

The Purbeck Gazette

January 2018
Issue no. 216

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A Community Together. Pg 10 - 11



Banish Those Winter Blues! Pg 33 - 45



100-Year-Old Christmas Card. Pg 24



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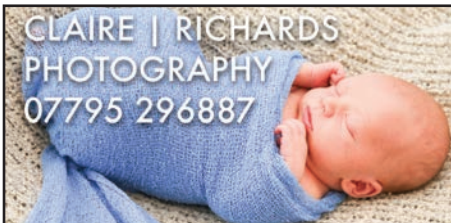
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Editor's note...



Welcome to the January edition of your Gazette! Happy New Year to you all - the small team here at Gazette Towers wishes each and every one of you good health, happiness and a successful year to follow in 2018.

This month we bring you our 'Banish those winter blues' feature, trying to shoe-horn you out of the door and either into our wonderful countryside, or into a local establishment for a bit of shopping in the sales, some detox products (!!) or a good bite to eat. We'll keep on banging away at the 'shop locally' aspect of our community until the cows come home - why? Because without local, independent shops, our towns and villages are doomed. Fail to support them with regular custom at your peril.

The rest of the magazine is stuffed, as usual, with your news, views, events and opinions. Thank you to everyone who writes for us - as a community paper we struggle to cover costs each month (ploughing our revenue straight back into the paper on a monthly basis), and without journalists or a tribe of staff able to meander around Purbeck collecting your stories and taking your pictures, we'd be nothing without you reporting for us - our community.

So, Purbeckians - we salute you. For almost twenty years you have supported, written and advertised in the Purbeck Gazette - we very much hope to still be here, serving Purbeck as best we can, for another twenty long years, but that's down to all of you.....!!

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The **February 2018** edition has a **deadline** of 8th January, and will be distributed during the last week of January. The **March 2018** edition has a **deadline** of 8th Feb and will be distributed from during the last week of February.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Jan '18

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

Date	HW	LW	HW	LW	HW	Moon / Tides	Sunrise	Sunset
01-Jan		02:17	07:40	14:46	20:09		08:09	16:13
02-Jan		03:07	08:30	15:35	20:57	NM	08:08	16:14
03-Jan		03:56	09:19	16:22	21:45		08:08	16:15
04-Jan		04:44	10:08	17:09	22:33	SP	08:08	16:16
05-Jan		05:31	10:56	17:56	23:21		08:08	16:17
06-Jan		06:19	11:46	18:44			08:08	16:19
07-Jan	00:10	07:09	12:38	19:35			08:07	16:20
08-Jan	01:01	08:05	13:32	20:34			08:07	16:21
09-Jan	01:55	09:09	14:31	21:40			08:06	16:23
10-Jan	02:55	10:16	15:39	22:45		NP	08:06	16:24
11-Jan	04:03	11:21	16:52	23:45			08:05	16:25
12-Jan	05:17	12:20	17:58				08:04	16:27
13-Jan		00:41	06:22	13:13	18:52		08:04	16:28
14-Jan		01:32	07:14	14:00	19:38		08:03	16:30
15-Jan		02:19	07:57	14:43	20:16		08:02	16:31
16-Jan		03:01	08:33	15:23	20:52		08:01	16:33
17-Jan		03:41	09:05	16:00	21:24	FM	08:01	16:34
18-Jan		04:17	09:37	16:34	21:55	SP	08:00	16:36
19-Jan		04:49	10:07	17:05	22:23		07:59	16:37
20-Jan		05:21	10:35	17:37	22:51		07:58	16:39
21-Jan		05:52	11:04	18:09	23:22		07:57	16:40
22-Jan		06:27	11:38	18:46			07:56	16:42
23-Jan	00:00	07:08	12:19	19:28			07:54	16:44
24-Jan	00:45	07:55	13:09	20:19			07:53	16:45
25-Jan	01:40	08:53	14:11	21:22			07:52	16:47
26-Jan	02:49	10:10	15:39	22:46		NP	07:51	16:49
27-Jan	04:17	11:35	17:08				07:50	16:50
28-Jan		00:05	05:35	12:44	18:15		07:48	16:52
29-Jan		01:09	06:39	13:42	19:13		07:47	16:54
30-Jan		02:06	07:37	14:35	20:06		07:45	16:56
31-Jan		02:58	08:29	15:24	20:54	NM	07:44	16:57

NM = New Moon + FM = Full Moon + NP = Neap tides + SP = Spring Tides

All times are local

e80c

Swanage Town Council Meetings - January 2018

Planning & Consultation Committee	Mon 8th	6.30pm
Council	Mon 22nd	7pm
Council	Mon 29th	7pm

Wareham Town Council Meetings - January 2018

Planning & Transport	Mon 8th	7pm
Policy, Resources and Finance	Tue 9th	7pm
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Thur 11th	7pm
Human Resources	Tue 16th	10.30am
Amenities	Wed 17th	7pm
Council	Tue 23rd	7pm
Planning & Transport	Mon 29th	7pm

Purbeck DC Meetings - Open to public - Jan 2018

Council	Tue 16th	7pm
Planning Committee	Wed 31st	9.15am
Policy Group	Wed 31st	7pm

Meetings are subject to change. To double check, see: <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/meetings/purbeck> and see 'dates of council and other meetings'

About Purbeck Media Ltd

The Purbeck Gazette prints 20,000 copies every month and delivers throughout the region from Swanage to Dorchester, Lulworth to Bere Regis. The Purbeck Gazette is published by Purbeck Media Ltd. All editing, graphic design and lay-up is completed in-house by Purbeck Media Ltd. The Purbeck Gazette is printed by Blackmore Ltd of Shaftesbury and delivered by Logiforce GPS-tracked distribution. The Purbeck Gazette website is managed and edited on-site by Purbeck Media Ltd. Purbeck Media Ltd also publishes The Purbeck Guidette, the Purbeck Visitor Guide. All rights reserved.

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VOLUNTEERS: A massive thanks to our volunteers, whose help is invaluable each month. Our proof readers are the very professional: Gerry Norris and David Holman, with volunteer Photographer, Tim Crabb, also on-hand.

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If you do not wish to hear from us to be reminded of upcoming deadlines, please do let us know!



Sea Glimpse from Durlston Country Park. Picture by Mike Walshaw

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DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY IS 12 NOON, 8th JANUARY

Your Letters

The clue is in the heading above - these are our readers' letters. They are NOT articles, they are letters. By you. Our readers. They are not our letters, they are yours - your letters. Simple!

Please send all letters to ed@purbeckgazette.co.uk with 'letter to the editor' in the email subject line. Please do not exceed 350 words. If handwritten, please ensure it is short and legible.

PLEASE DO NOT DUPLICATE LETTERS TO OTHER PUBLICATIONS - WE DO NOT PRINT MULTI-PUBLICATION LETTERS.

FEBRUARY edition deadline: noon, 8th JAN

Shocking Fishing Practices

Dear Editor,

A new kind of fishing called pulse trawling uses electricity to shock flatfish or shrimps out of the sediment on the sea floor, upwards into a net.

It's important to note that officially pulse trawling is banned by the European Union. Article 31 of Council Regulations (EC) No 850/98 covers unconventional fishing methods and clearly states; "The catching of marine organisms using methods incorporating the use of explosives, poisons or stupefying substances or electric current shall be prohibited".

But just as with Japan over using a legal loophole to slaughter whales for research, the EU has over a hundred pulse trawlers with EU companies, operating twenty such trawlers from UK ports. There is no control or regulation on the power or frequency of pulses which are emitted by their fishing gear.

Our government should have listened to those whose livelihoods are dependent on a sustainable fishing industry that leaves a sufficient number of fish to replenish those taken. George Monbiot is a prominent environmentalist and in the Guardian newspaper he calls Europe's slaughter of sea life in the name of science an outrage.

A couple of quotes from those whose pulse trawling will eventually put out of business starts with the Thanet Fisherman Association who are reported to have said; "Fishing in a graveyard. What they don't catch (pulse trawlers) they annihilate, virtually everything is dead". Another example is from the owner of two trawlers operating from Ramsgate; "This is absolutely devastating for us because we never caught so many fish that were already dead. It's a waste of time going to that area now. It stinks of dead fish."

The opportunity we have now is to do better than the EU has done. Beam trawling is very destructive, gear pulling everything in and destroying habitat and so on, but pulse trawling has the added disadvantage of killing almost everything, including non-target species, in its way.

We humans have destroyed the habitats of almost all other creatures that share our planet. We have polluted the oceans, pushed wildlife to the brink of extinction and now we are embarking on a crusade to kill every last worm, little shrimp and fish. Considering over twenty percent of our food is wasted, would it not be a better idea to concentrate on not wasting so much food in a last-ditch attempt to prevent this Armageddon?

I remain Editor, yours sincerely, Mike Fry.

Brexit Confusion

Dear Editor,

Anthony Nott ('Stop Knocking the Elderly', December edition) repeats the claim that the majority of the British people voted to leave the European Union. They did not: the 37% of the electorate who voted leave do not represent a majority in any sense of the word, but particularly for such a major constitutional change.

Added to this, one million British ex-pats (whose future is affected by the decision) were not allowed to vote, as were no 16 or 17-year-olds, all of whom will be 18+ by March 2019 and are likely to be around a lot longer than many of the elderly who voted for Brexit. It is their future as much as anyone else's and they should be given an opportunity to express an opinion.

Those who voted to leave the European Union did so for a variety of reasons, but many did it on the basis of false promises (which are now becoming apparent) and a campaign of relentless vilification of the EU by the right-wing press (run by multi-billionaire moguls) and a number of oddballs that seem to make up the modern Conservative Party. There is also increasing evidence that the Kremlin may have actively tried to

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influence the Brexit vote as part of Putin's aim to destabilise Europe.

I do not share Mr Nott's optimism about the economy. The latest forecasts for growth have all been revised down since he wrote his letter and the country has a real problem with productivity, which will not improve if the UK leaves the EU. Britain's economic growth was the fastest in the G7 before the referendum, but now it is the slowest.

While employment is currently high, many of the wages are low and living standards appear to be falling. One of the greatest risks is the prospect of companies re-locating from Britain to other European capitals. We should all be worried by the huge fall in applications from trained nurses in the EU, and the NHS now seems to be in permanent crisis, with dire warnings from those who work in it. The 'extra £350 million a week' promised by the brexiteers was, of course, another lie.

The EU (then the 'Common Market') was founded after the Second World War to bring countries together in the name of peace for mutual trading benefits. Since then it has expanded in both aims and the number of member states, but the underlying philosophy behind it remains laudable.

In contrast, there are no great ideas behind Brexit and the result has been to create the biggest divisions in the UK in my life time. No one pretends the EU is a perfect organisation, or not in need of some reform, but to put at risk our relationship with the largest trading market in the world, which is on our doorstep, is the height of folly.

If Brexit goes ahead (and it could still be stopped if common sense prevails), it will be the poorest families who will be affected the most. It can hardly be said that anyone voted in June 2016 on the basis of factual evidence, and I doubt that many voted to become poorer, which is why the British people need to be consulted again towards the end of the faltering negotiations now that the hollow promises and lack of vision and plan by those advocating Brexit are increasingly being revealed.

After all, if a country cannot be allowed to change its mind, then it is no longer a democracy.

Yours sincerely, David Leadbetter, Prospect Crescent, Swanage

A Huge Thank You

Dear Editor,

As chairman of the Dementia Friendly Purbeck, I would like to express our thanks to the Purbeck Rally's committee for the donation of £2000.00 at their presentation Friday night 1st December.

We are so grateful for your support. With the money you have donated we will be able to sponsor dementia friendly films that will be showing at the Rex Cinema's Golden Moments. We are also planning to sponsor people with dementia in the Wareham/Purbeck area for day visits to Holton Lee Livability Flourish project.

We're also investigating the cost of special ID bracelets that can be worn by people living with dementia. These ID bracelets have a unique number and a telephone number of a care call centre where they hold the persons contact numbers so they can be identified. We are also planning more awareness session for the public.

Please can I ask you to refer to people with dementia as 'living with dementia', rather than dementia sufferers.

Regards, Tim Lench, Dementia Friendly Purbeck Chairman.

Keep Our Banks Open

Dear Editor,

I am appalled to learn that Natwest are about to close their Wareham branch. Having started my banking career with National Provincial bank some sixty odd years ago, I have remained with them through a number of changes, including closure of the Swanage branch, until now.

Having considered all the remaining branches after this next closure, it



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Sun	14	2pm	FB Pocket Orchestra
Fri	19	8pm	The Aerialists
Sat	27	8pm	Kent Du Chaine
Sun	28	2pm	Tobias Ben Jacob & Lukas Drinkwater

seems to me that in future I will have to travel to Bournemouth to conduct my banking affairs. I would change banks, but Lloyds is the only sensible alternative for Swanage residents. For how long will that branch remain open? We are told to use on-line banking but, being a retired Chartered Accountant, I have never quite trusted that method of conducting my affairs. Nowadays I have real dexterity problems and, having made several attempts to do so, have not been able to master the use of modern mobile phones.

I know I am not alone in this situation and I fear our generation has been written off by the young managers who make these decisions. It certainly feels as though we have lived too long and yet we are the ones who were expected to save the bank when it made such a mess of its business a few years ago.

Yours faithfully, Peter Madge, by email

No To National Park Plans

Dear Gazette,

Having lived in Dorset for nearly all my life, I am horrified at the proposal to turn Dorset into a National Park. There are already many different organisations looking after huge tracts of Dorset's coastline and countryside; the National Trust, Dorset Wildlife Trust and the RSPB to name a few. I question what the benefits of becoming a National Park are to local people.

It appears to me that it simply adds another layer of bureaucracy to complicate the lives of ordinary people and is part of the increasing urbanisation of the countryside. Dorset is a very special place. It should not be turned into an amenity area for the volume of visitors which would increase if this proposal were to be approved.

Yours sincerely, Perdie Smith, Wareham

Ridge Flood Threat

Dear Editor,

Ridge Flood Threat; Arne Moors Scheme

Further to the December Gazette letter from Peter Sibthorp, the reason for the Arne Moors scheme was explained by the RSPB, Environment Agency and Natural England at a meeting in Wareham Town Hall on 14th November. The reason was an apparent legal need to compensate for possible loss of bird habitat if raising the sea defences around Poole town to protect against rising sea level, causes loss of habitat.

But any loss of habitat would be caused by rising sea level, not by raised Poole defences. The habitat loss would be the same if Poole did not protect itself. The intertidal habitat on the other side of the harbour (between the high tide and low tide lines) would be submerged, but new intertidal areas would develop further inland on that unprotected side of the harbour thus compensating for the loss. This would happen over decades and birds would easily adapt.

The apparent legal requirement mentioned is presumably a European Union Habitat Directive, No.6 (4) which states that if there is a plan or project which may interfere with habitat, compensatory action is needed. But there is no plan or project which will interfere.

The interference would be due to global warming causing rising sea level. Anyway, the rising sea level would itself compensate for the loss of habitat by moving it inland.

It is fortunate that there is no apparent legal requirement for the Arne Moors scheme, as, apart from considerations of public health and safety

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(possible flooding in Ridge village), it would cost millions, paid by the taxpayer who can ill afford it, and we do not know what creatures live in the Arne Moors, or how they would be affected.

Yours sincerely, Norman Kilpatrick, Wareham.

Waste Of Money?

Dear Gazette,

If the Arne Moors Coastal Flooding Project proceeds, a huge sea wall will be constructed. The whole project will cost at least £10,000,000 (as stated by Ian Alexander of Natural England) of taxpayers' money. It is questionable whether this is the best use of £10,000,000 when hospitals are struggling to cope and services for the elderly are being axed everywhere.

Should we really be going ahead with this scheme for the sake of wading birds which can readily fly to other destinations within Poole Harbour? There is already much intertidal habitat from Arne to Ower in Poole Harbour. The RSPB strapline is 'GIVING NATURE A HOME', it already appears to have a home without their interference.

Yours sincerely, Peter Sibthorp, John Lidgley, Co-Chairs, Ridge Moors Action Group.

Thanks For Donations

Dear Readers,

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all of the local business in the Purbeck area and beyond for their donations towards our Christmas Raffle held on the 8th of December 2017

Estimated monies made are in the region of £500. This could not have been achieved without the generosity of the local business so a big thank you all.

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Swineham Farm Plans

This is an open letter to Ms Cherry Brooks, Mr Mike Wiggin and Cllrs Fred Drane, Mike Lovell, Claire Pipe, Caroline Finch and Gloria Marsh

Dear Members of Purbeck District Council Planning committee,

It is now just over a year since you seven out-voted those with knowledge of the area, and thus approved the Swineham Farm planning application. Clearly Mr Wiggins has intimate knowledge of the area but ignored the 40% of residents who objected, all of whom are his constituents, and voted in favour. Several residents have suggested reasons why he voted this way but most of these cannot be printed.

Apart from the benighted Mr Wiggins, the charge to approve was led by Ms Cherry Brooks. Being the PDC Councillor for Alfpuddle, Turnerspuddle, East Holme, East Stoke, Moreton and Wool she obviously had impeccable insight into the issues of green belt intrusion, traffic, and parking implications on a no-through road running into the water meadows and the green belt to the east of Wareham.

After the meeting I wrote to her asking:

- why she ignored the very high number of residents' objections?
- why she took no account of the comments made by Wareham Town Council, AONB and other interested bodies, nor the expert opinion of Cllrs Wharf, Budd and Barnes who know the road well?
- why she felt she knew better than the Council Officers who strongly recommended refusing the application as it did not meet the special criteria needed to deface the green belt?
- how did she justify her statement that such a development would bring jobs to the area?
- how could she possibly believe that twenty parking spaces were enough to cater for three B&Bs and a venue for up to 100 guests?

Her response was to say that she voted as she felt on the day and offered no explanation or rationale. Perhaps one or more of you could outline your thinking to us residents please?

On the last point regarding parking, she was helped by the mathematically illiterate buffoon from Dorset County Council Highways, Mr Colin Graham, who could not see any problems with the numbers despite the chairman expressing incredulity at Mr Graham's lack of constructive comment.

It is interesting that all the female councillors voted in unison, making one wonder if there is some form of Women's Union at work. But I suppose if you are elected to serve the good people of Swanage, Upton and Lytchett Minster, voting with the herd avoids the need for incisive thought, diligent preparation and consideration of all aspects of the application.

In the (perhaps naive) hope that you are diligent and keen to follow through on the consequences of your decision, however bizarre, the first planning condition you specified was "Before any either development starts details of a drainage system for dealing with surface water from the development must be submitted to and approved in writing by the planning department of the Council". Have such plans been submitted and approved? Do any of you know or care?

Discussing this application with those who have experience of the planning process, there is a widely held view that where there are inexperienced or dilatory members of a planning committee, the result is often a rogue

decision. So it seems.

And now this same Planning Committee is due to consider the application by Dorset County Council to build a skating ramp of a bridge, desecrating the area, splitting the town, and blighting the listed station and bridge. After national press, BBC and ITV coverage, and the unanimous condemnation (well nearly unanimous - Cllr Ezzard read a pre-scripted speech in favour but later did a Beryl and changed her mind) by over 200 residents at the meeting chaired by our MP Michael Tomlinson, it is hard to understand why DCC is wasting rate-payers' money in submitting these plans.

To his credit the meeting was arranged by Mr Wiggins.

However, for reasons outlined above in relation to Swineham Farm, it is not beyond the realms of probability that the planning committee, or at least a majority, may decide to support the application, that being simply how they may feel on the day.

Given the record of indifference and the apparent bloody-mindedness of some councillors not representing Wareham, many of us fear the worst.

Rod Brassington, by email

Signage Is Clear!



Dear Gazette,

I see three signs have now gone up, welcoming people to the Isle of Purbeck. Well done to all concerned!

It's about time visitors knew when they were entering the Isle of Purbeck, and **not** the Purbecks!

Kind regards, Philip Norman, by email

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TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Of Oil And Troubled Waters

by David Hollister

Corallian Energy plans to drill a test bore six miles off the coast of Studland. They anticipate that the Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit – a 100m high floating platform with extendable legs – will be present for a maximum of 45 days. At the end of which, the bore will be plugged and abandoned. If oil's discovered, it'll be extracted horizontally and invisibly from the existing Wyth Farm site. Planning consent for all this will have to be obtained from Purbeck, and will no doubt be widely advertised.

East Dorset Friends of the Earth will naturally object because they feel that “we should be moving away from fossil fuels” but until we do, then invisible horizontal extraction into an existing oil production facility has got to be a great deal more environmental than a wind farm at the gateway to the Jurassic Coast, or indeed a hillside array of solar panels. Can't quite work out what alternative viable energy sources FOE are recommending but no doubt someone will write in and put me right.....

I found both fascinating and alarming the letter in last month's Gazette on the subject of the Moors at Arne project. So I visited the site, met members of the Ridge Residents' Association, and obtained copies of the Environmental Agency's original 'Managing Change' documentation as well as a good deal of relevant correspondence.

The notice of the original public meeting at the Corn Exchange was unacceptably short, yet well over one hundred people attended, such was its importance. The 'consultation document' in which the EA said “we want to maximise the benefit to the local community so it's important that we understand your views” then said that the feedback had to be with them by 27th October! Really, this issue demands a much fuller explanation and a much longer period of consultation. It's people's lives they're messing with.

I don't think that the good people of Ridge were particularly happy to learn that it was proposed to demolish sections of the existing flood barrier to allow rising waters to reach and create new 'lagoons' in the water-meadows right up to their own doorsteps. I wouldn't be, either. Especially to learn that this was all about “protecting 10,000 properties in the Poole Harbour area from future flood risk” and creating new places for coastal wildlife to be guaranteed a safe home.

Seems clear to me that once existing flood barriers have been penetrated and new barriers erected on the Ridge side of the meadows (at goodness knows what public expense) the water table in the Ridge area is likely to rise – in places it's less than half a metre already – and that surface water from Ridge and the surrounding moors will have nowhere to go.

I struggle to understand why it is that the residents of Poole – whilst undoubtedly greater in number than those of Ridge – should be protected at the expense of their rural neighbours. Why wading birds take precedence over peoples' homes. Poole should never have granted permission for houses to be built at sea level; the birds will simply fly off and find new and more suitable habitats for themselves, as they have done

over the past thousand years. I can only imagine the damage that messing around with the river banks and defences will do to the water levels in the town of Wareham. We tinker with nature at our peril.

But most of all, I take issue with the fact that the homeowners and farmers of Ridge and the surrounding areas built and bought their houses and farms on the understanding that there were proper flood defences which would be properly maintained. Then suddenly a cabal of huge organisations – the EA, the RSPB, and 'Natural England' – are conspiring to move the goalposts. Because after what they call 'due public consultation' they'll simply steamroller all the objectors and go ahead anyway. Some might feel that the RSPB are looking forward to developing an extended visitors' centre, attracting more visitors, more traffic to frighten the wildlife of Arne, and consequent hugely increased revenue.

There's a fascinating letter in this edition addressed to the PDC Planning Committee on the subject of the Swineham Farm planning application (September 2017 Gazette) expressing considerable dissatisfaction with Cllr Cherry Brooks, serving on both Dorset County Council and Purbeck District Council, who has replied to our correspondent that she will “vote as I think fit on the day.”

It's clear that every Councillor should go into a meeting with an open mind, but that as a decision-maker he may already be pre-disposed to one particular view of the matter under discussion. However, he mustn't close his mind to any possibility beyond that predisposition; that's called predetermination, and could result in his not being able to make a proper and fully independent judgement to the issue in hand. Which is neither right nor proper in a democratic environment; predetermination could lead to claims that the decision was flawed.

A councillor's role is to represent their local area or electoral division, to listen to the views of all the people and not just those of a similar political persuasion, and to take those views into account when asked to vote. Councillors should also work alongside Council officers to effect improvements, get involved in as many local issues as possible, and be prepared to offer support to local communities and groups.

I can't believe that any Councillor – including Ms Brooks – can vote on a matter that is as important to so many people as Swineham Farm, or indeed the proposed Wareham Crossing, having completely cleared their mind of any public opinion which has previously been expressed to them, and of any feedback or lobbying from either side prior to that decision having to be made. Not possible.

And that's it for this month – so many other hot topics about which I have been asked to write, and so little space!

So, I strongly urge you to use our 'letters pages' and bring your issue to the attention of not only Purbeck, but the whole world online.

Friends Of Swanage Bandstand Update



Now we have the total support of Swanage Town Council and the charity status, we are respectfully calling in the pledges made by all of you fantastic people who had faith in our plan to restore our Bandstand back to its original condition.

I would ask please, if possible, for cheques made payable to 'Friends of Swanage bandstand', with stamped addressed envelopes if you can to save us expense, and sent to me (address below).

We as a group, with your help, have made so much progress very quickly and must keep momentum going. We need help with extra funds and people raising money in the best way that you can.

So far we have raised a total of £43,525 plus the council pledge of £50,000. We are well on target but we now need more donations please, no matter how small.

What makes me so proud is the fact that most of this money is from local supporters, some of whom have even topped up their pledges - well done all of you.

As a matter of interest, a lady has kindly donated something I never expected to see, it's a programme of the opening concert held on Thursday 2nd August 1923. How wonderful was that? It will be donated to the Swanage museum on completion of the bandstand.

We are looking for items to put into a Raffle for the bandstand which would be drawn April Bank Holiday Monday 2nd April, details later.

Again, thank you all.

Alan Houghton, 3 Dingle Court, 29 De Moulham Rd, Swanage BH19 1NT.
Tel: 01929 426380 email: al2lyho@talktalk.net.

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Purbeck & Rotary Shoebox 2017



Shoebox is a Charity that Rotary have supported for many years. This year our Club have wrapped and packed 401 Shoeboxes with the support and help of local schools, Rotary Members and Friends of Rotary.

Our local Rotary District shipped some 26,000 Shoeboxes which arrived in time for Christmas in Albania, Romania, Moldova and The Philippines. They will be distributed to local children who otherwise would not receive many, if any, presents.

Some local Rotary Club Members from our District (which comprises Dorset, Hampshire, some of Wiltshire and The Isle of Wight), actually took some Shoeboxes from their Club out to Romania and distributed them to children in a school that their Club supports.

These children live in absolute poverty, in shacks, with no running water or heating and in temperatures of -10C.

They describe the reaction of the children as "bringing tears to their eyes" when they received the Shoeboxes. Our thanks to those in the community who kindly donated items to put into the shoeboxes.



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Our Community Joins Together In Grief



It all started so innocuously. A flyer in a cafe about a girl who had gone missing. I recognised her, but didn't know her personally.

I had my coffee and departed thinking: "I'm short of milk, better get some, oh and some croissants." Gradually, the flyers appeared in more windows and her face and name became increasingly familiar. The atmosphere in town changed in a subtle but ever more noticeable way, with each passing day.

The realisation dawned that this was serious now. People were arrested, wrongly as it turned out. News of her clothes being found near the cliffs brought about an air of gloom and despondency to the town, and increasing sympathy for her family.

Those walking along the seafront and on the beach were looking out to sea more often than usual, looking for something, but, hoping they would not find anything. By midweek, the news had spread from local TV bulletins to national and into the daily papers, as well as BBC and other websites.

Now, it was in the air in Swanage, you could feel it as you walked around. It could be seen in the faces of locals out shopping, you knew what they were thinking. They knew what you were thinking. I said to someone: "It's not looking good is it?" he said: "No, it isn't." We both understood.

By the Friday, Gaia was everywhere, in every shop, cafe and estate agents window. Inside, on cafe and shop counters and supermarket checkouts. Not always the same photograph; it was amazing how different she looked in each new photo, could have been a different person entirely. From the distressed girl on CCTV at a garage to a glamorous film star in others. Now, she was on the front page of some of the national dailies.

A search was arranged for Saturday, volunteers were asked for. We turned out in force, especially at Durlston. At King George's car park, Clara, Gaia's sister, thanked us profusely and outlined the route. We set off together in a line, along the space between the road and railway.

A scarf was found, hanging from a fence, triggering a ripple of tension through the walkers. Was she nearby? The Police were informed, and the scarf collected. After crossing the main road, we split into smaller groups and pressed on towards Langton. Our group continued up the hill towards Priest's Way. While there around mid-afternoon, we heard the sound of various sirens heading into Swanage. We wondered what they meant. That evening, we all found out.

Sunday and Monday, the town seemed suffused with sadness. The TV and radio crews were now reporting on a town in a state of shock, not an overstatement either. Those reopening their shops and offices on Monday morning, took down the posters of Gaia.

By Tuesday, only the flowers on the seafront remained and, still remain at the time of writing. The TV crews had gone, after over a week of broadcasting from the seafront and elsewhere.

Other stories in other towns to report on now. Zimbabwe found freedom, David Cassidy died, the world moved on. Swanage slowly faded from the memory, except here, where we are. Often, by pure coincidence, songs on the radio become associated in the mind with an event.

For me, the new version of the Beatles 'Golden Slumbers' by Elbow. It seemed just right.

One week later, a vigil at Prince Albert Gardens. I'd never been to a vigil before, I wasn't sure what to expect. It turned out to be one of the most beautiful experiences of my life. Another song, 'Love Is All Around'. Sounds like a cliché but, on that cold but heart-warming evening, it really was.

The next morning, I returned to the vigil site. Among all of the flowers and photos, eight of the many candles were still burning brightly. For Gaia.

Steve, a Gazette reader, by email





Pictures taken by Tim Crabb, by request of the family.

Dear Swanage, Langton and beyond, Gaia's whole family would like to pass on our heartfelt thanks to you all. This includes the many people who supported us throughout our search for Gaia and afterwards.

Everything, from your generous help to the smallest of words made us feel supported and cared for. To the searchers and leaflet givers, please know we are so very grateful and could not have done it without you.

There are also some notable people and businesses who really went beyond the call of duty and dedicated time and resources to help us. Nico at the Purbeck Gazette dedicated her time, wealth of local knowledge and professionalism to help and support at no small cost to herself. Not just that, she supported the family and hugged us all many times. Just the best in heart and spirit.

Emma and others at the United Reform Church where we started search parties, thank you for your kindness and supplies of hot drinks and food. Jen and her wonderful team at Deja Brew, who also set up search hubs in their lovely cafe and after a full day's work, kept searchers going with hot food, drinks and hugs. Thank you to every door-knocker and all those who searched - on foot, by bike and on horse back.

Thank you to Jason and Frank for supplying essential hi-vis jackets for searchers. To Ricky and all staff at the Kings Arms in Langton Matravers, who stayed open late for family. Alex, who is the kindest of people, and who supplied essential drinks and snacks, along with hugs.

An enormous thank you to all the volunteer Coastguards and support staff who worked such long, long hours looking for Gaia.

Thank you to Sally from the Old Stables who kindly offered family members accommodation, along with others who also very kindly gave accommodation when it was needed most. To the staff at a local hotel (you know who you are!) who looked after Richard, Gaia's dad – thank you.

Thank you to the landlords and ladies, and all staff at the Red Lion and the Black Swan in Swanage, as well as to Maria in Wareham and Tim in Swanage, who coordinated volunteers.

Thanks to Flo Dryson in Bournemouth, who coordinated and did much leafletting. To GH Print Management, LA printers and others, who kindly supplied many leaflets for us. To Carol at Candleworld for supplying so many candles for the vigil. To the staff at Chococo, who provided refreshments throughout and space upstairs for the team to work from when we overflowed from the Gazette office!

Thanks also to Caroline, who supplied such beautiful flowers for the vigil.

If we have forgotten anyone, please forgive us. We have not and never will forget all the kindness and help from the whole community.

You are all wonderful and we hope that this community spirit continues long after the tragedy of losing our little Gaia. Thank you all.

Kima Sutherland-Dee, Gaia's aunt





National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

Search & Rescue

Three small words that, unless you are a Coastguard, RNLI or NCI volunteer, had probably not crossed your mind until last November and then suddenly they are on everyone's tongues and in everyone's minds.

It is amazing how the community spirit rises from nowhere when one small part of it is in jeopardy. In the maritime world it is referred to as the "Brotherhood of the Sea", it being utterly unthinkable that an urgency or distress message from another vessel of whatever flag or crew make-up, would be ignored.

The way that the community responded in the search for young Gaia, was of a similar manner – a random grouping of people, many not knowing the object of their search, spending time and effort in attempting to aid someone they didn't know who happened to be in trouble.

Unfortunately, the "search" aspect of the emergency is fairly easily attainable, the "rescue" not always so easy. We can only pray that another test of this wonderful community spirit is never put under a similar spotlight for a long, long time if ever.

Well done Swanage, you did your town and yourselves proud.

Many years ago, a small ship laden with steel left Hong Kong and steamed straight into a storm in the China Sea. Being an older vessel with limited power to outrun the weather she was soon in difficulties and the Radio Officer was sending out a distress call. Two US naval vessels and a dozen or so merchant vessels of many and various nationalities were soon carrying out search patterns looking for the stricken vessel.

After four days of around the clock searching, one empty lifeboat and two empty life-rafts were found, then the second lifeboat was found – with one occupant. A junior cook, who couldn't swim, saw the last of the lifesaving equipment being swept away in the storm and he threw himself in to the breaking seas after it. Even he couldn't explain how he got to the boat or managed to board it.

An act of sheer desperation or some would say even stupidity, meant he survived when twenty plus of his shipmates didn't. This was the most successful SAR that I have been involved with.

Although I never knew any of those other seamen in the China Sea, we all had a limited sense of achievement for our efforts, heavily tinged with sadness for his shipmates. Although I am not from Swanage, I can and do sympathise with you and all that you went through in what became a Search and Find rather than the Rescue that we all prayed for.

Please have a happy and successful 2018 and stay safe on whichever side of the tide line your life or leisure takes you.

Contact the Swanage NCI at the Lookout on 01929 422596, at nci.org.uk, on VHF 65 or the address below. We look forward to hearing your comments and/or questions.

Bob Clark, swanagenci@btinternet.com

Coastguard Update



HM Coastguard

This month we have a slightly different 'Coastguard update', as this is not written by a member of our Coastguard team. They are not aware that I have taken the decision to write on their behalf this month, for which I ask their forgiveness....

Our Coastguard team are all **volunteers** - men and women who hold down jobs as well as committing to a hugely significant number of hours worked on behalf of our community. They are literally life-savers, on a daily basis, often in the most horrendous of conditions.

These men and women have undertaken professional training to assist them in saving lives and rescuing those in need, whether day or night. When the call goes out that someone is in trouble, they leave their jobs, their families, their dinner on the table, and head out in all conditions, day or night, to do their utmost to ensure the safe return of those lost or injured on our isle. They are heroes.

During November alone, I understand that this small team worked around five hundred hours - voluntary hours, on top of their day-to-day jobs. These

hours include those worked during the intensive search for Gaia Pope.

To those who may have asked: 'Why did it take you eleven days to find Gaia?', I ask you to be aware that this small team had an enormous area to search, including miles of isolated and dangerous terrain.

They alone were not responsible for the search as a whole - however professional, they are still volunteers. These amazing teams are more dedicated than many I have met in life, and I would not change them, nor how they work, for the world. Many 'normal folk' in the community also volunteered to search for Gaia, and together, we finally found her, however devastating the end result.

We would be at a loss without these extremely dedicated, highly trained, brave men and women, who are on-call 24hrs per day, 365 days per year.

This January, if you see a member of our Coastguard team, please stop and give them a hug - or at least, offer them your most sincere thanks. None of us know when we may desperately need their services ourselves, and I cannot honestly imagine how Purbeck would cope without them.

Nico Johnson

Wareham Town Council Update

Julie, our Gazette correspondent, details the goings on in recent council meetings.....



News from Wareham Town Council December

The planning application for Listed Building Consent for the ramped railway bridge will go before Purbeck District Council (PDC) Planning Committee on 31st January. Full plans will be considered by Dorset County Council Regulatory Committee, which has a meeting on 4th January and provisionally on 1st February.

Councillor M. Wiggins proposed that the Council write to request that the planning meeting be held in Wareham so that people with mobility problems are not debarred from attending. The Town Council will make a small contribution to the Town Trust to support its fight to keep the level crossing on legal grounds.

The Council was preparing a response to South Western Railway's consultation. While the half hour interval between trains and the use of 10 coaches on each train were to be welcomed, these were negated by the hourly service to Waterloo. Councillors could see no justification for Portsmouth as the destination for alternate trains.

PDC was to debate in December whether to continue to oppose local government reorganisation now that the Secretary of State is minded to approve it. The Unitary Authorities will be formed in May 2019. District Councillors have been attending workshops to consider housing issues related to the Local Plan Review.

The Transport and Planning Committee had discussed the application for change of use from retail to cafe of the ground floor of Fathoms Deep in South Street. The Wareham In Bloom Committee will have to decide whether, if invited, they should take part in the Britain In Bloom competition given the work involved. 600 winter pansies, 300 tulips and a smaller number of daffodils / narcissi have been planted. An area in Moretons Lane which has been cleared will be cultivated. The Wareham In Bloom November sale raised £823 and there will be a coffee morning on 5th March.

A new town twinning group headed by Councillor Cleaton will aim to facilitate links between existing organisations, such as youth clubs. Councillor Osmond pointed out that as Trigon and Beacon Hill landfill sites were closed, Wareham would no longer benefit from Viridor credits. The Mayor was pleased to announce that his coffee morning made over £1,000. Not such good news was that the Financial Officer has left the Council's employment.

The Mayor and Town Clerk were preparing a report on being a dementia friendly Council for the Town Council meeting on 23rd January. The following meeting will be on Tuesday 6th March at 7pm in the Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend. For further information, call 01929 553006 or visit the website at www.wareham-tc.gov.uk.

SWANAGE RAILWAY

Swanage Railway and Purbeck Railway Circle wish our members, supporters, friends and passengers "A Happy and Prosperous New Year".

On New Year's Day, Swanage Railway will be operating a steam hauled service between Swanage and Norden via Herston Halt, Harmans Cross and Corfe Castle. An ideal opportunity for a winter ramble across the Isle of Purbeck to blow away the cobwebs and make good that New Year Resolution!

The next passenger services operate during school half term week Saturday 10th – Sunday 18th February 2018. The 2018 January – May Timetable has now been published together with the 2018 programme of events including our Steam and Diesel Galas, Classic Transport Rally and Music Train. Full details of our timetables, fares and events can be found at www.swanagerailway.co.uk

Purbeck Railway Circle

The 2018 Programme will commence on Friday 12th of January 2018 with a presentation entitled "50 Years of the Swanage Railway" by Andrew P.M. Wright Press Officer and Official Photographer of Swanage Railway.

Opened in 1885, after 87 years of operation, British Rail controversially closed the line in January 1972, and tore up almost seven miles of track in just seven weeks. A herculean political and practical battle to rebuild the award-winning heritage line started from nothing in 1976 and culminated in a trial passenger train service to Wareham in the summer of 2017.

The Circle meets in Harmans Cross Village Hall, Haycrafts Lane, Harmans Cross at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Tea/coffee/biscuits and railway orientated raffle as usual.

Everyone is welcome. For other information please contact the PRC General Secretary, e-mail:- gensec@purbeckrailwaycircle.org.uk or visit the PRC website: www.purbeckrailwaycircle.org.uk

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Monday 1st January 2018

swanagerailway.co.uk 01929 425800 [f](#) [p](#) [t](#) [@swanrailway](#)

LOCAL BUSINESS ACHIEVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Steve Wheller receiving the award on behalf of Carpets Select

Carpets Select is a local company which employs skilled, local labour, and is a member of the Guild of Master Craftsmen.

Membership was granted by the Guilds' Council of Management in recognition of both the company's commitment to working with skill and integrity and its agreement to abide by the Guild's publicly declared aims and objectives.

Carpets Select Director, Steve Wheller, says 'We are honoured to have received such high recognition from the Guild. We strive hard to deliver a personal, quality

service and all at Carpets Select pride themselves on their workmanship.' He went on to say 'It goes to show, that in these days of impersonal superstores, you can't beat personal, friendly, high quality service and workmanship from people who really care about their work.'

With their home selection service, Carpets Select can make choosing your floor covering a stress free experience. So, if you're in need of carpet, vinyl or laminate flooring, call Steve or John at Carpets Select 01929 460005 or email carpetsselect@tiscali.co.uk and they will be happy to help you.

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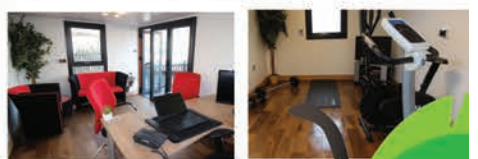
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In Memory Of Ben, Our Son

Our son Ben had entered himself and our grandson Ollie for the Purbeck Wiggle Mountain Bike ride – choosing the Epic course on Saturday 18th November 2017. The charity he chose was Dorset Children's Foundation (with a target of £300) which is very close to his wife Claire's heart, as she has cared for nine-year-old Mason White since he was one-year-old, who is living with 'E.B. and known as a Butterfly Boy'.

Ben who was just 50, had been aiming, over the past year, to get fit to help his Type 2 Diabetes, and decided to do some extra training with his friend Stevo at a mountain bike venue in the Brecon Beacons in Wales, for the day.

At the end after completing the course and remarking on what a wonderful day they had had, Ben suddenly collapsed with a suspected massive heart attack. Ben was put on life support for two days, but sadly he died on Thursday 16th November, after being able to help others with organ and tissue donations.

Ollie, who is 14, decided he would like to ride on Saturday 18th together with Stevo and a couple of friends – on his Dad's bike, using his Dad's helmet. Well, these few friends multiplied to twenty-five on the day, who set off together in memory Ben, wearing specially printed t-shirts with a picture of Ben on the front and his racing number of 43 on the back – a very moving sight.

During the day I (Mum) suffered a 'collapse' near the Obelisk, but thanks to all Ben's friends, I was taken care of and returned home thanks to a local farmer who came to my rescue. It was suggested I get checked, so was able to go locally to Swanage Minor Injuries Unit and be checked out. What a caring community we do live in and there are still so many more caring people in the world than we sometimes appreciate.

We, as a family, have been overwhelmed by the support for us all, and have been so grateful for this wonderful show of friendship and love. The best result of all was over £3,600 being raised for Dorset Children's Foundation in memory of Ben.

Ben lived his life to the full – which included riding a motorbike from an early age, doing trials/motocross/enduroes/jet skiing/rock climbing around Swanage, as well as kayak fishing in Swanage Bay and so on. Ben enjoyed so many happy times with his family, especially kayaking with his daughter Alice and motocross with son Ollie and made many friends along the way.

We'll miss you so much son, you'll forever be in our hearts – you certainly went out smiling, having achieved more than some people are able to in a longer lifetime.

God bless.....

Love from Mum and Dad

(Daphne & Vic Saville)



Out Of The Blue



Another year gone, not sure where, but as usual we stay committed to improving the community, listening and acting upon what you have had to say. As our thoughts look forward to the warmer months, we must not forget that there are still a few chillier days ahead with freezing temperatures,

so please take note of the advice below.

SWANAGE - You said.... speeding along various roads in Swanage is an issue. The local police have been conducting regular speed checks in these areas and are trying to increase the use of community speedwatch.

You said.....Anti-social behaviour is an issue on the seafront. **We did.....**There had been incidents relating to ASB in the town, mainly around the seafront where property has been damaged. Other property such as benches and beach huts have been damaged in recent months. The local policing team have been conducting patrols in the relevant areas to try and deter and reduce such instances. Words of advice offered to a number of cyclist causing issues and ignoring no cycling signs. ASB reports have currently dropped in the area.

WAREHAM NORTH AND UPTON - You said ...theft from motor vehicles is an issue.

There have been a number of reports of cars being broken into and contents stolen across Purbeck. Items stolen have been tablet computers, mobile phones, hand bags, satnavs and cash. The public are reminded to not leave any valuable items in their car when they leave it unattended. A car boot is not a safe place to leave items as 'someone' may be watching and subsequently take the item.

Please be on the lookout for our crime prevention road shows being held at various rural car parks across the area.

We did....Your local police team have been very busy conducting crime prevention engagement events across the area to make the public aware of the need to secure their vehicles and not to leave valuables inside. I am

sure you will have seen the marked police vehicle around the area with the crime prevention message on to raise awareness. Our team have been using this vehicle to patrol all our rural car parks every day to reassure the public, disrupt the criminals and ensure that our rural car parks are a safe place for visitors. We will continue to monitor these areas to ensure we maintain focus on reducing vehicle crime in Purbeck.

WAREHAM TOWN AND WAREHAM WEST - You saidASB around the skate park and D'Urberville Hall, Wool.

We have been informed of problems at the skate park and the nearby vicinity, whereby glass has been left on the ramps, loud music and swearing has been heard and members of the public have been subjected to verbal abuse and unpleasant behaviour. We will be carrying out extra patrols in the area, holding some 'meet the team' events and dealing with any ASBs positively.

We did....as a result of some really positive police interaction we have noticed a reduction in reported ASB surrounding the skate park.

The temperatures these past few weeks have fallen dramatically, resulting in freezing fog and icy roads, this has caught a number of drivers out and kept us busy dealing with Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs).

Please don't become a statistic, remember; in these conditions it is vital to ensure all your windows are clear before starting your journey, no matter how short, by law you must demist all windows so you can properly see out of them. As well as the legal implications of not being able to see out of your windows clearly, if you are involved in a collision it could mean you are at fault and if your insurance company finds you were at fault through neglecting to properly prepare your vehicle, they could potentially withhold a pay-out.

Please come along to our meet the team events at Swanage, Wareham and Upton, dates can be found on the website, we'd love to see you there.

Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team

Permission To Redevelop Old School

East Boro Housing Trust has been granted planning permission to develop the site of the Old School/Arts Centre, School Lane in Dorchester which has been sitting empty and disused since the Arts Centre moved to its new home in 2015. East Boro has purchased the site from the Duchy of Cornwall, who have made the site available at below market value. East Boro are redeveloping the site to provide three new disability adapted bungalows with two further one-bedroom houses and a communal lounge in the existing building.

The much-needed new homes will be owned by East Boro Housing Trust, who will manage and maintain the scheme. East Boro provides housing for older people and for people with learning or physical disabilities and already has some sixty schemes across Dorset. East Boro is working in partnership with the NHS, which is providing capital funding to enable innovative technology to be installed to increase the independence of the tenants, it will also ensure that the rents are affordable.

The accommodation at School Lane will be let to people who have a learning or physical disability, providing a settled home with the support they need to live independently. They will also benefit from easy access to the town centre.

East Boro is working in partnership with Dorset County Council who will nominate the tenants. Dorset County Council's Cabinet member for health and care Cllr Jill Haynes said, "We are pleased to be working with East Boro to deliver much needed new homes for people with learning or physical disabilities. Together we will deliver the homes and support needed to ensure people can live independently in the community rather than in hospital or residential care."

An open exhibition of the proposed plans was held in April 2017 where members of the local community were invited to view the plans and pose any questions or concerns that they might have. The response to the proposals was very positive and work on the redevelopment will shortly be getting underway with the first tenants due to move in before Christmas 2018.

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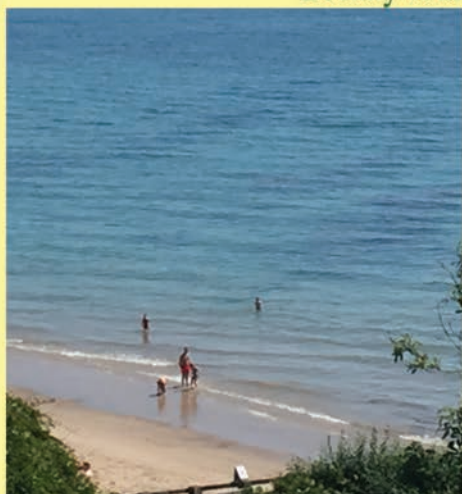
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SPONSORSHIP AVAILABILITY

Can YOU sponsor this regular space in the Purbeck Gazette, helping us to reach out to our community and provide much-needed help to locals?



Celebrating our 5th Year helping the local community

Pictured is Jean Gibbs, our Chairperson, describing the new Admiral Nurse service in the Purbeck area to some Purbeck Good Neighbours volunteers

If you need some help just give our Helpline No. 01929 424363 a call and a volunteer will call you to arrange when to come and see you.

We do not do continuing care or large scale jobs.

If your business can sponsor our space each month, please either contact us, or the Purbeck Gazette

We are here to help you!

Purbeck Good Neighbours is a volunteer group who can help older people over 50 with small or difficult one-off tasks in their home

WHY CALL US?

For example:-

- 🐾 Walking a dog when you are unwell
- 🐾 Change a light bulb
- 🐾 Change some batteries
- 🐾 Move some furniture
- 🐾 Take away some rubbish
- 🐾 Read a letter

HELPLINE
01929 424 363

Our Partnership with POP (Purbeck Older People's Organisation) and the Beacon Project.

All we ask of you is that you give the volunteer a minimum donation of £2 to cover expenses.

Advice To Dog Owners Following Spate Of Sheep Worring Incidents

Officers are reminding pet owners to ensure they keep their dogs away from livestock following a spate of sheep worrying incidents across Dorset. Dorset Police has received six reports of sheep worrying since Thursday 30 November 2017, including two separate incidents at Badbury Rings and one at Ringstead, Poundbury, Lulworth and Sherborne.

Police Constable Claire Dinsdale, of Dorset Police's Rural Crime Team, said: "Over the last few weeks across Dorset there has been an increase in reports of livestock worrying and attacks on sheep caused by dogs. These dogs have not been on leads or under close control."

During some of the incidents, sheep have been chased and some have received horrific injuries. Sadly, some of the sheep had to be put down. Additionally, there is a large economic cost to every sheep injured or killed. There is also the danger that pregnant ewes may also abort the lamb.

Livestock worrying is a criminal offence under the Protection of Livestock Act 1953 and does not require an animal to be injured. Allowing a dog to be off a lead or otherwise not under close control in a field or enclosure of sheep is an offence.

The penalty for livestock worrying can be six months' imprisonment and/or a fine of up to £1,000.

Police Constable Dinsdale continued: "We would ask all dog owners to ensure their dog is on a lead whenever it is near livestock. At this time of year farmers may move livestock between fields so be extremely mindful to check. "It is also important farmers report each incident to us. If a crime is in progress then call 999. Other incidents can be reported online at Dorset Police website 'Do it Online' section or by calling 101.

Dorset Police Rural Crime Team

Working in partnership to protect rural communities

WORRYING LIVESTOCK IS A CRIME

KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL

f Dorset Police
@dorsetpolice
dorset_police

"If members of the public have any information or concerns regards dogs not under control near livestock, they too should contact police. Recent reports by the public have led to the dog owner being identified, in particular capturing vehicle registrations. Anyone with information can also contact Crimestoppers, if they wish to remain anonymous."

Dorset Police support the Take The Lead campaign and can supply metal-backed signs for farmers to warn dog owners of the dangers. The Rural Crime Team can be contacted to request signs or crime prevention advice at RuralCrimeTeam@dorset.pnn.police.uk. This email address is not to be used to report crimes or incidents.

We are looking to appoint Care and Teaching Support Assistants to our vibrant team of professionals who provide therapy, care and education to children and young people with autism and complex learning needs.

Purbeck View School is on an exciting journey towards outstanding, with many opportunities for training and professional career development.

Come and work with us to secure a future of opportunity and fulfilment for our very special young people!

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If you wish to speak with someone regarding this vacancy please call the school on 01929 422760, and ask for Luciana Grover, Recruitment Administrator.

Closing date: 1st February 2018

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Swanage Christmas Market Success!

The 2017 Swanage Christmas Market (run by Swanage & Purbeck Rotary, in conjunction with Commercial Road Traders & Friends) was an outstanding success once again. Numerous stalls covered Station Road and the Commercial Lanes area of the town, offering a wide range of locally-produced craft items, gifts, local produce and much more.

Hundreds of people came to enjoy the festivities, including Father Christmas himself, and local shanty group, Kelp!, who kept the crowds entertained all afternoon.

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary would like to thank all the stallholders, entertainers and shoppers - long may the Christmas market continue!



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Dorset

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or ask us for a leaflet explaining their work

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY. 10am - 5pm.

ALWAYS WANTED: Smaller pieces of furniture, household & electrical items.
Drop in to shop, or ring/text Jane on 07795 193090 for collections.

SWANAGE STAMP & POSTCARD CLUB

Why don't you join us in 2018?

We meet at Queensmead Community
Centre, Swanage, on the second
Tuesday of each month.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Contact 01929 450439 for further information.

We look forward to welcoming you!

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Swanage RNLI Welcomes Youngest Crew Member!



In November we welcomed our youngest crew member, Sam Aggas, who joined on his 17th birthday.

Volunteers can join the lifeboat crew from the age of 17 with their parent or guardian's permission. As Sam was so keen to join, he has been visiting the station over recent months to get a feel for what it is like to volunteer.

Sam comes from an RNLI family. His dad, Rob, is Second Coxswain at Swanage Lifeboat Station, having been a crew member for twenty-seven years and Sam's mum is a Deputy Launching Authority, taking the initial emergency request and paging the crew. This means that there are now three pagers in the household!

Swanage Lifeboat Coxswain, Dave Turnbull, said: "It's fantastic to have someone as young as Sam showing such a keen interest. The enthusiasm of new crew is always a great boost for the crew."

"We have been fortunate to have some new members join in the last twelve months and we have a number of others showing an interest in joining following our recruitment event. This is vital to enable us to provide 24/7 cover".

If you are interested in volunteering for the RNLI please come and visit the lifeboat station.

DID YOU KNOW....?

As one of the tiny percentage of UK papers still in individual, local ownership, we receive NO funding whatsoever to print letters, community news and local service updates. Our ONLY revenue is from advertisers each month. It is our choice to use the revenue we get to publish community news, and it costs us around £400 PER PAGE to print.

LEAVE A LEGACY TO THE PURBECK GAZETTE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF COMMUNITY NEWS & UPDATES!
We'd like to request your support in the future, and ask you to consider leaving a legacy to the Gazette to help us keep publishing community news and local service columns - help your community, long into the future!

SWANAGE CARE NEWS

Agincare

Caring in Your Community

A busy time at Gainsborough Care Home...

Welcome to Gainsborough Care Home and, in this month's edition, we will be looking into what the residents have been getting up to, and what they have planned for the coming months. It's certainly going to be a busy one...

Although the seasons have changed and its feeling much cooler, our residents have still been taking advantage of the autumn sun and enjoying trips out and about in Dorset, making good use of our residents' mini bus. Trips this month have included a stop at a local beauty spot to admire the views across to Arne and beyond. Unfortunately it was just a little too cold this time for ice cream.

An in-house activity for Halloween included scooping out pumpkins and carving spooky faces; this was a very enjoyable activity and both residents and staff held a competition for the best pumpkin...of course nothing went to waste and our Cook made a delicious pumpkin soup for the evening.

We also made S'mores Pops, which is a classic American campfire treat made up of roasted marshmallow. Our residents were covered in chocolate, but thoroughly enjoyed the activity. Certainly something we will be doing more often...For those of you who don't know what they are, basically they are marshmallows on lolly sticks dipped in melted chocolate and crushed digestive biscuit. S'mores Pops are a delicious treat on a stick - and certainly DO try them at home!

Our firework night party was a great success and included an afternoon story of Guy Fawkes and his plot followed by the annual Gainsborough Care Home firework display with jacket potatoes, hot dogs, sausages and baked beans, as well as musical entertainment; a very popular evening at the home and was very enjoyable.

Christmas at Gainsborough Care Home is set to be the biggest and best yet! We have a Christmas fair on Wednesday 13th Dec at 2pm where a raffle will be held, along with various stalls selling delicious cakes and mulled wine. We will also



be supporting the Alzheimer's Society with "Elf Day" where all staff will come to work in Elf attire - were certainly looking forward to this day which should be full of laughs.

Our pantomime this year will be Mother Goose which is coming to Gainsborough on 18th December, everybody welcome....the more the merrier.

On Christmas morning we are fortunate enough to have a local and very enthusiastic entertainer joining us to sing and dance and ensure that all are in the festive spirit!!

Recruitment

We are still looking for care staff to join the team at Gainsborough Care Hom. We have just reviewed our rates and are pleased to be offering up to £10.80 p/h. Please contact the home for more details.

As always, we welcome all enquiries and visitors to our home and still have a few newly refurbished rooms available for residential care. If you are interested in viewing the Care Home, please call Rosie Hanmer Registered Manager on 01929 422500 or go to www.agincare-homes.co.uk



Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

January 2008 saw the Gazette front cover look back at the local housing crisis which had been such a large part of the published editorial throughout the previous year.

It was hoped that in 2008, there would be a range of affordable and sustainable housing built for the local population throughout Purbeck. One issue which had enraged the local population was the conversion of the hugely popular Worth Cafe and Craft Centre into luxury accommodation - certainly not affordable to the local population (pictured below during redevelopment).



The closure and redevelopment of the centre also saw the loss of up to eighteen full and part-time jobs in Worth Matravers - utterly devastating to those who lived in the village, and another nail in the coffin for Worth as a sustainable village. The phones were ringing off the hook at Gazette Towers as numerous readers called in, backing the Worth locals' opposition to the redevelopment - which went ahead anyway.

The January 2008 edition contained a full page devoted to asking Purbeck District Council specific questions regarding how they came to make the decision in light of (then) current planning regulations which were relevant to the case.

At the time, 'affordable housing' was top of the agenda for all three main political parties as politicians realised that a homeless electorate are not likely to give them an easy life..... As a result of our continued coverage of the housing crisis throughout 2007, we were invited to take part in an episode of 'Tonight, with Sir Trevor MacDonald' on ITV.

In January 2008, our letters pages also featured a number of letters regarding the proposed closure of Swanage Day Centre. Then-MP, Jim Knight, called on Dorset County Council to reverse the decision to close the centre, in light of the government's funding increase to the authority. Jim called on council bosses to put the extra cash to good use. 91-year-old resident, Mildred Billson, wrote in from the perspective of a service-user and detailed just how the proposed closure would affect her as she was then visiting the day centre three days a week.



Then-Gazette Sales Manager, Laura Miller, penned a piece regarding the proposed wind farm at Master's Pit in East Stoke (above). Infinergy were looking at erecting six wind turbines on a brownfield site. The turbines were to be 125m high at their highest point - no small thing! Results of public opinion forms showed that 76% of respondents were supportive, or quite supportive, 9% were undecided and only 15% against.

In his Motoring column for January 2008, David Hollister wrote about the Gazette Editor's experiment running a Vauxhall Cavalier on used

The Frome Valley & Isle of Purbeck for the news... and the views... your guide to...

Gazette

Promoting local business, arts, people & events

A Bit of Wind? - Laura Miller considers our dilemma - page 19

To cup the wind without desire
Is lost to those who wait
And feelings cross the tumble line
With sweepings from the air

Your feet will mark the boundary dry
Where stones shall humble earth
And rain will bring the muddy sway
To keep the day confined.

Willy Lobster

Out with the Old, in with the New - Winds of Change

Welcome to 2008! Throughout 2007 The Gazette covered the now much-publicised national housing crisis, the effect of which is felt strongly in Purbeck where, due to our beautiful surroundings, house prices are higher than the national average. Affordable housing is now top of the agenda for all three main political parties, with politicians realising that a homeless electorate are not likely to give them an easy life, or vote them in next time around. As a result of our coverage, The Gazette was featured on 'Tonight', with Sir Trevor MacDonald on ITV. Many people locally have suggested that we use alternative building methods, such as straw-bale, or Scandinavian-style wooden chalets. If supported by our District Council, these new-builds

continued on page 19

What's on in Dorchester

Day Centre & Worth Café - letters & questions page 15

David Eyles - on shrinking land and growing appetites pages 4-6

page 26

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vegetable oil. It transpired that a number of local residents were running their vehicles on a variety of 'alternative' fuel - mixtures of diesel and corn oil, even used chip fat! It worked - for the majority of those experimenting, and was legal to utilise up to 2,500 litres per year without paying duty.

David warned that despite the Editor successfully running a car on used oil, not all makes and models would be happy with a diesel-substitute....

Ken Davey wrote in on behalf of Swanage Lions, congratulating the teams who had taken part in the annual Lions Swimathon. A total of £3,500 was raised, 50% of which was donated to Swanage Hospital for the purchase of equipment. Photographed (below) were the under-17 winning team from the Ranger School of Dance, who swam 84 laps.



Off To A Flying Start!

Since the Swanage Volunteer Bureau started in May 2017, there had been a fantastic response from the people of Swanage and the surrounding areas.

Every Friday morning (10.30am to 12.30pm), a person from the Volunteer Bureau has stationed themselves at the top of the stairs in the Swanage Library. More than a hundred people have met us.

This has meant a greater awareness of all the volunteering opportunities, to the benefit of those running a charity or an organisation that relies on volunteers. As far as we know at least thirty-two people have gone on to join a group in Swanage – a real boost to the reputation of Swanage as a caring community.

More than thirty organisations are now registered with the Bureau, looking for at least eighty volunteers.

A sample of our current volunteer request include

- driver for a Charity bus
- someone to help older people to use the Internet
- a person to help with youth groups

As the Bureau's reputation and success grows, more organisations and volunteer positions are expected to be added in 2018.

Did you know that in a recent survey for 2015/16, by the National Council of Volunteer Organisations, more than 22 million people in the UK were involved in volunteering? The report also said that 17% in the survey had "not heard about opportunities to help", that 14% "don't know any groups that need help" and 8% said "I'm new to the area."

So, are you ready to come and meet us at the top of the stairs?!

Not sure what you want to do or are you unsure what you can volunteer for? Our approach is low key – absolutely no pressure. We'll chat to you, give you any information you want and confidentially point you in the right direction. It is entirely up to you what you do after your visit.

If you are a voluntary organiser and want us to help you find volunteers for your organisation, you too can come along to the Swanage library on a Friday.

Will we see you on a Friday morning very soon? We hope so!



Every Friday 10.30 – 12.30

Swanage Library

Give a Little, Gain a Lot

Would you like to: make a difference, use existing or learn fresh skills, meet new people, have fun and be proud to know that you have helped keep Swanage great?

Local organisations, who need volunteers, have joined together to bring all their volunteering opportunities into one place.

From one-off to regular opportunities

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Contact swanagevb@gmail.com
for more information



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100-Year-Old Christmas Card On Display



A Christmas card sent 100 years ago by one of the First World War's most heroic tank officers is to go on display for the first time.

Elliot Hotblack (pictured, right) sent the simple card from 'Advance Headquarters Tank Corps' in December 1917, presumably to his parents in Norfolk. It includes a print of a crewman waving his cap from a Mark IV tank beneath the words "Christmas Greetings".

Hotblack's heroics feature in The Tank Museum's 'Tank Men' exhibition, but the Christmas card has only just been added to the display in the Dorset attraction because of the centenary. The small postcard-size item includes the Tank Corp's crest and its battle honours; Somme, Ancre, Arras, Messines, 3rd Ypres and Cambrai.

The cards were printed especially for the Tank Corps which was a little more than a year old. Hotblack, who signed it with his name in pencil, was one of the most decorated members of the Tank Corps and the list of injuries he sustained is astonishing.

He was born in Norfolk into a brewing family and was at first an intelligence officer attached to the Machine Gun Corps – the forerunner of the Tank Corps. He was a pioneer in reconnaissance which led to him often venturing past the front lines without the protection of a tank.

Hotblack – nicknamed 'Boots' – was awarded four gallantry medals – including the DSO and bar and Military Cross with bar, was mentioned in dispatches five times and was wounded six times.

David Willey, curator of the Tank Museum in Bovington, Dorset, said: "Hotblack, who became a Major-General, is one of the most extraordinary early Tank Corps officers. He is a boys' own hero of outstanding bravery but also intelligent, very human and caring. We have an exhibition in which his story is told and he is depicted with a life-size model, and this Christmas card adds another angle to his and the other servicemen's lives.

"It is a century since he sent it home from a war we still find hard to imagine or understand, such were its horrors. We enjoy our relative peace and safety today because of men like Hotblack whose astonishing bravery was recognised over and over again.

"Despite being on the Western Front in December 1917 he and his men would have been thinking of Christmas and their families and of course whether this might be their last communication with them or whether they'd see them again. And yet the cards send a cheerful, optimistic



message. Christmas cards at the time were commonly sent in postcard form. The elaborate Victorian ones had made way for the simpler sort, and in the 1920s the card and envelope type that we now know became popular."

"This small, modest item from the archive gives us a poignant reminder of how our men in the First World War spent their festive period 100 years ago. We should, and surely can, spare a thought for them and today's servicemen this Christmas."

That Hotblack survived the war was remarkable; he was first injured in May 1915 when he was shot by a sniper. In April 1917 on the first day of the Battle of Arras he suffered serious head wounds but escaped from hospital in order to re-join colleagues.

He trekked five miles through a snow storm with blood seeping through his bandages and managed to convince officers that he was fine. Three months later he sustained an injury to the leg and then in May 1918 he was again wounded in the head and for two weeks was too unwell to sit up or eat.

In September that year he was awarded the Military Cross for 'conspicuous gallantry, initiative and devotion to duty' and was again injured. He found a German position blocking an advance and organised two tanks into action against it, riding in one of them himself.

His tank was hit killing four crew and he was injured in the eye, but continued fighting for several hours, got the wounded to safety and arranged infantry for a defence against a counterattack. He was left temporarily blinded. Finally, in October, he was returned to the UK for further treatment.

His other medals included the Legion of Honour and the Russian Order of St Anne. Hotblack continued to serve his country after the war and at the start of World War Two commanded the 2nd Armoured Division before being injured and invalided out of the army. The bachelor died in 1979.

Pic caption: Top right: David Willey, curator of the Tank Museum in Bovington, Dorset, with the Christmas card sent by Elliot Hotblack (depicted behind) 100 years ago.



FEB EDITION DEADLINE
NOON, 8th JAN

Business Matters

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www.virtual-swanage.co.uk

CHARLES STANLEY

Wealth Managers

MiFID II

The governments of the member states of the European Union agreed in Lisbon in 2000 to work towards a single financial market-place throughout the EU.

Consequently, the European Commission and the European Parliament produced a very large amount of legislation that was incorporated into United Kingdom law, with several Directives and other measures having a direct impact on the way in which many finance related firms conduct business for clients.

The most prominent of these was the 'Markets in Financial Instruments Directive' (known as 'MiFID'). This was applied in the UK from 2007 and is now being revised to improve the functioning of financial markets in light of the financial crisis and to strengthen investor protection. The changes are set to take effect from 3rd January 2018.

MiFID II introduces a number of additional protections and disclosure requirements for the benefit of investors. By and large the new EU-wide arrangements reflect those that already prevail in the United Kingdom.

However, the harmonisation of different rules and practices mean that there will be some changes. MiFID II affects regulated firms which provide services to clients linked to financial instruments (shares, bonds, units in collective investment schemes and derivatives) and the venues where those instruments are traded. The sorts of changes that my clients will notice are very briefly outlined below.

* Quarterly reports are now required where firms send out custody reports or valuations

* Enhanced disclosure of costs to clients

* Suitability reports are required for all advisory transactions

* Where a portfolio is held under Discretionary management, the client will automatically be notified if the portfolio value falls by 10% in the quarterly reporting period.

* Where leveraged investments are held by a retail client, they will automatically be notified if the value of their investments falls by 10% from its acquisition value.

* Each client has to have a National Insurance number recorded in order for us to be able to continue to act for them after 3rd January 2018

* Most other accounts, such as trusts, also have to be officially recorded with the London Stock Exchange and need to have an LEI (Legal Entity Identifier).

I wish all readers of the Purbeck Gazette a happy, healthy and prosperous 2018.

Kate Spurling lives in Swanage and is an investment manager with Charles Stanley, Dorchester office – (01305) 217404 – kate.spurling@charlesstanley.co.uk

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Childcare Scheme Extension

HMRC have recently confirmed that the second phase of the roll-out of the new 30 hours free childcare has commenced.

Broadly, from September 2017, the new 30 hours free childcare offer for working parents of three and four year olds in England doubled the previous 15 hours of free childcare, saving eligible working families up to £5,000 a year.

From 24 November 2017, the service will also be available to parents whose youngest child is under six or who has their sixth birthday on that day.

Eligible parents will be able to apply online via the Childcare Choices website. On registering, they receive a code, which in turn allows them to arrange their childcare place.

Parents can take their code to their provider or council, along with their National Insurance Number and child's date of birth. Their provider or council will check the code is authentic and allocate them a free childcare place.

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People should be wary of free trials or low price offers for products such as slimming pills, health foods, anti-ageing products or medicines. Make sure you read the small print and don't get conned into a longer term financial agreement through a continuous payment authority – a subscription trap! They will cost you MUCH more than you think.

Ask yourself why you are giving over your credit or debit card details. Check the full price and duration of the offer before signing up.

If you have fallen into a subscription trap though, remember that banks and other financial institutions have a duty to protect their customers. When a customer complains that they have been trapped by a subscription, the

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INFORMATION EVENT

Wills and Power of Attorney

**Age UK Dorchester is holding an
Information Event to de-mystify the subject
of Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney.**

If you wish to understand whether you need a Lasting Power of Attorney, and to make a Will, Christine Butterfield, Senior Associate Solicitor at Battens, solicitors, will be providing a talk on the subject on:

Monday 5th February 2018 at 10am
at Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road,
Dorchester, DT1 1PW

No need to book ... just turn up!

Divorced Women Lose Out On £5 Billion A Year In Pension Payments



A survey, commissioned by Scottish Widows, has found that women are losing out on £5 billion per year, by not considering pensions during financial proceedings following a divorce.

According to the survey of over 5,000 adults, 71% of couples do not discuss pension sharing when divorcing and, due to the gender pay gap, maternity leave and career breaks, women are disproportionately disadvantaged. 48% of women surveyed did not know what happens to pensions on financial settlement and only 9% of participants said they would fight for a fair share of their ex-spouse's pension provision, despite the average married couple's retirement fund totalling £132,000.

Nigel Shepherd, Chairman of Resolution, the family lawyers organisation, said: "Pension sharing was introduced almost two decades ago, but it is clear that all too often in a divorce pensions are still not being taken into account properly or at all... The problem has been made very much worse by the fact that so few people are now entitled to legal aid and are having to negotiate the minefield of financial issues on divorce without even basic legal advice. This is storing up real problems down the line, in particular for women."

On divorce, a pension is often a person's most valuable asset (or second most valuable after the former matrimonial home), so it should be a major consideration in financial proceedings. As a result of amendments to the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, there are three possible ways of dealing with pension rights on divorce: The traditional approach of off-setting, which means that the ex-spouse is allocated a proportion of the matrimonial assets equivalent to the approximate value of the pension benefits they have lost due to the divorce.

Pension attachment orders which mean that certain payments under a pension are paid to the ex-spouse rather than the member of the pension scheme. However, due to a number of practical problems, few pension attachment orders have been made.

Pension sharing orders which enable the Court to split pension rights at the time of the divorce. A certain percentage of the member's pension rights are transferred into the ex-spouse's own pension arrangement. The reduction to the transferor's pension fund is known as the 'pension debit' and the increase to the transferee's fund is known as the 'pension credit'. Each party has immediate control over their own pension provision.

Many people will feel that they have enabled their spouse to contribute more towards their retirement fund, by supporting their spouse's career or by going without during the marriage. The ex-spouse should therefore be entitled to a fair share of the pension pot.

It is tempting to simply look at how much money you will receive straight away, following divorce, but it is also important to consider future financial provision. Proper investment in legal advice could result in a fairer division of assets and a larger settlement figure, including financial security on retirement.

For more information or advice contact our Family Solicitor, Tracey Parsons on 01305 216209 or tracey.parsons@battens.co.uk.

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Amazing Mazda!

by David Hollister

Regular readers will now be aware that each December, we venture oop t'north to see our friends and relations and do our Christmas shopping in Derby (that's stuff we can't get in Purbeck!). We have long since ceased trying to get all the shopping and suitcases into the MX5 and indeed after 220 miles, would probably need to be surgically removed from it..... anyway, I digress.

As a family, we run Mazdas. Over the years I have driven and reviewed some really excellent cars for Purbeck Gazette, but my main car has been an MX5 for the past twenty years; Tina loves her Mazda 2, and even the 'dump car' is an old 323.

Why? Because they're safe, reliable, easy to drive, and offer quality and economical motoring for a reasonable price. Most have come from Magna Motors at Canford Cliffs where "junior salesman" Barney Steele has worked his way up to becoming a very approachable general manager always retaining his friendly and helpful attitude. So when I mumbled 'Derby' and 'Christmas' and '500 miles' to him, he just smiled and said 'new Mazda CX5 – have it as long as you like'.

The Mazda CX5 Sport-Nav is the second incarnation of the popular CX5 SUV, up against the Skoda Kodiaq, Ford Edge, Kia Sportage and VW Tiguan and Toyota RAV4 as well as the ever-popular Nissan Qashqai. And in my book it's not just 'up against' – it's a clear leader. It uses the same basic platform as its predecessor but from there on up, it's all-new and all-improved. Mazda claim it's 15% stiffer than the original, meaning better handling and reduced road noise. And it's a good deal more comfortable than the original, too, whilst remaining reassuringly firm to drive.

Huge boot, 503 litres, and with the rear seats down it extends to 1620 litres which is a lot of Waitrose bags and which I believe knocks most of its competitors into a cocked hat. Full isofix child seat restraints if you need to restrain your child.

The CX5 Sport-Nav AWD model we borrowed is admittedly the top of the range, with a 175 ps Diesel engine and a superb automatic gearbox. The optional safety pack and radar cruise control pack add £1,600 to the basic £33,000 price which may seem like a lot of money, but it really is a lot of car.

With its 19-inch gunmetal alloy wheels, reversing camera, black leather heated and fully-adjustable seats, smart keyless entry system, i-stop, premium Bose Sound System, power tilt-and-slide sunroof, powered tailgate and an amazing windscreen-projected Active Driving Display, the CX5 has everything you could want in a family car. A similar-spec BMW X3 is around £50,000; a Range Rover around £70,000. I rest my case.

Radar Cruise Control is black magic. Your speed is controlled automatically by accelerating or decelerating your car to maintain a safe driving distance from the car ahead. Ideal on crowded motorways and dual carriageways; no longer do you have to re-engage Cruise every time you brake. They say it's fancy electronics but actually there's a little man under the bonnet with his eyes wide open and access to the brake and accelerator.....

Bluetooth is easy; plays your own music and answers the phone, whilst you can still plug in your old-style ipod or USB stick if you prefer. Road noise and wind noise are minimal.

When there was nothing worth listening to on the radio (i.e. Radio 2 most of the day) it was so quiet that Tina and I could actually talk to each other. All controls are on the steering wheel as well as the clever knurled wheel on the centre console exactly where your hand drops.

You'd think that a car this big would be a lumbering handful. But I assure you it isn't. From the designers who brought you the MX5 – this is its big brother! It's one of the most attractive designs in its class, looking like it really means business but will do that business politely rather than aggressively.

It's a diesel, yet achieves 0 – 60 in 9.5 seconds and a top speed of 128 mph.



Fuel consumption is a claimed 48.7 mpg on the combined cycle; over 450 miles I achieved 41 mpg which at 84% is one of the best I have reviewed.

CO2 emissions are 152 so your Benefit-In-Kind tax is 32%. Insurance group a very reasonable 23E. Warranty is Mazda's usual 60,000 miles or three years; service interval is the earlier of 12,500 miles or twelve months.

We took our VW-owning and Audi-owning friends out and about in it. They were very impressed. Even my son, James, admitted that it looked 'pretty good'. At no time on the journey did either of us feel cramped, stiff, or even tired.

If you use all the bells and most of the whistles, it's the easiest car to drive. Ever. Front and rear beepers and the excellent camera make it really difficult to hit anything whilst parking. And when you're just about to pull out and another car is in your blind spot, it beeps and flashes. Even stops you reversing over errant pedestrians (this feature can be turned off.....!). So, all in all, a pleasant and relaxed journey despite the huge volumes of Friday traffic, and despite the fact that the creative sat-nav 'avoided delays' by taking us home along a way we'd never thought of in thirty years of driving to Derby – and could probably never find again unassisted.

The SkyActiv technology offers "driving pleasure balanced with outstanding environmental and safety performance". And yes, that's not just the book speaking, it's me as well. It does exactly that. And when you go and test-drive it, you can't help but agree. Call Barney Steele on 01202 701222; he'd be delighted to show you over this superb car.

Up until this weekend, I genuinely thought that I'd already found my 'car of the year' but this one has sneaked past the post and won by a short head.

Here's where I normally ask – would I buy one? And in this case the answer is a definite 'yes', the only caveat being that as semi-retired and on a reducing income, I think I'd be unwise to spend that much capital or to sign a lease contract that went past my next special birthday.....

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TEST CENTRE

Dorset Police 'Good'

Force welcomes HMICFRS PEEL legitimacy report

Dorset Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner have welcomed a report which has concluded that the Force's approach to treating people fairly is 'good'.

Following annual reviews of police effectiveness, efficiency, legitimacy and leadership (PEEL), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has graded Dorset Police as 'good' overall at keeping people safe and reducing crime.

Reports published today, Tuesday 12 December, have been welcomed by the Force and the Police and Crime Commissioner. HMICFRS inspections into Dorset Police's legitimacy and leadership, took place in May 2017.

HMICFRS considers a police force to be legitimate if it has the consent of the public, and if those working in the Force consistently behave in a way that is fair, ethical, and within the law. As part of this year's inspection, aspects of leadership were also included in the HMICFRS's assessment of legitimacy as the two areas are considered to be closely linked.

This report follows on from HMICFRS's report on efficiency, published in November 2017, where Dorset Police was also given an overall grading as 'good'.

Findings will make up the HMICFRS annual assessment of police forces in England and Wales. Of the 43 police forces graded, 35 were assessed as 'good', one as 'outstanding' and six as 'require improvement'.

Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) James Vaughan said: "I am pleased that HMICFRS has assessed Dorset Police's legitimacy as 'good'. Policing by consent is vital to ensure that we continue to be effective and efficient in keeping our local communities safe.

"We are dedicated to providing a good service to the residents of Dorset, whilst consistently operating with fairness and respect, and we have a strong commitment to equality and diversity, both within our organisation and in the service we provide."

The report recognised Dorset Police's dedication to treating the people it serves with fairness and respect, with officers and staff well trained in how to communicate effectively and use their coercive powers fairly, and only when necessary.

Dorset Police was found to be good at ensuring its workforce behaves ethically and lawfully, with an established process for referring ethical problems. The Force was also noted for its efforts in making it easy for members of the public to make a complaint, and is good at keeping people updated on the progress of their complaint.

The report also acknowledged that Dorset Police is experiencing some resourcing pressures which can affect the wellbeing of some officers and staff.

DCC James Vaughan continued: "Funding to the police service has been significantly reduced since 2011 and at a time where crime is changing and becoming more complex to investigate. We understand the pressures and demands our staff are under. The positive wellbeing of all of our officers and staff is a priority and we are continuing to invest time and effort in promoting its importance in the workplace, as well as providing internal access to support and advice."

Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner, Martyn Underhill, said: "I welcome the news that the Force has been recognised as 'good' in this area. In line with our British policing model, it is vital that the Force has the consent of the public and upholds the highest standard of fairness, legality and ethical behaviour.

"HMICFRS inspection reports provide an opportunity to reflect on the areas of business that Dorset Police do well, to learn from good practice and ensure that it is shared across the organisation. They also identify areas which may require additional attention and I am committed to working with the Force to ensure that it maintains its status as a legitimate organisation that holds the trust of officers, staff and the public it serves."

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From The Kitchen Garden...



Alliums.....

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

The festivities have finished and we have a brand new year ahead! I wish for all my readers it'll be a healthy and a happy one! January can be a tricky time; short days, little warmth, lots of coughing and sneezing all around us.....taking this into account, eating well becomes even more important.

However, freshly picked vegetables are limited in January and this is why I want put the spotlight onto the onion family, the alliums.

This is a massive tribe and includes onions, garlic, ramsons, shallots, chives, leeks and many beautiful ornamental plants as well. The only ones still in the field this time of the year are the leeks, they can take a frost or two no problem.

The chives are also still out there; as they're a perennial plant but they're quite invisible until the first tender green shoots in March. However, the onion and garlic bulbs have been harvested last summer, then dried and strung into bundles. If kept reasonably cool and dry they'll be good until the coming spring, when they'll start to sprout.....wanting to grow again and set seed.

I feel onions are a rather undervalued vegetable yet so very versatile in the kitchen and in the home medicine cabinet. My grandma made her own cough linctus with raw onions and honey steeped over night in hot water and her warm onion wraps gently soothed a chesty cough.

Now, these wraps were not to eat, you understand, but chopped raw onion placed into a muslin bag or old pillow case. The 'onion bag' was warmed on a plate on top of a pan with hot water.

Once the bag feels lukewarm to the touch, place it gently on the patient's chest for at least twenty minutes. Grandma used to secure it with a knitted woollen scarf - hence the wrap. Works wonders! Talking about coughs and colds; this garlic soup is just the ticket when you feel a cold coming on.

This recipe is enough for six or plenty for a couple of days if you're poorly and bedridden....

Ingredients:

4 tbs olive oil
5 whole garlic bulbs cut in half crossways
25 g flour
1.5 litres hot water

4 sprigs of thyme, sea salt
Freshly ground black pepper
100 g pearl barley
Freshly chopped parsley

Method:

Heat the oven to 140C/gas 1

Drizzle the oil over a roasting tray and put the cut garlic bulbs on it. Roast for a good hour until soft and golden.

Remove the garlic from the oven and, when cool enough to handle, squeeze out the soft, buttery flesh.

Put it in a saucepan with the juices from the roasting tray and mash with a spoon.

Over a medium heat, mix in the flour so it absorbs the oil and makes a roux.

Slowly pour in the hot water, stirring constantly.

Add the barley, thyme and seasoning and simmer for twenty minutes.

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Food Trends for 2018

Fads or keepers?

1. Go vegetarian or vegan.

This is set to be very in for 2018, with supermarkets, restaurants and take-aways jumping on the meat-free wagon and making vegan and veggie alternatives much more available to us all, and delicious enough to entice the most loyal carnivore.

2. Go green!

Or purple, blue, black and pink. Beautifully coloured vegetables are here to cheer up a boring meal. Blue potatoes, purple carrots, blue/black tomatoes, yellow mange tout, multi-coloured radishes and even blue sweetcorn. Blue mash may not be for everyone, but it may get the kids to eat more veg.

3. Breakfast is the new Brunch.

Breakfasts are set to be available everywhere all day, even the posh eateries are getting wise to this one. Be it healthy with Granola and fruit salad or a grilled bacon and poached egg combo, an artisan fry up using high end local produce or a good old-fashioned bacon butty from the farm down the road, at last it's a trendy meal to choose.

4. Foraging.

It is illegal to forage for commercial purposes or without the land owner's permission, so do be careful. However, once you're all legal and above board, go for it! You get to exercise while shopping, and there's no need for a credit card or a long queue at the checkout.


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Puuurfect Posing, by Katy Philips



Tree at Holton Heath, by Denise Exon



Winter is here!

January often brings a case of the blues to many of us - there's a lull after Christmas, and the short, cold, grey days make us want to huddle-up indoors and ignore the world.

However - the world continues to turn, and it's up to us to drag ourselves out of our warm houses and get out and about a bit - even if just to get the blood flowing again!

Whether you feel the need to detox, get fit, shop for a bargain, get spring cleaning and redecorating, consider moving house or simply enjoy a meal with friends and family, the following pages showcase local businesses who want to connect with you this January.

Keep our local economy strong in 2018 and start as you mean to go on - support our local businesses, and therefore our community - get out and about this January!

THE MOWLEM

BANISH THOSE WINTER BLUES!

**SWANAGE DRAMA COMPANY
PRESENTS THEIR ANNUAL
PANTOMIME!**

ROBINSON CRUSOE

Follow Robinson Crusoe's intrepid adventures through shipwreck, cannibals and evil Redbeard the Pirate's attempts to steal his treasure map as he hunts for the treasure on Yum Yum Island.

Also in on the action is Mum, Catherine Zeta Crusoe and his brother, Kevin Columbus, love interest Britney Peveril-Point and Roger, a full-sized Aussie parrot.....

Performances

Friday 5th January 7.30pm

Saturday 6th January 2pm and 7.30pm

Friday 12th January 7.30pm

Saturday 13th January 2pm and 7.30pm

Tickets: Full £10, Concessions £9, Child £5

CINEMA IN JANUARY



STAR WARS - THE LAST JEDI (12A)

Sunday 14th to Thursday 18th January at 7pm. Matinee: Monday 15th January at 2.30pm

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN (PG)

Friday 19th to Thursday 25th January at 7.30pm (NOT Sunday 21st January). Matinee: Monday 22nd January at 2pm

THE MOWLEM THEATRE BOX OFFICE

01929 422239 - www.mowlemtheatre.com - mowlem.box@gmail.com

TAXI TAXI

EXCEL TAXIS NETWORK



- 1 - 8 SEATERS AVAILABLE
- Airports • Docks • Stations
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www.exceltaxiswareham.co.uk



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- Airports • Docks • Stations
- Local or Long Distance
- Executive & Weddings
- Covering Crossways & Surrounding Areas

TEL: 01305 854719

www.xwayscars.co.uk



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- Local or Long Distance
- Executive & Weddings
- Covering Wool & Surrounding Areas

TEL: 01929 44 45 46

www.durdledoorcabs.com



Excel-lent Service!!

The Excel Taxis Network was originally started by Darren Gale as Excel Taxis Wareham on 1st September 2015. It was a bold move to start this time of year, but soon Excel Taxis Wareham expanded from one 7 year old 8 seater with the first executive Skoda Octavia of the fleet. In October of 2016, the original Excel Taxis Wareham 8 seater was retired and replaced, with it's brand new executive Ford Tourneo Custom Titanium (which has since been used for VIP travel by Pele & Gazza during 2017). It didn't take long, and in January 2017, the fleet was increased with our pride of the executive fleet, the Skoda Octavia VRS.

On 1st December 2017, Excel Taxis Wareham purchased Durdle Door Cabs & Xways Cars and became the Excel Taxis Network. with a further 2 multi seater vehicles this increased the fleet to 5 vehicles. With this expanded fleet we are now able to cover from Wareham to Crossways! We are now able to provide 1-8 seat airports & docks runs. We also provide wedding transport for the bride, groom and their guests.

Whether long or short distance, go for the taxi service that Excel!

Esme James - Art & Gift Studio



Original acrylic paintings, prints and gift cards by Esme James including the work of local artists
esmejames.co.uk

Cameron Furniture



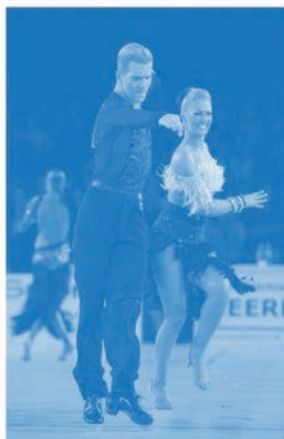
Designer & maker of bespoke contemporary hardwood furniture, kitchens & home accessories

cameronfurniture.co.uk

Both open daily 10am-5pm Grange Rd,
Creech, Wareham BH20 5DG 07860 471561



ADULT LATIN AMERICAN & BALLROOM DANCE CLASS



Mondays 10.30-11.30a.m. at Studland village hall.

Tuesdays 10.30-11.30a.m. at Durberville Hall, Wool.

Tuesdays 1-2p.m at Stoborough Village Hall.

Wednesdays 9.30-10.30a.m at St Edwards church hall, swanage

FOR ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

You will learn – Cha,Cha,Cha, Jive, Rumba, Samba, Waltz, Quickstep, Paso Doble, Tango and Much more.

No Partner Required

Have fun learning fabulous easy to follow dances while you keep fit

Your dance teacher will be **Donna Diebelius** who is a fellow of the **Imperial society of teachers of dancing** and a previous world dance finalist.

Contact Donna Diebelius F.I.S.T.D. to book your place in the class. Tel: 01929 421065

BURNGATE STONE CARVING CENTRE

Charity No. 1135118



Engraving skills with Val Quinn

Sat 13th Jan 10 am—2pm

Learn the basic skills of engraving in Purbeck stone with Val Quinn. This course will enable concentration, coordination, control and skill. The session is therapeutic, meditative and achievable. Drawing skills unnecessary and all ideas welcome. £60 per adult.



Stone carving with Jonathan Sells

Sat 27th Jan 10 am—4pm

This is an all day class for adults only. Jonathan Sells is a professional award winning sculptor/stone carver who studied architectural carving and stone masonry at Weymouth College. Known for his unique approach, Jonathan's carving is both figurative and abstract. £80 per adult.



**GIFT VOUCHERS ARE AVAILABLE
FOR ALL OUR COURSES**

**Spaces are limited and booking in advance is essential.
Please contact the Centre on 01929 439405 to reserve your space.**

Burngate Stone Carving Centre, Kingston Road, Langton Matravers, Swanage,
Dorset. BH19 3BE. info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
www.burngatestonecentre.co.uk. 01929 439405

ADULT MODERN LINE DANCE CLASS

Every Monday 9.30-10.30a.m Studland Village Hall

Every Monday 1-2p.m at Corfe Castle Village Hall

Every Wednesday 10.30-11.30a.m at St Edwards Church Hall, Swanage

Every Wednesday 1-2p.m. at Durberville Hall, Wool

A fun packed class, great for all ages and abilities. Easy to follow dances to a wide variety of music. No Partner required



The benefits of line dancing:

- * A great way to keep fit
 - * Improves balance & co-ordination
 - * Stimulates the mind
 - * Improves confidence & general well-being
- £6 per session

Expert tuition from Donna Diebelius who is a fellow of the imperial society of teachers of dancing.

Contact Donna Diebelius F.I.S.T.D to book your place in the class T: 01929 421065

SECURE & DRY STORAGE IN WAREHAM

AVAILABLE! 20ft storage containers, boarded-out and inside

Very clean and tidy. 8ft wide x 8'6" high

Easy access, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

From £35 per week, available immediately

Our units can store the contents of a 3-bed house!

Ideal for tradesmen, boat storage, car storage, materials, tools, etc.



Sandford Lane, Wareham. BH20 4DY. CALL ROY: 01202 553222 or 07899 075315

Moving House? Having A Spring Clean? Needing Secure, Local Storage? Look no further!



M_&J furnishing

01929 552773

15 West Street, Wareham

SAVE UPTO 20% OFF IN OUR
JANUARY

SALE

NOW ON

Delivering Quality & Comfort

- ◆ Beds
- ◆ Fitted Carpets & Vinyl Flooring
- ◆ Lift & Rise Reclining Chairs
- ◆ Curtains & Blinds
- ◆ Lounge & Dining Furniture

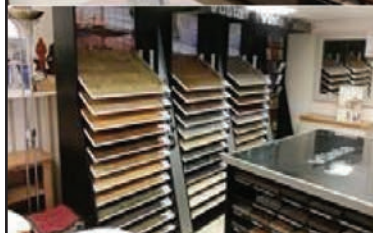


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Service*

Refurbished Shop & Showroom

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**Terms & Conditions Apply*



Full Re-upholstery service

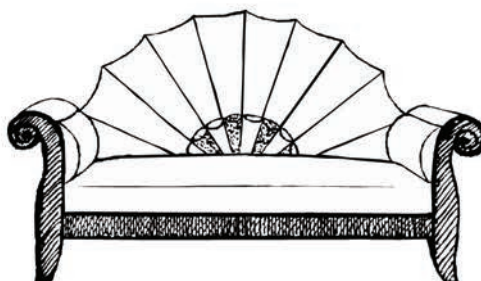
Specialists in Antique &
Traditional Upholstery

Leatherwork a speciality
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Loose Cover Service

Full range of fabrics

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**Upholsterer of Antique &
Modern Furniture**



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on:
01929 556567**

HomeXperts®

Exceptional Estate & Lettings Agents



BANISH THOSE WINTER BLUES

SELL YOUR HOUSE FOR FREE*

Money, Money, Money!

Now that a New Year is here a lot of us will be sitting back and evaluating how much Christmas has hit our pockets. We'll be checking bank accounts and receiving those dreaded credit card bills! So, if you were considering selling your house last year but thought it best to wait till a New Year, the cost of the festive season just gone may put you off selling when you think about the costs involved in selling a house.

With that in mind we are offering 10 lucky property owners the chance to sell their home and pay ZERO estate agency fees*.

One Step Ahead

Why wait for the Spring? Get ahead of the game and market your property now. This will give you and your buyer the opportunity to be in a new home sooner and to look forward to the Summer! The start of a New Year always gets people thinking about the future and what the year may hold for them. Dare I say, but if it involves a house move, they may even be thinking of where they will be holding their next Christmas!

'Like an estate agent but different...'

Free? What's the catch? – There is no catch. As a new business we simply want the opportunity to show you how different we are. We are proud of our strapline and that is why with us you will receive a different approach to estate agency. We are here to make a difference for you. We wish to grow our business by referrals so when we do an exceptional job we hope others will hear about that and then they will call upon our services when needed.

We want to be known for putting **your needs first!** We are committed to providing an honest service and giving you value, even if it is for free.

**We are people people,
not just a business that sells properties**



One of the most important factors in choosing your estate agent is being on the market with someone you can relate to personally; someone who is very active; and someone who is keen to sell your property on your terms, not theirs.

With us you will get a full estate agent service. Right from the initial appraisal through to the marketing, carrying out all viewings and managing the sales progression all the way through to completion and beyond if needed. We will be with you every step of the way.

So, if you have been considering selling, why not contact us today to arrange a free, unbiased and honest appraisal?

QUOTE HEPP-FREE in correspondence.

*Free of estate agent's fees only. Residential property. Valid for the first 10 instructions in JAN 2018 only. Board required. Sole agency agreement.

Iain and Sharon Westman

HomeXperts Purbeck and Poole
Like an estate agent,
but different...



T: 01929 450358

E: purbeck@hxea.co.uk / poole@hxea.co.uk

www.homexpertsuk.com/estateagentpurbeckandpoole

SAVE upto
20% Off
With this
Advert*

Purbeck Furnishing

61 Kings Road West, Swanage

01929 422703

Did you know: We Supply and Fit a full range of Carpets, Karndean and Vinyls.

Also: Curtains, Roller, Vertical, and Roman Blinds in Hundreds of Colours.

Beds, Mattresses and Frames from Dreamworks, Sealy and Shakespeare

Sherborne Lift and Rise Chairs and Sofas

Call in for a chat about your requirements

*Terms & Conditions apply (Does not apply to Flooring)

Wishing all our Customers a very Happy New Year



**The
AMAZING
i-3**

Available soon to drive at Purbeck Mobility in Wareham
Superlight Lithium battery
Easy to fold and store
Take it on coach holidays trains and cruises
Maximum User weight 20 Stones
High powered motor

PURBECK MOBILITY St Johns Hill Wareham 01929 552623
shop@purbeckmobility.com www.purbeckmobility.com



LINDA'S

40 High Street, Swanage. Tel: 01929 792764

15% discount on ALL WINTER STOCK!

20% OFF Smashed Lemon!

Open Tues - Fri 11am - 4pm, Sat 10.30am - 1pm

The Town House

The Square, Corfe Castle

07427 003500

BANISH THOSE WINTER BLUES!

Beautiful lamps, lamp bases and
standard lamps,

all REDUCED for January!

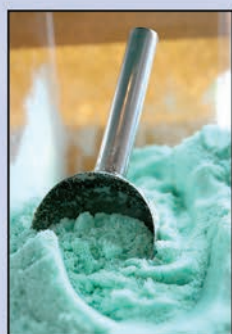
Everyone needs a little extra
light in their lives.

Also - we stock all sorts of other
lovely goodies, so come on in
from the cold, have a browse and
enjoy a warm welcome!

We look forward to seeing you



Buffmonger of Purbeck



***BANISH THOSE WINTER BLUES WITH OUR
Fresh, handmade bath and beauty products,
using only natural ingredients***

Our products are both vegetarian and vegan

**Bath Bombs, Bath Salts, Soaps, Skin Creams, Moisturisers
and so much more, all at highly competitive prices....**

Commercial Road, Swanage

Need some ideas for 2018 New Year's Resolutions?

*Try a resolution worth
keeping to this year!*

1. Be kind to yourself – make more me time
2. Work less hours or change your job
3. Smile more, frown less
4. Be careful who and what you vote for
5. Acknowledge motorists who give way to you with a friendly gesture
6. Eat one unhealthy food item then match with two healthy foods
7. Be brave - Choose clothes in a colour you don't usually wear
8. Walk for enjoyment – get all the health benefits without calling it exercise
9. Do something that makes you smile, make sure its legal
10. Spend time with the people you love



TRIP HAMMER E-Liquids

DO YOU HAVE A NEW YEAR'S
RESOLUTION?

+ STARTER KITS MODS +
+ UPGRADES TANKS +
+ E-LIQUID HELP & ADVICE +

6 Kings Road East
Swanage
BH19 1ES

01929421526
admin@triphhammer.co.uk

New year ...new goals

**Purbeck
Sports Centre**



Swim Purbeck SWIM SCHOOL

Exciting swimming courses led
by highly qualified instructors

Age 3 years and over, from
complete beginner to advanced

Early Steps 1, 2 and 3

Lessons fifty weeks of the
year for all abilities

Gold Card *Membership*

GYM, SWIM, EXERCISE CLASSES AND
SAUNA plus discounts on racket sports
and pilates

Membership packages to suit all
lifestyles, starting from just £27 per
month

FREE EARLY STEPS 1 SWIM SCHOOL TASTER

Tuesday 9 January, 4.30pm

Limited spaces, so please
book early

£1 SALE DAY

Saturday 13 January

Try any exercise class
or use the gym for
£1 PER ACTIVITY

Visit our website for the full terms and
conditions and for the timetable of
classes available

EXERCISE *just got* VIRTUAL

NEW virtual training classes are
starting this year at the Sports
Centre.

Pedal your way to fitness on our
new Spin bikes! Enjoy our classes
that will sculpt, tone, burn
and stretch!

It's energising, calorie
burning and fun!



Discover our
virtual timetable on
our website or call
the Centre



PHILIP MILLS

Hair Design Ltd

67 North Street,
Wareham,
Dorset.
BH20 4AD.
01929 551855

At Philip Mills, our top priority is education. Our team regularly go on courses to London studios to keep up with the very latest fashions and techniques.

We also have in-salon training nights every Thursday from 2.45pm - 7pm.

If you want a great haircut or colour on training night, book in NOW as cuts are from £12.50 and colours are from £22.50 - and training is fully supervised.

We train our team to work with face shape, skin tone and eye colouring, which gives a greater understanding in designing hair for the individual.

This enables us to practise new techniques and keep our team focused on providing an excellent service.

THURSDAY IS SUPERVISED TRAINING NIGHT!

Book NOW for cuts and colours from 2.45pm - 7pm, every Thursday.

Cuts from £12.50, Colours from £22.50

INNOVATION

To celebrate our 60th anniversary since the Salon's opening, and also as a thank you for your custom, we'd like to offer you a:

FREE UPGRADE DURING JANUARY!

Choose from the following upgrades:

- * Upgrade your cut to a wash, cut & finish.
- * Be pampered whilst you're under the dryer, or after your blow-dry or service is completed, with a hand massage, file & polish (polish is optional).
- * A FREE wash & blow dry with your cut, with one of our younger/junior stylists - or save it for another occasion during January.
- * Have any one of our selection of beauty treatments FREE when having any of our services (hair or beauty) in the salon.



KEEP OUT THE WINTER CHILLS & PUT SOME REGGAE FIRE IN YOUR SOUL!

CARIBBEAN NIGHT

FRIDAY JANUARY 19TH 7-11PM

INTERNATIONAL
FOOD NIGHTS AT THE

scott arms

**JAMAICAN JERKSHAK CUISINE MENU.
RED STRIPE & JAMAICAN RUM PUNCH.
WARMING MUSICAL VIBES FROM THE
WILKSWOOD REGGAE FESTIVAL DJS.**

**KINGSTON · CORFE CASTLE · BH20 5LH
01929 480270 · WWW.THESCOTTARMS.COM
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

Celebrating Fifteen Chocolate-Filled Years!



CHOCOCO
THE PURBECK CHOCOLATE CO.

Proudly Handmade in Purbeck

CHOCOCO

December sees the launch of a new Swanage business, THE PURBECK CHOCOLATE CO., producing handmade chocolates that are sold under the catchy name of 'CHOCOCO'.

Run by husband and wife team Andy and Claire Burnet, CHOCOCO is the result of months of research into the world of handmade chocolates, local food and fair-trade.

Says Claire, "This is a new direction for us and came about because we both love chocolate, and Purbeck, and we care about food – not only its taste but also where it comes from and the people who produce it. We feel we have created something quite special – delicious, locally made chocolates using as many local and fairly traded ingredients as possible."

To make their chocolate "mini masterpieces", they use the finest dark, milk, and white couverture chocolate from South America, locally supplied cream from Craig's Farm Dairy in Osmington, Dorset honey from Field Honey Farms and Continental marzipan, praline and spices, fruits and nuts, from around the world.

Says Andy, "Once we have sourced the best ingredients, either here in Dorset or around the world, that's it – we add nothing else, so you can enjoy the wickedly tempting, fresh, clean chocolate taste!"

Each chocolate is made by hand at their factory, "COCOA CENTRAL," at 21c Commercial Road – in fact, it's more of a kitchen, no Willy Wonka chocolate machines to be seen here! The range includes hand-dipped truffles, classic chocolates, disks of pure chocolate infused with fruit oils, dipped, dried fruit and – just for fun – giant "Purbeck stone" slabs of chocolate loaded with added goodies!

Claire and Andy will be selling their chocolates at many of Dorset's farmers' markets, at Goldy's Farm Shop in West Holme and via mail order in the lead-up to Christmas.

From 5th December, their factory shop, above 21c Commercial Road, is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons, 2pm-5pm; so if you are a bit of a chocoholic or are looking for an ideal Christmas or birthday gift then why not drop in and have a look!

Andy and Claire will be pleased to see you!

CHOCOCO can be contacted on 01929 421777

ENJOY THE GAZETTE'S SCRATCH 'N' SNIFF CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE SPECIAL!!

Dark chocolate

Milk chocolate

White chocolate

Anne's the Florists

Wishing
Claire & Andy Burnet & CHOCOCO
every success
in their new venture

42 High Street,
Swanage, Dorset
BH19 2NX
Tel: 01929 422332

ON GETTING THE FESTIVE SPIRIT INTO YOURSELF

BECCY'S RECIPES

Beccy Gady is *Wheat in a Moment* chef at Goldy's Farm Shop

Get the Festive Spirit into Yourself with this Seasonal Recipe!

Fruit Cake

1 cup water
4 cups flour
4 large eggs
2 cups dried fruit
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup brown sugar
lemon juice
walnuts
1 litre brandy

Sample the brandy to check for quality. Take a large bowl. Check the brandy again to be sure it is of the highest quality. Pour one level cup and drink. Repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer; beat 1 cup butter in a large, fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon sugar and beat again. Make sure the brandy is still OK. Cry another tap. Turn off mixer. Break 2 eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Mix on the turner. If the dried fruit gets stuck in the beaters, pry it loose with a crowbar. Sample the brandy to check for consistency.

Next, sift 2 cups of salt. Or something. Who cares? Check the brandy. Now sift the lemon juice and drain your nuts. Add one table spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you find. Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350°. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Throw the bowl out of the window. Check the brandy again. Go to bed.

Who the hell likes fruit cake anyway?

CHOCOCO
also available at
GOLDY'S FARM SHOP
West Holme
on the B3070 Lulworth Road

How to Find Goldy's...

WOOL
WAREHAM
POOLE
WE ARE HERE
SWANAGE

FARM SHOP
West Holme
Farm & Nursery
(on B3070) 01929 556777
Open daily 9.30 - 5.30

YOUR LOCAL FARM SHOP

FARMING GOOD FOOD NATURALLY FOR YOU
LOCAL FARM PRODUCE - VEGETABLES,
LOCAL TURKEYS, FRUIT, OGS & MUCH,
MUCH MORE! COME & SEE FOR YOURSELF!!

**XMAS ORDERS NOW BEING TAKEN
ORDER YOUR XMAS TURKEY NOW!**
FREE DELIVERY OF ALL PRODUCE in 01929 area

CHOCOCO
PROUDLY HANDMADE IN DORSET

Thank you for your support over the past 15 years!

We look forward to welcoming you to our Chocolate House in 2018

Claire, Andy & all of Team Chococo x

f Chococo Chocolates @chococotweet @chococochocolates



Local Swanage business, Chococo, celebrated fifteen years since first opening their doors with a party and special offers in their chocolate house over the first weekend of December to thank local customers for their support over the years. Above is the original page in the December 2002 edition of the Purbeck Gazette, welcoming the business to Swanage.

Back in 2002, Andy and Claire Burnet had a vision to create truly fresh chocolates by hand using as many local ingredients as possible. So, they converted a hairdressers in the Commercial Road lanes into their first tiny chocolate kitchen, with a viewing window for customers to watch them in action. In those very early days, their first shop was upstairs and was also only open three afternoons a week – how times have changed!

We have watched the business grow over the years to add a chocolate café next to the shop, move their chocolatiers and mail order team to a larger unit in Wareham, open two more chocolate houses in Winchester and Exeter and become established as one of the leading chocolatiers in the country, regularly winning fine food awards and press plaudits for their creations. Importantly, they still make everything fresh by hand using fine origin chocolate and local ingredients and Claire, Andy and the team all still love chocolate!



VALENTINES AT CLAVELLS

STARTERS

Salad of smoked duck breast, with a spiced plum chutney on a bed of dressed mixed leaves

Spiced parsnip and pear soup, topped with parsnip crisps and served with artisan bread

Seafood sharing platter of mussels, king prawns, smoked salmon & calamari, served with a dressed salad, rustic bread and a trio of dips (lemon mayonnaise, sweet chilli & Marie Rose)

Warm Greek salad of feta cheese, marinated in olive oil and oregano, served on a bed of capers, mixed olives and Mediterranean roasted vegetables

Pork and apple pate, served with an apple cider chutney, toasted brioche and dressed mixed leaves

MAINS

Scallop, prawn and crab burger in a toasted bun, topped with home-pickled samphire and calamari, served with sweet potato chips and a Bloody Mary ketchup

Veal Schnitzel - Breaded escalope of English Rose veal, served with a mushroom, brandy, cream and French mustard sauce

Rack of Kimmeridge Lamb marinated in Chinese five spices, served on a bed of minted noodles with a rich lamb and soy jus, dauphinoise potatoes and seasonal vegetables (£3 supplement)

Salt and peppered calamari and tiger prawns in a spicy, crispy coating, served with a Greek salad and rustic bread

Kimmeridge slow-roasted belly pork on a bed of sweet potato mash with a toffee apple sauce, dauphinoise potatoes and seasonal vegetables

Local mussels steamed in Lulworth skipper cider, finished with cream and parsley, served with rustic bread

DESSERTS

Chocolate fondue to share - dark chocolate and brandy, white chocolate and Baileys dipping sauces, served with a selection of fresh fruits and marshmallows

Lemon syllabub served with shortbread

Mixed berry pavlova drizzled with a raspberry coulis rich chocolate and praline truffle

Selection of English cheese and biscuits (£2 supplement)

£28.95 per head - booking advised



Coast
Restaurant
15% off

Throughout January 2018
Valid when two people dine
from the A La Carte Menu

GRAND HOTEL SWANAGE

To book please contact our team on

T: 01929 423353

E: reservations@grandhotelswanage.co.uk

www.grandhotelswanage.co.uk

An invitation not to be missed with
views to dine for in our newly refurbished

Coast
Restaurant



Offer only valid on presentation of
this voucher. Booking essential.
Does not include drinks.
One voucher per couple.





Classic Countryside Inn

Set over the causeway from Wareham in the picturesque village of Stoborough, this thatched 17th-Century pub stands at the gateway to the Isle of Purbeck. An inn has stood on this site for over 400 years. With regularly changing specials, and a fresh new winter menu, there is always something for everyone - this pub is certainly a destination for food lovers.

The Kings Arms is a dog-friendly family inn that has established itself as the hub of the local community, supporting many local organisations, sports teams and local young farmers.

Enjoy a glass of wine or one of our award-winning ales in front of our warming log fire this January!

HIGH STREET CAFE

3 High Street, Swanage. BH19 2LN. 01929 427542

**WISHING ALL OF OUR CUSTOMERS
A WONDERFUL, PEACEFUL
NEW YEAR!**

Join us for a superb full breakfast,
from 7am, seven days a week.
Cooked just how YOU like it,
to order, using fresh ingredients.
Vegetarian options available.



Great local food, just how you like it!



STOBOROUGH



17TH CENTURY THATCHED COUNTRY PUB

2 COURSES FOR £13.95

MONDAY - THURSDAY, LUNCH & EVENINGS,
FROM A SELECTED MENU

Check out our website for menus and events

Follow us on facebook



3 CORFE ROAD, STOBOROUGH
WAREHAM, DORSET, BH20 5AB

01929 552705

www.thekingsarms-stoborough.co.uk

The Village Inn at Ulwell

www.villageinn-swanage.co.uk
Village Inn : 01929 427644/422823

Swanage approx. 1.5 miles. Tel: 01929 427644/422823
Ample car parking. Open daily coffee & cake 10am



**SORRY, WE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
JAN 15th - EARLY MARCH FOR EXTENSIVE
REFURBISHMENT.**

Thank you to all of our regulars and we hope to
see you all again in March!

We look forward to welcoming new customers in 2018!



COUNTRY FOODS

15 Station Road, Swanage

01929 427057

**BANISH THOSE WINTER
BLUES WITH YOUR
LOCAL HEALTH FOOD STORE!**

From Manuka Honey to
Vitamins, Minerals, Herbal Teas,
Fresh Produce, Loose Cereals,
Dried Fruit & Nuts,
Herbs and Spices and
so much more....

**20% OFF selected DETOX
products for the New Year!**

20% OFF Sports Supplements

SOS - SUPPORT OUR SHOPS - KEEP IT LOCAL!

PURBECK WHOLEFOODS

JANUARY SALE!

CHECK OUT THE BARGAINS!!



**NEW YEAR DETOX WITH
THE CHARCOAL TOXIN BUSTER!**

New lines in-store!

37 North Street, Wareham. BH20 4AD.

Tel 01929 552332 email purbeckfoods@yahoo.com

seventhwave



Located in the stunning surroundings
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Natural Matters

Don't Be Dead-Alive With Our Language

by John Garner

Until fairly recently I used to live in more rural surroundings. On wandering down the lanes I would sometimes encounter an old chap driving a tractor that looked as old as he was. Always cheerful, he would stop whatever he was doing and greet me with a cheery 'owroit'. So pronounced was his Dorset accent that it often took me while to tune in to the lyrical lilt of his speech. But it was worth every second. I could listen to it all day long.

Accents and dialects seem to be dying out in the world as language becomes more and more 'standardised' (God I hate that word). Anyone who listened to John Arlott commentating on the cricket, back in the day, must have been warmed by his Hampshire burr and expressions. Arlott was a poet and one that used his dialect and vocabulary to great effect.

In his excellent book '*Landmarks*', Robert Macfarlane tries to encourage us all to make sure that the language and dialects of our Isles remain in-tact for future generations.

In Dorset the poetry of William Barnes, written in dialect, serves as a great reminder of all that was splendid about the Dorset dialect in the fairly recent past.

So, this month's burlblings set you a task. A bit of homework. And I will be checking to make sure both of you have done it.

Listed below are some of the Dorset dialect words that we rarely, if ever, hear these days. I think we should try to use them and bring them back into our everyday speech. Many of them relate to the natural world and some are so fantastically rhythmical and pleasing that it would be a crying shame to lose them altogether.

The temperature has dropped of late and you could be cold or you could call yourself avroze or be all of a shiver which is to bibber.

You might get trapped in boggy ground at this time of year. The Dorsetshire dialect word for this would have been a-stooded. Now isn't that excellent? You could tell someone off, or you could ballyrag them.

Farmers might use a scarecrow to keep birds from the corn. In the past they might have called this bird-kippy.

When something was replete they were chockvul.

Here are some more of my favourites:

- To chimp is to break the roots from potatoes.

- If you stoop you might have been called croopy or crousty if you were miserable.
- An expert was a dabster who might dadder (bewilder) with his or her knowledge.
- Dewbit was the first meal of the morning which could cause you to dap (to bound) through the dirn (side post of the doorway) and over the drashel (threshold).

This is also the time of year for being drinky (intoxicated) although figgety-pudden (plum pudding) might help soak up the eale (bear). Such gwains-on (boisterous behaviour) could cause a miff (disagreement) between the village noggerheads (blockheads).

What marks these words and phrases out is not necessarily that they are any better in some cases than some of the more frequently used words and phrases of which we are familiar.

Although undercreepen, twanketen and tinklebobs (respectively sly, melancholy and icicles) are as good a set of words as you'll find in any modern dictionary, it's just that they add to the richness of the language and have their roots in the Dorset soil. They contain multiple layers of history, practicality and a depth of communication that may disappear for ever if not used or at least recorded.

Luckily, at Dorsetshire.com you can find all of these words and a good many more. You'll also find dialect poems and references galore to idle away the dark hours.

But the best way of rejuvenating a dialect or a series of words is to use them in your everyday speech. So, back to your homework. Try to use some of the above words or indeed any others you can find in your everyday speech. You'll be enriched and enriching as a result.

So, don't be tilty and rate me just because I asked you to raft.

Rale and tzwail about with renewed energy.

Don't be a sluck-a-bed and get yopping so you can spread the word or words.

Don't werret about the wrack of not being understood. It's often how it is when you vall-to.

Bumbye to one and all.

History Of Sandford Pottery Revealed

by Ben Buxton



Sandford Pottery, with its 180-foot tall chimney, dominated the village of Sandford near Wareham for more than a century before it was demolished in 1979.

In fact, when the factory was built in 1860, there was no village: Sandford grew up around it. The pottery was a big employer in the Wareham area until it closed in 1966. Forest Edge housing development now occupies the site.

Now, for the first time, the story of the pottery can be told. Patrick Andrews, a member of the Sandford Heritage Community Group, has pieced together a remarkable story of Victorian speculation and failure.

Investors poured money into an ambitious project, but in less than a year the company behind it went bust. Successive owners tried to make a go of it, with varying degrees of success.

The Sandford Heritage Community Group is hosting a talk by Patrick, "Sandford Pottery: on the fringes of Victorian enterprise" on 22nd January, 7.30pm in Sandford Community Hall, Keysworth Drive, Sandford.

Entrance is free and refreshments will be available.

www.sandfordheritage.org

Jurassic Coast Trust Become Guardians



The Jurassic Coast Trust has just started on a new and exciting stage in its development having recently taken on the responsibility for looking after the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site.

Known to one and all as the Jurassic Coast, the site stretches from Studland Bay in Dorset to Orcombe Point in Exmouth, East Devon and is England's only *natural* World Heritage Site. Since being given this accolade by the UN's scientific, cultural and educational body UNESCO in 2001,

leadership and management of the site has been by Dorset and Devon County Councils, coordinated through a small team hosted in County Hall in Dorchester.

This 16-year period has seen the site maintained in great condition, the growth of a national and international brand, the redevelopment of existing and creation of new visitor centres and museums, and the delivery of a huge range of educational activities, all relating to the Jurassic Coast.

The Trust is an independent charity that aims to make the Jurassic Coast an even more meaningful and inspiring part of people's lives, and, it is already supported by a range of local businesses and local Ambassadors who get behind its passionate commitment to the Coast.

The Trust will be working coast-wide from its new base in Bridport. One of its early highlights is the collaboration with the Dorset County Museum in Dorchester to bring 'Dippy', the Natural History Museum's iconic *Diplodocus* skeleton, to the Jurassic Coast.

You can find out more about this and the work of the Trust at www.jurassiccoast.org.



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Success For Sunflower Trail To Durlston!

A colourful arts project which used sunflowers to link Swanage with Durlston Country Park has been declared a great success. Children from St Mark's primary school, and volunteers from Emmanuel Baptist Church in Swanage, transplanted 750 sunflower seedlings into 150 hessian bags as part of The Arts Development Company's work with Durlston Country Park.

The sunflower bags were placed by the side of the path from Herston to Durlston to guide people along the route, which is hard to follow in places. The flowers were grown from seeds planted earlier in the year by every child at St Mark's, along with people in the Herston area.

Cleo Evans, Artist and Arts and Environment Lead with The Arts Development Company, who came up with the idea, said: "We've received some lovely feedback and the project has been a great success. We're very grateful to Eco Sustainable Solutions who donated the soil and coffee companies Lincoln & York and Masteroast who gave us the jute sacks for the sunflowers.

"As well as the sunflower trail, Eco also kindly donated enough soil for St Marks to have a new vegetable bed. Every class will now be involved in growing vegetables. It is great to work with such publicly minded companies, making life more fun and environmentally friendly."

Charlotte Haswell, Business Account Holder, Eco Sustainable Solutions, added: "The sunflower trail was a fantastic community project and we were very pleased to play our part in its success."

www.thisiseco.co.uk



Walkers One Step Closer To Enjoying England Coast Path!



People in Dorset are one step closer to being able to walk around the entire England coastline as work has started on every stretch of the England Coast Path.

The England Coast Path is an inspirational project to create the world's longest continuous coastal trail. While Dorset already boasts the South West Coast Path, by being part of the England Coast Path there are

opportunities to improve the existing route as part of the project.

In Dorset, there are four stretches included in the project:

- From Portland to Lulworth, where work is complete and the path is now open for everyone to enjoy
- From Lyme Regis to Rufus Castle, where Natural England's proposed route is being considered
- From Lulworth Cove to Kimmeridge Bay. Ramblers' volunteers are working with Natural England to discuss the best route that the England Coast Path should take
- From Kimmeridge Bay to Highcliffe, where Natural England's proposed route is being considered.

Ramblers' director of advocacy and engagement, Nicky Philpott said: "This is a huge milestone in the story of the England Coast Path and one we should celebrate. Building sandcastles on the beach, dipping toes in

the sea and taking a stroll along clifftops are favourite activities that cross generations and bring us all together.

"So, it might surprise you that until recently, a third of England's coastline was inaccessible. The Ramblers have long dreamed of a country where everyone can freely enjoy our beautiful coast, so we were pleased that after years of campaigning, in 2010, work started on the England Coast Path."

At almost 3,000 miles long, the path will stretch around the entire English coastline. Not only will this open up new paths, it will create new areas of open access land so people can freely explore headlands, cliffs and beaches, right up to the water's edge.

Natural England has been working with landowners, local authorities and others to open up stretches of the path and Ramblers' volunteers have worked tirelessly to walk and survey swathes of coast, mapping out the best route for walkers.

Nicky added: "We'd like to thank our wonderful volunteers who have spent hours exploring possible routes for the path. Using their local knowledge and thinking with their feet they are helping to ensure that the England Coast Path is not just a path, but one of the most incredible walking trails in the world."

The Government hopes to complete the England Coast Path by 2020, and the Ramblers are keen to ensure that plans are put in place to maintain the path once it's complete and has become a National Trail.

To find out more, visit www.ramblers.org.uk/EnglandCoastPath.

For further information please call the Ramblers press office on 0207 339 8531 or 07584 848083 (out of hours). Alternatively, please email press@ramblers.org.uk or visit www.ramblers.org.uk Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ramblers and Twitter twitter.com/RamblersGB

Picture by Gazette reader, Denise Exon

Land & Wave Make Splash For Charity



Purbeck-based charity, Margaret Green Animal Rescue (MGAR), has received a £630 donation from local adventure organisation, Land & Wave.

Land & Wave hosted a series of special coasteering and paddle boarding sessions in Swanage. 100% of the money raised was donated to the local animal charity. Locals leapt from ledges, explored sea caves and mastered the art of balancing on a paddle board, all to raise money for the much-needed new barn at the Margaret Green Animal Rescue centre in Church Knowle.

MGAR Commercial Manager Jenni Wilkinson said: "Our new barn is a big project for us here at MGAR, so when Land & Wave offered to raise funds we were really excited to have them on board. The barn is currently being built at our Church Knowle Rehoming and Visitor Centre."

The cheque was presented at the charity's HQ in the form of a bodyboard by Land & Wave director, Owen Senior. "We're thrilled to have raised so much money for such a great local cause," he said, "As an owner of three dogs, four pigs and eight chickens, I really appreciate the hard work they do."

Margaret Green Animal Rescue was set up in 1965 and has been rescuing, nursing and rehoming animals ever since. They care for around 1,200 animals every year across three centres. Jenni went on to thank Land & Wave: "It's a huge thank you from all the staff and animals at MGAR, and shows how much fun there can be had when fundraising. We're really looking forward to partnering with Owen and his team in the future."

Margaret Green Animal Rescue Centre

Looking ahead to 2018...

Thank you to all our supporters who helped us to care for around 1,200 animals in 2017 – we couldn't do what we do without you!

As we look forward to a new year we have already got dates in our event calendar, so make a note to come along, get involved and support us...

6th May – Smedmore House Open Day

14th – 20th May – Margaret Green Week

20th May – Ground Dog Day at Lincoln Farm

5th August – Family Fun & Novelty Dog Show at Church Knowle

23rd September – Country Fayre at Church Knowle

21st October – Barking Mud at Lincoln Farm



There's lots of ways you can help to raise funds for our rescue animals; you could sign up to become a volunteer, fundraiser, charity tin collector, sell raffle tickets for starters.

So, why not make 2018 the year you sign up to join us? Perhaps you have an idea for a fundraiser, want to get together a team to take part in the Dorset Plane Pull, set up an at work or school fundraising challenge?

Then get in touch via teamgreen@mgar.org.uk – we can't wait to hear your ideas!

Remember to keep an eye on our website www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk for details of animals looking for forever homes along with those available for sponsoring.

Why not pop on over to Church Knowle Rehoming and Visitor Centre, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5NQ to visit our animals?

We look forward to welcoming you in 2018!



Registered Charity No: 1167990



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Dorset's best kept secret...**

Margaret Green Animal Rescue Centre

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- family friendly attraction

margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk



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Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Barking Mad

In the depths of winter many gardens are looking drab and brown but there are some plants that really come into their own with colourful or interesting bark. In this article we look at a few of the best forms.



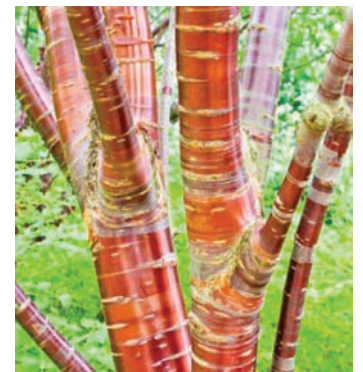
Cornus alba 'Sibirica' (above). The Westonbirt dogwood has the brightest red stems. Tough and easy to grow.



Cornus sanguinea 'Winter Beauty' (left). Probably the most vibrant of all winter stem colour.

Phyllostachys aureosulcata (bottom). This bamboo is reasonably well behaved. Prune out older stems at end of summer and remove the lower leaves up to 4 or 5ft to show the stems off.

Betula 'Snow Queen' (opposite column, top left). There are several excellent birches mostly with white stems but also pale pink (*B. albosinensis* var. *septentrionalis*) through to rich brown (*B. 'Wakehurst Chocolate'*).



Prunus serrula (above right). This cherry from the Himalayas has amazing coppery bark. It is vigorous, easy to grow (even on chalk) and in spring is covered in a cloud of pale pink flowers.



Making the most of stems in your garden

In this picture the stems of the birch and dogwood are augmented with the colour and form of the conifers, the structure of the grass and also the seed heads of the sedum. In your garden position your showy stems where you are most likely to see them in winter. As we spend a lot of time indoors in winter, position them at the end of a sight line from a house window or by the drive way so you can enjoy them as you drive in and out.

Sun really helps to lift good colour from good to vibrant, so planting in a sunny site where the stems will reflect the light back to the viewer is important. To see fantastic plant associations that you can try in your garden, visit the Hillier Winter Garden at Romsey (just 1 hrs drive).

For something a little closer, visit Holme for Gardens at Wareham where there is a developing winter garden with displays of the plants we have discussed and many more besides. The featured plants are also available to buy in the garden centre along with expert advice and you can warm yourself with lunch or a hot drink in the Orchard Café.

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A Durlston Volunteers View

Why not begin 2018 by putting a New Year's resolution into action? Enjoy fresh air, great company and healthy exercise by volunteering at Durlston! Volunteering has numerous benefits, including but not limited to:

- Becoming more involved with your local community
- Helping improve the natural and cultural environment
- Improving your physical and mental wellbeing

David Sagar commenced volunteering at Durlston during the summer of 1997 after retiring from teaching at The Purbeck School. David had already become very familiar with the country park through running, walking and bird watching on site.

"My first task was with the Wednesday work party planting trees and hedging to create Katie's Copse (Hingston Copse). I was instantly attracted to the camaraderie which has been a constant feature of volunteering at Durlston. The Wednesday Work Party tasks have always been varied and I enjoyed how we could immediately see the results of our labours.

"I then joined the Thursday morning work party that had been created to focus on the Durlston Castle redevelopment. Whilst the Heritage Lottery Fund Bid was being developed we made a practical start by stripping out the dilapidated interior and revealing the many building maintenance issues that needed to be attended to.

"However, once the contractors moved into the castle, the Thursday work party evolved into a dry-stone walling group. For many years walling was just one of the tasks that had to be addressed when a collapse occurred. It became apparent that there was much more walling to be done. It is amazing how much has been achieved by a dedicated group of dry stone Wallers.

"In 2016 I became ill, so I was unable to volunteer. However, after a hip replacement in 2017 I became mobile again. I looked for a non-physical volunteer activity at the Country Park and returned to assist on the Castle Counter. As well as dealing with shop sales, one had the opportunity to meet the public and answer their questions about the history and changing wildlife of the park. In addition, as counter volunteer, I enabled the duty ranger to leave the counter when needed to deal with the many challenges that arise around the building.

"Now that I have regained much of my fitness I have returned to the dry-stone walling work party; however, I also continue to help at the Castle.

"I have referred to some of the regular Durlston volunteering opportunities, however, there are always ways in which an individual's skills can be put to use at the Country Park. In 2003 I was aware that an Orchid Survey could be facilitated by having individual detailed field maps. My past experience of drawing orienteering maps served me well. However, I returned to remap some of the more intricate fields in 2017 to correct a few errors! I also supported the Durlston Pleasure Grounds Bid by mapping and surveying the condition of the dry-stone walls within the project area."

As mentioned above our off-the-shelf volunteering opportunities are:

Castle Counter Volunteers, Dolphin Watchers, Wednesday Practical Work Party, Thursday Dry-Stone Walling Work Party. In addition, we can discuss independent volunteering utilising your interests, skills and experience.

For further details please get in touch: Durlston@dorsetcc.gov.uk
<http://www.durlston.co.uk/friends-of-volunteer-opportunities.aspx>
 01929 424443

Arts & Entertainment

Robinson Crusoe Comes To The Mowlem!



ROBINSON CRUSOE
A Family Pantomime

Fri 5th, Sat 6th, Fri 12th, Sat 13th
January 2018
7.30pm evening performance
2pm Saturday Matinee

**Tickets: Adult £10, Concessions £9,
Children £5**

Mowlem Theatre, Swanage.
01929 422239

An Amateur Production www.swanagedramacompany.co.uk

Follow Robinson Crusoe's intrepid adventures through shipwreck, cannibals and evil Redbeard the Pirate's attempts to steal his treasure map as he hunts for the treasure on Yum Yum Island.

Also in on the action is Mum, Catherine Zeta Crusoe and his brother Kevin Columbus, love interest Britney Peveril-Point and Roger, a full-sized Aussie parrot. Comedy comes from Plankton and Guppy, Redbeard's henchmen.

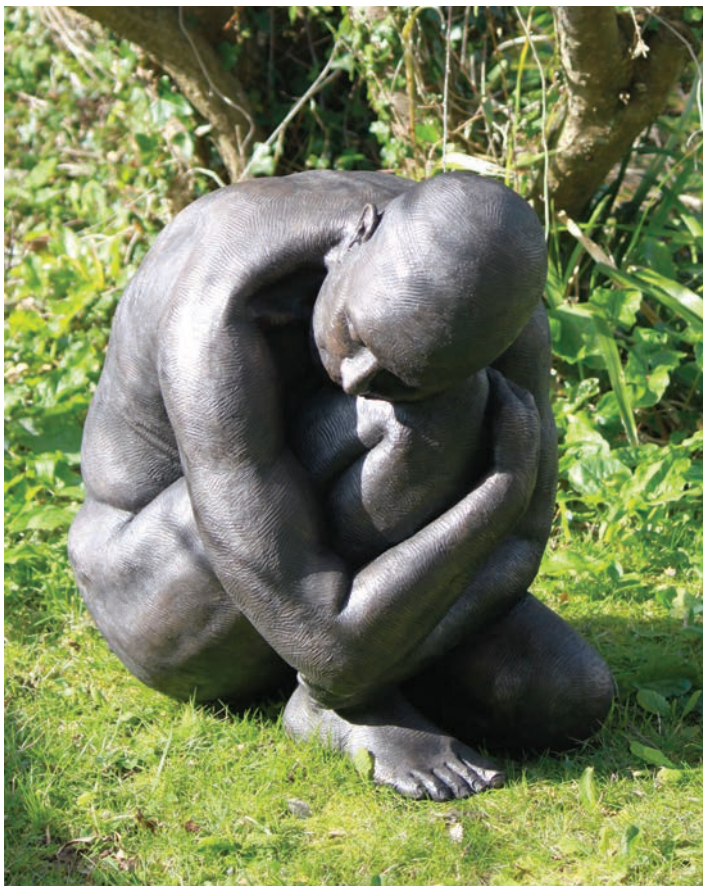
Will Robinson be able to impress Squire Peveril-point enough for him to win his daughter Britney's hand in marriage? Will Man Friday, currently on a gap year from Cambridge, be able to persuade Chief



Chewemupanspitumoutum and the Witchdoctor Roger Rhinohorn to stop the tribe's anti-social eating habits so that there is a cast left to perform the pantomime?

Set sail for the Mowlem Theatre and see for yourself on Friday 5th, Saturday 6th, Friday 12th and Saturday 13th at 7.30pm, with a matinee at 2pm on Saturdays.

Moira Purver Wins Award



Dorset sculptor Moira Purver has received an award for her 'Self Contained Man' sculpture (pictured, above).

The £250 prize was awarded to the Swanage resident at the South West Academy of Fine and Applied Arts Open Exhibition at Exeter Castle.



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Closing date for applications is January 31st 2018.

BURSARIES

John Flower bursaries are available to help and encourage artists, of any discipline, to take the next step in the development of their career. If you would like to find out more and how to apply please contact info@purbeckartweeks.co.uk.

www.purbeckartweeks.co.uk



It's All Going On At The R.B.L. In Swanage!



Happy New Year to You All!

At the end of January, we'll be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the arrival of popular club Steward 'Elmo' and his wife Louise with a special 'double-header' of entertainment at the Royal British Legion in Swanage.

On the Saturday night there's Swanage's own beloved Spoonphed and on Sunday afternoon Queenie Creole Moore returns with Hugh Budden and the Blue Chords, featuring our entertainment consultant Steve Darrington on piano. Steve has been busy on our behalf since 2015, and this year's programme is again looking very promising.

We have an Open Mic and Showcase evening on the first Thursday of the month, run in conjunction with Absolute Music and Tweed Jacket Music, professional musicians and singers who organise events across Dorset. Every two months we've got Soul, Jazz, Funk, Philly, Motown, Northern Soul and Classic Disco run by Soul Cellar - again a professional outfit that syndicates across Dorset and beyond.

Twice a year there will be Two Comedy Nights and Steve's amazing Swanage Blues Festivals with The Legion playing a full part from Thursday evening all through to Sunday night.

Throughout the year our occasional Sunday afternoon bands have been so successful they've now expanded to three times every month. Rock 'n' Roll, Soul, 1960s, 1970s to the Present, Country, Rock, all sorts and great fun for all the family.

Make sure to try our Super Sunday Roasts, though you'll need to book a table in advance 'cos they're so popular.



Steve Darrington and **THE LEGION**
150 High Street, Swanage 01929 422722 present

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OPEN MIC NIGHT
Non-Members just sign in

non £1 member **Sunday 7th, 3.30pm - 6.00pm** NEW
RUNAWAY
Fun Five Piece playing 50s and 60s Covers

non £1 member **Saturday 13th, 8.30pm - 11.00pm** NEW
Stevie G's SOUL CELLAR
Soul, Jazz, Funk, Philly, Motown, Northern Soul & Classic Disco

non £1 member **Saturday 27th, 8.30pm - 11.00pm**
SPOONPHED
Swanage's own and beloved Spoonphed return for one night only!

non £1 member **Sunday 28th, 3.30pm - 6.00pm**
HUGH BUDDEN AND THE BLUE CHORDS
Blues, Country, Soul - 50s, 60s, Rock 'n' Roll!

Phone 01929 422722 to book Sunday Lunch

Finally, why not come and see for yourself? The stage is set – and very smart too – the PA system is not too loud but clear, and the dance floor and/or the comfy seats are just waiting for you to join us.

Pictures kindly provided by DubbelXposure - Thank you!





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purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk   

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival 2018

Guitar hero Richard Thompson revealed as first headliner for Purbeck Valley Folk Festival 2018

Referred as one of the greatest guitarists of all time, Richard Thompson is the first major headliner to be announced for this year's Purbeck Valley Folk Festival (16 - 19 August) and will be bringing his Electric Trio with him for the much-anticipated summer event.

The folk-rock pioneer and founder member of Fairport Convention will join the very finest from the flourishing UK and international folk scene and last played the festival in 2015 where he was one of the highlights.

Having co-founded the groundbreaking group Fairport Convention as a teenager in the 60s, Richard Thompson and his band mates virtually invented British Folk Rock. Thompson's massive body of work includes over 40 albums, many Grammy nominations, an Ivor Novello and an OBE.

A wide range of musicians have recorded Thompson's music including Robert Plant, Elvis Costello, REM, Del McCoury, Bob Dylan, Los Lobos, David Byrne, Don Henley and many others.

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival organiser, Catherine Burke says: "We are over the moon to have one of the all-time greats of folk music returning to headline for us. I love this festival because of the amazing atmosphere

made by the people who come. There's loads of brilliant music; we're music-lovers so we make sure it's always really great music."

Catherine added: "We love having the support of so many local people in Purbeck and we're lucky to have a fabulous venue at Purbeck Valley Farm. Best of all, there's a wonderful feeling among people who are here to enjoy the music."

Further headline acts will be announced for the family friendly festival over the coming months. Surrounded by spectacular views of Corfe Castle, Purbeck's rolling hills, and with craft workshops and some truly delicious food, Purbeck Valley Folk Festival is just as much a feast for the eyes as it is for the ears.

Revellers will be treated to a host of other favourite attractions including kids entertainers, storytellers, craft workshops, music workshops, theatre workshops, song sessions, poetry, Purbeck Rising and open mics.

Weekend tickets (Thurs - Sun) with or without camping are on sale now from £96 (youth £46, children age 4-11 £21).

For more information please see purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk



Health & Beauty

All New Swanage Therapy Centre!

Swanage Therapy Centre is undergoing some major changes under the guidance of its new owner, Victoria Evans. As well as ongoing improvements to the building itself, the therapy centre is upgrading its website and social media and is looking forward to taking on some new therapists and therapies in the near future.

A brief list and description of therapies and treatments currently available include:

Acupuncture: an ancient system of healing, originally part of the traditional medicine of China, where it has been used for thousands of years to restore health and enhance well-being.

Chiropractic: a health profession concerned with the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mechanical disorders of the musculoskeletal system and the effects of these disorders on the function of the nervous system and general health. There is an emphasis on manual treatments including spinal manipulation or adjustment.

Counselling: provides an opportunity to talk to someone in complete confidence.

Foot Health Care: A foot health practitioner is someone trained in the treatment of minor foot disorders and who also provides general foot care advice.

Hopi Ear Candles: Made from pure beeswax, honey extract and herbs, Hopi Ear candles induce a pleasant feeling of warmth and a balance of pressure in the ears, forehead and sinuses.

Deep Tissue Massage: This type of massage focuses on the muscles located below the surface of the top muscles. Deep tissue massage is often recommended for individuals who experience consistent pain, are involved in heavy physical activity (such as athletes), and patients who have sustained physical injury. Deep tissue work varies greatly.

Mindfulness: A simple definition of mindfulness is being fully aware in the present moment, non-judgementally and with full acceptance of what is.

Physiotherapy: Following a thorough assessment, treatment from a chartered physiotherapist will include a wide range of skills including manipulation, mobilisation, massage and exercises, often aided by the use of sophisticated electronic and electrical apparatus – all designed to help in the relief of pain and promotion of healing.

Pilates: Although primarily used by dancers and actors, fitness and health professionals have been developing the principles of the Pilates Method ever since to benefit athletes and anyone interested in keeping fit and at the same time improving the way in which their body and mind function and coordinate.

Psychotherapy: Psychotherapy and Counselling are often interchangeable terms used to define talking therapies working with individuals who are struggling with certain aspects of life.

Reflexology: Reflexology is a gentle, non-invasive therapy which uses stimulation and massage of reflex and acu-points in the feet. Thumbs, fingers, or even knuckles are used to apply pressure to these points in order to stimulate a reaction to the corresponding parts in the body.

Sports Therapy: A Sports Therapist is trained in the assessment and diagnosis of injuries and pain affecting the musculoskeletal system.

Yoga: Yoga means balance between body and mind. Traditionally yoga focuses on finding mental balance using the body, the breath, yoga psychology and relaxation techniques.

All our therapies are practised by fully qualified, experienced and professional therapists.

Our new website should be up and running any day with details about the treatments offered and the therapists who practice them.

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URGENT HELP REQUIRED!!

We need your support to achieve the best result for **YOUR** future Health and Social care needs in **PURBECK**

(Wareham, Surrounding Villages and Swanage)

Please sign our circulating petition which is supporting a **NEW BUILD HUB** of **fully integrated services** on the Wareham Middle School Site.



Friends of Wareham Hospital in association with the Wareham Neighbourhood plan team and our MP.

Matron's Round - Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

All the staff at Swanage Hospital would like to wish the readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Why not make one small change in 2018 to improve your health?

Our physiotherapy department treats many conditions, but perhaps one of the most common problems they see involves tendons. Tendons are the soft tissues that connect muscle to bone in order to make our skeletons move. Tendonitis is the inflammation of a tendon and can be caused by many things including over-loading and repetitive strain.

Most people will know someone who has suffered with tendonitis, even if they haven't experienced it personally. What is not commonly considered is how much our lifestyle choices impact on our tendon health. Smoking has been linked with unhealthy tendons and a higher likelihood of tendon ruptures. Excessive alcohol consumption slows the healing process and our body's ability to fight infection.

We must also get enough protein and vitamins in our diet to help repair and regrow new healthy tissue. Tendons, like muscles, need regular exercise to stay healthy.

Could you make a change to any of these areas of your life for 2018?

Smoking - could you cut down, or even quit altogether? For further help and advice call the free Smokefree National Helpline on 0300 123 1044.

Alcohol - could you reduce your units per week? More information is available at: <http://www.talktofrank.com/drug/alcohol>

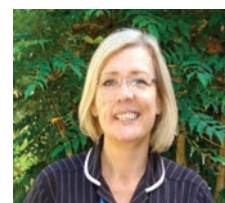
Diet - are you eating a balanced diet? The NHS website provides lots of information: <https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/Goodfoodhome.aspx> or get the

Change4Life Be Food Smart app from iTunes or Google Play.

Exercise - could you be doing more of it? The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy has an Easy Exercise Guide at: <http://www.csp.org.uk/publications/easy-exercise-guide>

Remember - even a small change can make a big difference!

Until next time stay well, Matron Donna



Swanage Hospital Minor Injuries Unit
Open 7 days a week from 8am - 8pm
If you have an injury, we're here to treat it!
Call us on 01929 421329. We're here for YOU, so use our services!

Is Too Much Sitting Increasing Your Pain?



"Sitting is the new smoking".

Extrême? Well it reflects growing concern about the negative health effects caused by our increasingly sedentary lifestyles.

Now Christmas is behind us, many of us will have overindulged, gained weight and moved very little from the T.V., making January an ideal time to reassess our lifestyles.

Aches and pains in our backs, necks and joints, present before the festive season, may now be more pronounced in the new year and in the season of resolutions, let Wareham Physiotherapy guide you to a healthier lifestyle and less pain in 2018.

Too much sitting reduces our cardio vascular fitness/stamina, our overall

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muscle strength, particularly in our buttocks and legs, reduces our balance and overloads our muscles and joints.

Sitting for extended periods causes us to adopt a lazy collapsed posture which overstretches the joints, ligaments and muscles causing our spines to become "C" rather than "S" shaped. Postural muscles become stretched and weak while other muscles become short and tight, reinforcing the bad postures and causing joints to become stiff and painful.

Recognise yourself in the above? Let us fully assess your physical strength, mobility, balance and posture. With gentle muscle release techniques, manual therapy to mobilise stiff joints, stretches for tight soft tissues and strengthening for weak muscle groups, lifestyle advice plus pain relief using acupuncture or ultrasound, we can guide you to a "new you" for 2018 with a tailored treatment package.

Ring Helen Gordon, Chartered Physiotherapist on 07765 129786 for an appointment or visit www.warehamphysio.co.uk



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Wednesday Mornings 10:00am - 11:00am

at The Ranger School of Dance, The Mill Pond, Swanage.

For more information call Anna on 07999 369 016

www.threetreeyoga.com



'Fobbed Off' Report Gets Results

Changes to the way NHS complaints are handled at Royal Bournemouth Hospital is having a positive impact on patients and their relatives.

Last year Healthwatch Dorset, the local patient champion, gathered feedback from over 150 people across Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset to produce their report on the NHS complaints system. Sadly, the vast majority of experiences people shared with Healthwatch Dorset at the time were negative and a phrase people often used about how they felt was "fobbed off" so they made that the title of their report.

70% of people said that they were not offered the opportunity to discuss or meet with staff at any point during the process of making the complaint.

78% said that they were not made aware that they could be supported through the process by an independent advocate.

Healthwatch Dorset made 6 recommendations to the NHS in Dorset on ways that they could improve people's experience.

- Update information about the Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS).
- Give patients and families the opportunity to meet with staff at the very beginning of the complaints procedure.
- Raise awareness of the help available to patients through Dorset Advocacy.
- Ensure that people are always kept informed as to the progress of their complaint, by their chosen method of communication.
- Review complaints procedures and provide information about what options are open to people if they are not satisfied with the result of their complaint.
- Provide staff with updated training in interpersonal and communication skills.

In response to Healthwatch Dorset recommendations, Royal Bournemouth Hospital has been busy implementing changes to improve the way they handle complaints. Amongst the many changes they've made over the last few months: Information on the hospital website and posters around the hospital have been updated to give clearer PALS information.

Matrons now act on concerns as soon as they are raised. Complainants receive a phone call and contact details are given in acknowledgement letters, along with regular updates on the progress of the complaint.

Dorset Advocacy services are being promoted.

The hospital has developed a "customer care" programme for all staff which includes the importance of communication, being proactive and supporting patients' carers and the public. Joyce Guest, Chair of Healthwatch Dorset, explains: "We wanted local NHS organisations to see complaints as "gold dust", a critical source of intelligence about how to improve services; feedback that should be welcomed as a way to improve how our services treat and care for people. We've been working closely with our local NHS and we're delighted to see the actions that Royal Bournemouth & Christchurch Hospitals have taken to ensure that local people receive the standard of service that they not only deserve but have a right to expect."

Rachel Bevan, Head of Patient Experience, Public Engagement & Volunteer Service at Bournemouth Hospital, told us: "Healthwatch Dorset's report has really helped us to identify the problems our patients can face when raising a concern about their care. We've implemented all of the recommendations Healthwatch made and we're already seeing the benefits."

A patient at Bournemouth Hospital, who was recently admitted with a suspected heart attack, raised concerns about the lack of clear information they were given. In response the department gathered more patient feedback and now works more closely with the Emergency Department to identify patients for transfer to Cardiology as soon as possible. This early identification of patients has helped to improve the patient experience and has also reduced their stay in hospital by up to 36 hours.

We will carry on working with Healthwatch Dorset to encourage feedback from our patients & improve services." Healthwatch Dorset will continue monitoring what action the NHS takes in response to local people's feedback. You can read the Healthwatch Dorset report on their website www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk or call 0300 111 0102 (local rate number) to find out more.



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Jane Zoega is a registered psychotherapist and
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Sport

Swanage Bowls Club Report

With the end of the bowling season comes the start of the Club's "Winter Socials" season, AGM and Annual Club meal.

Swanage Bowling Club prides itself on the social side of membership as much as achievements and fun on the Green and so far we have enjoyed a Race Night and a "Definitionist" evening, both accompanied by great food.

No one became a betting millionaire at the Race Night, but this didn't seem to stop people shouting at the horses as though they were at Ascot! Our "Definitionist" evening allowed the more learned members of the Club to show off and for the rest of us to laugh at some of the words that really do exist in the English language.

The Club's annual Panto takes place in January and there are already rumours that the Ugly Sisters, who are usually upstanding members of Swanage society, have been misbehaving in rehearsals. Enjoy the Panto everyone... oh yes you will!

Our AGM was held in November; new Committee Members were elected and particular thanks were given to Mike Keats for his commitment and

hard work as a Committee Member for thirty years. A lively discussion took place regarding the proposed new bowling surface and it was with disappointment that Club members heard the implementation of the new surface would not take place as expected over the winter period due to complications with the tenders for the work.

The Club understands that the changes to the surface will now take place next winter. We are now in discussions with the Council to ensure that the green is of a high quality for the 2018 season.

The Annual Lunch was attended by over fifty Members and their guests. With a great lunch provided by Bliss, local outside caterers in Swanage, and a few drinks from the Bowlers Arms, everyone had a great time.

Our new President, Brian Beeston "entertained" us with dreadful jokes and reminders of the Club's successes during 2017.

Look out for up to date information about the Club and activities by going to our website: www.swanagebowlingclub.org or by visiting our Swanage Bowls Club Facebook page.

Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club



Following Swans' first victory of the season against Blandford on 4th November, the following week the 1st XV had to travel away to Devizes.

In the first few minutes Devizes committed a series of penalties and from one of these Swans flank forward Matt Roberts took a tap penalty and raced over the try line giving Swans a 5pts lead. The hosts came back with a series of nine penalties in quick succession, putting Swans under severe pressure but could not score as Swans defense held firm.

A couple of penalties relieved the pressure and Swans led at the break with a converted try. Ten minutes into the second half, Devizes replied with a Roberts' try giving them the lead, but a few minutes later Stephen Woolley restored Swans advantage with a penalty goal (7pts - 8pts). Swans received a yellow card from a high ball and a tap penalty resulted in a Devizes try.

Numerous penalties were recorded in the next fifteen minutes, but from one out wide, Devizes scored a push over try making the score 17pts - 8pts. Devizes were on top now, and with two minutes to go, another try in the corner meant that Swans lost the in.

On the 25th November, Swans welcomed Frome to Bestwall. In the opening exchanges Swans were on top, driving forward, but after ten minutes, a break by the Frome three - quarters led to a try under the posts, much against the run of the play. This was converted (0pts - 7pts).

The play was even for the next ten minutes, but a penalty put Swans into the visitors 22, and as Swans aimed for a catch/drive move the ball came back to fly half Stephen Woolley who from the 22 calmly drop-kicked a goal (3pts - 7pts).

Three minutes later a break by a Swans flank forward, moved the ball to No. 8 Joe Desmond who ran in unopposed for Swans to take the lead. Woolley added the extras (10pts - 7) after 25 minutes. However, from a kick ahead by Swans, Frome's left winger collected the ball, ran across the field, avoiding Swans efforts to tackle him and made it to score a converted try after 32 minutes (10pts - 14pts at the break).

Within five minutes of the restart Swans were back in the lead again as from a catch/drive move Swans scrum half Chris Tomes scored out wide (15pts-14pts). The play was even for the rest of the second half, but five minutes from the end, Swans gave away a penalty on their own 22 and Frome kicked the conversion, leaving Swans defeated by 15pts - 17pts.

On 2nd December, Swans were privileged to host the Cup Final between Sherborne and North Dorset, and also the Shield Final between Dorchester and Oakmeadians. In the Cup Final, Sherborne defeated North Dorset in a closely contested match, so Sherborne go ahead to play in the National Cup in the New Year. In the Shield Final, Dorchester beat Oakmeadians.

Main Games in January

13 January Swans 1st XV v. Swindon College Old Boys, Home, 2.15 p.m.

20th January Swans 1st XV v. Trowbridge, Away, 2.15 p.m.

Swans 2nd XV v. Dorchester 1st XV, Home, 2.15 p.m.

Swans 3rd XV v. North Dorset 3, Home, 2.15 p.m.

27th January Swans 1st XV v. Walcot, Home, 2.15 p.m.

Ron Butler, Publicity Secretary.

astroturf courts were opened with a special celebrity open day, growing membership, more tennis teams and social events, and in the Spring, the club welcomed their new LTA Level 4 coach, Ryan Trickey.

Ryan has made an immediate impact on club activities, working to build a vibrant junior membership, and introducing Cardio Tennis sessions, which are a great way to get fit, improve skills and have fun at the same time. He also runs coaching sessions throughout the week for all levels of ability.

The club offers free taster sessions for Cardio Tennis at 7:30pm every Thursday, and up to three free tennis matchplay sessions for prospective members at 6pm every Friday.

The club is delighted to welcome all standards of players, and hope to see more prospective members come to try the facilities at Beach Gardens anytime.

Swanage Tennis

Swanage Tennis Club was honoured to be nominated for Dorset club of the year at The Dorset LTA TENNIS AWARDS on November 22nd 2017. The other clubs nominated were Sherborne and Southbourne. Sam Christmas, Sue Tindale and Helen Knight, co-chairs, attended the awards and although pipped at the post by Sherborne, were delighted by the very positive and encouraging comments made by Richard Henshaw, chair of Dorset LTA. He highly praised the club's opening event and said the club now has a very good momentum to take forward.

It was a fitting end and the culmination of an exciting year in which two new

Swanage Football Club

Supporting: Swanage & Herston Youth Team



Our Mini kickers section (see photo) of the Club continues to go from strength to strength, with up to twenty participants regularly attending the 10 o'clock session every Saturday morning. We are looking to grow mini kickers as this is where the future stars of our Club often make their first encounter with the 'beautiful game'. The hour-long session is run by our qualified football coach, Eddie Rainford. If you were thinking of coming along, your first session would be a taster and there would not be the normal fee of £2. If your child then decides they like it and it's for them, then we would charge thereafter.

The sessions are in the hall, so if you're familiar with the hall, you'll know that can watch over proceedings from above.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Simon Kidby as our new Treasurer. Simon attended our last committee meeting and was duly voted in. This role has been a struggle to fill and Simon is the ideal candidate. He not only brings accounting skills with him, Simon has a vast knowledge of the non-league game. He was recently involved as assistant manager at Sevenoaks Town and you long-term readers will remember he was instrumental in obtaining our new floodlights. Not only is Simon the new treasurer, he has agreed to take on the running and managing of things on the commercial side. With Simon's experience in sales and marketing, we are really looking forward to what Simon has to offer the Club. To follow him on Twitter, go to @soliofex

The Reserves have just progressed into the Semi Final of the Dorset Intermediate Cup. On Saturday they hosted a strong side in Portland Town. With a few key players missing, manager Jossy was still hopeful his young side would progress.

After going 2-1 behind, Jossy was delighted when three superb goals from Flo (big issue seller), Billy Russell and Sam Peacock made the score line a victorious 4-2. Hopefully, this recent Cup form will translate into the league as we are in the lower half of Dorset League 1 and are looking to climb the table.

The First team have been performing well of late, currently sitting in 3rd place in the Dorset Prem League. We are not left in any Cup competitions and so our intention is now to finish as high in the DPL as we can. As you are probably aware, we are intending to apply to the next level which is the Wessex league. The last time we played our football in this league was season 2001-02 when we finished bottom of the Wessex Prem. To achieve this we would need to finish in the top three positions. A tall order, but something we believe we can achieve.

On 17th December 2017, our relationship with Pitchero, who have hosted our current and award-winning website swanagefc.com for the last six years, came to an end. Its successor, currently accessible via swanagefc.co.uk, is starting to take shape. It will provide a more informative platform covering all of our participating senior and youth football teams, community initiatives, commercial partners and provide an online shop to purchase club merchandise. The new site will be updated daily by our merry band of volunteer officials to increase exposure of the Football Club beyond the wider community, plus build on the excellent work already undertaken on our social media platforms in order to maintain existing and attract new commercial partners.

Another exciting initiative for the new year is the new physical Club Shop, which will be temporarily located in the tea hut from January. It will stock Swanage Town and Herston Football Club merchandise including our new scarves, pin badges, polo shirts, ties and match day programmes. In addition to this, you will be able to peruse and purchase league and non-league match day programmes, non-league pin badges, scarves, Corinthian figures and many other football-related items.

We are looking to recruit a volunteer to run a YouTube-based 'Swans TV'. Responsibilities include videoing and editing first team match days home and away, pre-and post-match interviews. This is a great opportunity for an individual studying in this field or for an enthusiast looking to expand their hobby into a new field. Enquiries to simonkidby@swanagefc.com.

COME ON YOU SWANS!! John Peacock

The Purbeck Gazette - Proudly Supporting The Swans

Spotlight Event Diary

Diary Entries are FREE if your event is FREE. If you charge, then it's £5 plus VAT per entry, per month. DEADLINE for FEB is noon, 8th JAN

KEY: * = Start time not known or n/a; Ffi = for further information; Sw = Swanage; Wm = Wareham; VH = Village Hall, Telephone code 01929 unless otherwise stated.

JANUARY 2018



Corfe Castle Illuminated, by Richard Murgatroyd

DECEMBER

- Wed 27th
- * **Christmas with Friends** With Crossways Travel. 4 day tour staying in the 4 star Coppice in Babbacombe, £349. Ffi: 01305 851697.
 - 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 10:00 **Tudor Christmas Storytelling** Come and enjoy a walk around the romantic ruins of Corfe Castle, find out about Tudor traditions and maybe participate in a game or two.
 - 16:00 **Winter Lights at Corfe Castle** Come and see the illuminations at Corfe Castle, with contemporary lanterns, beacons and magical lighting.
 - 18:00 **Christmas Fun Quiz** Join the fun at the Swanage Conservative Club with a fun Charity Quiz. Tel. 01929 422310/423600 for more details
- Thu 28th
- 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 09:00 **Winter Warm Up with Swanage Railway** Swanage Railway invites you to join them for a Winter Warm Up. Check the Swanage Railway website for times and to book tickets.
 - 16:00 **Winter Lights at Corfe Castle** Come and see the illuminations at Corfe Castle, with contemporary lanterns, beacons and magical lighting.
 - 20:00 **Live Music - The Val Doonicans** Live Music at the Square and Compass with The Val Doonicans
- Fri 29th
- 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 16:00 **Winter Lights at Corfe Castle** Come and see the illuminations at Corfe Castle, with contemporary lanterns, beacons and magical lighting.
 - 20:00 **Live Music - Mother Ukers** Live Music at the Square and Compass with Mother Ukers
- Sat 30th
- 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 10:00 **Tudor Christmas Storytelling** Come and enjoy a walk around the romantic ruins of Corfe Castle, find out about Tudor traditions and maybe participate in a game or two.
- 16:00 **Winter Lights at Corfe Castle** Come and see the illuminations at Corfe Castle, with contemporary lanterns, beacons and magical lighting.
- 18:00 **Disco fun!** The Swanage Conservative Club invites you to the King of Clubs Disco. Tel. 01929 422310/423600 for further information.
- Sun 31st
- * **NEW YEAR'S EVE!** Enjoy everyone!
 - * **Dorset Countryside Volunteers Sunday 31st December:** will be at Great Ovens, Wareham, Purbeck. We will be cutting small pine trees to maintain this heathland and welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.
 - 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 10:00 **Tudor Christmas Storytelling** Come and enjoy a walk around the romantic ruins of Corfe Castle, find out about Tudor traditions and maybe participate in a game or two.
 - 14:00 **Live Music-African Ngwamsa** Live Music at the Square and Compass with African Ngwamsa
 - 18:00 **Live music - John De Barra** Say Good-bye to 2017 and Welcome in 2018 at the Swanage Conservative Club with live music from John De Barra. Tel. 01929 422310/423600 for more details
 - 19:00 **The Italian Kitchen** Celebrate New Years Eve at on Wareham Quay with Champagne and fireworks at midnight. Booking advisable 01929 550990
 - 20:00 **New Years Eve Party** Live acts at the Square and Compass, Worth Matravers.
- ### JANUARY
- Mon 1st
- 09:00 **Steam Trains at Swanage Railway** Steam Trains running daily, check the Swanage Railway website for times and further details.
 - 11:00 **Clean Up Corfe Litter Pick** (Litter-free Purbeck) Meet in The Square, Corfe Castle, to litterpick for about 1.5 hrs. Kit provided but please wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves. More details from Liz on 01929 480447, litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com or see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page.
 - 11:00 **Membership renewal** Please remember to renew your membership with the Swanage Conservative Club in January 2018. Tel. 01929 422310/423600
- Tue 2nd
- 11:00 **Membership renewal** Please remember to renew your membership with the

Swanage Conservative Club in January 2018. Tel. 01929 422310/423600

Thu 4th
20:00 **Open Mic Night** At The Legion, Swanage.

Fri 5th
19:30 **'Robinson Crusoe'** A family pantomime at The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. 2pm Saturday Matinee. Tickets Adult £10, Conc £9, Children £5.

Sat 6th
* **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** Will be at Trigon, South West Hyde, Purbeck. We will be cutting small pine trees to maintain this heathland and welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

19:30 **'Robinson Crusoe'** A family pantomime at The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. 2pm Saturday Matinee. Tickets Adult £10, Conc £9, Children £5.

Sun 7th
* **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** Will be at Trigon, South West Hyde, Purbeck. We will be cutting small pine trees to maintain this heathland and welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

15:30 **'Runaway'** Live acts at The Legion, Swanage.

Tue 9th
* **Swanage Stamp & Postcard Club** Meets at Queens Mead Community Centre, Swanage. New & experienced collectors welcome. Ffi: 01929 450439.

14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's meetings** Purbeck Parkinson's meetings. Second Tuesday of every month between September and June. Held at All Saints Church, Ullwell between 2pm and 4pm. Contact details T. Lander 01929 425970 or D. Peters 01929 551962. Dates are 12th December 2017, 9th January 2018, 13th February 2018, 13th March 2018, 10th April 2018, 8th May 2018, 12th June 2018.

Thu 11th
14:30 **Funday Sunday Monthly Filmshow** 'Little Miss Sunshine'. At Swanage Day Centre, High st Swanage. Admission £3.50, includes refreshments. Doors open at 1.30pm.

Fri 12th
19:30 **'Robinson Crusoe'** A family pantomime at The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. 2pm Saturday Matinee. Tickets Adult £10, Conc £9, Children £5.

Sat 13th
09:30 **Wareham Wombles Litter Pick** (Litter-free Purbeck) Meet Westport House (PDC offices), Worgret Road, Wareham, to litterpick for 1-2hrs. Kit provided but please wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves. More details from Nicola on 01929 553437, litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com or see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page.

10:00 **Engraving Skills** with Val Quinn At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £60 per adult. Booking essential on 01929 439405.

19:30 **'Robinson Crusoe'** A family pantomime at The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. 2pm Saturday Matinee. Tickets Adult £10, Conc £9, Children £5.

20:30 **Stevie G's Soul Cellar** Live acts at The Legion, Swanage.

Sun 14th
19:00 **Star Wars - 'The Last Jedi'** Films at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Matinee 2pm Monday 15th.

Mon 15th
* **Deadline for First School Applications** Ffi:www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/school-admissions

19:00 **Star Wars - 'The Last Jedi'** Films at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Matinee 2pm Monday 15th.

Tue 16th
19:00 **Star Wars - 'The Last Jedi'** Films at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Matinee 2pm Monday 15th.

Wed 17th
19:00 **Star Wars - 'The Last Jedi'** Films at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Matinee 2pm Monday 15th.

Thu 18th
14:30 **Purbeck Ass'n of the National Trust** At Carey Hall, Mistover Rd, Wareham. An illustrated talk 'Fairtrade in Ghana' - Judith Holmes talks about her visit to Ghana to see the effects of the Fairtrade movement on local farmers and producers; Till 4pm. All welcome. £3 incl refreshments. Ffi 01929 427300.

19:00 **Star Wars - 'The Last Jedi'** Films at the Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Matinee 2pm Monday 15th.

Mon 22nd
19:30 **Sandford Heritage Community Group** At Sandford Community Hall, Keysworth Drive, Sandford BH20 7BD. Presents: "Sandford Pottery: on the fringes of Victorian enterprise" a talk by Patrick Andrews. Entrance free. www.sandfordheritage.org

Sat 27th
10:00 **Stone Carving with Jonathon Sells** At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £80 per adult. Booking essential on 01929 439405.

Sun 28th
09:15 **Swanage Beach Clean** (Litter-free Purbeck) Meet Swanage Information Centre, Shore Road to beach clean for 1-2 hours on South Beach. Kit provided but please dress wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves. Children must

be accompanied by a supervising adult. More details from Bridget on 01929 421753, litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com or see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page.

15:30 **Hugh Budden & The Blue Chords** Live acts at The Legion, Swanage.

FEBRUARY

Sun 4th

* **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** Will be at Great Ovens, Wareham, Purbeck. We will be cutting small pine trees to maintain this heathland and welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

Mon 5th

10:00 **Age UK Dorchester Information Event** At Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester, DT1 1PW. 'Wills & Power of Attorney'.

Fri 9th

19:30 **Purbeck Railway Circle Meets** at Harman's Cross Village Hall for "160 Years of Railways in Weymouth", presentation by Brian Jackson. Refreshments and railway raffle. Doors open 7pm. Ffi 421 913. Everyone is welcome.

Tue 13th

* **Swanage Stamp & Postcard Club** Meets at Queens Mead Community Centre, Swanage. New & experienced collectors welcome. Ffi: 01929 450439.

14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's meetings** Second Tuesday of every month between September and June. Held at All Saints Church, Ullwell between 2pm and 4pm. Contact details T. Lander 01929 425970 or D. Peters 01929 551962.

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY MONDAY

09.00 **U3A Table Tennis Group** meet at Harmans Cross VH.

09.30 **Under 2.5 years old group.** Till 11am. at Parish Hall, Wm.

09.45 **Toddler Club** URC, Sw. Till 11.15

10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093

10.30 **Flowers with Liz** at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com

13.00 **Play and Learn** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Till 2.45pm

13.00 **Under 1s and Tums** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 3pm

14.00 **Pins and Needles** at Harmans Cross VH.

14.00 **Swanage Disabled Club** meet until 4pm. Meeting place alternates between Catholic Hall & Queensmead Hall, Sw. Transport available. Call Mrs Daphne Saville on 01929 425241 ffi.

14.30 **Get Online FREE at Swanage Library.** one-to-one half hour I.T. sessions, bookable in the Library in advance. Until 4pm.

16.45 **Soccer Skills** Sw FC First Sch chldn £1 Till 5.45. 425175

18.00 **Sw Tennis Club** Snr Club Session. 426312

18.00 **Lesbian and Gay Friendship Group** meets every Monday evening for social events and shared interests, such as meals, walking and outings. Ffi: contact Karen via email: outinpurbeck@gmail.com

19.00 **Wareham Choral Society** meet URC Meeting House, Chch St, Wm. Till 9. New singers always welcome. 554229/553460

19.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School year 10 and upwards. Till 9.30pm

19.00 **Whist.** Come & join us at the Reading Room, Church Hill, Swanage. Ffi, call 07984 968733

19.00 **Purbeck Chess Club.** Mortons House Hotel, Corfe Castle. Ffi, call Steve Peirson on 01929 552504.

19.30 **Purbeck Quire** rehearse at Wm Methodist Church. New/visiting singers (no audition necessary). String & wind players also welcome. Ffi: 423505 or 480737.

19.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.

19.30 **Wm Folk Dance Club** Stoboro' VH. All welcome. 552763/551029

19.30 **Swanage Badminton Club** at the Swanage School, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 07966 136641.

19.30 **Swanage Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, Court Road, Sw. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.

20.00 **DARTS** at the RBL Club, Sw.

20.00 **Herston Hall Management C'ttee Bingo**

EVERY TUESDAY

09.00 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 10.15am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours, or sylviag@swanagemethodist.org.uk

09.30 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Painting and sketching. At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Till 1pm. Outdoors in summer. Ffi: Gina on 421689.

09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 11.30am.

09.30 **Kiddies Corner Mother & Toddler Group** (term time only) No fee - donations welcome. Purbeck Gateway Church. 551415

09.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.

10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com

- 10.00 **Sw Tennis Club Club Session.** Till 11. 426312
- 10.00 **Sandford Toddlers** at Sandford Community Hall, till 11.30am.
- 10.00 **Short Tennis** at Sw FC All ages & abilities £1.50 Till noon. 425175
- 10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.
- 10.30 **Swanage Walking for Health Group** starter walks (15-30mins). Start from the Mowlem Shelter on Swanage Seafront. Get back into the swing of things gently! Ffi: 481000
- 10.30 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 11.45am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours, or sylvia.g@swanagemethodist.org.uk
- 10.30 **Wareham Walkers.** Convivial health walks for mainly older people, of up to two hours in and around Wareham, ending with coffee at a local tea room or pub. Ffi: www.wareham-walkers.org.uk or call 552933.
- 12.00 **Nature Tots (0-4yrs)** at Bovington Memorial Hall Garden. Until 2pm
- 14.00 **Swanage Walking for Health Group.** Walks of 60-90mins, various locations. Walks are very social, for a range of abilities. Walks start from car parks at Studland, Corfe, Arne, Durlston, Langton, Acton, Worth and Kingston. Ffi: 481000.
- 14.00 **Harman's Cross Village Hall Art Group** Till 5
- 14.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Furzebrook VH. Roll-up session, all standards welcome. Ffi 401799
- 17.00 **Sw Tennis Club Junior Session** till 6pm. 426312
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night (Yr 8+)** Till 10
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 8.30pm
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club Mowlem Community Room.** 421840
- 19.00 **Wareham Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 19.30 **Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.
- 19.30 **Sw & Langton Folk Dance Club** Langton VH. Ffi: 421913
- 19.00 **Belvedere Singers** rehearsal at St Mark's CE VA Primary School, High St, Sw. Parking on-site. Till 9pm. All singers welcome! 423350.
- 20.00 **Sw Regatta & Carnival Assoc Bingo** Herston Leisure, Herston Yards Farm, Sw.
- 20.00 **Carey Hall, Wm Bingo**
EVERY WEDNESDAY
- 09.00 **St Mark's Toddlers Group.** St Mark's Church, Swanage. Herston, Sw Till 11am
- 09.45 **Corfe Wool Workshop** Corfe VH, East St. Members £1.50; non-members £2.50. Till 12.00. 427067
- 10.00 **Short tennis for adults at Swanage Football Club.** All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till noon.
- 10.00 **Breast Feeding Group** at Wareham's Children Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Offering peer support and breastfeeding counsellor advice. Till 12 noon. Ffi: 552864
- 10.30 **Play and Learn at Kids of Wool (BH20 6DY)** until 12 noon.
- 13.00 **Studland Toddler Group** at Studland Village Hall until 2.30pm.
- 14.00 **Herston Senior Citizens** meet Herston Hall, Jubilee Rd, Sw. All welcome
- 14.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 3pm. With Penny at the Mowlem Community Room, Sw. Ffi 07969925502
- 15.00 **Extend Exercise Class,** now at Morton Village Hall. To improve strength, balance and flexibility. All welcome. Donations welcome. Ffi: 471490.
- 16.15 **Swanage Football Club U-7s Training** til 5.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 17.15 **Swanage Football Club U-9s Training** til 6.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 18.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm
- 18.45 **Sw Hockey Club Training** Wm Sports Centre. Till 8. 424442
- 19.00 **Wm Bridge Club** at the Library, South St. 552257
- 19.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls Club** Roll-up evening Furzebrook VH. 401799
- 19.00 **Swanage Town Band** meet for our weekly practice in the Council Chamber, Swanage Town Hall. New musicians warmly welcomed. Please call David Cook (musical Director) for further information on: 01929 422909.
- 19.15 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Crows Nest, Sw. 4/5 mile run.
- 19.30 **Swanage Musical Theatre** meet Swanage Bay View Complex Rehearsal Room. All welcome. Ffi: 426161
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 10
- 20.15 **Dorset Buttons Morris Practice.** URC Hall, Wm. 423234/421130
- 20.30 **Wm Swimming Club Adults.** All standards + stroke improvement. Till 10
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (16+)** Till 11.59
EVERY THURSDAY
- 08.30 **Wm Home Producers Veg.** cakes, plants, flowers, handicrafts. URC. New producers/helpers welcome. Till 11. 553798
- 09.00 **Swanage Painting Club.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Friendly group. New members including beginners welcome. Till 1pm. Ffi: Jane on 01929 427078
- 09.30 **Play and Learn** at Chapel Lane, Swanage, till 11am.
- 09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Streche Road, Wareham, until 12 noon.
- 09.30 **Sensory Play** for under ones, at Bovington Centre until 10.30am
- 10.00 **Wm Parent & Toddler Group** During term Parish Hall, Quay Till 11.45. 556806
- 10.00 **Wool Country Market** D'Urbeville Hall. Cakes, preserves, plants, crafts, vegetables. Coffee & biscuits available.
- 10.00 **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** at Queensmead Hall, Sw. Til 11am. Adm 50p
- 10.00 **Volunteer Centre Drop-In** at Wareham Library till 12pm. Find out about volunteering to support community groups & charities.
- 10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com
- 10.30 **Mid-Week Market Morning Service** URC, Church St, Wm. Prayer requests to Revd. Simon Franklin 556976
- 10.30 **Woodworking** with Bernard and Terry at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com
- 11.00 **Sensory Play** for 1-4yrs old at Bovington Centre, until 12 noon.
- 13.30 **Under 1 year olds** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Anti-natal mums welcome. Till 3pm. Ffi: 552864.
- 13.30 **Toddler Group.** All Saints' Church, Sw. 423937. Till 3pm (Term times)
- 14.15 **Sw Over-60s** Meet in the Rectory Classroom, Swanage, Sw. All Welcome.
- 17.45 **Swanage Youth Club.** Learning Difficulties and disability (age 11-25) night. Till 7.30pm
- 18.00 **Five High Singers,** United Reformed Church Hall, Swanage. 11 - 18 years. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at the Youth Hostel classroom, Cluny Crescent, Swanage, till 9pm.
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 9pm
- 18.30 **Swanage Sea Rowing Club Circuit Training** at Swanage Middle School. Ffi: 07776 201455
- 19.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 8pm. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 19.00 **Purbeck Gateway Club** meets at Wareham Youth Centre until 9pm. Purbeck Gateway is a club for adults with learning difficulties. We meet during term time and have fun! All welcome. Ffi: Lew on 552173. Email: Lewisbell1@aol.com
- 19.15 **Wm Town Band Brass & Woodwind** players welcome. 551478/01202 242147
- 19.30 **Short Mat Bowls** in the Durbeville Hall, Wool. All standards welcome, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 552682
- 19.30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** meet for rehearsals, with conductor Jay Buckle, at St Mary's School, Northbrook Road, Swanage. Sept-May. All welcome. For more information please phone Liz Roberts 01929 481419
- 19.30 **Swanage Youth Club Youth Action** (year 7 - sixth form). Till 9.30pm
- 19.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Swanage. FREE Cardio tennis taster sessions. A fun way to get fit and improve your tennis skills. Until 8.30pm.
- 20.00 **Herston Hall OAP Committee Bingo** Sw
EVERY FRIDAY
- 09.30 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 10.30am. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 09.30 **Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Term time only. Until 11.30am. Ffi: Alex on 07904 412067.
- 09.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Swanage. FREE Matchplay mix-in taster sessions. First three sessions are free. Come and try our great new courts! Until 11am.
- 10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093
- 10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.
- 11.00 **Swanage Library Rhyme Time,** ages 0-4, until 11.30am.
- 11.00 **Toddler Time** For Under 5s And Carers. Wareham Library. Stories, songs and crafts. Every Friday, including school holidays. Ffi: 01929 556146
- 14.30 **Short Mat Bowls** at Durbeville Hall, Wool. Till 4.30pm. All standards welcome. Ffi: 552682.
- 18.00 **Purbeck War-Game & Model Club.** Royal British Legion, Sw. 426096.
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club** 12-13 (Yr 7-9) Till 8
- 18.00 **Sw Tennis Club Senior Club Session.** 426312
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840
- 19.00 **Sw Youth Centre Seniors Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 9.30pm.
- 19.30 **Short tennis** for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till 9.30pm. £3.
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Live Bands** (as advertised) Till 10pm.
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Late Session (Yr 9+)** till 11.59pm (members free)
EVERY SATURDAY
- 08.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 4/5 mile run.
- 09.00 **Sw CC U11 - U15 Practice** till 10.30
- 09.30 **Sw CC U9 & U10 Practice & Kwik Cricket** till 10.30
- 10.00 **Tea, coffee and home-made cakes** in the Parish Hall on Wareham Quay during the Community Market. Til 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.
- 11.00 **Fantastic Family Fun** at Swanage Library, ages 3-8. Free story and craft session until 11.30am.
- 20.00 **Herston OAP Committee Bingo** at Herston Hall, Sw
EVERY SUNDAY
- 09.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 8+ mile run.
- 10.00 **Arts and Crafts Market** at the Mowlem in Swanage. A wide range of local art for sale, including pottery, glass, cards, fabric and much more! To book your table, or for more information, call Tony on 01929 421321.
- 10.30 **Stoborough Emmanuel Baptist Church** meet at Stoborough First School, Stoborough. All very welcome.



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