

# NEWPORTFIRST

**Nigel West Sends Festive Greetings.....** As Chairman of the Newport Town Team, I am immensely proud of our market town and am always impressed by the vibrancy within the town that exists throughout the year, and the level of business that is done by our local businesses and traders.

Newport Town Team is committed to promoting Newport and supporting the growth of trade and business within the town and we all look forward to working with you throughout the coming year. Let us all work together to ensure Newport maintains and indeed increases the vibrancy, the popularity, the level of business, and the levels of employment within the town.

As we draw 2014 to a close I trust that this coming year has been a fruitful year, and may I wish all of you a very happy Christmas and a successful 2015.

Happy Christmas

*Nigel P West*  
*Chairman - Newport Town Team*

Congratulations to our market traders who have made a superb effort in creating a truly festive atmosphere within the market hall. Feedback from a sample of local shoppers indicates they really appreciate your efforts. And to cap it all Father Christmas dropped in recently to launch a 'free' Christmas draw - thank you for your collective efforts - they are appreciated.



**Breaking News.....** Back in July your Town Team Manager submitted a bid to *The Great British High Streets* awards competition. This joint bid was made on behalf of NTT / NTC / NRP & the Chamber and has been rewarded with a *Highly Recommended* award reflecting our joint commitment & actions to making Newport a better place for all.

**Contacting the Town Team:-**

**Mike Atherton, Newport's Town Team Manager**

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**Face-book:** [www.facebook.com/newporttownteam](http://www.facebook.com/newporttownteam)

**January 2015 Business Meeting**..... don't forget the town team's next business meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January in the room at the back of The Phez (thanks as always to Quinny). The main agenda items will focus on initial findings from the recent benchmarking survey work and planning for events & promotions in 2015. However, if any member has additional agenda items then please let us know as soon as possible - usual contact arrangements.



**More on Social Media**..... dates have now been provided by TCAT for the 2<sup>nd</sup> social media course. These are 26<sup>th</sup> January, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, & 16<sup>th</sup> February (all Monday's). 13 traders have already signed up however if there is any further interest please let the TTM know asap.

**Pictured left:** first cohort of traders who participated in the SM course back in October.

**Good Governance Counts**..... Early in December the town team filed its first year accounts with Company House and also filed a nil corporation tax return with HMRC. Whilst these are routine matters they reflect the commitment of the 'town team' directors to carry out our business in an open and transparent manner for the benefit of our members, and for those externally who may have an interest.

**High Street Health-Check**.... a huge thank you to everyone who contributed in some way to the 2014 benchmarking exercise. We have had a great response to the surveys yet again and will share findings once analysis is completed early in the New Year. There is still one last chance to submit business confidence survey forms!!!

**Condolences**..... town team directors and members extend their sincere condolences to Olivia Davies, Caroline Cross and to family, friends and work colleagues of Andrew Davies following his recent and untimely passing. Andrew was one of Newport's true characters and we shall all miss him.

**Newport's 'Town Plan' Launched**..... On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 Newport Town Council hosted an official launch for the Newport Town Plan which had been developed by a small steering group of local volunteers. The document sets out how the plan was developed, summarise consultation findings across 5 key areas (natural environment; community services; traffic & transport; built environment; and sports, leisure & community facilities), identifies projects, and makes proposals for their implementation. The document is well worth a read and provides some really useful insights into how local people view our town and its broader offer. Reference copies are available at the Library or from The Guildhall.