

The Purbeck Gazette

May 2019
Issue no. 232

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Introducing...Sir William! Pg 36



IOP Circumnavigation! Pg 18-19



Early Years Of Cliff Rescue Pg 22-23



Purbeck Arts & Crafts Pg 42-48



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Editor's note...



Welcome to the May edition of your Gazette! At the time of going to print, we're set for a hot, sunny Easter weekend, so we're hopeful that visitors will flock to our beautiful isle to enjoy all that Purbeck has to offer!

May is traditionally the 'arts and crafts' month in Purbeck, with the fortnight 'Purbeck Art Weeks' festival taking place this month. Our feature is therefore focused on arts and crafts from Purbeck. Local artists, galleries and producers are advertising their open studios, exhibitions, shows and talents within our hallowed pages, inviting you to pay them a visit.

Do get out and visit some artistic offerings this month - it's good for the soul and that's always worth making time for! A wide range of artistic mediums will be on display and for sale throughout the isle this month, so also the ideal opportunity to do some early birthday or Christmas shopping for that truly unique gift.

As usual, we've fitted as many readers' letters in as revenue allows; giving you a published voice to share your thoughts, opinions and thanks with the wider community.

There's a ton of exciting events coming up over the next few months as we swing into the summer season, so start planning some exciting days out, get tickets for local festivals and look forward to a sun-filled, warm, exciting summer!

Purbeck - where in the world could be better? Nowhere, in our humble opinion. Enjoy May folks!

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The **June 2019** edition has a **deadline** of 8th May, and will be distributed from 27th - 31st May 2019.

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Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - May '19

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

Swanage Town Council Meetings - May 2019

Council; Annual meeting/Mayor election Mon 13th 7pm
Council; final accounts Wed 29th 7pm

Wareham Town Council Meetings - May 2019

Not available at the time of going to press

NEW Dorset Council - replacing/incorporating PDC

No information provided to us for publication with regards to any meetings which the public may attend at our newly-formed 'Dorset Council'.

Suggest smoke signals/screaming into the wind. Possibly.

About Purbeck Media Ltd

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Male Stonechat at Arne, by Denise Exon

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DEADLINE FOR JUNE IS 12 NOON, WED 8th MAY

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.

JUNE edition deadline: noon, WED 8th MAY

Volunteer Of The Year!



Dear Editor,

I thought I would take some time out to send you an email regarding my attendance of the Swanage Annual Parish Assembly on Monday evening, the 11th of March.

Firstly, can I say it was my first ever time in attending such an event, so despite reading through the agenda, I wasn't 100% certain of what would take place, other than the launch/presentation of the new Swanage Town Council Community Awards.

Needless to say, part of the way through the evening's events the town mayor, Mike Bonfield, called out my name, and yes, I was lucky enough to have won an award for "Volunteer of the Year"!

I must say I am really grateful to receive this award and am very thankful to everyone who nominated me, and for the town council to feel I deserve such a prestigious award. I'm truly stoked.

As some of your readers may know, I set up and run a community group on social media for and all about, Swanage.

I started the group back in June 2008 with only a handful of members, and now, over ten years later, the group has around 10,000 members, and this number grows daily.

The group offers people a platform (via social media), a closed area to discuss subjects related to Swanage. This consists of sharing pictures of this lovely town, advertising charity events, and many good old discussions about any concerns in and around the town which people may have.

Overall, I found the evening really interesting, and think I may well attend a few more in the future. It was good to see everyone - and thank you!

Kind regards, Mr Paul Thompson, Swanage Facebook group, by email.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/theswanage/>

Pictured: Mayor Mike Bonfield (aka 'Bonza'), presenting Paul with the award

Organisation Of The Year!

Dear Readers,

Swanage Disabled Club were delighted to receive an award recently from Swanage Community Partnership, nominating us 'Organisation of the Year - 2019'.

We thank everyone involved and much appreciate the recognition for our group of volunteers, plus our drivers and escorts, who so willingly take members to their meetings and regular outings, local residents out for lunch, care home excursions and so on, on our specially adapted buses. Everyone is trained to a high standard of health and safety values.

Busiest of all is 'Eva', which is available to all residents who require a special single wheelchair vehicle with two extra seats for support/carers for hospital/Dr/dental or any other suitable trips for this type of smaller transport. This is not a taxi service and must be pre-booked and is solely run by donations.

We are always in need of extra drivers, someone who has a few hours to spare and could help to share the load with our other drivers. The more we can train up, the lighter the roster for everyone involved, so that we can continue

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this very valuable and much appreciated service to our local community. Thank you once again, Swanage, as we celebrate our tenth anniversary later this year.

Yours sincerely, Daphne Saville, Hon., Sec., Swanage Disabled Club

Young Volunteer Awards

Dear Editor,

On behalf of Wareham Lions Club, I wish to bring to the attention of your readers the achievement of twelve young people from Purbeck who were nominated for our first 'Young Volunteer Award' scheme. They are: Ava Batten, Ellie Woodall, Harry Martin, Joss Knight, Maddie Rose, Maisie Anderson, Megan Mitchell, Millie Woodroff-Evans, Molly Stovold, Ruby Bown, Reese Welsh and Reuben Sanbells.

Wareham Lions Club has been helping residents and organisations in the local community for over forty-five years and through our voluntary work we've heard about young people who also provide help and support in the community in many different ways, be it to family members, neighbours, community and youth groups - the list is long and varied.

We believe it's important for these young people's contributions in Purbeck to be more widely known - and celebrated - and this led to the launch of our Young Volunteer Award scheme.

Nominations were received from teachers, youth and community group leaders and charitable organisations and at the end of March, the volunteers, in the company of family, friends and nominators, received their awards from Martin Steeden, the former coxswain of Swanage lifeboat.

With almost forty years lifeboat service, Martin knows exactly what volunteering is all about and his contribution and engagement with the young people was brilliant. Wareham Youth and Community Centre was the ideal venue to highlight and celebrate another aspect of 'youth work'.

At the end of the evening, Martin presented a shield to Joss Knight from Swanage, who the Lions had selected from the twelve volunteers as their Young Volunteer of the Year.

Ten-year-old Joss is a pupil at St Mark's Primary School and developed and runs an after-school football club for younger pupils. Joss also received £250 for a charity of his choice.

The scheme is open to young people between the ages of ten and seventeen years old and is biennial, so please keep a look out for nomination forms in the autumn of next year.

We know there are more young people in Purbeck whose voluntary work deserves recognition.

Yours sincerely, John Goodwin, President, Wareham Lions Club, Wareham, by email.

From Ludicrous To Farcical

Dear Editor,

Re: The crossing at Wareham railway station: Open letter

In the last few weeks the situation regarding Wareham crossing has degenerated to the point where the decisions being made, and the actions being taken, are bordering on criminal irresponsibility.

The tale of the crossing from the 1970s to the present day would do justice to an episode of 'Yes Minister' or quite possibly a Whitehall Farce.

It began some thirty years ago when Dorset County Council (DCC) agreed to lease the crossing from Network Rail (formerly British Rail) for fifty years and in doing so, assumed responsibility for the crossing at considerable cost to the local tax payer. DCC were apparently unaware of the regulations governing the closure or alteration of a thousand-year-old 'Public Right of Way' (PRoW); so when NR came along and said: 'the crossing is unsafe and we are going to close it and by the way you are going to have to pay for an alternative way to cross the line', DCC simply said: 'ok'.



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LIVE ACTS FOR MAY

Fri	3	8pm	Bayou Secko
Sat	4	8pm	Railway Sleepers
Fri	10	8pm	John Reischman & The Jaybirds
Sat	11	2pm	Taylor Smith & The Roamin' Jasmine
Sun	12	2pm	Schmoozenbergs
Fri	17	8pm	Monkey see Monkey Do
Sun	19	2pm	Frank Burkett Band
Sat	25	8pm	Mountain Firework Company
Sun	26	2pm	Gadjo
Wed	29	8pm	The Murphy Beds
Fri	31	8pm	Alistair Goodwin Band

NR then said: 'Oh, by the way, until you find an alternative, for which you will have to pay, you will have to man this crossing at a cool £1,200,000 over the next ten years because it is 'dangerous'.' DCC simply failed to do their duty and challenge the statement. At this, the people who pay DCC to represent them, said: "Hang on a minute, what's going on? There hasn't been a death or an injury related to the crossing in a hundred years or more; and by the way, it is a public right of way until such time as the DCC provide written evidence that it was removed following the appropriate procedures that apply to the removal of PRoWs."

In 2018, planning permission for the atrocious £2.5M unsightly ramp and bridge was unceremoniously rejected. Since then the crossing has operated much as before, at vast expense to the local tax payers.

The situation has moved from the ludicrous to the farcical, and frankly to the downright dangerous. The crossing is frequently closed due to lack of 'Safety Officers' and this has given rise to people risking life and limb simply to go to the doctors or shops. People have been seen driving mobility buggies over the flyover on an extremely busy road that has no pavement. Elderly, frail and infirm individuals have been seen risking life and limb trying to get across the railway bridge with its very steep stairs. Volunteers are turning up on Sundays to help the elderly and disabled across the line.

The crossing was declared 'unsafe' by Network Rail, endorsed by the Office of Road and Rail, following a theoretical 'risk assessment' that bore no relation to reality. I wonder, therefore, how those decision makers will justify their position should there be an RTA on the flyover with a buggy, or an elderly person slip on the bridge stairs and suffer serious injury? For a start, have they done a risk assessment for the current situation and have they compared it with the risk assessment of the crossing before the introduction of new ugly fencing and so-called safety officers?

It is time this farce ended. There is no reason why NR can't fully automate the crossing. Converting the crossing to a road crossing at a cost of some £2M would be a sensible move as it provides an alternative to the flyover. Currently a major RTA on the flyover would cut all the communities north of the railway line off from the town. It would create a twelve-mile detour for a Sandford resident, or for an emergency vehicle to get to Wareham town centre, or for a Sandford resident stranded in Wareham to get home.

I think it is now time for 'crowd funding' to start and a Judicial Review of the DCC and NR actions to take place.

J.A. Simpson, by email.

Help Gemma Help Others

Dear Gazette,

My name is Gemma Carlyle, I'm sixteen years old and I go The Purbeck School in Wareham. On 19th July of this year I will be travelling to southern Kenya for four weeks with my school to do project work with the local people, making a difference to the communities.

I will be involved in numerous projects involving community development work, environmental projects and wildlife conservation. The core objectives of this expedition are to raise the educational standards of developing communities within the rural district of Kenya. I'm visiting; Savo, to assist in raising the living standards of developing communities there, and I'll assist with ongoing wildlife conservation programmes to preserve biodiversity and protect vulnerable habitats.

On May 5th I am doing a sponsored walk from Corfe to Studland and back (22.5km) to raise money to be able to fund this expedition. In total, the project is £4,950 and I would be incredibly grateful if you could contribute even a small sum of sponsorship. If you would be able to sponsor me then please make contact with me at the following address: Hartland Farmhouse,

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I'm sure you will have seen adverts on the telly about how impoverished the people are in places like Kenya, so by offering sponsorship, you would have the opportunity to make a real-life difference to these real-life people. This expedition is extremely important to me because I feel that I will acquire and develop many important life skills and you would be helping me achieve my dreams and ambitions. Any sponsorship will be gratefully received. Any money that you can offer will go towards the enhancement of these peoples' livelihoods.

As a 'thank you' for the sponsorship, I would love to be able to do a presentation about my experiences in Kenya with photos that I will have taken, to show you the difference that your sponsorship has made to the Kenyan people.

I am really looking forward to meeting all of the people that our project work will help and to see how it benefits their lives. This will definitely be very fulfilling and thoroughly worthwhile.

I would be extremely grateful for any and all contributions you can make towards my fundraising.

Thank you in anticipation, yours sincerely, Gemma Carlyle, by email.

Lewis Manning Supported

Dear Readers,

The Swanage and Studland fundraising group recently organised a lunch on behalf of the Lewis Manning Hospice at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club.

It was a very successful event with seventy-five guests attending and we managed to raise £719 for this important local charity.

Many thanks must go to the Golf Club for its help and for putting on such a delicious meal. Thank you too to all who came to support.

Our next fundraising event is in Studland on Sunday 19th May, when one of our local choirs, Canzonetta, will be putting on a concert in the church of St Nicholas at 3pm, followed by a cream tea in the church hall and grounds.

Yours sincerely, David Dean.

On behalf of the Lewis Manning fundraising group.

Rubbish Before Schools?

Dear Editor,

Has anyone else noticed that Dorset County Council has budgeted more for our street cleaning and waste, than for our schools, in the recent council tax bill?

Many thanks, Melanie Field, Swanage, by email.

Pricing Structure Queried

Dear Readers,

Can anybody explain the pricing structure at the Mowlem Theatre in Swanage? I went to the pictures the other night and I am luckily a concession; this is where the confusion begins.

A concession price is £6.50, the ticket (quite a large one these days), says £6.00, but there is a 50p booking fee, so it becomes £6.50!

If I want to go to a show, the full price is advertised at £14.00, but there is still a 50p booking charge on a cash, face-to-face transaction.

I understand if I book on the phone that there will be a charge, but not on a face-to-face cash transaction! Not sure how legal it is, advertising the price on the billboard and then adding 50p when you come to pay?

Regards, Peter Wakefield, by email.

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Studland Flower Festival



Dear Readers,

I experienced my first ever Studland Flower Festival in 2017, actually my first flower festival ever. I must say I was taken aback by the creations I witnessed. Simply stunning.

With 2019 being the 50th anniversary of this festival, I wanted to encourage people to come and experience the visual spectacular for themselves.

This year's theme is 'A World of Colour', which sparks the imagination immediately. This is a free event and visitors receive a booklet to guide

them through the array of floral displays. Refreshments, lunches, cream teas and lots of cake is also available. Money raised from donations will go to Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and CLIC Sargent, a cancer charity for children and their families.

The festival is held at St. Nicholas Church in Studland between May 24th – May 27th, with an opening service on May 24th at 6:30PM.

I urge people to come and experience the power of flowers.

Yours sincerely, Sharon Westman, Studland, by email

Elected To Serve The People

Dear Readers,

Ok, so put your Brexit persuasion aside. The question on the referendum Ballot Paper was simply: 'Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?' Whether you like it or not, semantics aside, there was a majority who voted to leave the European Union.

Where are we now? We are in a place that our duly elected representatives clearly think they know better. Irrespective of whether you agree with the 'will of the people' in the Brexit context, surely MPs are there to serve the people who elect them?

At the time of writing (14th March) MPs are considering revoking an act of statute that they have all agreed to and voted for. If this isn't a scandalous disregard of democracy, then I don't know what is. Again, put your persuasions aside, think about a future scenario when you are in the majority and your majority wish is ignored by your constitutional representatives. A dangerous precedent.

MPs are our voice. It is apparent they no longer wish to represent their electorate, so the nation is left in the wilderness. British Democracy has its origins in the Magna Carta in 1215, the British Parliament, it appears, should no longer now be categorised as democratic. It begs the question as to whether in the future there is any point in holding elections if they are no longer representative of the majority opinion that put them there in the first place.

Don't forget, both parties were elected on a Brexit manifesto.

I've said previously that I admire (admired?) Mrs May, not great, but appears openly honest and contrary to her own view, has fought to deliver on the Referendum and her election Manifesto. She appears to be trying to honour her position.

Mr Corbyn was personally elected on a Brexit Manifesto, as was his party. However, he appears to be controlled by the historic and outdated mantra that the duty of the opposition is to oppose. Think on this for a moment, the duty of the Opposition is to oppose. Irrespective of the mess the country is in, he feels his essential position is to manipulate the fate of the country to engineer a General Election, which he is most certainly not

favourite to win. His destructive ambition at what cost to the country?

It is an awful shame that since 2011 the Queen can no longer dissolve Parliament and let others try and do a job that the people have asked for.

The point of writing? As someone who believed in this country as a so called 'shining beacon' to the world, I am appalled and disappointed at the circus of self-interest and deceit. How do we hold the undemocratic Parliament to account? At the very least there should be accountability for their actions. At the next General Election maybe, but for now, why not write to your MP and express your disgust at how this has unfolded?

It may not do much, but it will be on record and it may even raise a pang of conscience!

Dave Hill, by email

EU Fishy Facts

Dear Purbeck Gazette,

What is the English Channel cod quota? For 2018-19 it was:

Belgium 74 tonnes, France 1456, Netherlands 43, UK 160.

Low for the UK. Amazing. True. Source: Council Regulation (EU) 2018/120.

But, surprise! Norway has a fisheries partnership agreement with EU.

Here's the 2018-19 quota for Norwegian coastal waters cod sub-areas 1 and 2:

Germany 2780 tonnes, Greece 345, Spain 3101, Ireland 345, France 2552, Portugal 3101, UK 10784.

Who has the largest share? The UK! I went to the European Parliament recently. I picked up a study by the Fisheries (PECH) Committee about new EU rules to stop throwing fish overboard. It's called the Landing Obligation.

It said that "Hugh's Fish Fight" is one of the reasons for the new rules. It said it's not all good news. Whiting in the Irish Sea has fallen 90% since the 1980s.

Fishing industry body Seafish says that North Sea cod was at its lowest ever in 2006. But it has recovered since, thanks to EU efforts. ("The story of North Sea Cod", 3 August 2017, seafish.org).

Fish is a shared resource that moves around. Mackerel, for instance, migrate from near Spain to off northern Norway. Illegal, unlicensed and unreported fish catches from anywhere in the world have been banned in the EU single market since January 2010.

New fishing boats, like the fifty-metre factory trawler designed by the Danish company Knud E Hansen, are one reason why there are fewer small fishing boats.

Before the referendum, I admit I had never heard of EU programmes like the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. To make sure there's fish for everyone, it seems to me to make sense to work together.

Phil Jones, Member, European Movement UK, by email

Wrong All Along?

Measuring Brexit

How will we finally know Brexit's worth?

How will we know it was right?

We're already the 5th richest nation on earth

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That would show Brexit's a boon
Alas they have never ruled that way before
And I fear they won't anytime soon!

P.S. Given that the Brexiteers say that we should not be allowed more votes "until we get it right", how come Theresa May has had more than one vote in Parliament - shouldn't she have respected the "democratic will" of the first vote?!

Martin Hobdell, Swanage, by email

'Without Let Or Hindrance'

Dear Editor,

I have to commend Michael Lock's astute observations (Gazette letters, April) reflecting my beliefs regarding David Leadbetter's questionable 'statistics' - very well put.

As for another letter in the same edition of the Gazette from Beryl Hopkins, I do not know the age of the good lady but I have to say that over fifty years ago (long before the UK entered the EU) I toured Belgium, Germany, Italy and Austria, passing each border freely 'without let or hindrance' on a (much-loved) blue passport, I hasten to add.

I am somewhat confused as to how Beryl perceives that by leaving the EU, we UK nationals would not have the same freedom of movement within Europe - or any other continent.

I look forward to her rationale as to support such equally dubious assertions otherwise.

Richard Ingall, Shore Road, Swanage, by email

Process Of Evolution

Dear Editor,

There are a number of very good reasons why a fresh referendum should take place on our membership of the European Union.

The most important is that so much more is now known three years after the last one was held, including the damaging effects on our economy that any form of Brexit will have. In these circumstances, how can it be wrong to hold another vote now, but right in 2016 when few had any idea what they were voting for, apart from the principle of leaving or remaining?

The May government is presiding over a shambles because the Brexit promises made in 2016 have all proved undeliverable.

'Taking back control' has resulted in a complete loss of control for the government, with May having to beg for extensions to the Article 50 process as the rest of Europe (and the world) looks on in bemusement. Having a sovereign parliament was another Brexit promise, yet when parliament tries to take control, neither the government nor the Brexit supporters like it.

Those who voted leave because they wanted to see a reduction in immigration will also be disappointed. Our economy depends on a relatively high level of immigration, with hundreds of thousands of job vacancies to be filled. If 'Freedom of Movement' is ended, it will simply mean that European workers are replaced by people coming from non-EU countries, which is already happening, according to the latest immigration figures.

It was never made clear during the 2016 referendum campaign that leaving the customs union would create a hard border along the island of Ireland, resulting in the Good Friday Peace Agreement being put in jeopardy.

That is why any Brexit deal should involve staying in the Customs Union and needs to go back to the people for confirmation. Northern Ireland, it should be remembered, voted to remain in the EU.

No one who voted in 2016 voted for the situation we are now in and it is therefore only right that a confirmatory vote should be held, with the option of remaining in the EU. Democracy is not a one-off fixed event

in time, but a continuous process of evolution where the public must be consulted, particularly in the current circumstances of political deadlock and mayhem.

There is evidence that at least a few people have changed their minds and that some who did not vote in 2016 would do so now. Six million signatures calling for Article 50 to be revoked and one million demonstrators on the 'People's Vote' march in London are evidence of democracy in action.

Even more important are the large number of young people who have become eligible to vote since 2016.

The future of our country is theirs and their voice must be heard.

Yours sincerely, David Leadbetter, Swanage, by email.

Swanage Bandstand Update

Dear Readers,

Friends of Swanage Bandstand can now confirm that the contract has been awarded for the restoration of Swanage Bandstand.

The work is to be undertaken by the firm 'Lost Art', which is good news as this firm has a wonderful reputation for restoration work on other bandstands, the latest being Leamington Spa, which is now looking fantastic.

The groundwork has been awarded to J.F.Y. Construction Ltd, Dorchester.

The total cost (we think) is £207,000, which will include all pathways and surrounding surfaces, which gives us the higher figure. As a result, the council have raised their contribution from £50,000 to £80,000.

F.O.S.B. Have raised £81,000 and we have had a donation of £40,000 from the Coastal Revival Fund, giving us a total of £201,000, so we're not far short.

F.O.S.B. will keep raising funds for a few more months so we have funds to help after completion with bookings etc. The work should be started late April-early May.

The last concert for fundraising is on 4th May at Emmanuel Church in Swanage. It will be one not to miss.

Thank you all for your help, you've been amazing.

Alan Houghton, by email.

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Supporting Victims Of Idai

Dear Readers,

Cyclone Idai

Through the medium of the Purbeck Gazette, I would like to thank our very generous public in Swanage for their donations to our recent street collection for the victims of Cyclone Idai.

Thanks to the generosity of all who donated to our street collection over three days, we were able to send the sum of £1,250 to ShelterBox, who are already assisting the victims of this horrendous disaster in Africa. We are very grateful for everyone's generosity and wish to make public our thanks to all who donated.

Yours faithfully, David Chalcraft, Chairman, the International and Foundation Committee, the Rotary Club of Swanage and Purbeck.

Asian Hornet Warning

Dear readers,

Here's an update on a previous letter, regarding a possible influx of the Asian hornet this summer. New sightings on the south coastline of the UK suggest the queens are crossing the channel with the aid of warm, southerly winds. Dorset, with its rural habitat, is similar to northern France, where there have been five fatalities post-sting.

If you're stung by a suspected Asian hornet, please seek immediate medical attention for a (possible) adrenaline injection to alleviate anaphylactic shock – no time to lose! Asian hornets resemble a larger, darker coloured English summer wasp (they're also significantly larger than our native hornet). They can reach around 2.5cm long, although the queens are probably somewhat bigger.

Environmentally, they pose a serious threat as they predate on our honey bees and probably other pollinators, by staking-out their hives and nests, like stealth bombers.

Brutal insectile intelligence greatly troubled Charles Darwin when considering the existence of a divine God of all creation, when wasps divided from bees in the course of evolution around two million years ago, namely the Amazonian Tarantula Hawk Wasp (really!). Check it out on Google, but preferably before your dinner!

Please do not be overly alarmed, however, informed is forearmed!

Yours sincerely, MJK Hamilton, by hand

Responsibility And Gravity?

Dear Editor,

I was sorry to read of the decision to replace the Swanage Carnival Queen and Princesses with Carnival Ambassadors. It seems a shame to substitute something that has been a source of enjoyment for local girls, at carnivals all over Dorset, for many years, with something that has such an air of responsibility and gravity.

Nevertheless, the Carnival Committee have made their decision, and the successful candidates will be appointed on 26th April. Surprisingly, for a role that requires "representing Swanage Carnival" and "supporting the Carnival Committee", the outcome will be decided by a raffle. This makes a mockery of the term "ambassador", as no effort seems to be being made to find out about the personalities of the young hopefuls.

I do hope these new roles are not the result of political correctness,

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especially as the random nature of the selection process could so easily return three ambassadors of the same gender. Thank goodness Wareham Carnival is carrying on with the tradition of a Queen and Princesses, and is embracing equality, not by abandoning this custom, but by including Princes in the line-up. Long may it continue to do so.

Yours faithfully, Mrs J Wellstead, by email.

Mrs Buckle - A Legend

Dear Nico,

Legend

If a letter from someone better informed than I (and there are many) reaches you congratulating Jay Buckle on her final concert conducting the Purbeck Arts Choir and Orchestra and Purbeck Youth Choir, please feel entirely free to bin this one.

But as I was aware that Mrs Buckle's musical farewell was taking place just before the Gazette's May edition was to go to press, it appeared just possible that the event might go unrecorded. That would have been regretted by many more than me.

As a music loving member of the public, I have become aware over the years of the tremendous contribution Jay Buckle has made, and no doubt will continue to make, to the artistic and social life of Purbeck and beyond.

Just how appreciated this contribution has been was evident at the Parish Church on 6th April when every seat was taken (and it is a very capacious building) for a fund-raising concert of English music which was to mark Mrs Buckle's final appearance on the conductor's podium of that choir and orchestra – a position she has held for twenty-two remarkable, dynamic and fruitful years.

The response by the hundreds present to a varied and involving programme, which ran from Vaughn Williams to the Beatles, to locally based composers and arrangers, was warm and intense – and loud. And joyful. The musical participants' ages (to my eye) ran from seven or eight-year olds in the junior choir (marvellous on the Beatles selection) to members of the orchestra and choir – some of whose bus passes might have had even more wear than mine. Everyone present, one felt, orchestra, choirs and audience alike, were responding with palpable affection and gratitude to the mercurial woman on the conductor's plinth at the end of what will certainly be a cherished era.

As mentioned before, this was a fund-raising concert. The evening's printed programme recorded the dozens and dozens of charities which have benefitted over the years from the musical work of this leader and her musical colleagues. From victims of Spinal Muscular Atrophy to the RNLI, from Heroes Haven to the British Red Cross, from Swanage Dementia Friendly to the NSPCC, from the Skate Park to the Disaster Emergency Fund for Tsunami Relief.

On this special evening one of the two beneficiaries was a charity especially close to Mrs Buckle's heart, the highly innovative and appreciated Purbeck Instrument Loan Scheme. 'This scheme has, since 2000, made musical instruments available to pupils across Purbeck at low cost and particularly supports pupils who learn 'endangered' instruments such as viola, cello, double bass, bassoon, French horn and trombone.'

Following years of the heartless and short-sighted downgrading of publicly-funded music education for the young, what better way for all those present to mark the end of twenty-two wonderful years than to make a contribution to this marvellous charity?

(And the fund is still open, folks!)

David Holman, Swanage, by email

Herston Hall's New Future

Dear Readers,

Following on from a comment made by David Hollister concerning Herston Hall in last month's 'Telling it like it is' column, where David was listing examples of those in our community who 'got on with things':

Herston Hall was indeed tired and run down when the previous committee took it over, and after years of dedication and hard work by the committee, enough money was raised to update the hall by fitting a new kitchen with non-slip flooring, installing new gas central heating, fitting laminate flooring throughout the main hall, purchasing new tables and chairs and landscaping the garden.

The hall was then handed-over to the Purbeck Development Trust, with around £14,000 in the bank put aside to cover any major repair work and to keep the hall open for the people of Herston to use and enjoy, including local clubs, children's parties, meetings and other activities - which is what the hall was intended for.

Richard Claxton, Ex-Herston Hall Management Committee, by email.

Debtors In The Stocks...

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on your excellent piece in the Business Section of the April edition. I refer of course to 'Local Bad Debtors To Be Publicised in 2019'.

I laughed out loud wondering how many readers would be sweating in horror or cheering with delight before they realised that this was just another of the Gazette's legendary April Fools spoofs.

However, it occurred to me on reflection that there was a more serious side to this thorny issue. Having spent many years prior to retirement dealing with the payment of invoices (the last seven of which were at the Purbeck Gazette), I know only too well what a problem late payers, or worse still (on thankfully few occasions) non-payers can cause the cash flow of a business.

Fortunately, in most cases, late payment is a result of an overlooked or mislaid invoice and a gentle reminder will normally illicit a prompt response. The difficulty arises when, despite numerous statements and phone calls, the debt remains outstanding. What do you do if non-payment is because the debtor is, in turn, waiting for someone to pay them? You can sympathise, even empathise, but in the end, it doesn't solve your own problem.

Every now and then there is talk of new legislation to penalise persistent late payers, but as yet, no credible solutions seem to have been forthcoming. Governments spend an awful lot of time worrying about GDP growth, and I can't help thinking that if some change in the law could reduce all the hours businesses are currently forced to spend dealing with late payments, these could be used for more constructive activities, which might just help improve the nation's productivity.

Just a thought.

Kind regards, Joy, by email

Breakdown Of Information

Dear Readers,

Ref: Pedestrian Rail Crossing closure; danger on Wareham flyover.

In sympathy with Debbi Davis's letter (April edition) with reference to the pedestrian crossing at Wareham Station erratic closures, causing distress, much inconvenience and disruption to walkers and cyclists attempting to cross the level crossing, with unexpected closures throughout the past two months. This has been a nightmare as I have had many accounts of this situation, when the resulting hardship and danger to folk attempting to cross the flyover which is, she says, 100s of times more dangerous than the level crossing, with 15000 vehicles using this A351 road daily!

I have given buggy users my personal telephone number to contact me, or the Cycle Shop to help them cross. There has been a breakdown of adequate information from Dorset County Council to which I have tried, time and again, to take them to task over this closure.... I am angry and frustrated that the Council failed to insist, as a priority, the Gatekeeper Contractor STM be obliged, as per their contract, to provide the necessary staff during this time.

I questioned this in March to the DCC who replied, that due the incident in January, staff shortages and training of new staff, involving Network Rail, took STM longer than expected. No consolation for stranded buggy users and cyclists with nowhere to go in the meantime! I am informed that a new cabin for STM will be provided by the new Dorset Council (DC), within a month of this letter; with a one-day closure? I have insisted that

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a week's notice be given, when this is to be installed. A proposal by DC for an alternative, not instead of, cycleway/footpath along by the flyover, with suitable barriers to protect walkers and cyclists, is being designed to enable, with an 8-foot-wide path, vulnerable pedestrians, buggy users, pushchairs and cyclists access the Wareham town amenities with dignity and independence. When? Maybe in two-three years' time, I'm informed.

Kind Regards - Beryl Ezzard, Councillor for Wareham - Shadow Dorset Council

East Holme Flower Festival

Dear Readers,

The time of year is upon us when we will be holding our annual Flower Festival on May 27th, in the grounds of St John's the Evangelist Church at East Holme. The church will be decorated with floral displays and outside there will be a book stall, raffle, tombola, plant stall, games for the children and refreshments. The gates open at 10am and it's free entry!

Kind regards, Jonathan Moulton, by email

Where Is The 'Rule Of Law'?

Dear Readers,

What's happening to this country? I've always believed in the rule of just law, I've always believed in democracy! Why? When politicians show us democracy doesn't apply if it doesn't suit them, for whatever reason the majority are being ignored!!

Rule of law to protect the 'majority' - this seems to have been ignored this Easter Bank Holiday weekend! The majority, possibly thousands of people in this lovely Isle of Purbeck, holiday makers and others much further afield, are all so aware the rule of law does not apply to them when a minority can ignore, flout the law and thumb their noses at the law.

So many people that have been affected by an 'illegal' rave held in some private fields, which were taken over by a mindless, couldn't-care-less-about-anyone-around-them bunch of ***** (can't think or use an appropriate name for them do you can insert your own!).

The noise levels would have had any pub/club shut down. We actually felt sick with the throbbing bass noise. Heaven only knows what people living closer must have felt.

Despite numerous calls to the police (supposedly upholders of the law!) by myself alone and I know lots of others also, despite re-assurances: 'yes it's been shut down'....platitudes, just platitudes...so it went on and continued to upset 'the majority'.

Why - have the police lost their powers, can they do nothing? Why do we pay exorbitant council taxes? I personally was assured "we will be attending in numbers tonight to shut it down." Obviously, platitudes again to shut us up.

If members of the public tried to enforce their will to shut this abhorrence up, they probably would have been arrested. If I caused a disturbance and wouldn't stop, I would be arrested, so why has nothing been done?

The rule of law for the moment has ended in favour of the minority! What is happening to this fair country of ours? I could rant on indefinitely, but anger and disappointment will seek a private place to scream so as not to offend anyone!

It's now 10pm on Sunday 21st April, the noise level has reduced but will inevitably increase as it has before....Why was it not shut down if it is illegal? I would really appreciate an answer from the people in the position of power so the majority might, just might, have some belief restored!

Mr ANGRY from Ridge.

Community Matters

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Less Is More?

by David Hollister

As the local election looms, it is interesting to see such a diversity of candidates, both political and non-political. I have long since believed that party politics have no place whatsoever in local government and wonder why it is that candidates have to bedeck themselves with different coloured rosettes. Most of the councillors on our local parish councils have been doing grand jobs with little or no direction from Westminster. Let's hope that the new bunch keeps up the good work.

Attending a 'hustings' meeting in Swanage recently, I was heartened to see so many members of the public there asking questions of the candidates. Some of said candidates were already well-experienced and some of them less so, but their enthusiasm came through in most cases.

When asked how many of the new candidates had actually attended town council meetings, I suppose my overall feeling was one of disappointment; had I been standing, I would have made a point of attending at least the main monthly meetings for the preceding twelve months in order to gain some sort of an idea as to what might be expected of me, and as to how and why certain procedures applied.

It was also clear from some of the candidates' expressed wishes for certain things to be done, that they were unaware that the existing council had already done them, or were in the process of carrying them out. So, message to whoever ends up being elected – please make a point of reading all minutes, including all sub-committees – before you take office. That way, time will be saved and in some cases, there will be a lot less egggy faces.

Various comments on Facebook and in the press have referred to giving the main parties 'bloody noses' by voting their candidates out. I beg you please, don't throw babies out with bathwater; vote for the candidates who have the most to offer YOUR PARISH regardless of political preference – either yours or theirs.

Don't lose sight of the fact that Parish Councils have a limited scope of responsibility and that whilst they will do their best to run the recreation grounds, parks, public conveniences and beaches, they have no actual control whatsoever over potholes, parking, plastic pollution, council housing or any aspects of the NHS; all these are controlled from way above Parish Councillors' pay grade!

Plaudits due to Wessex Water for actually finishing the annoying road works between Stoborough and Norden on time. Six months of delays, frustration, missed appointments and missed trains, especially when traffic lights malfunctioned. But did you notice that at most times, those lights were manned by a Person who used his Common Sense to keep the queues to a minimum rather than a computer to jam and leave all lights on red?! So, congratulations, Wessex Water, well done. Dorset Highways could learn a lot from you!

In an effort to further reduce its expenditure by £900,000 per year, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service has cut twenty operational posts (that's firefighters). I wonder how many we'll lose here in Purbeck? Their area service manager is quoted as saying that this will have no detrimental impact on available appliances or response times.

On the basis therefore of less being more, maybe they should get rid of all the firefighters and replace them with one man and his dog, who could run from fire to fire and put them out by cocking his leg.... (the dog, that is)?

Then of course we are also being asked to believe that less is more when it comes to the NHS and local hospital services. Clearly the less hospital beds we have, and the further away from Purbeck they are situated, the better off we will be. The CCG aims to reassure people that urgent care services will be available at all three acute hospitals and say that their forthcoming campaign will highlight what will be provided in the 'urgent treatment centre' in the new Bournemouth Hospital.

Nothing they have said so far gives us a clue as to how they can make the ambulance journey from Purbeck to Bournemouth any shorter or quicker than the journey to Poole. Nothing they have said assures us that the 999 service will not be totally jammed, as it has been in the past. Nothing they have said assures us that the impossible access roads or car parking facilities at Bournemouth Hospital will be improved to the point of being usable.

I've said it before and I'll say it again – if I die as a result of not getting to A&E in time to be repaired, I'm going to come back and haunt each and every member of the CCG. I know where they live..... But seriously, I hope that someone running the campaign is geared up to keep records of fatalities which could have been prevented, had Poole remained the area's main A & E unit.

Older readers will remember the old Cadburys advert involving getting a quart into a pint pot; doesn't work with chocolate and doesn't work with hospitals either. What we actually need is not the constant stream of meaningless bland assurances from the Establishment, whether it be regarding the NHS, the Fire Service, the Highways department, or any other body set up to 'manage' the facilities and services which so many of us senior residents used to believe were our rights as paid for by our rates and taxes. We need unvarnished truth; however unpalatable it might be.

What great news that the contracts have now been awarded for the restoration of Swanage Bandstand, and that all but a few pounds of the eye-watering costs have now been raised. Many congratulations to Alan Houghton and his team for their untiring efforts. I do hope that once completed, the bandstand will be used regularly and that we can enjoy live music for many years to come.

Time spent in hotel rooms – for me – is generally restricted to unpacking, showering, preparing to go out, coming back, going to bed, waking up, having another shower, and going down to breakfast before checking out. I've stayed in all sorts of hotels around Europe, the US, Turkey and Cyprus. Some have been much pleasanter than others. Some have been much more expensive than others. But the one thing they have in common is that once you've gone to sleep, you may as well be on a park bench.

Great to see the huge success enjoyed by Swanage Railway with their 'Flying Scotsman' weekend and I do hope that those who paid substantial amounts to sit in a carriage drawn by this beautiful and famous engine appreciated the difference between this and the same carriage being drawn by the usual steam engine!

Seriously, many thanks and congratulations to the Swanage Railway people who have made a valuable and substantial contribution to Purbeck's economy.

Keep up the good work!

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Livestock Thefts

Officers investigating the theft of livestock from farm land near Dorchester are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information to come forward.

The incident happened between Friday 22 March 2019 and Monday 8 April 2019 on fields along the A37 near Dorchester where 211 sheep were stolen, which are mainly Suffolk, Texan and cross breeds.

Each sheep is valued at £95, bringing the total loss to over £20,000. The sheep tag numbers involved are 230336 and 341825.

Police Constable Matthew Brennan, of Dorchester police, said: "This theft, as with many crimes in our rural community, has had a big impact on the victim."

"We are carrying out a number of enquiries to find those responsible."

"I am appealing to anyone who has any information about the theft to please contact us."

"We would also urge farmers and members of the rural community to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity they encounter."

"For more information on how to protect your livestock visit www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/rural-crime/."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Dorset Police at www.dorset.police.uk, via email 101@dorset.pnn.police.uk or by calling 101, quoting occurrence number 55190052667.

Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org

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Independent Candidates For Purbeck & Swanage

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Philip Eades - Independent candidate for Dorset County and for Swanage South

I am thrilled that local residents have asked me to stand in this year's local elections in May. I will be truly independent and, if elected, will always vote based solely on what is best for the people of Swanage and not by deferring to any political group or national party policies. Given this year's demise of Purbeck District Council the new Dorset Council will be run solely from Dorchester and Swanage, as the furthest geographical point from there, needs a confident, experienced advocate in order that the needs of the town are not passed by those of Weymouth, Dorchester, Wimborne and other towns in rural Dorset. You can contact me on 07977 117272

Jason Haiselden - Independent candidate for Dorset County (Swanage) & Swanage South

I run my own business in Swanage and also organise the Purbeck Outdoor Weekend which supports many charities and organisations in Swanage and Purbeck. If elected I will represent YOU the people of Swanage in the challenges that face us. We need a strong town council and an even stronger voice to be heard at the new Dorset Council. As an independent I will not be constrained by 'party' politics and will be able to challenge the policies that are hurting the people of Swanage. Housing, Hospitals, Rubbish and Pollution are all issues that need a radical change from the current policies, and we need truly independent people to make that happen.

You can contact me on 07516 950079



Nigel Dragon - Independent candidate for Dorset County (South East Purbeck)

I have been privileged to represent you as an INDEPENDENT on the now disbanded Purbeck District Council for the last 14 years. During that time, I have held various positions including Chair of the Audit and Governance committee and Vice Chair of the Full Council. Independent councillors take their orders from YOU, the people who elected them, not from party leaders. We must be able to challenge central government and not just follow what is imposed on us. We have the chance to transform the new Dorset County council into something that works for YOU.
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SWANAGE ELECTIONS TO DORSET COUNCIL & SWANAGE TOWN COUNCIL

2nd May - Polling 7am - 10pm

Please support your Swanage
Conservative Candidates

DORSET COUNCIL (2 seats):

Gary Suttle
Bill Trite

SWANAGE TOWN COUNCIL (North ward - 6 seats)

Tina Foster Nicola Rogers
Chris Moreton Bill Trite
John Page Mike Whitwam

SWANAGE TOWN COUNCIL (South ward - 6 seats)

John Bishop Gary Suttle
Mike Bonfield Chris Tomes
Caroline Finch Anita Warwick

LOCAL CONSERVATIVES FOR LOCAL ISSUES

Promoted by C.Hobbs on behalf of: J.Bishop, M.Bonfield, C.Finch, C.Foster, C.Moreton,
J.Page, N.Rogers, G.Suttle, C.Tomes, W.Trite, A.Warwick & M.Whitwam, all c/o
Chesil House, Dorset Innovation Park, Winfrith Newburgh, Dorset. DT2 8ZB

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Wareham Area Seniors' Forum May Meeting

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

Popular vocalists - a talk by Hilary Foggo
Audience participation welcome!



Monday 13th May
10am - 12 noon

Coffee & tea, cake on arrival.

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

I hope you didn't get too worried at our last meeting when a speaker from the Dorset County Council (as it was then!) talked about scams. Please remember, you do NOT give out your bank details to anyone!

Also remember to put the 'phone down on cold callers. They can be very persuasive. Please be firm and not your usual lovely, polite selves.

Our next meeting takes place on the 13th May at Carey Hall, Mistover Road, Wareham, from 10am to 12 noon.

We are having a complete contrast. Hilary Foggo of Age UK will be talking about popular vocalists from many eras.

Hilary was the instigator of all Dorset 50+ Forums. She started this approximately twelve years ago when seventeen forums were formed. Unfortunately, due to anno domini and lack of volunteers, only five are still active. However, they are very active. Hilary still keeps an eye on us and is Treasurer of the Association of Dorset 50+ Forums.

Those of you who have heard Hilary speak before, know that you will be in for a very entertaining and informative meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!

Anne Laugharne

Purbeck Mobility

01929 552623

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The Mobility Centre, St Johns Hill, Wareham BH204NB
www.purbeckmobility.com Email shop@purbeckmobility.com

Out Of The Blue



Welcome all to the summer! About time too! The team have been busy of late, with increased patrols around notable areas reported for Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB).
www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/safety-in-your-community/anti-social-behaviour/

In particular, car park patrols have been increased, with officers providing advice on vehicle crime prevention.

www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/home-property-belongings/vehicle-crime-removeitlockit/

Whilst on the subject of vehicles, in particular speeding vehicles; in a recent meeting with the local authority there was a show of interest for the Community Speed Watch (CSW). CSW aims to educate drivers who exceed the speed limit and make communities safer by reducing vehicle speeds, this includes commercial, rental, agricultural and construction vehicles.

The scheme relies on volunteers to assist the police in achieving this aim by monitoring vehicle speeds. Volunteers are trained to use speed monitoring equipment, log details of vehicles and awareness of personal health and safety requirements.

Community members can participate in Community Speed Watch by contacting their local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) to find out if a scheme already exists or initiate the setting up of a new scheme. Alternatively, they can contact us via our online form to register their interest.

www.communityspeedwatch.org/



Partners And Communities Together

Don't forget to visit us on our Facebook page: 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 www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/purbeck/

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

Please come along to our 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

Dorset's Community-Owned Building Supported By National Lottery Community Fund

Dorset Community Action is very pleased to announce that they have been successful in securing £9,590 of grant funding to develop needs led, specialist support for volunteer managers and trustees responsible for Dorset's community owned buildings, which include village halls, community centres and youth clubs.

There are in excess of 200 community buildings in Dorset and over recent years, with changes to funding, legislation and local statutory service provision, DCA has been aware of the increasing pressure and responsibility on volunteer managers and trustees and the limitations of current support services available.

This project aims to put volunteer managers in the lead to identify and consider how their specific support needs can be addressed.

Alex Picot, DCA Chief Executive, said: "Village Halls and community buildings are the life blood of Dorset's communities. They provide essential services and support at the heart of the community where local people can access them.

"This project will help DCA and other support organisations better understand the support volunteer managers need, and to develop a much-needed package of support to preserve (and improve) future access to local community services."

A spring conference will kick off this project, where community building

managers and trustees will be able to;

- access specialist knowledge e.g. on licensing, energy efficiency, marketing etc.
- network with like-minded people
- consider future needs and begin to shape how these can be best met with the aim for DCA to produce a range of resources to meet these needs

Further information about this conference will be made available via DCA's website www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk, DCA's Membership EBulletin and social media. If you are interested and want to find out more, please email: info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk

The official announcement was on Tuesday 12th March on the National Lottery social media channels and local media in this region. Thank you to the Big Lottery Community Fund.

Money raised by National Lottery players is supporting good causes in their community. "Thank you to everyone who plays the National Lottery, we wouldn't be able to do this without you."

National Lottery players raise £30m every week for good causes, funding arts, heritage, sports, voluntary and charity projects around the UK. For more information on good causes in your area go to www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk

Homelessness Funding

Councils will share over £46million to help get people off the streets and into accommodation, Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, has confirmed.

The money forms part of the government's £100million Rough Sleeping Strategy.

www.gov.uk/government/news/james-brokenshire-confirms-funding-to-help-people-off-the-streets

Below are the allocations to councils in Dorset (by area):

DORSET

Bournemouth (£349,250)

Poole/Christchurch/Bournemouth (£183,750)

Weymouth and Portland (£165,926)

Purbeck - NOT INCLUDED ON LIST AS PROVIDED

@29 re-cycle

29 Commercial Road, Swanage. BH19 1DF

We throw HUGE amounts of electrical items away every year.

At @29 re-cycle, we aim to STOP some of this waste!

We test and clean every electrical item and guarantee them for three months, and sell them at roughly 25% of the original price.

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THE LIKULEZI PROJECT (registered charity 12838)

Email: gemmaabru@hotmail.com www.africaaware.net

Please contact the charity directly for further information, or ask us for a leaflet explaining their work

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. 10am - 5pm.

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KING - WAS £14.99, NOW £12

600gm TOWELS
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BATH £5.00
BATH SHEET £7.00



Open 9.30am - 5.30pm, 12/13 The Square, Swanage. BH19 2LJ. Tel: 01929 424791

SWANAGE RAILWAY

Daily operation for the summer season commenced on Friday 22nd March and will run until Sunday 13th October. Steam locomotives operate daily except during the Diesel Gala.

This year's Diesel Gala and Beer Festival – Friday 10th – Sunday 12th May – (with a themed preview day on Thursday 9th May) promises to be an entertaining and exciting diesel gala including services between Swanage and Bridge 4 near Worgret Junction and a heritage rail replacement bus service between Wareham Station and Norden Station.

Themed Preview Day Thursday 9th May featuring both diesel and steam traction.

Friday 10th – Sunday 12th May an intensive timetable from 0900 to 23:00 on Friday and Saturday and from 09:00 to 18:00 on Sunday giving great opportunities to ride behind and photograph all the diesel locos attending. At least 7 diesel locos in action over the Gala including Class 25, 26, 33, 44, 50, 59 and 73 diesel locomotives. See website for up to date guest loco list.

Class 25 Driving Experience on 4th, 5th, 6th and 9th May (advance booking essential).

“Beerex” Evening Trains Friday 10th May and Saturday 11th May.

Dorset Beer Festival at Bankes Arms Corfe Castle with live music.

The Tea Truck at Corfe Castle Station selling tea, coffee and delicious cake.

Trade and Enthusiast Stands at Swanage Station.

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



Facebook Event Page
facebook.com/swanagerailway
 Follow us on Twitter
 @SwanRailway

Diesel Gala & Beer Festival

Intensive Timetable | Food & Drink
Trade Stands | Visiting diesel engines
Evening Services | Merchandise

10th - 12th May 2019

Preview day on 9th May



Visiting locos include:

D7535, D4, 26007

Plus more visitors to be announced!

The home fleet will also be in use.



Dedicated Purbeck Volunteers Honoured

Volunteers from across the district of Purbeck have received thanks and recognition for their hard work at a ceremony hosted by District Council Chairman, Bill Trite.

Seventeen Purbeck towns and villages nominated volunteers who have made an invaluable contribution to the wellbeing of their communities.

The individuals were awarded with certificates at the annual event in Wareham. Since 2009, the event has celebrated the determination displayed by the many people who work tirelessly and selflessly to make our towns and villages better places in which to live.

The ceremony, held on 12 March 2019, was the 11th Purbeck District Volunteers of the Year ceremony; the outstanding achievements of over 150 individuals and groups have been recognised by the District Council during that time.

Councillor Trite, and over fifty guests, heard of the energy, enthusiasm and commitment displayed by the volunteers.

After presenting each volunteer with a scroll to mark his or her achievement, Councillor Trite told them: "Sure enough, it's been another year during which volunteering has become yet more important for keeping the fabric of our society together, for helping those in greatest need, and for maintaining the quality of local life. It's my privilege to thank you for what you do in Purbeck, and through you to thank all Purbeck volunteers whom you are, in effect, representing. You're the deserving tip of what is - thankfully - a proverbial iceberg. Thank you for the difference you make."

"Estimates I've found for the total value of volunteering in England vary between £23bn and £46bn. That's a big variance, but even if the lowest estimate were the reality, it's still a huge figure which wouldn't be

made up by any other means. The highest rate of volunteering in England is to be found in the south-west."

Councillor Trite concluded: "Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves. The ultimate test of character is what you are willing to do for those who can never be of any possible use to you."

Seventeen parishes and towns across the District nominated 'Volunteers of the Year' for 2018.

The Volunteers of the Year:

Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle – Eve Badcock

Arne – Mr John Burgess

Bere Regis – Pat Wharf

Chaldon Herring – Jeremy Selfe

East Lulworth – Jenny Manuel

East Stoke and East Holme (joint nomination) – Jon Moulton, Joy Allen and Rachel Gamble

Langton Matravers – Marjorie Glasscock

Lytchett Matravers – Linda Perry

Lytchett Minster and Upton – June Richards

Morden – Sarah Bowerman

Studland – Stephen Yeoman

Swanage – Alan Dominy

Wareham – Sue Dean

Wareham St Martin – Paul Eyles

Winfrith Newburgh and East Knighton – Pat Yonwin

Wool – Alan Osgood

Swanage Town Council Community Awards 2019

In light of the impending restructure of local government and the fact that the district council would be holding its last 'Purbeck Town and Parish Volunteer of the Year Awards' in March 2019, Swanage Town Council unanimously agreed in 2018 that it should introduce its own scheme to recognise Swanage's volunteers, and that this recognition should take place at the town's Annual Parish Assembly.

This year a total of sixty-five nominations had been received, and the Community Awards Panel (consisting of two Town Councillors, the President of Swanage and Purbeck Rotary Club, the Rector of Swanage, and an officer of the Town Council) had been set the very difficult task of selecting the winners. There ended up being two winners in the 'Volunteer of the Year' category after deliberations were concluded!

At a presentation at the Parish Assembly at The Centre in Swanage on 11th March 2019, ten of the town's volunteers were presented with an award and scroll by the Mayor of Swanage, to a tumultuous round of applause and words of appreciation:

Those awarded were:

Mike Leach – Green Champion

Ricky King – Sporting Achievement

Carlotta Barrow – Creative Arts Achievement

Sarah Tattersall – Service with a Smile

Maisie Anderson – Young Person of the Year

Swanage Disabled Club – Group/Organisation of the Year

Alan Houghton – Volunteer of the Year

Paul Thompson – Volunteer of the Year

Pauline Werba – Lifetime Achievement Award

Alan Dominy – Purbeck Town and Parish Volunteer of the Year 2019

On behalf of the Town Council, the Mayor of Swanage then gave thanks to all of the town's volunteers for their dedication, energy and enthusiasm. Volunteers are at the heart of our communities and, with ever decreasing government funding for local councils, are crucial to our local towns and villages, and truly make a positive difference from which the whole community benefits.

Attendees commented that the evening had been a very upbeat celebration of all the wonderful people we have in our town.

The Town Council feels that it is important to continue to recognise our volunteers, and the positive and tireless work they undertake in Swanage and across Purbeck, on an annual basis, and as soon as the nomination forms for the 2020 awards are available, they will be widely advertised, online, via social media and in the local press.

Congratulations everyone on your well-deserved awards!

Niki Clark,

Administration and Communications Manager, Swanage Town Council

Care Homes, Trading Standards And Your Consumer Rights

Choosing a care home for yourself or another person is a very important and often emotional decision. Moving to a different care home if the first one isn't right could be a big upheaval, so you need to be confident that you have all the information you need to choose the right home.

You have consumer rights regardless of whether you pay all the costs of your care or whether some or all of the costs are paid for by the local authority or another organisation. Knowing these rights help people make informed decisions when choosing a care home. Your consumer rights can also help ensure you are fairly treated and protected if things go wrong.

The Competition and Markets Authority have recently contacted all care home providers who provide care for older people with advice to help those providers better understand and meet their obligations under consumer law. This advice includes:

Upfront information - providing people with information needed to make informed choices, in the right way and time;

Treating residents fairly - terms and conditions and the way people are treated must be fair;

Quality of service - providing services with reasonable care and skill;

Complaints - any complaints handling procedure should be easy to find and use, be fair and effective.

Further detailed information can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-homes-short-guide-to-consumer-rights-for-residents

Care homes which don't meet their obligations might be in breach of consumer law and could face enforcement action by local Trading Standards Services or the CMA.

If you don't think you are being treated fairly, or think a care home is breaking consumer law, you can contact the Citizens Advice national consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06. As well as giving you advice, the consumer helpline can pass information about complaints on to Trading Standards to investigate.

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PFN TRANSPORT & REMPOSTONE LIVERY

CEASED TRADING ON OCTOBER 17th 2018

FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF OWNER, PETER NEMITZ

I'd like to thank all clients over the years for their business. We worked with many jockeys, horse-lovers and horses, both at the stables and whilst transporting animals all across the country.

I'd also like to thank all those we met and dealt with regularly at the markets.

I was heartened by the numerous messages of condolence following the sad loss of my brother, Peter, and I would like to offer my most sincere thanks to everyone for their support and understanding.

Please take this printed notification as a formal declaration to all past clients and suppliers that PFN Transport and Rempstone Livery ceased trading on 17th October 2018 on a permanent basis.

Other similar businesses run from the same or differing premises, and any businesses offering similar services, have no connection with PFN Transport or Rempstone Livery.

Notification booked for publication by Ingrid Nemitz, sister to Peter Nemitz.





Circumnavigation Of The Isle Of Purbeck & The Declaration Of Independence!

Dear All,

Very many thanks to so many enthusiastic people, full of help and encouragement for us to complete the Isle of Purbeck project over the weekend of 30/31 March. It's taken me till now (a week later!) to recover and catch-up, but I thought it would be useful to highlight positive outcomes for the no-committee, no-budget, low social media notices event (very sparsely organised!).

A weekend of fun and adventure, with opportunities to meet and work with new friends, was held to commemorate the end of Purbeck District Council whilst attempting to raise the profile of the Isle of Purbeck as a whole.

The weekend (which included 'beating the bounds' of the Isle of Purbeck – which was no small task!) was indeed fun and adventurous; I really enjoyed the whole activity – and for me, the Cedar Organics 'Tractor and Trailer ride' through Rempstone Forest and Wytch Farm (following our northern boundary) was my 'No 1' event (pictured, above).

During the weekend, our geographical boundary (as opposed to the newer electoral one) was established and circumnavigated, meaning that this can be used for further 'Beating the Bounds' ceremonies in future years.

The boundary walk was also used to mark the 'Isle of Purbeck Boundary Running Course', which was heroically completed on Sunday 31st March by Culvin Milmer of Swanage Tourist Information Centre (the course was run as an ultra-marathon) in an impressive 11hrs 30mins.

The Dorset County Road Signs department have agreed to erect 'Welcome to the Isle of Purbeck' signs at Holme Bridge and at East Lulworth. I've already paid for this myself but am looking for sponsors (possibly local businesses?) to proudly help cover the costs of officially marking our beautiful isle's boundaries!

A number of white stone markers (marked IOP, with a number), have been placed around the course, with the owner's permission, to define the course for others wishing to walk some or all of it - thanks to Jim and Greeba for painting them.

An Isle of Purbeck Anthem has now been sung on Radio Solent (live!) and BBC South Today as part of the event. It's a truly beautiful song with words written by Pete Sedgewick of our local shanty singing group, KELP! This song has rapidly been accepted as a rightful official anthem for the island, which is just great news and I look forward to you all being able to hear it sung in the near future.

We also held a competition at the Swanage School, where pupils were challenged to design a flag for the Isle of Purbeck. The winning entry was presented 'unofficially', and, just like the anthem, was rapidly accepted as being an emblem of which they can be proud, and one which will identify our great isle long into the future. A massive well done to the pupils of the Swanage School for their input and design skills.

Since the weekend, there have been lots of enquiries for copies of the Purbeck flag or car stickers, so I'm now looking to order more, which can be sold for cash at retail outlets. Again – any local sponsors out there who wish to be involved in this iconic project and help cover the costs of printing, please do get in touch with me – your help will be greatly appreciated.

We have, through a weekend of Purbeckian adventures, managed to raise the profile of the Isle of Purbeck at a time of new council organisations coming into being and a government in crisis, with the Isle of Purbeck Project being the main item on South Today regional news on April 1st, which is great news for all who live and work in Purbeck.

The 'boundary-beating' walking group were able to meet up with Wareham's Mayor and Town Crier on Saturday 30th March, in the middle of Wareham Bridge, to express hopes to maintain friendships and work for mutual benefit going forwards into the future.

I am collecting photos and film of the weekend, which my daughter, Hannah, will collate and make available to the public as soon as possible.

Bournemouth Arts University and Bournemouth/Poole College Media departments have expressed interest in our project, with a view to their students making a promotional film, hopefully starting after Easter.

I will also look to publish a report as a booklet, with illustrations by one of our fabulous local artists, Tony Kerrins. We hope this will soon be available in all reputable bookshops.

My absolute STAR of the weekend goes to Nigel who, whilst heading the Herston flag party on April 1st, collapsed with illness just outside Swanage library. However, after fifteen minutes rest, he re-joined us for the Declaration reading and signing, which was held at Prince Albert Gardens



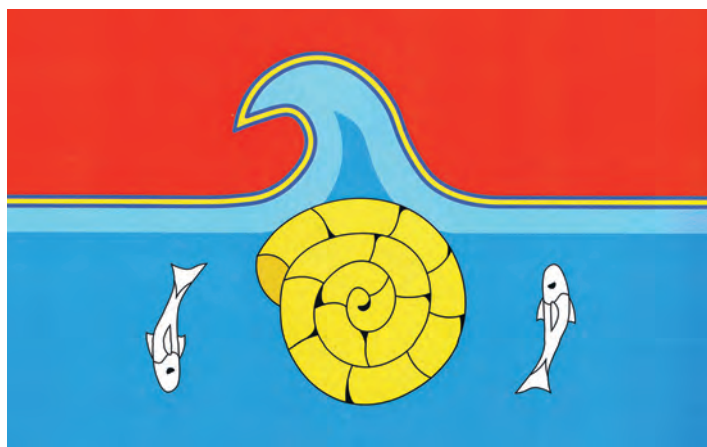


in Swanage (you may have seen it on the news!). Finally, there is general agreement that a group should continue and build on the pledge of the Declaration to care for the Isle of Purbeck in a personally independent way, so if anyone has suggestions, please do contact me. I'd love to hear from you!

We are considering calling ourselves 'The Friends of the Isle of Purbeck' going forwards – seems like a suitable name – watch this space! We're looking forward to more Purbeckian action in the near future – do join us!

Andrew Fleming – Swanage's Town Crier. Contact: 01929 422479.

Pictures: Top opposite page: the boundary beaters are taken along the northern boundary by tractor and trailer, thanks to Andrew and Claire from Cedar Organic (NJ). Bottom opposite page - the team walk towards Ridge (NJ). Top this page, gathering to sign the declaration (A.Wright). Right: The Purbeck Flag. Bottom right: Andrew Fleming, Town Crier (A.Wright). Below: the team aboard Cedar Organic's trailer (NJ). Bottom: Signing the declaration of independence (A.Wright).



Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

May 2009 saw a Dorset County Council worker admonished for breaking parking regulations in Swanage, after an eagle-eyed reader photographed a DCC parking attendant's van parked-up on Swanage seafront, blocking a dropped kerb.



Following publication of the offending vehicle photographed in an inappropriate parking position in our April 2009 edition, a spokesperson for Dorset County Council said: "Civil Enforcement Officers have strict guidelines about where to park and are not allowed to park in contravention of the regulations or where it would inconvenience other road users.

"They are not permitted to park where there is a dropped kerb and the enforcement vehicle shown in the April (09) issue of the Gazette should not have been obstructing access to part of the dropped footway.

"We sincerely regret that this happened and all of our Civil Enforcement Officers will undergo refresher training this month to make sure this doesn't happen again."

So, ten years on and we're obviously hoping that all Civil Enforcement Officers are still fully 'up to spec' on the law. Thankfully, we have you, our readers, with your cameras and smart phones at the ready to capture moments where such vehicles are possibly breaking the law..... you know where to send any resulting images and we'll publish them!

Writer, Suzanne Holiday, penned a report for us after paying a special visit to Portland to catch up with RMS St Helena as she made one of her six-monthly visits to stock-up on provisions destined for the inhabitants of St Helena, a remote island in the South Atlantic with a population of just four thousand. Famed as the residence of Napoleon's exile, St Helena remained accessible only by this fascinating blend of passenger ship and cargo vessel. In 2009, St Helena was one of only fourteen British Overseas Territories.

Suzanne arrived just as the ship was being loaded, with an incredible



manifest which included minibuses, a Rolls Royce, two cats, showers, concrete and much more. Ship's Captain, Rodney Young, explained that the islanders, completely dependent on the ship, spent months flicking through precious copies of the Argos catalogue (lack of broadband!) to place orders in advance for the RMS's next departure from the UK.

At the time of writing in 2009, the future of the ship was hanging in the balance as islanders were waiting to receive a decision from the UK Government with regards to the possibility of an airport being constructed on the island.

The St Helena tourism website currently shows the following update: "In October 2017, the island hosted its first inaugural flight with SA Air link and has commenced commercial services occurring every Saturday from Johannesburg. The RMS St Helena has now been decommissioned and will



no longer be running a service to St Helena. The island bid farewell to her on Friday, 9 February 2018, she set sail on her final voyage to Cape Town on Saturday, 10 February, having served the island for twenty-seven years."

Swanage's National Coastwatch Station's Peter Stevens wrote in to report that watchkeepers had spotted a pod of five to seven dolphins heading in a leisurely fashion between Old Harry and Durlston Head during the second half of March 2009. Recent reports from 2019 suggest that the local visiting pod are back in residence once more, so keep an eye on our seas if you wish to spot this amazing creature off our shores.

Columnist, David Hollister, wrote about an impending increase in the Sandbanks Ferry toll. Until April 2007, the price (for a car) was £2.80 for a single trip over, increasing to £3.00 in April 2007. The suggestion of a 20p increase was described in 'Another Publication' as 'Ferry Toll Price Rise Outrage'.

David ran through what exactly you could purchase back in 2009 for the princely sum of £3.00 - a pack of ten cigarettes, a piece of cod (with no chips) and possibly (just about), a pint of beer. David pointed out that by saving the 12.5 miles by taking the ferry to Bournemouth rather than the road route, the increase in toll was about as far from being an 'outrage' as could be.

Lulworth Rangers updated our readers about the changes in our countryside as the seasons move through April and May, towards summer. The trees are festooned with fresh, green leaves, Bluebells and Ramsons are in flower. Red Campion, Greater Stitchwort and White Hawthorn blossom and take over from the flowering Blackthorn of April.

Cowslips, Dandelions, Horsehoe Vetch and Birds-Foot Trefoil begin to flower, mingling with the mauves and purples of Orchids pushing their way above ground. Get out and about this month and see what you can spot!



PURBECK PIRATE FESTIVAL



**SWANAGE TOWN & COAST, ISLE OF PURBECK, DORSET
SAT 25 - MON 27 MAY 2019**

**SWANAGE & PURBECK ROTARY CLUB SUPPORTING THE PURBECK PIRATE FESTIVAL
WITH EVENTS ON SANDPIT FIELD, SWANAGE**



Re-enactment battles with canon fire!

Beach Skirmishes!

**The Pirate Parade through Swanage town,
Stalls and attractions, Pirate Games, Live Music,
Living History Exhibition at Sandpit Field and so much more!**



**Held in sunny Swanage with stunning views, warm seas and friendly natives,
this event is organised by Swanage & Purbeck Rotary Club in association
with the Purbeck Pirates, raising funds for small, local charities.**



**Run entirely by volunteers, this is a family-friendly
festival which encompasses all things piratical. Join us!**



Dear Readers,

Your Beach Needs You!

Swanage Beach Buddies (SBB), part of Litter-free Purbeck, is growing.

In 2018, our dedicated regular volunteers, family groups from local schools and special beach cleans for school groups turned out to give the Swanage South and Central beaches regular deep cleans to blitz them of

cigarette butts, cans, bits of plastic bottles, fishing line, net and hooks, old shoes, whelk traps and even a 7' long cushion from a yacht cabin.

This careful beach cleaning complements the great work that the Swanage Town Council team does daily to keep the beach clean - a constantly challenging task, especially in the height of the summer season.

Together, we can all keep the beach clean and safe for all as well as inspire others to do the same.

To build our Beach Buddies team for the summer and the rest of the year, we would love to recruit three or four volunteer beach clean leaders and some regular assistant leaders to support them. We're only asking for a commitment of two-four times a year, with full training and support provided.

There will be a meeting for regular volunteers and anyone interested in these new roles at 10am on Saturday 11th May in the Community Room of Swanage Fire Station, Kings Road, to explain more, share ideas and plan.

If you love Swanage beach and can help in this way, please come along but please note that there is no public parking at the Fire Station.

If you can't attend the meeting but would like to know more, please email: swanagebeachbuddies@gmail.com; we'd love to hear from you.

Yours sincerely, Bridget Mayes, Swanage Beach Buddies (part of Litter-free Purbeck)

CALLING ALL RADIO STATION VOLUNTEERS



Purbeck Coast FM is building a volunteer team to support the new community radio station. If you would like to get involved in developing community radio as a presenter, reporter, producer or technician we would love to hear from you.

Please visit the website – www.purbeckcoast.com

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Swanage Auxiliary Coastguard's Development Of Cliff Rescues

by Bill Wilson



Originally the Coastguard Rescue team was needed for the rescue of crews from vessels which had stranded close to shore. The system was known as a Breeches Buoy and needed a large number of people to operate it. It required a rocket, towing a light line, to be fired over the stricken vessel. The vessel's crew then hauled out a pulley block with a long rope tail which could be secured as high as possible in the rigging. The pulley already had a line passing through it, the ends of which were on-shore.

Once this was rigged, the rescue team on-shore could then haul out a much heavier rope to the ship. This was then also secured as high as possible to whatever rigging was available. This rope was used for a large pulley to run along. The ends of the lighter rope were attached to the pulley and operated from the shore. From the pulley a large rigid cork ring, which had built-in a large pair of canvas breeches (trousers), were suspended. Crew members could then be rescued one at a time. Over time, ships became safer, navigation became considerably better and lifeboats became better as well.

In the late 60s an enthusiasm for cliff climbing arose and Anvil Point, near Swanage, was a very popular place. Needless to say, the sport became more popular and sadly resulted in many accidents. It got so busy that it was necessary to fit a telephone to the outside wall of the Lighthouse at Durlston Country Park for callouts. However, skills and equipment were not of the highest standard and there would seem to be at least one incident each weekend. The rescue team from Swanage would often be called out with extremely limited equipment to try to rescue the climber/s involved back then. Obviously, this had to change.

The team at Swanage were trying to adapt and make use of existing equipment. We started to learn about other rescue teams such as Dartmoor Rescue Group, Cornish Mine Rescue and the techniques they were using. Our situation was different from them because we had to be fast and efficient. They didn't have incoming tides like we did, but they could have problems from rain raising underground water levels.

We were the first Coastguard team to join Mountain Rescue and the South West Rescue Association, where we learnt about techniques and equipment. We supplied our own climbing harnesses, carabiners, mountain rescue stretcher and other safety items because, at that time, they were not officially approved for issue by HM Coastguard.

HM Coastguard did supply man-made ropes which were kept in cotton bags. The free end would be secured near to the winch position and then the bag, with the other end of the rope secured inside it, was dropped over the cliff edge. The cliff man could then use this rope to descend to the casualty. Other team members would each use a separate rope bag if they descended as well.

At the time, I owned a Land Rover which was fitted with an engine-driven capstan winch on the front bumper. This was used to haul the rescuer and the casualty back up from the cliff face. This could be a casualty on a stretcher, the cliff man and sometimes a second cliff man, all at once!

Communication was difficult. Radio waves do not really go around corners. The cliff man (the one who went over the edge to the casualty) took a walkie talkie with him but, once he was out of sight, the signal could be

lost. The solution was another man positioned on the edge who had the call sign 'Cliff Top', and he relayed messages between the cliff man and the winch operator. As the winch hauled the main line up, other team members would also keep tension on safety lines, by hand, in case of breakages or emergencies.

The Land Rover would be secured with steel stakes driven in behind it and roped to it. This was because the ground sloped toward the cliff edge and was often wet. The front wheels were also chocked with steel wedges chained to the front bumper.

As the Land Rover tried to move forward it would rise up the chocks and end up trying to pick itself up! In front of the Land Rover would be other stakes which were used to secure the cliff top man and also to secure the safety line that was being hand-hauled as the winch brought the casualty up. Everyone working near the cliff edge wore a harness and all were secured to stakes in a similar manner.

Every member was responsible for his/her own safety BUT they were all expected to watch out for their teammates as well. Not only was there the danger of the cliff edge but the moving ropes were under a lot of tension, the steel stakes could work loose, and other unsecured equipment could get blown around by helicopter down draught.

Helicopters became better and faster. However, they couldn't always be used for the actual rescue because the casualty was under an overhang or there was too much risk of loose stones and debris being blown down onto the casualty and the rescuers. Nevertheless, they did sterling service evacuating casualties very rapidly to Poole or Weymouth hospitals. The injured person could be in Poole hospital within thirty minutes or less.

They would load the casualty in through the side door. If they winched the casualty up, the winch was located above the side door so the casualty could be pulled in easily. On other occasions, if this was not possible, they would get very close to the ground and pick them up from there. When I say very close, I do mean close; one pilot when asked if he would land and pick up a casualty said: 'I am not allowed to land'. He then came down and had one-wheel touching, two not touching because of the slope, and hovered there whilst the casualty was loaded! Incredibly skilled and totally crazy!!

All of these techniques were new to the Coastguard service at the time. Ironically, instructors from the Coastguard College came to Swanage to see how it was being done in order to instruct us on how to do it!

Slowly, over the years, climbers and equipment became better and safer. The number of incidents gradually reduced. The numbers also lessened as they discovered other places to climb. At one time we were handling two casualties or more every week. Apparently, there was a three-year cycle of climbing expertise. The easier climbs were on places like Dartmoor/Exmoor and when the climbers mastered them, they came to sea cliffs like Anvil Point and the Purbeck coast. After that they were off to Scotland!

There is a big difference between Mountain Rescue and Cliff Rescue. Mountain Rescue went up to bring them down, we went down to bring them up!

Pictures provided by Bill & Claudia Wilson, possibly taken by Pete Wakefield, with the exception of those featuring Pete Wakefield!!!



National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

View from the Lookout

When you read this, Easter will have gone and hopefully a lot of you will have enjoyed our tea and cakes at the Lookout over the Easter weekend. These events have become firmly established in the Station calendar. Our next ones will be over the two May Bank Holiday weekends (4th, 5th, 6th May and 25th, 26th and 27th May). If you missed the Easter weekend, come and sample the delicious bakes in May!

One of the first things we do when coming on duty is to take a walk around the Point to check for any fresh cliff erosion or other areas of concern. These are then passed onto the National Marine Operating Centre (NMOCC) when we log on with them. We also check out the gun emplacement adjacent to the lookout. Along with the lookout building and several other structures, sadly now gone, they formed the Swanage Emergency Coastal Battery, in the Second World War.

However, the history of the Peveril Point as a defensive structure goes back much farther. The earliest records go back to the sixteenth century. Peveril was then called Peverish Point, and the records show that there was a gun battery there between 1584 and 1586. They also show that the Elizabethans built a vaulted stone magazine, twelve feet by ten feet, to store powder. As far as we know, no trace of this remains.

In his 1861 history of Dorset, Hutchins talks of a semi-circular battery being there in 1774. The six guns pointed out to sea, along with a stone-built watch-house that was turfed on the outside. There is a lovely picture of the map showing this on the display panels that are in the emplacements and Lookout.

The display boards also show pictures of a gun emplacement on the point in 1874 and members of the local Royal Garrison Artillery Company firing their gun in 1904. The Swanage company were all volunteers and apparently regularly beat other companies in gunnery competitions. By this time the gun was a 5-inch breech loading weapon rather than the more familiar muzzle loading cannons. The remains of this gun mounting can be seen on the north side of the point, just to the left of the Lookout.

During the Second World War two large 4-inch guns were mounted in the surviving gun emplacements, along with a structure to house a large searchlight. This was situated right on the end of the point but sadly became unsafe and was removed in 2012. The back wall can still be seen along with the concrete base, but can only be reached down a rather muddy and slippery path (not recommended!).

Coastal change is an integral part of the charm of Peveril Point and we'd love to add to the story by getting more information and pictures about the area in the past. If you're out for a stroll and have any old photos etc., why not pop into the Lookout and let the watch keepers have a look at them?

If you haven't already had a look the display panels, do have a look at them when you come for walk around the Point.

They make ideal reading as you digest your piece of delicious cake on the Bank Holiday weekends in May!

Business

CHARLES STANLEY

Wealth Managers

Economic Review At The End Of Q1, 2019

Despite the continued uncertainty surrounding Brexit, during the three months to end of March 2019, the FTSE 100 index rose by 8.2%.

In the UK the situation regarding the EU remains unclear and therefore it is difficult to assess the impact on the UK stockmarket in either the short or long term of the eventual chosen course of action. However, with so much uncertainty, it does look like interest rates will remain unchanged this year.

There had been concerns in late 2018 that central banks, particularly the US Federal Reserve, would raise interest rates too aggressively in 2019 and this caused global stockmarkets to fall sharply at the end of 2018. However, during the early part of 2019, central banks seem to have softened their stance.

The US/China trade war continues to be an issue but seems to be close to being resolved. This led to Chinese shares rising in value, but also highlighted the level of bad debt in the Chinese economy.

Shares in emerging markets have improved after a long period of underperformance, but remain volatile. They have benefitted from the more dovish stance of the Federal Reserve as the dollar rally came to a halt and in contrast, domestic currencies became stronger.

Europe is a concern as information from large economies, such as Germany, show a substantial slowdown plus a general weakening of consumer confidence. Some uncertainty has also been caused by the forthcoming European Parliamentary elections and the appointment of a new European Commission later this year.

Our analysts summarised the general global position as follows: 'Although economic growth is expected to slow in most regions, corporate earnings are still expected to grow in the mid-single digits this year. Central bank action is expected to provide support for equity markets, although volatility is expected'.

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

The value of investments can fall as well as rise. Investors may get back less than invested

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Could you be claiming Marriage Allowance?

HMRC has published a press release to remind qualifying couples to claim the Marriage Allowance. The Marriage Allowance allows lower earning couples to share part of their personal tax-free allowance.

The Marriage Allowance is available to married couples and those in a civil partnership where one partner doesn't pay more than the basic 20% rate of Income Tax and the other party does not fully utilise their tax-free Personal Tax Allowance.

The lower earning partner can currently transfer up to £1,190 of their personal tax-free allowance to a spouse or civil partner.

Whilst more than 3.5 million couples have already applied for the allowance, it is estimated that there are still a further 700,000 married and civil partnered couples, who are eligible for the allowance, but have not applied.

If you are eligible and have not yet claimed the allowance you can backdate your claim as far back as 6 April 2015. This could result in a total tax refund of some £900. Qualifying couples have up to four years to claim backdated annual allowances.

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South West Irritated By Nuisance Calls

The most common type of cold call across the south west is of a 'Sales & Marketing' nature, with 39% - the same as across the UK.

Predictably, 82% 'Hang up immediately' after realising it is an unsolicited phone call, compared to 74% in total across the UK.

The most prevalent type of cold call received in the south west is 'Telling you about a product or service' at 41% - a 15% decrease compared to the UK-wide figure.

There's a lot to be argued about in this world, but one thing's for sure - we are all outraged by cold calls. On a daily basis Brits will experience incessant calls from withheld numbers, ones we simply do not recognise, and the persistent caller on the other end of the phone who simply will not take no for an answer.

According to recent reports from The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), more than 104,000 complaints were made about nuisance calls and messages between January and September 2018. Ofcom estimates more than 3.9 billion cold calls and texts were made in Britain alone in 2018.

As a result, Recyclezone.org.uk analysed a customer experience survey conducted by Ofcom* to better understand the extent of the cold call problem and how consumers react.

The survey revealed that despite technological advances only 69% of UK adults use a smartphone, which unsurprisingly is highest among 25-34-year olds (89%).

More interestingly, 16% of those surveyed own a mobile phone without smart features. With only a mere 5% not owning any sort of telecommunications device, it is clear to see how nuisance calls have become such an epidemic across the UK.

Recyclezone can reveal that the most common type of unsolicited call are 'Sales & Marketing calls' with 39% of UK adults having experienced a cold call of this nature. The south west also ranked equally with 39%.

Coming in second is 'Recorded message' across the UK and south west with 24% and 23% respectively. Thereafter, 'Silent calls' is the third most common type of cold call across the UK (22%), whilst the south west received 4% less at 18%. 'Sales & Marketing texts' was the least common type of call received for the south west at 16%, compared to 19% across the UK.

Predictably, a staggering 82% of all those living in the south west who received a recorded message on either their mobile or landline 'Hang up immediately' (compared to 74% across the UK population) - an 8% increase.

It seems less Brits in the south west choose 'Listening to some of the message before hanging up' (10%), whilst for those across the UK more generally, this figure sits at 23%.

Recyclezone can also reveal that the most common intent behind an unsolicited call in the UK is 'Telling you about a product or service' with over half of British adults having received a call of this nature (56%). Interestingly, the south west experience a 15% decrease in the number of nuisance calls which were product or service based (41%).

The second most common intent of a cold call was 'Telling you a company has tried to call you' (33%), compared to 32% across the UK. And 'Reminding you of an appointment' ranked last for the south west with 26% - a 3% rise compared to the UK.

**This survey was updated on the 28th September 2018, surveying UK adults of all demographics and social classes.*

The following questions were analysed: Q.1, Q.6A6B, Q.7Ai7Bi, Q.7Aii7Bii, of which the number of respondents vary per question.

<https://recyclezone.org.uk/>

School Holidays - Child Arrangement Orders Following Divorce and Separation



For many parents, the dilemma of how to keep their children entertained for six weeks is just one of their worries. Following a divorce or separation, there is often the difficult question of who the child is to live with and how they are to spend their time, especially over the school holidays.

For some families, amicable arrangements can be made between themselves with no problems. However, sometimes an agreement is not possible and there is dispute

over the care arrangements.

If there is any disagreement, mediation is usually the first way to attempt to resolve any issues. This involves both parents sitting down and attempting to come to an agreement with the help of a trained mediator.

The majority of cases can be resolved this way but, unfortunately in some cases, a suitable agreement cannot be reached by the parents. An example of this is where a child lives with one parent and they refuse to allow the other to see their child.

When agreement cannot be reached, an application can be made to the court for a Child Arrangements Order. A Child Arrangements Order is an order setting out with whom the child will live and what time they will spend with the other parent. When considering an application, the court's starting point is that it is in the child's best interest to have both parents in their life and that they should spend time with the parent that they do not live with. However, there may be reasons why it is not in the child's best interest for this to happen. The court will weigh up all the information available and decide what is best for the child. The child's welfare is of paramount importance.

Once an order is made by the court, if either parent breaches it they could be fined, ordered to do unpaid work or sent to prison. It is therefore important that both parties fulfil and adhere to the arrangements set out in the order.

Complications can arise when one of the parents wants to take their child on holiday abroad. Parents must obtain the written permission from everyone with parental responsibility for the child before taking him or her abroad. An exception to this is where a Child Arrangements Order is in force and the parent with whom the child lives wants to go abroad for a holiday and the holiday does not exceed 28 days. In that case consent of the other parent is not required. If agreement cannot be reached then an application can be made to the court for a Specific Issue Order, i.e. to determine whether the child can be taken abroad for a holiday.

For the parent who objects to the other taking the child abroad they can make an application to the court for a Prohibited Steps Order, i.e. for an order preventing the other parent taking the child abroad. Unless the court deems there is a safeguarding issue or there is concern that the other parent is intending to permanently remove the child from England, it will likely decide that a holiday is in a child's best interest.

If you have any concerns regarding arrangements for your children, please contact Georgina Bacon on 01305 216224 or georgina.bacon@battens.co.uk who will be happy to advise on any matters.



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Swanage Salesman Sentenced

Swanage Salesman sentenced for misleading a vulnerable consumer

A Swanage man has been sentenced to 200 hours community service and fined £2,085 after attempting to charge an 84-year-old woman an excessive amount for roofing work that was not even needed.

Alan Witchell, 30, pleaded guilty to three offences under the 'Consumer Protection From Unfair Trading Regulations' at a hearing at Bournemouth Crown Court, following an investigation by Dorset County Council trading standards officers.

In 2017, Mr Witchell called at the woman's home, in Puddletown, near Dorchester, initially to inspect some loft insulation that had previously been installed. He then went on to persuade her that she needed to have the outside of her roof cleaned and treated with a protective coating on the basis that the roof was covered in moss and that if the moss froze it would damage the tiles. The total cost was to be £5371.50.

When the victim went to the bank to raise the money for the £1000 deposit the bank intervened and called the police and so no money was lost.

Expert evidence showed that the moss presented no risk to the tiles, the work was unnecessary and a reasonable price for the work was just £1350.00.

Sentencing him, the judge told Mr Witchell that if he had been involved in the organisation of the crime he would have been sent straight to prison. However, the judge accepted that he had been recruited by others, but that Witchell: "must have appreciated [the victim] was going to be fleeced" and so sentenced him to 200 hours of community work over two years.

Richard Herringshaw, principal Trading Standards officer for Dorset County Council, said: "I hope this sentence acts as a deterrent for others. I must thank the victim for agreeing to provide a statement, without which we would not have been able to take this further. The case came to light through our close working relationship with Dorset Police and our continued focus on rogue traders."

Consumers who want to report unfair trading problems to trading standards, or to complain about any goods or services, should contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 04 05 06.

Benefit Advice Sessions

Dorchester - Sessions will operate on the fourth Thursday in each month, between 9am and 12.30 pm at Age UK Dorchester. To make an appointment, please contact Age UK Dorchester on 01305 269444 or at Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester DT1 1PW www.ageuk.org.uk/dorchester. Dates: 23rd May, 27th June

Portland - Easton (an initiative with Island Community Action) - Sessions will operate on the second Tuesday in each month, between 10am and 12.15pm at Island Community Action, and will be by appointment only. To make an appointment, please contact Island Community Action on 01305 823789 or at The Easton Centre, Portland DT5 1EB. office@islandcommunityaction.org.uk Dates: 14th May, 11th June

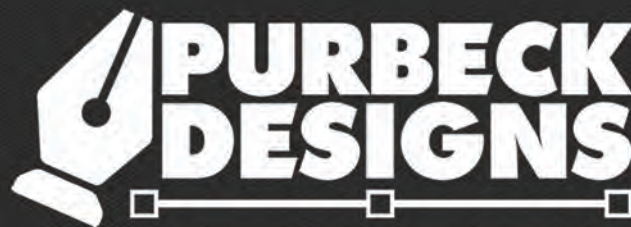
Weymouth - Sessions will operate on the second Thursday in each month, between 9.30am and 11.30am at Weymouth Community Safety Centre (new fire station), Radipole Lane, Weymouth, DT4 0QF, and will be by appointment only. To make an appointment, please contact Age UK Dorchester on 01305 269444. www.ageuk.org.uk/dorchester Dates: 9th May, 13th June.

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South West 'Little To No Disposable Income'

People living in the South West have just £195.09 of disposable income each month, less than £7 a day, and the lowest in the country, a study has found. The recent poll, commissioned by Salary Finance, found that after paying out for their rent and mortgage, utility bills, food and other living expenses, just a small amount of 'spare' cash is left over for the lighter things in life.

In comparison to the nation this means people in the South West are worse off than the national average, which sees people left with £276 of disposable income each month. Of those surveyed living in the South West region, 47% even claim to often have months with absolutely no disposable income whatsoever.

Nearly four in ten feel like they are never going to be earning enough money to give them a decent amount of disposable income. It also emerged that for those who do have some more left at the end of their month, eating out is the most popular way to spend it, along with putting some away towards a holiday and new clothes.

Asesh Sarkar, CEO and co-founder at Salary Finance, the salary linked benefits provider which commissioned the research, said: "For many, the main reason for going to work is to earn a living. But while we want to be able to pay the bills, it would be nice to have at least a little bit left over to spend on some of the lighter things in life. Unfortunately, it seems for many, there is just not enough money to go around and they are left with very little spare cash after paying out for all the essentials.

"This can lead to feelings of stress and even depression concerning financial wellbeing, which can impact people both personally and professionally."

Researchers found that despite having an average monthly income of £1,497.73, the average person from the South West is left with just £195.09 for luxuries after covering their essential bills.

The rent or mortgage takes up the biggest chunk of cash, while food and drink accounts for £206.38 per person each month.

Utility bills take another £195.37 a month, while TV, internet and phone costs add another £54.57 to the total monthly expenditure.

Other direct debits, credit card and loan repayments and even the cost of travelling to work also adds up over the course of a month.

As a result, the average adult in South West estimates they spend just £140.51 a month on items they would describe as luxuries – less than the national average of £201 a month.

Eating out accounts for £41.54 a month, with another £50.21 spent on going out with friends and socialising.

Almost £25.21 a month is also splashed out on sports and hobbies.

For parents, they have even less spare cash with the average mum and dad saying their monthly disposable income dropped by £210.16 after having children.

It also emerged more than 6% would describe their financial situation as poor, while another 34% say they just about make ends meet. 41% admit to having felt envious of friends, relatives and colleagues who seemingly have more disposable income than they do.

But while 46% of people in the South West set a budget to try and make their money last the month, 19% usually fail to stay within their limits, going an average of £87.84 over budget each month. More than 22% of those polled via OnePoll in the South West also admit they would have more money and disposable income if they were better at budgeting and managing their money.

Top 10 things Brits are most likely to spend their disposable income on:

1. Eating out
2. Holidays
3. Clothes
4. Entertainment trips, such as to the cinema
5. A hobby
6. Books
7. Nights out in the pub/clubbing
8. Pets
9. Tech or gadgets
10. Music or gig tickets

Motoring

A Car Test With A Difference!

by David Hollister

This month I thought I'd make a change from testing new cars and offering general motoring comments and share a brilliant recent motoring experience with you.

In May 2018 I told you of a brilliant track day I'd shared with my son, James, at Thruxton, and confidently said 'I'll be back'. Well, at the end of last year we took the Mini out again, this time to Silverstone, had a great time until I put it into the wall, perhaps damaging my confidence more than the Mini! So, when James suggested that we try something a little more adventurous, my first reaction was "are you sure?"

It was a Sunday at the end of March; the Range Rover tow-car had conveniently developed cooling problems and we felt it unwise to break down with such a large car – and trailer – in Europe. So, we piled spare wheels, Snap-On toolkit, suitcases, and everything else we needed into the Mini and pointed it at the Channel Tunnel.

Although it was stripped out with no carpets, no sound deadening, a racing exhaust, racing seats and a full harness, it wasn't actually as difficult or unpleasant a journey as I had imagined it would be. A little hope and a lot of prayer goes a long way.

Eurostar took us to Calais, where we then drove 350km to Spa, the Grand Prix circuit in the Ardennes forest in Belgium. Checked into our countryside hotel where we joined up with our friends Mark and Ali, in their Audi TT, with whom we had decided to do a 'track day'.

On the Monday morning we journeyed the eight miles to the track, where we spent the morning familiarising ourselves with the layout, the facilities, and the excellent restaurant – ready for tomorrow! We'd discovered that the all-up weight actually caused the back wheels to rub on the wheel-arch liners so we simply ripped them out, which cured the problem.....

In the afternoon we wandered around the town of Spa itself; it's beautiful and not unlike Cheltenham, has lots of superb architecture, a funicular railway, and numerous restaurants and bars. Took a lot of photos. Then we set off for a further 100km drive through the countryside, to the famous Nurburgring. Somehow, Mark managed to lose the motorway (!) but that was an amazing piece of luck as we drove most of the way on quiet and smooth 'A' roads, winding through small villages and offering us endless breath-taking views.

The 'Ring' is open to track-day drivers from 5.30pm to 7.30pm only; James and I decided that we'd do one lap each, 12.9 miles of fast straights, blind brows, and 150-odd corners, including the world-famous Karussell banked bend; my dad used to tell me of this corner and it had always been my ambition to drive it. It would take a month or more to learn the track properly, so we both decided 'no heroics', just enjoy the ride and tick it off our 'bucket lists'. An amazing sensation.

Then James – as anticipated – opted to buy a ride with a fully-qualified racing driver, in a McLaren race car. He came back about eight minutes later with a huge smile on his face, which he declared to be well worth the eye-watering cost.

As the sun began to set, the four of us drove sedately back to Spa and the hotel, then took a taxi into town for a much-needed beer or three, and a pizza. By the time we hit the hay, we were exhausted!

Then it was Tuesday and my butterflies were really doing their stuff! We had to be at the track to sign on by 8.30am, which involved getting up at

an unearthly hour and really not wanting any breakfast! Mark had rented us a pit, in case it rained.....! We had a 'familiarisation lap' in a high-speed convoy behind the clerk of the course, so that we could learn where the corners were. Then it was James's turn to drive; five 7km laps at high speed, gradually improving his times as he got the hang of it.

So, the rubber met the road. Couldn't put it off any longer! Donned my crash helmet, tried really hard to forget the wall at Silverstone and also to forget that I was driving our ride home, tried to ignore the BMWs and Porsches coming past at up to 200kmh, just concentrated on keeping it on the island and having a great time.

Took about a lap to realise "I can do this" and albeit not very quickly, I did! Driving the 'Eau Rouge' corner at over 100mph was also on my 'to do before I die' list, so that's another one ticked off.

Another few laps and lunchtime loomed, but unfortunately so did the rain. We had to change the front brake pads, which had got rather hotter than the manufacturer had intended. James waited an hour or so till the track partly dried out and managed some respectable laps; less experienced drivers were going 'off' all over the place.

Towards 4pm it was my turn again, but just as I was about to get into the car, the rain came again and I decided that enough was enough, remembered 'that' wall, remembered that I'm not a very good driver, am unused to front wheel drive anyway, and that at seventy-two, my reactions are too slow to be safe in the wet. Stopped while we were ahead.

That evening, the four of us shared experiences and photos and a super meal at the Radisson Blue, before turning in feeling really satisfied with our two-day experience.

Wednesday morning saw us up with the lark (again) and we drove back to Calais, and then from Folkestone back to Bourne End. We were both so pleased that we'd taken the Mini after all. It's eighteen years old, with over 100,000 miles on the clock, accelerates like a rocket and has a top speed over well over 115mph.

We'd just done about 1000 miles, at least fifty of which were driven in real earnest on racetracks. We lost not a drop of oil, not a puff of water, and the Mini caused us not one moment of undue concern.

Ok, done that. None of the tracks in England are half as scary as Spa or the Nurburgring so – watch this space and bring on Brands Hatch!

Can't wait!

Vintage Motorcycle Club

Dear Readers,

I am the Chairman of the South Dorset Section of The Vintage Motor Cycle Club. Our Section has had difficult times of late and a few dedicated members are trying to revive the club in this area.

To assist us would it be at all possible to put a small piece in the Purbeck Gazette on a date suitable to yourselves. The information you require is as follows:-

The South Dorset Section of The Vintage Motor Cycle Club is undergoing a recruitment drive to attract new members. To that end, there will be an Open Meeting on Thursday 23rd May to be held at The Three Compasses Inn at Charminster, near Dorchester, DT2 9QT, commencing at 8pm.

All motorcyclists will be welcome, all makes and ages of machines can be catered for. There is no need to actually own an old bike, but merely to have an interest in them is sufficient to become a member.

Membership of the club has many benefits and could open up a whole new social scene for you. The Section will have interesting monthly meetings and many riding events.

Come along and see what the club could provide for you, meet old friends and make new ones.

For further details, ring Rod Hann on 01935-872528.



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Local Roads Investment In South West Falling Short

There are signs that an increase in local authority highway maintenance budgets is stemming the decline in the condition of the local road network, but the increased investment is still falling short of the amount needed to maintain local roads to target conditions.

This year's Annual Local Authority Road Maintenance (ALARM) survey, published on March 26 2019 by the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA), reports that, for the second consecutive year, local authorities' highway maintenance budgets have increased by almost 20%. For councils in England and London this included a share of £420 million additional funding allocated in the November 2018 budget.

The 24th ALARM report shows there are early signs that the extra money is halting further decline, after years of underfunding have led to a local road network on the edge. However, the one-time catch-up cost to fix the network continues to rise.

Rick Green, Chairman of the AIA, said: "There are glimmers of hope but, while overall highway maintenance budgets are up, there is still a big discrepancy between the haves and have nots. Some local authorities received the equivalent of more than £90,000 per mile of their individual networks, while a third continue to struggle with reduced budgets, with several having less than £9,000 per mile to maintain their local roads.

"Achieving target conditions on all categories of local roads – those that we all rely on every day – still remains out of reach. To put this into context, if local authorities had enough funds to meet their own targets across all road types it would give us more than 20,000 miles of improved local roads.

"It is encouraging that those in control of the purse strings seem to have recognised the value that additional expenditure on roads can deliver. But it's clear from the 29% increase in the number of potholes filled in England and London, that much of this has been used for patch and mend. This doesn't provide value for money, nor will it improve the underlying structure and resilience of our roads.

KEY FACTS: SOUTH WEST

80% response rate.

£33.5 million per authority – average highway maintenance budget per authority (£31.5 million in England, excluding London).

£10,500 to £23,000 per mile – disparity of highway maintenance funding

per mile of local road network.

13 years – estimated time to clear carriageway maintenance backlog (ten years in England, excluding London).

198,315 – number of potholes filled in the region (1.7 million in England, excluding London).

£974k – total cost of road user compensation claims in the region (£22.5 million in England, excluding London).

Edmund King OBE, AA president, said: "The ALARM survey suggests that the country is beginning to find its way out of the rut. Increased funding and a milder winter presents an opportunity to begin to catch up on the backlog – but any slackening off will simply pitch our roads back into a deep hole. Government figures for road maintenance expenditure show that, while spending on main roads has risen 25% over the past ten years (2007/8 – £1102 mil, 2017/18 – £1378 mil), it has fallen more than 21% on minor roads (2007/8 – £2487 mil, 2017/18 £1953 mil). At street level, as the ALARM survey shows, drivers will be lucky to see many of their local roads resurfaced more than once in their lifetime, thanks to an average interval of 67 years. There is still a lot of work to be done."

Paul Tuohy, Cycling UK Chief Executive, said: "Cyclists, like pedestrians, suffer particularly badly from poor road maintenance, as the outcome is far more likely to involve personal injury. Cycling UK supports the AIA's call of 'don't stop now', as if the Government wants to maximise the benefits of cycling as a clean and healthy day-to-day transport option, it needs not only to increase funding for road maintenance, but also to devote a greater proportion of it towards the local roads or streets where people make their local journeys, to school, to work or the shops."

"With the amount needed to bring the local road network up to scratch still approaching £10 billion, sustained investment over a longer timeframe is needed if we want a local road network that supports enhanced mobility, connectivity and productivity.

"Last year the AIA set out that £1.5 billion additional funding was needed for local roads each year for the next ten years to allow them to be brought to a condition from which they can be managed in a cost-effective way. We stand by this call."

The full ALARM survey is available to download from: www.asphaltuk.org

From The Kitchen Garden...



Purbeck Leek & Potato Pie

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

The blackthorn has erupted into billowing clouds of white blossom and the air is delicately perfumed - every now and again I get a whiff of this lovely scent while working outside. Thanks to the now really quite strong sunshine, the grass is losing its dreary, worn, brown thatch and the intense green of young growth is coming through and looking lush with every day. The birds around me are nesting, regularly I can hear a Great Tit singing its heart out and the laughing song of a Green Woodpecker in the woodland.

Also, I regularly see smashed duck egg shells on the ground, as the crows swoop in en-masse, help themselves to a freshly laid egg and then let it crash to the ground before breakfasting on it. The thieves are always going for duck eggs, as they're laid in the run, sometimes a bit hidden but not much, as Mrs. Duck is waddling away and then forgets where she's left it!

Hens are very different in their laying behaviour, they're a tidy bunch; always inside the coop and mostly in the same spot. The crows won't dare go inside the hen houses as the cockerels will shoo intruders like that away.

The cockerels are looking particularly majestic in their shiny plumage with their long tail feathers and they are protecting their girls very well. These alert boys always keep an eye out for danger while the hens cluck and scratch away and should a cockerel come across a particularly nice bit of maggot, he will signal to his posse of ladies to come here and peck it - he will not eat it himself - a true gentleman!

So far, I've got only a couple of broody hens sitting on a clutch of eggs, but this is only the start. After having total free range all over the plot, now is the time I've got to contain my flock a bit more, as sowing and planting out has started.

The potatoes and Jerusalem artichokes are in but not showing much just yet. The nights still get quite chilly, so the tender courgettes, pumpkins and summer squashes have to bide their time sitting in the polytunnels eager to come out. As always, this time of year, the seedlings are clogging up the indoor space which I really could plant it up with tomatoes, aubergines, peppers, tomatillos and basil. It's like a shuffling dance until everyone is in their place and ready to grow.

This time in the growing calendar is so full of hope and promise! It's also a very absorbing time for me, as I'm checking the cows on the hill three times a day while the girls are having their calves outside.

With intensive weeks ahead, eating good food is more important than ever....hence a pie recipe this month - comforting and tasty! This potato and leek pie is lovely hot or cold and particularly scrumptious eaten in the fresh air! I've used leeks but really spinach or chard instead is very nice too!

Ingredients:

Loose-bottomed baking tin (the ones with a clip on the side to release the ring)
Short crust pastry
Leeks
Potatoes boiled in their skins
Eggs
Salt & pepper, grated nutmeg

Method:

Roll out the dough and divide into three parts.
Line the tin bottom and sides with the pastry using 1/3 each and stab the bottom with a fork a few times.
Skin and slice the boiled potatoes and put in first layer.
Wash thoroughly and slice the leeks, layer on top of potatoes.
Make as many layers as you wish, remember to season each.
Before the last potato layer, make shallow indentations and crack some raw eggs into it.
Cover with last potato layer and then roll out last pastry 3rd as the lid and stick it on top, make slits into lid.
Brush the pie with beaten egg and bake in the oven for a good 35-40 minutes at 200C until golden brown.

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Natural Matters

A Day Out To Another World

by John Garner

If you want to climb boulders (and why wouldn't you want to do that) at some point you'll be heading to Portland. Bouldering opportunities abound there. So much so that there have been books written all about it.

Now a cursory glance at the title of this august journal will alert you to the fact that the contents tend to deal with the area suggested. But it's good to get out once in a while and Portland is close enough to be included, but different enough to feel like a distinctly other place. It's a bouldering heaven and a while back I experienced it at its best.

Whatever your chosen activity, there are certain pieces of kit that go with it. For indoor bouldering you basically need a pair of climbing shoes and chalk to stop your fingers slipping.

Outdoors you need these plus the addition of a bouldering pad, which you carry on your back like a rucksack and unfold it at the bottom of your climb to soften the blow if you come off. If you do fall off (and if you don't, you're not really pushing yourself) you'll be glad you lugged it all the way to the crag. Don't try without one. Rocks hurt. Jagged rocks hurt more. There are plenty of rocks to fall on in Portland.

So, this particular day we drove to Portland and headed for the Cuttings boulder field. We failed to meet up with the people we had arranged to see, but the two of us found a few boulders and couldn't have been happier. We spent three hours on one medium sized boulder until we felt we could do no more and moved on. And that's what I love about this sport. You find solutions to problems and one way or another, you work out how to overcome the obstacles (bouldering routes are called problems).

I love this and please don't misinterpret this as being some grand metaphor for life, but you find yourself thinking of nothing other than that small, seemingly unsurmountable move, until you eventually succeed. It's a brilliant feeling. It's also a time when you think of nothing else. You are in the moment, totally focussed and surrounded by nature at its best. This particular day had the backdrop of the sea and the February sun reflecting off it all afternoon. Short sleeves all day. Amazing.

One thing my limited bouldering exploits have taught me is this. To avoid embarrassment or worse, being stuck on top of a boulder with nowhere to go, make sure you work out how to get down before you get up. You may end up on top of a boulder of decent size. Down climbing is much more difficult than climbing up. Euphoria of 'sending' a climb can be quickly diminished by not being able to get down. At the boulder field in Portland, this happened to me.

Luckily there was a tree next to the problem. I launched myself off the top into the branches and ignominiously scrambled down. Only a half dozen or so people saw this clumsy decent. If I'd checked, I would have seen a better escape route round the back. Plan ahead, don't just go for the glory.

The other big difference of outside to inside is the wear and tear on your fingers. That is to say, you get some wear and tear in the boulder gym, but you get a lot outside. Rough rock wears out skin in seconds and raw skin will cut any session short in next to no time. So, possibly the other thing you might need is a roll of tape to wrap up your damaged hands to allow you get the most out of your day.

You will ache. You will ache in places you didn't imagine you could ache. But it will be that excellent worn out feeling that you get from spending time exerting yourself outdoors for hours on end.

I suppose this column is not wholly about climbing, but just another excuse, as if you needed one, to get out and enjoy an area that too few people visit. Portland is a brilliant destination for climbers, bike riders, hikers, people who like to fish, swim, use a sail or kite on any number of craft and many other outdoor activities.

In another era it could have been Sandbanks in terms of the price of property. It still might be. Once you cross the causeway you feel like you've arrived somewhere very different, special and unique. It's a brilliantly moody, atmospheric and dramatic place. On a sunny day it rivals anywhere in the country for beauty. Rediscovering climbing has been a revelation - as has been rediscovering Portland.

Pictured: Stock image of boulders - Not Portland, Dorset!



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Everyone Needs a Shed!... and our shed needs YOU!

As part of the National Lottery Heritage funded 'Durlston Pleasure Grounds' Project, our new 'Shed' opens at the end of May 2019 at Durlston Country Park.

It will enable people of different ages to share skills and come together through volunteering. A relaxed style of working means you can come and go, as suits, alongside regular group tasks.

Who is it for?

Everyone! Whether you have a skill to share, want to learn something new, or just pop in for a chat, we would love you to come along.

We welcome people with disabilities, dementia or long-term health problems and there is a whole range of very gentle work on offer.

Come on your own, or if you have a group who would like to try out a day at the shed, please get in touch!

What Can You Do?

Try making baskets, hurdles or bird boxes. Help grow or look after trees or plants, paint or restore signs or just pop in for a cuppa and a chat. No experience needed – just come along and we will put you to work!

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No need to book, just come along on any of the days/times below and stay as long as you want...

Opening Times:

Mondays 10am-1pm

Wednesdays 1pm-4pm

Saturdays/Sundays – please contact us for opening times

Getting Here:

On Foot: The 'Shed' is at the bottom of Lighthouse Road (in Sunnydale) about 30 minutes uphill from Swanage.

By Car: Park at the main Durlston Country Park car park. Free parking is available for the volunteers. Limited parking is available for volunteers at the shed – please ask for details.

By Bus: The Durlston Bus (number 5) runs half-hourly from 25th May to the 28th September and is free to Bus Pass holders.

Find out more...

If you would like to find out more, give us a ring on 01929 424443, pop into the Castle for a chat or come along to the shed on any of the days we are open.

New Lift Share Scheme

Durlston Neighbourcar is Durlston Country Park's new Lift-share scheme created to allow easy transport to the Park. The scheme will transport people from their homes in Swanage to Durlston for exercise, volunteering, or enjoyment. The scheme operates weekdays and is open to anyone including those with disabilities.

The scheme uses friendly and verified volunteer drivers from the local area and passengers pay a set mileage rate of 45 pence per mile to the driver to reimburse them for the trip.

To register as a volunteer driver or to sign up as passenger please call Durlston on 01929 424 443, visit or email durlston@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Introducing - Sir William

East Dorset Bat Rescue And Rehabilitation



Hello, my name is Sir William and I am a Grey Long Eared Bat, a rather rare bat in Great Britain. Why am I called Sir William? Well, at the end of last autumn I was found with an injured wing close to Poole Harbour and was named after Sir William Hillary, after the founder of the RNLI.

I was taken to some very kind people at East Dorset Bat Rescue and Rehabilitation, who have been looking after me all through the winter. I should be fast asleep hibernating, but they took me to see a vet who said I had to have antibiotics to help stop any infection from the cat bite on my body.

They have hand-fed me with mealworms and wax worms (*I am eating a wax worm in my photograph*) and kept me warm and awake in my special little plastic bat box so that my wing could heal up. When I am fit and well, I can fly back out into the world. I am not ready for that yet and it could take a few more months before I am fully healed and can fly again.

They have a specially-built flight cage out in the country where I will be able to practice my flying so that I can be really fit and able to look after myself again!

I am not the only bat who was looked after this winter, there are some Pipistrelles here too. There have been others who have been brought in, but sadly some of them have died because their injuries were too severe to recover from.

How do we end up here with these injuries? Well, often it is because when we are swooping through the dusk, catching those annoying insects that bite you or eat your crops, we get caught by a cat and we get bitten and holes can be torn in our wings. Then, if we are as lucky as me, some kind human like you will find us and telephone the Bat Conservation Trust, East Dorset Bat Rescue or the RSPCA and somebody will collect us from your home to look after us and try to make us well again.

All of this is done by volunteers who give their time and expertise freely, but the mealworms, medication and veterinary fees are not cheap, and this is a small charity that relies on fund raising and donations to enable them to continue caring for injured bats throughout the year. Last year they looked after eighty bats from nine different species, some of them even rarer than me!

If you would like to help more bats like us, maybe you would like to come along and be a volunteer or possibly send some money to help pay for the drugs and food we need? If so, please telephone East Dorset Bat Rescue and Rehabilitation on: 07746 743221 or go to the website: <http://edbr.bctk.co.uk> where you can read about other bats that have been rescued, find out what to do if you find an injured bat, how you can Adopt a Bat, have somebody come to your group to talk about bats or just make a donation. I am told there is a Facebook page too, where you can find out more

information! Who knows, maybe one summer evening I will see you when I am flying round catching moths and insects, but I bet you don't see me!

Sir William the Grey.

Photo copyright: Will Fisher/EDBRR



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ENTRANCE TO THE GARDENS IN 2019

We are asking visitors for a small contribution of just £4 per adult or only £12.00 for a season ticket. This will go towards the upkeep of the garden and the addition of new ongoing features and inspirational designs.

Holme Nurseries Ltd, West Holme Farm, Wareham, Dorset. BH20 6AQ - 3 miles from Wareham

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

Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack



Growing Beautiful Bearded Iris

These beautiful garden flowers are named after Iris the Greek goddess of the rainbow which is very apt because they come in all colours.

Originating from southern Europe and around the Mediterranean, Irises are very tough plants that can tolerate from -20 degrees in the winter to +35 degrees in the heat of summer. This tolerance of a wide range of temperature has led them to be cultivated in many places around the world for their extravagant and beautiful flowers.

The petals grow upwards and are known as the standard whereas the colourful sepals droop and are referred to as the falls. Bearded Irises are so called because of the small patch of tufty hair growing near the centre of each fall.

They need plenty of sun so choose an open, sunny site with excellent drainage. If you are on a clay soil dig in plenty of grit and plant them on a slight mound to prevent them rotting in the winter wet.

To flower well their fleshy rhizomes need to be exposed to a lot of sunlight so allow plenty of space for them in the mixed border. Unlike other herbaceous plants they don't like being mulched as the mulch cuts out sun and can lie wet on the rhizomes in winter.

Dividing the rhizomes after flowering between July and September is important to maintain good blooms next year.

The traditional method is to divide clumps every three to four years. The year after dividing, the flowering will be reduced, in year two the flowering will be good and by year three the flowering will be excellent. In year four the number of flowers will start to dwindle and by year five, dividing will be essential to re-invigorate the clump.

Alternatively do a little each year removing 30% of the plant taking out the older rhizomes in the middle of the clump. This method results in much more consistent flowering.

Most bearded Irises flower in late spring and early summer, so now is a good time to visit the Gardens at Holme and see them showing off in the borders.

Whilst you are here why not make it a day out and relax by the pond with breakfast, lunch or a cream tea and then choose some beautiful plants from the garden centre?

Iris Jane Phillips



Iris x germanica Indian Chief

Iris xCliffs of Dover



Iris x germanica Stepping Out



Iris x germanica Skyfire



Iris x germanica Susan Bliss



RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch Results Show Mixed Picture For Dorset

House sparrow remains at the top of the Big Garden Birdwatch rankings with almost 1.2 million sightings throughout the weekend but for many species fewer birds were recorded than in 2018.

Almost half a million people across the UK spent an hour watching the birds that visit their garden or outdoor space as a part of the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch, counting more than 7.5 million birds in total.

For many people, garden birds remain an important link to nature and the RSPB wants to do more to increase this connection to help both wildlife and people.

The latest results from the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch have revealed a mixed picture for the UK's garden birdlife with 15 of the top 20 species returning fewer sightings in gardens across the country than in 2018.

Now in its 40th year, the Big Garden Birdwatch is a chance for people of all ages to count the number of birds that visit their garden helping the RSPB build up a picture of how they are doing.

The event held over the last weekend in January revealed the house sparrow held on to its number one spot whilst there was a decrease in garden sightings of wrens and long-tailed tits, two of the smallest species to visit our gardens. Long-tailed tits decreased by more than 27% and wrens by 17% in 2019 after being counted in particularly large number in 2018.

Populations of both species may have been affected by last year's 'Beast from the East' as small birds are more susceptible to spells of cold weather. But it's too early to say if this is a one year blip or the beginning of a trend.

Over its four decades, Big Garden Birdwatch has highlighted the winners and losers in the garden bird world. It was first to alert the RSPB to the decline in song thrush numbers. This species was a firm fixture in the top 10 in 1979. By 2009, its numbers were less than half those recorded in 1979, it came in at 20th in the rankings this year.

Tony Whitehead, spokesperson for the RSPB Dorset said: "We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone in Dorset who took part in our 2019 Big Garden Birdwatch. By donating an hour for nature, you have provided invaluable data about the health of the feathered friends that make living in Dorset so wonderful.

"In Dorset the house sparrow was the most numerous bird, with just over four per garden. And the blackbird was the bird seen most gardens.

Species	Mean 2019	Rank 2019	% Gardens 2019
House sparrow	4.6	1	64.8
Starling	2.7	2	37.1
Blue_tit	2.3	3	75.5
Woodpigeon	2.1	4	78.8
Blackbird	2.1	5	86.8
Goldfinch	1.8	6	36.2
Great tit	1.5	7	59.9
Robin	1.4	8	85.3
Chaffinch	1.3	9	38.3
Long tailed tit	1.2	10	33.2

2019 results from Dorset

"With such fantastic results it just goes to show that all of the incredible effort people in Dorset are doing to give nature a home in their own gardens, is paying off. Hopefully these results will encourage even more people to do their bit for Dorset's wildlife."

Daniel Hayhow, RSPB Conservation Scientist, said: "Over its long lifetime, the survey has shown the increasing good fortunes of birds such as the goldfinch and wood pigeon and the alarming declines of the house sparrow and starling. But there appears to be good news for one of these birds. While the overall decline in house sparrow numbers, reported by participants, since the Big Garden Birdwatch began, is 56% (1979 – 2019). In the most recent decade (2009-2019), numbers appear to have increased by 10%. Giving us hope that at least a partial recovery may be happening. This year's survey also highlighted a rise in the number of sightings of redwings and fieldfares on last year's figures.

The house sparrow remained at the top of the Big Garden Birdwatch



rankings as the most commonly seen garden birds, with more than 1.2 million recorded sightings throughout the weekend. Starling held down the second spot once more, with the blue tit moving up one spot to round off the top three.

Throughout the first half of the spring term the nation's school children took part in the RSPB's Big Schools Birdwatch. The UK-wide survey of birds in school grounds saw close to 60,000 school children spend an hour in nature counting the birds. Blackbird was the most numerous species seen with an average of 8 per school; and was seen in 89% of all schools that took part.

Martin Harper, the RSPB's Director of Conservation said "Our garden birds should be a part of our everyday life. For many people they provide our only connection to the natural world and bring enormous joy. To have hundreds of thousands of people spend an hour watching the wildlife in their garden doesn't only help us build up a picture of how our garden birds are doing, but people who take part feel better."

To highlight the crisis that nature is facing and the loss of over 40 million wild birds from the UK in just half a century, The RSPB is releasing a specially-created track of birdsong titled 'Let Nature Sing'. The single contains some of the most recognisable birdsongs that we used to enjoy, but that are on their way to disappearing forever. A compilation of beautiful sound recordings of birds with powerful conservation stories including the Cuckoo, Curlew, Nightingale, Crane and Turtle Dove who form part of the dawn chorus choir.

The charity is calling on the public to download, stream and share the single (available 5th April) and help get birdsong into the charts for the first time, spreading the word that people across the UK are passionate about nature's recovery.

Martin Harper continues, "Birds are such iconic parts of human culture but many of us no longer have the time or opportunity to enjoy them. The time we spend in nature, just watching and listening, can have huge benefits to our wellbeing, especially in these stressful times. The RSPB wants to help more people reconnect with their wilder sides and is bringing birdsong back into people's busy lives by releasing a soothing track of pure unadulterated bird song. We hope that by understanding what we have lost that we inspire others to take part in the recovery. Without nature our lives are so less complete."

The track is designed to help reconnect the nation with nature, helping people find a moment to relax and promote a feeling of tranquillity, as birdsong has been proven to aid mental health and promote feelings of wellbeing.

For a full round-up of all the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch results and to see which birds were visiting gardens where you live, visit www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

GroundDog Day!



GroundDog Day 26th May 2019

Join us for a great day of celebrating rescue dogs on the 26th May at our Lincoln Farm Rescue and Rehoming Centre, Bere Road, Winterborne Kingston, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 9BP.

Entry to the event is free but donations are always welcomed, gates open at 11:00.

The day promises something for all the family, not just the four-legged members. There will be lots to enjoy including an Agility display from Moonlight Agility, have a go agility, distraction alley, hot food and refreshments, as well as local traders coming along with lots of delights on offer.

This is all in addition to the Fun Dog Show, which starts at 12:00, classes are just £2 to enter or £10 for six classes. Fun dog show classes will include, Best Trick, Best Child Handler, Best Rescue, Fastest Tail Wagger, Most Appealing Eyes to name just a few. So, come along and join in what is always a fantastic day!

GroundDog Day rounds off Margaret Green Week, which takes place every year and incorporates the date that was Margaret's Birthday, 20th May. Also taking place in Margaret Green Week from 19 – 26th May is the Big Green Dog Walk.

We are asking supporters to pledge a walk and donate to our rescue animals by deciding on a route, and it could simply be your regular daily dog walk, invite along your friends, colleagues or family and make a donation via the Margaret Green Animal Rescue website at www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/Margaret_Green_Week_2019

www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk

Down On The Farm To Help Families

A project which helps rebuild families by getting them to spend time together in the countryside has been given funding from the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner.

Longmead Community Farm works with families who are in crisis, such as those whose children are at risk of being taken into care or not completing their schooling.

Families spend twenty-four hours on the farm, near Bere Regis, and work together on activities from mucking out stables and looking after animals to picking vegetables which they then use to make their own meals.

Project manager Claire Crescent said: "It's hard work, but there's a lot of games involved, and they always have a good time. This isn't a parenting class, but it's about encouraging families to spend time together and enjoy being with each other again."

"We're all about helping bring people together and communicate better. We find a lot of parents come back and say they've realised that they can have fun with their children again. When families are in crisis they often spend their whole time arguing, but coming to the farm gives them the space to take a step back and talk to each other."

Families will often make return visits to the farm every two months, and Claire says they often notice an improvement over the course of the year. They are often referred to the service from social services, as part of a wider package of support, and are in contact with a range of other groups.

The project received funding from the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Dorset Fund Community Grants scheme at the start of this year, which has enabled them to organise more activities at the farm.

Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill said: "We need to find innovative approaches to help people in crisis. The psychological benefits of spending time in the countryside are well known and Longmead does an excellent job of helping families tap into these benefits before more serious problems occur."

The scheme, which provides grants of between £100 and £3,000, has been set up to fund voluntary and community groups that provide a benefit to the residents of Dorset.

Anyone who is interested in applying for a grant should visit the website for further information: www.dorset.pcc.police.uk/working-in-partnership/community-grant-scheme/

GroundDog Day

Sun 26th May | Gates open 11:00

Every day is a great day for rehoming

Free Entry
Donations
Welcome

Lincoln Farm, Bere Rd,
Winterborne Kingston,
Blandford Forum DT11 9BP

t: 01929 471340
e: lincolnfarm@mgar.org.uk
w: www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk

Fun Dog Show from 12:00

Classes: £2 per class
£10 for 6 classes

- Best Trick
- Best Pairs (alike or opposite)
- Best Child Handler 6-11yrs
- Best Child Handler 12-18yrs
- Best Rescue Dog
- Golden Oldies (8yrs +)
- Most Appealing Eyes
- The dog the judge would most like to take home
- Fastest Tail Wagger
- Most Handsome Boy
- Prettiest Girl

Activities:

- Agility with Moonlight, enjoy a demo and also have a go!
- Distraction alley
- Ball bobbing
- Splash Zone
- Hot food
- Refreshments

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Arts & Entertainment

Around The World In Eighty Minutes!

Thirty years on from their first public performance in 1989 when funds were raised for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, the Belvedere Singers are again supporting this charity with a retiring collection at their next concert.

Inspired by the Jules Verne novel 'Around the World in Eighty Days', the choir are taking a musical journey around the world. Globetrotting from the South Seas to South America and then off to Europe represented by France, Austria and Spain, also dropping in on Italy and Ireland on the way, the Singers enjoy a world tour, testing their language skills at the same time.

As a contrast, they will also be performing Cantate Domino composed by their Music Director, Clive Watkiss, in 2014. Soloists performing at the concert are professional clarinettist Helen Paskins, who will be playing British, French and German music, and the talented young oboist Isabella Barr.

This concert is on Saturday, May 18th 7.30pm at St. Mary's Church in



BELVEDERE SINGERS
around the world in 80 minutes
18th May
Music Director - Clive Watkiss
Clarinet - Helen Paskins
Oboe - Isabella Barr
St. Mary's Church
Swanage at 7.30pm
Tickets £10 - under 18's free
From Albury & Hall or at the door
Retiring collection in aid
of Cystic Fibrosis Trust.
Belvedere Singers
Charity no. 1160197

Swanage. Tickets are available from Albury & Hall, choir members and at the door: adults £10: under 18s free. Further information: 01929 423729.



Ikarus Inc
Dreamville, Indiana, 1955
'Hilarious, romantic, tender, searching - and laced with rock'n'roll!'
The Square & Compass, Worth Matravers
Thursday 27th June at 7.30pm
Picnics from 6.00pm
The Rude Mechanical Theatre 2019 Outdoor Tour
TICKETS - £17 + concessions
01323-501260, online & from the pub
www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk

The Rudes Return To The Square With 'Ikarus Inc'



Put Thursday 27th June in your diary to see the Rude Mechanical Theatre who will be at The Square & Compass again for their annual outdoor theatre.

They will be performing a revival of their inspiring 'Ikarus Inc', a play about hopes and dreams. You won't want to miss it!

Set in the little town of Dreamville, Indiana, in the '50's, a travelling salesman, Daedalus H. Gildersleeves, and his son Ikarus, sell

dreams from a suitcase. Secret hopes are laid bare as they begin to fly the townsfolk up into the clear blue skies to their dreams. Hilarious, romantic, tender, searching - and laced with rock'n'roll!

Meanwhile the ladies of the local Buffalos Club - the Buffalasses - enter a competition to make the biggest pumpkin pie ever to raise money for 'the sufferin' poor'.

For Oi! Mercy Coffin it is just the devil tempting them. But will they fly and achieve their dreams or come crashing down to the cold hard earth? Will the pumpkin pie get baked? Will they win the competition?

Tickets are £17 + concessions - available online at:

www.therudemechanicaltheatre.co.uk

Or by ringing 01323 501260, or from the pub. Bring a picnic, your own chair and warm clothing for an English summer evening.

The show starts at 7.30pm with picnics from 6.00pm



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

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival On Horizon!

Besides the absolutely stonking line-up at Purbeck Valley Folk Festival this year - including multi-national superstars, Afro Celt Sound System, critically acclaimed multi-award winning songwriter, Karine Polwart, BBC Folk Award winning Cara Dillon, and Radio 6 Music favourites John Smith, Thea Gilmore and John Bramwell (I am Kloot) - there are also an incredible number of activities for kids.

Children's activities include storytelling, theatre workshops, fun crafts, Passion4laughter clowning, bubble displays, baby/toddler Rhyme Time sessions, face-painting, a treasure hunt, fancy dress, maypole dancing and Morris dance workshops, family ceilidh, space-hopper obstacle course, welly wanging, and Circus skills performances and workshops including juggling, diablo, devil's sticks, unicycling, stilt walking, low level trapeze, an inflatable tumble mat (new this year).

Joe May of Passion4Laughter will be joining us again this year with his absolutely brilliant street theatre show of Joseph D'Amour Bouffoon - the fool of love - where he unpicks the tricky job of being a modern man, clowning around through surprising circus skills, contortion, with a great sense of humour. This show is just brilliant for children of all ages and parents alike.

Baby/Toddler Rhyme Time is brought to you by festival director Catherine Burke who launched this session last year having made The Very Folky Nursery Rhyme Book with artist partner, Phillip Kingsbury for their son Basil. It was such a success last year that they have decided to have a baby/toddler singing session every morning this year with an early stage performance on the Saturday morning. This year they will have another baby in tow of only a few weeks old. This session is not to be missed.

And for musical kids there are youth music workshops and 'Come and Try' instruments try-outs which allow youths and adults the opportunity to try out instruments that they might not get a chance to otherwise without having to invest in them first.

A brilliant musical line-up, loads of stuff for kids, a HUGE craft area for adults too... Purbeck Valley Folk Festival is so much more than just a great music festival.

Tickets are on sale now from £115 (£60/£30) for the weekend Thu-Sunday, including camping. www.purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk

PURBECK VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL
15-18 AUGUST 2019

AFRO CELT SOUND SYSTEM
CARA DILLON WITH FULL BAND
KARINE POLWART **THEA GILMORE**

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OLD MAN LUEDECKE - GRACE PETRIE
3 DAFT MONKEYS - GAZ BROOKFIELD
SAM KELLY & THE LOST BOYS - USHTI BABA
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5 stages - 2 ceilidhs - open mic - sessions - workshops - poetry - fire shows
Beautiful little festival on a small farm with views across the Purbeck hills and Corfe Castle - everyone's favourite festival!

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

Weekend tickets from £95 incl. camping

Stanford Quartet Coffee Concert

STANFORD QUARTET COFFEE CONCERT
Saturday 1st June at 10.30am
Dvorak American, Mozart, Tchaikovsky
United Reformed Church, 112 High Street, Swanage
Tickets £10 for adults, available on the door. Telephone: 07436 112205
(accompanied children and students free)



Congratulations to the Stanford Quartet for performing over fifty string quartets in their regular concerts for Swanage and Purbeck audiences. On Saturday the 1st of June in the URC Swanage the audience can enjoy Dvorak's memorable American quartet, which is full of folk melodies like those the composer heard while living in the USA.

The genius Mozart composed his KV quartet which is one of his finest works - and one that he delighted in playing together with his friends. Tchaikovsky is famous for his beautiful melodies as demonstrated in his Opus 11 quartet movement that finishes the concert performed in the fine acoustics of Swanage URC. After the concert audiences can meet the Stanford Quartet while enjoying complimentary coffee and cake!

The Ray Bryant Memorial Gig
Saturday 11th May
Doors open 6pm - 11pm

Live Music Extravaganza
featuring a selection of Bands

to celebrate the Musical life of well-known local musician **Ray Bryant**

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Tickets £10
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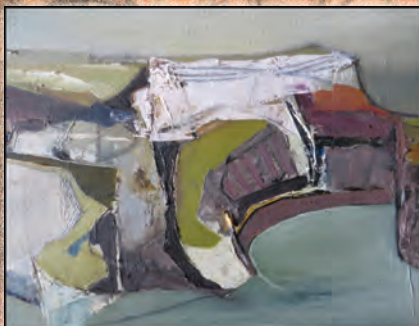
Barrington Centre, Ferndown
Box Office 01202 894858
www.thebarringtoncentre.co.uk

Macmillan
Caring locally

Art & Crafts In Purbeck

This month we celebrate the enormous range of fantastic arts and crafts created in Purbeck - the Isle of the Arts

The following pages showcase the artists, galleries, performances, festivals and open studios hoping you'll pay them a visit soon.....



HEATHER GIBBONS

Drawn to the Edge
with Brushes of Colour

Evocative Purbeck in
Oils & Charcoal



Venue 1, Durlston Castle,
Swanage
BH19 2JL



Buffmonger of Purbeck

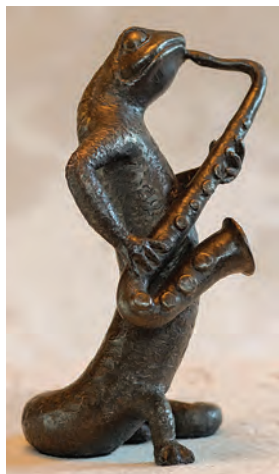


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Commercial Road, Swanage

Come Fly With Us! PAW Festival 2019



This year Purbeck Art Weeks Festival offers another superb programme of concerts and talks plus artists' Open Studios and exhibitions across Purbeck.

Be inspired by art during the day and in the evenings relax and enjoy a talk or concert or two (with a glass of wine). This year's theme 'Flights of Fancy' can be interpreted in so many different ways, as you will see.

PAW's artists are looking forward to welcoming you into their Open Studios, where you'll find a rich array of paintings, photography, ceramics, sculpture, glass work and mosaics, digital art, textile art and much more.

Festival highlights include a celebration of 20th century English Coronations with Gabrieli, plus brass and timpani, while I Fagiolini return with a performance

celebrating Leonardo da Vinci in art and music. Book your concerts and talk tickets now at <https://www.purbeckartweeks.co.uk/events/> -

You could win a voucher for £250 of art of your choice in this year's Grand Raffle as well as having a go at sketching in a special 'PAW Sketch' drawing pad and share your results to win a prize!

PAW's collective exhibition of work in Rollington Barn near Corfe Castle shows work from the over one hundred artists taking part in this year's festival. Every year we involve around five hundred young people (Purbeck Young Artists) from schools across Purbeck - their creative results will also be on display at Rollington Barn.

Look out for our free Festival Brochure available in outlets across Purbeck. Our more detailed Events Programme (£2) is also available from Tourist Offices and elsewhere.

Pictured: Swinging Salamander, by Moira Purver

PURBECK ART WEEKS
Festival
25 May - 9 June

2019

- Open studios
- Concerts
- Talks
- Grand Raffle
- Competitions

Two weeks of art and discovery...

For more information and event ticket sales visit
www.purbeckartweeks.co.uk

Facebook
Twitter
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#purbeckartweeks

Cathy Veale

Exhibition of Paintings

25th May - 2nd June
Purbeck House Hotel
91 High Street, Swanage
Open 10am - 5pm

www.cathyveale.co.uk

The Little Gallery Dorset
Feat. Sue & Xav Coussy Presents
a FREE ART EXHIBITION At 'FAITH HOUSE'
 at beautiful 'HOLTON LEE' In 350 acres of Parkland
Part of Purbeck Art Weeks Venue No: 45
From 25th May to 9th June inc. Daily 10:00—16:30

Welcome to a feast of colour & diversity.

Sue her contemporary Acrylic Paintings & her Resin Coasters & Clocks along with her Hand Painted Silk Scarves.

Xav his range of Silk Paintings, Mixed Media Acrylic, Spray Art & delightful Pebble Art Pictures.

Lots to see. Something for Everyone. From £5

We are supporting 'Livability' Charity at Holton Lee

Directions: Follow the A35 from the Bakers Arms Roundabout towards Wareham, past The Romany Works then turn immediately left. Follow the road to the end. FREE PARKING Venue Wheelchair accessible.

SAT NAV BH16 6JN
www.thelittlegallerydorset.co.uk

SWANAGE REP THEATRE SEASON 2019



ADVENTURE

THE 39 STEPS

adapted by Patrick Barlow

August 7th to 10th

COMEDY

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

by Roy Clarke

August 14th to 17th

THRILLER

WAIT UNTIL DARK

by Frederick Knott

August 21st to 24th

Photos from Swanage Rep 2018 by Mark Turner @MarkMakesPhotos

MOWLEM THEATRE BOX OFFICE: 01929422239 www.swanagerep.com

PICMF

Purbeck
International
Chamber
Music
Festival

29.08–01.09.19

Natalie Clein cello & musical director

Katya Apekisheva piano

Max Baillie violin/viola

Marvin Dillmann didgeridoo

Guy Johnston cello

Elizabeth Kenny lute

Thomas Larcher composer

Gareth Lubbe viola

Philip Mansel historian

Jennifer Pike violin

Olivia Ray mezzo-soprano

Abel Selaocoe cello

Lana Trotovsšek violin

SMEDMORE HOUSE, KIMMERIDGE

Louis XIV: the man and his music | Thursday 4pm lecture and performance

THE PARISH CHURCH OF St MARY, SWANAGE

Cello Extravaganza. With Natalie Clein, Guy Johnston and Abel Selaocoe. An evening of solo, duo and trio cello repertoire for cello lovers of all ages | Thursday 7.30pm

St NICHOLAS' CHURCH, STUDLAND

Meditations on solitude | Friday 11am

THE CHURCH OF LADY St MARY, WAREHAM

Mendelssohn's piano trio D-minor | Friday 7.30pm

St NICHOLAS' CHURCH, WORTH MATRAVERS

Saturday morning Bach | 10.30am

LEARNING CENTRE, DURLSTON COUNTRY PARK

Musical fun for families and children | Saturday 12.30pm

St EDWARD'S CHURCH, CORFE CASTLE

Souvenir de Florence | Saturday 7.30pm

St JAMES' CHURCH, KINGSTON

Boccherini quintet op 42 | Sunday 11.30am

HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Family Concert | Sunday 3.30pm

For programme information and booking tickets

www.purbeck-chambermusic.org.uk or call 0333 666 3366

PAN
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Venue 38
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25 May - 9 June

2019

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FESTIVAL
25 May - 9 June

2019

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Open 10am - 5pm, Tues 10am - 4pm



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PAW Venue 28



Rob Adams



Laura Pentreath



David Atkins

The Town House

The Square, Corfe Castle

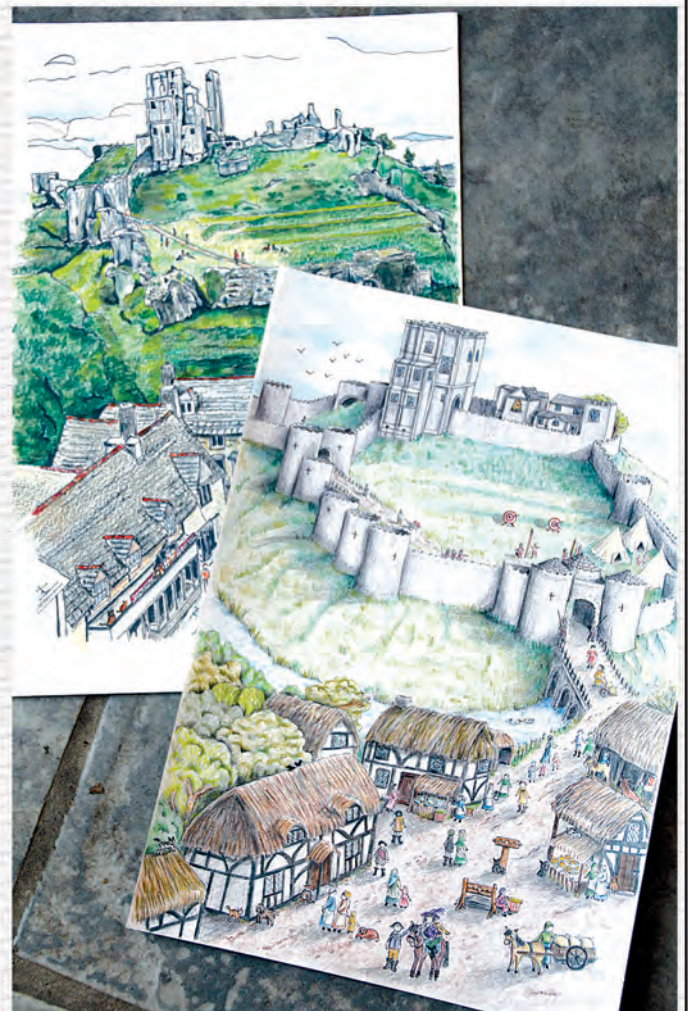
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Above & below: Art by Di Quinn - see at Burngate Stone Carving Centre!



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Charity No. 1135118



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ENGRAVING SKILLS WITH VAL QUINN

SAT 4TH MAY 10 am—1 pm

£50 per adult. Learn the basic skills of engraving in Purbeck stone.

ADULT STONE CARVING

SAT 18TH MAY

10 am—4 pm £80 per adult. Come with your

own idea or select a relief from our references with expert support from Jigger Stockley.



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SAT 25TH MAY —SUN 9TH JUNE

Open daily from 10am till 4.30pm



Come and watch Woodworking, Silver Smithing, Stonecarving, Ceramics and more. Talk to the artists demonstrating their skills. Work by these local makers will be for sale.

Refreshments available. Artist Demo times will vary.



FAMILY, ADULT AND CHILDREN HAVE A GO STONE CARVING TUES 28TH, WED 29TH

AND 30TH MAY 10 am—12 noon £30 per adult, £17.50 per child



Groups welcome, pre booking essential

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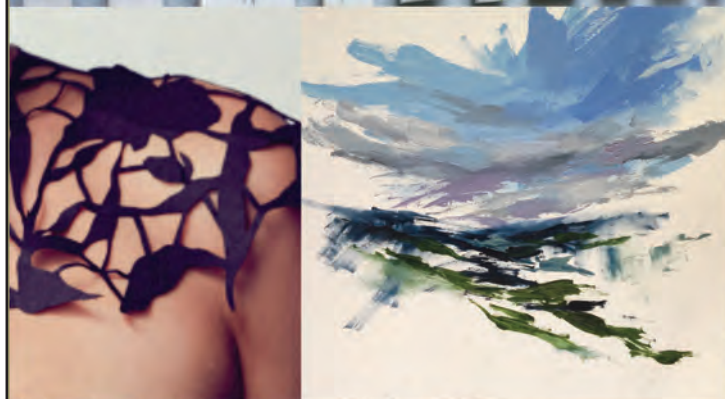
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PAW venue 30



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Trai Hiscock
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Mark Bauer
"Hints of Autumn, Corfe Castle"



Carol Clarke
"Sailing By Old Harry"



Tony Kerins "A Break In The Mist"



Cathy Veale "Foreland Reflections"



Endre Roder
"Venitian"

www.quarrgallery.com

CREATIVE ARTS ACHIEVEMENT 2019



I would like to thank everyone who recommended me for this award! Thanks also to the Burngate Stone Carving Centre for its support and facilities; and I am so glad to recognise the talent of our young people from the Swanage School and the Purbeck Scouts.

Look out for the opening of THE SEALIFE BENCH during Purbeck Art Weeks.

Pick up a leaflet for The Swanage & Purbeck Sculpture Trail for information about the interesting stone, wood and metal sculptures in and around Purbeck.

The Swanage Seen Art Trail, now in its 10th year, will soon be upgraded. *Carlotta Barrow, Sculptor and Artist.*



Above: Dove of Peace, presented to Swanage Hospital



Waterside Artists Studio & Sculpture Garden: Sculpture - Painting - Prints - Commissions Welcomed
Address: Garden Level, Waterside, Peveril Point, Swanage. BH19 2AY
Tel: 01929 425967 or 07850 313910. Email: zooks@peveriledge.com

Health & Beauty

Matron's Round - Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

Hello everyone!

I had the privilege to attend the national Matrons' Development and Engagement event in Birmingham run by NHS Improvements. It was absolutely fascinating to listen to speakers that had researched the role from its traditional start to the role of the Matron today.

One thing that was clear was that there are still many similarities within that role, not least the ten priorities for Matrons.

These are:

- Leading by example
- Making sure patients get quality care
- Ensuring the patients' nutritional needs are met
- Improving wards for patients
- Making sure patients are treated with respect
- Improving hospital cleanliness
- Preventing hospital-acquired infections
- Ensuring staffing is appropriate to the patient's needs
- Empowering nurses to take on a wider range of clinical skills
- Resolving problems for patients and their relatives by building closer relationships

Working within Purbeck and its two community hospitals has given me the opportunity to work to these priorities by looking with our community

colleagues at new ways of integrated working, by which we mean working together with health and social care. Encouraging our health care assistants to develop themselves either by the apprenticeship route or the nurse associate programme, will develop them into the registered nurses of the future.

Cleanliness, hospital food and prevention of infection are a very important part of my role and I am proud to say that we have a fantastic housekeeping and catering team that provide an excellent service.

The conference ended with nearly two hundred Matrons working together to compile a handbook to enable all our other Matron colleagues to refer to this as a guide for best practice.

It was with great pride that I was able represent Dorset Healthcare and Purbeck at this event, not only to learn from my colleagues and speakers but also to be able to share how, within the community hospital setting, the Matron role embraces those priorities.

There was only one reference to Hattie Jacques throughout the whole day, mind you, with so many Matrons under one roof, I don't think many would have dared!!

Until next time I wish you good health!

Matron Donna



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The prevention of periodontal disease occurring is always much better than the need for a cure.

If you are suffering from any of the following problems, we can help:

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Or perhaps you need dental implants?

Periodontics is the recognised dental speciality that treats and deals with all of the above problems.

You can rest assured that the de Waal Specialist Dental Practice is here to diagnose, advise and complete your dental treatment. Dr Hendrik de Waal recently purchased the Mouthpeace Private Dental Practice in Wool, near Wareham. Dr de Waal qualified as a general dentist in Pretoria, South Africa, 1978. In 1987, he completed speciality training in Periodontics at Boston University, USA, obtaining a MScD (Periodontology). Dr de Waal is also a Diplomat of the American Board of Periodontology - one of only a few outside the USA.

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.

WE ARE HERE FOR ALL YOUR GENERAL DENTAL AND SPECIALTY DENTISTRY NEEDS

For more information on these and other treatments, please visit our websites: www.specialist-periodontics.com or www.de-waal.co.uk or visit our Facebook page: Dewaal Specialist Periodontics, Oral Surgery & Dental Implantology

For an appointment, please call 01929 462269 or email your contact details to:
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Healthwatch Services

Evolving Communities has been awarded the contract to run Healthwatch services in Dorset. Following a recent tender process, Dorset Council and BCP Council have appointed Evolving Communities to provide Healthwatch services across the region from 1 April 2019. The role of a local Healthwatch is to ensure the health and care system in the area meets the needs of the people who use it. Feedback is gathered from patients and their families on services such as GP surgeries, care homes, hospitals, mental health and social care. These findings are then taken to the organisations which plan, pay for and deliver health and care services, so that changes can be made.

A local office in Dorset will be opened this month. Contact details will remain the same. Jan Thurgood, Corporate Director, Adult Social Care for BCP Council, said: "We are pleased to be working with Evolving Communities, which has a strong track record of delivering effective Healthwatch Services in other South West authority areas."

Mathew Kendall, Executive Director for People (Adults) at Dorset Council added: "It's important that our residents have a voice to influence and shape the services they use, to make sure they are provided to the highest standards. We look forward to continuing the great work that has been established in Dorset."

For more information: www.evolvingcommunities.co.uk

For more information on Healthwatch Dorset visit www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk

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07712 525058 Christine Fox

www.westdorsetmobilefootclinic.com

Sport



SWANAGE BOWLS CLUB



'HAVE A GO' MORNINGS

Sunday 5th and 12th May 2019

Arrive: 10am for 10.30am start - 12 noon



Entrances at Beach Gardens, Northbrook Road, or Cauldon Avenue, BH19 1PG.

Come and try this wonderful game!
Members will be on hand to help and advise you, bowls will be provided. Please wear flat shoes or trainers (no heels).

If you are unable to make the dates above, please just turn up on any Friday evening for our club session, which starts at 5pm.

For more information, contact:

**Ken Morgan, President: 01929 423537 or
Barrie Tatman, Secretary: 01929 421162 or see
our website: www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk**

Can You Help Lisa Reach The Paralympics?

Dear Readers,

Would you like to help Lisa Chapman achieve her goal of being a Paralympian? Lisa has been accepted into the British Shootings Paralympic Talent Squad and is trying to raise funds to take part in the Paralympics in Tokyo in 2020 on her internet web site: uk.gofundme.com/paralympic-talent-squad

Lisa has to fund herself for the required equipment, on a limited income. These costs include: £2650 for a rifle, £300 for a shooting jacket, £150 for shooting stand, plus gloves, pellets and other equipment, travel expenses and so on.

Lisa also has other expenses for travel to and from Stoke Mandeville twice a month for three days at a time for training, accommodation and food, and also pays for range fees and travel to and from the Hurn Pistol and Rifle club.

My wife and I have donated to Lisa's fund and we feel this would be an amazing opportunity for Lisa to achieve her goal. We hope others also join us in supporting Lisa!

Nigel Sibley, Broadstone, by email.

Swanage Sailing Club



**Push the boat out...
and try sailing *for free!***



That's right, come along have a taster session for free under a national scheme to get everyone afloat – that's adults and kids! It's excellent fun and there's no problem with kit... we have that stuff! Bring family and friends, we're down by the pier! No charge at all.

Event runs 2pm – 5pm Saturday 25 May 2019

Just turn up or contact: gbuglass@bipcom.co.uk

Visit: www.swanagesailingclub.org.uk



The Cutty Sark May She Sail Again!

To build an amazing ship..... the project

Support Sonny Cycling From 'Uncle To Uncle'!

Dear Readers,

I'm looking for some publicity for a large amount of fundraising I'm doing. I am a sixth former at The Purbeck school, Wareham and I am trying to raise money to go to Kenya on the 19th of July for a month to help to build classrooms, work on projects to protect the Kenyan wildlife and help teach English to local school children over there.

I am also raising money for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust, which is a cause that is close to my family.

At the time of writing, I'm just starting my big cycling fundraiser – five hundred miles from one uncle in Exeter to another one of my uncles in La Rochelle in France.

This fundraising effort began on 12th April and I'm looking for community-minded local businesses to help sponsor my cause and show their



customers what lovely businesses they are!

Whether people donate £5, £20 or £100, all of it will be going towards a really great cause.

All donations are being managed through my Go-fund me page – which is called the 'Uncle to Uncle Bike Ride.'

Thank you, Sonny, by email.

Swanage Football Club



Our mini kickers (see photo) team is going from strength to strength. Eddie Rainford has been running the sessions for a number of years with the help of a number of older youth players.

In about eighteen months' time when Eddie is eighty-five, he has decided to call it a day on coaching the youngsters, so we will be looking for a replacement over the coming months. If you feel you have the qualities to coach five-eight-year olds we will support you and put you through the necessary courses.

Mini kickers is a very valuable part of our club as this is possibly the first introduction these aspiring players get to playing football.

The new U8 team, which is formed out of the older mini kickers players, is starting to take shape. We desperately need a parent or two to step up to take on the managing and coaching of the team.

You don't need any experience in coaching football as you will be put on the necessary courses to give you all the necessary attributes needed. If you feel this is for you and you'd like to give something back to the community you can contact us via Twitter, Facebook or the website or failing that call me on 07919 277 568.

Walking football is another prospering part of the club. The women's section is looking for new members, they get together on Tuesday

evening at 7:30pm. So for £3, why not come along?

This is a great way to keep fit and meet new friends. The men have two sessions one on a Tuesday at 10 o'clock in the morning so if you're retired this would possibly suit, the other session is on Thursday evening at 7pm. All abilities are welcome from advanced to a total newbie.

The first team are having an average season winning some, losing some but last weekend was an unusual outcome. We drew the game 0:0 against Holt Utd. Now, you might think there is nothing different in this, but this was the first time we have drawn a game since we played Bridport Reserves back in season 2014-15, which totals 135 games!

So why not come down to Day's Park and watch a game of football? Not only will you be given a very warm welcome, you are almost guaranteed to see goals!

The Reserves are fighting to stay in Dorset League 1. We beat local rivals Wareham Rangers 5:1 recently this was a great game as both teams are at the lower end of the league but this didn't have any bearing on the quality of the game. Winning this moved us above them in the league. With only seven games left to play, we realistically need to win two or three to stay in the league.

COME ON YOU SWANS!

John Peacock

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 JUNE is noon, 8th MAY

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.

MAY 2019

- Thu 2nd
- * **Spring Exhibition** In the Gallery at 41, Esat st, Corfe Castle.
 - 19:15 **Swanage Trefoil Meet** at Guide H.Q bell St. for Geocaching or Guiding Skills. new members and visitors welcome. contact tel 01929 556374.
- Fri 3rd
- 19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory classroom, Church Hill for: AGM and presentation of Trophies. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com
- Sat 4th
- 10:00 **Venfest 2019** Celebrating all that is Dorset & Venison plus much more, live music, enhanced childrens area, falconry displays, live cooking demos, chainsaw displays, lots of venison / lots of hot and cold foods and drinks. Dog of Leads welcome, FREE parking. Over 12s £3.50 Email: enquiries@venfest.org
- Sun 5th
- 10:00 **Have-a-Go Morning** At Swanage Bowls Club, Beach Gardens, Swanage. 10am, for 10.30 start. Ffi: Ken Morgan: 01929 423537 Barrie Tatman: 01929 421162 or www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk
- Wed 8th
- 09:30 **Swanage Area Forum Coach Trip** to Salisbury. Leaves Swanage 9am, returns 5.30pm. £10 per person. Ffi: 01929 422215.
- Fri 10th
- * **Spring Exhibition** In the Gallery at 41, Esat st, Corfe Castle.
 - * **Diesel Gala & Beer Festival** At Swanage Railway. Intensive timetable, food & drink, trade stands, visiting diesel engines, evening services, merchandise.
 - 19:30 **Purbeck Railway Circle** Meets at Harmans Cross Village Hall for "The History of the Railways of Paris". A presentation by Michael Bunn, Secretary of The French Railways Society. Refreshments and railway raffle. Doors open 7pm. Ffi 421 913. Everyone is welcome.
- Sat 11th
- * **Diesel Gala & Beer Festival** At Swanage Railway. Intensive timetable, food & drink, trade stands, visiting diesel engines, evening services, merchandise.
 - 10:00 **Swanage Beach Buddies** Meeting for the summer season, at Swanage Fire Station, Kings Road for regular and new volunteers and anyone interested in becoming a beach clean leader or assistant leader. Please note that there is no public parking. Interested but can't come? Please email swanagebeachbuddies@gmail.com or phone 01929 421753
 - 18:00 **Ray Bryant Memorial Gig** At The Barrington Centre, Ferndown. Tickets £10. Box office 01202 894858
- Sun 12th
- * **Diesel Gala & Beer Festival** At Swanage Railway. Intensive timetable, food & drink, trade stands, visiting diesel engines, evening services, merchandise.
 - 10:00 **Have-a-Go Morning** At Swanage Bowls Club, Beach Gardens, Swanage. 10am, for 10.30 start. Ffi: Ken Morgan: 01929 423537 Barrie Tatman: 01929 421162 or www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk
- Mon 13th
- 10:00 **Wareham Area Seniors' Forum** At Carey Hall, Mistover rd, Wareham. Popular Vocalists - a talk by Hilary Foggo. Coffee, tea, cake on arrival.
- Tue 14th
- 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
- Wed 15th
- * **Purbeck Society Talks** Visit to Swanage Handmade Bricks Co at Godlingston Brickworks. time TBC details 01929 425049.
 - 14:30 **Studland History Group** Meets in the Village Hall for a talk by Philip Browne, "A Freezing Horror – the Wreck of the Halsewell 1786". All welcome. Ffi the Secretary 01929 439245.
- Sat 18th
- 19:30 **Belvedere Singers** Around the world in 80 minutes At St Marys Church, Swanage. Tickets £10, under 18's free, from Aubrey & Hall or on the door.
- Sun 19th
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
- Mon 20th
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
- Tue 21st
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - 19:30 **Any Questions?** At Swanage Methodist Church, High Street BH19 2LZ. Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up. A critical look at some of the contemporary world views about Jesus. Discussion introduced and led by Dr Helen Morris, Course Leader at Moorlands Bible College. All welcome. No charge Email: davinagf@gmail.com
- Wed 22nd
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - 19:30 **Wareham & District Archaeology & Local History Soc** Meetings held at Wareham Town Hall. Lilian Ladle - Trade around Poole Harbour – bringing in and taking out the goods BC – AD.
- Thu 23rd
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - 20:00 **The Vintage Motor Cycle Club** Open Meeting South Dorset Section is undergoing a recruitment drive to attract new members. The open meeting will be held at The Three Compasses Inn at Charminster, nr Dorchester, DT2 9QT. All motorcyclists welcome, all makes and ages of machines can be catered for. No need to own an old bike but merely to have an interest in them is sufficient to become a member. The Section will have monthly meetings and many riding events. Ffi: Rod Hann on 01935-872528.
- Fri 24th
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - * **Beer Festival** At The Kings Arms, Stoborough. Live music all weekend, wide range of beers, ciders and ales available!
- Sat 25th
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - * **Beer Festival** At The Kings Arms, Stoborough. Live music all weekend, wide range of beers, ciders and ales available!
 - * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Purbeck Pirate Festival** Events all over Swanage! Re-enactments, beach skirmishes, parade, stalls, games, music and much more!
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
 - 10:00 **Cathy Veale Exhibition of Paintings** At Purbeck House Hotel, Swanage. Ffi: cathyveale.co.uk
 - 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
 - 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
 - 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
 - 18:30 **'An English Coronation'** Gabrieli Consort At St Mary's, Wareham. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks.
- Sun 26th
- * **Big Green Dog Walk** Decide on your route, invite your friends and donate! Organised by Margaret Green Animal Rescue. Ffi: margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
 - * **Beer Festival** At The Kings Arms, Stoborough. Live music all weekend, wide range of beers, ciders and ales available!
 - * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Purbeck Pirate Festival** Events all over Swanage! Re-enactments, beach skirmishes, parade, stalls, games, music and much more!
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
 - 10:00 **Cathy Veale Exhibition of Paintings** At Purbeck House Hotel, Swanage. Ffi: cathyveale.co.uk
 - 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
 - 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com

- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 11:00 **GroundDog Day** At Maragaret Grenn Lincoln Farm Rescue Centre, Bere Rd, Winterborne Kingston DT11 9BP. Dog Show, dog agility, food and refreshments.
- Mon 27th
- * **Beer Festival** At The Kings Arms, Stoborough. Live music all weekend, wide range of beers, ciders and ales available!
 - * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Purbeck Pirate Festival** Events all over Swanage! Re-enactments, beach skirmishes, parade, stalls, games, music and much more!
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
- 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
- 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 10:00 **St John's the Evangelist Church Flower Festival** In the grounds of St John's the Evangelist Church East Holme. The church will be decorated with floral displays and outside there will be a book stall, raffle, tombola, plant stall, games for the children and refreshments. Gates open at 10.00am free entry.
- Tue 28th
- * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
- 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
- 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 10:00 **Family Have a go at Stone Carving** At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult, £17.50 per child, booking essential.
- Wed 29th
- * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
- 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
- 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 10:00 **Family Have a go at Stone Carving** At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult, £17.50 per child, booking essential.
- 19:30 **Celebrating our Musicians** At the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Swanage. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks.
- Thu 30th
- * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
- 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
- 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 10:00 **Family Have a go at Stone Carving** At Burngate Stone Carving Centre. £30 per adult, £17.50 per child, booking essential.
- 19:30 **Illustrated Talk** by Gwen Yarker At Harman's Cross Village Hall. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks.
- Fri 31st
- * **Purbeck Art Weeks** Ffi: purbeckartweeks.co.uk
 - * **Free Art Exhibition** At Faith House, Holton Lee. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks (venue no.45). Free Parking, sat nav BH16 6JN.
- 10:00 **Exhibition of Local Artists & Makers** At The Old Blacksmiths, Creech, BH20 5DG. Refreshments (inc. gluten free cake) available. Ffi: theoldblacksmiths.com
- 10:00 **PAW Festival Exhibition** At The Gallery at 41, Corfe Castle. Closed Tues. Ffi: galleryat41.com
- 10:00 **PAW Makers Market** At Burngate Stone Craving Centre, Worth Matravers. Demonstrations, work for sale, refreshments.
- 19:30 **The Art of the Countertenor** With Mark Chambers, at St. James' Church, Kingston. Part of Purbeck Art Weeks.

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 **Over 50s Men's Walking Football Club** at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 11.30am. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
- 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 **Over 50s Women's Walking Football Club** at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 9pm. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
- 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 Harman's Cross Village Hall. All ages & abilities welcome. Coaching given. Till 8pm or later. 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.
- 19.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at Beach Gardens Pavillion, Sw.
- 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 Thursday at Carey Hall, Mistover Road, until 12.30pm (come anytime between). No age or gender restriction. All crafts welcome we have a wide variety! Come along and share your craft or learn a new one! Contact Donna on 07870 993311 or Helen on 07368 352737 ffi.
- 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'Urbeville Hall. Cakes, preserves, plants, crafts, vegetables. Coffee & biscuits available.
- 10.00 **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** at Queensmead Hall, Sw. Til 11am. Adm 50p
- 10.00 **Volunteer Centre Drop-In** at Wareham Library till 12pm. Find out about volunteering to support community groups & charities.
- 10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com
- 10.15 **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 **Over 50s Men's Walking Football Club** at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 8.30pm. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
- 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**
- 08.45 **Coffee @ 112 - Drop In For Coffee!** Catch up with friends at 112 High Street (United Reformed Church) in Sw. Cake and bacon butties. Fair trade stall. Donations for 'Besom in Purbeck' and church funds.
- 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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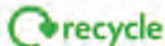
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