

THE CHEPSTOW SOCIETY

Members Bulletin

October 2017



Notes from the Chair

Members,

As outlined in our last meeting, the Society, as it approaches its 70th anniversary, has involved itself in a number of projects.

We have already provided a Town Quiz, thanks to Angela Middleditch, and we are now preparing a calendar for 2019. There will be prizes and, of course, the honour of publication! If any member wants more information please contact Harry Middleditch.

We are also preparing activities to be held in the spring of 2018, as the Society's Inaugural Meeting was held on 12th March 1948 in the Tudor Café. I wonder how many members remember the Tudor Café?

Keith James is hoping to commemorate the 370th anniversary of the siege of the Castle in the Civil War – at present he is besieging the Council for assistance!

We are also following closely the proposed redevelopment of the Drill Hall and will do all we can to ensure that the town has a venue suitable for its many activities. For its size, the number of activities that are held in Chepstow is quite remarkable.

Finally, as we approach the Festive Season, we are reviving the Christmas evening with food and entertainment to be held on 2nd December. We do hope that as many members as possible will come.

All this in addition to our monthly talks and the excursions run by Keith and Sallie James.

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2018 to all our members and guests!

Geoff Sumner

Chepstow Society Christmas Party

Saturday 2nd December 2017

Drill Hall, 7.30 p.m.

- Richard Westcott's
'Confessions of a Pantomime Dame'
- Dancing to the Chepstow Community
Big Band
- Cold buffet
- Licensed bar
- Raffle

**Tickets are on sale now, available at monthly meetings, and from Keith and Sallie James
We are asking members to purchase tickets as soon as possible for catering purposes.**

£12.50 per person

Honorary Secretary's Report

The former Francis solicitors' office in Welsh Street has, as would be expected, already been sold, and we now await their new owners' ideas for future use.

On the other hand the reuse of the 17th century house at the centre of Caerwent is finally settled after eight years of planning, during which it has been left unoccupied and deteriorating. It is to be rebuilt with the help of grants after compulsory purchase by MCC several years ago.

An extension is planned to the "units" along Rifleman's Way. We are also informed that the St Pierre Hotel is taking action to save a decorative ceiling in an upstairs room.

Henry Hodges

MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS

Weds. 18 October –

The Royal Mint – Chris Barker

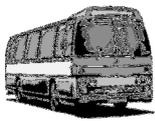
Weds. 15 November –

Brunel in South Wales – Stephen Jones

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Weds. 17 January –

Ugly Mugs – Gargoyles of Gloucestershire
- John Putley



EXCURSIONS

25 members enjoyed a lovely day out at the Royal Mint, Llantrisant and National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. Everyone learnt a lot at both places, but unfortunately there were not free samples. Grindles provided a fabulous new coach for us – so good we're thinking of another excursion in the new year!

Spring Holiday 2018 – Newquay, Cornwall

We now have 49 members booked to go on the holiday and we will be starting to book the excursions in January. The final payment is due by the end of February and we will be advising members of this by the end of January when we have worked out the cost of the excursions and taken off the discounts.

**For further information, contact
Keith and Sallie James
01594 529713 or
kp.james@btinternet.com**

2019 Calendar competition

**Calling all amateur photographers
in and around Chepstow!**

**The Chepstow Society is sponsoring
a competition for photographs to
illustrate a town calendar, for 2019.**

**The 13 winning photographs will
be showcased in a Chepstow town
calendar, to be published next
autumn.**

**Only amateur photographers may
submit entries, which will be
accepted between 1 April and 30
June 2018.**

**Photographs should be seasonal in
nature, taken within two miles of
Chepstow town centre, and provided
in landscape format as jpeg files.**

**The full terms and conditions are
available at www.chepsoc.co.uk,
and on the Society's Facebook page.**

**Further information is available
from Harry Middleditch**

REMINDER –

**Membership subscriptions for 2017/18 were
due from April 1st.**

They remain at £10 per person.