

The Purbeck Gazette

April 2018
Issue no. 219

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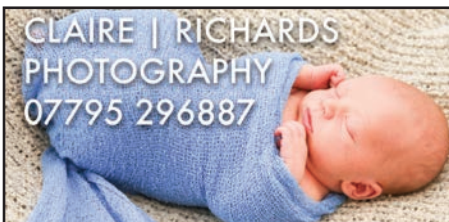
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Editor's note...



Welcome to the April edition of your Gazette! Surely one of our favourite editions each year...?! This year, especially for our April edition, several of our wonderful local advertisers have jumped on-board and have 'revamped' their adverts in the spirit of fun - can you spot them?!

We hope they make you laugh-out-loud as much as we did! Bravo to those who took the plunge and decided to do something a little different this month - some were super brave and we applaud you wholeheartedly! Nothing like a good laugh!

One apology to make - we published an article 'Memories of Kingston Village' last month, mistakenly crediting it to Hubert Beavis, who originally made contact and discussed the possibility of us publishing the piece. It was actually written by Violet Lander, so apologies for the confusion, and thanks to Hubert for his help!

In this edition we feature our annual Home Improvement feature, where local tradespeople and relevant businesses are reaching out in the hopes of inspiring you to revamp, alter or fix-up your property this year. Remember to support local trades and businesses or risk losing them. One community, strong together...

I hope you have a good Easter break, unless of course you're working in the retail, hospitality or catering sectors, in which case I wish you good weather, happy customers and a nice glass of vino at the end of what will hopefully be a busy and profitable weekend!

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The **May 2018** edition has a **deadline** of 9th April and will be distributed from 23 - 27 April.

The **June 2018** edition has a **deadline** of 9th May, and will be distributed from 28 May - 1 June.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - April '18

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

Swanage Town Council Meetings - April 2018

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|
| General Operations Committee | Wed 4th | 4.30pm |
| Planning & Consultation Committee | Mon 9th | 6.30pm |
| Parish Assembly | Mon 16th | 7pm |
| Council | Mon 30th | 7pm |

Wareham Town Council Meetings - April 2018

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Planning & Transport | Tue 3rd | 7pm |
| Wareham In Bloom | Wed 4th | 7pm |
| Human Resources | Tue 10th | 10.30am |
| Amenities | Wed 11th | 7pm |
| Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group | Thur 12th | 7pm |
| Council | Tue 17th | 7pm |
| Museum | Tue 17th | 7.15pm |
| Planning & Transport | Mon 23rd | 7pm |

Purbeck DC Meetings - Open to public - April 2018

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|--------|
| Council | Tue 10th | 7pm |
| Policy Group | Wed 18th | 7pm |
| Planning Committee | Wed 25th | 9.15am |

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

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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.

Telephone Sales

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Snow at Durlston Country Park. By Fenja Squirrel

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DEADLINE FOR MAY IS 12 NOON, 9th APRIL

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.

MAY edition deadline: noon, 9th APRIL

Local Gritting Heroes!

Dear Nico,

Can you please find room to say a big thank you to the two chaps with the tractor, together with their black and white Collie dog who came up Days Road in Swanage, spreading salt and grit to de-ice the road on Friday 2nd March?

We don't know who they are, but believe one of them might recently have moved into a house further down Days Road from us.

Once again, many thanks from both of us. It was interesting to note that the dog stayed in the tractor cab while the chaps did the shovelling!

David and Pauline Gough, Days Road, Swanage, by email.

The Brexit Press

Dear Editor,

I disagree with Mike Fry (March edition) that the BBC is a mouthpiece of Brussels. In fact, some have argued recently that the BBC should be renamed the 'Brexit Broadcasting Company', not least for the fact that Nigel Farage has just made his 32nd appearance on 'Question Time'! The truth probably lies somewhere in the middle.

The Civitas think tank, mentioned by Mike Fry, is a right-wing organisation with links to Vote Leave, so any research done by them is hardly likely to be impartial. I would not be surprised to learn that the BBC has been unable to make a programme on the 'opportunities' of Brexit because there are clearly very few - the government's own leaked impact assessment shows this. The brexiters spout forth plenty of rhetoric, but have always been short of facts and even now they have no plan.

I do not believe young people have anything to gain from reading the Brexit press such as The Daily Mail, Daily Express, Sun and Daily Telegraph unless they were to balance the prejudice expressed in them by reading The New European, Observer or Guardian. The Brexit newspapers are owned by a multi-billionaire elite who do not even live in Britain and are hell-bent on causing as much mischief as possible, not just when it comes to Britain's relationship with the EU, but on many other issues as well.

Such newspapers do not only seek to poison international relations and damage Britain's interests, but they look for scapegoats to blame for self-inflicted problems, specialise in character assassination and often concentrate on trivia. They may be free of political control by the government, but they are not free of much else. Many would argue they have a strong influence on the dysfunctional May government as well as some of the elderly readership they pander to.

The recent attacks on politicians and judges in some of these newspapers as 'enemies of the people', 'saboteurs', and 'traitors' was a disgrace and an incitement to violence. Such language is little different from that used by 'preachers of hate', who are supposedly banned in this country. Similar language has been employed against immigrants, where newspapers have referred to them as 'swarms'.

Following a report into the 2011 riots in Britain, The Daily Mail led with the headline '66 nationalities involved in the riots', implying that the violence was instigated by foreigners/immigrants. Yet the truth was that the riots were started largely by British people, many of them with a criminal background. We also know that The Sun blamed the Hillsborough disaster on rioting Liverpool fans, which was another example of a tissue of lies.

Recently, both The Daily Mail and Daily Telegraph have published stories suggesting Jeremy Corbyn might have been a Communist agent in the Cold War, despite the lack of credible evidence. Why do these same newspapers not investigate the possible Kremlin backing for Vote Leave

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in the Referendum? We know the Kremlin tried to influence the 2016 US election and also interfered in European elections.

It is a very positive sign that a number of companies have stopped advertising in papers such as The Daily Mail because they do not approve of the hate-driven articles and bile that are constantly being spewed out. Those with a conscience could join this movement by no longer buying these newspapers.

Yours sincerely, David Leadbetter, Prospect Crescent, Swanage

Acts Of National Betrayal

Dear Editor,

One of the most disrespectful acts of national betrayal has been the European enthusiasts known as the remoaners colluding with the EU on how best to destroy our national interest. No one could have possibly missed the lowbrow, ill-informed, illogical, stubborn, smartarsed, daft parrots like Chuka Unumma and Soubry sucking up to Michael Barnier to get the most expensive and damaging deal possible in times of financial austerity to reap revenge for having lost the referendum.

Yet to listen to their insults, lies and lack of shrewdness one could easily forget that Britain is actually one of the most prosperous, stable, literate, sophisticated and safest countries on Earth. The remoaners refuse point blank to accept that the economy has performed much better since the referendum than anybody expected, including the European Union.

Historically, we have made the greatest scientific revolutions of the 17th and 18th centuries. We lead the world in understanding self-determination, characterised by reason, science and individualism - without the EU holding us back. We fought alongside those who helped to liberate most of the EU countries that capitulated under the German jackboot and we still retain the right and respect to police the world and help refugees flee war zones. With the exception of America, no other country has done more.

The broadcasting media have infected the commentary about Brexit with its daily bias reports for the stay campaign. A genuine liberal would have seen the vote to leave the EU as a sign of numbing but healthy democracy. Instead, the European enthusiasts howl with rage like toddlers having a tantrum. Blinded by their own weird prejudices, they see racism everywhere, even though modern Britain is more tolerant than any society before it.

I remain, yours sincerely, Mike Fry.

The Need To Work Together

Dear Readers,

As a first-time voter at the EU referendum, I voted remain while my parents voted leave. They are not racists, ignorant or ill-informed they just had a different opinion. They were not right or wrong and neither was I.

Since then I have to say I have been appalled at the bullying nature of both the EU towards the UK and ashamed at the remainers' behaviour to anyone that doesn't share their view of democracy. If there should be another referendum now, and there shouldn't, I would have to vote leave as that is the decision that was made and should be adhered to.

When I voted I knew I would be on either the winning or the losing side and expected that the decision would be honoured as the 'will of the people'.

The choice was very simple to me - in or out, I accepted that there were absolutely no caveats and voted accepting this fact. Once we have been out for a while and have experienced the consequences of that decision, then would be the time to have a review, not before.

When remainers are quoting Nigel Farage to support their argument, do they mean they agree with everything Mr Farage says or are they just cherry-picking to suit their purpose? Isn't this a little shallow?

To finish, I wonder did D Williams really think that people would actually type



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LIVE ACTS FOR APRIL

| | | | |
|-----|------|-----|-------------------------------|
| Fri | 6th | 8pm | The Drystones |
| Sat | 7th | 8pm | Connla |
| Sun | 8th | 2pm | Connla |
| Fri | 13th | 8pm | Lewis Clarke & The Essentials |
| Sat | 14th | 8pm | Hannah & The Broken Hearts |
| Sun | 15th | 2pm | David Celia |
| Fri | 20th | 8pm | Ma Polaines Great Decline |
| Sun | 22nd | 2pm | Rheingans Sister |
| Fri | 27th | 8pm | Alistair Goodwin |

in all those characters just to see the various points that were being made? I would suggest a quick Google search would provide equally convincing 'facts' making any case you like.

I really feel we all need to be working together to make sure that Brexit works and is the best it can possibly be. Another referendum would only bring even worse in-fighting by those that would rightly feel betrayed, dividing our nation for absolutely no gain.

Please stop this now for all our futures.

Yours, Nick Ford, Corfe Castle

Ad Nauseam

Dear Editor,

I'm sure that many of your readers are sick and tired by now of seeing lengthy letters from 'Remoaners' such as David 'Leadbetter' (Letters, March); endlessly attempting to re-run the 2016 EU Referendum debate, which they lost, but still refuse to recognise or understand the reasons why.

So, I won't bore them with a point-by-point response to the many debatable assertions in his letter. They've all been argued over and debated 'ad nauseam' in the national media.

But I will respond to his lazy and ignorant allegation that UKIP is a 'racist party'. Sadly, these days, such crude abuse seems to be the standard retort of anyone who has lost an argument.

For the record, UKIP's Constitution (para. 2.3) specifically outlaws racism and racist behaviour. UKIP is not, never has been, never will be, a racist party. Any members found indulging in such activity have been, and will continue to be expelled from the party.

We have many members of different faiths and ethnic backgrounds, all united in the belief that Britain's future should be as an independent, self-governing nation.

On 17th February, nearly 1500 of these members made the effort to attend an Emergency General Meeting in Birmingham to vote to remove the discredited leader, Henry Bolton and his appalling racist girlfriend.

At the moment, the bookies favourite to become UKIP's new leader is David Kurten, our Assembly Member for London. It would be a proud moment if David were to be elected as the first black leader of a British political party,

Yours Sincerely, John Butler, Chairman, UKIP Mid-Dorset & North Poole

Joe Public's Vote

Dear Gazette,

In the ping-pong correspondence between leavers and remainers, various culprits are put forward as being responsible for the Brexit result. We now live in an age where everything has to be the fault of an individual or organisation, as evidenced by those cringe-and-squirm-making TV adverts for ambulance-and-PPI-chasing solicitors. Stuff no longer is allowed to just happen as the final result of a multitude of sequential actions.

Of course, Farage, Gove and Johnson, Corbyn and Cameron all played their part, as did the apparent complacency of Angela Merkel, but someone brought up in the Stalinist regime of Erich Honeker must regard our complaints as very small beer. Perhaps it was always impossible for such different mindsets ever to reach some sort of equilibrium within The E.U.

It is claimed that old people, due to suspicion of foreigners and ciabatta,

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were responsible for the out vote. If that is the case, then the same would surely apply to the 1975 referendum. Therefore it must have been the young who voted to stay in the Common Market.

Nobody seems to have spotted that the old of 2016 must have been the young of 1975, so why did they change their minds?

Could it possibly be because they thought they had voted for a Single Market and Customs Union but found successive governments signing them up for something different?

2016 was surely the flowering of the shrub planted in 1975 and, as the Queen of Hearts discovered, the colour supposedly planted and the colour that arrived was at some variance. Hardly surprising that the response was "Off with their heads".

My nomination for Brexit Culprit is therefore Harold Wilson. Because his government was similarly split between leavers and remainers he came up with the ruse of a referendum to shift his problem on to the public.

Forty years later, Joe and Joanna Public perhaps felt that their vote was used in vain by Harold's successors.

Yours sincerely, David Drury, Swanage, by email

Quoting Nigel Farage

Dear Editor,

Regarding D Williams response to mine, which didn't seem to contain any actual points, but lots of links.

Could I say that I didn't ask whether ex-pats can or can't vote, I was responding to Mr Leadbetter's statement and merely raised the question – why should ex-pats vote if they don't want to live here?

It's a shame D. Williams didn't actually read my letter; what is the point of saying juveniles can go to detention centres when I was asking should they go to 'adult' prison?

Has anyone proof of the Kremlin's involvement in the Brexit vote, or is D. Williams just pointing out that there's an enquiry?

I wonder which of Barnier, Tusk or Farage D. Williams voted for, as I don't recall voting for any of them myself.

Why does D. Williams think the FTSE has no reflection of our economy? Because it is at record highs?

D. Williams should know that my statistic concerning nurses came from the Telegraph, the same source as they appear to quote in their link.

I believe the only political party with the desire to go against the will of the people and pledge another referendum is the Lib/Dems but what did Paddy Ashdown say immediately after the referendum? Look it up.

Lastly, I will say I'm quite surprised that both D. Williams and Mr Leadbetter seem to think that Nigel Farage is someone to quote and who should be listened to most closely!!

Yours, Roger Starbuck, Swanage, by email

Plea To Reject Force

Dear Gazette,

The Madness of War

It is time to halt the build-up of ever more sophisticated weapons and demilitarise our forces when education, the N.H.S., social services etc. are being deprived of vital funding that they need. Is it not time to reduce our commitment to reliance on force to solve world problems?

Theresa May must have set aside her Christian principles when she stated in the House of Commons that she was willing to press the nuclear button thereby threatening our perceived enemies with either a first strike or possibly a retaliatory attack. What would that attain? Jesus stated that we should love our enemies.

How could she state in The House of Commons that she was willing to

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press the nuclear button condemning, maybe, millions of innocent children and adults to death? I should imagine that Augustine would regret his decision to legitimise a "Just War" in view of the present situation and the ever-increasing sophistication of weaponry.

I would have thought by now it would be time to go "naked" as Ernest Bevin once said, referring of course to our reliance on nuclear weapons, before a conference on world peace.

I believe that this step could help to make the world a safer place. Please let us reject force as a way to settle the world's problems.

Alan Marriott, Swanage, by email.

Deliberate Cruelty A Factor?

Dear Editor,

Shooting or conservation?

Would Gazette readers, especially bird-watchers, agree with my humane analysis? Sir David Attenborough tells us to develop a sympathy for nature, supported by TV's 'Springwatch' team. Regarding Pheasant shooting, a false environment is cultivated with an inherent dislike for wild creatures which threaten the reared 'crop'. Foxes are often cruelly snared and any natural predator is persecuted. Beaters drive everything towards the shooters and wild birds are shot too.

A recent, modest DIY drive-shoot resulted in thirty pheasants shot (twenty retrieved) and injured. Three Woodcock and a Jay were also hit. Big commercial shoots 'down' many more birds. The wild birds are reduced in numbers, recent ringing in Russia of migrating birds showed a significant loss of Woodcock. Ducks and geese are heavily destroyed and the geese, because of their size, are often just injured, only to die slowly later on.

The 'sportsmen' are very shrewd and set-up near nature reserves, where wildfowl are protected and they shoot them as they fly towards and away from the reserve. I witnessed the following from a hide: suddenly, all the birds we were observing flew off in alarm as guns crashed and ducks fell from the air, just off the nature reserve. Some birds were hit, but kept going, others fell into deep water and marsh where the dogs couldn't retrieve them. You could see the ducks flapping their wings in distress as they floated downstream.

Surely, my friends, instead of beating up woodland, disturbing hibernating bats and roosting birds, creating a barren habitat, it would be better to manage a wood for wildlife? Coppiced hazel, tree planting, ponds created with attendant hides for nature photographers, school parties and birdwatchers. A bio-diverse, protected area.

There is nothing more rewarding than a stroll in a sunshine-dappled woodland glade, where honeysuckle and bramble, with their nectar-rich flowers, attract White Admiral and Silver-Washed Fritillary butterflies. Warblers sing from the blackthorn thickets. Bat and bird boxes abound. Our various wildlife conservation societies will guide and support us.

A broader view of nature is needed, for instance, whereby grey squirrels, a nuisance in a commercial plantation, are also proven to regenerate whole deciduous woodlands by planting (storing) Oak, Hazel and Beech nuts. They are also known to protect our Oak trees by eating the dangerous galls that affect them.

Every animal deserves a clean death, yet shooters seem to delight in firing up into squirrel dreys, leaving the occupants to die, including the babies. Many a Tawny Owl use dreys to roost in and are shot to pieces.

Finally, after over seventy years of observing nature, I have come to the conclusion that deliberate cruelty, by some, is a factor. I have observed a 'sportsman' firing one shot at a distant Sika stag as it browsed in a reed bed. The animal was hit and staggered around for several minutes, badly hurt, finally sinking into the reeds, every now and again feebly lifting his head. The 'gun' did not put it out of its misery, he just watched before finally walking away. It is my belief that shooters are not doing it for conservation sake, as they keep telling us, but for their chosen sport.

What do you think? Yours, Paul Raymer, Swanage, by hand.

Supported In Grief

Dear Readers,

Wordsworth House Care Home

I would just like to thank all of the staff of Wordsworth House for their excellent, compassionate care of my father.

Sadly, my father passed away on 26th January, but for the last year he was a resident of the care home. Previously he had been in hospital for two months, and as he suffered from Alzheimer's disease, he was confused and unhappy when he went to Wordsworth House.

Due to the care and support he received at Wordsworth House, he regained his confidence and recovered from the stress and depression from which he had been suffering during the previous two years.

When we visited my father, we always noted the patient, respectful and cheerful demeanour of the staff to whom nothing seemed to be too much trouble. Largely due to this, my father was quite happy and relaxed, and he was able to take part in many of the activities provided. Full marks to the activities' co-ordinators!

During his final illness, he was shown a level of compassion far in excess of that we could have expected, and the staff supported us in our grief.

In summary, I would have no hesitation in recommending Wordsworth House to anyone seeking first rate care for their relatives. This is truly a care home that cares!

Kind regards, Alistair Matcham, by email

Beware Sliding Doors!

Dear Editor,

I wondered if you might be able to put a short note about the dangers of sliding taxi and car doors in the Gazette please?

My husband went to town shopping on his own some weeks ago when I was unable to get out. He was brought home in one of the taxis with a sliding door and in getting out when he was dropped back at home, his thumb became stuck between door and door frame and in doing so, his thumb was cut in two places and dripping with blood as he walked down the driveway.

I insisted he take himself to MIU, where he had a short wait but the nurse who dealt with it said he was lucky he didn't lose his thumb. She said they had someone in MIU last summer who had to have his finger amputated in Dorchester hospital as it was left hanging and nothing else could be done. She didn't elaborate on details except it was a sliding car/taxi door.

My husband had five uncomfortable days when he had to have his wounds glued and dressed twice as it was very 'mucky' looking. Even now after a month, his nail is still very bruised and very sore and sensitive to touch.

If we can avoid someone else having to go through all this pain and discomfort it will be worth mentioning it. Basically, those sliding doors on taxis are incredibly heavy and awkward for most people to deal with and the elderly are particularly at risk.

A concerned Swanage resident (name supplied, withheld upon request).

Fly-Tipping Nightmares

Dear Gazette,

Have people noticed when they drive our local roads and lanes the amount of litter and fly tipping to be seen on the side of the roads and hedgerows?

I feel this is only going to get worse with councils having to cut back on services, litter picking becomes less of a priority.

Whilst there are some amazing local groups like Litter Free Purbeck, they can't keep up with the amount of litter out there.



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If we are to improve the situation we should first all refrain from throwing litter out of our cars and we should all spend thirty minutes a month picking up litter in our local area and have pride in where we live.

Whether you want to become a Plogger (picking litter jogger) or just go out one afternoon with a rubbish sack and gloves, you will feel you have done a worthwhile deed and will be helping to clean up the area where we all love to live.

Andrew Robson, Wareham, by email

Helping Protect Purbeck

Dear Gazette,

Litter-free Purbeck is among the organisations leading beach cleans around Purbeck and Dorset as part of Litter Free Coast and Sea's Great Dorset Beach Clean over the weekend of 21st and 22nd April, and we hope that lots of Gazette readers will turn out to support these.

Storm Emma wreaked havoc at the beginning of March, throwing up many dead crustaceans, fish and shellfish as well as the usual mass of plastic litter, large and small. Dorset Wildlife Trust advises that these died because of the sudden drop in sea temperature and then the storm threw them up onto our beaches. These provided rich pickings for seabirds, but sadly a lot of plastic came too which has devastating consequences for our marine and coastal environment and its wildlife, and ultimately for us too.

While some marine plastics come from shipping or are discarded by commercial fishermen out at sea, most originates from land. You can help remove this at beach cleans but also year round, please help reduce the amount of plastic polluting the world's oceans by keep plastics out of the sea in the first place.

Wetwipes are made of plastic fibres and despite manufacturers' claims aren't flushable and they are responsible for 93% of the 13,000 blockages a year that happen in the South West's sewer systems, resulting in mess, disruption and cost for home and business owners. Please help by putting these (and sanitary items and cotton buds) in a bathroom bin for black bag waste, not into the toilet. Only paper and stuff from you should go in the loo! Cigarette stubs are lethal to marine life too, so please #binyourbutt and #onlyraindownthedrain. Stub tides are available from retailers here.

Please see www.litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk for the full list of Great Dorset Beach Cleans and for other ideas about how to keep plastics out of the sea here. (Some events were still in planning when the Gazette was going to press.) We hope Gazette readers will take part in one of these events to help create a #litterfreecoast and a #acleanerPurbeckforourkids!

Kind regards, Lara, Bridget, Liz, Frank, John, Simon and Harold

Litter-free Purbeck Core Team and Co-ordinators

Card Industry Catches Up!

Dear Nico,

Congratulations to the Co-op in Swanage. After twenty-seven years of looking for an appropriate Valentine's card for her partner, one of our members was delighted to see the first Lesbian Valentine's card she had ever seen, prominently displayed in the Valentine's card rack.

There was also one for gay men, so thank you to the Co-op for acknowledging our presence in the town.

Thanks also to you, Nico, for your bravery in talking about depression, isolation and suicidal thoughts. You may be aware that there is a high rate of depression and suicidality among the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community.

We are a minority community in Swanage, but we struggle with the same issues as the rest of you: finding work, keeping healthy, caring for our children, caring for our elderly families, finding friends and losing loved ones. We welcome your initiative in asking the community to reach out to others to bridge the isolation it is so easy for all of us to feel.

We are a mixed aged group open to lesbians and gay men and meet socially once a month and we come from all walks of life.

We can be contacted at outinpurbeck@gmail.com

Thanks, Karen, Out in Purbeck, by email

Lewis Manning Fundraising

Dear Nico,

The Studland and Swanage Fundraising Committee would like to inform your readers of a recent event it has organised to raise funds for our local Lewis-Manning Hospice. The event was a St David's Day supper with a menu of Welsh dishes – as we discovered there are more recipes than just Welsh rarebit!

The evening was held at Tawnys but had to be postponed for a few days due to the snow and ice that covered us all on 1st March. In spite of the delay, most diners were able to attend and through their generosity, a sum of £922.50 was made to help with the cost of running the Hospice, so thank you to you all. Also, a big thank you must go to Mike and his team for all the extra work they were put to due to the delay.

Lewis-Manning Hospice has to find £3million pounds a year so that it can give nursing, advice and end of life care to those who are terminally ill – and all this is supplied free to the patients and their families. So please readers, come and support any of our future events.

Yours sincerely, David Dean, on behalf of the Lewis-Manning Fundraising Committee.

Past Players Sought

Dear Readers,

This summer Swanage Badminton Club will be celebrating their 100th anniversary. We are looking for all past players to come and join us at our celebrations to share their memories of playing at the club and mark this wonderful achievement. So, if you played at the club or know anyone who did please contact us on 01929 423429 or 01929 426868 or email us at swanagebad100@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you! Many thanks, June Sutherland

Excellent Letters People!

Dear Readers,

Congratulations. Your 'Letters' section in March month is of such a very high standard, with well-reasoned observations relevant to matters of real concern, both local and national.

Whether, as readers, we agree or disagree with the points of view expressed by your correspondents, we cannot fail to be given food for thought as we read the many well-argued opinions expressed.

Best wishes, Roger Free, by email.

Teenage Brain Injury Help

Dear Editor,

I am writing to tell you about a new handbook entitled Me and My Brain, that has recently been launched by The Children's Trust for teenagers affected by brain injury. Me and My Brain is a free resource and can be ordered from: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/handbook Every year 40,000 children in the UK are left with a brain injury as a result of an accident or illness and many have to live with ongoing, long-term difficulties. We hope this handbook will be able to help some of these young people through what is often a very difficult time.

Yours faithfully, Maria Coyle, Information Manager at The Children's Trust

Concerns Highlighted

Dear Nico,

Ridge Moors Action Group - The Moors Flooding Proposal (aka The Moors at Arne Project)

The snow and rain in the first week of March 2018 has highlighted the concerns that local residents have regarding the Project and its potential to impact on the flood risk in Ridge.

The River Frome has a catchment area of 181 square miles or approximately one sixth of the area of the county of Dorset. The effect of this is that any melted snow and rainfall in Dorchester or anywhere upstream to Evershot within the catchment area will be reflected in raised river levels along the Frome, increasing in height as more runoff water flows into the river lower down towards Poole Harbour.

This has been clearly demonstrated as there were very high spring tides combined with snow melt. As a result, the River Frome overtopped the banks at Redclyffe on Saturday 3 March, Sunday 4 March and Monday 5 March, with thousands of gallons of water flooding into the Redclyffe Boat Park and the fields north of Ridge and west of Ridge Wharf.

Over the period of Friday 2 March to Monday 5 March 2018, there were a succession of flood warnings issued by the Environment Agency for Ridge, Wareham, the River Frome and the areas around Poole Harbour.

The EA stated publicly at the Furzebrook Meeting on 31 October 2017 that they would not maintain the south bank of the River Frome in the future. This is an alarming admission from an agency whose mandate from DEFRA is to act as a flood risk management authority and the EA receives funding for this role from DEFRA.

If the River Frome south bank is not maintained it makes a mockery of the whole scheme and it becomes totally pointless as the whole reason for the project is to protect properties from flooding. We recognise the efforts of Arne Parish Council in their draft position statement regarding the Moors Project stating that the River Frome south bank should be maintained. The river bank adjacent to Redclyffe Yacht Club continues to leak over the footpath as water seeps through the base of the seawall. This could well become a severe problem if a sea wall over a mile long is built on peaty soil on The Moors. This will also greatly reduce the area of natural flood plain to absorb surface water drainage. There are issues about the future maintenance of this embankment and the potential access to it in the future should this proceed. We are aware that Environment Agency vehicles have already been stuck in the peaty, boggy soil of the Moors and have had enormous difficulties trying to remove them. We doubt that the EA or the RSPB would have the resources to maintain the proposed sea wall properly in the future which will put us all at greater risk of flooding especially as the closest houses could be within 100 yards of Poole Harbour should the plans proceed in their current form.

The EA have consistently stated that they will not proceed with this scheme, costing over £10,000,000, if there is any detriment to local residents as a result of their work on this project. Somehow it does not seem very logical to put people at risk all for the sake of wading birds.

We urge them to stop this ill thought out scheme now and find another more suitable location away from businesses and residential housing, so that we do not all suffer detriment as a result of this proposal. RMAG's contention remains that this ill-conceived project is too large, too close and too risky in its current form.

Yours sincerely, Peter Sibthorp and John Lidgey, Co Chairs Ridge Moors Action Group, by email (see picture of recent flooding referenced, on page 49).

Failure To Provide Homes

Dear Readers,

My response to the PDC 'Local Plan': "New Homes for Purbeck"

The plan manifestly fails to provide the genuinely affordable houses that are needed but instead provides fuel for the market on second homes, retirement homes, commuter homes and 'buy to let' investors. The consultation document "New Homes for Purbeck" issued by PDC is fundamentally dishonest.

On page 2 under the heading 'Why do we need new homes' it states: 1. "to help deal with the local gap between average income and average house prices by providing affordable homes for local people" 2. "help young people who want to stay in the area" 3. "provide homes for people who look after us as we get older" 4. "to help people facing homelessness or who live in overcrowded homes."

At present there are houses for sale in Purbeck and others for rent. The problem is the genuine affordability of these homes. On page fifteen, PDC

Forthcoming Special Events

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states its position on 'Affordable Homes': At best it defines affordable as central government's 80% of local market rent. The issue is that with local salaries being low, the local market price to buy or rent cannot be reached by most local people.

In addition, PDC suggests that it is "considering introducing a policy which encourages 10% (of the possible 40% of the 'affordable homes' that may be imposed on developers of new homes on eligible developments) to be social rented". Dare I suggest this sounds a little weak if not slippery?! Realistically, how many of the 1,700 plus 1,200 new homes that PDC envisage being built by 2033 would be genuinely affordable for most local people to buy or rent? Currently the average local salary is £22,500 and thus a cheaper local house of £250,000 is unaffordable. Surely more houses will mean the price comes down?

It should not be assumed that building more houses will bring the prices down. In areas like Purbeck, the pressure for second homes and homes for investment for buy to let or holiday lets increases pressure on the market and keeps prices high. Unless housing is provided outside of these market forces then the position will not change.

There is no mention in the 'Local Plan' of Community Land Trusts, share purchase schemes and council house building that might offer those locally in need of housing the chance of a home. The 'Local Plan' simply leaves the open market to provide.

This housing market at present prices properties too high for many in need and no evidence that this is likely to change? Similarly, the 'Second Homes Policy' is merely an idea with no clarity over how it would be enforced. It would also only cover new build, not conversions of existing properties. Options A, B and C. The middle part of the document offers three choices for respondents to select their preference. This is entirely misleading as a resident would be ill advised to provide the PDC with legitimacy for either option which would blight those localities if not theirs. The idea that one should decline all of them is not suggested by the document.

In fact, the large developments contained in these options would affect all by putting constraints on our creaking infrastructure like the A352, sewers, drains, surgeries and schools. They also threaten large areas of our environment which we all value and is our greatest economic asset without guaranteeing many genuinely affordable homes.

I recommended that all local people complete the questionnaire with caution emphasising at each question that the need for genuinely affordable homes for local people, and for those in the lowly paid tourist and care industries, is not addressed by this 'Local Plan'.

It could be considered more of a charter for local landowners, external developers and outside investors in the housing market than a solution for those local people it proclaims to help.

Regards, Ian Duckworth

Negatives Of National Park

Dear Nico,

Having seen the Dorset National Park Update in the March edition of the Gazette, I thought I would write expressing my concerns. I have looked on the National Park website and it cites more negatives than positives when an area is turned into a National Park.

The negatives are as follows:-

1. Damage to the landscape: litter, erosion, fires, disturbance of livestock, vandalism
2. Traffic congestion and pollution
3. Local goods become more expensive as tourists will pay more
4. Shops only stock products for tourists
5. Demand for holiday homes making housing too expensive for locals
6. Demand for development of more shops and hotels
7. Jobs are mainly seasonal, low paid and long hours

The Isle of a Purbeck already suffers from severe traffic congestion and

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locals have already been priced out of the property market. Do we really want to make this worse?

Amongst the positives it cites a demand to conserve habitats and wildlife. We probably all want this, but not at the expense of farmers and local people. Dorset should not be turned into a theme park for the thousands of extra visitors National Park status would bring.

Originally, the plan was to include East Devon in the proposal but they saw the light and rejected it. Dorset should do the same as I fear that if the application is approved, the consequences could be dire and this very special county will be ruined for ever.

Yours sincerely, Barbara Philipp, Wareham, by email

Studland Peninsular Fears

Dear Readers,

Relative to a previous letter, it seems once again the Studland peninsular could be imperilled. The Corillion company has applied to government for licenses for an exploratory drilling oil rig off Poole Harbour, in proximity to Studland Bay, to assess submarine deposits.

The possibility of this is not new, however, fossil fuel extraction, although lucrative, is unwise especially where diverse marine ecosystems could be at risk. For example, the sea grass habitat of an endangered Sea Horse species. These amazing creatures live in an MPZ (Marine Protection Zone) in the apex of the south beach and be affected by sonic pollution, chemical residue and the threat of accidental spillage; even whale strandings.

Terrestrial systems are not the only ones at risk on the Studland peninsula. Thanks to the national Trust for your reply via the Purbeck Gazette.

The Isle of Purbeck coastline has world heritage status wherein the water quality is of pivotal importance, not just from the point of tourism, but for the diversity of animals, fish, dolphins, crustaceans and sea birds who are dependent on it. Extreme weather events due to the empowerment of the jet streams will become more common until we lose our affiliation to a global carbon economy.

Should local people oppose this development, clearly, we shall need a strategy. Check online for Green party information and see information on Poole/Studland Bay for more information. No echoes in a shallow bay, no more holes in the planet!

Yours sincerely, M. Hamilton, by hand

Keeping Our Voice Heard

Dear Readers,

Purbeck Volunteers and keeping our voice in the Purbeck Gazette.

I understand that the Gazette is finding it increasingly difficult to be able to place editorial in the paper. This is due to the fact that they receive no funding whatsoever to publish community letters, editorial or community information. Editorial is currently supported entirely by advertising revenue, and the paper has a policy of putting the revenue back into each edition to ensure that they publish as much community news as possible. A page in the Gazette costs around £500 to publish.

Here is a plan that might work to assist us all in business and those wishing to assist the wide range of volunteers and local groups in Purbeck to continue long into the future. As we all know, without publicity, many of our group activities and fundraising efforts would not exist without a local paper which supports the publication of our editorial and updates.

I am calling on the Media and Press Officers of ALL the volunteer groups within Purbeck, to see if, working together as a group, we can fund the monthly purchase of two pages which would guarantee the publication of charity and local updates from groups.

Please approach your business friends, family and associates through your group to see if they would be willing to set up a monthly standing order for say £10, paid to The Gazette.

Have you got 1 hour?

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If we could get 100+ contributors, we could provide the funding of those pages for local good news - past, present and future. It will be efficient in highlighting what is good about living in our wonderful Purbeck and may be the pages that become the "must read".

On any advertising that the contributors do in any publication, they might be proud to show their community and volunteer support, perhaps with some form of logo "Supporting Purbeck Volunteers" on their future advertising, thus letting all readers know that they, as businesses, are supporting the volunteers of Purbeck. I have spoken to the staff at the Gazette office and they would welcome the chance to set aside pages, specifically for the use of community and voluntary groups on a monthly basis, thus guaranteeing our varied groups much-needed publicity within our communities for their good works.

This is a very early stage concept, and I would welcome any input from the other groups. Service Clubs, Carnivals, Wareham Wednesdays, Hospital, Surgery support groups, Pirates, Whalers, MS, Freemasons, disability groups, Pub charity groups, Father Xmas et al. This list is not exhaustive, so can you drop me an email if you have any interest to: elysiumcountrycars@gmail.com

Yours in service, Paul Cady, Wareham, by email

Trees Under Threat

Dear Readers,

Are you aware that eleven of the pine trees running along between the tennis courts and the putting green in Beach Gardens are marked for felling? The town council receptionist stated, after a brief consultation with someone, that the trees were diseased, but I am afraid that there are rumours that the reason is to save money clearing the needles from the tennis courts.

I have walked past the trees several times and they look perfectly healthy to me, certainly no different to the trees on Beach Gardens side of the putting green. It does seem very odd that it is only the trees along the tennis courts which are "diseased". These trees are magnificent specimens with significant age and it would be a tragedy for them to be felled for any reason other than serious public safety. I welcome your comments.

Yours faithfully, Phil Madsen, by email

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TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

No Brains And No Hearts

by David Hollister

Both sides of Wareham – North and South of the railway – are up in arms about the proposals to build an ugly and impractical bridge to permit Network Rail to close the current flat level road-crossing for pedestrians. There have been public meetings, volumes of correspondence, yet still the “authorities” are refusing to accept public opinion.

At the Purbeck District Council (PDC) Planning meeting on 31st January, two Planning Applications were considered; for Listed Building Consent and for Planning Approval for the “Skateboard-ramp” bridge. Astonishingly the PDC Planning Officers recommended that both applications should be approved. Bridget Downton – PDC General Manager, Planning and Community Services attempted to instruct the committee to consider the public benefit in relation to not having the crossing! Which seems to suggest that the PDC planners are similarly either out-of-touch or arrogantly deciding that they know better than the thousands of residents who will be affected.

I know that in the last edition, I came out strongly against the centralisation of councils and the abolition of the PDC, but if this is the best that the Planning Office can do, then the sooner they’re gone the better. Thank goodness PDC Planning Committee – elected representatives - rejected both applications. The crossing has existed for 170 years without a single accident or fatality. A round trip on foot using the ramps would involve around 282 metres just to cross the lines, using busy roads without pavements. An open invitation to accidents and fatalities.

We were all slipping and sliding in the snow earlier this month; now imagine trying to use this bridge when covered with ice..... And would I push granny up and down this 1.12 gradient in her wheelchair? Even in fine sunny weather that’s an impossibility for many people, often of similar age to their wheelchair-bound partner. And God forbid that someone loses control on the downward journey..... Accidents and fatalities waiting to happen!

A petition in 2016 to maintain the pedestrian crossing was signed by 3,300 residents, representing 66% of the town. Surely in these days of transparency and where a vote of only 52% is being held up as the main reason to totally destroy the UK, 66% should be good enough to squash the proposals flat.

I understand that The Liability Negotiations Manager for Wessex Network Rail described all crossings as catastrophic risks and that Wareham was a particularly dangerous crossing. He also stated that automatic barriers were not a viable option and that there were no available or developing products that could be used. So what about Wool and Holme Lane crossings - which have automatic barriers? The man is possibly either an idiot or a liar. I will leave it to you, dear reader, to decide which.

Apparently, the Bridges and Structures Team Leader representing Dorset CC said the public benefit was that the bridge would “provide a step-free crossing without the need to wait for trains to pass”. The man is either an idiot or a liar. I will leave it to you, dear reader, to decide which. I

would invite him to come and live in North Wareham and push his granny into town daily. That would shut him up. “Historic England” judged that the impact would be ‘less than substantial’. Again, I wonder how many members of this appalling public-funded quango have actually been to the site? The decision is a no-brainer, unfortunately being left in the hands of people with no brains.

This is a ‘civilised’ country where it takes three days of sub-zero temperatures before the government and some councils will open centres for the rough sleepers. I know this isn’t strictly Purbeck news, but I feel that everyone should be aware that an elderly rough sleeper was found dead under a flyover in a car park in Bournemouth. The friend who discovered him alleged that just days earlier, people from Bournemouth Borough Council ‘removed his sleeping bag and possessions. They see it as rubbish, but they don’t realise these are homeless people; sleeping bags are the stuff that keeps them warm.’ Charities hand out sleeping bags to rough sleepers but have had reports of the council taking them away to ‘clean the streets’.

This is the same Council that played nocturnal bagpipe music to deter people from sleeping near the town’s bus and railway stations and which bought one-way tickets for rough sleepers to leave the town. That spent thousands of pounds on fitting and then removing bars on public bench seats to prevent homeless people sleeping on them.

The Borough of Poole seems to have ignored the public decency by introducing a new policy in the town, to fine people £100 for begging and being homeless on their streets. They claim that Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) were the result of feedback from residents. Residents who no doubt have warm and spacious homes. Of course, it couldn’t happen in Purbeck.....

This is, of course, a Christian country, a country where most churches are locked securely to deter burglars, effectively deterring frozen wet and homeless people from seeking necessary shelter. I don’t know which local churches – if any – remained open as shelters 24/7 in the recent icy spell and would be interested to hear if any did? What, I wonder, would Jesus have done? If you see someone sleeping rough and you live in England or Wales, then get in touch with StreetLink, which helps to connect homeless people with their local services. You can send StreetLink an alert via its website or by calling 0300 500 0914. Let us hope that the new Unitary Council – run from Dorchester – refuses to have anything to do with such appalling policies. Wait and see!

Following on from the ‘no plastic’ debate, I understand that the organisers of Bestival 2018 have announced plans to ban plastic straws from their events and are hoping to make this initiative extend to single-use plastics such as drinks bottles and cups. I would urge all local festival promoters to do the same; for my part as organiser of Harmans Cross Village Fete (August Bank Holiday – noon – don’t miss it!) – I’m going to ban plastic straws and cups this year.

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Swanage Walks!

A very special event is being held on Saturday 5th May at King George's Playing Field in Swanage, from 10am – 4pm, whatever the weather! Nearby are the children's play area, the car park and toilets.

The event is to be called 'Swanage Walks' – not the Lambeth Walk, but Swanage Walks! A healthy and safe get-together, for all ages. Being so close to the town centre, and with adequate parking, this is the ideal location as it's a short distance for the seniors among us, and those parents with small children and buggies.

This is also an event for dog lovers, with all dogs on leads please! Even the walkers can take up the challenge of covering various laps of the field (not miles!) during the day.

This event is being organised to be a fun, 'get to know you' day for all the people of Swanage and our visitors, should they wish to join in. Some surprises are planned!

This will also be a day when Swanage folk can show their continuing support of the Dementia Friendly target of employing a second Admiral Nurse to cover our area. Therefore, donations to this wonderful cause will be very welcome! This event also supports Rotary President, Ro Smith, and Swanage Mayor, Mike Bonfield, who have chosen Dementia Friendly as their main charity in their year of office.

So, come along, join in, walk together with family and friends, make some new friends and show your support for this incredibly worthy and much-needed cause.

With all good wishes, Hubert Pierce, Past District Governor, Rotary Club of Swanage & Purbeck, Member of Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Group.

Rotary
Club of Swanage & Purbeck

Swanage Walks!

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National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

Feels a Little Warmer!

The weather in the last month has certainly been somewhat chilly and although the snow in Swanage melted quickly away, areas of Dorset no further away than Blandford, still had patches of snow over a week later. Hopefully now we are well into the period of Meteorological Spring, we can start looking at some more clement weather approaching.

Astronomical spring however did not start until the Spring Equinox on the 20th March. The Sun actually crosses the Equator at about 1720. It then remains in the Northern Hemisphere reaching its furthest northerly point over the Tropic of Cancer (23° 26.1' North) on 20th June, the Summer Solstice.

The official start of summer, it is also the start of the sun disappearing to the south until it crosses the Equator going south around 0230 on 23rd September (the Autumnal Equinox), when it is as we all know all

downhill until the Winter Solstice on 21st December when the sun is over the Tropic of Capricorn - 23° 26.1' south. Although called an Equinox - representing equal periods of day and night - it is actually the times when the sun is above the horizon for 12 hours and below for 12 hours.

Things like refraction and twilights throw the day and night split a little off the mark if you are thinking of hours of light and darkness as day and night. Interestingly however is, if you can see the sun rising or setting over the sea on the equinoctial dates, the sun's bearing will be exactly East (090°) rising and West (270°) setting, the only two days of the year when this is true. On the solstices, however, this will move to 051° in the summer and 141° in the winter with all points in between.

Degrees of warmth can also be attained at the lookout over all of Easter when our "Tea and Cake" crew will be manning their posts to tempt you with cakes of all shapes and flavours and a warm cuppa to wash it down with. We look forward to seeing you all then!

Please 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

Swanage Firestation Update



Hi and welcome to this month's look at what's been happening at Swanage Fire Station.

Since my last report we've attended fifty emergency calls. These have included medical calls to help out our colleagues at SouthWest Ambulances.

We have attended some outdoor fires that involved grass and heathland; two properties with gas leaks and after the bitterly cold weather, we attended three properties that had burst pipes causing flooding inside the houses.

Also, during the recent appalling weather, not only did we attend car accidents, dangerous structures and medical calls, our crews helped clear the pavements through the town area to help members of the public get around.

Last but not least, crews from Swanage were called to help many other crews from across Dorset fight a large industrial fire in Blandford. This fire needed the attendance of fifteen fire appliances and other specialist equipment to bring the major fire under control.

On station, we welcomed our newest firefighter, Matt Forbes, who has joined our ranks and has passed his basic training. Firefighter Chris Burrige has passed his first-aid and trauma care qualification and firefighters Mark Cockwell and James Adams have both requalified as first-aid and trauma carers. Firefighter Liam Blake has recently passed his incident command assessment and has been temporarily promoted to Crew Manager. Well done to all of them!

My safety advice for this month is to all home that have smokers.

If you or someone in your home smokes you can take the following simple steps to prevent a fire from happening in your home:

- Never smoke in bed - if you need to lie down, don't light up. You could doze off and set your bed on fire.
- Take extra care when you're tired, taking any sort of drugs or have been drinking alcohol. It's very easy to fall asleep while your cigarette is still burning.
- Take extra care when smoking if you have been drinking alcohol or taking medication.
- Make sure your cigarette is fully extinguished. Put it out, right out!
- Never leave lit cigarettes, cigars or pipes unattended - they can easily overbalance as they burn down.
- Use a proper, heavy, ashtray that can't tip over easily and is made of a material that won't burn. Make sure your cigarette is not still burning when you are finished - put it out, right out.
- Do not empty your ashtray into a bin because this can cause the bin to catch fire. A drop of water in the ashtray will help to make it safe, then leave it to cool down fully.
- Fit and maintain a smoke alarm - A working smoke alarm can buy you valuable time to get out, stay out and dial 999. You can get a ten-year smoke alarm for roughly the same price as two packets of cigarettes.

How safe is your home? Always test your smoke alarm on a monthly basis.

Stay safe! **Phil Burrige, Station Manager.**

Hemsbach Future



A special evening with the Mayor of Hemsbach, Juergen Kirchner, Walter Toewe and Helmut Shultz to commemorate the end of Wareham - Hemsbach society.

They will discuss the future of Wareham Twinning on 10th March 2018 before their return to Hemsbach. *Photograph by Sue Booth.*

What to do with the rhubarb?!



Answers on page 44!



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Swanage Carnival Queen And Princess Competition



On 4th May 2018 Swanage Carnival is inviting competitors to enter the annual Carnival Queen and Princess Competition.

The event is held at Swanage Bay View and entrants and their friends and family are invited to attend this special evening which starts at 7.30pm.

Each entrant will be asked questions by our compere so that the judges can find out a bit more about each competitor to help them choose the successful queen and princesses for 2018.

The Carnival Court, which includes a junior princess, a senior princess and the Carnival queen represent Swanage Carnival throughout the year, including attending many events during Carnival week and other events in the South.

The winners will be a key part of our week, getting involved in lots of fun activities, and will receive a cash prize and a beautiful gown to keep.

Please come and join us for this special evening, the categories for our

Swanage Regatta & Carnival 2018



Carnival Queen & Princess Competition

4th May at 7.30pm, Swanage Bay View

Please come along and join us for this special evening!

Categories as follows:

Junior Princess: 8 to 11 years

Senior Princess: 12 to 14 years

Carnival Queen: 15 years and over

Entry fee: £3. Entry forms available on the night, or from our website: www.swanagecarnival.com

budding 'Carnival Royalty' are as follows:

- Junior Princess 8 to 11 years
- Senior Princess 12 to 14 years
- Carnival Queen 15 years and over

Entry Fee £3, entry forms available on the night or from our website www.swanagecarnival.com

Out Of The Blue



Spring is upon us already and with that comes our usual proclivity, clearing out the garden shed, sprucing up the garden and dusting off the camping gear. However, have you ever stopped to consider what's in your shed and how much it's worth? Sheds and outbuildings remain vulnerable to thieves looking for garden tools, machinery, bikes and sporting

equipment. So, it's the perfect time to check on your garden security and to ensure that you are doing everything you can to keep your property safe.

Bear in mind the following crime prevention points:

- Secure the access to your shed or garage by locking gates and using thorny bushes next to walls and fences.
- Have you visibly marked the contents of your shed?
- External security lights which are activated by movement are very useful.
- Doors of sheds require attention – use close shackle padlocks.
- Use coach bolts or non-return screws to secure door hinges.
- Chain cycles, mowers, ladders and tools to a strong anchorage point.
- Alarms for sheds and garages are available very cheaply (under £20)
- Together we will crack crime – have you considered joining a Home Watch scheme?
- Exactly what insurance cover do you have? Check that your household policy covers you for theft from your garden and outbuildings.

So, what's the team been up too?

You said... reports of poaching have increased over recent months. Recently there has been an increase in reports of poaching across Purbeck. We are keen to raise awareness of poaching and the significant damage and losses farm/land owners can face as a result. Repercussions include:

* The methods used by the offenders not only causes harm and distress to the animal, and can also damage farm gateways, crops and hedges at a detrimental cost to the owners.

* We are aware that catapults can be used to kill pheasants and this action can end a pheasant season for a business and put livelihoods in jeopardy.

* Those committing rural crime often carry firearms to carry out their



Partners And Communities Together

activities. This poses an obvious danger to people working on farm and estate and those lawfully using rights of way.

We did... we will be out and about on extra patrols in areas affected and we will be offering crime prevention advice. If you experience poaching, please call 999 at the time it is happening. Inform us of anything found after the event has taken place e.g. animal carcasses, damage to gateways/hedges/fences and tyre tracks in fields. This should be reported on 101 or by emailing enquiries@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Finally, if you need to contact Dorset Police please call our Police Enquiry Centre by calling 101. Always call 999 in an EMERGENCY when there is a risk of HARM or a CRIME in progress. Alternatively, call the free CRIMESTOPPERS line on 0800 555 111. Don't forget to visit us on our Facebook page [Facebook.com/Purbeck-police](https://www.facebook.com/Purbeck-police) and Twitter - @PurbeckPolice – we really value your support and comments. You can also see our latest priorities and up and coming events at <https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/purbeck/>

Why not register on Dorset Alert? By registering for the free Dorset Police community messaging alerts, you will receive information on, Local crime and incidents where we believe that sharing information with you will help to prevent further offences occurring, Crimes and incidents where you may be able to help by providing vital information, Current crime trends, Crime prevention advice and Safer Neighbourhood activity and opportunities to meet the team. You can also receive news from our partner agencies such as Dorset Fire and Rescue Service or Trading Standards and Community safety messages.

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

Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team

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Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

Our April 2008 edition continued the discussion regarding planning policies with regards to local housing and the recently-converted Worth cafe and Craft Centre.

David Hollister penned a letter in response to the previous month's publication of a letter from the Chief Executive of Purbeck District Council, rebutting claims of any underhanded activity undertaken by any of the council's planning department.

David asked if common sense ever came into planning matters, and why, as of April 2008, PDC planners had been unable to agree planning permission for the redevelopment of the Pier Head site in Swanage.

Reader, John Rowley, wrote in response to a recent headline declaring that '170 new jobs' would be created with the expansion of the Swanage Industrial Estate. John noted that this had been in the planning stages for around fifteen years (as of 2008). John asked why original plans to screen the site adequately with tree planting had been scaled back, and also questioned the belief that this site was right for the proposed development.

At the time, water vole populations in the UK had fallen by a staggering 94% and John was concerned that this prime environmental site would be built on to the detriment of water voles and numerous other flora and fauna. John noted that the changes may well be worth the losses, if the promised 170 (new) jobs were brought to the area as a direct result of the development..... were they?!

Another hot topic of conversation in April 2008 was renewable energy, with discussions continuing with regards to the proposed turbines at Masters Pit, Puddletown Rd. Charles Sandham, Chief Executive of Infinergy (the company seeking permission to erect the turbines) wrote in to respond to readers' concerns.

Charles openly admitted that the turbines would indeed be highly visible, but questioned the concerns regarding noise pollution from the turbines. Charles invited readers to visit the Alaska Windfarm website to view the environmental impact studies carried out for the proposed development, and stated that Masters Pit was one of the only sites in Dorset thought to be viable for wind farm development. Charles finished with the statement: 'I cannot foresee that Dorset will be littered with wind turbines now or in the future and hence this is why, if Dorset is to meet its 2010 renewable energy target, Masters Pit is the best available option.'

Reader, John Davis, wrote to congratulate Councillor Bill Trite on his 'forceful letter to the Secretary of State, expressing "outrage and abhorrence" for the proposal to build 5,150 new homes in the Purbeck District, which, in his words, is "bordering on the insane".' John said: 'failure to maintain a necessary level of rented social housing results in some people, particularly young people, being deprived.'

John finished with: 'instead of trying to impose democracy on other countries, our national government would be better occupied applying basic democratic principles in this country. We now have less local democracy than we did a hundred years ago.'

Teenage work experience student from the QE School, Wimborne, Sarah Manley, spent a fortnight researching nuclear power whilst at the Gazette, starting from a personal perspective of not agreeing in principle with nuclear.

Sarah explained to readers what she had discovered through her research, from the very beginnings of nuclear and the scientific theory behind it through to the realities of utilising nuclear for providing power. At the time, there were 2,615 conventional power stations spewing out the side products of burning fossil fuels throughout the UK. Only forty nuclear power stations would be required to provide the same level of continual power to UK residents.

Sarah finished her piece somewhat in favour of nuclear power - "When I first heard about Chernobyl, I thought, well there you go, science gone wrong again.... why do they bother? I didn't understand why scientists tried to produce energy from nuclear power. Since then, I've learnt a lot more about fossil fuels, renewable energy sources and global warming and have started to think; maybe this is the way forward, because in the end, we need to think about our planet and how we can save it!"

We were hugely impressed at Sarah's ability to put her own opinions to one side whilst researching the realities and the scientific facts behind the useage of nuclear power, and hope that today she is out there somewhere, leading a successful life and enjoying being a full-blown adult!

David Hollister's motoring column contained a run-down of the top selling cars of 2007. These were: 1: Ford Focus, 2: Vauxhall Astra, 3: Ford Fiesta,

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Bat's Head - photo: Rob Knowles

Wind or Hot Air? Your views on the energy crisis page 4-6
Planning Fiascos - why Hollister is revolting page 6
"If the organic movement was a little less self-righteous and understood the pressures that farmers are under, then there would be fewer detractors."
David Eyles on the ins and outs of raising Holy Cows 15
What's On in and around Dorchester page 18
Spotlight Diary of local events page 33

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4: Vauxhall Corsa, 5: Volkswagon Golf, 6: Peugeot 207, 7: BMW 3-Series, 8: Renault Megane, 9: Renault Clio, 10: Vauxhall Vectra.

Compare the 2007 list to the 2017 list, which was as follows: 1: Ford Fiesta, 2: Volkswagon Golf, 3: Ford Focus, 4: Vauxhall Mokka X, 5: Mercedes-Benz A-Class, 6: Nissan Qashquai, 7: Ford Kuga, 8: Kia Sportage, 9: Mercedes-Benz C-Class, 10: Vauxhall Corsa.

Dorset Wildlife Trust had been researching the local Seahorse population and welcomed changes to the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) which announced that Seahorses would now benefit from full protection of the law as of April 6th 2008.

Marine Conservation Officer, Peter Tinsley, welcomed the news and said: "Adding Seahorses to the list of species protected means that it is now an offence to intentionally kill, injure, possess or sell Seahorses or to damage their natural habitat."



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Recognition For Iain!



On February 21st 2018, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary was able to award a Dorset Rotary Police Award to PCSO Iain Leslie (pictured center) for services to the local community of Swanage.

Iain was nominated for the award by the Community Committee of Swanage Rotary, who were delighted that Iain's wife, Kerrie, was present when Rotary President, Ro Clark (pictured right), presented Iain with his well-deserved Certificate of Recognition.

In his citation, Maggie Hardy (pictured left) explained that Iain's local knowledge and experience over the last ten years has made him an integral part of the Neighbourhood Policing Team. His ability to build strong and lasting professional relationships with the public and partners is a credit to the organisation and has previously gone unrecognised.

Iain's friendly and approachable personality affords him the opportunity to not just deliver a service to the people of Swanage, but also to deliver it with passion, pride and personality.

Iain's nomination was supported wholeheartedly by Kyle Hickman who, prior to moving to Australia last year, was a Police Constable in Swanage and worked alongside Iain.

Kind regards, Maggie Hardy, Swanage & Purbeck Rotary



Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK. In Purbeck we run Rainbows (5-7 years), Brownies (7-10 years) and Guides (10-14 years).

Our amazing volunteers are giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities.

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Paul Cady presents...

The Palace Visit And Lions Club International Centennial Year

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Wareham Lions Club member, Paul Cady, is grateful for being able to represent Wareham Lions Club at the recent reception at Buckingham Palace, supported by the patron of the Lions Club of the British Isles, Her Royal Highness, The Countess of Wessex GCMG. Paul was supported by fellow Lions Club members from Bournemouth, Weymouth, Eastleigh, Wimborne and Ferndown.

Everyone arrived in good spirits, despite the heavily falling snow.

Her Royal Highness was most gracious to acknowledge the immense efforts that the Lions Club International has made in humanitarian aid, as well as contributing towards various other causes, such as diabetes, the environment, hunger relief, paediatric cancer research and vision.

The Chairman of the Centennial Committee, Lion Phil Nathan MBE, was pleased to bestow Her Royal Highness with the Melvin Jones Fellowship on behalf of the Lions Club International, for efforts made by her Royal Highness towards humanitarian aid. Lions Clubs worldwide - Ordinary people, Amazing things.....



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Wareham Town Council Update

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



News from Wareham Town Council March

The unitary authority which will replace Dorset County Council (DCC), Purbeck District Council (PDC) and others will be called Dorset Council. Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch will be served by another unitary authority. Now, division boundaries for the 82 Dorset Councillors must be quickly settled before the 2019 election.

The county portion of Council Tax will increase by 5.99%; PDC's by 2.99%.

Application has been made for a new public right of way for about one and a half miles along the narrow-gauge railway track bed from Holton Heath to Rockley Jetty.

As a trustee of Wareham Youth Centre, County Councillor Ezzard asked people to support this well-used facility for young people. To donate or to hire premises at the Centre, telephone 552934.

On 31st January, PDC's Planning Committee voted 8:0 to refuse the Listed Building Consent for a ramped bridge at Wareham Station. As a result DCC postponed for further consideration submission of its planning

application until 4th April or later.

In line with tradition, Wareham Deputy Mayor, Councillor Turner, becomes the Mayor Elect for 2018-19. Councillor M. Wiggins will be Deputy Mayor Elect.

The Town Meeting is an opportunity for local people to find out what the Town Council has been doing in the previous year and its plans for the forthcoming year. Members of the public can also put forward resolutions: for example, do you think the Town Council should be doing more to support the Youth Centre? The Town Meeting will be on Wednesday, 4th April, at 7pm for 7.15pm in the Town Hall.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has made good progress and will put the Plan before the Council in July so that a local referendum can be held before the 2019 electioneering gets under way.

So, don't forget the Town Meeting on 4th April, then the next meetings of the Town Council on Tuesdays 17th April and 22nd May at 7pm in the Town Hall.

The public is invited to attend Council meetings and further information is available on 01929 553006 or at the website: www.wareham-tc.gov.uk.



They're coming...

Purbeck Pirate Festival – 25–28 May

Swanage Town & Coast





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Do you have?

- The ability to be self-motivated
- The ability to manage workload
- Flexibility in your approach to work
- Sensitivity to the needs of others and demonstrate appropriate empathy
- The ability to work as part of a team, whilst also being able to use initiative when working alone.

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Daughter of a resident

"To all the carers who did a fantastic job looking after M - thank you so much."

Daughter of a resident

"Your compassion and care exceeded all expectations and shows what an outstanding job you all do in what we know can be difficult circumstances at times."

Son of a resident

"It meant a lot to all of us that we were able to create a special day for his 87th birthday. He was extremely touched by the cake, card and present the staff produced and we appreciated the lovely 'tea trolley' which was wheeled in during the course of the afternoon. All of us have been impressed with the quality of the staff, their patience and kindness when dealing with the residents, including my father."

Daughter of a resident

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SWANAGE RAILWAY

Daily operation for the Summer season commenced on Friday 30th March and will run until Sunday 28th October. Our 2018 Timetable has now been published and copies are available from Swanage, Corfe Castle and Norden Stations as well as Swanage Information Centre and Wareham Tourist Information Centre.

Highlights for 2018

Friday 11th – Sunday 13th May Diesel Gala and Beer Festival

Saturday 16th June Sounds of Summer Musical Express

Saturday 28th July – Saturday 4th August Summer Regatta, Carnival and Fireworks

Friday 7th – Sunday 9th September Classic Transport Rally

Friday 12th – Sunday 14th October Autumn Steam Gala

Saturday 1st – Monday 24th December Santa Specials and Christmas Festivities

Friday 28th December Winter Warm Up

The Wessex Belle Dining Train operates March – December offering a range of Friday Night Bistros, Saturday Evening Wessex Belles and Sunday Dorsetman Luncheons. For further information see www.swanagerailway.co.uk

Volunteering – Your Railway Needs You

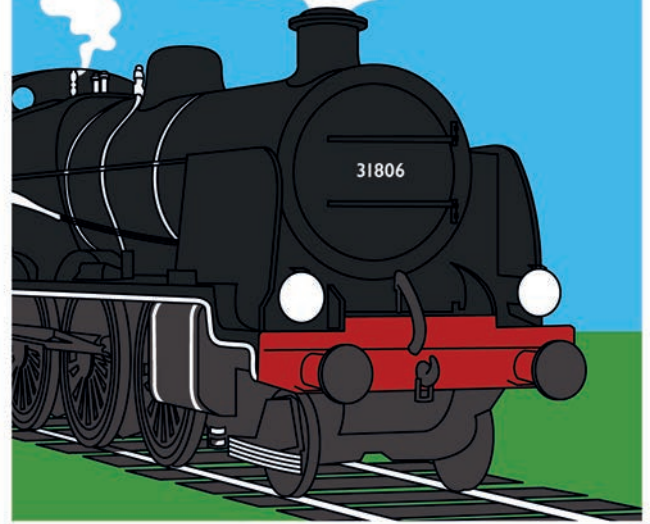
The Swanage Railway is a volunteer-led organisation with over 500 volunteers regularly working on the railway in a variety of roles. Whatever your skill or interest there is a role for you.

If you fancy putting your skills to good use or want to learn some new skills and make some new friends, then call Mike Whitwam on 01929 475212 or email: iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk

We run introduction days regularly for potential volunteers to get a taste of volunteering on Swanage Railway.

VOLUNTEER

Your Railway Needs You



Contact Mike or Jacqui
iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk

Raising The Flag



Purbeck raises the flag for the Commonwealth

Commonwealth soldiers, local dignitaries and Purbeck school students witnessed the raising of a flag to mark Commonwealth Day on Monday 12 March (*attendees pictured, above*). Along with more than 500 local authorities, charities and community groups throughout the United Kingdom, Purbeck District Council raised the flag to show commitment to the Commonwealth.

Councillor Bill Trite, Chairman of Purbeck District Council was joined at the ceremony by Commonwealth Soldiers and their spouses from Ghana, Nepal and Fiji; local Mayors; District Councillors; the Assistant Head and students from the Purbeck School; and District Council staff.

The Chairman and guests affirmed their support for the values shared by the Commonwealth's member countries. Reading the Commonwealth Affirmation, Councillor Trite said: "Joining together as members of one worldwide community and valuing the personal dignity and worth of every individual, we raise this flag as a symbol of the ties of kinship and affinity that we cherish."

Over 650 other Commonwealth Flags were raised in 38 Commonwealth countries. The initiative has caught the imagination of thousands of participants around the world, enabling people of all ages in their local communities to become involved and join with others associating themselves with widespread public expression of commitment to the Commonwealth, appreciation of the values it stands for, and opportunities offered to its citizens.

Market Swanage

Every Friday
this season

OPEN

ALL DAY

Victoria Avenue
Car Park, Swanage

Enquiries: 07831 254 985

Off Shore? For Sure!

Introducing a group of savvy Purbeck businesses who are striving for a better deal...



As we reach the end of the tax year, a group of Purbeck businesses are looking forward to assessing the impact of a tax saving scheme they joined in 2017.

In the current climate, with Brexit looming and general uncertainty in the air, it is very difficult for medium, small and micro-businesses to make a profit, and, when they do, the dreaded taxman comes calling. For many, it's simply not worth being in business and too many struggle to make ends meet and keep up-to-date with staff expenses.

In light of this, a selection of companies across Purbeck have come together to explore the possibilities of using big company tax arrangements.

With the help of a consortium of accountants and advisors led by Kev Cougar, a limited company (Purbeck Investment Group A (PIG A)) was incorporated on the Isle of Man in mid-2017.

Eighty-five small to medium local companies were invited to join, and only three of those invited turned the offer down. The chosen Purbeckian companies cover a broad range of businesses from cafes to decorators, engineers to newsagents, covering the area from Studland to Wool and all points in between.

The scheme is too complicated to go into in any depth at this point, but, in simple terms, PIG A, owns all of the participating companies, which, in turn is owned by the companies themselves.

All revenue is routed through the Isle of Man tax system, where profits are taxed at 0% up to £500,000, when it will be 10%. To make it completely fair, each company owns shares in proportion to its estimated profit.

A spokesman for the accountancy group involved in setting this landmark scheme up, Gareth Wise McTbHTM, said: "This scheme is above board and is completely legal. It's what most of the big companies are all doing as a matter of course. They save themselves millions in tax and it is completely unfair that small companies have to make up the shortfall.

"We are doing a significant long-term trial in Purbeck to pressure the government into changing the current taxation laws so we all pay fair taxes, rather than the burden falling on the smaller companies, who generally do not have the contacts nor funds to access the 'loop hole' possibilities available in the current tax system.

"We want the whole of Purbeck to go tax free. This would really make HMRC sit up and listen and take making changes to taxation seriously for the greater good. In the meantime, we are saving an average of about £10,000 per investor, per annum, through the current Purbeck scheme, which is nice."

Mr P.G. Jones, owner of the infamous 'Bright & Light' nightclub in Wool said: "When I was initially offered this deal, I was sceptical to say the least. However, when I spoke to Mr Cougar in person and he explained the full process to me, and gave me all the required guarantees, I was convinced it was worth a shot. Being nearly out of business due to a recent VAT bill that

we were struggling to pay, this was perfect timing for me, and I decided to take that leap into the unknown. I am very glad I did, I will probably save £12,000 this year alone. Me and the missus can have a very nice holiday for that! Oh yeah, I'll probably give the staff a bit of a bonus too!"

Mr A. Greybeard, a long-term cafe owner in Swanage, also enthused over the new scheme: "I always felt it was unfair that international companies can come here, turn over millions, make huge profits and then pay a miniscule amount of tax. It's entirely the fault of the tax system, which clearly needs reforming. The good news is though, I've saved enough money to give my staff a pay rise, and to buy the new telly I've been looking at!"

Mr Richards of a local pumbing company was one of the last local businesses invited to join, and he understands the worries people may have about such a scheme. He said: "Obviously, I thought this was one of those scams you keep hearing about, but when I met with Mr Cougar and his colleagues, and they talked me through everything, I felt much more certain that this scheme was above board.

"Being a small, one-man band, I was sick of always having to ensure I scrape together every penny for the tax man, not really earning enough to live on. I signed-up, sold my company to PIG A and joined PIG A in turn, completing the loop. It was very simple, although my wife was a bit panicky, to be completely honest. She kept waking me up at night when we were due to sign everything over, in a hot panicky sweat, which wasn't great.

"I have, however, saved just over £6,000 in the past six months through the scheme, without having to do anything or spend any time dealing with paperwork or anything like that. I wouldn't have believed it myself, but it's all completely true and utterly safe. We're over the moon!"

Spaces in the scheme are very strictly limited, and the invited businesses were originally chosen on a variety of points, including length of time the business had been open and trading under the same name, the ability of the scheme accountants to access up-to-date books and bank accounts, and the social standing of those running the businesses.

So far, every single one of the eighty-two businesses on the scheme have saved a minimum of over £3000 each - with some achieving far higher figures in the first six months to date. Discussions have begun with regards to those on the scheme donating a percentage of the savings they make to a community trust fund, to be used for house building for locals, creating a Purbeckian Credit Union, among other ideas.

If you run a small - medium business on the Isle of Purbeck (not the district area, the geographical isle has been decided upon as the legal boundary) and are interested in joining the Purbeck tax haven, please do contact Kevin Cougar or Gareth Wise from the primary accountancy team, either by email or phone: enquiries@purbecktaxPIGA.co.uk

Telephone 0800-make-my-year.

Alternatively, see the website: www.purbecktaxPIGA.co.uk



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Exciting Future For Herston Village Hall

Recognising the need for keeping and enhancing community meeting places in Swanage, the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust responded to a request from Herston Village Hall to help secure the long-term future of the Hall.

At an AGM of the Herston Village Hall Charity on 14 January 2018, open to all Herston residents, a new committee was elected.

It was also decided that the Village Hall would come under the umbrella of, and join, the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust.

Those attending the AGM gave thanks to the retiring committee for all their commitment and hard work, over many years, to keep the Hall going.

There are plans to revitalise the Hall by carrying out repairs and refurbishment and open up opportunities for greater use by the community.

An Open Day on 14 April will give everyone their chance to view the space and have their say in how it should be used.

The long-term sustainability of the building will depend upon regular hirings to cover running costs and build up reserves for future repairs and improvements.

Help us plan for the future!

Come and find out more on 14 April and/or view further details at www.sandpdt.org.uk.

**Book advertising at:
www.purbeckgazette.com
or call 01929 424239 extension 1
MAY deadline: noon on 9th April**

HERSTON VILLAGE HALL OPEN DAY - 14 April

Doors open from 11 am until 2 pm

Join us to have fun and help plan the revitalisation of the Village Hall in Jubilee Road.

There will be Stalls, a History of Herston in pictures, soft play for the young ones, refreshments, plus lots more.

It is planned to refurbish the building for use by the Community. Have your say in how the Hall should be used in the future.

If you are interested in hiring the Hall for your organisation or children's parties etc just chat to us on the day or ring **01929 424252**

More info at www.sandpdt.org.uk

We are grateful to Explorers Wraparound Childcare for organising the soft play.



Fantastic new job opportunities

As part of the Swanage Pier Regeneration Programme, two exciting posts have been created, initially for three years. Swanage Pier Trust is looking for a qualified and enthusiastic person with a background in education and learning. Applications are also invited from highly experienced people with volunteer and event management skills.

Education & Learning Officer

Salary: £13,520 actual
Hours: 20hrs per week

Volunteer & Events Coordinator

Salary: £14,300 actual
Hours: 25hrs per week

Closing date for applications:
Friday 27th April 2018

For further details and job description please visit www.swanagepiertrust.com or call us on 01929 425866

Funding raised by
The National Lottery
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Construction Starts On Swanage Pier

Dorset Chartered Builders, Greendale Construction Limited has started work at Swanage Pier Marine Villas as part of the Swanage Pier Trust's restoration project, which will see the 190-year-old building restored and turned into a new visitor centre and café.

The grade II listed Marine Villas is a Georgian villa which originally contained new, fashionable cold salt-water baths, but was soon converted into a private dwelling. Although Swanage Pier itself has existed since 1859, the current pier was opened in 1897, with the Swanage Pier Trust acquiring it in 1994.

Government funding has previously enabled repairs to the pier structure itself, and now, thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund, Coastal Community Fund, Dorset County Council, Purbeck District Council, Swanage Town Council, trusts and foundations, a major restoration project has commenced, of which, Greendale will undertake a general refurbishment of the existing two storey Marine Villas.

The works will include; construction of a new partially glazed structure extension, forming a new seated cafe area; internal structural alterations to facilitate the construction of new toilets, a commercial kitchen, and a platform lift to first floor office accommodation. Sympathetic repairs and alterations to the structure of the building will take place, with the introduction of load bearing glass floor panels in order to allow the viewing of the historic saltwater baths below the ground floor.

New joinery fittings and doors, reception, exhibition spaces and a shop will be created, as well as a complete redecoration internally and externally. Alterations and an upgrade of existing electrical and plumbed services throughout the building will also be completed, and new paving outside.

The external toilet block will be having minor structural alterations to allow for the formation of new disabled toilet facilities, with internal layout configuration changes to provide modernised male public toilets, including drainage alterations, new sanitary ware, electrical and piped service alterations. A new doorway will be formed through external solid stone walls to provide access to toilets.

Rob Hooker, Director of Greendale Construction Limited, said: "Greendale is delighted to be on-board with this exciting and historically important restoration of the Swanage Pier Marine Villas. The work,



which is due for completion in July 2018, will not only bring back to life this Georgian building, but also bring in many new visitors to the area, who will be able to learn more about the history of Swanage Pier and the Marine Villas."

Ben Adeney, Chief Executive, Swanage Pier Trust commented: "We are now able to get underway with the Swanage Pier regeneration plans, thanks to the incredible support of the local community, the Heritage Lottery Fund, trusts, foundations and local authority.

"We are delighted that the Marine Villas restoration project is in the experienced hands of Greendale Construction who will create an amazing area for the local community and public to enjoy for generations to come."

Photo: Ben Adeney, Chief Executive, Swanage Pier Trust, with Rob Hooker, Director of Greendale Construction Limited.

YOUR Pictures.....

Send us your pictures to ed@purbeckgazette.co.uk

Original files **ONLY** please, as they come straight off the camera with **NO** alterations. Some mobile phones may not produce useable pictures due to low resolution. Remember to include your name in the email!



Mists rising over Wareham water meadows, by Michael Cooper



The big freeze and clams on Studland Beach, by Donna Derrick



Snowplough on Wareham Bridge, by Donna Derrick



Frozen bench, by Donna Derrick



ILB Rib in rough weather, by Mike Streeter

William G Weeks, CGM, Croix de Guerre MID, RNR

World War I – Swanage Hero

My great uncle, William George Weeks, was born in Swanage in 1879 and was a Leading Deck Hand in the Royal Naval Reserve.

One hundred years ago, on the night of the 22nd/23rd of April 1918 he was on board HM Motor Launch No. 526 at Zeebrugge off the Belgian coast. The Navy had decided to block the harbour by sinking some of their own ships to prevent the German Navy from entering and using the harbour. The crews from the sunken Block Ships were in the water and desperately needed rescuing, so the Motor Launches, including William's, were sent in to pull them out of the water and carry them to safety. All the time they were under heavy German artillery and machine gun fire from the coast and around the harbour entrance.

William was awarded the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal and the French Croix de Guerre with a mention in dispatches 'Palm Leaf' on the Ribbon for his outstanding bravery in the face of the enemy. He had no thought for his own safety and had volunteered to be part of the rescue mission. The CGM was recorded in the London Gazette 30807, dated 19th July 1918.

The citation on the Croix de Guerre read: 'This is a reward of voluntary service in a Motor Boat Squad for rescuing the crews of the 'Block Ships' under intense artillery and machine gun fire.

In the 1950s, a fair came to Swanage and above one of the stalls was a sign indicating that a Mr Summers was a Zeebrugge survivor. Contact was made between the two men and it was established that it was William who had actually pulled Mr Summers out of the water. Some co-incidence after so many years!

I remember as a young boy visiting Uncle Bill with my grandad, who asked his brother to show me his medals. I recall they were in an old cigarette tin. Years later, his granddaughter, Ann Gould, had them mounted and framed.

William's medals were donated to the National Museum of the Royal Navy in Portsmouth by his granddaughter, Ann. It was a proud and memorable moment for both of us as Ann handed them over for safekeeping to the Curator, together with the Croix de Guerre Citation.

William Weeks lived in Swanage all his life. He was the 2nd son of Julia and George Weeks and was one of eleven children. He was a member of the British Legion and served with the lifeboat until his retirement in 1928. He died in 1965 at the age of eighty-five and is laid to rest in Godlingston Cemetery with his wife, Emily.

Brian Weeks



**SWANAGE ANNUAL
PARISH MEETING**
Monday 16th April 2018

**Come along and be part of an evening to
celebrate the Swanage community**

Your meeting

Your views

**Your chance to have a say in matters
affecting Swanage**

The annual Town Meeting or Parish Assembly is an open forum for residents to raise any issues of interest relating to Swanage. In addition to your local Town, District and County Councillors, representatives from local organisations have been invited to make short presentations to the Meeting.

Certificates will also be awarded to the town's nominees for the Purbeck Town and Parish Volunteer of the Year Award 2018, in recognition of their sterling work undertaken within the community.

**7pm, The Centre, Chapel Lane, Swanage.
Monday 16th April 2018**

Agenda items and formal written motions should be submitted at the Town Hall, Swanage, by 4pm on Wednesday 4th April 2018 in writing, by telephone on 01929 423636 or via email to: admin@swanage.gov.uk

Please come along and have your say!

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in your own way – about
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Home Improvements – Surveys

It is foreseeable that buyers will instruct a survey before they commit to a purchase, but is there any reason why a seller shouldn't have a survey carried out first?

WHY SHOULD A SELLER CONSIDER A SURVEY??

A survey can be a good way for sellers to avoid unexpected reduced offers further down the line. Buyers often use a survey reports valuation or suggestions to renegotiate on price. However, with their own report a seller can nip this in the bud right from the start....

HOW CAN A SURVEY HELP BOTH SELLER AND BUYER?

...If a seller is aware of issues, they could fix them, and even potentially increase the value of their property.

Or if they are unable to fix issues, at least obtaining a survey will give them an idea of just how much buyers may need to invest, and the property can be marketed at a value that considers all the relevant factors.

It also means that when a buyer comes to get their own survey, they should not receive any nasty shocks and will have no reason to walk away from the deal.

WHAT TYPES OF SURVEYS EXIST?

RICS Condition Report - a very basic 'traffic light' survey, describing the property's condition, identifying risks or potential legal issues and highlighting any urgent defects. It's most suitable for new-builds or homes in good condition; no advice or valuation is provided in this survey.

RICS HomeBuyer Report – a survey suitable for properties in reasonable condition. It helps identify any structural problems, such as subsidence or damp.

RICS Building Survey – this survey provides the same level of inspection as a building survey but uses a simple and clear 1, 2, 3 rating system to ensure that readers can easily identify the most serious issues. A detailed report provides an in-depth analysis of the property's condition highlighting a range of issues which includes advice on defects, repairs and maintenance options. Included is advice sheets on how to deal with some of the more common problems that have been found at the property including an outline of repair options and the consequences of not dealing with any potential issues highlighted within the report.

Building or full structural survey – this is the most comprehensive survey. Particularly good for older homes or homes that need repair. It provides detailed advice on repairs and is very extensive. Although it can't look under floorboards or behind walls it should include the surveyor's opinion on the potential for hidden defects in this area. It should also provide information on potential repair options.

Mortgage valuation survey - this survey is to satisfy a lender that the property is worth the price. A valuation is just that – it won't point out repairs or structural problems.

WHAT TO DO IF A SURVEY UNCOVERS PROBLEMS?

A surveyor's report nearly always finds some issues, especially with older homes. Find out whether any problems, such as a poor damp-proof course, are still covered by a guarantee. Ask the surveyor to give you an idea of how costly it will be to sort out any problems. Ask a builder to give you a quote.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

We can start you in the right direction with an initial property appraisal report.

If you then desire a survey we can help you find a qualified surveyor. Upon a survey we can help you dissect the results and what they mean for the value of your property. However, we acknowledge that most people would rather wait until a potential buyer produces their own survey. In this situation we are here to guide through any consequences that may arise.

Whatever option taken, we are here from start to finish.

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Iain and Sharon Westman

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With our wide range of products, there is something for everyone and we are confident that our blinds will enhance any room. We are happy to try to match any fabrics in your home, chat about the collection of latest designs available and even measure up your windows so you don't have to.

With our customer-focused, efficient service, Ashley Blinds will visit your home and offer our advice free of charge - helping you to make a decision on colour, style and type of blind. We also take the pressure off and allow you time to think, as all our quotes will remain valid for 28 days.

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We have the experience and knowledge to fit all types of high quality curtains and poles in any type of window or property. With our service available across Dorset, Ashley Blinds can cater for all your needs and ensure that your bespoke curtains glide smoothly regardless of their size or style.

You have the power to select every aspect of your curtains, from fabric and style to header and lining. Created in your own individual design, our stunning selection of curtains will bring life to any room. We are happy to try to match any fabrics in your home, chat about the collection of latest designs available and even measure up your windows so you don't have to.

We also offer a wide range of roof and side blinds for conservatories, enabling you to make the most of your living space in all seasons. With the summer on its way, there's always our range of awnings to consider - making that outside space more user-friendly in hot weather, and available in a range of quality finishes.

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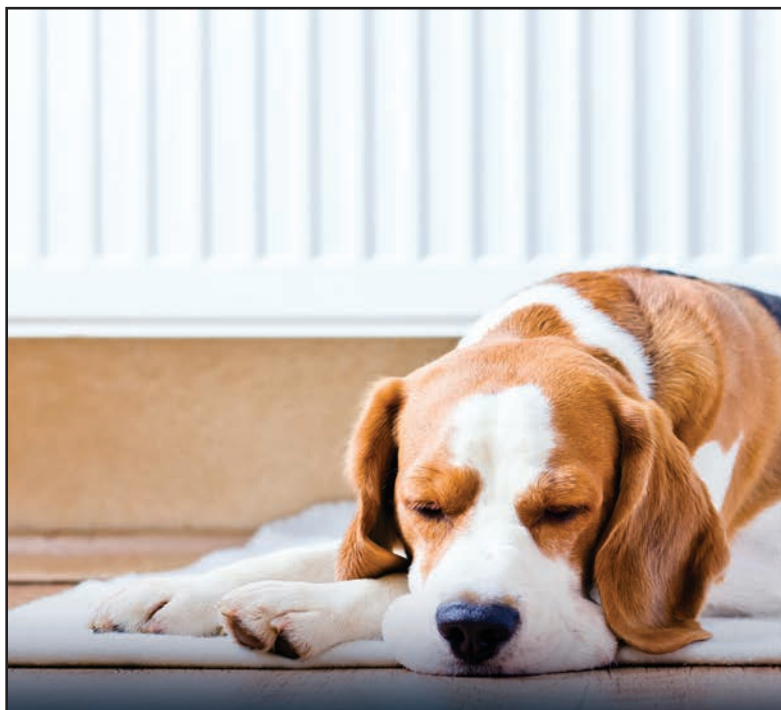
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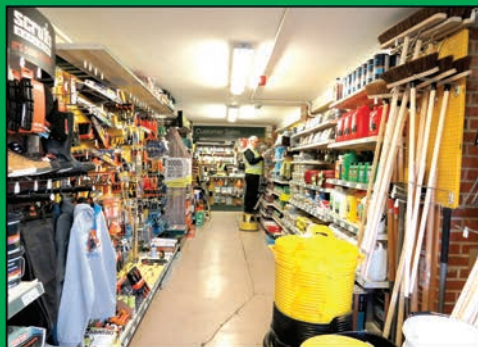
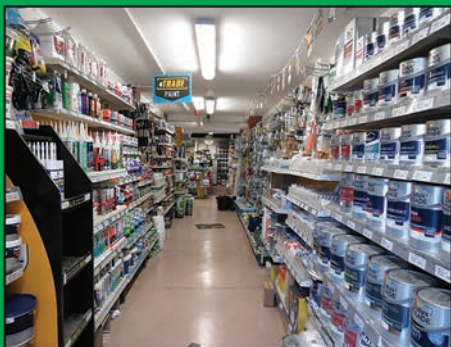
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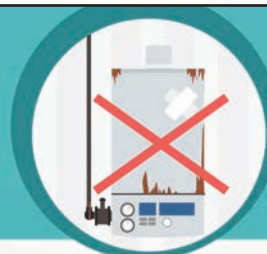


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Assessing Investment Risk

Both an individual's circumstances and their attitude to risk will affect what is considered to be the most suitable level of risk for their investments. The general theory is that the more risk you are able and prepared to take, the higher the potential reward and in general terms, investments with higher volatility will be considered to be higher risk.

The level of risk which is suitable for you is therefore very much an individual thing and something which I would suggest is best judged in conjunction with a professional financial advisor or investment manager, most of whom now have methods of assessing an appropriate level of risk for you.

I would suggest that having a professional who gets to know you and your circumstances is key in this process, as a questionnaire alone is not sufficient to get to know a client and their attitude to risk.

Risk cannot be eliminated altogether and even cash (as can be seen below) presents some risk. It is therefore essential to match your circumstances and tolerable level of risk.

Investment risk includes the following categories:

Capital risk - the price and value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back what you originally invested.

Shortfall risk - the portfolio of investments might fail to deliver the 'expected returns' over the appropriate horizon.

Drawdown risk - returns are volatile, and a period of low share prices could coincide with a need (planned or otherwise) to sell investments.

Inflation risk - while long term returns may appear satisfactory, the purchasing power is eroded by inflation. This can, therefore, also affect cash and a negative return can result if the interest rate on the cash is less than inflation.

Liquidity risk - access to the portfolio's investments is prevented by problems with the investment's issuer, failures in the financial system, governmental or regulatory action, or both.

Once a level of risk has been agreed upon (different financial providers will have their own 'bands' or descriptions of risk profiles), suitable investments can then be suggested, taking into account existing investments. Volatility is a common method of measuring the risk of investments. It looks at the degree that prices vary from the average over a given period of time.

This gives an indicator of the unpredictability of prices. The probability of that return is also applied to give a single volatility measurement for an individual investment. The volatility figure can then be calculated for a portfolio of investments to give an overall risk score. That risk score should also take into account the correlation between the various holdings.

As an individual's circumstances may change over time and the risk score of an investment will also change, assessing investment risk is an ongoing process.

Kate Spurling lives in Swanage and is an investment manager with Charles Stanley & Co. Limited, Dorchester office – (01305) 217404 – kate.spurling@charles-stanley.co.uk

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This information does not constitute advice or a personal recommendation or take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations or needs of individuals. The value of investments may fall as well as rise and you may not receive back the amount you originally invested.



'Light At The End Of The Tunnel'

Chancellor Philip Hammond has presented his first Spring Statement, with something of a spring in his step. Responding to the latest economic forecasts from the Office for Budget Responsibility, Mr Hammond revealed that the economy is expected to grow at the slightly faster rate of 1.5% in 2018.

Debt and borrowing have been revised downwards, and inflation is also predicted to fall back down to the Bank of England's 2% target over the coming 12 months. The Chancellor suggested that the UK's public finances have reached a 'turning point'.

While openly challenging his own reputation as a pessimist, the Chancellor rejected calls to ease the squeeze on spending, asserting that UK debt remains 'too high' and heralding the government's 'balanced approach'. However, he did pave the way for potential increases in public spending from 2020 onwards, revealing plans for a detailed Spending Review in 2019. Mr Hammond also used the Spring Statement to report on the progress made on a number of the measures announced at the Autumn Budget.

Having previously announced that business rates revaluations will take place more frequently, the Chancellor has now brought forward the next revaluation by a year, to 2021. He also revealed that an estimated 60,000 people have so far benefitted from the stamp duty land tax exemption introduced for first-time buyers in the Autumn Budget.

With Brexit negotiations ongoing, the Chancellor confirmed that over £1.5bn has been allocated to departments and devolved administrations in preparation for the UK's exit from the EU. He also announced the first allocation of funding from the Challenge Fund, which will provide money to support the roll out of full-fibre broadband to 13 areas of the UK.

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To lend money lawfully a lender has to be authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). People who lend money without being FCA authorised are breaking the law. They are known as loan sharks.

Loan sharks often work from home and start out friendly, but their behaviour changes when

payments are missed. Few advertise; they are often heard of by word of mouth. Often little or no paperwork is provided and they will refuse to tell you how much you owe, how long you will be

paying off the debt, or what the interest rate is. Many loan sharks will increase the debt and add additional amounts and take items as security including passports, bank cards or benefit cards.

They might also resort to intimidation, threats and violence. If you have borrowed from a loan shark you have not committed a crime, they have. If a loan shark threatens you or acts in a violent way, contact the police straight away.

The England Illegal Money Lending Team work in Dorset to tackle loan sharks and support people affected by illegal money lending, on behalf of Dorset County Council Trading Standards Service.

Anyone can safely report a loan shark by calling 0300 555 2222, or by visiting www.stoploansharks.co.uk

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Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) Regulations: An Introduction for Commercial Landlords



Until now, energy performance regulations have done little more than require commercial landlords to obtain an EPC.

However, this is set to change with the implementation of the minimum energy efficiency standards (MEES).

New Regulations

The new regulations introduce strict requirements on commercial landlords, with potentially heavy penalties for non-compliance.

The changes brought about by the MEES Regulations will be implemented in a number of phases. The key dates are:

From 1st April 2018 landlords of buildings that are covered by the MEES Regulations must not renew existing leases or grant new leases unless the building has an EPC rating of E or above, unless an exemption applies, and the landlord registers that exemption.

From 1st April 2023 commercial properties which are subject to an existing lease must not continue to be let unless they meet the MEES of band E.

Which properties are covered by the MEES Regulations?

Not all commercial properties will be covered by the new regulations and a number of exemptions will apply.

What are the exemptions?

If your property does fall under the scope of the MEES Regulations, there are a number of exemptions to the requirement to bring the property up to the MEES. The most notable exemption is the so-called "Golden Rule": the works required to bring the property up to the MEES must be expected to pay for themselves within 7 years.

Other exemptions relate to listed buildings, potential devaluation of the property, the landlord's inability to obtain necessary consent for the works, and the potential negative impact of the works on the fabric of the building.

It is important to remember that most of the exemptions must be registered by the landlord with the national PRS exemptions register to avoid falling foul of the MEES Regulations.

Penalties

The MEES regulations will be enforced by Trading Standards and Landlords who act in contravention of the MEES Regulations may be liable to a fine of up to £150,000.00 or 10% of the rateable value of the building.

For more information or if you have any questions please contact Roger Chadwick on 01929 768720 or email roger.chadwick@battens.co.uk

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Time To Be Smart And Look Smart

by David Hollister

Smart motorway driving laws are changing this spring; more offences and heavier fines. Motorists using smart motorways already know that the fourth lane can be opened or closed at any time; the hard shoulder can be opened to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion but closed again if an accident happens.

Smart motorways also operate with a variable speed limit ranging between 40 and 70mph depending on weather or traffic conditions. If the lane needs to be closed a red X will show above the lane, signifying its closure.

Highways England has issued 80,000 warning letters to drivers who have broken smart motorways laws since 2016. They suggest that drivers ignoring the red X closure sign are “dangerous”. Not, in my book, as “dangerous” as removing hard shoulders, formerly a safe refuge for broken-down vehicles or even exhausted drivers.

The Home Office is testing roadside cameras which could automatically detect violations. But it's not just when variable speed limits are in force that these cameras can have you; drivers are at greater risk of receiving a fine on a smart motorway as police have confirmed speed cameras can be operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Meaning that motorists could be penalised if they break the 70mph limit, even if the overhead gantry isn't signalling a reduced speed restriction.

Highways England trumpet “Safety is at the heart of everything we do and our roads are among the safest in the world”. What utter, utter self-serving rubbish spouted by Central Government. Money is at the heart of everything they do.

The safest way to drive on a motorway is ‘don't go there’. Do as I do, program your sat-nav to avoid motorways and thus avoid being trapped in long queues for accidents and roadworks with no hope of parking up, turning off or turning round. To me, those Armco barriers are akin to prison bars!

Speed limits everywhere. Hours of Police time wasted stopping motorists for doing 32 in a 30 limit; yes, it's the “law” but there are hugely more important issues for our beleaguered Police Force to cope with; assaults, rapes, missing persons, fraud, burglary, vulnerable people of all ages. Yet their masters choose to put them in unmarked cars on virtually empty roads in rural areas. It may well satisfy the self-righteous do-gooders who write to the Chief Constable demanding enforcement of speed limits in their towns and villages – well, mostly outside their own houses – but every copper tied up in this wasteful process isn't out catching violent criminals or indeed searching for missing persons.

This nit-picking enforcement only serves to further damage relationships between frustrated and harassed motorists and an increasingly understaffed Police Force (I refuse to say ‘Police Service’). So, you have to drive at what you feel are ridiculously slow speed limits? Well this is how I try to keep out of trouble!

After a lifetime of driving in my own village at a perfectly reasonable 40mph, I'm still finding it hard to adjust to the new 30 limit. I have a ‘Road Angel’ device in the car. As soon as I exceed any speed limit by more than 2 mph – anywhere – it beeps loudly just once and then the display goes red until I drop back to the limit. That way, it makes it my own choice to exceed the limit; I can't say I wasn't warned.

Road Angel displays legal speed limits of all roads travelled, fixed and mobile safety camera locations, and automatic updates to the safety camera database every few minutes, as you drive. Yes, at £200-odd it's not cheap – and seems to get more expensive each year. But it's a life-saver and is fully UK-legal! Check it out online!

Make it a reflex to use cruise control in all speed-limited areas. Set it and forget it. And if you haven't got cruise control, then use your gearbox. Limit 10 mph – stay in first. Limit 20 mph – stay in second. Limit 30 mph – stay in third. And so on. Until by the time you're out of the 40 limit, it's time



to change into 5th or 6th! Try it! You'll use a bit more fuel, but it works.

Yet there are still places where more, not less, speed limits should be imposed and occasionally enforced. Outside all schools, 100 yards either way from the entrance, at going-in and chucking-out time, a variable flashing 20 mph sign. Yet you slow down to 20 outside the Swanage School and someone's up your backside getting frustrated!

Now here's something I didn't know until recently, and I bet than many readers don't know either. Tyres. If you do a lot of miles, they wear out. Common sense. But regardless of how many or how few miles you do, all tyres have a life span and a date stamp on the sidewall showing the week and the year it was manufactured.

2206 means the tyre was made in the 22nd week of 2006. It is recommended that you never use tyres over five years old whether or not the car is being used, as the rubber in a tyre degrades over time. Oh dear. Lots of tread on my MX5 tyres with only 24,000 miles on them but very soon – they'll have to go! £400 I really don't want to spend. Now go and check yours out – if you dare!

The legal limit for tyre treads is 1.6 mm. In practice that isn't enough to ensure safe driving. But the ‘age’ factor doesn't form part of the MOT test or indeed an ‘advisory’ in many MOT centres.

After the wettest winter on record, I bet your car is – like mine – just begging to be cleaned. But not just the outside and inside; the underside as well. Get your hosepipe up in the wheel arches and underneath if you can, to remove the salt and grit that will rot your car away. Clean the outside with a gentle shampoo (not Fairy Liquid!) and apply a protective wax coat to finish. Take out the floor mats and leave the car open in the sunshine for a day (if you can) to let the main carpets breathe and to dry out where the moisture from your wet feet has gone through the mats. Hang the mats out to dry then give them a good vacuum clean. Of course, you could always cheat like I do, and go to the hand car washes at Holton Heath or at Wool and have a coffee whilst the lovely boys (and girls) do it for you! Enjoy your car this spring!

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This is the 22nd year that I have organising the Swanage Car Display. The static display is on Tarmac, at Victoria Avenue Car Park, just up from Swanage Seafront. I try and hand-pick most of the cars as I can only take around 80-100 cars in total, and we don't want too many of the same model!

You are welcome to bring your car along for a fee of £5 per car (£7 on the day), to be paid in advance if possible to: Miles & Son Estate agent, Swanage (opposite the Railway Station), or you can post to: Jenny Lazenbury, Home Nest, 127 Victoria Avenue, Swanage, Dorset. BH19 1BB (cheques made payable to: J.Lazenbury Charity A/C).

All monies will be donated to local charities!

Please be on-site between 10am and 10.30am, as the Swanage Town Mayor will be opening the event officially at 11am.

The general public will be invited to vote for the 'Best Car in Show', and a trophy will be awarded at approx. 3.45pm. A plaque will be given to every entry to remind them of this fun day! Hot food will be available all day, at good prices. Lots of stalls will be there on the day, so plenty to enjoy! **Jenny**

CAR ENTRY FORM

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MAKE & MODEL OF CAR.....

I confirm that the above vehicle will be covered by 3rd party insurance. (Chq. to J.Lazenbury Charity A/C)

SIGNED:.....

(please post to the address on the left - thank you!)

For more information, contact organiser, Jenny Lazenbury, Tel: 01929 426644 or email: enquiries@milesandson.co.uk

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2016 (66) NISSAN MICRA 1.2 ACENTA 5 DOOR HATCH. Met blue, ABS, PAS, Aircon, Electric windows/mirrors, Alloys, etc. FSH 4500k miles. **£7,295**

2011 (11) BMW X1 2.0TDi X DRIVE AUTO SE. Met. grey, ABS, DSC, PAS Climate Control, electric windows/mirror, leather trim, Pan roof, Roof rails, Alloys, etc. FSH, 42k miles. **SOLD £10,995**

2012 (12) VW GOLF 2.0TDi MATCH TECH BLUE MOTION, 5 door, hatch, Met. grey, DSC, ABS, 6 speed manual, PAS, Climate Control, Bluetooth, Alloys, etc. Full VW SH, 51k miles. **£7,395**

2005 (05) HONDA CRV 2.2TDi SUV, Black, ABS, Aircon, FSH, 76k miles. **£3,495**

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SERVICING

From The Kitchen Garden...



Rhubarb & Custard Tart

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

I'm always so very much looking forward to this time of year, when at last I can see new life beginning all over the place! With those late and hard frosts, we had in March plant life seems behind compared with last year this time. The soil is cold, wet and heavy...however I know, as soon as the air is getting milder and we have a few dry days, the sun warming our backs, leaf and flower buds will break, sap will start to flow and the Kitchen Garden will transform into a colourful and lush paradise once again.

This is the moment when I'll look at my cropping plan I made throughout the winter long and hard, as now I have to commit to it. It is also time to do some polytunnel repairs with extra special sticky tape-there have been quite a few tears this winter.

The seed potatoes are chitting away happily, sitting in trays- hopefully the soil will soon be dry and warm enough to dig trenches and start planting.

In the second week of April I usually start 'sowing' my bean seeds. They go into plastic bags filled with compost, then into a rodent proof box in the polytunnel. Once they've started sprouting in the warm and dark, each seed gets placed into its own pot to grow on. When the weather really warms up, rows and rows of young seedlings will be planted out.

Lots and lots of different module and tray sowings will be happening and I always struggle with space by the end of the month..... every suitable surface is covered with trays and pots until the seedlings are transplanted into their plot for the season to grow into 'proper' plants.

Of course, there are always the perennial plants which I've mulched and attended to in quieter weeks. The gooseberries and blackcurrants I've pruned and I've planted some bare root raspberry canes. My beautiful rhubarb crowns are looking strong after applying a thick seaweed/compost mulch a few weeks ago.

So, there's a lot to do and the first thing is to have a cup of fresh mint tea and some rhubarb and custard tart.

Ingredients: (pastry)

200 g butter
300 g flour
100g sugar
1 pinch salt
1 egg white
A few drops vanilla extract

Method:

Put all dry ingredients into bowl, cut butter into small chunks and rub with fingers into dry mix. Combine with lightly whisked egg white/vanilla mix- roll out, line dish and stick it in the fridge for a bit.

Ingredients : (filling)

300 + g rhubarb, washed and cut into chunks
250 ml milk/cream mix
1 tsp vanilla essence
2 tblsp custard powder, dissolved in a little of the cold milk
3 eggs plus yolk from pastry egg
Sugar to taste

Method:

Pre-heat oven to 180C. Take lined tart dish out the fridge, mix rhubarb chunks with sugar and put into pastry case. Mix milk/cream with eggs, then pour over rhubarb and stick it in the oven for about 35-45 minutes until softly set and caramelised .

Sieve a little icing sugar over the top.

Godlingston Manor



Kitchen Garden

Seasonal, freshly-picked fruit,
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...grown on your doorstep...

For more information,
contact Regula Wright on 07758 013230
regula@talktalk.net

Venfest 2018!



VenFest is the new name for the Dorset Food and Venison Festival which arose from the Lottery funded Beacon Project, a three-year community development programme in Lytchett Minster and Upton.

One strand of the project was the introduction of Community Markets, and over the life of the project we ran a number of small events in the town. With the end of the Project in August 2014 we reviewed our experience and decided: that we should continue to try to enrich local life with ongoing markets; second, that we should be more focussed; third, that we should continue with a local theme, and finally that we should try to ensure that there was some broader educational and cultural value added.

When we began to look at possible local themes we discovered that there is a local issue in the management of deer and that this of interest to the Wild Dorset programme. As they put it: "Ongoing management/reduction of the density of sika deer, whose unnaturally high populations in Purbeck are known to damage the salt marsh, mire and woodland habitats (NE SSSI condition assessments) as well as being detrimental to farming interests has created enough 'grazing headroom' to finally contemplate a significant increase in extensive stock grazing".

Since 'management' implies venison production, we settled on 'venison' as our main (not exclusive) theme. So it's local, it raises questions about ecology, healthy eating (venison is very low in fat) and it tastes good! We thought that this was worth celebrating, and on 5th May 2018 we will be giving people the opportunity to discover how good it is and how well it goes with our other excellent foodstuffs.

Local chefs will be providing food demonstrations throughout the day along with children's activities, live music and entertainment, falconry displays etc, plus many traders selling their hot and cold food produce and of course alcohol of all kinds plus much more!

The event starts at 10am – 4pm, FREE parking with the grounds of Lytchett Minster School, Dogs on leads welcome, Entry only £3.00 for anyone over 12. The event is held at Post Green Farm, Lytchett Minster, Poole, BH16 6AP with the kind permission of Christopher & Claire Lees on Saturday 5th May 2018

www.venfest.org Like us on FACEBOOK: @dorsetvenisonfestival



VENFEST 2018

5 MAY 10am - 4pm

**Post Green, Lytchett Minster
BH16 6AP**

Join us for the fourth VENFEST (the new name for Dorset Food & Venison Festival)! A celebration of the best in Dorset produce, but with an emphasis on local venison.

The event is set in a superb rural setting in Lytchett Minster with a back drop of Post Green House. We have easy access from the A35 and plenty of free parking.

A large range of local food and drink producers will be exhibiting during the day

Cooking Demo Kitchens, Live Music, Bands on Stage, Falconry Displays, Plenty of Children's Activities,

Adults £3 - under 12s FREE - Find us on Facebook

www.venfest.org



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Does not include beverages and is not valid on the following dates: 11th, 30-31st March & 1st-2nd April 2018. Offer expires on 30th April 2018.



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Music is returning to the garden!

Sunday afternoon music sessions every Sunday, from 3pm - 5pm in our terrace garden (weather permitting - inside if raining)

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Offer Valid 1st March - 25th April

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Must include a purchased drink per person
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Natural Matters

Water Everywhere

by John Garner



River Frome flooding Redclyffe Boat Park, March 2018, by Peter Sibthorp

Whilst Jeremy Paxman may not be everyone's cup of tea, I am a big fan of anyone that doesn't allow slippery, media trained politicians to manipulate their moment in the sun or to actively mislead the people that voted for them. I urge you to watch him dismantle Michael Howard, Tony Blair and Ed Miliband or any other smug narcissist desperate for what they perceive as their share of the limelight.

A more relaxed side of his character has been on show as he has also been seen hosting a series of programmes about major rivers of the British Isles. These have been shown before, but I've only just caught up with them. Living in an area dominated by the sea, it's often easy to overlook the network of rivers and streams that interweave themselves through the landscape. So this month's column focusses on our local rivers and one in particular.

The main four local rivers that empty into Poole harbour are the Frome, Piddle, Corfe and Sherford. Of these the largest is the Frome.

The Piddle rises in Alton Pancrass then collects villages with the name piddle or puddle in them until it arrives at the outer reaches of Wareham where it runs more or less parallel to its bigger friend the Frome until emptying out into the bay.

The Corfe river appears near Steeple and wends its way around Corfe. It was originally called the Wichen and the name remains in all the 'Wytchs' that appear in the place names on its journey to the harbour.

Finally, the Sherford river. Its main source is near Bere Regis and it wiggles about for about eight miles until again emptying into the north side of Poole Harbour. I'm going to concentrate on the Frome, because I know next to nothing about the others (it will soon become clear I know precious little about the Frome either!).

The Frome is thirty miles long and bubbles to life in Evershott and begins winding its way through Maiden Newton, Dorchester, West Stafford and Woodsford before arriving in Wareham and flowing into Poole Bay. Unfortunately, it is only navigable between the sea and Wareham, although folk have been known to swim in it further upstream.

Much can be gained from wandering along the river, although some sections are out of bounds. You can stroll down the path heading east out of Wareham and on even the most inhospitable of days, a wander along the towpath is a very enjoyable way of spending your time. You'll

see a lot of bulrushes and accompanying wildlife. You'll also hear a lot of the abundant bird life that thrives along its banks. You can even get on a boat and head out into the bay.

Folk come from the 'mainland', have fish and chips and then head back to civilisation and all on the water. I have spent a few very peaceful hours paddling up the other way in a kayak, in and around the reed beds. You seem to be able to get very close to the wildlife in a kayak and on occasion, quite close to what has to be the crossiest bird on the planet, the swan.

You'll encounter fishermen on the Frome and they seem to be enjoying their time. More so than those fishermen you see huddled under bypasses in built up areas looking as angry as, well, an average swan. There used to be some pretty amazing fish in the river Frome.

There's a picture of one being held up in one of the restaurants by the Quay in Wareham and it's as long as the man holding it is tall. Those days are over, but you still see fish sat head-on to the current as you pass over the various bridges. I am no fisherman, but if I was, I think sat on the riverbank in and around Wareham would be as good a place as any.

It's also possible to swim down this part of the river although again, you need to be wary of Mr and Mrs Angry and their brood. You should also be aware of the tides as trying to swim against the current can be a struggle to say the least. However, get it right and bobbing along with the current can be one of the most relaxing and exhilarating things you can do. In the summer, the locals of a certain age launch themselves off the bridge to cool off on a hot day and to show off on any day.

As I write, the fields around the Frome are flooded as the combination of rain and melted snow has been too much for the usually lazy windings of the river. When it floods it seems to do so undramatically, although it takes a long time for the water to subside and in fact anyone affected by the high water levels won't agree that it's not dramatic. The river levels at the Quay in Wareham have been very high of late after adding in some very high tides to the mix.

In all likelihood, the town of Wareham is where it is because of the river. It's a gentle, very English river that flows through a very gentle town. It also gives photographers some of the most dramatic early morning views and photos. You could do a lot worse than spending your time on, in or around the river.

DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



At last, spring arrives at Durlston and we begin to see the white flowered Ramson and Three Cornered Leek which many refer to as wild garlic. These are joined by Lesser Celandine and Bluebells on the woodland floor. From the tree cover you may hear Blackcaps, Willow Warblers, Wood Warbler and the tremulous sounds of Treecreepers. Early butterflies such as Orange Tip, Speckled Wood and Holly Blue may flit around sunny glades. Why not join our "Early Spider Orchids and Other Spring Flowers" guided walk to discover that very special orchid and much more!

Migrant birds like Wheatears and Yellow Wagtails, may be seen feeding on the ground; whilst scrub may conceal a Redstart or a singing Nightingale. We welcome the return of Skylark song, but remember as with the Meadow Pipit, our ground nesting species are vulnerable to disturbance so please keep to the paths. Incoming Swallows and Martins may attract a newly-arrived Hobby. Stonechats perch upon the Gorse, often in the company of Linnets and Yellowhammers.

We have plenty going on during the Easter Break including our popular Easter Trail. This encourages young explorers to search for clues around the park, with a tasty Easter reward at the end kindly provided by Chococo! There will be Wild Wednesdays, free children's craft sessions in the Belvedere. Need a new hobby? Drop-in Willow Weaving at the Castle, where beginners can try a variety of willow crafting "makes" from 50p is the perfect choice for you! Glorious Gardens sees an opportunity for children to explore our wildlife area, learn about garden wildlife, make bird feeders & try pond dipping!

The popular Bottle Rockets returns! Constructors are invited to build and launch their very own rocket! Whilst we're looking skywards, I can tell you that Kevin Ferrioli's 'Landing

Among the Stars': Exhibition of Night-time Photography will be in the Fine Foundation Gallery and promises to be a treat. You'll also have the opportunity to enjoy the night sky at Durlston when we join Wessex Astronomical Society for Stargazing Evenings this month.

If that were not enough we also have:

A Mindfulness Walk on Sunday 8th at 11:00 starting at the Learning Centre with Nikki Harman, for a stroll to learn some simple relaxation techniques. Kindly book in advance. £5

The Spring has Sprung! Guided Walk commences from the Castle on Sunday 22nd from, 2:30 pm for a stroll to look for spring wildlife. £3

Join a Ranger for a Birds of the Cliffs Walk on Sunday 15th at 2:30 pm to learn about life within our internationally important seabird colony. £3

So many reasons to visit Durlston, but of course you can do your own thing: wildlife watching, walking, running, picnicking and so much more. Whatever the weather you can relax and admire the coastal views from either the Castle, coast path, one of our way marked trails or simply enjoying a cup of tea at the Seventhwave restaurant!

For more details of the above and booking, please visit: www.durlston.co.uk/events.aspx

Remember if you have any issues with the public rights of way network (footpaths, bridleways and byways) it is most effective to report it via the our "dorsetforyou" webpage:

<https://mapping.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/rightsofway/reportproblem/>

Margaret Green Animal Rescue

Patience is a Virtue

Polo has been at our Church Knowle centre for over 150 days and is still looking for her forever home. Polo is a rather complicated character, we think the easiest way to describe her is an introverted extrovert. She wants to say hello, but often finds she cannot cope with the attention.

Polo is going to need an incredibly special home, she is hard to read, and this means you may not be giving her the attention she thinks she asked for, and there are consequences in her behaviour from that. She will bite and scratch. So, could this be the cat for you? She will test everything you ever thought you knew about keeping a cat and it will be a challenge, but Polo could fill that hole in your heart.

Only the brave need apply....

If you would like to know more about Polo please contact our Rehoming and Visitor Centre at Church Knowle on 01929 480474.

Events

Make a note in your diary so that you don't miss out, we'd love you to come along, get involved and support us...

Look out for our Easter Activity Trail at our Church Knowle Rehoming and Visitor Centre, full details will be published on our website soon!

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

www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk



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ENTRANCE TO THE GARDENS IN 2018

This year we will be asking visitors for a small contribution of just £3 per adult towards the upkeep of the garden and the addition of new ongoing features and inspirational designs.




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office@holmeforgardens.co.uk | www.holmeforgardens.co.uk | 01929 554716

Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Tip Top Tulips at Holme



The Tulip display at Holme is getting bigger and better each year and April is the best month to see them showing off. Even in the car park there are three thousand and with over ten thousand in the gardens, it's going to be a very colourful month.

At this time of year Tulips put a real pizzazz into borders and patio pots. They provide a burst of colour before most of the herbaceous perennials start to flower and before it is possible to plant out the tender summer bedding plants.

It is not the time to plant tulips now as they should be selected in autumn and planted in November or December. However, now is the time to enjoy the abundant blooms and get ideas for your garden both in terms



of colour combinations with other tulips and also with other plants. Make a note of the names of varieties you like so you can buy some for your garden later in the year.

Keukenhof Park in Holland is the world's greatest exhibition of flowering bulbs with over 800 varieties on show. It is the Mecca of the Tulip world and as with the Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca being obligatory for Muslim's then all Tulip fanciers should make the visit to Keukenhof at least once. (Keukenhof - pictured bottom left)

However, if you can't make the journey to Holland this year but you still want to see a fantastic Tulip display this spring, then just make the short journey to Holme where you will also find beautiful Magnolias and Japanese cherry trees showing off through April.

Pictured top left and above: the Pink borders at Holme

Pictured below: the Hot Borders at Holme



Arts & Entertainment



Purbeck Art Weeks 2018

Purbeck Art Weeks Festival runs from May 26th to June 10th and is a joyful celebration of arts for all. Painters, sculptors, printmakers, jewellers, photographers and more open their studios across Purbeck for visitors to explore.

A full programme of fabulous concerts, talks and workshops is on offer for all tastes and ages. PAW's collective exhibition at Rollington Barn (near Corfe Castle) is a good place to start your art trail - it provides a taster of the work of over 100 participating PAW artists. You will also find a delightful courtyard café where you can treat yourself to coffee and cakes or a light lunch, and an exhibition of the imaginative results of PAW young artist's workshops from seventeen schools across Purbeck.

The programme of events includes glorious music from the Renaissance to the 21st century, from Italy to England, and much in between. The Festival opens with the Gabrieli Consort who return with *Visions and Mystics* - showcasing choral masterpieces from the 20th Century with the involvement of local singers, and brass from the Swanage and Wareham Town Bands (May 26th 6.30pm, Lady St Mary Church, Wareham).

For something a bit different there is Purbeck Island Discs with Lord (Jim) O'Neill and the broadcaster Jon Snow (May 27th), Unravelling Brass Mysteries - a talk by local expert Tim Arnold, the ex-Chief Instructor Royal Military School of Music (May 31), or go along to the Swanage Jazz Machine's gig on June 8th - and there's more, including a film, community events and workshops!

The final concert (June 9th) welcomes back the award-winning Fieri Consort with a superb programme of English madrigals. Do book your tickets in good time to avoid disappointment.

For more details and to book tickets please go to www.purbeckartweeks.co.uk - or pick up a free Festival Brochure or Events Programme (£2) available in shops and other outlets throughout Purbeck.



**PURBECK ART WEEKS
FESTIVAL**

26 May - 10 June

Open studios
Concerts
Talks
Workshops
Competitions

2018

EVENTS INCLUDE:

Sat 26th May | 6.30pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
Visions and Mystics Gabrieli Consort

Sun 27th May | 7.30pm | Swanage School
Purbeck Island Discs Lord O'Neill & Jon Snow

Fri 1st June | 7.30pm | St James', Kingston
Echoes of Venice with Cornetts and Sackbuts

Sat 2nd June | 6.30pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
Monteverdi, The Other Vespers I Fagiolini

Tues 5th June | 7.30pm | St Mary's, Swanage
An English Journey The Duruflé Trio

Thurs 7th June | 7.10pm | The Rex, Wareham
Isadora with Vanessa Redgrave

Sat 9th June | 6.30pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
The Unknown Traveller Fieri Consort

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT www.purbeckartweeks.co.uk



Swanage Musical Theatre Company presents:



Based on the Touchstone Pictures motion picture
Sister Act, written by Joseph Howard.

At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage
26, 27 & 28 April at 7.30pm

Tickets £14, concessions £13, Children £8

Box Office 01929 422239 www.mowlemtheatre.com

Sister Act!

Deloris Van Cartier is a lounge singer, the lead in a trio. She chooses and arranges the music which she loves. Her boyfriend is Vince La Rocca who owns the casino. However, she learns that he is a gangster when she witnesses him killing one of his employees.

Deloris goes to the police as a witness, however she finds out that Vince has put a contract out on her life. Lt. Eddie Souther decides to hide her in St Katherine's convent. She becomes a nun called Sister Mary Clarence, but she objects to following the strict vows and simple life and is always at odds with the Mother Superior. Some of the nuns find out about her musical background and ask her to take over their awful choir.

The choir changes with gospel and rock replacing hymns and liturgy and this in turn reaches out to the local community. The choir goes from strength to strength, risking Deloris' anonymity.

Come and see how the story develops and find out what happens to Deloris and the nuns! *Original music by Alan Menken (Beauty and the Beast, Little Shop of Horrors) Tony and Oscar winner.*

Swanage JAZZ CLUB



TICKETS £10. Licensed Bar.

Tickets from Swanage Jazz Club, c/o 22 Streche Rd, Swanage, BH19 1NF. 01929 426127. Cheques to: 'Swanage Jazz Associates'

Swanage Jazz Club presents:

SwingZing

**At Harmans Cross Village Hall
on Saturday 7 April at 7.30pm**

SwingZing captures the Jump, Jive and Swing sounds of the 40s and 50s, including Louis Prima, Louis Jordan, Fats Domino and Nina Simone, to name but a few.

The band features the vocal talents of one of the UK's rising stars, Sinead McCabe, and some of the UK's top musicians - Jeremy Huggett on tenor & baritone saxes/vocals, Gethin Liddington on trumpet/vocals, John Martin on piano/organ, Frederico Leonori on bass and Eddie John on drums.

The exciting, lively sound and versatility of the band is appealing to audiences of all ages, making SwingZing one of the most popular bands in the UK, and ideal for dancing to!

LATIN AMERICAN & BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES

(For absolute beginners)

Monday: 10.30am - 11.30am at Studland Village Hall

Tuesday: 1pm - 2pm at Wareham Scout & Guide Hut

Wednesday: 9.30am - 10.30am at St Edward's Church Hall, Swanage

Wednesday: 1pm - 2pm at Corfe Castle Village Hall

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.

Latin American & Ballroom private lessons now available. £20 per half-hour session

ADULT MODERN LINE DANCE CLASSES

Monday: 1pm - 2pm at Corfe Castle Village Hall

Tuesday: 10.30am - 11.30am at D'Urberville Hall, Wool

Wednesday: 10.30am - 11.30am at St Edward's Church Hall, Swanage

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

ALL CLASSES ARE £6 PER SESSION

To book your place in a class, or to book a private lesson, please call: Donna Diebelius F.I.S.T.D. on: 01929 421065

BURNGATE STONE CARVING CENTRE

Charity No. 1135118



APRIL ACTIVITIES

ADULT CLASSES

ENGRAVING SKILLS WITH VAL QUINN

SAT 14TH APRIL 10 am—1 pm. £60 per adult.

Learn the basic skills of engraving in Purbeck stone.

STONE CARVING WITH JONATHAN SELLS

SAT 28TH APRIL 10 am—4 pm £80 per adult.

Known for his unique approach, Jonathan's carving is both figurative and abstract.

PURBECK MAKERS MARKET



FRI 30TH MAR—MON 2ND APR

Open daily from 10am till 4.30pm

Come and watch Woodworking, Silver Smithing, Stonecarving, Ceramics, Spinning and more. Talk to the artists demonstrating their skills. Work by these local makers will be for sale. Refreshments available. Artist Demo times will vary.



FAMILY, ADULT OR CHILDREN HAVE A GO STONE CARVING TUES 3RD, WED 4TH, THURS 5TH APR 10 am—12 noon. £30 per adult, £17.50 per child.



FOSSIL ART CLASS WITH JOHN HOUSE WED 4TH 10 am—12 noon. £15 per child.

Groups welcome, pre booking essential. Call the Centre 01929 439405 or email info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk for further information.



Kingston Road Langton Matravers Dorset BH19 3BE
01929 439405 info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
www.burngatestonecentre.co.uk
charity number 1135118

Carey Crafters Are One-Year-Old!



Carey Crafters are now one year old! We are now meeting weekly and have, on average, 18 - 20 members attending each week. New members are welcome at any meeting. Our members knit, sew, quilt, make cards, scrapbook, crochet, make sequin pictures, do tapestry, cross stitch, paint - one lady paints rocks!

Thanks to our grant from POPPS, we have our own sewing machine, cutting mats and cutters, knitting needles and crochet hooks.

We have a tutorial every month and today we had a visit from Quillow Time with some amazing fabric 'fat quarters', which were eagerly purchased by some of us. (Contact Quillow Time at suemaclean@btopenworld.com)

Our next tutorial is 'Understanding your Sewing Machine'. Contact Helen

CAREY CRAFTERS

Fun, Craft, Knitting, Crocheting,
Card Making, Patchwork,
Coffee & chats, Make-do-and-mend,
Repair Cafe.

At: Carey Hall, Mistover Rd, Wareham.
Every Thursday 9am - 12.30pm
All welcome! Ffi: Helen on 01929 289171 / 07779 868514



01929 289171/07779868514 or Donna 07870 993311 for further details.

We meet on Thursday morning from 9 am to 12.30pm, at Carey Hall, Mistover Road Wareham.

Floral Design Show - Florilegium

The Dorset & Guernsey Area of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Society, or NAFAS for short, are holding a competitive show, showcasing the talents of the Dorset flower arrangers.

This event is taking place at Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road, Lytchett Minster, Dorset BH16 6JD.

The show will be open to the public on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th April, 10am to 4pm. Entry is £4 per person and accompanied children under 12 are free.

Why not make this a day out? As well as the competitions we are serving light refreshments all day and there will also be a chance for some retail therapy.

One of the highlights of the whole event is a floral demonstration/show by International Demonstrator, Andrew Grisewood, from Yorkshire. Tickets priced £12.

Tickets will be available at the show and any other enquiries on 01202 690131.

Elizabeth Witcomb, Area Show Chairman

FLORAL DESIGN SHOW

Florilegium

Flower arranging competitions, Plant Stall,
Gifts, Books, Homemade Preserves,
DVD & CD Stall, Raffle

Friday 13th April - 10am to 4pm
Saturday 14th April - 10am to 4pm

Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road,
Lytchett Minster Dorset. BH16 6JD

Tea, coffee, light lunches & afternoon tea available

Entry £4pp, accompanied children under 12 free
In support of Dorset & Guernsey Area of NAFAS

Coop Community Fund Supports Rex

The Coop Local Community Fund is the Coop's way of giving back to local communities. We are delighted to announce that the Purbeck Film Charitable Trust has been named one of this year's causes which Coop customers can support when they shop.

Since September 2016 Coop members have helped raise an amazing £20 million for local causes, which means they have been able to help fund thousands of local projects that benefit communities across the UK. The Rex Cinema needs to fund their new digital projector and server to keep the cinema running - you can support them by choosing them as your designated charity when you shop at the Coop in Wareham.

David Evans, Chair of the Trust explained, 'The Rex is a much-loved centre of our local community and is staffed mostly by volunteers. The new projector and server will enable us to keep films on the screen for our community



seven nights a week throughout the year; without these we will not be able to continue to run.

We screen matinees for children throughout the school holidays as well as special screenings for the elderly, hard of hearing, those with dementia and for those with autism. The Trust also runs the valued annual Purbeck Film Festival, the longest running rural film festival in the UK.'

As a member of the Coop, every time you shop 1% of what you spend on selected own-brand products and services goes to the local community fund and specifically to the individual cause you wish to support.

The money raised by all the members in our community, together with money from shopping bag sales, helps to fund local projects in the area where you live.

By 2018, more than £100m a year will go directly to members and their communities through the new Local Community Fund.

For information on how you can become a Coop member and support the Rex through the Coop Local Community Fund, visit www.coop.co.uk/membership or contact the Wareham Coop.

Rude Mechanicals Present 'Oberon's Cure'



The impossibly handsome Captain Theseus (really Prince of Athens in disguise) has plucked the ravishing Hippolyta from the front lines of the formidable Amazonian forces entrenched in Attica and has with the assistance of his corporal, Flatulo, dragged her (bound hand and foot) into a forest near Athens. Through cunning and brute force she escapes only to encounter an ageing Oberon, King of the Fairies, who tries unsuccessfully to seduce her despite his increasingly diminished returns in the seduction department.

Theseus meanwhile has given chase, but is soon diverted by his own encounter with Titania, Oberon's much younger wife. Theseus is immediately enchanted. To protect her own identity as Queen of the Fairies, however, Titania allows him to think her name is Mrs Cloudberry, actually the name of the poor swineherd Jeremy's sow. The innocent changeling Briony, Oberon's ward and Jeremy's sweetheart, thinks that Mrs Cloudberry's heart has been won by a human and Mr Cloudberry's inability to 'play with' her must be because he's pining. Confusion and chaos spreads.



Dr Dropwart, already called upon to deal with Mr Cloudberry's own problems in the seduction department, is asked by Oberon to find a potion which will make him irresistible to Hippolyta.

Oberon discovers, however, that he has bitten off much more than he can chew with the Amazonian queen when she demands of him to bring her in turn blackbirds to sing to her, the moon to light her way through the forest and finally Titania's crown. Willoughby and Mother Sneezewort, servants to Oberon and Titania respectively, make sure that the blustering and incompetent doctor's potions cause the maximum of chaos with almost everyone in the forest being affected at some point or other.

Even the unfortunately afflicted Flatulo finds love only for it to be snatched away again by the ultimately unassailable barrier between human and fairy worlds. All things lead to the Midsummer moon where revelations and vows are made, lovers meet, and just deserts are served.

Shows are on in Purbeck as detailed on the advert, below. Do ensure you book your tickets in good time as they tend to sell out fast!

The Rude Mechanical Theatre Co Oberon's Cure

The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers
Thursday 14th June.

Durlston Country Park
Saturday 23rd June

"The waspish Hippolyta, running amok in the forest, is more than a match for the old goat Oberon.

Love is thwarted, but it also triumphs as the 'ooman & fairy worlds collide in this beautifully poetic, but hilarious prequel to A Midsummer Night's Dream"

OUTDOOR THEATRE!

Both shows start at 7.30pm. Picnics from 6pm

TICKETS: £16 + concessions, from venues & online
Bring low-backed chairs and warm clothing

www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Arctic Weather Didn't Stop The Blues!

Photographer Paul Dubbelman said: "The Swanage Blues festival is so much more than just a Blues Festival. It is a state of mind and a way of life, and quite simply a damn good time surrounded by wonderful people".

A good job too! otherwise the 29th Swanage Blues Festival would not have happened due to the Beast from the East's extreme weather conditions. But musicians and fans managed to get here from as far away as Australia, Sweden, Portugal, Italy, the Isle of Man, South Wales, East Anglia and the Midlands.

Locally, 45 mph winds dropped the temperature to minus 10 degrees Centigrade and frozen rain formed instant thick ice on the roads and pavements making them impassable. Cancellations to accommodation bookings flooded into hotels and guest houses, with one caravan park reporting a change in their status from Full to only 6 vans in a matter of hours.

About a third of the usual fans stayed away, a few bands cancelled but new combinations of musicians and singers got together and put on shows that will stay in people's memories for a long time. My duty as festival organiser was to stay at home all weekend using the Internet and two phones to co-ordinate fans and musicians towards the best possible outcome.

What came across was a tremendous feeling of The Show Must Go On. Musicians, venues, blues lovers, everybody working in the hospitality industry and other Swanage folk who make our guests feel so welcome - I salute you all! You make me proud to be part of such a wonderful community of Swanage Blues Festival supporters.

I must take this opportunity to put right a wrong statement made by a local performer (not me) at a jam session about a lack of help provided

by Swanage Town Council. STC does in fact support me and I am grateful. They provide a grant towards advertising costs and also permit me to use Swanage Information Centre for my postal address, saving £30 a month on a Royal Mail PO box.

Moreover, the Centre usually sells the most wristbands and programmes, which are the main source of the festival's income. On a personal note, I find the staff lovely enthusiastic people who give me support and encouragement throughout the year. Ah, hope that puts things right now. The next Swanage Blues Festival will be on 4-7 October, and in 2019 the first one is 1-3 March, with the possibility of a Special Performance on Thursday 28th February 2019 as a fund raiser.

Enquiries by email to s.darrington@btopenworld.com or drop a line to me via the Swanage Information Centre.

SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL
PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL DUBBELMAN
OF DUBBELXPOSURE
PHOTOGRAPHY
WORDS BY
STEVE DARRINGTON, ORGANISER



Celebrating Rollo Woods - A Folk Legend

The Folk Music community of Swanage and from across this country, have been saddened to report the death of one of its much loved and respected members, Rollo Woods, at the age of 92.

Rollo was born in Camden Town in North London. His maternal Grandfather had been Minister in the Congregational Church in Hounslow and had sent his Mother to St Paul's School where she studied Science, and was taught by a junior music teacher by the name of Gustav Holst, who introduced her to folk music and dancing. This was an interest and skill which she passed on to her son, Rollo, and which gave him a life-long interest, that he in turn passed on to many other singers and musicians.

When he was nine, Rollo moved to High Barnet; he attended the Grammar School where he did well academically, enabling him to go on to Cambridge to study Modern Languages – an unusual achievement for a grammar school boy in those days.

Wartime came, and Rollo, as a Conscientious Objector, found himself working as a labourer at Bart's Hospital for 1 shilling (5p) an hour for a 44-hour week. He later joined the Friend's Ambulance Unit and was posted to Northern Norway. After returning home in January 1947, he was posted to France, which he didn't enjoy, especially the food, remembering that they served "burnt hot water that they called soup"!

He returned to Cambridge after he was released from war service, to take a degree in Modern Languages, (Norwegian, Swedish, French and German).

However, the most interesting thing he felt he did, was to join the Cambridge Morris Men and the Folk Dance Club. Though a freshman, he was invited to join their tour of Norway in 1948, as interpreter, and returned, determined to take up the concertina, encouraging a craze for the instrument amongst his friends, and developing into a widely respected concertina player and dance musician.

After completing his degree, he returned to Norway on a Studentship to Oslo University. He had already been asked to write a Pocket Guide to Norway for the Youth Hostel Association, and at a meeting of a University Club for students reading English, he met a young English girl called Anne, who had been Youth Hostelling round Norway, and asked her to collaborate on the Guide.

On his return to England, he went to study at the London School of Librarianship, became engaged to Anne, and was top student of the year in 1951/2.

Rollo married Anne, (who had nursed in London's Middlesex hospital,) in August 1952, in the village church in Lyminge, Kent. Rollo then began a very successful career as a Librarian, first as a Sub-Librarian at Christ's College, then as Assistant Under-Librarian at Cambridge University Library, until 1959 when he moved to the Library at Southampton University to be Deputy Librarian, where he spent 28 years, also enjoying sailing in Poole harbour. Rollo's major contribution during that time was, with the help of a Government grant, to pioneer a computing system for running a Library, about which he lectured at many conferences.

One of Rollo's strengths was that of band leader for Barn Dances or Ceilidhs. He started 'The Black Glove Band' in the early 60's when everybody danced to records but soon they were in great demand.

Whilst in Southampton he attended the Congregational/ Presbyterian church (the church Isaac Watts once attended), where, among other things, Rollo remembers joining in singing carols round the homes of church members. This led to a search for some new carols for the church youth group, and the discovery of some old carol manuscripts in Widecombe where his mother lived. She was a friend of a famous historian and collector, Hermon French, who had eleven old manuscripts he allowed Rollo to borrow. This led to a vast amount of research, the editing of sometimes almost illegible hand-written music, and the publication of two books published by Rollo on the subject. One of which, 'Good Singing Still' had its second edition published only last year in 2017.

Typically, Rollo shared his findings and love of this early church and folk music with many others, and thus was born the West Gallery Music Association, that now has groups all over this country, in America and Australia. One of these is The Purbeck Village Quire, that never ceased to be amazed and amused at his latest findings.

Rollo is survived by his wife Anne and four children. Twins, Diana and Richard, and Paul were born in Cambridge, and Anthony was born in Southampton.

The boys have inherited their father's love of music and sailing. Richard is a very successful yacht designer; Anthony, a yachtsman, competed in the 1996 Olympic trials, and is also a talented Jazz musician, and Paul also loves sailing. Whilst Rollo and the boys enjoyed themselves sailing in Poole Harbour, Anne explored Dorset, and fell in love with Swanage, where she could enjoy swimming and walking, finally moving to the town following



Rollo's retirement. He also became an active member of Swanage Sailing Club and made contributions to many other organisations in the town.

It was then that Rollo started going to the Sidmouth Folk Festival each year. Perhaps feeling a bit at a loss in retirement, he was delighted to find in Sidmouth it's unique atmosphere and to meet many old friends simply by walking along the promenade. He continued to attend every year and encouraged his children and grandchildren to come too. One year there was a busking band with eight members of his family playing together, spanning three generations.

Far from taking it easy, he formed a new band in Swanage, the Greenwood Tree, fulfilling a need in the area and playing for both locals and in the summer for tourists – including at the annual Swanage regatta barn dance. As in Southampton, many people found encouragement and developed their own skills through playing with Rollo. After over twenty years this band folded, but again in 2013 (now aged 88), Rollo decided again to form a new band! (Maiden Oak)

As Steve Earwicker MD of the Purbeck Village Quire says, "Rollo had that rare combination of the eye of an academic researcher combined with the active participation of a dancer and musician. Without performance, the research could lie gathering dust on a bookshelf and what Rollo did was to ensure that this music is sung and played and above all, enjoyed".

As Owen, his grandson remembers, "In 2015 he was awarded the Gold Badge of the English Folk Dance and Song Society for a lifetime of work promoting the folk arts. That is how posterity will remember him, but to those who met him he will be remembered as someone who took an interest, who worked tirelessly on behalf of others, and one whose dry humour was never far away."

The Gold Badge is only given to those who have made a significant difference to the world of English Folk Music and Dance, as was Cecil Sharp, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and The Yetties.

As Steve Earwicker said at his presentation, "Rollo has always been active to encourage new talent and through that, to ensure that the next generation will carry on singing, dancing and making music."

The presentation of this award took place in The Swanage School in the presence of 200 of his friends. As an old friend of Rollo's said in a tribute "His was a remarkable ministry when you remember the musicians that flood the land that emerged from his tuition, he worked with extraordinary success. When you add the vast numbers who enjoyed his music on the dance floor, the numbers become astronomic"

We will all miss him.

By Chris Pullen



PURBECK VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL
16-19 AUGUST 2018

CHANGED WKEND FOR 2018

FOLK ROYALTY!
RICHARD THOMPSON ELECTRIC TRIO
BETH ORTON FOLKTRONICA
KING CREOSOTE
MOLOTOV JUKEBOX

FOUR BBC FOLK AWARD NOMINEES 2018:

SAM KELLY & THE LOST BOYS **ELEPHANT SESSIONS**
SIOBHAN MILLER **O'HOOLEY & TIDOW**

TRAD. ATTACK! (EST) **URBAN FOLK QUARTET**
COCO & THE BUTTERFIELDS **THE RAILS**

KORBY LENKER (USA) - **GADARENE** - **JULIA BIEL**
CORN POTATO STRING BAND (USA) - **BARAKA**
FLATVILLE ACES - **THE CARRIVICK SISTERS**
CARDBOARD FOX - NAOMI BEDFORD & PAUL SIMMONS - NINEBARROW
DYLEMA COLLECTIVE - MA POLAINE'S GREAT DECLINE - JENN & LAURA-BETH
PILGRIM'S WAY - THUNDERBRIDGE BLUEGRASS - WAREHAM WHALERS
TEYR - MODEL FOLK - JEZ HELLARD - REG MEUROSS - QUINNS QUINNEY
TOBIAS BEN JACOB - SHACKLETON TRIO - DIRTY BOURBON RIVER SHOW
BRONA MC VITTIE - MIDNIGHT SKYRACER - HANNAH SCOTT - plus loads more!

5 stages - 2 ceilidhs - open mics - sessions
workshops - poetry - craft area - healing zone
loads of entertainment & workshops for kids

Beautiful little festival on a small farm with views across the Purbeck hills and Corfe Castle - everyone's favourite festival!

purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk   
Purbeck Valley Farm - Corfe Castle, Nr Swanage, Dorset

Beth Orton Confirms For PVFF!

The headline acts for the Purbeck Valley Folk Festival (16-19 August) are coming thick and fast, as we hurtle towards a summer weekend of spectacular music, fun and magical experiences. The latest major act to be announced is the supremely talented British singer-songwriter, Beth Orton. Her mix of acoustic and electronic elements have won her huge acclaim over the last three decades. Beth will be joined by a stellar line-up of folk artists that include Richard Thompson, King Creosote, Trad. Attack!, and this year's BBC Folk Award nominees: Elephant Sessions, Siobhan Miller, O'Hooley & Tidow, Sam Kelly and The Lost Boys, and many more.

Beth Orton first came to prominence in the mid-90s with her debut album, Trailer Park. Her 1999 follow-up Central Reservation picked up the BRIT Award for Best Album and her recent releases, Sugaring Season and Kidsticks, continues to beguile.

Having relocated to California a couple of years ago to record her last album Kidsticks in 2016, Beth managed to re-discover her musical roots across the pond: "I don't think I could have made this record in England," she says. "I needed to go somewhere where I had no history in order to relearn it all, and to be whoever I was in the moment without any baggage," said Orton, 46. She added: "Quite a lot of growing up went on there - the way I was allowed to let this record happen. And not to say that LA is this magical land of fairies - it certainly isn't. I came up against some brutal people, but its life. It's a place. Wherever you go, there you are."

Catherine Burke, organiser of the Purbeck Valley Folk Festival says: "We've been following Beth's career for many years and are over the moon that she will be finally joining us at our festival this year. We can't wait and we're sure she'll get a warm welcome from everyone."

Further acts are to be unveiled over the coming months. Other attractions for the family festival include kid's entertainers, storytellers, craft workshops, music workshops, theatre workshops, song sessions, poetry, Purbeck Rising (for new talent) and open mics.

Tier 1 tickets have now sold-out, but weekend tickets are available from £106 (youth £66, children age 4-11 £36). For more details, visit purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk

Local Choirs Sing: 'The Dream Of Gerontius' At The Lighthouse

The Dorset Guild of Singers, which encompasses five local choirs from Swanage, Wareham, Briantspuddle, Broadstone and the Orlando Singers, are thrilled to be joining professional soloists and orchestra to perform Elgar's magnificent choral work 'The Dream of Gerontius'.

Elgar wrote his powerful oratorio, based on a Victorian poem by Cardinal John Henry Newman, in 1900 and was justifiably proud of it saying:

"This is the best of me... ..this if anything of mine is worth your memory".

The Guild is delighted to welcome internationally renowned tenor Joshua Ellicott to the demanding role of Gerontius. Do not miss the opportunity to experience this profoundly moving tale of a devout man's journey to heaven with its dramatic choruses, orchestral climaxes, terrifying demons and compassionate angels.

Tickets are only £15 and return coach travel from Swanage, Corfe Castle and Wareham to the Lighthouse can be booked for only £10 return.

Please give Jane a call on 01929 422208 for more info, tickets and coach booking.

<http://www.purbeckartschoir.org.uk/>



ELGAR

THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS

28th APRIL

7.30

LIGHTHOUSE POOLE

DORSET GUILD OF SINGERS
GERONTIUS: JOSHUA ELLICOTT
THE ANGEL: JOYCE TINDSLEY
CONDUCTOR: SIMON LOLE

TICKETS £15 BOX OFFICE 01202 280000

making music Lighthouse Dorset Guild of Singers charity no. 264168 



They're coming...

*Purbeck Pirate Festival
25 - 28 May
Swanage Town & Coast*

Highwood Open Day



What awaits you behind that long brick wall along the A31 in Dorset?

A lovely drive through the parkland, woodland walks to see the stunning Azaleas & Rhododendrons as well as refreshments with delicious home baked cakes and savouries. Interested?

Then come along on Saturday 5th May between 2.30pm and 6pm, entrance fee for adults is

just £5.00 and for children it's £2.50!

The East Dorset and New Forest branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association will be your hosts on that day and we look forward to seeing you there. The branch, which is part of the national MND, is very active in helping local people, living with MND, to gain access to support services available through NHS professionals, as well as helping with costs of home visits from chiropodists, hairdressers, cleaners, gardeners & aromatherapists and trained Association visitors.

HIGHWOOD GARDENS OPEN DAY



SATURDAY 5th MAY, 2.30pm - 6pm
Charborough Park, Wareham. BH20 7EN
Easily accessible from the A35 & A31

Entrance £5, children £2.50.

Woodland walks, Azaleas & Rhododendrons in bloom. Stalls & refreshments. No wheelchair access to walks.

www.mndedorsetandnforest.org.uk mndawhatson@btinternet.com

We are also able to give discretionary grants to help those with MND and their families in meeting the costs of larger items, such as wet rooms, as well as Quality of Life grants enabling the family concerned to make memories whilst coping with this fatal disease.

In order that the Branch can continue to support local people in this way and also contribute towards vital research, we need to raise funds so, come along to Highwood Gardens for a great day out!

What could be better than a cup of something hot, a slice of delicious cake, stunning scenery and beautiful blooms? Answer: a cure for MND.

For further information about the Branch go to: www.mndedorsetandnforest.org.uk For details about the day, email: mndawhatson@btinternet.com or phone 07811 871347.

Wareham Royalty!



The new 2018 Wareham carnival queen Katie Lake, two princesses Maddy Amos and Leah Hilton and her two princes, Bobby Abbotts and James Turner.

Photographed with the outgoing Royalty from 2017.

Kind regards, Sue Booth, Wareham

Dorset Theatre Goers Club Purbeck Branch

Do you enjoy live theatre, musicals, ballet, comedy? Have you heard about the Dorset Theatre Goers Club?

Would you enjoy being able to see matinee performances in various provincial theatres, with coach transport provided?

We aim to run twelve outings a year, once each month, cost varies according to the theatre and distance involved.

Over the last twelve months, trips have been to Southampton, Guildford, Bath, Salisbury, Sonning, Winchester. Travel is in modern comfortable coaches, with pick up and drop off points in Swanage, Coombe, Harmans Cross, Corfe Castle, Stoborough, Wareham, Sandford.

Membership is £8 single, £12 couple. Newsletters are issued with booking forms for forthcoming excursions every two months.

Run by local people, this group invites anyone interested to contact our membership secretary, Carol Payne, on 01929 425458 (or email pearcepayne@talktalk.net) for a membership form.

Chess At The Cafe Tratt In Swanage

It has been possible to play informal, friendly games of chess on Wednesday afternoons at the Flirt Café in Bournemouth* for some time now. Taking inspiration from this, Purbeck Chess Club member, Derek Mount, approached Caffé Tratt owner, Bruno Forte, to see if a similar arrangement would be possible here in Swanage.

After a successful trial run towards the end of last year, Bruno agreed that chess could be played at the café on Thursday mornings from 10.15am, starting on the 8th February. There is no charge, but players are expected to buy a drink at least.

So, if you fancy a friendly game of chess and a chat please do pop in to see us. If you would like to learn how to play, there will be Purbeck Chess Club members on hand to teach you.

*If you are interested in playing chess in an informal setting then, other than the Caffé Tratt, there are currently these weekly opportunities: Monday Kinson Community Centre, Kinson 1.45pm to 5pm; Tuesday Ludo Lounge, Southbourne Grove, Bournemouth 2.30pm to 5pm; Wednesday Flirt Café Chess Club, Bournemouth 2.30pm to 5pm; Thursday Royal British Legion, Wimborne from 10am; Friday The Crooked Book, Boscombe 11am to 1pm.

(There is no fee, but chess players are expected to buy a drink or something to eat). We look forward to seeing you!



Health & Beauty

Matron's Round - Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column



Art Therapy

From the pioneering days of Adrian Hill and Edward Adamson in the 1940s and 50s, art (or creative) therapies are now a growing treatment in the UK.

We are fortunate to have an Art Therapist, Jeanette Carvisiglia, who attends both Swanage and Wareham Hospitals regularly to work with patients from our community on a one to one basis.

The patient does not need to have any artistic skill or previous experience to find art therapy helpful. The aim is not to produce a great work of art, but to use what is created

as a medium to address emotional issues which may be confusing and distressing.

The therapist helps the patient to create something such as a drawing, often without using words, to express difficult feelings, events or memories. The art produced can help the patient and therapist to

understand those feelings, think about what may be causing them and explore ways to cope.

However, like all therapies, art therapy is not for everyone. It is about finding what works best for the patient. Art therapy may be very helpful for people who feel uncomfortable with touch or talk therapies.

Art therapy is used by people with a variety of problems including:

chronic or life limiting illnesses, including cancer

mental health problems, including depression and addiction

relationship problems

eating disorders

learning disabilities

The British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT) is the professional organisation for art therapists in the UK. It has its own Code of Ethics of Professional Practice, 20 regional groups, a European section and an international section.

Arts therapists are expected to maintain professional standards and must be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), an independent, UK health regulator that keeps a register of qualified therapists.

It sets standards of training, performance and conduct for health professionals.

Until next time, take care, Matron Donna



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Swanage Retreats - Nourish your heart & soul in a stunning seaside setting

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May 27th, 2pm - 5pm. £5

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Tel: 0704 898 113 Web: www.swanageretreats.co.uk

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Keeley Salmon RHAD MSHAA



**Dorset
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Hospital
Charity
Cancer Appeal**

What is the Cancer Appeal?

We're raising £1.7 million to improve services for all Cancer patients at Dorset County Hospital. We currently stand at £1.4 million, so please continue to help us reach our target.

We want to build a NEW Cancer and Haematology Outpatients Department on top of the Radiotherapy Unit. We will also fund major improvements in the hospital's existing Chemotherapy suite.

DONATE: online at: www.dchft.nhs.uk/charity or call 01305 253424



£1,750,000

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Tel: 01305 253424

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Manxiety....

Manxiety: Young men need more support to seek help instead of 'manning up' to prevent anxiety from ruining careers and relationships

New research reveals that 70% of young men with anxiety report that their work performance and relationships are affected, yet well over half of them are still not seeking help.

Anxiety is one of the most prevalent mental health conditions in the UK, with one in five people reporting that they feel anxious a lot or all of the time, seriously affecting work productivity.

More than 45 million working days have been lost due to anxiety combined with depression and stress in the past three years, including a 25% increase over the past year alone, costing the British economy an average of £2.4 billion a year.

According to a new survey among 500 male anxiety sufferers, commissioned by Kalms Lavender, young men in their twenties and thirties, at a crucial stage in their careers, are most affected by the crippling impact of anxiety. As many as 70% of men surveyed say their anxiety has an impact on their work and relationships and 80% found it also affects their social life, with over half revealing it also impacted their sex life.

Anxiety UK CEO Nicky Lidbetter highlights; "Anxiety is extremely common and at its worst can be incredibly disabling. It is important therefore that those living with anxiety seek early help and that treatment interventions offered are acceptable and accessible."

Obtaining help and support, however, can be especially difficult for those experiencing anxiety, with two-thirds of the young men surveyed reporting that men find it harder to talk about anxiety than women and over a third choose to avoid difficult situations as a way of dealing with their anxiety. A potential contributor for this could be common perceptions of masculinity, making it hard for men to accept and talk about their feelings.

In fact, as many as 44% of male sufferers in their early twenties revealed they had suffered from anxiety for up to 5 years, and nearly 70% of them hadn't even discussed it with their partner. Interestingly, in 65% of men surveyed in their mid-twenties to mid-thirties, their work was the cause of their anxiety but perhaps even more worrying was that over half reported that their anxiety was caused by their friends and relationships.

Concerning the debilitating symptoms of anxiety, roughly two-thirds (62%) of men in their late twenties surveyed reported experienced feelings of dread, with as many as 75% suffering from decreased motivation and irritability and half of the respondents reported actually feeling physically tired and nauseous.

These feelings occur due to an 'imbalance' in the way the body processes environmental and sensory stimuli. A disproportionate 'excitatory' response, and excessive release of neurotransmitters between nerve cells in the brain, leads to overstimulation of the nervous system and feelings of anxiety.

Now, research suggests uniquely prepared, pharmaceutical quality lavender oil can reduce excessive neurotransmitter activity, thus reducing overstimulation and hyperactivity of the nervous response, and improving symptoms of anxiety.

In fact, extensive clinical trials show that a daily capsule of this uniquely prepared, pharmaceutical quality lavender oil was found to be as effective as commonly used anti-anxiety medication, including the benzodiazepine lorazepam and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) paroxetine prescribed in generalized anxiety disorder (GAD).

Dr Siegfried Kasper, Professor of Psychiatry at the Medical University of Vienna, who was involved in a number of the clinical trials comments; "This is a very exciting development for anxiety as the research demonstrates the lavender oil capsules not only reduce both physical and psychological symptoms of anxiety but also have a beneficial effect on health-related quality of life, without problems such as sedation, addiction or interaction with other medications.

When taken orally, the uniquely prepared, pharmaceutical quality lavender oil is able to cross the blood brain barrier to dramatically reduce anxiety symptoms by nearly 60% with benefits evident after just two weeks."

For the first time in the UK, the anxiety-relieving effects of uniquely prepared, pharmaceutical quality lavender oil are now available, only in Kalms Lavender One-A-Day Capsules.

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Sport

Swanage & Wareham Rugby Update

SWANAGE & WAREHAM 14pts DEVIZES 0pts

Swanage and Wareham Rugby Club entertained Devizes at home recently, determined to take revenge on a 8pts – 22pts away defeat earlier in the season.

Swans started well, putting the ball down into the visitors 22, gained a penalty which took them to within 5 metres of the Devizes line, but nothing came of the advantage. Swans continued to put pressure on the Devizes' line and for the first 15 minutes the visitors never got out of their own half.

However, a kick to within a few metres of the visitors' line resulted in a scrum, and following several phases, fly half Stephen Woolley spotted a gap in the Devizes line and dived over the try line to give Swans the lead after 17 minutes. Woolley added the conversion to give Swans a 7pts – nil lead. Swans continued to take the lead in attacking but the Devizes defence was good, with their tackling being excellent, and Swans could not make further headway. In the last few minutes of the half a couple of penalties to Devizes had Swans defending valiantly, but there was no further score up to the interval.

The second half produced a series of penalties to both sides, but Swans

were guilty of most of them, putting more pressure on Swans' defence, but a series of mistakes by Devizes enabled Swans to contain them. Towards the middle of the half Swans made ground and were unlucky not to score again.

Replacement winger Lee Hardy had a good run down the wing, making 40 or so metres to set Swans on the attack but was forced into touch. On 67 minutes a grubber kick along the ground by Stephen Woolley towards the corner flag turned the Devizes defence, and as the fullback fumbled the ball backwards over the try line, Lee Hardy following up pounced on the ball to give Swans their second try in the corner.

Stephen Woolley added the difficult conversion putting Swans 14pts – nil ahead. The play was frantic in the last ten minutes, Swans going close again and the visitors desperate to get a bonus point, but in the end, Swans managed their fourth win of the season picking up four league points.

Swans team: -K.Barton, H.Spyers, M.Roberts, D.Elford, C.Phillips(L.Hardy 58), S.Woolley, C.Tomes, N.Audley(J.Scott 35), J.Daniels, Z.Wyburgh, D.Penney, J.Desmond, C.McCaffrey(A.Dicker72), T.Ford, K.Jones.

RON BUTLER (Publicity Secretary)

Swanage Football Club

Our Reserve side have just recently played their semi-final game of the Dorset Intermediate Cup against AFC Blandford.

This was always going to be a very tough game as our opponents are unbeaten in Dorset League 1. The game was scheduled to be played on a grass pitch in Blandford but the weather leading up to the game was once again very wet so, as luck would have it, the game got switched to a 3G pitch in Blandford.

For those of you not familiar with the term 3G, it looks very much like grass but is synthetic. These pitches are made up of longer synthetic grass which offers better grip, a smoother playing surface, and a more weather proofed surface than regular grass pitches. The black rubber pellets, or rubber crumb, (which are likely to get everywhere even after your game!) spread into the artificial grass create a great playing surface with shock absorbing underlay believed to create a playing surface that is less likely to cause impact injuries.

It is a matter of opinion, but the 3G surface does make for a different sort of game and in an ideal world we would all be playing on grass, but you can understand (especially as we seem to be getting longer wet periods) Clubs going down the 3G route.

Back to the semi-final, Reserve manager Jossie was left short of players on the morning of the game and had to call to the U18s to add to his squad. As the game played out these young players were an absolute asset to the team and we were by no means disgraced in losing the game 1:0 to a fluke goal.

Next week our U15 girls will be defending the Dorset Plate Cup which they won last season. The game is scheduled to be played on the same pitch in Blandford which the reserves have just played on. Despite having next week's plate final on their minds, The Swans U15s girls played Longfleet last weekend.

The girls started quickly playing excellent football and deservedly took the lead when a cross was deflected into their own net by a Longfleet defender. The girls continued to dominate and finished the first half with

a 4-0 lead after two long range strikes from captain Tyler Gauntlet and an excellent solo goal from sister Armarni.

Playing uphill in the second half didn't faze the Swans and they quickly added to their lead with goals from Amy Mawson and Tia Norman. Amy then claimed her second of the game. The onslaught finished with a solo goal from right midfielder Molly Dunster. Late in the game Longfleet claimed a consolation goal but that hasn't affected the girl's confidence going into the plate final next weekend.

Our first team have only played the one game in the last month which ended as a 3:0 victory over Blandford Utd. We are eagerly awaiting the outcome of the ongoing appeal.

If you read last month's Gazette, you will be aware of the Dorset Premier League committees decision to deduct us twelve points for fielding an ineligible player. We have appealed this decision and will now have to sit in front of the Dorset FA to see their opinion on the case.

The case was due to be last week but was cancelled due to the "Beast from the East". The new date is now Tuesday 20th March, so by the time you read this, we will know the outcome.

There haven't been many youth fixtures in this last month, but we are really pleased to announce our youth section are going to be the beneficiary of the White Horse quiz - which I'm sure many of you have attended over the years.

Geoff and Tracy Willcocks who organise the quiz have raised a staggering £16,000 over recent years all going towards local clubs and associations. So, we are really pleased to be the chosen one this month.

Don't forget to keep up to date with all the goings on here the best way is to follow us on Twitter @swanagefc and on Facebook. The result of our appeal and the result of the U15s final will both be posted on our social media sites as soon as they come in.

COME ON YOU SWANS!

John Peacock

The Purbeck Gazette - Proudly Supporting The Swans

Swanage Bowls

April sees the start of the 2018 season for Swanage Bowls Club and although we are not going to enjoy the artificial surface as we had hoped, plans are underway to ensure that the work takes place during next winter in readiness for the 2019 season. Our Club is very active in competitions at local and county level and hopes to build on the successes and experiences of 2017. Our Ladies will compete in the Dorset Women's Bowls League and the Edna Paisley league. Our men take part in the Bowls Dorset Men's East Division 1 league, the Bournemouth and

District League and the Percy Baker league. Teams will also take part in the Bournemouth and District Mixed league, having been promoted at the end of 2017. Individually members will be involved in County Knockout Competitions, including the Coburn Cup which was won by our very own Judy Smooker in 2017.

Our Opening Day on 7th April includes Fish & Chips, with a relaxed game beforehand. If you would like to join the Club or renew your membership we would love to see you at the President's Coffee Morning from 10.30am on 5th April. If you want to try out the game, make sure you put the 6th and 13th May in your diaries for our have a-go-sessions. More details will be available in the May Edition of the Purbeck Gazette and look out for posters and flyers around Purbeck.

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 MAY is noon, 9th APRIL

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.

APRIL 2018



- Sun 1st
* Easter Sunday Carvery At The Grand Hotel, Swanage. Book on 01929 423353.
- 09:00 Naked Sea-Rowing! Only for the brave - in aid of charity (Swanage Hospital). Please arrive at the Stone Quay, Swanage, in your dressing gown, ready to strip off and bare all in the name of charity! Partake in a swift, jolly, naked row across the bay with your companions and fellow sea-rowers. Sponsorship forms available from the TIC.
- 11:00 Purbeck Off-Shore business Quango meeting. Want to join the off-shore scheme and stop paying tax? Small and medium sized Purbeckian business may be eligible! Open meeting and information session at Swanage Town Hall until 12 noon. All very welcome.
- 10:00 Purbeck Makers Market At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. Demonstrations, refreshments, work for sale. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- Mon 2nd
10:00 Purbeck Makers Market At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. Demonstrations, refreshments, work for sale. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 11:00 Swanage Record and CD Fair At the Mowlem Theatre Seafront Swanage. Admission £1:00. Buy, sell and exchange Records and CD's. Ffi Email: bodkin01@tiscali.co.uk
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- Tue 3rd
10:00 Family Have a go at Stone Carving At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult £17.50 per child, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- Wed 4th
10:00 Family Have a go at Stone Carving At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult £17.50 per child, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:00 Fossil Art Class At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £15 per child, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- Thu 5th
10:00 Family Have a go at Stone Carving At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult £17.50 per child, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- Country Park.
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- Fri 6th
10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 13:30 Children's Holiday Activities At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Ages 5-11.
- 19:10 'The Greatest Showman' At The Rex Cinema, Wareham.
- 19:30 Swanage Photographic Society Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Theme Boards (prints) - 'Open', and the Ken Moore Trophy - 'Open' competitions. Judge: Members Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841
- 20:00 The Drystones Live Acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sat 7th
09:15 Swanage Beach Clean (Litter-free Purbeck) Meet at Banjo Pier, Shore Rd, opp. end of Victoria Ave.) to beach clean for 1-2 hours. Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Please dress for the weather, wear stout footwear and your gardening gloves - we bring the rest! Ffi -Bridget on 01929 421753, litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com or see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page, Twitter @LitterFrPurbeck, litterfreedorset.co.uk.
- 10:00 NSPCC Spring Fair At Wareham Town Hall. Stalls to include raffle, tombola, crafts, books, toys, bric-a-brac and cakes. Refreshments available. Donations please to 01929 553578.
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 12:00 Arty Bazaar At the Boilerhouse Gallery, next to Corfe Castle station, Art, Craft and Produce stalls, food, coffee and live music from 12pm until 4pm. Ffi: info@boilerhousegallery.co.uk
- 19:10 'The Greatest Showman' At The Rex Cinema, Wareham.
- 19:30 'SwingZing' At Harman's Cross Village Hall. Jump, Jive and Swinging sounds of the 40s and 50s. Tickets £11. Licensed bar. Tickets from Swanage Jazz Club c/o 22 Streche rd, Swanage BH19 1NF or 01929 426127.
- 19:30 Swanage Photographic Society Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Members essays and pictures, with critique. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841
- 20:00 Connla Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sun 8th
10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 11:00 Mindfulness Walk Meet at the Learning Centre, Durlston, with Nikki Harman. Book in advance please. £5.
- 14:00 Connla Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Mon 9th
10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- Tue 10th
* Rotary Club of Wareham At the Springfield Hotel, Wareham, will welcome speaker Peter Scupholme, who will give a talk about the South-West Coastal Path. Visitors are welcome. For more information please contact Ann on 553727 or see our website www.warehamrotary.co.uk.
- 10:30 Easter Trail At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 'Landing Among the Stars' Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston

- Country Park.
- 19:30 **Purbeck Stamp and Postcard Club Meets** at Queens Mead Community Centre, Swanage. New & experienced collectors welcome. Ffi: 01929 450439.
- Wed 11th
- 10:30 **Easter Trail** At Durlston Country Park.
- Thu 12th
- 10:30 **Easter Trail** At Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 **'Landing Among the Stars'** Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- Fri 13th
- 10:00 **'Florilegium' Floral Design Show** At Lychett Minster School, BH16 6JD. Competitions, plant stall, gifts, books, homemade preserves, dvd and cd stall, raffle. Refreshments available. Entry £4pp. Under 12's free if accompanied.
- 10:30 **Easter Trail** At Durlston Country Park.
- 19:30 **Purbeck Railway Circle** Meets at Harman's Cross Village Hall for "Archive Film from the Collection of Colin Stone" A video presentation by Colin. Refreshments and railway raffle. Doors open 7pm. Ffi 421 913. Everyone is welcome.
- 19:30 **Hedgehogs in Wareham** Free talk and slide show by Dorset Mammal Group at the Corn Exchange, East Street, Wareham BH20 4NS.
- 20:00 **Lewis Clarke & The Essentials** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sat 14th
- 10:00 **'Florilegium' Floral Design Show** At Lychett Minster School, BH16 6JD. Competitions, plant stall, gifts, books, homemade preserves, dvd and cd stall, raffle. Refreshments available. Entry £4pp. Under 12's free if accompanied.
- 10:00 **Engraving Skills** with Val Quinn At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £60 per adult, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 10:00 **Wareham Wombles' Litter Pick** (Litter-free Purbeck) Meet Westport House (PDC offices), Worgret Road, Wareham, to litterpick for 1-2hrs. Please dress for the weather, wear stout footwear and bring gardening gloves – we bring the rest! Ffi - Harold on 01929 792591, see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page, Twitter @LitterFrPurbeck, litterfreedorset.co.uk.
- 10:30 **'Landing Among the Stars'** Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 10:30 **Hand made Art and Crafts** By the Makers at St Edwards Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Free Entry. Hot drinks and Cake available. Facebook "Art and Crafts Fairs at St Edwards Hall, Swanage ." Ffi karen@karenboniface.plus.com or patsypeanut@gmail.com
- 11:00 **Herston Village Hall Open Day** Stalls, History of Herston in pictures, refreshments and soft play. Ffi: www.sandpdt.org.uk
- 19:30 **The Mayday Singers** Spring Song at St George's Church, Langton Matravers. Free event: retiring collection for the Swanage Bandstand Fund. Refreshments!
- 20:00 **Hannah & The Broken Hearts** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sun 15th
- 10:30 **'Landing Among the Stars'** Photography from Kevin Ferrioli at Durlston Country Park.
- 14:00 **David Celia** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- 14:30 **Birds of the Cliffs Walk** At Durlston Country Park. £3.
- Mon 16th
- 19:00 **Swanage Annual Parish Meeting** At The Centre, Chapel Lane, Swanage. Come along & have your say!
- Wed 18th
- 14:30 **Studland History Group** Meets in the Village Hall for a talk by Pam White, "Uvedales House in Corfe Castle". All welcome. Ffi the Secretary 01929 439245.
- Fri 20th
- 19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Members essays and pictures, with critique. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841
- 20:00 **Ma Polaines Great Decline** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sat 21st
- 09:15 **Great Dorset Beach Clean 2018** on Swanage Beach Meet at Banjo Pier, Shore Road (opp. end of Victoria Ave.) to beach clean for 1-2 hours. Children must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Please dress for the weather, wear stout footwear and your gardening gloves – we bring the rest! Ffi - Bridget on 01929 421753, litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com or see Litter-free Purbeck's Facebook page, Twitter @LitterFrPurbeck, litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk.
- 10:00 **Table Top Sale** At Swanage Primary School, Mount Scar held to raise funds for the school. Bric a brac, crafts and refreshments. To book a table email Swanageprimarypta@gmail.com or call Lisa 07793006687.
- Sun 22nd
- 14:30 **Spring Guided Walk** Meet at Durlston Castle, £3.
- 20:00 **Rheingans Sister** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.

- Tue 24th
- 14:00 **'A National Park Opportunity for Dorset'**. A talk by Sandra Brown, at Corfe Castle Village Hall. Wed 25th
- 19:30 **Concert** St James' Church, Kingston. Nikolsky Male Ensemble from Saratov on the Volga sing Russian sacred music and folksong. Free admission. Retiring collection in support of the church. Interval refreshments.
- Thu 26th
- 10:30 **Probus 2 of Purbeck** meet at the Pines Hotel, Swanage. Talk by Heather Lowe - the Criminal Justice System.
- 19:30 **Sister Act** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Tickets 314, concessions £13, Children £8. Box Office 01929 422239 www.mowlemtheatre.com
- Fri 27th
- 19:30 **Sister Act** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Tickets 314, concessions £13, Children £8. Box Office 01929 422239 www.mowlemtheatre.com
- 20:00 **Alistair Goodwin** Live acts at The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers.
- Sat 28th
- 10:00 **Stone Carving** with Jonathon Sells At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £80 per adult, booking essential. Ffi: 01929 439405 or info@burngatestonecentre.co.uk
- 19:10 **'Isle of Dogs' (PG)** At The Rex, Wareham.
- 19:30 **Sister Act** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Tickets 314, concessions £13, Children £8. Box Office 01929 422239 www.mowlemtheatre.com
- 19:30 **Elgar 'The Dream of Gerontius'** At The Lighthouse, Poole. Dorset Guild of Singers - Tickets £15 from box office on 01202 280000.

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.
- 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@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: cc.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. 552046
- 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'Urville 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
- 10.15 Chess at the Cafe Tratt, Lower High Street, Swanage (from 8th February 2018). Call in for a friendly game of chess and a chat. All welcome.
- 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.
- 16.00 Studland Chair-based Exercise in the Village Hall, Studland. Ffi: Julie on 01929 558139 or email: jbrad@uwclub.net
- 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. Till 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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