is taken by the council.

If approved the new school would be for 11–18 year olds, taking in year seven pupils from September 2016.

## Mae'r sgwrs am yr ysgol uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg newydd arfaethedig yn parhau

Mae cynnig am ysgol uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg barhaol a fydd wedi'i lleoli yng Nghasnewydd yn symud yn ei flaen yn dilyn cyhoeddi hysbysiad statudol.

Byddai'r ysgol newydd arfaethedig wedi'i lleoli ar ran o safle Ysgol Uwchradd Dyffryn yng Nghasnewydd a byddai'r safle yn cael ei rhannu'n ddwy ran i alluogi ysgolion Cymraeg a Saesneg cwbl ar wahân i weithredu.

Mae rhagolygon disgyblion yn dangos, o fis Medi 2016 ymlaen, y bydd nifer annigonol o leoedd ar gael i ddysgwyr uwchradd cyfrwng Cymraeg yn yr ysgol bresennol sef Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw.

Byddai'r ysgol newydd yn darparu addysg i ddisgyblion o dair ysgol gynradd cyfrwng Cymraeg Casnewydd ynghyd â disgyblion Ysgol Y Ffin yn Ne Sir Fynwy.

Cynhaliodd y cyngor ymgynghoriad ffurfiol ar y cynigion yn gynharach eleni ac roedd 79.9 y cant o'r ymatebwyr o blaid y cynnig. Yn dilyn hynny, cyhoeddwyd hysbysiad statudol i alluogi'r cyhoedd i gael cyfle olaf i leisio eu barn cyn i'r cyngor wneud penderfyniad.

Pe bai'n cai ei chymeradwyo, byddai'r ysgol newydd ar gyfer disgyblion 11 i 18 oed gan dderbyn disgyblion Blwyddyn 7 o fis Medi 2016.

## Education or work?

Do you have a child in Year 11, 12 or 13 and have just finished school? Do you or they know what their next steps regarding education, employment or training are?

To find out more and access professional and impartial careers information, advice and guidance contact Careers Wales on 0800 028 4844 or visit [www.careerswales.com](http://www.careerswales.com)

# Applying for a school place in 2016

Newport's schools have an excellent reputation and parents can choose from Welsh- or English-medium schools and faith schools (Roman Catholic or Church in Wales).

The following is a guide to when you will need to make an application for the school year starting September 2016.

It is very important that you make your application by the closing dates in the table below.

### Admission to Reception

Children born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 should start primary or infant school (Reception class) in September 2016.

All parents requiring a Reception place in Newport in September 2016 will need to make an application in the 2015 autumn term, even if

your child currently attends the nursery of the school you hope they will eventually attend. Attending a nursery class does not guarantee a place at any primary school.

Applications for admission to any of the Roman Catholic primary schools in Newport or to Charles Williams Church in Wales primary school should be made directly to the school, not via the Council.

Note that all primary school catchment boundaries were reviewed and defined for September 2015, so your catchment area may have changed. Visit [www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

to check your catchment area.

### Transfer from infant to junior school

If your child is currently attending an infant school and is entering Year 2 in September 2015, you will

need to apply for their junior school place in the 2015 autumn term.

All parents requiring a Year 3 junior school place will need to make an application, even if your child is currently in the corresponding infant school. Attending an infant school does not guarantee a place at any junior school.

### Starting secondary school

If your child is due to start secondary school in September 2016 you will need to make an application during the 2015 autumn term.

It is hoped that before the 2015 autumn term a decision will have been taken by Newport City Council to establish a new Welsh-medium secondary school in Newport – keep an eye on the media for press releases and updates.

Applications for admission to St Joseph's Roman Catholic

high school should be made directly to the school, not via the council.

### How to make an application

Internet access is available at all Newport libraries and is free for the first hour. Free Wi-Fi is also available in many council-owned buildings and on Newport Transport buses.

Assistance with your online application may also be provided at the Information Station on Queensway next to the railway station.

Alternatively parents can request a paper application from the city contact centre at the appropriate time by calling 01633 656656.

\*Applications for Rising 3 nursery places in either January or April 2016 can be made online between 1 July and 30 November 2015.

If you have any questions email [school.admissions@newport.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@newport.gov.uk) Make your application online via [www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions)

For admission to:	Apply online from:	Closing date:	Decisions issued on:
*Nursery (September intake)	8 Jan 2016	29 Feb 2016	3 May 2016
Reception	1 Nov 2015	8 Jan 2016	21 Mar 2016
Junior school	1 Nov 2015	8 Jan 2016	21 Mar 2016
Secondary school	1 Oct 2015	30 Nov 2015	1 Mar 2016

## Healthy lessons at Newport schools



*Getting a taste for healthy eating*

Newport City Council's cabinet member for education and young people, Councillor Debbie Wilcox, is congratulating all Newport schools for achieving at least phase three within the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Scheme (WNHSS).

WNHSS supports schools in developing excellent practice related to health promotion.

The scheme ensures that pupils are involved in the planning and implementation of health promotion in their school. For example, this could be the selling of fruit in tuck shops or a specific group of pupils investigating the nutrition of school meals.

Councillor Wilcox commented: "I would like to offer my congratulations to all Newport schools for achieving the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Scheme. All schools have demonstrated a committed approach to the programme and delivered health promotion within their education environment.

"The council is committed to improving and protecting the health and well-being of pupils in our schools and the WNHSS encourages this. Well done to all schools for their dedication to this scheme and for making our schools healthier."

Two schools, Eveswell Primary School and Lliswerry Primary School, have achieved the prestigious National Quality Award and it is anticipated that a further

school will be accredited during the summer term.

"Special mention and thanks has to go to staff at Eveswell Primary School and Lliswerry Primary school for their willingness and enthusiasm in supporting other schools in their healthy schools development, the support of these two schools has been invaluable." continued Councillor Wilcox.

"Thanks must also be extended to all Healthy Schools Coordinators for their hard work in collating the evidence required to achieve each phase of the scheme."

To gain the National Quality Award, a school must move through six award phases progressively. This enables schools to embed and monitor the provision of whole school actions under the following seven healthy themes:

- Food and fitness
- Mental and emotional health and well being
- Personal development and relationships
- Substance use and misuse
- Environment
- Safety
- Hygiene

Each of the themes requires a whole school approach through leadership, communication, curriculum, ethos, environment and the involvement of family and community. The importance of pupil participation in core areas of school life is a pivotal part of the scheme.

## Pupils given experience of the world of work

Work experience is a key part of a pupils curriculum and a number of schools in Newport have been undertaking work experience events to give their pupils a taste of the world of work.

Thirteen Year 10 pupils from Lliswerry High School enjoyed a visit to the Newport & District Group Training Association Centre as part of an on-going Careers and World of Work programme.

They received a talk from:

- Industrial Automation & Control (IAC) – systems integration design and installation
  - Zodiac Aerospace – design/manufacture of premium airline seats
  - AB Inbev UK – part of the world's largest brewer
  - Meritor HVBS – manufacture of heavy vehicle braking systems
- Pupils gained valuable insights into what the

apprenticeships involved the structure of the course and the recruitment selection process.

Pupils then went to the Eden Education Centre to take part in a Lego Education Mindstorms session. These sessions enabled students to build, programme and test their own solutions based on real-life robotics technology. Meanwhile, pupils from St Joseph's RC High School took part in a Dragons Den type of event earlier in the year with Principality and Legal & General. Year 13 pupil, Luke Conibeer, explains more about the event.

"It was a brilliant day in which I was able to gain a lot of experience and advice. The day itself was enjoyable

throughout; the Dragons were approachable and were offering advice in relation to our aspirations."

The objective of the day was to compete against Year 13 A Level students in a Dragons Den style event. Each student was required to create a new business and they had to consider cash flows in accordance with the starting and running costs of this venture. Each student also had to create exciting PowerPoint presentations and executive summaries to present to both Principality and Legal & General.

Students also had to pitch their businesses and in turn, were asked questions about their ideas and their new business.

All the students were required to allocate school and personal time to complete their executive summaries and PowerPoint presentations for the event.

"The latter stages of the day saw us nervously waiting while a decision was being made on the winner of Dragons Den," continued Luke. "The Dragons gave feedback individually in relation to our presentations, businesses and reports. We are now able to apply their advice to future presentations and the advice provided was essential for us as Year 13 business students. We can use this advice to improve the quality of our work and presentations."



*Pupils build on work experience*



## Alway Eco Club's visit to 'waste mountain'



Councillor Deb Davies with Alway Eco Club

Children from Alway Primary School's Eco Club headed off on a fact finding mission to Newport's landfill site and Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) in Maesglas.

Pupils were taken on a rare tour to the top of the landfill site, offering breathtaking vistas across the city, and into the abyss of household waste beneath them.

But this was more than a sightseeing visit with the serious business of how

Newport residents can help to reduce the amount of rubbish that goes to landfill discussed.

Having conquered the summit of Newport's 'waste mountain', the children had a mindmapping session at the site's Second Chance shop.

One of the children, Cyrah Roache, eloquently commented on the importance of the visit: "The trip has been very educational. Although at the Eco Club we know a lot about waste and recycling, the landfill people have taught us a lot of interesting things that we didn't know. We've all had a great time and learned something new."

Charlie Smith also had positive comments. "I think you should bring other schools here because they could learn more stuff and you (the Streetscene and HWRC Staff) are kind and amazing people."

The children were accompanied by their teachers and Councillor Deborah Davies, cabinet member for Streetscene and City Services who said, "This was a really great experience with the pupils from Alway Eco Club. A big thank you should also go to Streetscene's Christine Thomas

and the staff at the Household Waste Recycling Centre who made it possible."

She added, "It's vital that our school children are engaged with the need to recycle because they and their families have an important part to play in meeting recycling targets which will be even more challenging in the future. Achieving this will require a team effort and educating and informing our children through events like this is an important part of that process."

Any ideas or comments on how the council could encourage residents to recycle are welcome and should be emailed to [rethink.rubbish@newport.gov.uk](mailto:rethink.rubbish@newport.gov.uk)

Information on recycling in Newport can be found on the council's website [www.newport.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.newport.gov.uk/recycling)

## Health walks

If you are older than age 40, haven't exercised for some time or have health problems, **functional fitness** walks could help you.

Functional fitness walking sessions include brisk paced walking and a variety of functional fitness exercises designed to help improve movement for daily living and cardiorespiratory fitness.

Sessions take place as follows:

Day	Time	Venue	Meeting Place
Tuesday	7-8pm	Beechwood Park	Car Park
Wednesday	10.30-11.30	Wetlands	Car Park
Thursday	7-8pm	Belle View Park	Car Park
Friday	12-1pm	City Centre	Newport Centre Foyer
Saturday	10-11am	City Centre	Newport Centre Foyer

Sessions cost £2. Please wear comfortable clothes and sturdy shoes/trainers.



For more information on functional fitness walks and times visit

[www.newport.gov.uk/walk](http://www.newport.gov.uk/walk)



## 'Every child deserves to be loved and have the security of a family'

**Forty-two years ago, Tim Little made a decision that would change his life forever and take him on a journey that he could never have imagined.**

Working for Paragon Laundry in Cheltenham, the then 24-year-old transferred to the company's Caerleon Road premises in Newport where he met Tina whom he would later marry.

Tim and Tina had both wanted children. Tina grew up on a Newport council estate. "The house was always full of kids and borrowed nephews and nieces," Tina recalls. But walking home after one of several visits to their local hospital they realised that their dream of having children wasn't to be.

A bitter blow, but the couple were not going to give up that easily and

turned their thoughts to fostering.

In 1987, Tim and Tina fostered their first children, two little girls. "I can still remember the day they arrived in the taxi, the excitement we felt, making sure we had all the equipment, milk and nappies" said Tina.

"The youngest was just nine months and was not yet crawling. She was walking by the time she left age 13 months."

Since then Tim and Tina have fostered more than 60 children and can still remember the names of all of them. The love and affection that they feel for the children who come into their care is plain to see.

Tim explained that when they accept a new child, the child can be with them for a week, a month or even a few years.

"A lot of people ask how we cope emotionally when it's time to say goodbye because inevitably you form attachments," said Tim.

"The truth is it's always difficult when the children leave for their new home and you can never prepare yourself for that moment no matter how many times you've been in that situation, because every child is different. But what helps us to move forward is knowing that the sadness will subside, over time at least."

"We were both lucky enough to have a secure and loving upbringing," said Tim. "Every child deserves to be loved and have the security of a family. I don't think that we're special people, we're just giving something to the children that they deserve. We get as much out of



Foster parents Tina and Tim Little

fostering as hopefully the children get when they walk through the door."

Tim and Tina are anything but ordinary; they are remarkable, selfless people who offer unconditional love and the security of a home to often vulnerable children.

In Newport like many other areas in Wales there is a shortage of foster carers.

Tim and Tina have no intention of giving up being foster parents any time soon and they have some words of encouragement for people considering becoming foster carers.

"What we would say to people thinking of fostering

is, that it will have an effect on your lives and on your family because the needs of the child have to come first but the rewards will always be greater. We're very lucky to have had excellent support from the social services team at Newport City Council. So there's never a sense of being alone. We've got a dedicated social worker and there are courses available to help you develop as a foster carer."

If you are interested in becoming a foster carer, contact 01633 656656 or email [duty.fostering@newport.gov.uk](mailto:duty.fostering@newport.gov.uk)

## New mayor calls for charity support



Newport's mayor and mayoress

**Mayor of Newport, Councillor Herbie Thomas, has nominated Diabetes UK, Alzheimer's Research UK and Madzimai Pamwe – Zimbabwe Wales Women's Partnership – as his charities during his term in office.**

Alzheimer's Research UK is dedicated to funding pioneering research into the diseases that cause dementia

and Diabetes UK cares for, connects with and campaigns for people affected by, or at risk of, the condition.

Madzimai Pamwe is a Newport-based community group who work with people across Wales to raise awareness and promote community cohesion as well as supporting vulnerable women in Zimbabwe.

Councillor Thomas said, "To be given the honour to serve as Mayor of my native city is a real privilege. The position comes with a responsibility to the people of Newport. Like others who have served before me, I hope to use the public platform that comes with the job to raise money for three very worthy charities.

"All three are very important to me and I hope the people of Newport will give them their support. The work of Alzheimer's Research UK is particularly close to my heart because it's a condition that affected my late mother. The Mayoress' mother also has the early stages of this disease."

## News on social media

**On our social media channels we've been responding to your concerns, inviting your views and sharing our news.**

We followed the Velothon through Newport, celebrated the election of our new Mayor and Mayoress and highlighted our job vacancies.

Here's what you've been saying:



**On the election of this year's mayor and mayoress**

Very well done to Herbie Thomas & Jaqueline for becoming mayor & mayoress of Newport well deserved.

**After Big Splash and the Maindee Festival**  
Brilliant weekend in Newport with @maindeeman and @BigSplashFest. Thanks to all involved.

**We thanked John Burns for sharing his great pictures of Newport**  
I love documenting our fab city #Newport #positive

**After we had been following the Velothon**  
As far as I'm concerned, good communication all-round regarding this prestigious event.

**Join the conversation on**  
 @NewportCouncil and  
 Newport City Council



## Newport aims to become a dementia friendly city



Front from left to right Denise Brooks, Sue Phelps of the Alzheimer's Society, Steve Pumford and (standing in orange jacket) Ceri Davies of the Alzheimer's Society

**Newport City Council and its partners are working towards accreditation from the Alzheimer's Society as a dementia friendly city.**

An event to celebrate this pledge and launch a series of dementia friends awareness sessions was held last month in the Gallery of Newport Market.

Newport's Mayor, Councillor Herbie Thomas,

opened the event which also included the presentation of a memory daisy by children from St Mary's RC Primary School.

Ralph Diaper, of the Newport Senior Citizen's Forum, read a poem and there was a performance by the Alzheimer's Society Music and Memories choir.

Denise Brooks also related her moving carer's story. Alzheimer's Society is working with Newport and the four other councils in Gwent to create dementia friendly communities.

An important part of this work is the recruitment of Dementia Friends

and champions from communities, organisations and businesses.

Alzheimer's Society operations manager Ceri Davies, said: "Newport City Council is taking a leading role in meeting the Alzheimer's Society's challenge to create dementia friendly cities – it's absolutely wonderful.

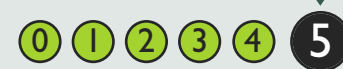
"As part of the initiative local businesses are being urged by the council and the society to sign up staff to become Dementia Friends and find out a little more about how easy it is to help, simply by being aware of the difficulties

faced by people living with dementia.

"That can mean anything from being understanding in a shop when someone needs time at the till, through to the cinema or theatre providing a dementia friendly environment or helping someone find the right bus.

"Anyone can become a Dementia Friend by going online [www.dementiafriends.org](http://www.dementiafriends.org) or attending an information session – you will be joining more than one million people across the country who have already signed up."

## Check it out before you check-in with Food Hygiene Rating



**Newport's residents are being encouraged to be more discerning about where they eat by the council's environmental health team.**

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme rates food businesses on their hygiene standards, based on inspections by the council's environmental health team. A 'hygiene rating' is given to reflect how

closely those businesses are complying with the requirements of the food hygiene law.

The standards of food hygiene are ranked from 0-5 with 5 a very good rating

and 0 requiring urgent improvement.

There are more than 940 eateries around the city with a food hygiene rating of 3 or above with 531 of these receiving a 5.

So next time you're thinking of reserving a table, why not check it out before you check-in.

Find the rating online [www.food.gov.uk/ratings](http://www.food.gov.uk/ratings)

## Artistic talents showcased at Kensington Court

**Participants of Kensington Court's day centre services recently took part in the World Community Arts Day exhibition which was held at The Riverfront.**

Kensington Court in Newport is a council run facility that supports people with mental health issues. Its purpose is to support people to manage their mental health by providing meaningful activities to help rebuild lives, improve confidence, train in new skills and offer day to day help and support.

They also provide training and qualifications in both horticulture and IT which are run by Growing Space who share the facility and they work closely together.

A wide range of activities are offered including a walking group, sports activities, basic skills workshops, one-to-one work and art classes.

The art classes provide a great release from stress and anxieties, helping people focus and concentrate and enjoy a stimulating creative process.

The work on display in the exhibition ranged from oil and acrylic paintings, wood burning pictures, montage and 3D work and some abstract art.

The self-esteem generated from exhibiting their own creations has proved pivotal in creating confidence and giving people a sense of purpose and above all pride.



Pattern by Marj Charles

## Newport progresses with a City Deal proposal



**Newport City Council will be working with the Welsh Government and other local authorities that make up the Cardiff Capital City Region to secure a City Deal for the area.**

It is anticipated that a City Deal could release significant new money to support investment in major infrastructure projects and would ensure

that Newport makes the most of exciting developments such as the electrification of the south Wales mainline and the natural resources of the Severn Estuary.

A City Deal is an agreement where national government provides money for cities or city regions to invest in return for a guarantee of economic growth. The aim is to provide a much needed boost to infrastructure investment to support growth in employment and economic output.



## The Riverfront – 01633 656 757

### National Theatre Live: Everyman, 16 July, 7pm

Chiwetel Ejiofor takes the title role in this dynamic new production of one of English drama's oldest plays, directed by the National Theatre's new director, Rufus Norris.

### Sessions, 17 July and 14 August, 7pm

Boutique market stalls and open mic night.

### Summer family films during the summer holidays

Every Monday-Friday during the summer holidays we'll be screening the latest family blockbusters for just £1.50! Screening times are 10am, 12pm, 2pm, 3.45pm & 6.30pm. Visit the website ([www.newportlive.co.uk](http://www.newportlive.co.uk)) for a full list of films, dates and times. Pre-booking is strongly advised.

### Ballet Cymru & The Riverfront, first week: Monday 20 July–Friday 24 July, second week: Monday 27 July–Saturday 2 August

Ballet Cymru present another exciting summer of dance at The Riverfront. The first week of dance is aimed at dancers 9+ and 13+ and will feature classes in street, ballet, musical theatre and contemporary. At the end of this week everybody gets the chance to perform and show off their moves.

#### The second week comprises of three ballet courses

Age 11+ Elementary/Intermediate

Age 15+ Intermediate/Advanced

Age 18+ Advanced and Professional/Graduate

For prices, more information and a booking form, please visit [www.welshballet.co.uk](http://www.welshballet.co.uk)

### Comedy Shed, 24 July, 7.45pm

A relaxed cabaret style comedy club offers you the chance to enjoy a drink and up to three professional comedians to entertain you.

### Youth Theatre Summer School, first week (7-11 years): Monday 3 August–Thursday 6 August 1pm – 5pm

Intensive week long courses where you will receive professional tuition and technical support to devise your own production that will be performed for friends and family at The Riverfront. Price: £45 for the week (Pre-booking advised). Performance on Friday 7 August (Week 1) and Friday 14 August (Week 2) Tickets: £2.50, Reductions £1, Under 5s FREE

### Film Summer School (Age 10 – 14), Wednesday 29 July–Wednesday 26 August, 1pm – 4pm

Come along every Wednesday afternoon and watch your ideas go from script to screen in this fun filmmaking workshop. Over five weeks learn camera skills, how to edit, scriptwriting, producing and directing, and then premiere your masterpiece in front of friends and family. No previous experience required for this hands on course. You will get more from attending all five sessions, but this isn't compulsory. Price: £30 for all 5 sessions or £6 per session.

Week 1: Camera skills      2: Editing      3: Scriptwriting  
4: Filming      5: Post production and premiere

### Make a Mwnci Movie (age: under 12s), Wednesday 29 July, 10am – 12pm

Meet Mwnci, The Riverfront's cheeky mascot! Learn how to do stop motion animation and make Mwnci the star of your film in this fun workshop. No previous experience required! Price: £2.50 (pre-booking advised)

### Little'ns Craft (age: under 5s), Thursdays, 30 July, 13 & 27 August, 11am – 1pm

Come and make a masterpiece with the help of a professional artist and take your art home! A perfect activity for toddlers and their parents/carers. Price: £2.50 per child

### First Wednesday, 5 August, 1pm

A regular series of lunchtime recitals where a mixture of music is presented across the year including wind trios, string quartets, piano, classical guitar, harp and much more.

### Craft Station & Clue Trail

Throughout the summer holiday, Monday to Saturday 10am – 4pm. Price: free

### Tuesday Film Club (Age: 7 - 12)

Every Tuesday in August, 9.30am – 2.30pm

Come and join our film club! Every Tuesday we'll be watching a different movie, having lunch together and then trying a different activity in the afternoon! It could be crafts, dance, sewing, writing, movie making or more! Turn up and find out! Price: £12 per child, per day including lunch (pre-booking advised as places limited).

## National Roman Legion Museum

### Festival of Archaeology – Mosaics, 25 July, 2pm

Join Dr Mark Lewis for an in-depth look at mosaics and get to see and handle some pieces of mosaic. You can have a go at creating your own masterpiece and there'll be an opportunity to make a mosaic to take away. Suitable for adults, cost £5 per person and spaces need to be booked in advance.

### Make a mosaic, 25 July, 10am – 12pm and 2pm – 4pm.

Create your own mosaic to take away. This event is suitable for families and places do not have to be booked in advance - just drop in. Cost £3 per person

### Romans V Celts, 22 and 23 August, 10am – 5pm

Who will you support? The Romans or the Celts? It will be your vote that decides the winner. Based in the Museum garden, there will be two camps, one Roman, one Celtic. Both sides will tell you why they think they should win, but which will you choose? Listen to the arguments, explore the camps and have a go at some of the crafts within them; then decide which side gets your vote – and watch the result played out before your eyes. Camp open 10am – 5pm. Displays from the Celts at 11.30am and 1pm and from the Romans at 12pm and 1.30pm. Final skirmish at 3pm and voting takes place from 12.30pm – 2.30pm. Suitable for all, a drop-in event, cost £3 per person with under 3s free.

## Newport Cathedral

### U3A choir concert, 8 August, 12 noon

Jacqueline Edwards (mezzo-soprano/pianist) presents 'A Frog in my Throat', an entertaining programme of words and music. Tickets £12.

## Newport Centre – 01633 656656

### Geeked Fest, 7 August, 11am-6pm

## Tredegar House

### Summer holiday activities

#### 18 July – 30 August

Quirky crafts, uncover history mysteries with trails and try traditional garden games.

#### Nature club,

#### 20 July – 24 August

Discover something new about nature every Monday over the summer holidays.

### August bank holiday weekend

Step back in time to the roaring 1930s jazz era and experience a real Tredegar House garden party. Fun for all the family

## Newport Museum & Art Gallery

### Exhibition

#### 3 July–25 July

Agincourt 600 Wales – Cymru. A touring exhibition commemorating the contribution of Wales to the Battle of Agincourt in 1415.

#### Holiday Fun,

#### 23 May – 30 May

Various summer fun activities in Newport's libraries, museum and art gallery as well as the Active Living Centre, Newport International Sports Village and Newport Centre. Further information on page 4.



# FEED ME!



**70%** of households in Newport **recycle** their food waste **every week.**

## Simple, clean, effective.

Get your **FREE** food recycling kit today, visit: [wastesavers.co.uk](http://wastesavers.co.uk)

Free food caddy liners are available from all public libraries, the Information Station by the railway station and from Wastesavers.

