

It has all gone a lot quieter now as the schools restart, so make the most of it! 'Tis the season for walks and pubs with fires lit, or some early Christmas shopping – perhaps at some of Ross-on-Wye's lovely independent shops; or even make some presents with some of our local craftspeople (see below).

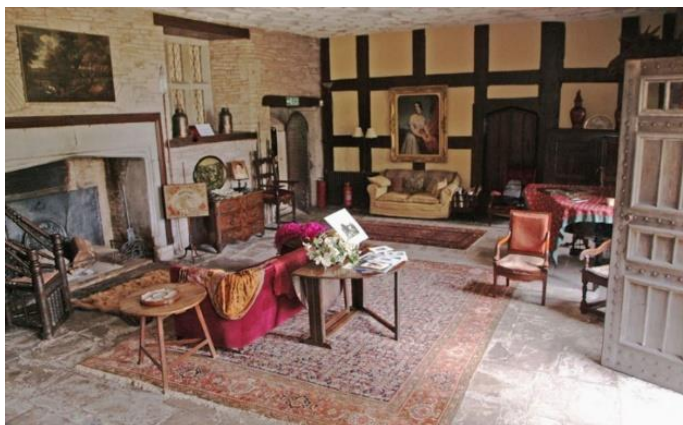


*Our view, sunrise in October – thanks to Mark for this*

### Events:

- Lime mortar and conservation masonry skills training at Redbrook's Church (reduced / free places for local volunteers). 22-24 September
- The Secret Life of Trees. Immersive experience with sound and lights at Beechenhurst. 22-24 September.
- The Tasting Corner at Forest Deli, Coleford: Cheese Board and Local Brew Tasting Event: 23 Sept, 30 Sept
- FarOpen art exhibition: 47 local artists at Newnham-on-Severn. 23 Sept-8 October
- Concert by candlelight in Clearwell Caves -how atmospheric is that?! 7 October
- Forest Food Showcase. 8 October.
- Light Eternal at Gloucester Cathedral. 19-28 October.
- Dance with the Devil in Clearwell Caves, a Halloween event for grown-ups. 28 October
- Ross-on-Wye Christmas Fair. 26 November.
- Forest Runner; 5k or 10k. 26 November.
- Twilight Trains at Perrygrove. Beautifully lit route (animal theme last year), hot chocolate and Father Christmas – not just for children! 1-23 December.
- Llanvihangel Court Christmas Fair: in the beautiful Tudor manor house near Abergavenny. Made at The Hut (my sister Anna and me) will be there. 9-10 December





Llanvihangel Court



Forest Deli

### Activities News:

The GBU cycle trail has finally opened – local legend Katy Curd tested it out (see You Tube). People are reported to be wossing out of the Big Slab Drop. Forest of Dean Cycling Centre also has an uplift service – so you only have to do those exciting downhill bits – and the uniquely accessible Launchpad designed for 4-wheel bikes.

Ross-on-Wye's great choice of independent shops and a link to the Vintage Shopping Trail:

<https://visitrossonwye.com/category/shop/>

### Some local craftspeople offering courses:

- Yat Pottery Art School, Symonds Yat - pottery [adam@yatpottery.com](mailto:adam@yatpottery.com)
- Made at The Hut, nr St Briavels – Indian block printing, lino cutting for Christmas cards etc [www.madeatthehut.co.uk](http://www.madeatthehut.co.uk)
- Inspiring Creativity – mosaic, including tree decorations, wreaths etc [www.rachelshilston.co.uk](http://www.rachelshilston.co.uk)
- Silver Circle Distillery, Catbrook – gin-making. [silvercircledistillery.com/pages/make-your-own-gin](http://silvercircledistillery.com/pages/make-your-own-gin)
- The Studio Jewellery School, Lydney – contact Anna for choice of workshops <https://www.annafinejewellery.co.uk/make-your-own-wedding-rings>
- Eastnor Pottery & The Flying Potter, Eastnor – pottery [www.eastnorpottery.co.uk](http://www.eastnorpottery.co.uk)
- Wild Wicker, near Ross – baskets and willow weaving [www.wildwicker.com/Courses](http://www.wildwicker.com/Courses)
- SewForestofDean, Clearwell – quilts, sewing machine embroidery etc [www.sewforestofdean.co.uk/product-category/workshops/](http://www.sewforestofdean.co.uk/product-category/workshops/)
- Katie Sanderson, Coleford – enamels, including cufflinks, jewellery, boxes, pictures [www.katiesanderson.co.uk/courses](http://www.katiesanderson.co.uk/courses)

### Food and Drink News:

Whilst our mead is happily bubbling away having been brought home from a wonderful introduction to mead, to the bees and to all the wonderful flavours (with tasting of course); Wye Valley Meadery have won several awards. They were in London last week winning the Golden Fork.



The Griffin, Monmouth is a lovely atmospheric place for a drink on Wed to Sat night. A homeware and bike shop by day, at night it transforms into an intimate, dog-friendly bar.

Pizza night – every first Wednesday of the month the outdoor wood-fired pizza oven goes on at The Mill Race, Walford (until November).

A nice link for you if you like searching out local produce:  
<https://www.visitdeanwye.co.uk/food-and-drink/local-produce>

#### **Filming News:**

For *Billericay to Barry* Alison Steadman and Larry Lamb of *Gavin & Stacey* spent a day with Chris Harrod at Whitebrook, foraging and being cooked for.

*Sex Education* season 4 starts 21 September.

We are on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

*Vouchers for Christmas presents perhaps? Just get in touch for £20 or more voucher towards a stay at Symonds Yat Rock Lodge.*