

The Purbeck Gazette

February 2019
Issue no. 229

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Remembering Tyneham. Pg 12



The Boxing Day Swim Pics! Pg 18 - 19



Watching Wildlife. Pg 43



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Editor's note...



Welcome to the February edition of your Gazette!
DON'T EVEN MENTION POLITICS!!

What a crazy world! At the time of writing, no words can describe the utter chaos which seems to reign at the heart of government at the moment. Let's just leave that one aside for now, shall we?! It's an interesting time....

February! Imbolc (February 1st/2nd), is one of the first pagan festivals of the year and celebrates the coming of spring - often personally noted by welcoming the snowdrops popping their heads above the soil around this time. Many are thrusting up early this year, with climate change confusing many of our garden plants.

At the time of writing, I still have roses and summer poppies flowering in the garden, alongside the slender tips of spring daffodils pushing their way ever skywards. No doubt the threatened frosts, due later this week, will shock some errant summer flowers into hibernation pretty sharply.

This edition includes a whole lot of love - we're celebrating Valentine's Day on the horizon and we also have our annual 'Purbeck Weddings' feature in this edition - one of our favourites!

Congratulations to anyone who is in love this year, fingers crossed for all those intending to propose to a beloved one in the coming weeks, and if you're single? It's FINE! Life's for living, get out there, make friends and you never know who you may bump into!

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Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Feb '19

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

Swanage Town Council Meetings - February 2019

Planning & Consultation Committee	Mon 4th	6.30pm
Transport Committee	Wed 6th	2.15pm
Police, Finance & Performance	Wed 13th	9.30am
Personnel Committee	Wed 20th	9.30am
Council	Mon 25th	7pm
Beach Management Advisory	Wed 27th	2.15pm

Wareham Town Council Meetings - February 2019

Wareham in Bloom	Wed 6th	7pm
Policy, Resources & Finance	Mon 11th	7pm
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Thur 14th	7pm
Planning & Transport	Mon 18th	6.30pm
Amenities	Wed 27th	7pm

Purbeck DC Meetings - Open to public - February 2019

Standards Committee	Wed 13th	2pm
Council	Tue 19th	7pm
Planning Committee	Wed 27th	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'

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Camouflage cattle at Arne by Denise Exon

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CONTACT US

17b Commercial Road
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Editorial Enquiries:

Editor, Nico Johnson
01929 424239
ed@purbeckgazette.co.uk

Advertising Sales:

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DEADLINE FOR MARCH IS 12 NOON, FRI 8th FEBRUARY

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.

MARCH edition deadline: noon, FRI 8th FEB

A Vote Of No Confidence

Dear Nico,

As an open minded soul, I am quite happy to read the many and varied views of both sides in the Brexit debate, but I do find now that we are really struggling to come up with anything new or anything still worth reading.

It is what it is and to be honest, a little self-gratifying venting in a local circulation is hardly going to impact the final outcome. Perhaps it is time to take a deep breath, reflect a little on what it is you are really trying to achieve, step back from the increasingly personal invective and stop letting yourself down in public.

So us mere mortals cannot directly affect what the politicians are doing and what we will end up with, or can we? Politicians are simply an elected body, but how many people feel that they are no longer fit for purpose? The banal, puerile insults in the House of Commons is matched only by the resonate, detached snoring in the House of Lords.

I admire the Prime Minister - there I've said it! I don't think she is very good, but she has a level of integrity and determination that is sadly lacking in many of the other self-serving, money grabbing, elitists. I think most people feel that if the Labour leader was remotely effective in his role then we would have a new Government, but he isn't, and we haven't and dare I mention the Speaker of the House?!

Parliamentary privilege is an anarchic insult to our intelligence and if it was done away with, then perhaps our politicians would have to put some thought into what they were going to say rather than just bray like donkeys. Where are the statesmen?

So, to the point of writing. Is it not time to add an alternative option on every single one of the ballot papers at the next election? A simple box that says: 'No confidence in any of the above'. This would indicate a true opinion of what a significant proportion of the electorate feel about the hugely disappointing options in front of them.

I suspect this would motivate many that would not normally vote and if sufficient people used their vote in this way, perhaps our political elite would understand how far detached they have become, how they are letting their country down and how they are, in many instances, simply not fit for purpose.

Ok, rant over, I sit and wait with bated breath to see my suggestion torn apart in your next issue.

Kind regards, Dave Hill (by e-mail)

Fled - Broken-Hearted

Dear Purbeck Gazette,

I am sorry Linda Welsh (letters, December 2018) feels "fed up" with political letters but please can I appeal to her sympathy for the three million citizens of other European Union member countries, who have lived in and loved this country?

The not-for-profit book, "In Limbo", compiled by Elena Remigi, tells their personal testimonies. "We came in good faith. We have done nothing wrong. Home is here."

They have now suffered 900 days in limbo. They are now faced with the prospect of having to pay to apply (not register) for permission to stay in their own homes. In some cases, with the possibility of rejection. For all, with the danger of Home Office mistakes. Unhappily, the Home Office has form. Windrush.

I have met people in this situation who have fled the country broken-hearted, because of feeling unwelcome and unwanted. The thing that is "worst of all" is "the silence of the people around you".

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There is a photo circulated in online groups. It is a photo of the inside of an empty flat. Just one thing left behind, in the middle of the floor. A copy of In Limbo. The stories of British in Europe are in the companion book, "In Limbo Too".

Some years ago, I met a young couple while on cycling trips around London, who I will call V and H. V is British and H is Danish. Now they are married in Yorkshire. I lost touch with V and H, but now V has joined "the3million" campaign group for EU nationals in the UK, and fighting for her husband H. EU leaders such as Guy Verhofstadt MEP have had meetings with the leaders of citizens' groups, such as Nicolas Hatton of the3million, and Sue Wilson of British in Europe. But Hatton tried and failed to get a single meeting with David Davis.

H has written in his online blog that he has had "yet another sleepless night" because of the continuing uncertainty. V has written online that she went to her MP's constituency office, but the MP was not there because of delayed trains. The MP's staff were "shocked" by her story. V arrived home and "started shaking".

Phil Jones, Member, European Movement UK

Don't Be Misled

Dear Nico,

Reduction in Council Tax?

I write in response to Mr Eades's letter suggesting that Swanage Town Council should reduce Council Tax by 2%.

I hope your readers aren't misled by this suggestion as Council Tax is not set by town or parish councils. Swanage Town Council sets a Parish Precept which forms only a part of Council Tax, which for a Band D property in Swanage for 2018/19 is £1,900.20 or thereabouts.

A 2% saving on this would be about £38. In contrast, the saving of 2% on the Swanage Precept of £148.52 for 2018/9 would be less than 6p a week for a Band D property.

Deciding a budget estimate for car park income from Swanage Council car parks is not as straightforward as it might first seem. Income from the town's car parks can vary a great deal and is much affected by the weather. If we have a long, hot summer people flock to Swanage and car park takings are high; poor weather leads to the reverse.

Refurbishment of the Swanage mayoral chain was discussed at the Town Council's Policy, Finance and Performance Management Committee in December and there was general agreement that the chain is in a state of disrepair with the engraving very worn, as is the fabric liner.

It was agreed that three quotations for refurbishment would be sought and a recommendation was made that £5,000 in respect of refurbishment would stay in the budget estimates for 2019/20. Of course, it might not cost that much.

A working group of the mayor (on all working groups) and three councillors was agreed and the group was tasked with looking into the refurbishment including, if possible, seeking outside funding prior to there being any actual spending commitment. I wasn't present at that meeting. I think that our Swanage Mayor should have a chain that reflects well on our town.

The Swanage Mayoral chain dates from about 1935 and is, after all, quite a modest one, and I think that there is a good case for it to be refurbished, given its present shabby state.

I note that Mr Eades, who is currently a Liberal Democrat Councillor on Poole Borough Council, wore a much grander chain and robes as Mayor of Poole for 2013/14.

The Swanage Precept, along with the budget estimates for 2019/20, are to be decided at Full Swanage Town Council meetings in January.

Yours sincerely, Avril Harris, Swanage Town Councillor, Swanage Labour Party.

(These are my own views and are not necessarily those of STC.)



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Sun	3	2pm	Gordie Tentrees & Jaxon Haldane
Wed	6	8pm	Geoff Higginbottom
Fri	8	8pm	The Honey Dewdrops
Sun	10	2pm	Tobias Ben Jacob & Lucas Drinkwater
Fri	15	8pm	Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlow
Sun	17	2pm	She'koyah
Fri	22	8pm	Mikey Kenney

Aquarius Donates



Dear Editor,

The Aquarius group, which meets monthly in Corfe Castle, was delighted to make a presentation of £2000 to Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance on January 8th 2019.

The photo shows: Penelope Smith, joint chair with Gill Sellen (Right) presenting the cheque to Leanne Colverson (centre) of Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

Yours faithfully, Gill Sellen, Chair / Aquarius.

Purbeck's Fairtrade Fortnight

Dear Readers,

Fairtrade Fortnight

Coffee mornings, displays in libraries and council offices and taster and information tables at local supermarkets.

These are some of the things to look out for during Fairtrade Fortnight, from February 25th - March 10th. But one event you cannot afford to miss is a Quiz Night organised by the Purbeck Fairtrade Group to raise funds for the promotion of Fairtrade throughout Purbeck. It will be held at Corfe Castle Village Hall on Saturday March 2nd 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets are £6 per person (£4 if still in full time education) and can be obtained from Corfe Village Stores (01929 481292) or by calling 01929 480007.

Tea/coffee and nibbles will be provided but you are invited to bring your own drink if you wish. Come on your own or in a team of up to six people. And you don't need to know a lot about Fairtrade to join in the fun! There will also be a raffle and opportunity to buy Fairtrade goods from the Traidcraft stall.

Talking of Traidcraft, the Fairtrade trading company, you may have heard that it was in danger of folding, but the good news is that it has been able to relaunch on a smaller scale and so continue trading.

Good news for the farmers and producer groups in developing world countries from whom Traidcraft buys and who depend on fair trade to earn a good wage. This enables them to educate their children and receive health care when needed. So, a lot to celebrate this Fairtrade Fortnight!

Judith Holmes, Fairtrader in Wareham, by email.

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Join To Support The Elms

Dear Editor,

There cannot be anyone in Swanage who isn't aware of the horrific disaster that overtook the McDonald and Elm family last October, when family members were involved in a car accident. Dani and Dan Elm were critically injured and their precious little daughter, Darcy-May was killed.

Sadly they have got a hard struggle to face, Dani has been told that she is paralysed in the lower part of her body and will be dependent on a wheelchair for getting around, they also have to consider all the disabled equipment and adaptations needed in the home.

To help this family we are organising events throughout the coming months, the biggest being a day and evening at Swanage Bay View on the 30th March.

There will be something for everyone; sporting challenges, children's events, stalls, raffle, tombola, and in the evening, we kick off with a supper accompanied by live background music and finishing with the fantastic Bournemouth Rat Pack.

We need to raise as much as we can to help Dani and Dan with their needs in the coming months and years, so please support us by enabling us to do just that.

Full info on events and tickets for the evening to follow, thanks everyone, Linda Welsh, Langton Matravers.

What Are We Paying For?

Dear Readers,

Does anyone know the legislation under which the Police & Crime Commissioner can charge an extra £24 on top of the Police Precept? Are we going to be subject of increases for the Fire Service, the waste collection, Education and Social Services?

Will they be adding a pound here and there? What are we paying for with our community charge? Thin end of the Wedge?

Regards Peter, Swanage, by email.

Beating The Bounds!

Dear Editor,

As the New Year begins, the end of Purbeck District Council on March 29th (also Brexit Day) approaches. To commemorate this, Swanage Town Crier will be leading a group to circumnavigate the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck on Saturday 30th/ Sunday 31st by walking and various means of transport. This group will leave from Swanage TIC walking to Old Harry, Studland Ferry, Wareham Bridge, Holme Nursery, Arish Mell, Swyre Head, St Albans to Durlston.

It is hoped that this 'beating the bounds' ceremony will be part of an effort to highlight and promote the entity of the Isle of Purbeck as a distinct area of the new Dorset Council - and help to avoid a state of being distant/ forgotten by the new administrators.

To celebrate completing the walk, the Swanage Town Crier will be making a Declaration of Independence for the Isle of Purbeck on Monday, April 1st in Prince Albert Gardens at 11 o'clock and invites Purbeck residents to assemble with him and sign the Declaration before noon.

Further details will be published in the March edition of the Gazette.

Andrew Fleming, Swanage.

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In Memory Of Mum

Please include the below poem in memory of our Mum, who passed away on 11 December 2018.

Many thanks, Jo Tatchell

Who Were You Mum?

You were the one, Mum, who caught my Dad's blue eye
Sharp-minded lady, of beauty, love and style
The one who made that scene for him
upon your mantelpiece
The one whose empathy for us
We knew would never cease

You were the one, Mum, who had such creative touch
The one whose heart for children just understood so much
The one who people tell me, just knew how to help them through
Whose rivers raged within, for injustice to a child she knew

You were the one, Mum, whose heart I would turn to
Reassurance, love and kindness; a calmness lent by you
But grey clouds often lost you Mum; not light enough to lift
No doubt were simply a trade-off, for that sensitivity gift

Those thieving hands of dementia stole from your memory box
Scribbling upon the pictures, 'til many an imprint was lost
Failings of mind and body, brought frustration, indignation, despair
Flickers of recognition now shone so incredibly rare

YOU were the one, Mum, my tears were cried for you
Some love and laughter; others, deep shades of blue
Now that you're here, and at peace, Mum
Safely tucked in my heart
Remember the Mum that's YOU, now
LOVE the eminent part

Concept Of Democracy

Dear Gazette,

After months of deliberation and following a Purbeck-wide consultation, Purbeck District Council have produced a Draft Local Plan detailing where they propose to build 2688 houses in Purbeck by 2035, and this will shortly be forwarded to a Government Inspector for his consideration.

This whole process has divided Purbeck into three camps:- (i) The District Council, which has been given a housing target by central government, (ii) ordinary residents who probably have the most realistic view of the real needs of Purbeck and (iii) landowners and developers.

For Wool, the Consultation exercise gave three options; to build 850, 650 or 470 houses; no option to build less than this was given. Despite its short-comings on the range of options offered, it did at least offer to ALL the residents of Purbeck the opportunity to have their democratic say and to PDC's credit, they accepted residents' responses to the consultation and accordingly set the figure for Wool as a maximum of 470 houses.

The final part of this process was to allow residents, developers, landowners and other bodies the opportunity to comment on various aspects of the Plan e.g. the soundness, legality etc. A large number of such comments have been made and these can be seen on PDC's website.

Not surprisingly, the majority of residents who have managed to

navigate their way around this cumbersome system have continued their longstanding objections to the numbers and siting of houses and continue to ask for a large reduction in the 2688 number. Conversely, developers and landowners have argued that more houses should be built.

The response from the Lulworth Estate is worth highlighting. They are proposing that for Wool the plan should be changed by replacing the existing phrase: "a maximum of 470 houses" to "a minimum of 470 houses" and ... to replace the number of houses from 470 to 650 – to those who remember, this was Option B in the consultation document, an option roundly rejected by the folk of Purbeck.

Whilst the Lulworth Estate have quite properly passed comment on the draft Plan (as invited to do so), I find it hard to digest that they are seeking to overturn the views of the thousands of ordinary residents who expressly said NO to very large housing development anywhere in Purbeck, and in Wool in particular.

It will be illuminating to see how the concept of democracy is reflected in the final outcome, which is expected sometime next year.

Trevor Hayles, by email.

A Sincere Thank You

Dear Nico,

I would be most grateful if you would sincerely thank the people who have kindly donated money towards our materials.

This means that (for the moment!) we can continue making our beautiful town a nicer place to live in and a great place to visit. Without these kind donations it would not be possible to continue financing the paint and tools that we need to carry on.

Kind regards, Rob Nunn (on behalf of Swanage Landers).

Further donations towards the amazing voluntary work being carried out by Rob, Frank and the rest of the team (keeping our town and environs clean, maintained and clear of litter) are very welcome! Please continue to drop any spare cash you may have into the Mulberry Tree Gallery in Swanage for Rob to pick-up.

Pension Far From 'Rip Off'

Dear Editor,

Not such a bad deal!

In David Hollister's Community matters column (January edition, P8) he describes the auto enrolment pension scheme as "shamefully" brought in by the government and implies that it is a "rip off".

He then points out that employees have the right to opt out of the scheme. Before opting out, I would hope that individuals carefully consider their position. For a basic rate taxpayer from this April, for every £40 that comes out of their net pay, HMRC will contribute £10 and their employer £30 to their individual pension pot - ie they pay £40 and £80 is credited.

They may then come to the conclusion that receiving an immediate 100% return on their investment is far from a rip off.

Yours sincerely, Andrew Vince, by email

Roaring Thanks To All!

Dear Nico and Team,

As is commensurate with the time of Year, may I through your pages wish everyone, a happy and peaceful New Year.

Wareham Lions Club have had a busy year and have been working alongside other volunteer groups within Purbeck to assist with the provision of quality events throughout the year. It is to these groups that we say a big thank-you, as working alongside each other and complementing the events has enabled many thousands of pounds to go towards good causes. The

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Lions are pleased to help all volunteer and service minded clubs: Wareham Carnival, Wareham Wednesdays, Wareham Father Christmas Parade, Wareham 41 Club, Dementia Friendly Purbeck, Royal British Legion, Duke of Wellington Monday Club.

Also thanks to our Purbeck Licensees, who allow us to collect our "Penny For Christmas" and raffle Easter Eggs. This assists with the cost of our annual Seniors' Party and directly funds our Lions Ambulance (it's that big Green Mini Bus that you see dashing around with the cartoon Lion on it).

Wareham Lions Club are pleased to announce that in our last Lionistic year we have donated over £18,000 to good causes these causes are:-

Twenty-seven organisations that participated in our "Swim for Charity", including: Dementia and Alzheimers, British Heart Foundation, Swanage Christmas Food Bank, Air Ambulance, Purbeck Mobility, Pancreatic Cancer Research, Barnardos, Purbeck Youth and Community Foundation, Casterbridge Male Voice Choir, Royal British Legion, Wareham Churches (Christmas Meal), Lions Measles Initiative, Rex Cinema, Lions Disaster Relief, Different Strokes, Anglebury Court, Guiding Expedition, Wareham In Bloom, Brainwave, Working Dogs and Friends of Swanage Hospital.

Every person in Purbeck and our visitors have all directly and indirectly helped to support the wonderful events that Purbeck has to offer.

Our thanks go to you all and to our kindred clubs and sponsors.

However, we can't do this without the help and support of our Lions Ladies. Thank you, ladies!

John Goodwin, President Wareham Lions Club, by email.

Festive Breakfast Thanks

Dear Readers,

The Swanage and Purbeck Rotary Club were delighted to welcome many of those alone at Christmas to the United Reformed Church Hall on Christmas morning for a delicious cooked breakfast, excellent music provided by Jay Buckle and Friends and a visit from Father Christmas, who distributed presents kindly provided by Chococo and Swanage Inner Wheel.

We were very grateful to receive support from Costcutters, the Coop and Budgens for food supplies and administrative support from Corbens - all of which supported a happy morning and a great opportunity for us all to share time together at a special time of year.

Thank you everyone for your help and support - especially those who joined us.

Maggie Hardy, Rotarian and Breakfast Organiser.

A \$5 Billion Bridge?

Dear Readers,

Bridges represent crossings that we often travel over unseen beneath our wheels. Purbeck is full of them, mostly thanks to the Victorian engineering and the toil that went into them.

They represent communities working in co-operation, pooling their

resources and in crossing rivers and ravines, strengthening their gene pools and increasing trade with each other.

Just think of the wonderful bridge you might build with five billion dollars!

Yours sincerely, MJK Hamilton, by hand.

PS: I thought of sending a copy of this to the spaceman in the White House but I didn't think he'd get it!!

Full Council Tax IS Paid

Dear Editor,

I refer to the letter in your December 2018 issue under the heading 'Water Rates Worry Wealthy?'

I don't know what planet Ms Treadaway is living on, but I can assure her that second home owners DO already pay the full Council Tax applicable to their properties here in Dorset.

I struggle to see how second home owners in any way influence water rates for locals as everyone pays the same based on either usage via a meter or rateable value unless they are letting the property as a business.

Angela Hill, by email.

The Cat Becomes Round!

'Fat Cat Sat On The Mat'

The cat next door comes to visit me

Always when I am having my tea

It looks at me with appealing eyes

Sits on my lap and heaves big sighs

I always give it something to savour

Then it leaves and visits my neighbour

After that he goes from door to door

To see if he can get a little bit more

It used to be a slender cat

Now it's heavy, round and fat!

By Marie Neilson

Free Advice Surgery

Dear Readers,

Dorset Community Action will be holding a free advice surgery on 5th February at Swanage Fire Station.

We can offer help and guidance for new or existing projects, covering a range of issues like, Governance, Funding, Setting up CIC/CIO, Business/Project Planning, etc.

Appointments must be booked by contacting:

julie.wigg@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk in advance and appointment slots are from 10am-3pm.

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Community Matters

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Some Animals Are More Equal Than Others.... (George Orwell)

by David Hollister

I was fascinated to read a letter in last month's Gazette from Liberal Democrat Poole Councillor and ex-Mayor, Philip Eades, giving what he genuinely believes to be sound advice to Swanage Town Council regarding the Council Tax rate for the forthcoming year.

I tend to agree with him that perhaps now is not the right time to spend such a large sum on refurbishing the Mayoral chain, but I do wonder why he finds it necessary to advise our elected council and eminently well qualified Chief Financial Officer on how to run the town's finances. As an ex-Mayor of Poole, he has clearly impressed his electorate and fellow Poole Councillors; as landlord of the Globe Inn at Herston he has clearly impressed Trip Advisor with a lot of positive reviews and as such, may well qualify to vote in and stand for the forthcoming local elections, where there will be a number of seats becoming vacant on Swanage Town Council.

I would respectfully suggest to Mr Eades that – if he qualifies and if his interests in Poole Council have ceased – he should stand as a candidate for Swanage and if duly elected, should take his time to get to know how Swanage works and to discuss the finances directly with the Officers rather than indirectly through the pages of the local magazine. "Proceed cautiously or gently to achieve an objective" or – as Bentham's Book of Quotations puts it "softly, softly catchee monkey."

The unlamented Debbie Ward has left Dorset County Council and has been replaced by Mike Harries, formerly the County Council's Director for Environment and Economy. The Chief Executive's job description and key responsibilities, as Head of Paid Service, include acting as lead manager of the authority, being the lead advisor to the county council, and managing the corporate functioning of the authority to secure the development, implementation and maintenance of corporate and strategic policy, having regard to best value in the provision of services.

For example, let's look again at the 'skateboard ramp' bridge so nearly foisted on us by Network Rail and by DCC. Thank goodness we had PDC to stand up for common sense (and I never thought I'd catch myself writing that!). One would think that this socially, economically and aesthetically appalling proposal; rejected twice at public meetings and objected to by Wareham Town Council and Purbeck District Council, would have been worthy of his attention. After all he was "Director for Environment, Economy and Infrastructure". Yet as far as I am aware, he failed to insist on alternatives being investigated and failed to challenge Network Rail on their continuing and ridiculous assertion that the current crossing is highly dangerous. He must also have authorised the costs involved in the design, engineering, consultants and officers time.

According to the Bournemouth Echo, instrumental in the pompous simpletons of the 'cabinet' of Dorset CC approving the scheme was Mike Harries' assertion that there was no other alternative.

In a letter to Mike Harries, Network Rail themselves suggested: "As is evident from our continued involvement we would like to avoid a scenario in which the crossing is closed without alternative means of traversing the railway provided. However, as the cabinet is aware, the obligation

to provide this alternative is not shared and we are keen to understand the next steps from the Cabinet's considerations in order that we can determine our position going forwards."

That sounds to me like an ultimatum. I would be interested to learn from our worthy new CEO exactly how he responded and how he proposes to defend the right of pedestrians crossing the railway from the unelected and uncaring behemoths at Network Rail. Who knows, a positive result might make Mike Harries seem credible.

We are now told that one of the five Directors appointed to the new unitary Dorset County Council is John Sellgren, who previously worked for Newcastle-Under-Lyme borough council and who allegedly left that appointment by 'mutual consent' after suspension following an investigation into election mismanagement. His job with Dorset will bring him in £135,000 of our money. Really? Was there nobody better to fill this lucrative post? Martin Hamilton – the Strategic Director for North Dorset District Council, West Dorset District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council, went north to take Mr Sellgren's job. Strangely strange but oddly normal, so it seems.

If ever you need to contact Dorset County Council, you will find their website remarkable unhelpful. Yes, there's a phone number (took me nine minutes yesterday) or numerous online buttons to push to get you through to online information and online self-service forms. It is quite appropriate that next to their phone number on the search engine website is a link to 'www.resolver.co.uk/dorset county council complaints'.

So, I guess that would suggest that they're expecting so many complaints that they have set up a whole organisation to handle them. Rather like the 'report a pothole' link which takes you to a 'self-service portal'.

Last year I paid well over £2000 in Council Tax for 'services', most of which I didn't receive and the rest of which were provided badly or late, accompanied by insincere messages saying: 'I'm sorry'. Well, I'm sorry, but for the amount that I pay DCC I would expect the option of service from a Real Person rather than a 'self-service portal'.

I've said it before, and no doubt I will say it again. Gradually us ordinary hard-up working people are being screwed by 'authorities', by large companies, government departments and organisations who have the power of the state behind them in the form of fines, penalties, courts, bailiffs, police, etc, and against whom there is no recourse.

Don't blather on to me about the 'ballot box' because it doesn't seem to work. Not everything appears on a manifesto; do you recall ever being asked if you wanted the horrible plastic fivers and tenners that have been foisted upon us? Locally, it's the like of Mike Harries and his cohorts, along with a 'cabinet' of Councillors, who make the decisions which affect us all from day to day.

Never forget Balzac said that laws are spiderwebs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught.

Try withholding your council tax under protest..... see where that gets you!

WOOL PARISH COUNCIL OPEN DAY

February 16th from 12 noon - 4pm
at the D'urberville Centre

March 23rd from 10am - 12 noon
at 10-12 Cologne Rd Community Room

Find out what the council does, speak to your local
representatives, explore the centre and see the facilities

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New Year - New Career! Is Fostering For You?

It's the start of a new year. Time to take stock and make changes in your life. Will 2019 be the right time for you to make a difference to a child's life?

Being a foster carer is a rewarding career. With many different ways to foster including providing short breaks and respite, short-term or long-term care, it can work well alongside your current job or as a career in itself.

Cllr Steve Butler, Lead member for children's services, said: "Our foster carers provide love, care and vital support for children and families who need it. If you think you have the qualities that could help children flourish, then please get in touch."

As a foster carer, you receive a weekly fee for your skills, plus a weekly allowance for each child you look after. You will have a free programme of learning and development and support throughout from the Fostering Team and our community of foster carers.

Find out more about fostering for Dorset at www.fosterindorset.com

Marie Curie Need Purbeck 'Daffodil Volunteers'



Terminal illness charity, Marie Curie, needs the help of volunteers in and around Purbeck to give two hours of their time to hand out the charity's iconic daffodil pins, in return for donations.

The charity's annual fundraiser, the Great Daffodil Appeal, takes place in March and Marie Curie are hoping to get more people than ever wearing the daffodil pin.

Every five minutes, someone in the UK dies without getting the care and support they need at the end

of their life. The money raised means that Marie Curie Nurses can be there for more people living with a terminal illness, providing them with vital one-to-one nursing care and support in their own homes.

Marie Curie Community Fundraiser for Dorset, Natalie Millbank said: "Whatever your story, donating and wearing a daffodil pin during March unites you with millions of others to help make sure all dying people get the care and support they deserve."

"Volunteering just two hours of your time at a collection near you around Purbeck means that you are raising money to help make sure more dying people get the care and support they need at the end of their lives. What's more, collecting is lots of fun, you can do it on your own or with friends, and Marie Curie will support you from the moment you sign up."

To volunteer for Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal and give out the charity's daffodil pins in return for donations visit mariecurie.org.uk/collect or call free on 0800 304 7025.



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National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

View from the Lookout

As we move into February our watches begin to pick up after the relatively slow months of December and January. On a fine day we often see more local fishing boats out and start to see sailing boats making their way along the coast. We're often asked how we know which boat is which and how we distinguish the white BSs (Bermudan sloops) that sail past.

With the fishing vessels, it's fairly easy as they all have a unique registration which is displayed on their bows. This registration consists of two letters and some numbers. The letters signify the port the vessel was first registered to and are usually made up of the first and last letter of the port.

Locally we have Poole (PE) and Weymouth (WH). If two towns have the same first and last letter, the system is modified to use another letter. Penzance, in Cornwall, has the same first and last letters as Poole, but boats registered to Penzance have the letters PZ before their number. The registration stays with the boat so it's not uncommon to find a mixture of vessels in a port. In Swanage we have vessels registered in Poole (PE), Weymouth (WH), Padstow (PW), Exeter (E) and Fowey (FY).

If you want to know which are the local vessels, pop into the lookout and the watchkeepers can show you pictures of the local boats. Be warned though, registration spotting can be quite addictive. The family have got quite used to me photographing boat numbers when we go on holiday! If you want a complete list of codes, Padstow Harbour produces an easily downloadable list: https://www.padstow-harbour.co.uk/fishing_boat_reg_codes.pdf

Sailing boats are a bit more difficult. Most are named but the names are usually on the back of the boat and are often quite small or in squiggly writing. If the boat is used for racing it will have a sail number consisting of GBR and either three or four numbers.

Non-racing or cruising vessels will often have a number related to the type of boat, as do sailing dinghies. Probably the most comprehensive list of the different insignias can be found at <https://www.goodoldboat.com/pdfs/SailInsigniaGuide.pdf>

Unfortunately, it's not compulsory for leisure vessels to display an identifying mark or registration and on a busy summer's day we often have to hunt for an identifying feature or simply record it as a "white BS" in the log.

It's the same for the smaller vessels. Kayaks come in a bewildering display of brightly coloured hulls and decks. A lime green or orange glint through the telescope is often the first hint we get that a party of kayakers is approaching Peveril Point. However, it's almost impossible for us to distinguish individual makes of boats.

We're lucky that many of the local water users know when we're on watch and call us on our dedicated radio channel, Channel 65, and let us know of their plans. Only recently we had a group of kayakers pass by the lookout. Once they had got through the rough waters of Peveril Race we heard the reassuring crackle over the radio, followed by, "Swanage NCI, Swanage NCI, Swanage NCI, this is Kayak Pilgrim, Kayak Pilgrim, over." Calling them back, we found out that they were planning a paddle to Dancing Ledge and were planning on returning in about two hours. Once they'd rounded Durlston Head, we were able to pass on their details to our team at St Alban's Head, who kept an eye on them from then on.

The Lookout is operational from 0900 until dusk, or 1800, whichever is earlier, every day except Christmas Day. If you're out on the water and are passing the lookout, give us a call and let us know what you are planning.

This is Swanage NCI, listening on Channel 65, out.

Wareham Town Council Update

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



News from Wareham Town Council December

PC Jon Stuart warned of doorstep pedlars and of fuel thefts in particular from commercial premises. Cherry Bartlett from the Friends of Wareham Hospital asked the Council to write to the Clinical Commissioning Group and Dorset Healthcare to urge that all the services currently provided at Wareham Hospital be maintained.

The Council backs the proposed Dorset National Park which will be considered during the Glover Review of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty set up by the Government. Purbeck District Council (PDC) heard from the General Manager, Public Health and Housing, that a Strategic Board had been established to discuss health and social care in Purbeck, and that PDC was committed to the Wareham Hub project. The Youth Centre charitable trust received £10,000 from PDC to be used for staff costs, clearer signage and outside seating.

Renaissance Retirement has applied for planning permission for a revised scheme of nine dwellings on the Cottages site. Wessex Water's work on the A351 is scheduled to continue until March.

Wareham Council will write to the Secretary of State for Transport

expressing their opposition to the installation of lifts instead of a level crossing at Wareham Station. The objections being i) queues for the lifts at busy times, ii) what happens if a lift breaks down, iii) misuse and iv) how the installation of lifts and a new bridge would detract from the Grade 2 listed station buildings.

After much discussion it was agreed by a majority vote that the Town Council part of the precept submitted to PDC would represent an increase of 37.59% or about £35 for the year on a type D council tax. The 20% increase recommended by the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee would have covered the budget but not increased the Reserve Fund as recommended by the auditor.

Refurbishment of the pavilion changing facilities has been delayed while there is uncertainty about what will be provided in the Hub. The Wareham In Bloom committee had decided not to enter competitions but use the funding for a trial of winter planting.

On 4th April the list of candidates for election to Dorset Council will be published on the [dorsetforyou](http://dorsetforyou.org.uk) website. Election day is 2nd May with Dorset Council votes counted on 3rd May and town and parish council votes counted on 4th May.

The public is welcome to attend the next meetings of the Town Council on Tuesdays 5th March and 16th April at 7pm in the Town Hall. For further information, call 01929 553006 or visit the website at www.wareham-tc.gov.uk.

Support our local businesses and service providers this winter!

Please make a real effort to shop locally and keep our towns & villages alive throughout 2019



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Wareham Area Forum Update

Wareham Area Seniors' Forum
Carey Hall, Mistover Rd, Wareham.

Monday 11th February
10am - 12 noon

Coffee & tea, homemade cakes.

**SCAMS. How do you spot a scam and
what you can do about it?**

Require transport? Ring Anne on 07896 793858
ALL 50+ WELCOME!

Christmas is over and the New Year has begun. I sincerely hope that both have been and are up to expectations.

Benjamin Franklin said that only two things are certain in life, death and taxes. I'm afraid we must now add a third. The majority of us will be scammed at least once.

This is an important subject and I cannot stress how serious a scam can be. The people running them are extremely clever and very devious. They can make you believe at least nine impossible things before breakfast, if you do not know their approach.

Our first meeting of the year, on the 11th February, at 10am at Carey Hall, Mistover Road, will give you pointers on what to look for when someone you do not know calls you on the telephone or sends you an email. You will be shown how to spot certain signs and how to respond.

I urge you to come along and listen but also come armed with questions. I look forward to seeing you all on the 11th and my very best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy and prosperous (and scam free) New Year.

Anne Laugharne

Purbeck Mobility

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Remembering Tyneham.....



Tyneham Village was commandeered by the army just before Christmas of 1943. A total of 252 villagers left their homes, with the expectation of being able to return when the war was over. In 1974, after reparations from villagers, local MPs and landowners who wished to see Tyneham and the surrounding land returned, the government published a White Paper on Tyneham, stating that they were unable to accept the recommendation that the Tyneham area was no longer needed for army training.

It has remained part of the British Army training area ever since, and not a single villager was allowed to return home. We received the below poem, penned by Julia Bolton, in memory of those who lost their homes just over seventy-five years ago.

Dear Editor,

My Mother-in-Law felt moved by the fact that it has been seventy-five years since Tyneham was emptied, and she has written a poem in honour of the villagers. Malcolm Loubser, by email.

A Time for Tyneham

Of hearts that yearn for yester years,
Of memories of a bygone age,
We were in the midst of a terrible war.

The threat while real and very near,
Desperate measures for desperate times.
They gave up their homes for their country,
To help to win the war and keep us free,
They were promised they would one day return.

Isolated beauty of a village by the sea,
Until heavy dark clouds hovered over
And 'keep out' signs appeared.

A rural village left to die
Ripped out by its heart and soul,
Not by enemy bombs, but by our own.

When did the people realise,
Did they live life to the full,
Or where they left in some kind of limbo,



Did they dream that they were back there,
When did hope become despair?

Where are they buried if not with loved ones,
They lived in exile of broken promises,
The war for them never really ended.

It became a battle till their dying breath,
Who is left to hear their pleas,
They say that times a healer,
But with injustice time stands still.

They gave their village as a loan,
Which needs to be repaid.

75 years ago on the 19th December 2018
Is now the time for Tyneham?

Julia Bolton - December 2018

Pictured: Top, abandoned cottage at Worbarrow Bay, nr Tyneham. Bottom: Tyneham. Both by NJ.

SWANAGE RAILWAY

February at Swanage Railway

During February, a steam service will be operating between Swanage and Norden via Herston Halt, Harmans Cross and Corfe Castle.

The service will run half term week Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th February.

Saturday 16th – Sunday 24th February

Services depart Swanage at 10:40, 12:00, 14:00, 15:20.

Services depart Norden at 11:20, 12:40, 14:40, 16:00.

Our “Wessex Belle” Dining Train season commences on Saturday 16th February with a special “Valentine’s Belle” evening train.

Bookings for all our ever popular dining trains are now on sale.

Daily steam services between Swanage and Norden commence Saturday 23rd March and run until Sunday 13th October.

Our first event of the year is our Spring Steam Up Friday 29th March – Sunday 31st March with the Swanage based fleet of steam locomotives in action.

Full details of our timetables, fares, events and dining trains can be found at www.swanagerailway.co.uk

The 2019 Timetable has now been published. Copies are available from our railway station booking offices, Wareham Tourist Information Centre and Swanage Information Centre.

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Half Term
Great Value
Family Fares



WINTER STEAM

Enjoy a steam train ride through the beautiful wintery countryside of the Isle of Purbeck.



Saturday 16 – Sunday 24 February

Services depart Swanage 10:40 12:00 14:00 15:20	Services depart Norden 11:20 12:40 14:40 16:00
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swanagerailway.co.uk 01929 425800 [f](#) [t](#) [@swanrailway](#)

Crossways Travel Donate To Dorset Blind Association



On Thursday 20th December Crossways Travel, a local Coach Tour Operator, based near Dorchester, operating day excursions and Holiday Tours from Dorset made their “Charity of The Year” donation for 2018 to Dorset Blind Association.

This year, Crossways Travel are delighted to announce with the help of their loyal customers, they donated a staggering £2114.16 at their annual Christmas Party Lunch, which was held in the New Forest.

Matthew Crocker, owner of Crossways Travel said he was delighted with the amount raised this year for the charity and that Dorset Blind Association were very grateful. Crossways travel are now starting the planning for 2019’s Charity of the Year (yet to be chosen.) He would like to thank all the people that have made this donation possible.

Photo: from left – Barry Tyson (Driver), Matt Crocker (Owner of Crossways Travel), Helena Sinclair (Dorset Blind Association), Sonia Abbiss (Crossways Travel), Penny Bayley-Maynard (Crossways Travel) and Ron Lewis (Driver).

The Town House

The Square, Corfe Castle

07427 003500



Let’s hope for a summer like the last one!

Lots of new stock is in!

**N Gauge Railway, Cuddly Jellycats,
Wentworth Puzzles and plenty more!**

Come and be delighted!

Out Of The Blue



February already and how many of you have broken your New Year's resolutions! Be honest now! We know; they seem like a good idea at the time. Well why not make a late New Year's resolution and join your local Neighbourhood Watch Group?

Evidence shows that these schemes contribute to reducing crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in the communities. It's all about mutual support; fostering a caring community so that neighbours look out for each other helping your community to feel safer.

So, what's stopping you? Make that New Year's resolution you can keep and that can make a difference in your community. <http://www.nhwdorset.org.uk/>

What about what we've been up to? There has been an increase in reports of Anti-Social Behaviour and damage to the skate park in Victoria Avenue and surrounding areas. Anti-social behaviour is taken extremely seriously and subsequently we are making this the priority for the Swanage section. Each reported crime is thoroughly reviewed by our team to ensure any investigation opportunities are not missed.

Officers will be liaising with partner agencies and local schools to identify suspected offenders where appropriate. Furthermore, our resources are being utilised in order to conduct extra patrols around the location. When on patrol we will be speaking to members of the public to provide reassurance and gain more intelligence about those responsible. Those who are identified as causing any problems will be dealt with positively. If you witness any criminal activity, please contact Dorset Police on 999 at the time it is happening.

We've also seen an increase of commercial burglaries over the summer across Purbeck. Below is some crime prevention advice for business owners. Please call Dorset Police on 999 to report anyone acting suspiciously and any vehicles they may be using, noting a registration if possible. This must be done at the time the incident is taking place to ensure immediate action. If you would like a security review of your business, or if you have a question about your business security, please email: crimereductionwestern@dorset.pnn.police.uk

ALARM: Choose an alarm from a professional alarm installer who is NSI or SSAIB registered. Contact your alarm company to review existing alarm systems.

DOORS: Make sure locks on your doors are up to insurance standard. Fit bars on the internal side of the door so that in the event that glass is broken, entry cannot easily be gained. Install a five-lever mortice deadlock to any fire doors (this must comply with fire regulations).



WINDOWS: Make sure you have locks on your windows and that they are locked at night. If possible, fit bars to the inside but first check that the windows are not designated fire escapes.

CASH: Leave tills empty and open to deter any thieves looking through the window. Hide petty cash. Display a 'No cash is left on the premises overnight' sign.

SAFES: Fix safes firmly to a concrete floor or brick wall and hide it as much as possible. Enhance your alarm system in the area the safe is kept.

SMOKE CLOAK/FOG BANDIT: Depending on your business type, consider installing either 'Smoke Cloak' or 'Fog Bandit' which aim to stop burglars in their tracks by filling the premises with a thick artificial fog. Both methods have the police 'Secured By Design' accreditation and need to be attached to your alarm system. The fog can also be deployed in the event of an armed robbery.

CCTV: CCTV must be fitted correctly and have the right lighting or infrared facility. It must be monitored 24 hours a day. It is recommended that CCTV is fitted by an installer who is NSI or SSAIB registered.

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. You can also use our website to report a number of issues, from full crime reports to lost property; just use the following link <https://www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online/>

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/> Please come along to our meet the team events at SWANAGE, WAREHAM and UPTON, dates can be found on the website, we'd love to see you there.

Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team

Wessex Water '100% Owned Overseas'

Thirty years after privatisation, Wessex Water foreign ownership much higher than national average, GMB study shows. Company is 100% owned overseas, compared with a national average of 71%, analysis shows.

Recent correspondence in our letters pages has shown concern with regards to the higher-than-average charges made by our 'local' water company, Wessex Water.

It was of great interest therefore to receive the results of a recent study into the ownership of UK water companies. A study by GMB, the union for water industry workers, shows the foreign ownership of Wessex Water is much higher than the national average. The utilities company is 100% owned overseas, compared with a national average of 71%. The whole of the private water company is owned by YTL Power International - a subsidiary of the YTL Corporation, founded by Malaysian billionaire Yeoh Tiong Lay. The other 100% foreign owned water companies are Yorkshire Water and Northumbrian Water.

GMB said the revelations showed the need to end the scandal of water privatisation - and called on Environment Secretary Michael Gove to put water back in public hands. The figures come from a new investigation into company accounts as part of GMB's Take Back the Tap Campaign. Labour's Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell has pledged to end the profiteering of privatised water and set up a new publicly owned water system that puts control back in the hands of the people.

In recent months, GMB investigations into England's nine privatised water companies have revealed the following:

- Dividends worth £6.5 billion were paid out to shareholders in the past five years, with £1.4 billion paid out in 2017 alone.

- 2.4 billion litres of water is wasted through leaks every single day in England.

- CEOs of the nine privatised water company trousered a whopping £58 million in salary, bonuses, pensions and other benefits over the past five years.

While shareholders pocketed these eye-watering sums, consumer water bills in England and Wales have increased by 40% above inflation since privatisation in 1989, according to a report by the National Audit Office.

Tim Roache, GMB General Secretary, said: "As we approach the 30th anniversary of the failed experiment of water privatisation, it is clearly time to return England's water services to public hands. It is a scandal that the water that falls from England's skies is in fact now overwhelmingly owned by overseas profiteers.

"Every time we turn on the tap, big businesses around the globe are making money at our expense. The spivs and speculators must be laughing at us as they make billions in profits while our water bills go up and leakages go unfixed. This is yet another damning example of a failed privatisation and Labour are right to promise to take action. GMB is campaigning to Take Back the Tap and return England's water to its rightful owners - the public."

This possibly answers the question 'Why are our water bills so high?' which many of you have been asking recently in correspondence. It seems utterly unbelievable that YTL, a Malaysian company founded by Yeoh Tiong Lay (who died in October 2017 and who's family are worth an estimated US \$3 billion), own the rain which falls from the sky over Dorset.... well ok, we know this is not strictly true (more like they own the rights to transport the water to our houses), but you get the point.

It's a crazy world and it's getting crazier by the day.....

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Police & Crime Commissioner Asks For £2

Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill is reluctantly asking members of the public to pay the equivalent of an additional £2 per month to help fund policing.

Rather than providing a balanced funding settlement for policing, the government has instead placed the responsibility for the majority of this year's settlement with Police and Crime Commissioners. The Government have enabled Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to increase their precept up to a maximum of *£24 per year.

Police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill said: "A few weeks ago, the Chief Constable and I shared our concern that, without significant additional investment, Dorset Police would be unable to provide the current levels of service to our communities.

"As a result of the recent funding settlement, we now believe that there is the flexibility – providing that we continue to relentlessly pursue efficiencies – to ensure the Force will no longer be required to make the cuts that we had feared. I remain immensely frustrated that the financial burden has, once again, been passed to local taxpayers and it is important that members of the public are under no illusion: this is a short-term fix that barely covers the need.

The Home Secretary's announcement does not address the considerable, and unfunded, police pension issue, new training regime and inflationary and pay pressures, all of which have been thrust upon national policing. Nor does it reverse the eight years of austerity that have left Dorset Police with the lowest number of officers since 1981.

"Nevertheless, the flexibility that an extra £2 per month on the precept provides would leave Dorset Police in a much better position than was feared just a few months ago. Further, the Chief Constable is confident that this would allow him to make improvements in a number of areas of emerging demand.

"Throughout 2019/20 he is seeking further efficiency savings so that Dorset Police can reinvest in areas such as rural crime, marine crime and tackling county lines drug networks. The Force is also committed to the introduction of volunteer police cadets, improvements to youth justice and a Bobby Van scheme, to help protect vulnerable members of the community. The Chief Constable and I remain grateful for the public's support and I will be consulting widely to ensure that I understand the views of Dorset residents."

Visit the consultation at www.dorsetpoliceprecept.com

Do You Need To 'Reach Out'?

On 15 October, the government announced a new strategy on loneliness. In announcing the strategy, the Prime Minister acknowledged that loneliness is one of the greatest public health challenges of our time. Three quarters of GPs surveyed, say that they see one to five people a day who are suffering from loneliness.

Loneliness has been linked to conditions such as heart disease, strokes and dementia.

200,000 older people haven't had a conversation with a friend or relative in the past month. The number of over fifties suffering from loneliness is set to reach two million by 2025/6. This amounts to a 49% increase in ten years.

Age UK Dorchester runs a 'Reach Out' service which provides volunteers for older people who have become lonely and isolated. This can happen for a variety of reasons including bereavement, ill health and a loss of confidence. 'Reach Out' can help you to access social activities or if this is difficult for you, a volunteer could visit you for a cup of tea and a chat.

If you would like to know more about 'Reach Out' and how we can help you, or if you would like to volunteer for the service, please contact: Jules Walker on 07342 883844 or email: jwalker@ageukdorchester.onmicrosoft.com

DOUCH FAMILY BEREAVEMENT GROUP

CINDY WELLER
Accredited Counsellor, MBACP MNCS

WAREHAM Held first Monday of Oct, Bi-monthly thereafter at Wareham Library 11am – 12.30pm	SWANAGE Held first Tuesday of Nov, Bi-monthly thereafter at Swanage Library 2pm – 3.30pm
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Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

In February 2009, Robin Tiller wrote in to update readers on the move of Swanage's Lifeboat Charity shop, undertaken in September 2008, to their new premises in the Square, opposite Curiosity. RNLI Souvenir Secretary, Diana Lambeth, and her team reported that business in the new shop was thriving, with locals and visitors alike popping in to make purchases and support the work of the RNLI.



Page seven ran with a photograph of Woolworths in Swanage taken by reader, Steve Diamond. Woolworths had closed its doors for the final time in Swanage on 23rd December 2008.

We also included the notice which had been left on the door by the local Woolworths team: "This store has now ceased trading. We have traded in Swanage since 1952 and on behalf of myself and all of my colleagues, we would like to thank all of you for your custom over the years. It is very sad for us to be leaving but all who have worked here have such wonderful memories of Swanage and in particular, working in this store. Many thanks to our friends within the town who have given us great support over the past few weeks and for those who gave us such kind words and are deeply upset at our leaving. Thank you and goodbye. Richard, Patricia, Karen, Yasmin, Denise, Pat, Calum, Josh, Ellie, Lydia and Laura."

In 'Telling it like it is', David Hollister took on the subject of local planning and struggled to understand the finer points that make up our often confusing planning laws. A local developer who'd recently almost completed the rebuild of Tilly Mead in the heart of Swanage, was battling the planning department after it was declared that one of windows in the new development was around six inches out of place from the original plans. David failed to understand as the redevelopment was vastly superior to the building it replaced and the cost likely to be involved of taking part of the building down to shift one window was prohibitive. The planners also decided to have apparent 'second thoughts' with regards to the balconies, which had already been granted full planning permission.

David pointed out that if one stood atop this new development, you could throw a stone and easily hit sites on which no fewer than thirty-six residential flats had been granted planning permission with no requirement for parking spaces. Something else David failed to understand. Why allow residential developments in a town centre with no parking provision, in an area with virtually unusable and often non-existent 'public transport'?

David also mentioned the Pier Head development and Putlake Farm in his planning article, both of which had been beset with numerous struggles with the planning department for a number of years by the time 2008 rolled around. The assertion that the planning department had any logical application in reality, or the notion that planners took notice of the blindingly obvious or positively assist to redevelop our towns and villages for the better should possibly still be set aside as the process still remains vastly difficult to understand to many in 2019.

Local artist, Toby Wiggins, also wrote in that month on planning matters. The Westbury in Rempstone Road, Swanage (pictured, below left), was due to be demolished. Toby gave a brief history of the building, citing its position in a prime location in the town and its merit as part of our architectural heritage, which outstripped its neighbours in terms of materials and craftsmanship. Toby also stated that the building, with its impressively aged Purbeck stone frontage, was part of the development of Swanage from 'stone port' to resort, thus adding to the building's historical importance locally.



Westbury was standing in a newly-created 'Conservation

Area'; one wonders what the area was created to 'conserve' exactly. Toby worried about the future of a Swanage whereby our older buildings were demolished to make way for a glut of unwanted, regulation-style blocks of flats. He quoted one older member of a long-term Swanage family as saying (of the blocks of flats springing up): 'these represent the slums of tomorrow'.

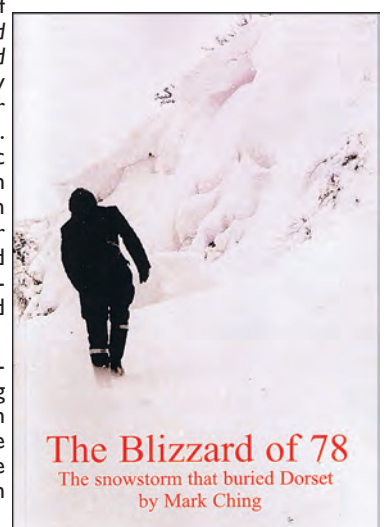


Area'; one wonders what the area was created to 'conserve' exactly. Toby worried about the future of a Swanage whereby our older buildings were demolished to make way for a glut of unwanted, regulation-style blocks of flats. He quoted one older member of a long-term Swanage family as saying (of the blocks of flats springing up): 'these represent the slums of tomorrow'.

Matt Wroe, a Dorset Police Crime Scene Investigator and his spaniel, Bailey, joined the team at Dorset Search Dogs. The search dogs specialised in 'air scenting', sniffing the air to locate people in the immediate area. Up to eighty acres could be searched in this way in an hour. Matt and Bailey joined the team which then consisted of two operational dogs, three operational handlers and three other dogs which were then still in-training.

We also published our review of Mark Ching's book 'The Blizzard of '78 - the snowstorm that buried Dorset' in this edition. February 1978 saw severe frosts, bitter cold and deep snow cover Dorset. Part of the book detailed an epic 'walk to work' undertaken by John Hodgson from Weymouth. John set out for work in Dorchester on foot, with his camera, and arrived in three and a half hours - taking some truly spectacular and memorable shots along the way.

At the time of writing in mid-January 2019, we're expecting some colder weather to hit us in the next few weeks. Let's hope that the snows which bought the county to a complete stand-still in 1978 are not repeated!



Make A Difference In 2019!

Volunteer For Dorset Rape Crisis This Year

Are you interested in helping others? Do you want to support a local charity?

Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre is looking for volunteers to help deliver a variety of frontline services for the charity. The volunteer roles they are looking for include: helpline listeners, counsellors, admin support and fundraising and events volunteers, all of which will help with it's vital work across Dorset for 2019.

Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre is a pan Dorset charity, based in Poole, that provides a confidential telephone helpline service, face to face counselling and practical support through their Independent Sexual violence Advisor service to women, men and children affected by sexual assault.

Helpline listeners provide confidential listening support to those who have been affected by sexual assault. The administrative role covers a variety of office-based duties from data inputting to event planning support. Fundraising and Events volunteers are also needed to help support a wide range of events for 2019. The role is hugely varied, one week you might be bag packing in Tesco, the next week marshalling at Bournemouth marathon, the next attending a festival and the next helping secure raffle prizes for our gala dinner.

If you are thinking about volunteering in 2019 and if any of these roles sound as though they might be of interest, then please do get in touch with the charity's volunteer co-ordinator, Simone Gosden, by emailing simone.gosden@dorsetrapecrisis.org, phoning 01202 308848 or visiting our website.

If you have been affected by sexual violence and would like confidential advice and support, please phone our helpline on 01202 308855 or visit our website www.dorsetrapecrisis.org

Local People For Local Politics

Are you up for the challenge?

Fed up with your local community's concerns not being addressed? Frustrated by the services provided by Dorset County Council? Angry about the lack of social mobility in the area?

Independent councillor, Dorchester's renowned town crier, Alistair Chisholm, is keen to hear from people who feel they could do better than the current administration.

Alistair and others have joined a group call "ALL for Dorset" to encourage others to join them as independent candidates. ALL for Dorset allows independents to campaign together and retain the freedom to represent the local community without a party whip.

With the new unitary Dorset Council elections taking place in May, Alistair is keen to talk to people across the county who feel unrepresented, would listen to those they represent and who would make decisions based on facts.

Alistair said: "Having repeatedly witnessed my District Council make decisions purely on the basis of party affiliation and not in the best interests of those they claim to represent, I am more than ready for a change in local government.

"Frome, just over the county border in Somerset, has led the way and its independent- controlled Town Council has already demonstrated the advantages of working in a different and more democratic way. Working together with existing community groups they are able to make decisions, following sincere and meaningful consultation, based on the facts and realities shared and understood by all.

"With elected councillors free to pursue whatever cause is in the best interests of those they represent, councillors who cannot be "whipped" into blind adherence to some national party dogma, real change can be achieved.

"We have strong communities in Dorset but that strength is too seldom reflected in our local representatives. Now is the time to elect candidates, free of party control, whose objective is to consult, share information, consider and debate in an open and transparent manner and finally make decisions in the best interests of the people they represent," he added.

If you are interested in a seat at the table and feel it is time for a change in local politics, please get in touch at ALLforDorset@gmail.com or fb.me/ALLforDorset

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Swanage Boxing Day Swim 2018!



One of Purbeck's favourite annual events is the Swanage Boxing Day Swim - an organic town tradition which has grown over the decades from just a few friends meeting for a Boxing Day dip to several hundred locals and visitors turning up each Boxing Day and undertaking a mad dash to the sea in a variety of fancy dress!

Many undertake the dip in aid of a local charity, raising sponsorship before the event and bringing friends and family members along to cheer them on. In previous years, coaches have arrived from over the water, bringing additional spectators and participants. It was presumed that coaches did not arrive this year due to the Sandbanks Ferry service being suspended until the new year, so numbers of entrants for the swim were down a little on previous years. Also missing from the fray this year were the Wood family, who, in previous years, have set-up a charity coffee stall and have actively encouraged participants to collect sponsorship money for selected local charities, helping to raise thousands over the last decade or so for local good causes.

Sadly, the involvement of this wonderful local family has now ceased as it led to the incorrect presumption by those 'in authority' that this long-standing local tradition was suddenly an 'organised event', thus requiring insurance, permissions and endless red tape..... This is not, and never has been the case and the Wood family were missed during this latest dash into the cold waters - as were the cups of hot coffee!

Some participants still collected for charities individually during this latest swim, including Mr Bandstand (aka Alan), who bravely took to the waters in aid of the restoration of the Swanage Bandstand Appeal. One of the Purbeck Pirates managed to raise £250 to take the plunge, with his sponsorship going towards the upcoming Purbeck Pirate Festival (an event run entirely for Rotary-supported charities). Our 'best dressed' swimmer for 2018 was Rena, taking the dip in aid of Swanage Pier and dressed most perfectly as Mary Poppins (pictured, left). Fabulous outfit Rena!!

A huge well done to all those who took to the sea and congratulations to all of you for your part in keeping this local tradition going strong!







National
Trust

February half term fun at Corfe Castle

Explore King John's castle this half term and have lots of medieval fun with the family castle quest, workshops, crafts and games.

Call 01929 481294 for details
nationaltrust.org.uk/corfe-castle/whats-on

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Swanage Carnival 2019 Goes Musical!



It's time to start preparing your float or costume for our 2019 'Musical' themed Carnival. Whether you want to sing or dance your way around the procession, dress as your musical icon, form a band, or add some musical theatre to our event, the week promises to hit plenty of high notes!

We are delighted to announce that we have secured some brand-new events for 2019 and we are building on our Sporting Saturday that will open

Carnival Week. More details will be released later in the year.

So, put the dates in your diary (27th July to the 3rd August) and start getting ready for the biggest Carnival on the South Coast.

If you would like to sponsor a carnival event and feature in our popular programme, please get in touch with our Chairperson, Maria – chairman@swanagecarnival.com.

Picture, above: Swanage Carnival 2018, by Nadine Hudson-Featherstone



Swanage Regatta & Carnival

CHARITY NOMINATIONS

If you would like to nominate a Charity or Good Cause to be a beneficiary from the proceeds of this year's Carnival Week, please apply in writing to the Carnival Secretary no later than 31st March 2019 with a brief description of your charity/good cause and a summary of how any donation would be used. In return we ask that representatives and/or supporters from the selected organisations help during Carnival Week with voluntary roles such as bucket collections at events.

Applications to: Jeff Soulsby - Swanage Regatta & Carnival,
2 Grovehurst, Sea Lane, Ulwell Rd, Swanage. BH19 1BW
Email: secretary@swanagecarnival.com

**MARCH EDITION DEADLINE:
12 noon on Fri 8th February**

**FEATURES: 'Gardening in Purbeck'
& Mother's Day'**



Looking for a new challenge in 2019?

Visit our Jobs Fair on 8th to 9th February

If you are passionate about Swanage, we would really love to meet you!

The Town Council has a wide range of seasonal jobs available in 2019 as follows:

Information Centre Assistants
Seafront Advisors

Enforcement Officer
Beach Gardens Assistants

We have a wide range of different shift patterns to suit most people. To find out more about what the above jobs entail, please come along to our Jobs Fair. You will be able to have an informal chat with current staff and learn more about what it's like to be part of our award-winning team.

When: Friday 8th February - Saturday 9th February, Time: 10am - 5pm
Where: Swanage Information Centre on Shore Road

Just turn up or for more information please contact us on: 01929 766018 or email: mail@swanage.gov.uk All of our vacancies will be advertised in local media.

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QUIZ NIGHT



Friday 8th March
2019

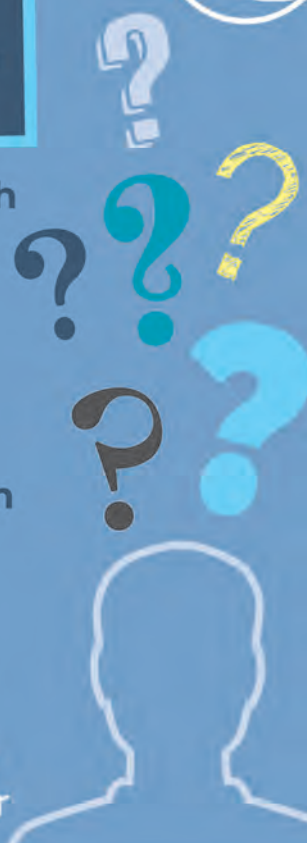
At Swanage
Conservative Club

7.00pm for
7.30pm start

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All proceeds go
to Swanage Pier





*Beth & Adam Wood married at St George's Church, Oakdale,
with a reception at Harmans Cross Village Hall.
Photographer: Trev Rich Photography*

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the perfect, Purbeck wedding for a lucky few!*

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Valentine's Day is fast approaching - one may say that this is an annual celebration that has become somewhat commercialised over the past few decades, BUT, where love is concerned, surely every effort is worth making?!

If you are in a committed relationship, just starting out with someone new, or if you've had your eye on someone for a while, this is the time of year when you can let those feelings show.

From the staples, such as bouquets of flowers, chocolates, jewellery or booking somewhere special for a delicious, intimate meal, you could always get more inventive and search out a thoughtful gift or token of your love.

Purbeck has a plethora of independent shops, offering a wide selection of unique, often hand-crafted items which would delight a partner, as would the thought shown in searching out that ideal gift to show your love. If a

night out is more up your street, then we're lucky enough to have a fantastic selection of eateries locally, many welcoming Valentine's diners this year.

If you're currently single and have your eye on someone, then why not take the plunge and purchase a Valentine's card and hand-deliver it to them with a smile? The worst that can happen is that you don't get a 'yes', and there's always the chance the recipient may be delighted with the gesture and may accept an invitation to go out on a date with you!

For those who have been together for a while, then you may be secretly planning to pop the question this 'lover's day'. If so, take your partner's taste into consideration if purchasing an engagement ring, there's nothing wrong with going 'full blown romantic' - it's supposed to be a one-time deal, remember?! Find the perfect spot, think-up the perfect words, speak from the heart and you may get a heartfelt YES!

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Smoked Purbeck duck breast, grilled pear, rocket and baby spinach, red wine vinaigrette

Spiced and lightly fried carrot and almond balls, dipped in sesame with avocado and a sweet tamari reduction (vegan)

MAIN COURSE

A Romance of Sea Bass Fillets with a ginger beurre blanc sauce

Sirloin of beef with a dark chocolate and red wine sauce

Juicy chicken ballotine stuffed with a wild mushroom and shallot duxelle, creamy whisky sauce

A Juliet of Asparagus, roasted butternut & baby spinach risotto, parmesan & crostini (vegan)

(All served with a selection of vegetables and potatoes)

DESSERTS

Chocolate hot fondue pot with fruit skewers

Chocolate lush tart with coconut ice cream (vegan)

Crème Brûlée, stem ginger crumb and ginger ice cream

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Delectable local cheeseboard with oat cakes and desirable homemade chutney

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Open Daily



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Thursday 14th - Sunday 17th for lunch
Friday 15th and Saturday 16th for dinner



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Available until 31st March

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So much attention is placed on the bride and bridegroom that often the guests and their requirements are put to one side - especially the all important 'Mother of the bride'!

The happy couple may well be the highlight of every wedding, but equally, each guest wishes to look their best for that special day.

Why not take a trip to visit a specialist retailer who offers a wide range of apparel, just perfect for that upcoming wedding or special occasion? Make a day of it and combine the outing with lunch or afternoon tea to get yourselves into the swing of things - it's not just the bride who is entitled to have a fun day out whilst choosing the perfect dress or outfit!

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Happy planning!



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Beth & Adam Wood married at St George's Church, Oakdale,
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However! We all know that it wouldn't be quite the same if everyone turned up to their ceremonies dressed in everyday wear, with their hair tied up and their trainers on....!

We do like to make an effort to be seen at our very best when we decide to tie the knot - a tradition, if you will, of wanting to be seen at our best when we pledge ourselves to another, for life.

You've chosen the venue, the transport, the photographer, the cake.... You've chosen your outfits - traditional or whacky, themed or vintage - the options are endless and there's truly something to suit everyone out there.



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When it comes to choosing a venue for your wedding, there are many considerations to take into account. Firstly (and often most importantly), is your budget.

There's no point trawling through the most stunning of venues and setting your heart on something you'd have to sell a kidney to afford. So, decide your budget first, and then have a good look around to see what's available for what you can afford.

Make a check-list of what you absolutely **MUST** have (indoor/outdoor/ numbers of seating/types of table arrangements/dancefloor/length of hire and so on) and then start making enquiries.

Many venues book-up over a year in advance, and most only offer a number of wedding dates each year. Therefore start searching early - possibly a couple of years in advance of your chosen wedding date.

Purbeck and Dorset have much to offer - from farmer's fields with beautiful views, adorned with splendid marquees and bell tents for guests to stay in, to traditional country houses, hotels, and custom wedding venues.

Talk to the venue providers and see what they can offer you - check if you can decorate the venue as you wish, what's included and double-check those prices as breaking the budget is not a great start to a marriage!



Beth & Adam Wood married at St George's Church, Oakdale, with a reception at Harnans Cross Village Hall. Photographer: Trev Rich Photography

Beth & Adam Wood married at St George's Church, Oakdale, with a reception at Harman's Cross Village Hall. Photographer: Trev Rich Photography



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Motoring

Up The Junction!

by David Hollister

Today's top tip - teach your kids to count bikes on car journeys and they will automatically look out for bikes when then start to drive!

Excellent letter from Bill Wilson in last month's Gazette highlighting the new junction at the foot of Coombe Hill where the A351 joins the B3069 Langton Road. He believes that part of the thinking behind it was to discourage lorries from passing through Langton Matravers. Thinking? Dorset Highways? The design would have been better done by the local play school.

Rather like small children hiding behind their hands and believing they are invisible, the Highways Department clearly feel that large vehicles will disappear if they make the junction impossible. Yet the hourly service bus from Swanage to Poole has no choice but to mount the kerbs on both sides of the B3069 and the A351 as it turns to go into Swanage. Neither is it possible for a large lorry, coming from the Harmans Cross end, to turn right to go to Langton Matravers without mounting the kerbs.

Bill also goes on to make a valid point about caravanners; Langton has many campsites which also accommodate caravans. Any caravanner who decides to come down through the village will find it impossible to turn left! This will also apply to any non-local lorries, such as delivery drivers, furniture lorries etc. who have to access Langton directly.

Stand there for an hour, as I have done, and watch the poor bus- and lorry-drivers trying to negotiate this piece of stupidity. Drive the A351 from Swanage to Harmans Cross, as I do several times a day, and just about manage to avoid hitting either the silly little 'pedestrian refuge' or the unforgiving kerb on the left. And I actually know the road and the changes that have been made.

Not so fortunate perhaps for the visitor unfamiliar with it, in the dark and in the rain. How long, I wonder, before someone comes a cropper and is seriously injured. We haven't needed a 'pedestrian refuge' for the last hundred years so why now? And why has the speed limit on this dangerous junction not been reduced to 30mph to match that in Herston and indeed in Harmans Cross?

One would have hoped that the local Councillors, on Swanage, Purbeck or Dorset Councils, would have taken issue with this and required the Highways Department to rectify the situation. But in the apparent absence of any such action, I have to accuse the Highways Department and the Dorset Planners of gross incompetence, stupidity, and a total failure to do their research properly. I seldom have a good word to say for Dorset Highways and I sure as hell ain't going to start now.

It was with considerable disappointment that I saw the ferry return to service after a six-week maintenance period, only to blow up spectacularly within 48 hours, necessitating an ambulance, a fire truck, and another long period out of service – over the Christmas period and beyond. Still out as I write, but no doubt back with us by the time you're reading this.

I've always been a firm fan of the ferry and use it every time I need to go to Bournemouth and beyond. It saves petrol, mileage, frustration, and having to go through awful queues at Sandford or the Bakers Arms roundabout. I will happily sit in my car waiting even if I've just missed it; relaxing to Classic FM, and occasionally nodding off to sleep. Oops! And as soon as it's back, then so will I be.

The more cynical amongst my friends seem to have linked this second period of inactivity with the outcome of the recent DOE enquiry which found against the Ferry Company's application to increase fares over the next few years.



They suggest that a somewhat 'miffed' Ferry Company may well have 'pulled the plug' at a time of year when there is probably not sufficient throughput of customers to make regular running viable, and that it's a cost-cutting and an 'up yours' gesture, made to punish the complainants for their outspoken opinions.

I have, at every turn, rubbished this despicable suggestion as I cannot believe that the Ferry Company would be capable of such underhand behaviour. The sooner that there are 'ferries at the bottom of my garden', the better. So, I asked the Ferry Company exactly what has happened.

Their reply – which I totally believe – was: "We didn't really break down as such, we had a hydraulic leak which caused an awful lot of work when it sprayed the engine room in hydraulic fluid; the engine room had to be cleaned, machinery had to be checked and fire insulation had to be replaced and every single nut bolt (and everything else) in the engine room had to be double checked.

"To be clear, we were amazed it was done so quickly, this was down to our staff and some amazing companies that dropped everything to come and help.

"After this we needed the surveys from Lloyds and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, which we now have. But we now have a further problem, which we aim to fix in the next week. We're bending over backwards to get back in service, no one is more fed up with this than we are! But, no-one believes what we say, and the abuse we've received has to be seen to be believed"

I find it regrettable that so many uninformed keyboard warriors, clearly and understandably put out by the ferry's continued absence, have felt the need to be unpleasant on social media

As our woefully inadequate and underfunded infrastructure ages and wears out, so do we find Wessex Water and SGN digging ever more holes in the road. Must be a real bonus for the firms that hire out traffic lights.

Let's not kid ourselves that this is going to get any better; the time for governments to have started looking after the roads and highways has long passed, and what they're doing now is simply 'fire fighting'.

The country's falling to bits. They have cut, cut, cut at the taxes and have cut, cut, cut at the infrastructure. Now we, and our children, are reaping the benefit. The point of all this? Don't expect that things can only get better – roads included. Because they won't.



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Business

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Economic Review To The End Of 2018

During the three months to end of December 2018, the FTSE 100 index fell by 10.4% and was down by 12.5% since the beginning of 2018. However, this masks the fact that during 2018 the FTSE 100 Index reached an all-time high of 7903.5 in May.

Our analysts summarised the global position as follows:

'Stock markets experienced a major sell-off at the end of 2018, with the FTSE 100 falling 12% over the year, its worst performance since the financial crisis ten years ago. Investors remain concerned that rising interest rates in the US, high levels of debt in China and Donald Trump's trade war could cause a major slowdown in world growth this year. However, the third-quarter earnings season was positive on both sides of the Atlantic, with a majority of companies posting good growth in sales and profits.'

'Britain's warm summer helped national output, with the economy growing 0.6% in the three months ending September, the best quarterly growth in two years. Quarterly GDP expansion in the Eurozone was anaemic, rising just 0.2% as growth in Germany and Italy stumbled. The situation is much different in the US, with the economy growing by an impressive 3.5% in the third quarter, boosted by President Trump's tax cuts and strong jobs market. This was ahead of market expectations and was the strongest performance since the fourth quarter of 2014.'

Brexit is the continuing issue for the UK at the moment and this has led to a lot of uncertainty and speculation, which have not helped the stockmarket. Bank of England base rates have remained at 0.5% during 2018 and are not expected to change from this any time soon due to the UK facing a slowdown and the challenges of Brexit. Recent falls in the oil price should also mean that inflation is subdued.

The relative strength in the dollar, Donald Trump's trade war, the fall in oil prices and the emergence of populist leaders in countries such as Brazil have all taken their toll on Emerging markets and countries with large amounts of foreign debt were hit particularly hard.

Generally, stock markets seem a bit subdued at the moment and a lot of this is due to uncertainty, rather than the poor performance of individual companies. There have been a lot of disappointing share price performances from individual shareholdings, although in the main dividend payments are still being maintained and in many cases increased.

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

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Minimising your tax liability ahead of the tax year end

With the end of the tax year drawing closer, now is a good time to review your financial planning strategies to ensure that your tax liabilities are kept to a minimum. Some key strategies might include:

Making use of your ISA allowance

A range of ISAs are available to savers, including the Lifetime ISA for those under the age of 40, the Help to Buy ISA for first-time homebuyers, and the Junior ISA for individuals aged under 18. Savers can invest in any combination of cash or stocks and shares, up to the overall annual subscription limit of £20,000. Individuals have until 5 April 2019 to make their 2018/19 investment.

Maximising personal allowances

Individuals are entitled to their own personal allowance (PA), which is £11,850 for 2018/19. If your spouse or partner has little or no income, you may wish to consider transferring income or income-producing assets to them.

Keeping more of your profit

The Dividend Allowance reduced to £2,000 in April 2018, and the question of whether it is better to take a salary/bonus, or a dividend requires careful consideration. Dividends are taken after corporation tax has been calculated, while a salary is taken before corporation tax is deducted. On the other hand, national insurance is due on any salary taken, which can be up to 25.8% in combined employer and employee contributions.

Alternative means of extracting profit might include considering incorporation and increasing contributions to pension schemes.

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Adultery is a clear ground for a divorce - right?



There is only one ground for a divorce and that is that the "marriage has broken down irretrievably". To all non-lawyers out there this seems to be pretty clear and quite simple.

Once the marriage has broken down, a divorce is going to be easy.

If only that was the case!

To show that the marriage

has irretrievably broken down the person asking the Court for a divorce must rely on one or more of the following five facts:

- Adultery;
- You cannot reasonably be expected to live with the other party;
- Desertion for at least two years;
- Two years separation and both consent;
- Five years separation (consent not necessary).

In real life, the last three facts are less often relied upon because once the decision has been made to divorce most people want to draw a line under it as quickly as possible and move on with their lives. Unreasonable behaviour is the most commonly cited fact in divorce petitions in England and Wales, adultery is also often used.

Here's the rub. If you want to rely on adultery as the fact for your divorce, you need to make sure that you don't fall into one of the traps that lie in wait for the unwary:

You cannot rely on your own adultery. The adultery has to be by the other party.

The other party is asked to admit their adultery.

You cannot rely on adultery if you lived together as a couple for six months after you found out about it unless the adultery is continuing.

If you are in a same sex civil-partnership and you discover infidelity you cannot rely on it as same-sex adultery doesn't exist in the eyes of the law.

Relying on adultery can be problematic. Taking legal advice early once infidelity is discovered is a good idea.

Divorce and negotiating the law can be tricky. Battens' Family Team is highly respected in bringing specialist expertise and a compassionate approach to this delicate area of law. Battens offers advice on a fixed fee basis with no obligation if you wish to explore this area further and we offer competitive rates on an ongoing basis.

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From The Kitchen Garden...



Poached duck egg on kale with baked Butternut squash

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

It's been a benign winter so far, we've not had any hard frosts and the ground isn't too squelchy either. The autumn planted garlic and onions are looking good and I'm eagerly awaiting my ordered spring planting onion and shallot sets.

I've also sown onion and spring onion seeds under cover, once big enough I'll transplant the seedlings into their final growing space probably in March/April. The leeks in the ground have been properly nibbled by rabbits; I really should cover them with some horticultural fleece.

The rows of different types of Kale are still standing well, a little bent, as some got a battering being blasted relentlessly by a nasty westerly wind last autumn. I've also sown the first lot of celeriac into seed trays.

Although really slow to germinate, this flavoursome root vegetable needs a long growing season with plenty of water and little weed competition.... this aspect is always trickier later on in the spring, as daylight hours are so much longer, the sun already quite powerful and sowing and planting out are going full throttle. Hoeing and weeding at times takes second fiddle and a crop like this is easily set back by competition for light and nutrients. So, this year I shall try and be more on top of these jobs.

Another resolution for the coming growing season is not forgetting to pause for a moment every now and again and to observe what's going on around me. Change is happening all the time and I appreciate the slower winter months particularly, as I have more time to study and question and I'm forever learning as every growing year is different.

A very enjoyable learning curve has been my badling of ducks. Oh yes, this is not a miss-spelling.....what a great description for my dibbly team! They're working hard as the slug patrol, get also fed very nice food and are laying superb eggs. As duck eggs have more protein and less water volume than chicken eggs, they cook faster and will become more rubbery if they're cooked for too long. Duck egg yolks are larger and 'creamier' compared to a chicken egg. The protein bonds in duck (and goose) eggs are stronger than in a chicken's and this is why they're fantastic to bake with.

I've increased the duck population and the lovely young girls are just coming into their first laying season. There will be plenty of fresh, free range duck eggs available to buy from 'The Apple Cart' outside of the Square & Compass in Worth Matravers every Saturday from 12 noon – 3pm from the middle of March onwards.

If you're into very fresh duck or chicken eggs big time, you could always pick some up straight from the Kitchen Garden - just call or text me first.

Poached duck egg on kale with baked Butternut squash:

Method:

Preheat oven to 180C

Half or quarter your butternut squash, drizzle with little oil and bake in the oven for 20-30 minutes, depending on size

Bring a big pan of water to the boil and add a dash of vinegar (the acidity in the water helps to firm up the egg whites really well)

Crack the eggs into individual cups and using a whisk create a whirlpool in the water

Gently place the eggs one by one into the centre of the whirlpool and allow the water to simmer

Carefully take them out with a slotted spoon after three minutes and place on a bed of steamed kale and add seasoning.

Enjoy!



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Must include a purchased drink per person

Lunch offer valid until 31st May 2019

excludes mothering Sunday 31st March 2019

SPECIAL OFFER

Offer can not be used on conjunction with any other promotion or gift vouchers

Pie and a Pint Night

Saturday 23rd March 2019

Choice of:

- **Steak and Kidney Pudding**
- **Chicken and Ham Pie**
- **Spinach and Feta Cheese Pie**
- **With mashed potato, gravy and mushy peas**

£10.95 per head including a Pint of Beer or Glass of Wine.

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Open Monday to Sunday 10am-5pm

Breakfasts, lunches and afternoon teas.

Clavells Valentines Evening Menu

Clavells Restaurant, Kimmeridge, BH20 5PE enquiries@clavellsrestaurant.co.uk

CLAVELLS
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AVAILABLE 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH FEBRUARY 2019

Starters

Oriental Duck Salad sliced duck breast marinated in Chinese spices served on a bed of bean sprouts, spring onions, carrots and peppers with a hoisin Sauce dressing.

Seafood Chowder a luxurious creamy soup of smoked haddock, prawns, mussels and salmon. Served with rustic bread.

Seafood Sharing Platter King Prawns, salt and peppered calamari, crab fishcakes, seafood chowder shots and salmon ceviche. Served with dressed mixed leaves, rustic bread and a trio of dips (lemon mayonnaise, sweet chilli and Marie Rose).

Pork, chicken and apricot Terrine served with toasted brioche, mixed leaves and chutney.

Marinated grilled halloumi and a Greek salad with a basil and mint drizzle.

Main Courses

Fillet of Monkfish served on a bed of savoy cabbage, diced bacon and crème fraiche topped with crispy leeks.

Kimmeridge Sirloin Steak served with gourmet chips, grilled tomato, mushrooms, a side salad and a blue cheese sauce.

Loin of Venison from "Kimmeridge" wrapped in Parma ham served with a rich redcurrant and sloe gin Jus

Kimmeridge Bay Lobster Thermidore a whole grilled lobster topped with a cream, mustard, brandy sauce finished with parmesan shavings (£5 supplement)

Breaded Pork Fillet served with a red wine, French mustard sauce garnished with finely sliced gherkins and beetroot.

Lamb Wellington loin of Kimmeridge lamb with a mint pea stuffing wrapped in filo pastry served with a Madeira sauce. (£3 supplement).

Baby Vegetable Mille-Feuille served with a roasted red pepper sauce.

All of the above dishes are served with dauphinoise potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Desserts

Chocolate Fondue to Share

Dark Chocolate and brandy and white chocolate and Baileys dipping sauces served with a selection of fresh fruits and marshmallows.

Passion Fruit Syllabub with homemade shortbread.

Mixed Berry Pavlova drizzled with a Raspberry Coulis.

Morello Cherry & Chocolate Roulade

Selection of English Cheese and Biscuits. (£2 supplement)

£29.95 per head

Booking Essential Tel: 01929 480701

Valentines Special High Tea

Clavells Restaurant, Kimmeridge, BH20 5PE enquiries@clavellsrestaurant.co.uk

CLAVELLS
RESTAURANT

THURSDAY 14TH AND SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

Assorted Finger Sandwiches

Coronation Chicken, Ham and Real Ale Chutney, Egg Mayonnaise and Cress, Cucumber and Poached salmon.

Fruit and Plain Scones

with Dorset clotted cream and locally sourced Strawberry Jam.

Cake Selection

A delicious array of miniature cakes and tartlets.

Dorset Tea Selection

includes Breakfast Tea, Cool Camomile, Foraged Fruits, Earl Grey Tea, Pure Green Tea, Black Berry Syllabub, Earl of Dorset, Wild About Mint, Ginger and Sunshine Tea.

£14.95 per person

Prosecco Afternoon Tea

All of the above plus a glass of prosecco.

£19.95 per head

Booking Essential

Telephone: 01929 480701

Mothers Day Lunch Menu SUNDAY 31st MARCH

CLAVELLS
RESTAURANT

Starters

Pork and Apple Pate served with apple cider chutney
toasted brioche and dressed mixed leaves.

Butternut Squash and Sweet Potato Soup served with crusty bread.

Prawn and Smoked Salmon Cocktail served with
brown bread and butter and dressed mixed leaves.

Salad of Goat's Cheese beetroot and candied walnuts.

Main Courses

Roast Topside of Kimmeridge Farm Beef with Yorkshire puddings.

Poached Salmon in a Veronique sauce (cream, white wine and grape).

Chicken Breast in a Café de Paris Sauce
(White wine, tomato, tarragon and cream).

All of the above served with roast potatoes, cauliflower cheese,
carrots, broccoli and cabbage.

Aubergine Parmigiana layers of aubergine, tomato, basil,
mozzarella and parmesan. Served with garlic bread drizzled
with balsamic vinegar and a side salad.

Desserts

Chocolate Salted Caramel and Walnut Tart
Steamed Clementine and Pomegranate Pudding

Apple, Cinnamon and Sultana Pie

Lemon Meringue Roulade

Selection of Ice Creams and Sorbets

2 courses £21.95

3 courses £27.95

Includes a gift for all mums

Main course for small children £8.95

Booking Essential Telephone: 01929 480701

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Mothers Day Special High Tea SUNDAY 31st MARCH

CLAVELLS
RESTAURANT

Assorted Finger Sandwiches

Coronation Chicken, Ham and Real Ale Chutney,
Egg Mayonnaise and Cress,
Cucumber and Poached Salmon.

Fruit and Plain Scones

with Dorset Clotted Cream
and locally sourced Strawberry Jam.

Cake Selection

A delicious array of miniature cakes and tartlets.

Dorset Tea Selection

includes Breakfast Tea, Cool Camomile,
Foraged Fruits, Earl Grey Tea, Pure Green Tea,
Black Berry Syllabub, Earl of Dorset,
Wild About Mint, Ginger and Sunshine Tea.

£14.95 per head

Prosecco Afternoon Tea

All of the above plus a glass of prosecco.

£19.95 per head

Booking Essential

Telephone: 01929 480701

Clavells Restaurant, Kimmeridge, BH20 5PE enquires@clavellsrestaurant.co.uk



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Steak and Lobster Night

Saturday 13th April 2019

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Canapés

Followed by a

Sirloin steak half a grilled lobster
with salad and hand cut chips

Finished with Fresh Strawberries
and Clotted Cream

£29.95 per head.

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Natural Matters

Watching Wildlife

by John Garner

At time of writing it is the beginning of January. It is cold and spring seems a long way off. Over Christmas there were lots of wildlife programmes on TV. I've watched bears and big cats and wild dogs alongside all sorts of exotic species that are native to distant lands. David the heroic chimpanzee from the 'Dynasties' series has to be a favourite. Also, in that series was the empathetic response of the painted wolves of Zimbabwe to an injured member of their pack. Heart-warming stuff.

I also stumbled across an old rerun of *Faulty Towers*. It was the one where the guest complains about the view from her Torquay hotel window. *Faulty* wonders whether or not she was expecting 'herds of Wildebeest sweeping majestically across...' presumably the plains. Later that weekend there was a flurry of activity on the regional news as a rare southern English visitor was spotted in numbers in an Asda car park in Hampshire. People with very long lenses arrived and got very excited, possibly the only time anyone has got excited in an Asda car park, apart from when they're leaving one.

In another conversation that I was on the outskirts of, it appeared that Cattle Egrets had also been seen in abundance in Purbeck. A few years ago in Cornwall, there was a visiting Pelican shaking up the local gull population in the Hale estuary. It looked strangely at odds with the local population in terms of size and shape. Something from another place and possibly another age.

All these unusual wildlife sightings, or not in the *Faulty Towers* case, are very welcome (and I'll be honest the odd wildebeest in the garden would be pretty epic), but it did get me thinking about the wildlife that already exists in our gardens. When a friend brought round a bird feeder and

some seeds recently, I decided to make the garden as wildlife friendly as possible. Now this is a lazy gardener's dream as it effectively means you cut your garden maintenance in those 'wildlife' areas down to next to nothing.

We've had at least one hedgehog in the garden. You could hear it snuffling around the dog's bowl. The dog knew to keep clear, or maybe had a previous painful experience and decided enough

was enough. The hedgehog didn't even curl up when it saw the dog, so I reckon they both knew who was boss. There are lots of small birds and I've picked up a bird identification book as 'small bird' seems too general a title for what I can see.

Outside of the back yard it's worth remembering that this area has an abundance of natural wildlife that requires a very small journey to appreciate. The nature reserve of the RSPB at Arne is a unique area crammed with wildlife and includes some very rare species. On the RSPB website there's also a section on how to make your garden more wildlife friendly. Areas of heathland are perfect for lots of animals even in the winter. I'm reliably informed (this basically means I can blame someone else if I'm wrong) that the Dartford Warbler could be spotted by the keen eye. Birds of prey seem to be a more common sight on bike rides, but maybe I'm just becoming more observant.

I've seen a number of Kestrels, Falcons and Buzzards. The latter was a real rarity in my youth, but their population seems to be much stronger now. I've even seen a few red kites on my rides up to the north of the county. Who knows, some of these may even make it into the garden.

I think the neglect of my garden is paying off. I regularly see bats in the summer months and the trees are still full of birds. There's the aforementioned hedgehog that I'm hoping has found a home in the pile of old wood I chucked up the end of the garden. Hoping, because it means I couldn't possibly move it and make a hedgehog homeless. In the summer there are either frogs or toads (I don't really know the difference), even though I don't have a pond.

Judging by the swelling and lumps on my legs after an evening sitting in the garden last summer, the bug population is alive and well. When all's said and done, I reckon I can be quite proud of what my lack of industry has produced. There's nothing really left to do but sit back and let nature take its course.

I've been informed that you have to wait a while for the bird telegraph to realise there are free seeds on offer in a given garden. I have a chair ready and intend to spend lots of time in it watching the birds and the garden become more wildlife friendly. The birds haven't swarmed over the seeds yet, even though there seem to be more of them generally in the garden than I've noticed before. That's more birds and more seeds.

So, I'll sit it out. It's the least I can do for the planet. I can be very patient in the face of activity. Especially if I'm watching the activity rather than partaking in it myself. Just doing my bit.





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Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Beware of being a Gardening Eager Beaver!

Last year as the Crocuses were flowering and just when we thought spring was about to arrive, we were hit by the 'Beast from the East' and a fortnight later it returned, causing a lot of damage in the garden.



Some plants were killed outright, some evergreens defoliated and looked poor for months afterwards and border perennials remained very much dormant. The persistent cold prevented seeds from germinating outdoors and anyone who had made early sowings in the greenhouse was having to heat overnight to prevent seedlings from being killed by the cold.

Eleven months on and there is little evidence of the damage caused by the two periods of icy blast as all the dead plants are on the compost heap and everything else has recovered but the point is that gardeners should take their cues from nature and not follow the calendar. The time to sow vegetables and hardy annuals outside is not a specific day, it's when you

see weeds germinating in the ground as this indicates conditions are right. So, what should I do in February?

The ideal position to be in by February is to have completed your border work. Ensure the entire winter pruning is complete, that last year's annuals and dead growth have been cleared away, the borders are weeded and a mulch of compost has been applied. This means that when your borders wake up you are on top of things and have a free hand for the multitude of spring tasks such as sowing, mowing, planting out, watering, staking etc.

Other tasks:

- Complete any pruning of fruit trees, roses and shrubs
- Pressure wash paths and patios
- Clean and sterilise the greenhouse as well as any pots and seed trays
- Carry out any landscaping changes and improvement projects.

With everything under control, why not enjoy a visit to Holme? Walk around the garden to see the early bulbs and Hellebores (free to all in February). Relax in the Orchard restaurant and then choose the seeds you want to grow this spring.



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February 2014 saw Storm Ruth hit the shores of Dorset. Pictured below is an epic wave crashing up against the headland at Durlston, Swanage.



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Cats Protection is the UK's leading feline welfare charity, helping around 200,000 cats and kittens each year. By volunteering for Cats Protection this can be a fun and rewarding experience, particularly if you have a skill that would benefit the charity or would like to develop new skills by taking on a fresh challenge.

Volunteer opportunities are available in the Weymouth, Portland, Swanage and Purbeck areas ranging from cat fosterers, fundraising team leaders, fundraisers, recruitment coordinators and publicity volunteers. Please take a look at our website to see how you can make a difference and help cats and kittens get a second chance in life.

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DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



Despite there being icy puddles and a frosty ground cover, some flowers may bloom such as Daffodils and Primroses in our more sheltered areas. Meanwhile, in the woods look out for Snowdrops and Spring Crocus. Beside Lighthouse Road, a Cherry tree benefits from full sunlight, thanks to the felling of a Holm Oak, which might explain its early blossom.

I can recall seeing a Hummingbird Hawk Moth visiting a Daffodil bloom outside the castle at this time of year. Indeed, these mesmerising moths are believed to have over-wintered as adults, as can Peacock, Red Admiral and Small Tortoiseshell butterflies.

Said insects might emerge early, whilst both Smooth Newts and Adders may emerge from their winter hibernaculum. The former can leave their land-based winter quarters and return to the ponds whilst, the latter emerge from the rock face above Tilly Whim steps on sunny days. It can be a good time to see returning Guillemots and Razorbills from the sea cliffs, whilst a keener eye will be needed to see passing Brent Geese, Red-throated Divers and Scoter.

Already this year we have had a Gannet again choosing to spend time at the foot of the sea cliffs rather than being brought in by the storms. A sharp eye may see a bounding Weasel or footprints showing the night-time activity of Roe Deer.

Our event highlight for the month must be "Kali - The Story of the World's Wildest Goddess." Emily Hennessey will tell this extraordinary and exciting

tale from Hindu mythology to the accompaniment of the exquisite sitar playing of Sheema Mukherjee.

Learn about the adventures, journeys and battles that this shape shifting Goddess's that ultimately slays demons to save the world from their evil grip. Alternatively, or additionally, you may wish to attend this month's Stargazing evening which hopes to bring views of the Moon, Mars, Star clusters, Galaxies, Orion Nebula and Winter Constellations. Durlston's own Miracle of Migration Exhibition appears in the gallery during this month.

We have plenty of activities for families during half term. Something that is open to all, aged over six years, is our 'Introduction to Orienteering'. Exercise your mind by reading maps to establish which route you will take then exercise your body by walking or running to find control points!

We also have an Art Workshop for Drawing in Pen and Ink, whilst more specifically for youngsters there's our 'Clay Creatures' event. Kids can pop in and get creative during our Wild Wednesday drop in session.

Our guided walks include an opportunity to discover the stories written in Durlston's Rocks and of course, there is the popular Purbeck Footprints Wildlife Photography Walk. Not forgetting the Pleasure Grounds Tour which looks at the past, present and future of Durlston's Coastal Woodland! It's all going on at Durlston.....

For more details of the above and booking, please pick up a leaflet or visit: www.durlston.co.uk/events/asp



Are you celebrating a birthday soon?

Choose us as your Facebook Birthday Fundraiser!

You can choose a cause for your Facebook friends to donate towards and we would love for Margaret Green Animal Rescue to be yours.



If you would like help setting up your fundraiser just get in touch: comms@mgar.org.uk

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Become A Birthday Fundraiser!

Social media is a big part of everyday life, love it or hate it but it can be used as a great tool for raising money for our rescue animals. Did you know instead of receiving birthday gifts you can set up a birthday fundraiser through Facebook? It's very easy to do as long as you've entered your birth date into your Facebook Profile. Then as your birthday approaches, Facebook will 'ask' you if you'd like to choose a charity to have monetary gifts donated to by your friends and family instead of receiving gifts.

You can set the amount you are hoping to raise for Margaret Green Animal Rescue and this will show on the fundraiser info and on our Facebook page too along with a progress bar to let everyone know how it's going and hopefully encourage more donations.

You can read more about this great way to raise money at <https://www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/news>

Arts & Entertainment



Swanage Blues Festival by Steve Darrington, organiser:

"A wonderful opportunity to enjoy awesome music with friendly people in intimate venues" was how a fan described Swanage Blues Festival. Makes it all worthwhile!

I'm hoping to get out and play some piano myself this time as a treat but all the usuals are back, plus some promoted from Showcase Slots.

Luke Doherty Band recently won the title Best Blues Band in Wales and although he is a young man himself, the rest of his band have extensive experience. You may even recognise bassist Mal Preest from his time with Shakin' Stevens or from appearances in The Bill, BBC EastEnders or The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe!

Another act 'promoted from within', The Tim Staffell / Paul Stewart Band will be appearing too. Tim was the original singer in the pre-Queen power trio Smile with Brian May and Roger Taylor and was actually portrayed in the recent Bohemian Rhapsody movie.

It's good to have some demand again for solo artists such as old friend Steve Brookes, an exceptional singer/guitarist who founded The Jam in 1972 with Paul Weller. Steve and Paul keep in touch and recently duetted at George Ezra's concert featuring Paloma Faith. The eminent broadcaster and singer Paul Jones said of singer/songwriter Mark Harrison: "really excellent... he takes very real things, normal things that happen in life, and he writes about them in a way that makes you think afresh about them."

When Cerys Matthews took over Paul's radio show on BBC2 Mark was booked as a special studio guest.

New venues include The Centre and Salt Pig Too, and we welcome back

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the Greyhound in Corfe Castle, especially for those who like a lunchtime train ride with blues and boogie at the end of it!

Other venues include the Anchor, Black Swan, East Bar, Herston Camping, Isle of Purbeck Golf Club, Red Lion, Sea Breeze, Ship, Swanage Bay View, Tawny's, The Centre, The Legion, White Horse, White Swan and Youth Hostel. Support Wristbands and Programmes are available locally from venues, some retailers, Swanage Information Centre on Shore Road or online at www.swanage-blues.org

Photo credit: Top left: Zoe Schwarz - by Richie Brown Right: Fabulous Duck Brothers - Chris Elliott.



SWANAGE
BLUES FESTIVALS
Every March and October
www.swanage-blues.org

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival Breaks Tradition!



Purbeck Valley Folk Festival has broken with tradition and has put Day Tickets on sale for folk followers as early as January. Packed full of exciting music, the festival has booked over seventy stage acts for the weekend.

Friday's schedule features wild world music from 3 Daft Monkeys and The Eskies, as well as concerts by top BBC 6 Music play-listed folk songwriters Thea Gilmore, John Smith and Grace Petrie.

Excitement is building over the Saturday appearance of the Afro Celt Sound System after their sellout gig at Poole Lighthouse Centre for the Arts in November. Other world music acts, Tashkezar and Ushti Baba bring their dancy middle-eastern vibes to the festival.

Saturday sees the return of the very popular songwriter circle which includes John Bramwell, front person of Mercury Award nominees I Am Kloot, with Thea Gilmore and Squeeze's Chris Difford.

Sunday brings a magnificent all-folky line up with internationally renowned Irish singer Cara Dillon and her full all-star band, Sam Kelly and the Lost Boys (PVFF favourites from 2018), and the return of the legendary Celtic band Flook.

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15-18 AUGUST 2019

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CARA DILLON WITH FULL BAND
CHRIS DIFFORD **THEA GILMORE**
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Purbeck Valley Farm - Corfe Castle, Nr Swanage, Dorset

Surrounded by spectacular views of Corfe Castle and the Purbeck Hills, Purbeck Valley Folk Festival is just as much a feast for the eyes as it is for the ears.

The family-friendly festival takes place on 15-18 August; revellers will be treated a host of other favourite attractions including kids' entertainers, storytellers, craft workshops, music workshops, theatre workshops, barn dances, song sessions, poetry, and open mics.

Earlybird weekend tickets (Thurs-Sun) include free camping and are on sale now at just £115 (youth £55, children age 4-11 £20). www.purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk

Pictured: Cara Dillon

Local Film Shortlisted For National Award

Local film #LifeUnfiltered has been shortlisted for a national Charity Film Award thanks to your votes. Over 40,000 members of the public took part in the public vote and #LifeUnfiltered proved popular, winning a place on the shortlist.

The film was made by local young people, aged from 11 to 24, to raise awareness of mental health. 25 young people were involved in every step of the project – from initial workshops, through to planning and shooting the film itself, editing and promotion. The film launched on World Mental Health Day and has over 12,000 views on Youtube.

One of the young people, Siobhan, told us how she felt on hearing the news: "I am thrilled that so many people voted for our film and I hope that it has helped some people to reach out for the support they really need."

This collaborative project for young people was supported by Healthwatch Dorset, Dorset Mental Health Forum, Dorset Mind, Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust, Poole Youth Forum and Bournemouth University.

The national Charity Film Awards were created to demonstrate that charitable videos can inspire, incite to action, excite and change behaviour. Films through to the shortlist will now be judged by a panel of expert judges who will vote independently, and the winners will be announced at a red-carpet award ceremony in London.

Simon Burton from the National Charity Film Awards explained: "We are



delighted to have brought so much attention to so many outstanding videos and such fantastic causes. To have been shortlisted is a great testament to the enthusiasm of your supporters and the effectiveness of your video."

To watch the film, please go to:

<https://www.charityfilmawards.com/videos/lifeunfiltered-1>

Health & Beauty

Make A Swap When You Next Shop!



Be sugar smart and swap when you shop

Parents are being asked by Public Health Dorset to make a swap when they next shop to help cut down their children's sugar intake.

Children in England are eating an extra 2,800 sugar cubes a year which is more than double the recommended guidelines.

Sugary drinks, confectionery, biscuits, cakes, desserts, higher-sugar breakfast cereal and higher-sugar yoghurts are all contributing to too much sugar in our children's diet.

Making a few simple swaps can make a big difference to the amount of sugar children eat.

Jo Wilson, Public Health Dorset's Head of Programmes said: "In Dorset we have a good record when it comes to healthy weight in children. Based

on the National Childhood Measurement Programme, Poole and Dorset have fewer obese children for both reception and year 6 children than the national average. In Bournemouth the rates are in line with the national average for children in reception and lower than England's average for those in year 6.

"However, we should also remember that too much sugar not only affects healthy weight but can cause painful tooth decay, preventable tooth extractions at hospital and puts children at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes. That's why we're backing the campaign and asking parents to make a swap when they next shop."

Cllr Rebecca Knox, Dorset County Council Leader and Chairman of the Dorset Health and Wellbeing Board said: "We are pleased to be supporting Public Health England's sugar swap campaign. It's important to us that our younger residents have a healthy diet and the best possible start in life."

For some sugar smart alternatives, visit Change4Life's website. Parents can also download an app which has access tips, advice and recipes.

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Apart from being a general dentist, Dr de Waal is also registered as a Specialist Periodontist in the UK, Germany and the USA, with thirty-five years clinical experience in treating periodontal disease problems and, when required, placing dental implants.

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Matron's Round

Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

New Year's Resolutions

Had one too many mince pies over the Christmas period? With the New Year here what resolutions have you made?

Some of the most popular are to:

- **Eat well**
- **Stop drinking**
- **Exercise more**

As well as making you healthier, these are also great ways to keep you away from the Physiotherapy Department! As much as we love to see you all, we are a lot happier when you are fit and well. Not only are you likely to avoid a physio referral, you are also less likely to suffer from illness and disease.

You don't need to go mad with exercise, start with three short sessions a week and build it up from there. Most importantly, find an activity you enjoy such as walking, swimming or dancing. Easing into an activity will help you avoid injury, keep you from getting overwhelmed and allow you to start enjoying exercise.

Setting a goal or enrolling onto an event such as a fun run is a great way to keep focused and for people of all levels and abilities to stay motivated. Remember, don't make the goal too difficult to achieve as this may result in giving up exercise all together.

We are all fortunate enough to live in a beautiful part of the country, with a great choice of activities. Why not try a new activity, or find a club with likeminded people.

If you are struggling to fit time to exercise into your day, think about utilising your commute; walk; run or cycle to work or failing that, go for a walk during your lunch hour.

As always, from the Physiotherapy team at Swanage and Wareham; keep well, stay fit and avoid a trip to see us!

Until next time, take care, Matron Donna



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Community Support Workers Reach Out

A dedicated team of community support workers has been set up to provide short term care to frail and vulnerable people living in the most remote parts of North Dorset.

Dorset HealthCare's new Community Support Worker Service offers care for patients in their own homes in a bid to prevent hospital admission, enable early discharge from hospital, and support people nearing the end of their lives.

As well as carrying out basic nursing care, staff offer help with everything from personal hygiene, food preparation and dressing, to picking up medication and washing clothes. The service operates seven days a week, between 8am and 8pm.

Trust Health and Social Care Coordinator Tessa Bendell helped establish the new service. She said: "We officially launched in December, and it is already having a positive impact on the local population.

"One of the main catalysts behind the idea was giving people the opportunity to die in their own homes with their loved ones, and by providing this short term care, we can also ensure the wishes of patients are respected during the final stages of their lives."

The three teams, consisting of nine staff, work from hubs based at Shaftesbury, Sherborne and Blandford hospitals. Each hub provides a unique support network to the community worker which includes clinicians, physiotherapists, community matrons and nurses, as well as a palliative care specialist.

This will give them access to any advice and support they need with clinicians available round the clock, and enable them to feed back any concerns they may have about a patient.

Austin Fletcher is one of the Community Support Workers based in Shaftesbury. He said: "North Dorset has been crying out for this type of service.

"Given the choice, I think we would all prefer to receive health care



at home rather than go into hospital, and giving people this opportunity means so much to them.

"We can also provide support for families at the most emotional and stressful times if their loved ones are unwell or entering the last stages of their lives."

Access to the Community Support Worker Service is via referral by a health or social care professional, who will assess an individual's needs to ensure it is safe for them to stay at home with support.

Patients are then allocated their own key worker, who will design a care plan tailored to that person's needs.

Sport

Swanage Football Club

We are well into January and we haven't had any games postponed of late due to the dry weather. We are fully aware this can change and as you know it only takes a few days of rain for us to be calling our games off. So, we are pleased to be playing and getting our games done.

Since Christmas the 1st team have had two games defeating Sturminster Newton United at Barnett's Field for their first away win of the season in the Dorset Premier League.

Both sides created chances in a scrappy opening twenty-five minutes with Swans' keeper Beeston producing a good save from the home side's striker when clean through. However, Garan Bennett produced the opening goal on thirty minutes, which proved to be the winner, firing home following a pin point pass from Paul Best. H.T. 0-1.

The second half proved to be very competitive. New signing Elliot Parslow produced a great performance alongside hard-working skipper Paul Best in the centre of midfield. Swans went close to doubling their lead with a long range shot from Best.

The hosts were unlucky not to equalise in the last five minutes with keeper Beeston producing two great saves and several shots being cleared off the line to preserve the three away points for the Swans.

Swans other game was an unfortunate outcome for us as we suffered a defeat at Day's Park against Sherborne Town Reserves also in Dorset Premier League. We produced a poor first half performance and were punished with two first half goals in a three-minute spell from the Zebras.

There was a significant improvement in the second half performance and substitute Jack Watson pulled a goal back on seventy minutes with a neat finish. However, the drama unfolded when Watson received his marching orders for a foul in the box which resulted in a penalty for the visitors, home keeper Beeston was then sin binned for disputing the decision which left substitute and stand in keeper Paul Best to face and save the spot kick. The visitors went close to scoring their third, and Swan's striker Bennett went close for the equaliser.

The Reserves registered their first win of the season when they defeated Boscombe Polonia in Dorset League Division I. Swans went in at the interval all square thanks to a penalty converted by Matt Dunster. H.T. 1-1.

Jack Watson put the Swans ahead with another penalty, then man of the match Sam Willcocks capped a great display with his side's third goal. Although the hosts reduced the arrears the Swans held on for a convincing away win.



In the Reserves other game this year, they were unlucky and suffered a home defeat against Balti Sports Reserves in Dorset League Division I. Swans battled well in the first half against the wind but went a goal down after twenty-five minutes. Sports doubled their lead following a disputed free kick a minute before the interval. H.T. 0-2.

Despite a spirited display from the Swans in the second half, a goal from Chris Lewis and a great chance for Cody Rose-Moore to equalise which the keeper saved, they just failed to gain the point which the display deserved. We have a real feeling that the Reserves have turned the corner and it won't be long before we start climbing up the table.

Mini Kickers continues to go from strength to strength and if you have any little keen players in the 5-8 age range come on down to the hall at Day's Park on a Saturday morning at 09:30.

The first session is a taster so there is no charge and if they feel like they'd like to continue then it's only £2 per week.

The sessions concentrate on the enjoyment of the game and are very relaxed so why not just come along?

COME ON YOU SWANS

John Peacock

Pictured above: The Swans Reserve team.

The Purbeck Gazette - Proudly Supporting The Swans

Swanage Bowls Club Update

During the winter months the Swanage Bowl's Club Committee are busy making arrangements for the coming summer season including organising friendly matches against touring clubs, local league match fixtures, and many internal bowls functions like BBQ's and internal club competitions.

Our Social Secretary, Judy, also keeps our members happy during the closed season with monthly social events at the Beach Gardens Pavilion which normally involve food and drink!

These include innovative events like Name that Tune, Wine Bluff, the Great Swanage Bake Off, Harmony Rocks Choir and Magic Drums. The club have also put on pantomimes on occasions.

So, you can see we have a very active bowls club on and off the green. If you fancy a new challenge why not give bowls a go and join in the fun. First year, new members pay a bargain £67.50 for the season for unlimited bowls, or our Associate members pay just £13pa, plus £4 per night to play on Friday Club Nights.

More details can be found on our website <http://www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk/>

We will be having open days in the spring where you can try bowls. We also offer some free Friday evening bowls to potential members.

More details next month.

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 MAR is noon, 8th FEB

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.

FEBRUARY 2019

Fri 1st					tea and cakes available, all welcome!
19:30	Swanage Photographic Society Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: 'Portraiture' with Steve Olding BA(Hons), ABIPP, ARPS. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841.	Tue 12th			
20:00	Special Consensus Bluegrass Band Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	10:30	The Purbeck Carers Group We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in a private room, Wareham Library. On behalf of everyone you are most welcome. The groups ethos is with friendship and information to support carers with varied speakers to empower your caring role, over a cup of tea. Ffi: Marilyn Butler 01929 553826 or 07785741733		
Sat 2nd		14:00	Purbeck Parkinson's Meetings At All Saints Church, Swanage. Ffi: 01929 425970 or 01929 551962.		
10:00	Swanage Walking Group Meet Spyway car park Langton Matravers for circular walk via Dancing Ledge, Seacombe and Eastington. Return along Priests Way back to Langton. Ffi 01929 439903.	19:30	Entomology Lecture Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. How to own a beautiful garden full of insects and wildlife, speaker Mark Spencer. A Look at How to Make our Gardens into Attractive Wildlife Sanctuaries. Mark has now spent 50 years as an Amateur Entomologist and is our present chair of that section.		
20:00	Gordie Tentrees & Jaxson Haldane Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	Thu 14th			
Sun 3rd		*	Valentines Dinner Package At Knoll House. £109 dinner, bed & breakfast. Ffi 01929 450450		
14:00	Gordie Tentrees & Jaxson Haldane Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	Fri 15th			
15:30	The Other Guys At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.	*	Valentines Dinner Package At Knoll House. £109 dinner, bed & breakfast. Ffi 01929 450450		
Mon 4th		19:30	Swanage Photographic Society Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Anders Round 3 - 'open' and Browne Round 3 - 'Rain' Competitions. Judge: Norman Wiles Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841		
14:30	Swanage Poets Meet at the Art Workshop Commercial Road (nr Chococo). A small, friendly group where we share and discuss our poems. New members welcome. We meet monthly.	20:00	Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlow Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229		
Tue 5th		Sat 16th			
10:30	Creative Writing Workshop At Chococo, Swanage. 8 sessions from this week.	*	Valentines Dinner Package At Knoll House. £109 dinner, bed & breakfast. Ffi 01929 450450		
19:30	Ecology Lecture Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Speaker Isabella Tree. The Knepp project has become a leading light for conservation in the UK, demonstrating how letting nature take the driving seat can restore both the land its wildlife. The story of rewilding Knepp challenges conventional ideas about our past and present landscape and points the way to a wilder richer future – a countryside that benefits farming, nature and us.	*	Valentines Belle Dining Train At Swanage Railway. Booking essential. Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		
Wed 6th		10:00	Swanage Walking Group Meet at Bloxworth Village Hall CP on right before church. Walk via Woodlake, East Bloxworth, to Whitefield. Return via West Morden and Morden Lane. Ffi 01929 450443		
09:45	Swanage Walking Group Meet at Stroud Bridge CP for a flat meandering walk around Lower Hyde, Phillois, Bere and Bloxworth Heaths to Worbarrow Fort. Ffi 01929 422554.	12:00	Wool Parish Council Open Day At The D'Urberville Centre.		
20:00	Geoff Higginbottom Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	14:30	History Lecture Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Trier, an introduction to a German city, speaker Mike Skivington. Mike will be looking at this interesting city from a historic and recently visited point of view.		
Thu 7th		20:00	Soul Cellar At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.		
10:30	T-Pot Friendship Morning At the Rectory Classroom, Church Hill, Swanage. A special welcome to anyone in the community who is facing bereavement, loneliness or is new to the area. No charge, no joining, just drop in, we'd be glad to see you. (parking available in St Mary's Church grounds opposite.).	Sun 17th			
19:15	Swanage Trefoil Meet at Guide HQ Bell St. to celebrate Thinking day new members and visitors welcome contact tel 01929 556374.	*	Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		
Fri 8th		14:00	She'koyah Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229		
10:00	Swanage Town Council Job Fair At Swanage TIC, Shore rd.	15:30	Bandtastik At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.		
14:30	Purbeck Society Talks In the Community room of The Mowlem. A presentation by Toby Hoad on "Sustainable Woodland Management in Purbeck" doors open at 2pm refreshments available.	Mon 18th			
20:00	The Honey Dewdrops Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	*	Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		
Sat 9th		Tue 19th			
10:00	Swanage Town Council Job Fair At Swanage TIC, Shore rd.	*	Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		
10:20	Swanage Walking Group Meet in Bournemouth Square (No.50 bus from Swanage) for a circular walk via Meyrick Park, Pug's Hole and Talbot Heath, returning through Upper Gardens. Ffi 01202 570670	19:30	Ornithology Lecture Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Birds of Poole Harbour including the Reintroduction of the Osprey Project, speaker Paul Moreton supported by Lush, is head of Birds of Poole Harbour.		
14:30	Zoology Lecture Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. The secret life of badgers, speaker Jonathan MacGowan. A look at the habits of these misunderstood omnivores.	Wed 20th			
20:30	Cabaret Night At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.	*	Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		
Sun 10th		09:00	Swanage Walking Group Meet and start from Ballard Stores, North Swanage. Walk the coastal path to Branksome Chine, returning by bus. Ffi 01929 427015.		
14:00	Tobias Ben Jacob & Lucas Drinkwater Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229	14:30	Studland History Group Meets in the Village Hall for a talk by Howard Nichols, "Poole Pottery – Potty About Poole Pots". All welcome. Ffi the secretary 01929 439245.		
17:00	Magna Sinfonia - Best of British At Parkstone Grammar School Sopers Lane Poole BH17 7EP. Dorset's finest amateur orchestra are pleased to present their winter concert featuring works by some of Britain's best composers. Program: Holst A Somerset Rhapsody Vaughan Williams Oboe Concerto Walton Crown Imperial Elgar Enigma Variations Conductor: Kevin Field Soloist: Polly Bartlett Email: info@magnasinfonia.org	19:30	Wareham & District Archaeology & Local History Soc Meetings held at Wareham Town Hall. David Taylor - The Underground Tunnels of Dorchester.		
Mon 11th		Thu 21st			
10:00	Wareham Area Seniors' Forum Meet at Carey Hall, Mistover Rd, Wareham. Subject matter: 'Scams, how do spot one and what can you do about it?' Coffee.	*	Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697		

20:00 **Open Mic Night At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.
 Fri 22nd
 * **Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland** A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697

14:00 **Talk at Corfe Castle Community Library** East Street, Corfe Castle. A talk by Max Beaumont from Duke's Auctioneers about Poole Pottery. Each visitor may bring one item of Poole Pottery along with them. All welcome.

20:00 **Mikey Kenny Live** acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Sat 23rd
 * **Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland** A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697
 * **Murder Mystery Evening At Knoll House.** £30pp, three course dinner. Ffi: 01929 450450.

10:00 **Swanage Walking Group** Meet at Sunnyside Farm car park on South side of Stoborough to Arne road for circular walk along old tramway to Imerys Clay Works at Furzebrook. Thence via Creech and Stoborough Heaths to Stoborough village and return. Ffi 01929 422795.

14:30 **History Lecture** Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Treasures of the North Pennines, speaker Michael Brooke. Part 3 of a series of geological talks on the lake district area.

Sun 24th
 * **Scenic Austrian Winter Wonderland** A Crossways Travel Coach Tour. 8 Day Tour - £849 per person. Ffi: 01305 851697

Tue 26th
 19:30 **Astronomy Lecture** Held at the Bournemouth Natural Science Society, on the outskirts of Bournemouth Town Centre at 38 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Stellar Evolution - the life cycle of a star, speaker Dr Elizabeth Cunningham. Using breathtaking images taken by space telescopes like Hubble, we will illustrate stellar evolution, explain the fate of our Sun and its implications for life in our Solar System. Elizabeth is a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Surrey.

Wed 27th
 10:00 **Swanage Walking Group** Meet at Bere Regis CP for circular walk via Shitterton, Black Hill, Piddle Wood, Throop and Damer Hill and back to Bere. Ffi 01929 422554.

Thu 28th
 20:30 **Swanage Blues At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.
 MARCH

Fri 1st
 14:00 **Swanage Blues At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Sat 2nd
 13:00 **Swanage Blues At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.
 19:30 **Quiz At Corfe Castle Village Hall,** £6 (£4 youngsters), teams up to 6. In support of Purbeck Fairtrade Group. BYOD. Ffi 480007

Sun 3rd
 12:30 **Swanage Blues At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Mon 4th
 14:30 **Swanage Poets** Meet at the Art Workshop Commercial Road (nr Chococo). A small, friendly group where we share and discuss our poems. New members welcome. We meet monthly.

Tue 5th
 19:00 **Wareham Town Council Meeting** In the Town Hall. Public welcome.

Thu 7th
 19:15 **Swanage Trefoil** Meet at Guide HQ Bell St for A.G.M. new members and visitors welcome. contact tel 01929 556374

Fri 8th
 14:30 **Purbeck Society Talks** In the Community room The Mowlem. A presentation by David Gerry "Mr Geard's Victorian Picture Show" using original equipment and 19th century slides. doors open 2pm refreshments available

19:00 **Swanage Pier Quiz Night** At The Conservative Club, Swanage. £5 per person. Call 01929 425806 to book a table.

Sat 9th
 20:00 **Back to the 80s At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Sun 10th
 15:30 **The Poptonics At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Tue 12th
 10:30 **The Purbeck Carers Group** We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in a private room, Wareham Library. On behalf of everyone you are most welcome. The groups ethos is with friendship and information to support carers with varied speakers to empower your caring role, over a cup of tea. Ffi: Marilyn Butler 01929 553826 or 07785741733

14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's Meetings** At All Saints Church, Swanage. Ffi: 01929 425970 or 01929 551962.

Sun 17th
 * **Kingston Maurwood College Open Morning** Pre- register now at kmc.ac.uk/courseinfo/

15:30 **Rockin' the Joint** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.

Wed 20th
 19:30 **Wareham & District Archaeology & Local History Soc** Meetings held at

Wareham Town Hall. Prof. Tim Darvill - Sticks and Stones and broken bones – the first monuments along the north-west Atlantic coastlands.

Thu 21st

20:00 **Open Mic Night At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Sun 24th

15:30 **Mutter Slater Band At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Sun 31st

15:30 **The Blue Cadillacs At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

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 **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

18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm

18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.

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 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.

09.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am

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 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11.30am.

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 **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.

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
- 14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night** (Yr 8+) Till 10
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 8.30pm
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840
- 19.00 **Wareham Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 19.30 **Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.
- 19.30 **Sw & Langton Folk Dance Club** Langton VH. Ffi: 421913
- 19.00 **Belvedere Singers** rehearsal at St Mark's CE VA Primary School, High St, Sw. Parking on-site. Till 9pm. All singers welcome! 423350.
- 20.00 **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
- 14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
- 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 Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm
- 18.00 **Table Tennis** at Harmans Cross Village Hall. All ages & abilities welcome. £2.50 per session. Ffi: 424591
- 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 **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
- 08.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 9.30am.
- 09.00 **Carey Crafters** meet every other Thursday (call to check if it's this Thursday!) at Carey hall, until 12.30pm. No age restriction, all crafts welcome 9we have a wide variety!), £2 charge for coffee & cake. Come share your craft or learn a new one! Always welcoming new members.
- 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 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11am.
- 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)
- 14.00 **Studland Chair-based Exercise** in the Village Hall, Studland. Ffi: Julie on 558139 or email: jbrad@uwclub.net
- 14.15 **Sw Over-60s** Meet in the Rectory Classroom, Swanage, Sw. All Welcome.
- 17.45 **Swanage Youth Club.** Learning Difficulties and disability (age 11-25) night. Till 7.30pm
- 18.00 **Five High Singers**, United Reformed Church Hall, Swanage. 11 - 18 years. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at the Youth Hostel classroom, Cluny Crescent, Swanage, till 9pm.
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 9pm
- 18.30 **Swanage Sea Rowing Club Circuit Training** at Swanage Middle School. Ffi: 07776 201455
- 19.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 8pm. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 19.00 **Purbeck Gateway Club** meets at Wareham Youth Centre until 9pm. Purbeck Gateway is a club for adults with learning difficulties. We meet during term time and have fun! All welcome. Ffi: Lew on 552173. Email: Lewisbell1@aol.com
- 19.15 **Wm Town Band Brass & Woodwind** players welcome. 551478/01202 242147
- 19.30 **Short Mat Bowls** in the Durbeville Hall, Wool. All standards welcome, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 552682
- 19.30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** meet for rehearsals, with conductor Jay Buckle, at St Mary's School, Northbrook Road, Swanage. Sept-May. All welcome. For more information please phone Liz Roberts 01929 481419
- 19.30 **Swanage Youth Club Youth Action** (year 7 - sixth form). Till 9.30pm
- 20.00 **Herston Hall OAP Committee Bingo** Sw
- EVERY FRIDAY**
- 09.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
- 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.
- 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 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.
- 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
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840
- 19.00 **Sw Youth Centre Seniors Club Night** (Yr 9+) Till 9.30pm.
- 19.30 **Short tennis** for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till 9.30pm. £3.
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Live Bands** (as advertised) Till 10pm.
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Late Session** (Yr 9+) till 11.59pm (members free)
- EVERY SATURDAY**
- 08.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 4/5 mile run.
- 09.00 **Sw CC U11 - U15 Practice** till 10.30
- 09.30 **Sw CC U9 & U10 Practice & Kwik Cricket** till 10.30
- 10.00 **Tea, coffee and home-made cakes** in the Parish Hall on Wareham Quay during the Community Market. Til 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.
- 11.00 **Lego and Megablok Mayhem** at Swanage Library, until 12 noon.
- 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.
- 13.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 2.30pm
- 14.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 4.30pm.

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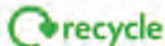
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