

The Purbeck Gazette



March 2020
Issue no. 242

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Attend The Official Flag Raising! Pg 12



Treat Your Mum On Mother's Day Pg 24-29



Swanage Blues Festival. Pg 40-41



Swanage's GOLD Team! Pg 16



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Editor's note...



Welcome to the March edition of your Purbeck Gazette!

Well, spring has sprung! We had some wild weather in February with some impressive storm systems, so hoping that everyone is still standing!

This month we celebrate Mother's Day with our monthly feature and we see start of the 'season', with the fabulous Swanage Blues Festival (see pages 40 & 41), held during the first weekend in March throughout Swanage and further afield.

We carry a very important notice this month from the Mowlem Institute in Swanage (see page 13). New trustees have joined the board and a long, exciting future is now ensured for this community facility. I can't wait to see what changes are on the horizon and urge you all to continue supporting the theatre as the trustees work to set the Mowlem on an even keel for future generations.

We also have the entire town of Swanage joining together for the 'Great Swanage Spring Clean' this month (see page 33). Even those less mobile will hopefully be out offering refreshments and cake to those taking on the task of spring cleaning our house fronts, streets, pavements and open spaces. Get busy baking, pop the kettle on, get organised with your neighbours and make a real effort this month to join in with this remarkable community push to keep our environment looking its best. We're worth it!

I hope you've all survived the winter months without suffering the blues too much - the days are getting lighter and summer WILL come eventually! Enjoy March and see you all in April!

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The **March 2020** edition has a **deadline** of 7th February and will be distributed from 24th February - 28th February 2020.
The **April 2020** edition has a **deadline** of 9th March, and will be distributed from 27th March - 3rd April 2020.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Mar '20

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

Swanage Town Council Meetings - March 2020

Planning & Consultation Committee	Mon 2nd	6.30pm
Policy, Finance & Performance Man.	Wed 11th	9.30am
Tourism Committee	Tues 24th	10am
Council	Mon 30th	7pm

Wareham Town Council Meetings - March 2020

Council	Mon 3rd	7pm
Museum	Wed 4th	7pm
Planning & Transport	Wed 11th	7pm
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Thur 12th	7pm
Amenities	Wed 18th	7pm
Policy, Resources & Finance	Tues 24th	7pm

Dorset Council

For details of council meetings, councillors and decisions please use the web address: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/committees

Alternatively, if you use the old 'Dorsetforyou' address:

www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/committees - you will be redirected to the same link called 'committee meetings and papers'.

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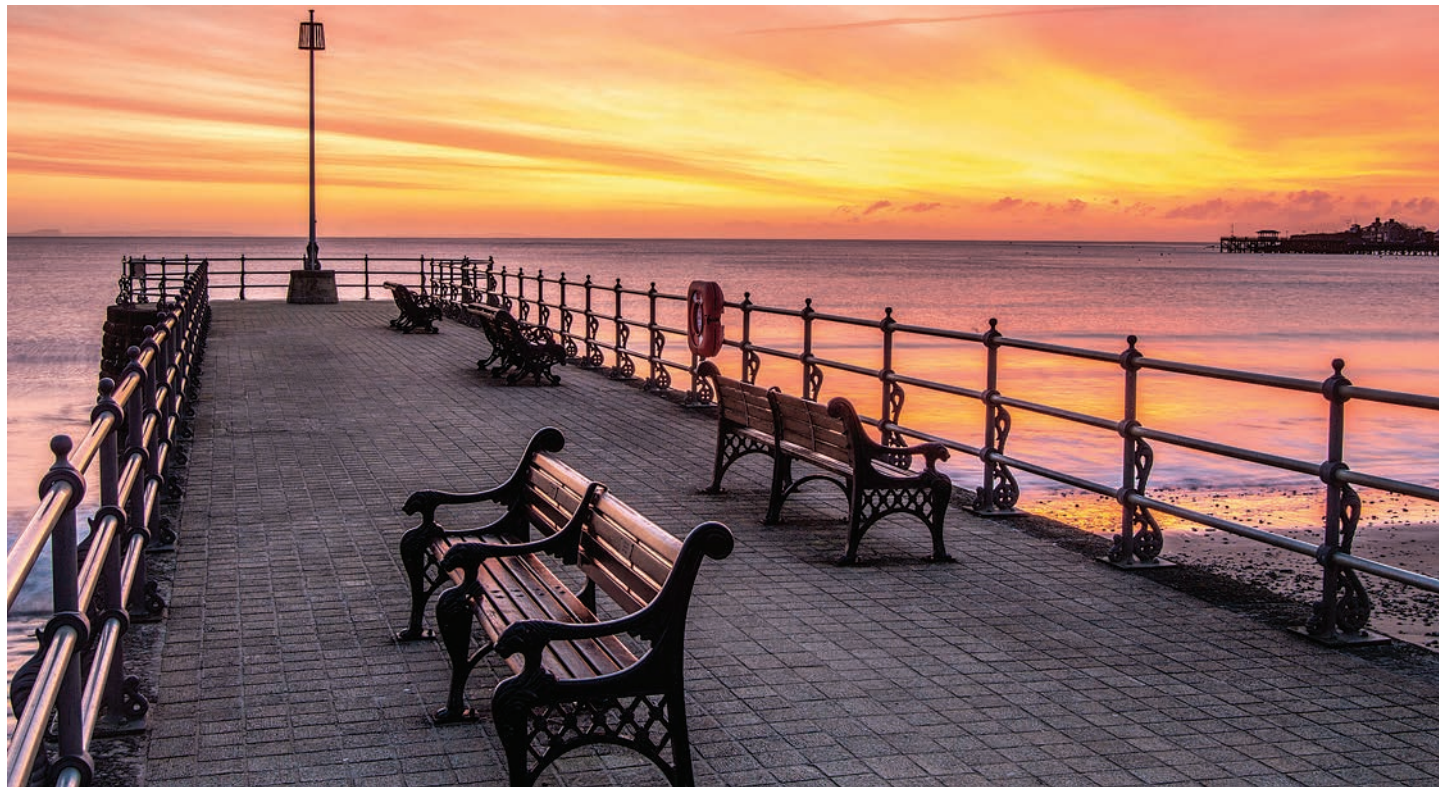
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Sunrise in Swanage , by Richard Murgatroyd

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DEADLINE FOR APRIL IS 12 NOON, 9th MARCH

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.

APRIL edition deadline: noon, 9th MARCH

The Need To Unite

Dear Gazette,

So, Brexit has happened! The Labour Party are electing a new leader. Let's hope they elect someone who recognises that their defeat was not just due to Brexit but also a manifesto, leader and policies that were too extreme for the electorate.

The government now has a comfortable majority. So the outright opposition of policies is a waste of effort. However, we do need an effective opposition to highlight any problems with legislation and to propose realistic solutions.

Where there is change, there will often be winners and losers. The bigger the change - the bigger the losers and the potential for unintended consequences.

An example of this is Universal Credit. As a grand design, it has merit. But it was poorly implemented. Access to it is only online and many of those seeking it have neither experience of online applications nor any equipment on which to do it.

Secondly, payment was delayed for five weeks, leaving recipients without any money in the meantime. Thirdly, there was insufficient thought given to letting the losers down gently. Had the opposition raised these concerns, instead of outright opposition, they would have saved a great deal of distress.

Similarly, we all need to accept that Brexit has happened. We need to unite in support of our government, so that they can negotiate the best possible deal for the United Kingdom. A deal that is not only good for us, but good for the EU as well. For the people of Europe are still our friends and allies.

Let us hope that enlightened pragmatism will succeed over political ideology.

Regards, Michael Oldman, by email

Green Poetry...

Dreaming of a green Brexit?

Brexit is such a good idea

Who wants to trade with nations near?

Better to trade with those far away

Even if we earn less pay

Even if we waste more oil

Even though the Earth will boil

It's worth polluting more land and sea ...

But I wonder if Extinction Rebellion will agree!

Many thanks, Martin Hobdell

The Unknown Warrior

Dear Editor,

In response to the letter in your February edition regarding the Unknown Warrior, I was delighted to read that Richard Pursehouse was able to add to the story of the man buried in Northbrook Cemetery and will inform Swanage Museum accordingly so they can add this to their records.

It must have been a distressing struggle for P.S. Thomas and Constable Heath to transport the body from Ballard Head to the coal shed belonging to the Steamboat Company, in 1919.

It may interest your readers to learn that a Friends of Northbrook

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Cemetery Group, where he is buried, is being set up with the encouragement of Swanage Town Council. This may involve the volunteers helping with small gardening tasks to improve the area, where so many war graves and other persons of note are buried.

If you would like to be involved, please contact me, Thelma Deacon, by email at: thelmapurbeckcoast@hotmail.com

Regards, Thelma Deacon, by email.

Come On Dorset Council!

Dear Editor,

Opening Doors seems all fine and dandy,

Though having infrastructure first would be handy.

Decent roads, more buses and a Hub fit for use,

A suggestion surely that's not too obtuse.

So, come on Dorset Council and planners all,

Before allowing more building; vital services install.

Yours sincerely, E.B. Smith, Stoborough, by email

Look Up Your Family

Dear Readers,

It's coming up to the time when we remind all the folk in Purbeck who have an interest in researching their ancestors and drawing up a family tree that Dorset Family History Society has a 'Family History Day' coming up.

Every two years, the society gathers exhibitors from other Family History Societies in nearby counties and commercial enterprises that supply the kit needed for our hobby (obsession??).

We bring in expert speakers - this year on using DNA alongside your paper trail in research (Dr Penny Walters) and how to trace your Agricultural labourers and other workers (Dr Janet Few). Tickets for the talks are just £1 each. There is also a free talk on how to get started on your search.

That's all good news - but it gets better - FREE entrance, free car parking, refreshments available all day AND our research specialists will be there with our databases and access to online sources to help and guide you - for free. Look on the website: www.dorsetfhs.org.uk for details.

Date: Saturday 21st March. Time: 10am until 4pm. Place: Parkstone Grammar School, Sopers Lane, Poole. BH17 7EP.

Whether you have one of the many names that have a long history in Purbeck or Dorset at large (and there are many!), OR if your ancestors came from foreign parts like "Lunnun" or Canada, or South Africa or... or...we can help you!

We deal with Dorset - and the world. Happy hunting!

David Gynes, Chairman, Dorset Family History Society, by email

How Will Town Benefit?

Dear Gazette,

Here we go again. Dorset Council spending our hard-saved Council Tax on Institute Road in Swanage.

Can someone explain to me how spending almost half a million on this project is going to benefit the town? Delivery lorries/vans will be in allocated zones, ie. dropping off points, but what happens if all the spaces are full?

Will the other delivery vans just have to drive round till the drop off points become free? The poor drivers, under pressure no doubt to get to the next delivery etc., have to physically unload their goods and take them by stacker truck or something to the shops in Institute Road.

This is going to pose a danger to pedestrians on the pavement - particularly



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LIVE ACTS FOR MARCH

Sun	1st	2pm	David Celia and Marla
Fri	6th	8pm	Dave Manning
Sat	7th	8pm	Striking Clock
Sun	8th	2pm	The Last Inking
Fri	13th	8pm	Philip Clouts Trio
Sat	14th	8pm	Andreas Tophoj & Rune Barslund
Sun	15th	2pm	The Road not Taken
Fri	20th	8pm	Cory Seznec & Amadou Diagne
Sat	21st	8pm	Lewis Clarke & The Essentials
Sun	29th	2pm	Beans On Toast

in the summer months.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Martin Underhill, (some say Blunderhill) - do you remember, he spent millions on the proposed amalgamation of Devon, Dorset and Cornwall police force, which all went 'pear shaped'? Not a problem, says Martin, put another £24.00 on their Council Tax!

Well he's at it again. He wants to put another £1.25 per month on our Council Tax? As you may know, we pay the highest council tax in the country-higher than the City of Westminster or Mayfair.

Dorset Crime Rate Detection Figures - i.e: number of crimes solved, are something like 12-14%. So, by having a 'whip round' again on our Council Tax, can he improve the detection rate, to say 25%? I doubt it.

I'm sorry, but Martin Underhill PCC and his entourage are waste of space and Council Tax. This man is now setting the Council Tax for Purbeck! Outrageous. I read on Teletext he was stepping down. The sooner the better.

Yours sincerely, Marcus Mayhew, by email.

Purbeck Youth Music Thanks

Dear Readers,

Mayday Singers support the Purbeck Youth Music Initiative

Purbeck Youth Music Initiative would like to thank the Mayday Singers and their conductor David Fawcett very much for supporting us at their concert on January 11th in St George's Church, Langton Matravers.

The audience responded very generously and donated £277, which will be put to good use in the coming months.

Following our October 'Go Play' day, in which thirteen members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra played to and worked with pupils from all the Swanage, Langton and Corfe primaries, we are now supporting a cello club at St Mary's Primary, setting up violin group sessions at St Mark's, St George's and Corfe Primaries and a flute club at St Mark's.

We are also providing transport for at least 120 pupils and accompanying adults to attend the free BSO Schools concert in May and we are supporting a mini-Festival day of music making hosted by the Purbeck School which will bring together secondary pupils from the Purbeck and The Swanage School, with pupils from the three Swanage Primaries and Corfe Castle Primary.

For more information, readers can follow the link at: <https://www.purbeckartweeksfestival.co.uk>

or <https://www.facebook.com/moremusicforpurbeck/>

With grateful thanks from all involved with PYMI.

Jay Buckle, Richard Brown, Joan Ingarfield, Tim Arnold and Dilys Thomas (representing Purbeck Instrument Loan Scheme (Arts Club), Purbeck Art Weeks, and Swanage & Wareham Rotary)

Lost Nuclear Salvation

Dear Readers,

Re: Lost opportunities

I am sick to death of listening to Green parties, the media etc, blaming everyone else except themselves for the climate mess we appear to be in. They are responsible in great part, because of their past actions and statements which were, and are, founded on emotions and fear, and not on science-based evidence.

Consequently, we may have to endure a catastrophe.

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I worked for fifty years in the nuclear industry. Climate change was on the nuclear agenda in the late sixties before anyone else considered it. We thought we could be heading for an ice age due to dust and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere from coal burning.

The nuclear industry advocated changing to nuclear generation which would make the UK independent of imports for our power requirements and didn't poison the atmosphere. The Labour Party opposed any such plan.

We also had the embryonic technology to use the excess heat from a reactor to produce hydrogen cheaply, thereby laying the foundations of a hydrogen-powered transport system.

Guess who opposed that? The unholy triumvirate of FOE, CND and Greenpeace, ran an anti-nuclear campaign that was swallowed by the media and a gullible public.

The accuracy of those predictions has been tested by time and the safety record of the nuclear industry. Three-Mile Island caused no deaths, Fukushima caused no deaths and the worst accident of them all - Chernobyl, caused fifty deaths amongst the emergency workers but the countryside around Chernobyl is thriving.

Nuclear energy is safer than, and has the least environmental impact, of any other power generation and provides 24/7 electricity. We now have a mishmash of renewable energies.

As I write (18/1/20), the UK is covered by a large anticyclone which means there is no solar and no wind. The subsequent energy gap is filled by burning fossil fuels, importing electricity and electricity from the pitiful remains of nuclear power.

Fifty years ago, a 'blackout' wouldn't have been a hardship. We were used to power cuts and kept our oil lamps and candles to hand. Landlines still worked and railway signals still operated, and the country functioned.

Now, a three-day blackout in London or any major metropolis would paralyse traffic, trains, internet servers, hospitals and all retail. The 'just in time' economy would crash.


To be truly independent every country has to try and ensure independence in two areas - food and energy. We are failing in both.

We had the answers in our hands fifty years ago. How many more years are we going to waste?

Yours sincerely, J A Simpson, by email.



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53% Is A Majority, Yes?

Dear Editor,

How strange that the Tories claim to have a mandate to 'deliver' Brexit after winning just 46% of the election votes.

The parties that were broadly 'Remain' won 53% so, if not for the distortion of the 'first past the post' voting system, there would clearly be a mandate for remain!

Brian Marlotte, Wareham, by hand.

Following Our 'Nurdle Hero'



Dear Gazette,

I've heard about Mary, Swanage's 'nurdle hero', but I have never met her. Recently, I saw a woman crouched down a few beaches ahead and wondered if it was Mary. The woman had moved on by the time I got there but I went and had a look, and sure enough, I found nurdles! Nurdles are a raw material for the plastics industry, a lot look like fish eggs, so fish eat them, mistaking them for food (pictured, above).

I was shocked by the extent of them and started picking them up so at least a fish wouldn't be poisoned by that one. It's interesting when you are collecting nurdles as people stop and talk to you about the hopeless state of the world. As one, adults seem to have given up.

A little boy came along on his scooter. He saw the nurdles in my hand and I explained I was picking them up so fish wouldn't eat them. He surprised me by immediately jumping down onto the beach and joined in with concentration, as did his sister a few minutes later.

There are 7.8 billion people on this earth and the children agreed, if just a fraction of us decided to, we can sort out the environment. A Google search led me to: www.nurdlehunt.co.uk where they are collecting international data to help address the problem.

I love their positive attitude. On 13th - 22nd March 2020, they are organising The Great Global Nurdle Hunt. Have a look. You don't have to actually pick up nurdles to make a difference, but personally I feel every little bit counts. The squatting is good exercise and it's a very "mindful" pastime (a good idea to wear protective gloves).

Sue Jay, by email.

Gorse Burning Sensibilities

Dear Gazette,

May I say something about the letter sent in the December edition by R.A. Beuscher? For generations, man has burned the gorse in early March. Since this practice has not been carried out, the gorse has now got out of hand. If we were to shred or mulch the gorse, it would be unwise to put it on the footpaths as it would contain a lot of seed and in no time, there

would be no footpath and much of the seed would drop when mulching, which would soon generate more gorse.

I am in doubt about what the National Trust is doing. If they're cutting the gorse and taking it to a spot on-site to burn, they are defeating their object as they would be distributing seed all over and it will soon germinate.

Our forefathers burned the gorse where it was growing. By doing this, it would be 'goodbye' to all the seed and the gorse would be controlled. After doing this, the black stocks must be cut and disposed of.

This procedure would only take a few hours, so the pollution would be nothing compared to the vehicles going to the golf course 365 days a year.

Your sincerely, Ken Williams, by hand.

Encouraging Acceptance

Dear Editor,

Just a quick note to commend and thank you for the valuable and important article and sentiments in the February edition of the Purbeck Gazette - 'Nonbinary....'

Helping people understand the best way to engage and communicate with fellow humans in the modern and ever-changing world will greatly encourage acceptance and tolerance for all.

Best regards, Noel Penrose, Swanage, by email.

Prime Time Kids Say Thanks

Dear Editor,

Prime Time Kids Clubs staff would like to thank the Trustees of its Voluntary Committee. The children's club in Wareham offers out of school child care to children aged three - twelve years in the area and although the staff work tirelessly to provide a safe and fun environment for the children, we must not forget to give thanks to the volunteers who help run it on our management committee.

Having just completed our end of year reports, it is clear to see the work and effort they have given to the charity. Their dedication and support in enhancing the opportunities families have in the area to work or train whilst their children are cared for is so important.

It is not easy to find volunteers, so we wanted to take this opportunity to thank them for their time and to ask members of the community who may wish to join them to come along to our next AGM. Fundraisers and PA experience is an area needed for the charity.

Please email us at primetimekidsclub@tiscali.co.uk should you be interested in finding out more about the work of the committee or if you are seeking childcare.

Helen Pugh, Manager, by email.

V.E. 75 Party Tickets On Sale!

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to announce the tickets for the VE 75 Street Party will be on sale from the Tourist Information Office, Swanage, from the 10th March.

There will be 550 tickets, priced at £4 each. This is for a Union Jack food box filled with a delicious selection of party food. Fifty tickets for those who have food allergies (priced at £2 each) will also be available - this will enable you to bring your own food and sit at the party tables, you will also be given a Union Jack food box as a memento.

We also invite families to bring their own picnics and enjoy the 'Party on PAG' (Prince Albert Gardens), lots of fun and entertainment for all.

Many thanks, Linda Welsh, Langton Matravers, Swanage, Dorset.

Community Matters

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Need A Copper? Do It Online...

by David Hollister

It's great to hear that Swanage Town Council has finally agreed on the seating for the renewed bandstand being made from virtually indestructible maintenance-free recycled plastic. It's also good to see that the contract has gone to local tradesmen; well done Alan Houghton and congratulations to Swanage Town Council for such a sensible decision.

Dorset residents are being consulted on a county-wide dog-related Public Space Protection order. This will bring together five separate PSPOs created by now defunct district councils. County aim to ensure consistency, fairness and clarity for residents. Whether they will succeed is another matter.

The consultation form is available on the Dorset Council website. People can give their opinion on how dogs can use Swanage and Studland beaches, and the 'dog exclusion' areas in various parts of Dorset including play parks, sporting facilities, and other designated playing surfaces; should dogs be on leads or excluded altogether? Have your say before April 19th. Google 'consultation on dogs in public spaces.' If you don't at least contribute, don't complain when you don't like the decision that is made.

I've never been a 'dog person' but many of my friends couldn't live without their dogs. Whatever the council do will do they will end up pleasing some and annoying some. Somehow, I feel that there are so many lovely dog walks around Purbeck that perhaps us non-dog-lovers could at least hope for beaches and play areas free from dog detritus. Not nice to scrape off your shoes or off the carpets in your car.

Dorset Police are asking for a 1.99% increase in its share of the Council Tax, increasing your council tax from between £6.67 and £20 each year. I'm sure that many of you will automatically agree that the police are under-funded. But I would ask for a 1.99% increase in Police presence, a 1.99% improvement in the appalling current clear-up rate of only 7.8%, in greater access to the Police – and I don't mean their pathetic 101 'service'. I mean a proper 24/7 Police Station in all major towns like Wareham, Wool and Swanage, where the staff know their area and are Police Officers not 'advisors' and where their first suggestion isn't "did you know that you can report this online?".....

But it isn't just the Police that do this; try ringing Dorset Council to report a dangerous road, or to contact someone to sort out an out-of-hours nuisance, indeed, to talk to them about anything at all. All their "advisors" are "helping other customers" but in the meantime, they are sorry to keep us waiting but "did you know that you can report this online". And all sorts of other useful information that you can "do online" or "send us an email" all to camouflage that fact that a) they have insufficient staff, b) they don't really know anything about their area and c) they really don't want to talk to us at all.

So, if we want a proper service, we have been told to pay yet more money. I already pay a £2400 annual penalty for living in a nice house (which I partly built myself) in a pleasant village with no annoying streetlights, but where I am obliged to have a substantial remotely-manned burglar alarm system to keep my property safe because there aren't enough police.

Honestly, I begrudge paying any more whatsoever until I get an adequate

service. Perhaps when the infamous Georgian Gems armed robbers are apprehended, I might feel more inclined to pay. Perhaps when they spend less time harassing motorists and more time on foot patrol, I might feel more inclined to pay. And perhaps if the £2.2m annual cost of the PCC's office was re-directed to proper police officers, I might feel that I was getting better value for money. Anyway, 74% of respondents agreed to pay more so I guess I'm in the minority.

Martyn Underhill says that they will now be able to balance the budget and recruit an extra fifty officers. How many of those, Martyn, will be local bobbies with local knowledge, dedicated to the Isle of Purbeck and not just swallowed up in the Bournemouth or Weymouth conurbations?

Wasn't it good to see the pro-active Sustainable Swanage group planting trees along Victoria Avenue recently, and giving thousands of trees away for people to plant in their gardens? If only there were more like them! Let's all try and plant at least one tree in 2020 in our own gardens, back yards, or even patio pots. Grow them until they become too big for your patio, then pass them on to people with garden space to spare!

I was recently obliged to fell a huge mature apple tree in my garden; it had died and become dangerous. So, we planted an oak and a couple of cherry trees to compensate; pleased to report all are doing well.

Wasn't it good to see Swanage Coastguard receive the Jean Dean Memorial Award for the best Dorset Coastguard Team recently? They have dealt with some significant incidents in the past eighteen months but have remained resilient, maintained emergency cover and professionalism throughout. We are so lucky to have our locally based emergency services in Purbeck.

Swanage Town Council recently asked for nominations for their 'Community Awards' and I do hope that you took the time to make your views known. The winners will be announced at the Swanage Annual Parish Assembly on Monday April 20th, so I hope you will go along and show your appreciation to the winners.

Incidentally, still no comment whatsoever from County officials or councillors regarding the Wareham crossing fiasco that I mentioned to you last month. Clearly, they either don't read the Gazette or respond to the comments and complaints of the electorate who put them there and who pay their wages.

Well it's been a year since the Councils all merged and I wish I could say that we have seen any improvement. Huge pay-offs to officers made redundant. Council tax bills climbing despite the promised 'economies'. Highways in an even greater mess. As anticipated, Purbeck is now even further away from the seat of local government. I used to refer to Purbeck District Council as 'idiots' but at least they were our own 'idiots' and at least they knew where Purbeck was.

So, County Councillors, if you want to complain about me then send me an email to ignore, or telephone me and I will play you some music and put you on hold because I am experiencing an unusually high volume of calls.

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National Coastwatch
Eyes along the coast



It seems strange to be reviewing last year in March but, with publication deadlines and an impending holiday coming up, the month's "View from the Lookout" is being written in January!

During 2019, the station was operational for 6,619 hours, on 364 days (the only day we are shut is Christmas Day).

During that time, we logged 5,245 working vessels, 11,172 leisure craft and 632 military or other vessels.

This last category includes vessels such as the Border Force cutters and the numerous lifeboats that come out of the RNLI base in Poole.

One of the highlights was when a large grey superstructure loomed over the horizon one day in November. It was the HMS Prince of Wales on her trials. I'd like to think that we were the first NCI station to log her, but I might face some competition there! The vessels range in size from large seagoing ships like the Barfleur down to the small little rowing boats and kayaks that we see out in Swanage Bay during the summer.

We were also involved in eight incidents during the year. Of these, seven incidents were instigated by the watchkeepers at the Point. Two of the incidents involved the rescuing of casualties by the coastguards and RNLI while most of the rest involved monitoring vessels that had issues.

After one of the incidents two of the people involved came up to the Lookout to thank us for our efforts. This is certainly one of the most rewarding aspects of our role – knowing that our intervention made a difference.

When visitors ask us what exactly our job is, we often need to point out that it's not a job but something we do voluntarily. Along with the other two thousand watchkeepers, we are all volunteers. Most of us have finished working and do our watchkeeping duties in our spare time. When people realise that we are volunteers they often assume that we all have a maritime background.

While we do have ex-royal navy and merchant navy watchkeepers, many of us had roles that had nothing to do with the sea. Within the station we have watchkeepers who were teachers, engineers, local government officers, managers, health service workers and prison officers. Some of us are active in water related pastimes such as sailing, canoeing and diving while others openly admit that they prefer to watch the sea from the shore!

I think what brings us together as a group is the desire to give something back to the community. One of our watchkeepers summed it up by saying: "The attraction is the wonderful outlook on the ever-changing weather and sea conditions, the camaraderie and, most of all, the feeling that one is being of use to the community." Another said: "I have felt safe knowing we have teams of dedicated people, who work tirelessly to keep our coastline safe. So, I decided to join them and be part of that unique team keeping our coast safe and secure, whether you are in a large vessel, yacht, dinghy or a family on the beach or walking the cliff top. I am there so they can always feel safe!"

I think we are all proud to be part of the community of volunteers who keep our coast safe. We feel privileged to be part of the team which includes the RNLI and the local Maritime and Coastguard Agency Coastal Rescue teams. Just like us, they are all volunteers but, unlike most of us, they all have jobs that they have to juggle with when they go out on a 'shout'.

They deserve all the recognition they can get. As I write this short article, I've just found out that the Swanage Coastguard Rescue team have just won the Jean Dean Memorial Award for the best coastguard team in Dorset. This is the first time the accolade has been awarded so it's perhaps a double honour. Well done to the team and it's a pleasure to work alongside you as part of the Dorset Coastal Search and Rescue Community.

This is Swanage NCI, at Peveril Point, listening on Channel 65, out.

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Probus Gift To Julia's House



Probus 2 Club of Purbeck has recently donated £835 to Julia's House. This money has been given from the proceeds of raffles, held at each of the Club's monthly meetings.

Probus 2 of Purbeck have donated to this charity for several years in recognition of the valuable service that they provide from their Poole base. This charity provides practical and emotional support for families caring for a child with a life-limiting or life-threatening condition, providing frequent and regular support in their own homes, in the community or at their hospices.

The club's members feel that, from the many charities in our local communities, Julia's House provides a unique style of support for families coping with difficult and challenging situations.

The photo shows Sarah Agnew, Community Fundraiser for Julia's House, receiving a cheque from Roger Arnett, Chairman of Probus 2 Club of Purbeck.

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

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Swanage Joins Together To Commemorate The Heroic Actions Of Local Man, Trevor Chadwick

As we begin the run-up to VE Day 2020, we are delighted to let you know that various groups and individuals will be working together, with support from both Swanage and Dorset Councils, to raise money to commission a commemorative statue or carving to publicly remember the work of an heroic Swanage man, Trevor Chadwick.

Trevor Chadwick should be a nationally known household name, as his colleague, Sir Nicholas Winton, is. Trevor played an absolutely crucial part in what is now known as the 'Kindertransport', bringing mainly Jewish children to the UK as WWII broke out to save them from certain death.

After colonial service in Nigeria, Trevor came home to Swanage, becoming a Latin teacher at the Forres School in Northbrook Road. In 1938, Trevor travelled to Prague to personally collect two Jewish boys who were being sponsored by Forres School to bring them back to the safety of the UK.

Trevor's life then took an unusual turn as he was introduced to Nicholas Winton in Prague and his work then began on the Kindertransport. It was Trevor who remained stationed in Prague and interviewed Jewish parents as well as assisting with the selection of children to be sponsored and brought to safety in the UK. According to reports, Trevor personally saw every child on to the trains which managed to depart.

Trevor was also heavily involved in obtaining forgeries to allow some children to leave, thus putting his own life at great risk from the Nazis whilst working abroad. Trevor resigned in June 1939, requesting a replacement if at all possible. It is thought that the work he was doing had become too dangerous and that he may have become too well known by the Germans.

Just under seven hundred Jewish children, along with several adults, were

saved on the Kindertransports before the Germans halted the transports on September 1st when they invaded Poland. 250 children had been due to leave on the 'last' train, which was stopped by the Germans.

Sir Nicholas Winton had always stated that the operation had not been a one-man effort, but rather the results of a small group of individuals working tirelessly together. At one point when interviewed, Sir Nicholas 'modestly insisted' that Trevor Chadwick was the real hero.

Trevor Chadwick was one of those individuals, absolutely instrumental in saving the lives of so many at great risk to his own life. We shall not allow him to be forgotten.

Over the years, whilst the Kindertransport is well remembered worldwide, Trevor's name has somehow gradually been dropped from the acknowledgement of this daring and dangerous effort to save those at greatest risk of death, in a war-time situation. Well over 5,000 people are alive today due to the efforts of this small but hugely brave group of people.

A new working group has now been formed, encompassing many different individuals from Swanage, to raise funds to commission a suitable, permanent memorial for Trevor, placed on Town Council land, to stand as a testament to the bravery and tireless efforts of a Swanage schoolteacher, for time immemorial.

It is hoped that once in-place, the memorial will become a focus for those surviving Kindertransport children and their many descendants.

Anyone wishing to become involved in this most worthwhile project is invited to contact Swanage Town Hall and leave your name and contact details to be passed on to the Chadwick steering group.

Gazette Round-Up Of Recent Police News...

13 February - Image appeal following theft on Brownsea Island. Officers investigating the theft of items from a boat on Brownsea Island are issuing images of some of the stolen items in a bid to locate them. Between Wednesday 5 February and Saturday 8 February 2020, a number of items were stolen from a boat that was stored in the centre of the island within a fenced area. The stolen items include a Kobelt hydraulic helm with steering wheel and black painted stainless steel mounting plate, a bronze hydraulic steering ram with gimbaled ends and aluminium mounting plate, hydraulic steering hoses with stainless steel end fittings, a sea strainer with hoses, a Sabre engine instrument panel in a waterproof case with strobe light on top and an aluminium fuel tank. Two nature view motion operated cameras were also stolen.

12 February - Update in search for man missing in Swanage. A body has very sadly been found in the search for Daniel Peay who went missing in Swanage. Dorset Police received a report at 8.10am on Tuesday 11 February 2020 raising concern for the welfare of 35-year-old Daniel Peay. There was information to suggest he may be in the Old Harry Rocks area. Very sadly, a body of a man was located at around 10.45am on Wednesday 12 February 2020 approximately five miles south west of The Needles on the Isle of Wight. While the body is yet to be formally identified, it is believed to be that of Daniel. His family has been informed and is being supported by officers. The death is not being treated as suspicious.

12 February - Update - man due in court in connection with serious injury collision in Purbeck. A man is due to appear in court in connection with a serious injury road traffic collision in Purbeck. At around 8.45am on Wednesday 30 October 2019, Dorset Police received a report of a collision on Corfe Road in Stoborough near Wareham involving a street cleaning vehicle and a pedal cycle. The cyclist, a local woman aged in her 70s, sustained serious injuries and was taken to hospital for treatment. The driver of the street cleaning vehicle was uninjured. Following an investigation by the traffic unit, a 60-year-old man from the Wareham area has been issued with a postal requisition to appear before Weymouth Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 18 February 2020 for an offence of driving without due care and attention.

11 February - Update in relation to reported rape in Dorchester. Detectives investigating the reported rape of a teenage girl in Dorchester have arrested a man. Dorset Police received a report that at around 9.20pm on Thursday 5 December 2019 a 15-year-old girl was raped in a field at St Osmund's School in Barnes Way. It was reported

that the victim was walking along the field when she was approached by a man and forced onto the ground before being sexually assaulted. Following extensive enquiries, a Dorchester man aged in his 30s has been arrested on suspicion of rape. He is assisting detectives with their investigation.

10 February - Update - man due to appear in court in connection with drugs warrant near Dorchester. A man is due to appear in court in relation to a drugs warrant executed by officers near Dorchester. At around 8.55am on Wednesday 9 January 2019 officers carried out a warrant at two properties in the Wardon Hill area. Inside four lorry containers officers found what were suspected to be cannabis plants being grown. A 49-year-old man from the Dorchester area was arrested in connection with the incident and has now been issued with a postal requisition to appear at Weymouth Magistrates' Court on Monday 17 February 2020 for an offence of producing a class B drug. A 63-year-old man from the Dorchester area who was also arrested in connection with the incident has been released from the investigation and will face no further police action.

6 February - Pre-inquest into the death of Gaia Pope held. The 'Justice for Gaia' campaign website issued the following statement: 'We were granted a full inquest under Article 2 (Right to Life) of the European Convention of Human Rights, with a jury to examine the role of Dorset Police and healthcare services in Gaia's death. The coroner said: "It is arguable that acts or omissions by Dorset Police may have been or were contributory to Gaia's death. I am satisfied there has been an arguable breach of the obligations under Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights."'

23 January 2020 - Woman sentenced following serious injury collision near Wareham. A woman has been sentenced following a serious road traffic collision near Wareham that left a motorcyclist with life-changing injuries. Rosemary Anne Staddon-Smith, aged 74 and of Gatemoor Road in Winfrith Newburgh, was sentenced at Weymouth Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 21 January 2020 after admitting an offence of driving without due care and attention. She received six points on her licence and was ordered to pay a fine of £147, costs of £85 and a £32 victim surcharge.

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 55200015309. Alternatively, contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org.



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Swanage Primary School To Sing At Wembley



Swanage Primary School Choir are set to sing at Wembley Arena on March 17th.

The children will perform as part of the 'Voice in a Million' mass choir of around 6,000 school children.

They will be singing to an audience of thousands including their family and friends. The children are understandably very excited at performing at a venue that has recently hosted the likes of Bryan Adams, Robbie Williams, and twenty-one pilots.

We are indebted to Perenco (based at Wytch Farm) who have generously donated £600 towards the cost of the trip.



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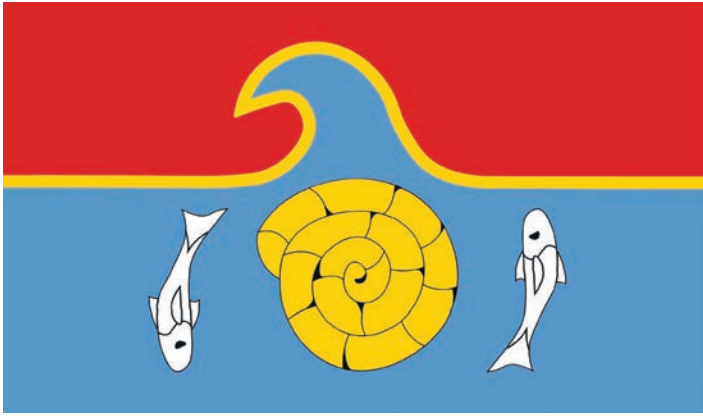
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Raising The Purbeck Flag!



Everyone is warmly welcomed to join Swanage's Town Crier, Andrew Fleming, to attend the official flag raising of the now-recognised Purbeck Flag at the Swanage Tourist Information Centre, Shore Road, Swanage, at 11am on Friday 6th March.

Andrew warmly invites any representatives of local parish councils within the boundary of Purbeck to attend, as well as representatives of local groups and organisations.

Members of the public are also encouraged to come along and marvel at the sight of our own official island flag being proudly raised in pride of place!

We understand singing the Purbeckian Anthem may also be on the cards, so a real treat is in store for those able to attend!

Pictured: above - the official Isle of Purbeck flag. Below: Andrew with a group of locals 'beating the bounds' of the Isle of Purbeck - pictured on the northern boundary, near to Wytch Farm on the Rempstone Estate.



Wareham Lions Club



Here are just a few photos of a recent seniors' party held at the Purbeck School on Saturday 18th. An annual event where we ferry around one hundred and fifty seniors to the event.

Money is raised for this, as well as keeping our Lions Ambulance on the road, with our "Penny 4 Christmas" bucket rattle around the pubs in Purbeck.

Thanks to the Purbeck School, U drive, Dorset Disabled, the Taxi industry and our friends in the licensed trade to enable this event to happen.

Bob Wasey, President, Wareham Lions Club.

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Dorset Highways drop-in session

at The Town Hall, Swanage.

Thursday 12th March 2020

10 am – 3 pm

At the invitation of Swanage Town Council, please come along on 12th March and meet members of Dorset Council's Highways Team.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions or raise queries regarding anything concerning local highways e.g. parking restrictions and road defects.

Training will also be available on how to access the Dorset for you website, where you can comment on or report highway issues.

No appointment necessary, just call in between 10 am and 3 pm, using the door at the rear of the Town Hall.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Mr. Stephen Mephram
Community Highways Team Leader
Dorset Highways
Dorset Council
01305 221020
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



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The Mowlem looks to future, appointing three new prominent trustees to its Board

Appointments will play crucial role in continuing the charity's work in Swanage

The Mowlem Institute, the charity which runs the Mowlem in Swanage, has appointed three prominent new trustees to its Board. The new appointments are all passionate about the Mowlem and its work for the local community, and also have diverse experience in a range of relevant areas including theatre, cinema and charity law.

They include:

Paul Angel: Paul has lived in Swanage for 15 years. He runs two award-winning bookshops and a record store in Bournemouth and Wimborne. He was Chair of Education Swanage between 2009 and 2015, successfully leading negotiations with the Department Of Education which led to the opening of The Swanage School. He acted as Chair of Governors for its first two years of operation and continues to play a role as Parent Governor.

Nick Field: Nick has lived in Swanage for over 20 years. He works for the Department for International Trade, giving export advice to South West businesses. He ran a regular acoustic music night, bringing up-and-coming singer songwriters from both the UK and USA to Swanage. Nick is often found backstage in the Mowlem theatre, helping with production aspects of shows, including stage management and set construction. Nick is former Chair of Swanage Sea Rowing Club and Deputy Station Officer of the Swanage Coastguard Rescue Team.

James Kessler: James' family links with Swanage go back 80 years, when his mother was at Newton Manor School. He is a QC and expert in the law of charities and taxation. His passion is cinema. For 10 years James was a trustee of the Purbeck Film Festival and The Rex Cinema, in Wareham.

The new Board members will play a vital role in ensuring that the Mowlem - which was founded by John Mowlem in 1863 - remains a key focal point for Swanage. The Board is responsible for strategy, finances and promoting the Mowlem. A major renovation project is currently under consideration. Paul Grover, Chair of the Mowlem Institute, says: "This is an exciting next phase in the Mowlem's history. We are delighted to have recruited trustees with so much energy and experience to contribute. All our new appointments have a real love of theatre and film and a keen commitment to maintaining the vibrancy of the local community - of which the Mowlem is a key part."

"In addition, between them, our new board members have an ideal mix of backgrounds and skills to help make the most out of this unique and important local venue for the benefit of the community of Swanage, and Purbeck as a whole, and indeed, beyond."



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Rededication Of The Bells



On a damp Sunday afternoon on January 26th we welcomed 108 adults and six children to our service at St Mary's, Lytchett Matravers, to rededicate our bells. The service was conducted by Rt. Rev'd Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne. Rev Stephen Partridge had put together a special service starting with Ding Dong Merrily on High, which got the congregation in a celebratory frame of mind.

The bells were formally handed over by Terry Streeter of Taylor's Bell Foundry to Stephen who then passed the rope to Bishop Karen for her blessing and to dedicate the bells to the 'Glory of God'. Bishop Karen then passed the rope to Matt Riddell the Church Warden and then Debbie Phipps the Tower Captain. Rounds were then rung by the Lytchett Band.

Amongst our congregation were members from the Salisbury Diocese Guild of Ringers and East Dorset Branch members – our novice band (now getting more experienced) could not have reached this point without the huge support we have received from both these groups. Also present were representatives from some of the Grant bodies who made this project possible and also individual donors.

To enable our ringing to be up to scratch we thank Branch Chairman Ben Duke and Rosemary Duke, Gillian Richards and Branch Ringing Master Jack Pease to keep us on the right track. Jack also expertly organised the ringing during the afternoon giving the Lytchett band the opportunity to mingle with our visitors.

Our church volunteer refreshment ladies were helped by some of the ringers to produce a delicious tea following the service. We were delighted and grateful that Guild Secretary Vicki Rowse took so many excellent photos for us.

Bishop Karen tweeted at the end of the day 'Enjoyable afternoon rededicating the bells of Lytchett Matravers. Great team effort to complete project and continue to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. The bell biscuits and bell cakes were good too. Well done @DioSalisbury' To which a reply came from one of our church members: 'It was a really moving and joyful service of rededication of the bells to a packed church. Yes! the cakes were yummy too, well done everyone'

A perfect end to eighteen months of grant applications, events and fundraising. May our bells ring out for many years to come to welcome people to our church and give joy to those who are listening.

Debbie Phipps (Tower Captain)

Photo left to right: Matt Riddell (Church Warden), Debbie Phipps (Tower Captain), Rt. Rev'd Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne, Rev Stephen Partridge (Vicar of St Mary's, Lytchett Matravers), Terry Streeter of Taylor's Bell Foundry.

Wareham Rotary Club

Wareham Rotary club says thank-you for the Christmas carol collection

Wareham Rotary Club would like to thank everyone who so generously supported their recent Christmas carol collections around Wareham, Northmoor, Sandford and Wool.

Altogether, a total of £1979 was collected, which will be used over the coming year to support local charities and voluntary organisations mainly in the Wareham area. Wareham Rotary Club meet at 7pm most Tuesday evenings at the Springfield Hotel in Wareham.

For further information about the club and its wide range of community, fundraising and social activities, please visit www.warehamrotary.co.uk or follow on Facebook / Wareham Rotary or contact Debbie on debbiedunford148@gmail.com

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Help For Domestic Abuse Victims

New contract to help people experiencing Domestic Abuse

The Domestic Abuse (DA) Bill is being introduced to ensure Local Authorities offer help and support to anyone experiencing domestic violence and abuse. The Bill is expected to come in over the next twelve months. Local authorities in Dorset have always been committed to providing advice and support in the community, along with safe accommodation.

The DA Bill will make it a statutory duty for all councils to provide such support going forwards. Following a recent tender process, Dorset Council and The YOU Trust are about to enter into a new contract for the Domestic Violence and Abuse service, lasting for two to five years.

Starting in April 2020, the new service aims to support people earlier and will offer a range of help and advice. Closer working with partner agencies and innovative workshops will help people recognise abuse earlier and the service will include better support in the community, safe accommodation and housing, practical, financial and emotional advice. The service aims to increase the safety and protection of people and their families experiencing domestic violence and abuse and to prevent harm, escalation of abuse and risk. The service will be available to anyone aged 16 and over. This includes male, female and transgender victims with or without children and those living with or separated from the perpetrator.

Cllr Graham Carr-Jones, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety at Dorset Council, said: "This is a great development in Dorset's continued commitment to helping people experiencing domestic violence and abuse. Dorset is ahead of the curve in its preparations for the forthcoming Domestic Abuse Bill. Helping people to build links to local networks of support will be the foundations for the next successful step in preventing domestic violence and abuse in Dorset."

Tonia Redvers, Head of Domestic Abuse for YOU said: "We are thrilled to continue our partnership with Dorset Council and are looking forward to the challenges ahead to meet the needs of those people experiencing domestic abuse in Dorset."

Anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse can contact You First on 0800 032 5204 or by visiting www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

You are Invited to the Purbeck Business & Community Group

SHOW CASE

Date: March 17th – Time: 5:30pm Onwards

Place: The Pines Hotel, Burlington Road, Swanage

Local businesses and the people working in them are vital for a thriving local economy.

Come and meet some of these businesses, learn about how they can help you and how you can support them.

Showcasing on the night:

Purbeck New Wave Gallery, 1968 Accessories, Peppina, Bipcom Voice & Data, Nu Skin, The Lady Decorator, Quilter Financial Services, A Hospitality Creative, First Payments, Bliss Food Co, Business Support Services, I Can Be - Printing & Embroidery, Humphries Kirk Solicitors.

To book your **FREE** place or for more info, email:
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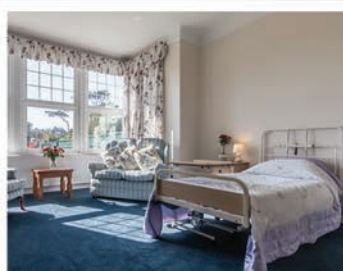
'The Highland Falcon Thief'

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Swanage Tourist Information Centre Wins GOLD Again!



Staff from Swanage Information Centre were all smiles again this year after attending the Tourism Awards (South West) on 6th February, held at Exeter Cathedral.

The team were once again awarded for their outstanding customer service and took home the gold award for 'Visitor Information Service of the Year'. Swanage's Durlston Country Park team also proudly took home a bronze award for 'Accessible and Inclusive Tourism'.

Councillor Caroline Finch, Chairman for Tourism at Swanage Town Council, said: "I am very proud of the investment that Swanage Town Council has made over the last four years into Tourism with regards to the Information Centre."

"It has not only been refurbished with additional staff employed, we have also refurbished the toilets and other facilities which help make it a fantastic place to visit.

"We do try to offer a great experience for those who are visiting for the day or who are staying longer. I think our Information Centre bucks the trend at the moment and I hope this will inspire other councils to see the value in having an Information Centre in a holiday resort or town and to not close these important facilities."

"This award recognises the wonderful achievements of our lovely, friendly Information Centre staff, as well as the commitment from the town council to invest in this important part of our economy for all our businesses."

Hospice Appeals For Your Support After Break-In

Lewis-Manning Hospice Care is appealing for urgent donations following a recent break-in at its new premises at Longfleet Road, Poole. Clare Gallie, chief executive at the charity, said: "Materials, old cabling and wires were all stolen from the Hospice's new premises. Construction work is underway with local suppliers who are getting the new premises ready, so we can move into Longfleet House in a few months. It is so heart breaking for us, as this is such a crucial time, when we are poised to launch our new outreach services, in the next few weeks.

From its new base, Lewis-Manning will be able to help even more people in Poole, Purbeck and East Dorset with life limiting illnesses. Its aim is to increase people's physical and social well-being, reduce isolation and loneliness, support people to stay in their homes longer, and alleviate the huge pressures on family and carers.

Tom Goodinge, Director of Fundraising at the charity, added: "We rely on donations to support every aspect of our work – that means volunteers who donate time, clinical experts who work for us and those people that give so generously to our fundraising initiatives. It's upsetting for all of us to experience a break-in and see the damage, therefore if you can give a little more at this time, we issue a heartfelt appeal and will be grateful for any donations."

Visit Lewis-Manning Hospice Care's *JustGiving* page and make a one-off donation or set up a regular monthly gift, <https://www.justgiving.com/lewis-manning> or please help by texting DORSETCARE to 70470 to give a gift of just £5 per month. Terms and conditions can be found on lewis-manning.co.uk

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WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

A meeting called under the terms of the Local Government Act 1972 for all residents of the parish of Wareham Town and hosted by the Town Council

**WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL 2020
TO BE HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM AT 7.00pm**

DOORS OPEN AT 6.30 pm

An opportunity to attend an open forum session with various representatives from Dorset Police, Dorset Waste Partnership, Dorset Council Parking Services, as well as your local Town Councillors.

Wareham Town Council Update

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



News from Wareham Town Council January

Reduce, re-use, recycle! The campaign to reduce the amount of food waste put in general rubbish is reckoned to have saved each household in Dorset £1. Food waste is digested anaerobically at Piddlehinton producing biogas and fertiliser.

Garden waste gets composted at Hurn. General waste gets the mechanical biological treatment with only bulky items going directly to landfill.

The Dorset Does slogan emphasizes that most people in Dorset recycle; in fact, the county has one of the best recycling rates. Glass goes to South Wales where it is separated, clear from coloured, crushed and relayed for remelting, clear in the UK, coloured in Europe.

Other recycling goes to a facility in North Wales. Even recycling costs money and in the year 2018/2019 Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) i.e. Dorset ratepayers spent £165 per household managing our rubbish. If you have crisp packets, biscuit wrappers or Pringle tubes, Purbeck Youth Centre is collecting them for fund raising. Dorset Council has a re-use directory.

Mr Marten Gregory of DWP, who spoke at the Council meeting, has

been invited to the Annual Town Meeting on 2nd April as have Dorset Fire and Rescue Service, the police and the delegation from Wareham, Massachusetts.

Work started in January erecting the temporary homes on the Middle School site. There are now four staff operating the level crossing gates. The former British Legion building in Keysworth Drive, Sandford, has had a planning application for change of use to a childcare day centre approved. The Town Council will be updating its computer hardware and software and buying insurance to cover health and safety and human resources claims. The Town Council precept is set at £357,615, an increase of 24.3%.

Council C. Turner was congratulated on the organisation and cooking of about eighty Christmas lunches and appreciation expressed of the entertainers and the Quay Inn. On a sadder note, before the meeting the Council observed a minute's silence in memory of Mr Les Burns, a former Mayor.

Do go along to the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday 2nd April at 7pm in the Corn Exchange. The next meetings of the Town Council will be on Tuesdays 3rd March and 14th April at 7pm in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall. The public is invited to attend Council meetings and further information is available on 01929 553006 or at the website, www.wareham-tc.gov.uk.

Swanage Coastguard Recognised For Resilience

Swanage Coastguard team recently made the following announcement:

"We are pleased to announce the team have been awarded the 'Jean Dean Memorial Award' for the best Dorset Coastguard Team. The award is presented by the Senior Coastguard Management team for Dorset and this year it was awarded for 'Resilience'."

"The team have dealt with some significant incidents in the past eighteen months, but despite the pressure those incidents brought, the team maintained emergency cover and a professional outlook."

"The award will have a yearly theme that is set by the management team, at the bequest of the late Jean Dean, to be awarded to a Coastguard Team in Dorset. We are honoured to be the first team in Dorset to receive the award."

Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

The March 2010 edition carried a front page story regarding the upcoming closure of James Day Retirement home in north Swanage. Having been established for over fifty years as a care home, James Day was set to close, leaving residents facing an uncertain future.

A large number of letters had been written with the intention of saving James Day if at all possible due to the requirement for beds to be kept in the area for the elderly who needed them. A protest group had emerged, showing strong, community feeling for the home to remain open and supporting those residents still living there in an attempt to keep them in the home they had become used to. (Group pictured protesting outside James Day on front cover, right, and below, being interviewed by TV news crews).



Parliamentary candidate, Richard Drax, joined in with concerns, requesting a meeting with Care South, who were running the home, to demand the facts. He described the home as 'old, half empty, losing money and rated 'poor' - the lowest rating - by the Care Quality Commission.' Richard stated that: 'As the decision to close the home was a business one, he had been

assured by both Care South and the county council that everything possible was being done to re-locate the residents, ideally to homes of their choice.'

Some time later, Agincare stepped into the breach, arranging to take on the building, renovate and update it and retain its function as a residential care home. The site was eventually renamed 'Gainsborough' by Agincare and it continues to remain open today, providing a home for those in our community who need some assistance in their later years....

Purbeck District Council registered a planning application for a four turbine wind farm at Masters Quarry, East Stoke, which had been submitted by renewable engery company, Infinergy. This application replaced a previous application for a wind farm comprising six turbines.

Masters Quarry was seen as an ideal site to develop a wind farm as it fell outside the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, had a viable wind resource, a viable electrical connection (no extra pylons needed) and as a brownfield site, was able to supply much of the material needed during construction. All documents pertaining to the suggested farm were available on the website www.alaskawindfarm.co.uk - the website no longer exists as the project never got the go-ahead due to opposition.

'Families for Children', an approved voluntary adoption agency, issued a 'desperate plea' to Dorset families in March 2010 to consider adopting. Families were urgently needed across Devon, Cornwall and Dorset for children, including sibling groups and those with extra needs. Social Worker Practice Manager, Dean Banks, stated: 'There are currently over 4,000 children in the Local Authority Care system in the UK waiting to be adopted.' The advertised website for those willing to consider adopting a child was listed as www.familiesforchildren.org.uk - the site is still live today, attempting to match prospective adoptees with children desperate for a secure, stable home to call their own.

If you've ever considered adopting, please do take a look. Regulations regarding who can adopt mean you do not have to be married, you can have your 'own' children and your sexual preference is not a barrier to adopting.... children are out there, desperate for a safe space of their own, so if you're interested, please do consider the possibility seriously.

Valerie Pike, secretary of the 'Swanage in Bloom' group wrote in to let readers know that after twenty successful years, the group had regretfully closed due to dwindling committee numbers. Whilst winding up its affairs, the group ensured that money raised for future projects (Swanage in Bloom projects scheduled for 2010 and 2011, namely to enhance the flower beds around the war memorial on the Rec and to plant daffodil bulbs along the banks of Prince Albert Gardens), had been provided. The committee thanked the town and all those who had entered previous 'in bloom' competitions.

In his monthly column, 'Telling it like it is', writer, David Hollister, asked: 'Has anyone noticed that the sea wall has been breached down by Playland in Swanage? Perhaps those people living in the ghastly block of flats opposite the White Horse Inn should look out of their windows... How on Earth was planning permission granted for that building? Should we just let nature

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March 2010
Issue no. 122

Protesting outside James Day Home. Photo: Laura Mills.

JAMES DAY HOME TO CLOSE

As a bush fire rages through the countryside, so the rumours concerning the closure of James Day Retirement home quickly swept through Swanage in February. Established for over 50 years as a care home, James Day is now set to close. Various problems, including a high level of vacancies and a 'low' rating at the last formal Care Quality Commission inspection (on a scale of excellent, good, adequate and poor, James Day was classified as 'poor'), have led to the current situation. A recent rent increase of 31.7% has been put forward by Care South as the reason the home faces imminent closure, however, the rise was set by an independent body (not DCC). Care South having enjoyed low rent since the last review in 1996, DCC, during recent discussion with Care South, offered a period of three months 'rent free' to enable Care South to deal with the current situation and help relocate residents. This offer was refused, leaving residents and staff with a short notice period to leave the home and relocate.

The following letters sum up the thoughts of those who have relatives at James Day as well as our MP, Jim Knight and prospective parliamentary candidate, Richard Drax.

Future of James Day Home - extract from letter sent from Care South to staff. ...It is with much sadness that I have had to inform you that James Day Home will be closing as a residential care home. Over a number of years James Day Home has experienced difficulty filling beds and, as a result, occupancy has fallen significantly.

Continued on page 10

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take its course?' Today we are lucky enough to have (albeit temporary) sea defences as a recent addition, although they are not positioned directly on the seaward side of Playland, they do cover part of the Lower High Street and part of the main beach area near to the Mowlem Theatre.

At the time of writing it has been reported several times in 2019/2020 that these newly-placed defences have stopped the sea overtopping the sea wall and flooding areas of the town since they were sited in 2019. This shows that there is indeed a requirement for additional, possibly permanent sea defences if the town is to remain recognisable for the foreseeable future and so that residents do not need to 'take to their boats' to get to the shop, as they did in decades past (Station and Institute Road shopkeepers - don't forget those handy 'storage basements' below your shops were originally purposed as flood chambers!!).



Our March 2010 featured 'Business of the Month' was Little Rascals (pictured, left), situated in the newly built Tilly Mead Courtyard in Swanage. Following the demise of Woolworths, locals Angie and Paul (previously of 'Cloud 9' in Institute Road, Swanage), had opened a new shop selling affordable childrens' clothes as there was no alternative store in Swanage offering kids

clothing. After some time of battling against online sales and large stores out-of-the-area, Little Rascals sadly closed due to lack of support, leaving locals to bemoan: 'Where, oh where can we purchase clothes for children locally?!!' Once again people - same old, same old - actually support your local shops or literally see them close down as you're not using them!

Business



Redmayne Bentley

End of the Tax Year Review

With the end of the tax year rapidly approaching, it is a good idea to review your financial position and to specifically look at the following areas:

ISAs – Most adults in the UK are permitted to subscribe up to £20,000 during the 2019/20 tax year in a combination of a Cash ISA and a Stocks & Shares ISA, with a maximum of £20,000 across both. Many Stocks & Shares ISAs are also now 'flexible' meaning that you can replace any monies which are withdrawn from the ISA during the same tax year.

You could, for instance, withdraw the income from your ISA and could replace these monies by transferring holdings to the same value from a non-ISA. The tax advantage of ISAs is that all income is tax-free and any realised gains are free of Capital Gains Tax.

I would strongly suggest that you speak with your investment manager if you have a managed ISA to ensure that you are making the most of your ISA allowance. For instance, it may be more tax efficient for you to fully subscribe to a Stocks & Shares ISA and keep cash in a non-ISA, as the income may fall within your tax-free Savings Allowance (which can be up to £1,000 depending on your tax position).

Capital Gains Tax – Up to £12,000 of gains can be made during the 2019/20 tax year within the Capital Gains Tax allowance. If you have large inbuilt gains in your portfolio or on other assets, it may be worth seeking professional advice as to how best to use your allowance.

As part of a general review of your finances, you may also wish to speak to your financial advisor if you are contributing to a pension, and your accountant in case there are any tax efficient steps that you could be taking.

Another important area to think about is **Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney**. A Will ensures that your assets are distributed according to your wishes after you pass away and can also be worded for tax efficiency.

Under a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA), you appoint a person/people you trust to look after your affairs in the event that you are unable to do so yourself. LPAs exist for property and financial affairs and also health & welfare and you can choose to have either or both.

For both Wills and LPAs, I would suggest seeking professional help to ensure that they are prepared properly and are not ambiguous.

Please note that tax treatment depends on the specific circumstances of each individual and may be subject to change in the future.

Kate Spurling, Investment Manager, Redmayne Bentley 01202 714450

The Redmayne Bentley Bournemouth and Poole office is located at 139 Commercial Road, Ashley Cross, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0JD. You can follow us on Twitter: @redmaynebentley.

For our website, see www.redmayne.co.uk/poole

**APRIL 2020
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Did you miss filing your tax return?

Are you among the over 958,000 taxpayers that missed the 31 January 2020 filing deadline for 2018-19 Self-Assessment returns? If you missed the filing deadline you will be charged a £100 fixed penalty if your return is up to 3 months late, whether you owed tax or not for the 2018-19 year.

If you do not file and pay before 1 May 2020, you will face far greater penalties. A daily penalty of £10 per day, up to a maximum of £900 (90 days), will be charged from 1 May 2020. Further penalties will apply if your return is still outstanding for more than 6 months after the 31 January 2020 filing deadline. From 1 August 2020, you will be charged a penalty the greater of £300 or 5% of the tax due. If your return still remains outstanding one year after the filing deadline, further penalties will be charged from 1 February 2021.

You can appeal against any penalties that have been issued and HMRC has said that they will treat appeals where tax-payers have genuine excuses, leniently. However, you need to act fast and the excuse must be genuine and HMRC can ask for evidence to support any claim. An appeal must usually be made within 30 days of receipt of the penalty.

If you need help sorting out a late return, please call. It is better to resolve any late filing issues sooner rather than later in order to reduce your exposure to interest and penalty charges.

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Free one-to-one Will advice sessions for Purbeck and Dorchester residents aged over 50 in partnership with Age UK Dorchester. Book an appointment to discuss Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, and the range of financial products and services available.

Sessions will be hosted by:

- **Kelly Payne** on Thursday 27 February and Thursday 26 March at Pine Martin Grange in Sandford Road, Wareham.
- **Orla Laurenson** on Friday 3 April at Rowan Cottage in Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester.

Appointments can be booked by calling:



Age UK
Dorchester on
01305 269444



www.hklaw.uk

The Value Of Reporting To Trading Standards

In the last full financial year local Trading Standards services together:

- Received around 500,000 complaints, and undertook 43,000 investigations
- Visited over 30,000 businesses to help them understand business law and trade fairly
- Prevented £26 million pounds being handed over to doorstep criminals
- Provided advice and support to 11,000 people affected by scams
- Found over 3,000 businesses that were supplying food that was mis-described, had undeclared allergens, contained illegal ingredients, or was involved in food fraud
- Tested 6,000 retailers and found a quarter illegally selling alcohol, tobacco and knives
- Detained over twenty million illegal products including tobacco, toys, cosmetics and electrical products, some of which could have caused life changing injuries

Dorset Council Trading Standards are always keen to speak and work with local business in flexible ways to offer advice and support to get things right. We put a lot of effort into supporting business in this way from home start-ups to established national companies. Trading Standards have a dedicated animal health team supporting Dorset farmers who are

an important part of our business economy and natural environment too.

It is important though that we act quickly where needed to stop bad business behaviour and we have a published enforcement policy on the Dorset Council website that we follow in a stepped approach to make sure a business can understand what to expect when we come across things that are not fair or safe.

Sometimes a business' behaviour is so bad that we do need to take formal action to protect people and to act as a punishment and deterrent to others.

Our prosecutions are usually reported in the local press, recent examples being rogue doorstep trading and animal welfare.

Many of you reading this will go about your daily lives buying goods and services from businesses without a bad experience. That's because we work often unseen in the background with the aim of keeping you protected.

If you do however see unfair or unsafe trading that you'd like to report to Trading Standards then call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.

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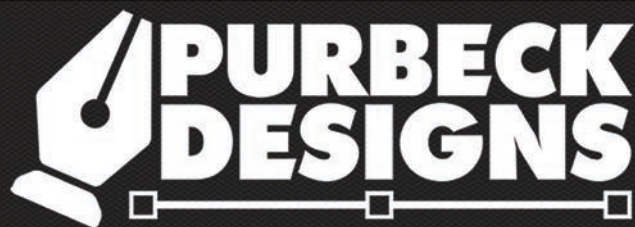


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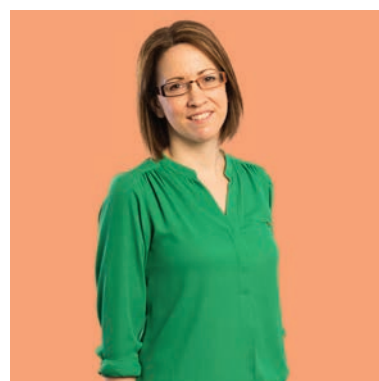
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By having your Will drawn-up by a professional significantly reduces the risk of a successful challenge being made against your Will after your death.

In addition to instructing a solicitor to prepare your Will, I would advise that you also prepare a letter setting out your reasons for making your Will as it is. This could explain why you had chosen to not treat your children equally for example. Such a letter is evidence of your testamentary capacity. It can also calm a situation down if a disappointed family member can see your reasons for acting as you did.

Depending on your age and whether you are suffering from particular medical conditions, a solicitor may also advise you to obtain a medical report on your testamentary capacity. It is easier for this to be done at the time, than for your Executors to request this after your death, which could be many years later.

No professional can guarantee that no one will challenge your Will, but the above 'belt and braces' approach will give you the most watertight Will possible.

If you are an Executor or beneficiary of an estate where there is a challenge, then my colleagues in the Dispute Resolution department can advise you.

For more information on Wills and Trusts please contact Natalie Mason in the Private Client Team on 01929 500323 or natalie.mason@battens.co.uk.

For more information on Inheritance and Probate Disputes please contact Peter Livingstone in the Dispute Resolution Department on 01935 846235 or peter.livingstone@battens.co.uk.



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From The Kitchen Garden...



Vegetable & Rice Soup

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

March is quite a lean month in the Kitchen Garden calendar. Apart from the different types of brassicas (kale, cabbage, sprouts and mustard leaves), there isn't much else fresh to pick. After being trashed in the February high winds, I pulled them all and fed the lot to the chickens.

The enjoyment was palpable and every cockerel picked out the best bits to tempt his gang of girls! I'm always astounded by the popularity of the brassica family to all animals - slugs, snails, other invertebrates, all sorts of birds and especially pigeons, chickens, geese, rabbits and of course, deer! Not forgetting the dreaded white cabbage butterfly caterpillar - all love to have a nibble.

When left to flower in April, any kale plant will be absolutely buzzing with bees and other flying insects. Anyway, they're out the ground now, so the place is ready to be worked when the soil is a bit drier. Always a tricky call to make this, ploughing whilst too wet is bad for the soil structure, when at the same time, ploughed ground dries out better.

In the meantime, there is lots of pricking out of tiny seedlings to be done in the poly tunnel. This is quite a monotonous job, but at the same time, once I get into the rhythm of it all, the busy hands free up the mind to think and plan.

The first batches of beetroot, chard, onions and leeks have germinated and now need to be transplanted into the next, bigger 'home' to grow a healthy root system, before hardening off and being transplanted again into their final growing positions.

Later on in the growing season, direct sowings are so much easier but I think the fiddle early in the year is worth it and gives me a longer growing window.

Like every year, I am tempted to grow a few new things while at the same time making sure I also grow enough of my customers' old favourites.... sweet potatoes will be one of my trials as there is a growing interest in this bindweed relation and I seem to be doing rather well cultivating that! Oca tuber is another trial; this one is a lovely firm and crispy tuber, ready in late autumn and can be eaten raw or cooked. Winter salads will taste different!

In the meantime there's still quite a selection of winter store vegetables needing using up and a vegetable and rice soup is quick and easy to make, wonderfully warming and versatile.

Vegetable & Rice Soup:

Ingredients (4 portions):

-2 tbl. sp. olive oil

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1/2 celeriac, chopped
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 1 litre (2 pints) warm stock or water
- 250 g fresh spinach or chard/cabbage/kale, washed and shredded
- a good handful fresh parsley or a mix of other fresh, seasonal herbs
- 150 g brown rice
- salt & pepper to taste

Method :

Heat the oil in a large sauce pan over a medium heat, then add the onion, celeriac, carrots and sauté for a few minutes until they start to soften and colour

Slowly add the warm stock and stir

Season to taste

Add the brown rice and gently cook until the rice is nearly done, then add the spinach/chard and fresh parsley for the last few minutes of cooking.

Check the seasoning and ladle into warm bowls.

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We offer workshops and have the following dates available in March.... book Mum a space!

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28th March, 10am - 12 noon. Hanging Landscape Globe (with stand). £35pp, everything included.

18th April, 10am - 12 noon, Open Succulent & Cacti Terrarium. £40pp, everything included.



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(bookings are taken via Eventbrite)
Set number of spaces available, so book now to avoid missing out! Bring nature indoors...



LET YOUR MUM KNOW YOU LOVE HER!

BROWSE THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR SOME SPLENDID IDEAS OF FABULOUS VENUES TO TAKE HER FOR A SCRUMPTIOUS MEAL, OR FOR LOCAL ACTIVITIES SHE MAY ENJOY.....

YOU ONLY GET ONE MUM - IF SHE'S NO LONGER WITH YOU, WHY NOT GO OUT FOR A MEAL OR A LOVELY WALK, OR ENJOY AN ACTIVITY IN HER MEMORY?

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL YOU MUMS OUT THERE!



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*DISCOVER SAILING! Come and see what's on offer on Sunday 1st March, 11am - 12.30pm
Swanage Sailing Club, down by Swanage Pier. All welcome!*



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Contact: swanagesailingclubmembership@gmail.com

Visit: www.swanagesailingclub.org.uk





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Give Mum The Gift Of Calmness...



The Little Shop of Calm opened in West Street on the 1st of February 2020 and I'm really pleased with the response from the local community. I've been very busy from day one, providing all kinds of massage therapy for the people of Wareham, many of whom have not had any kind of massage treatment before.

Although I have been working from home for quite a while, I wanted to create a massage space that felt accessible, comfortable and nurturing to all who walked through the door, whoever they were and whatever their needs; we have a diverse and vibrant community in Wareham and I am really keen that the services I offer are personalised to all individuals and are not just targeted at certain groups.

To ensure that the needs of the community are met, I am offering a range of services from Swedish massage, incorporating Hot Stones and Warm Bamboo if desired, to specialist massages for the feet or face as well as using PhysioPod, a fantastic piece of kit that gently oscillates damaged tissue down to 8cm- brilliant for injuries that still feel too painful to treat or wounds from recent operations, (you can do a wicked facial treatment with this too!) If you want something that I don't do, I will usually be able to think of someone who does.

At times the Little Shop of Calm may seem closed - that will usually be treatment time, but I do try to have open doors for part of the working day, for people to drop in, have a chat and to get a feel for what I do.

For the future, I'm hoping that this will become a family venture, with my lovely daughter, who is currently studying nutrition and is interested in all things wholesome and healing,

So if you are around, do pop in and have a chat, It will be lovely meet to you. *The Little Shop Of Calm team.*

The Little Shop Of Calm

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Motoring

Taking Over The Asylum

by David Hollister

It came as quite a surprise to our motor manufacturers when Transport Minister, Grant Shapps, announced that the ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel cars could start as early as 2032, that's only twelve years away.

The environmental lobby will no doubt be rubbing their hands and whingeing that it's still too far away. The practical amongst us will be wondering what – if anything – we will be driving in our old age.

I have been championing the cause of environmentally friendly electric cars in this column for about ten years, since I first drove the revolutionary Nissan Leaf. But it's clear to me that the 'ban' is going to do no more than close down the UK's car factories and boost the sales of good used cars. We'll all buy new petrol cars (hopefully diesel will have gone by then) and drive them till they fall to bits.

Because notwithstanding their pathetic 'legally binding measures', the idiots in charge – clearly all London-based – will still not have understood that you can legislate till the cows come home but if there aren't enough electric vehicles being produced, if they're still being sold for ridiculously high prices or not strongly subsidised, if the ranges and the charging infrastructure haven't improved, we down here in the countryside with inadequate or non-existent public transport will rise up and spit in their eyes and go on using clapped out and probably illegal petrol cars and vans as the only alternative to nothing at all.

The day after the Chief Idiot made empty yet well-meaning positive statements about climate change and the environment, he announced that HS2 is definitely going ahead, destroying over a hundred established woodlands and countless thousands of trees so that a few people could travel from London to Birmingham half an hour quicker.

They're already talking about having to reduce speeds in the north of England to cut costs.... That's over a hundred billion pounds that can't be spent on improving roads and existing railways, or indeed housing our homeless or reducing our reliance on foodbanks. Oh, sorry, he has announced that another five billion will be spent on buses. Hang on a minute, does he mean diesel buses or the electric buses that haven't been invented yet?

So, we all have Nissan Leaves or Renault Zoes (won't be able to afford Tesla) and getting stuck in traffic jams (that won't change) because we will be queuing to recharge our batteries once we have driven eighty miles behind other people queuing to do the same.

Darkness will fall but we can't use lights as they will drain the power. It will get cold because electric cars need electricity for their heaters and wipers, too. A million useless stationary vehicles than can't be rescued or serviced by the AA because the AA can't get through the jams.....

Rural MPs like ours should be shouting from the rooftops that the principle is fine but those of us fortunate to live outside London or with no public transport also need to get around, go to work, do their shopping, etc. In other words, solve the problem before it happens. Don't wait till after the event. We may have straw in our hair but each and every one of us

rural yokels is equally as valid as a city-dweller.

I see that Dorset Council have written another fairy story about in-town improvements on about twenty named roads in Swanage. Last time they published it, I drove around every listed road at the end of the period and was unsurprised to find that nothing had been done. No diggers, no rollers, no tarmac machines, nothing.

This one will come into operation on Monday 2nd March; it is anticipated that the work will take place in the day, between 0800 and 1600 hours, and will be completed by Sunday 15th March. Or not. Who are they employing? SGN? If the Chinese can build and commission a thousand-bed hospital in under a fortnight, how come SGN have taken over six weeks (at the time of writing) to re-lay a gas main over 400 yards?

We all saw the press releases regarding Institute Road "improvements". The upgrading of the pedestrian crossing was supposed to start on January 6th and be completed in up to three weeks. At the time of writing - still not finished. The traffic island in Shore Road was started on January 27th and still isn't finished. The alteration of kerbs in the High Street was supposed to start in early February and still isn't finished.

The main works on Institute Road were supposed to start on Monday February 10th and weren't. They are supposed to take sixteen weeks, which by my reckoning would be the end of May, if they'd started on time. Which they didn't. Shore Road is usually closed from 1st May till the end of September. So, that's a month and probably more when traffic going down Station Road has literally nowhere to go. Some traffic jam that will be!

So, I call upon Swanage Town Council or Dorset Council to delay the closure of Shore Road until the Institute Road works are finished. But they won't - will they?

The details of the scheme were probably worked out by the same idiot who planned the new junction at the foot of Coombe Hill with no regard for heavy goods vehicles obliged to deliver to Langton Matravers and who now have to drive into Swanage to turn round in order to get to Langton..... and maybe the same idiot who authorised SGN to close Victoria Avenue and divert HGV traffic up the High Street without imposing parking restrictions on the narrow bits near Jewsons and Costcutters!

I have watched drivers of these huge vehicles almost in tears of frustration. You don't want HGVs in your residential area but if the Co-Op or Budgens don't get their deliveries, then what will you eat?

This whole thing is turning into a total mess simply because none of the 'authorities' and 'utilities' are talking to each other and trying to find a way round the problem.

Authorities? Government? Councils? Utilities? I despair.....

PS : I tried again to report the dangerous puddle to Dorset Council. May as well have stood on Peveril Point and shouted into the wind. In the good old days when this flooding happened, we had good old Councillor Mike Lovell standing in it in his wellies clearing the drains himself.

So very sad to lose him as a Councillor and a friend; I went to his funeral on Valentine's Day. I wonder if his replacement has a pair of wellies and a shovel? I think not!

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www.dorset.police.uk/opsnap



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March 2020

During March a steam service will be operating between Swanage and Norden via Herston Halt, Harman's Cross and Corfe Castle on selected dates: Saturdays 7, 14 and 21 March, Tuesday to Thursday 24 – 26 March, then daily from Saturday 28 March.

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

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

Our "Wessex Belle" Dining Train operates on Sunday 22nd March (Mother's Day) with a Dorsetman Luncheon train.

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

Swanage Station Shop and Buffet are open 0930 to 1530 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday and all train operating days. The Buffet at Swanage Station has temporarily relocated from the Birds Nest carriage to the Booking Hall whilst renovations are carried out.

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

Volunteer Vacancies

Volunteer Visitor Assistants – Purbeck Mineral and Mining Museum, Norden.

We are seeking volunteer visitor assistants to provide a warm, friendly and informed welcome to our visitors.

Your purpose is to deliver a quality, enjoyable and safe experience at the Purbeck Mineral and Mining Museum.

For more information contact:

iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk



**Purbeck Mineral
and
Mining Museum**

Natural Matters



Imposter Syndrome No More

by John Garner

I've written for this excellent magazine for a number of years now. You'll notice that the title of the Gazette suggests a general affinity with Purbeck, even though many folk read it outside this area. I have no doubt that some of the people who contribute and advertise within it are from outside the area.

All probably factual, but in no way interesting I hear you say. Well, the reason I mention this is that a year or so ago some signs went up near Stoborough suggesting you would be entering the Isle of Purbeck should you carry on driving south. I lived in Wareham and was therefore deemed to not be a Purbeckian (can't be right).

On broaching the subject with a sometime acquaintance from near to Harman's Cross he was, to say the least, affronted. To be truly in Purbeck, he argued (and with much bluster), you needed to be on the south side of the Corfe river, a river I hitherto hadn't realised existed.

However, I have very recently moved both inside the boundary sign and also to the 'correct' side of the diminutive, but clearly significant Corfe river. When Caesar was recalled from his systematic wiping out of the Gauls (I think we'd class it as genocide these days), he had a choice to make when he got to the border areas of France and Italy.

He arrived at the Rubicon and was reported to have made a decision to cross this historically more famous of rivers on the basis that once he'd done so he would be at the mercy of the powers that be in Rome. Hence the phrase crossing the Rubicon to mean no going back. It seemed to work out reasonably well for him, at least in the short term.

I was not faced with such a monumental decision when I trundled along behind the removal van the other day. It didn't feel like a life changing decision, but it did feel like a good one.

As I seem to spend a good part of the year heading into the heart of Purbeck, it feels good to have it right here on my doorstep. At this point I would say I am no fan of unnecessary boundaries or boundaries that are in any way used to differentiate people in a negative sense. But it is my favourite place on the planet and as with most people here, I feel blessed to be in the heart of it.

I also recently went to the Banff film festival, which is a platform for all

things outdoor and mountain related. You should definitely go if you have any affinity with the outdoors. There were some amazing films and one in particular fits quite neatly within this article about boundaries and borders. It was about slacklining.

Slacklining is a sport where you suspend a line between two points and walk across this line. It's a bit like tightrope walking but the line is wider, and you generally don't have any balancing aids. I say 'you' as I've no intention of balancing on a few centimetres of nylon, suspended over a couple of hundred metres of nothing, possibly above a raging river or equally inhospitable pile of jagged rocks. I appreciate you almost definitely build up to this at ground level, but I sort of feel that ship has sailed for me.

Anyway, back to the film about slacklining. It involved a team of Mexican slackliners and a team of American slackliners. The idea was to meet up, suspend a line across a gorge at the Mexican/ USA border and walk across. This they did and the Mexicans walked across to the USA and the Americans walked across to Mexico and then representatives from both nations walked halfway across and met in the middle.

The symbolism was clear for all to see. Borders are often used as a stick to beat people with. Geographical borders can be more effective than most and have often determined the boundaries of countries by necessity. Lines drawn on a map by administrators or politicians are often less affective and merely store up a simmering resentment which at some unspecified point in the often near future, will spectacularly explode.

Easy now. I appreciate we seem to have gone from moving to a new house here to international geo-political rhetoric. Not an easy step, but something to consider. I'm very happy to be living where I do and that's that.

I did not have to cross the Corfe river on a suspended slackline to make a symbolic or literal point. To be fair it would not have been the intense adrenalin fuelled balancing act that was shown over the gorge separating the USA and Mexico.

Truth be told you can hop over it at most points. Nor did the crossing feel like a moment of no return a la Caesar. But it did feel like a very pleasing journey, albeit a short one. Besides I doubt Caesar had to unpack his own boxes when he got back to Rome. I'd best get back to it.



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GREAT SWANAGE SPRING CLEAN

SATURDAY 21ST & SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

Swanage Landers, part of Litter-Free Purbeck, has agreed to lead the *Great Swanage Spring Clean* on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd March 2020. This will support the national 'Keep Britain Tidy' initiative, *The Great British Spring Clean*, which runs from 20th March to 13th April 2020.

Our aim is to encourage residents and organisations within Swanage to safely 'do their bit' to tidy up pavements, kerbs, house-fronts and communal areas by removing litter, weeds and detritus - the sand, muck & other stuff that gathers on pavements.

WHAT CAN YOU SAFELY DO?

Residents and homeowners are encouraged to safely support a general tidy up around the property where they live, or to assist a neighbour who is unable to 'do their bit'. This could extend to a communal area, a path or a ginnel. We encourage those who are unable to physically help out to offer refreshments to those who are getting involved.

Swanage Landers and Swanage Beach Buddies will arrange formal group litter pickings as part of this initiative.

Swanage Landers 'Task Teams' will tackle a number of deeper cleans across the Parish over the weekend.

For litter picking sessions, Swanage Landers will meet at the Main Beach Car Park, Victoria Avenue, BH19 1PW

Please do come along on: SATURDAY 21 MARCH: 0800, 1030 & 1400 hrs OR SUNDAY 22 MARCH: 1030 & 1400 hrs

Contact us by email: frank@herstoncross.co.uk

.....Pledges of help have already been received from Ideal Skip Hire, Moonfleet Cars, Nixons Hardware & Swanage Town Council. Can YOU pledge to help the Swanage Spring Clean?.....

DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



Success for Durlston in the Southwest Tourism Awards!

We are delighted to announce that following our Gold in the 'Accessible and Inclusive Tourism' category of the Dorset Tourism Awards, Durlston scooped a Bronze in the Southwest Tourism Awards this February!

This is a huge tribute to the hard work by staff, volunteers and our partners to make a visit to Durlston possible and enjoyable for as many people as possible. We hope that the improvements to paths, seating and new interpretation created as part of the Durlston Pleasure Grounds project will help make Durlston even better!

Wildlife

Whilst the basal rosette leaves of Early Purple and Early Spider Orchids are both starting to emerge it will be the latter that blooms first on the shallow downland soils.

Ramson leaves decorate the woodland floor, with the yellow flowers of Lesser Celandine brightening the Car Parks! Horse Chestnut is covered in large, brown sticky buds. Later in the month the cliff hugging Sea Campion reveals its white flowers.

Look out for Bee Flies, hovering as they use their long proboscis to sip nectar from Cowslips. Over-wintering Red Admiral and Peacock butterflies also set out in search of nectar and may be seen alongside dry-stone walls warmed by the sun. Catch a glimpse of Adders basking outside their Tilly Whim steps hibernaculum before they disperse! Of course, the Wall Lizards

about the Castle will be a more reliable fixture. We can expect up to several hundred Guillemots to gather cliff side, with a small percentage of Razorbills amongst them. Could there be more than three pairs of Fulmars breeding this year? Off-shore, you might spot returning Sandwich Terns, Swallows and Sand Martins, or if you want a challenge, search for a Durlston Ring Ouzel or Yellowhammer.

Events

To see some of these species, join a Ranger for the "Signs of Spring Walk" on the 8th, or later on the 22nd for "Spring has Sprung" or perhaps go on both to see nature's progress!

Most appropriately during our Durlston and the Sea Exhibition we host the Wareham Whalers for a 'Ships and Shanties' Concert on the 6th March!

Meanwhile, the 'shed' hosts a Hapa Zome Arts session, with leaves and petals being used to naturally colour designs upon cloth! Other shed events include a Wattle Hurdle making taster session and Happy Horticulture event gently preparing the garden for spring.

We also have two Stargazing events this month - as always these are non-bookable as our partners Wessex Astronomical Society must review the weather conditions to determine whether these sessions will run.

For more details, visit the Durlston Events webpage:

www.durlston.co.uk/events.aspx

Margaret Green Animal Rescue



Brand new event in celebration of charity's fifty-fifth year!

2020 marks the 55th year of Margaret Green Animal Rescue caring for rescue animals. The new event named The Country Dog Show will take place on the 8th and 9th August and combines the charity's two major events into one big extravaganza!

With plenty to do for all the family, particularly the four-legged kind and children, it really is an event not to miss. The event is being held at the Church Knowle Centre, just outside Wareham and gates open at 11am each day. You can expect live music, local gin, fine cheeses, haybales, fun dog show, ice cream, kids' zone and animal education.

Early bird tickets are available from the Dorset rescue centres and charity shops which offer a discounted rate than on the day of the event.

Pencil the day in your diary and keep your eyes peeled for new attractions announced. www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk



Margaret Green Animal Rescue

Dorset's best kept Secret

margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk

Church Knowle Rehoming & Visitor Centre, Wareham BH20 5NQ
t: 01929 480474
Registered Charity No: 1167990



Margaret Green Animal Rescue

Country Dog Show

8th & 9th August 2020 | 11:00 - 16:00

Where
Church Knowle Rehoming & Visitor Centre
Wareham
Dorset
BH20 5NQ

Tickets
Available from our Dorset rescue centres & our charity shops
Early Bird: £4 Adult per day / £2 Child per day
Or on the day: £5 Adult per day / £2.50 Child per day

A brand new event!
In celebration of our 55th year

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Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Gorgeous Long-Lasting Flowers from Seed

Over the years there has been a drive by bedding plant growers to develop more compact and uniform plants because:

- A tray of plants looks better if the plants are all the same height
- The shorter the plants are the more shelves can be delivered on one trolley and
- More compact plants are less likely to snap during their journey from the nursery to the customer's garden.

I believe this is more about production and distribution challenges through garden centres than the beauty and value a plant brings to the gardener.

A classic example of this is the wonderful garden plant Cosmos. Yes, you can find Cosmos plants in the garden centre from April to June, but the range is very limited.



However, there are so many more exciting varieties, in a dazzling range of colours, growing up to 4ft tall and flowering continuously from June to October.

So, why not try one of these varieties?

Cosmos Sweet Kisses

Pictured, above left.

Cosmos Purity

Pictured, left.

Grows to 4ft tall and is ideal for the back of the border.

Cosmos Xanthos

Pictured, below left.

A beautiful yellow form.

Here are a few other plants that are well worth growing from seed because you won't be able to buy them as plants.

Morning Glory

Pictured, top right.

Morning Glory is a climber and related to bind weed, but don't worry it's not going to take over your garden! Mind you, I wouldn't mind if it took over mine!

Eschscholzia 'Carmine King'.

Pictured, second down on right.

You may well be familiar with the



bright orange form of this, the California Poppy. Ideal if you are on a light sandy soil.

There are a whole host of sunflower varieties, but I have chosen these two because they are both a bit different.

Sunflower Black Magic

Pictured, third down on right

Sunflower Vanilla Ice

Pictured bottom right

Growing annual plants from seed is very satisfying, will save you money and will also give your garden a distinct point of difference.

Seed sowing is easy and the seed packet has all the information you need to guarantee success, even if you are a beginner.

This is but a small selection of interesting flowers that you could grow in your garden this year, so pop over to the garden centre and have fun choosing.

The Gardens at Holme open again in March with thousands of spring flowering bulbs to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you soon and hope that your gardens - big or small - are filled with wonderful blooms this spring and summer!





			
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Suttles Reduce Their Carbon Footprint



In a bid to reduce Suttles Stone Quarries' carbon footprint and energy costs, Swanworth Quarry's workshop has recently undergone installation of a 49kW, 120 panel photovoltaic (PV) solar system supported by Low Carbon Dorset and installed by Wessex Eco Energy.

Throughout the year when solar radiation is

produced the panels will generate electricity to provide power for the workshop, security and any fixed electrical systems within the quarry.

Importantly it will also help to power the quarry's 160kW crusher motor which was upgraded to electric from diesel back in 2014, significantly reducing bills and some reliance of fossil fuel energy sources. The system will save around twenty-five tonnes of CO₂ per year.

Suttles Stone Quarries began working on the project in the latter part of 2019 and was approved for the grant from Low Carbon Dorset in time for work to be ultimately completed in October. The process, which included numerous site visits from Low Carbon Dorset's Renewable Energy Technical Officer, Dr Derek Moss, was concluded with a feasibility study and application for £16,693 of grant funding.

John Suttle commented on the project's completion; 'I was impressed with the professionalism and speed of the installation by Wessex Eco Energy. I think Low Carbon Dorset are doing a great job in helping to fund projects like this.

"Every business that is suitable for solar or other renewable energy generation and efficiencies should be applying and I hope that Low Carbon Dorset continue to be able to provide funding in future.'

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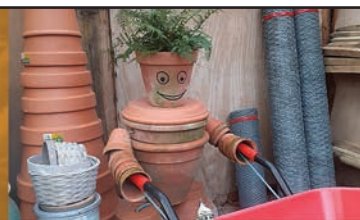
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Arts & Entertainment

Time For Our 2020 Carnival Ambassadors!

Carnival Ambassador Competition & Fun Disco



**Friday 13th March at 7.30pm
Swanage Bay View**

Swanage Carnival is inviting all youngsters, ages 8-14 years old, to enter the Carnival Ambassador Competition.

**Full details and entry forms are available on the night, or available to download from our website:
www.swanagecarnival.com**

On Friday 13th March 2020, Swanage Carnival is holding a fun disco for all as well as their annual Carnival Ambassador Competition for local youngsters aged 8-14 years old. The event will be held at Swanage Bay View. Entrants, along with their friends and family, are invited to attend this special evening which starts at 7.30pm. There will be a fun disco which is open to all.

The Ambassadors are a key part of our Carnival, getting involved in lots of fun activities throughout the week. Carnival Ambassadors represent Swanage Carnival at a range of local events, promote the charitable aspect of Carnival and support the committee by assisting with fundraising events.

Entering the competition to become an Ambassador couldn't be easier. Youngsters who want to take part buy a numbered ticket on the night and if your number is drawn at random, you are a winner!! It's that simple!

The Carnival Ambassadors must be aged 8 to 14 on the day of the competition (13 March 2020) and must reside in Swanage, Studland, Langton, Worth Matravers, Kingston or Corfe Castle. The entry fee is £3. Entry forms and full details are available on the night or from our website www.swanagecarnival.com

Please remember that this event is open to all, but only youngsters between the ages of 8 and 14 will be able to enter the competition.

Pictured, below: The 2019 Carnival Ambassadors with the Carnival team and Swanage's Mayor. Picture by Nadine Hudson-Featherstone



Blitz! Commemorate VE Day This Year

Blitz! is Lionel Bart's follow up to the hit musical Oliver! based on his own childhood experiences in the East End during the Second World War.

It's 1940 and the East End of London is taking a terrible pounding from Hitler's bombs. Life, however, goes on, centering around Mrs Blitzstein and her large family, especially her petty-criminal son Harry and her beautiful daughter Carol.

They are all fighting their own particular battles with neighbours and authorities alike but whatever life throws at them, they never get down-hearted. A story full of character, humour, good old fashioned 'stiff upper lip' and people's refusal to be beaten.

In the year we reflect on and commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, come along and join Swanage Musical Theatre Company on this special journey. Not to be missed!



2ND, 3RD & 4TH APRIL

Adult £14 | Concession £13 | Child £8
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On A Grand Tour Of Europe!

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH 7.30PM, ST MARY'S CHURCH, SWANAGE

Following a very successful Advent concert featuring music from two of the Choral Greats – Bach and Mozart, the choir are embarking on a musical Grand Tour of Europe. The journey begins in France with Fauré, continues on to Germany with music from Bach, Brahms, Bruckner and Mendelssohn with a short hop across to Austria for Mozart and Schubert.

Music from Rossini (Italy) and Franck (Belgium) bring the tour once more back to France for a grand finale featuring Maurice Duruflé's magnificent Requiem.

Musical Director, David Fawcett, is delighted that Simon Lole will be playing the organ and welcomes Grace Lovelass and Adam Bunzl as soloists.

The concert is in support of Forest Holme Hospice.

Tickets are only £10 in advance from Corbens or Liz Roberts 07843289483 and £12 on the door with children and students free.

www.purbeckartschoir.org.uk



Double Act - Who Are We?

Double Act Drama Group, Patron - Maurice Strike

Double Act is an amateur dramatic group that was formed in 1997 by the amalgamation of the Purbeck Community Theatre (PCT) and the Corfe Valley Drama Group (CVDG) and who between them have written and produced many unique and well received plays of local interest as well as performing entertaining classics for 29 years.

The group is based at Corfe Castle Village Hall and presents a major production in November each year. Meetings are usually held on the first Monday evening of each month (7pm - 8.30pm) and the group organises at least one annual trip to a theatre.

Since the group started its series of bi-annual summer Medieval Murder Mystery Walks in 2000 these events, now inside the Castle ruins, have become immensely popular and attract ever increasing and returning audiences from all over the country.

The group won the prestigious South West NODA Peter Wheeldon Award for Homegrown production for Kidnapped! the panto in 2017.

Our members come from all over Purbeck, cover all ages and enjoy an entertaining challenge with fun, social exchange and confidence building benefits. We are particularly proud of the large number of youngsters that have joined us over the years, some with learning difficulties, and all of whom have gained great benefit from dramatic expression. New members are always welcome at any age or ability, with interests on or off stage - so why not join us?

www.double-act.org.uk

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Inspired by amateur theatre

Theatre Skills Taster Day



Sunday 29th March, 10am - 4pm

Corfe Castle Village Hall, BH20 5EE



Come and learn new skills with tuition by NODA-trained and professional practitioners. Open to all - complete beginners, those with experience and members from other groups - come and have fun! Bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided. Adults £15, children FREE with participating adult, students 16-18, £5. Call 07904 929989 to book prior to March 15th.



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

Swanage Blues Festival 2020



Words by Steve Darrington

Cast your mind back to The Purbeck Gazette Issue No. 12 February 2001...

"Take a small seaside town in Dorset, with stunning views and coastal walks – add some of the finest Blues musicians in the country and the result is the first Swanage Blues Weekend... It is hoped to make this an annual event, so, for a Bluesy weekend to brighten the winter, head for the coast!"

We didn't know what to expect but it was a mind-blowing weekend, a wonderful success. Quite modest of course with only 4 venues and 9 acts (coming up this year, 18 venues and 44 acts). But that first one was an inspiration and kept me going till 2007 when I put on an additional festival in October, which turned out to be 30% busier and now we have two a year.

A fan recently commented: "I love this music festival. Great bands, great company and lovely venues. Swanage we will see you in March!" There's certainly a wide choice, something for everyone.

The blues/rock of Lorna Fothergill in Northsyde; jazz blues of Zoe Schwarz

Blue Commotion; wild sounds of Will Killeen mixing Irish folk with rural blues and Bob Dylan classics; Blues Dharma finding the common ground between Asian music and the Blues; madcap escapades of The Fabulous Fezheads (sax dance and soul); internationally acclaimed pianist Eric Ranzoni, who was recently awarded instrumentalist of the year by Jools Holland; Constance, Maurice and Ben in Spikedrivers, who have been compared to Fleetwood Mac and Pink Floyd; and many more acoustic and electric bands, plus opportunities for amateurs to shine at Open Mic and Jam Sessions too.

A musician told me "The one word that describes the feel of Swanage to me isn't one you'd normally use at a music event – Kindness. That's it really, we turn up, are welcomed, treated as family, everyone has a seat at the table".

Support Wristbands and Programmes are available from most venues, some retailers and Swanage Information Centre on Shore Road. Further information from the website (www.swanage-blues.org). Swanage Blues is on from 5th - 8th March 2020. You are all most welcome!

Pictured, above: Blues Dharma at The Centre, by DubbelXposure Photography

The Centre is proud to be an acoustic venue for
SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL
 On Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th March
A bar with draught beer and a cafe will ensure a warm welcome to all festival goers and artists!



7 Chapel Lane, Swanage, BH19 2PW



Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust



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Our Selection Of The Gigs...

For the full schedule of gigs, please ensure you purchase a Blues programme, available around Swanage town centre from various outlets

The Centre, Garry 'The Slide Guy' Smith, Saturday 12.00-1.15pm

The Centre, Ramon Goose & Robert Hokum, Saturday 1.45-2.30pm

The Centre, Pete G and East-West Slim, Saturday 3.00-4.00pm

The Centre, Blues Dharma, Saturday, 4.30-5.45pm

The Centre, The Ramon Goose Trio, Saturday 6.15-7.45pm

The Centre, The Sepia Swing Show Twins, Sunday 12.00-1.15pm

The Centre, The Spikedrivers, Sunday 1.45-2.45pm

The Centre, Gary Fletcher with Nick Ritchie, Sunday 3.15-4.30pm

The Centre, The Spikedrivers, Sunday 5.00-6.00pm

Grand Hotel, Zoe Schwarz Blue Commotion Friday, 8.30pm

Grand Hotel, Robin Bibi Band Acoustic Jam Session, Saturday 2.30pm

Grand Hotel, Back Porch, Saturday 8.30pm

Grand Hotel, The Great West Groove, Sunday 2.30-3.30pm

Grand Hotel, Blues Dharma, Sunday 4.00-5.00pm

Grand Hotel, The Robert Hokum All Star Session featuring members from the Ramon Goose Band, The Sepia Swing Show Twins, Hugh Budden and more, Sunday 8.30-11.00pm

IoP Golf Club, Pete Harris Blues Band with Jon Vaughan and Ray Drury, Saturday 2.30pm

LegionMarky Dawson; Hugh Budden, Andrew Stone, Steve Darrington, Thursday 8.30pm

LegionBack Porch, Friday, 2.00-3.45pm

LegionStomp Dave trio, Friday 4.45-6.15pm

LegionEric Ranzoni, Friday, 6.45-8.15pm

LegionBlue Touch, Friday, 9.00pm

LegionStan's Blues Jamboree, Saturday, 1.00pm

LegionRobin Bibi Band, Saturday, 9.00pm

LegionRobin Bibi Band Jam Session Sunday, 12.30pm

LegionHugh Budden and the Blue Chords, Sunday, 6.00pm

LegionTommy Allen's Trafficker, Sunday, 9.00pm

Red Lion, Ray Drury & Jon Walsh, Thursday, 9.00pm

Red Lion, Open Mic, Friday, 2.00pm

Red Lion, Tommy Allen & Jon Vaughan, Friday, 9.00pm

Red Lion, Open Mic, Saturday, 2.00pm

Red Lion, Fabulous Fezheads, Saturday, 9.00pm

Red Lion, Open Mic, Sunday, 1.00pm

Red Lion, Pete Harris & Jon Vaughan, Sunday, 8.00pm



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5-8 MARCH 2020

ARTISTS
Back Porch * Backwater Roll Blues Band * Blue Touch * Blues Dharma * Dawg 'n' Bonez * Doghouse Blues * Eric Ranzoni * Fabulous Fezheads * Gary Fletcher * Garry 'The Slide Guy' Smith * Geoff's Jam * Hugh Budden & Andrew Stone * John McClean & the Clan * open mic jam with guests * Pete Harris Blues Band * Lewis Cohen & Bruno Pichler * Marky Dawson * Northsyde * Open Mic * Pete G and East-West Slim * Pete Harris & Jon Vaughan * Pete Harris & Ray Drury * Ramon Goose & Robert Hokum * Ray Drury & Jon Walsh * Ramsden's Acoustic Fish Fry * Riverside Blues Band * Robin Bibi Band Acoustic Jam Session * Robin Bibi Band * Steamer Stan's Blues Jamboree * Steve Brookes * Stompin Dave Trio * The Great West Groove * The Milk Men * The Mustangs * The Ramon Goose Band * The Sepia Swing Show Twins * The Spikedrivers * Tommy Allen & Jon Vaughan * Tommy Allen & Ray Drury * Tommy Allen's Trafficker * Voodoo Sheiks * Will Killeen * Zoe Schwarz Blue Commotion * Grand Festival Finale with The Robert Hokum All Star Session featuring members from the Ramon Goose Band, The Sepia Swing Show Twins, Hugh Budden and more

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Health & Beauty

Matron's Round - Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

Hello everyone!

I have been working closely with my team in Day surgery and Outpatients whilst we prepare for our endoscopy service JAG (Joint Advisory Group) accreditation.

This is a national assessment that we were the first community hospital to achieve.

One area that we have had to look at closely is the number of and management of patients not attending either their clinic or surgery appointments.

This has led me to question how much this practise costs the NHS; in January 2018 it was reported that this issue costs the NHS £1bn a year. The cost of which is created by wasted clinician, nursing and administrative time and equates to £120 per missed appointment.

In response, England's chief nurse urged patients to cancel their NHS appointments in good time if they are not able to attend, in order to free up resources for those who need them.

We have a very committed and helpful team within the appointments department and I am always impressed with their telephone skills and listen to them often rebooking appointments so it is with a heartfelt

plea that I ask everyone if you cannot make your appointment at either Swanage or Wareham hospital that you let us know as soon as possible to enable us to offer that appointment to someone else.

The other side of the coin is that we have had to cancel or rearrange appointments sometimes if we are unable to carry out the clinics and yet again our appointment team do as sterling job reorganising appointments and I must say Thank you to everyone that we have had to rearrange.

As I mentioned at the beginning of my piece, we are working very hard towards our accreditation in the endoscopy service and we will be assessed in June and aim to ensure we get the recognition this excellent service deserves.

I will share with you our results when we get them.

Until next time, wishing you good physical and mental health,

Matron Donna



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Hello From Swanage Medical Practice

Merry Christmas and a healthy 2020 to our friends and patients from the team at Swanage Medical Practice!

We're entering the season when we often look to the future with a 'Spring' in our step! Our future is most definitely electronic! Increasingly access to GP services will be online.

Already you can book to see a GP, request repeat prescriptions, view your medical record, consult with a Swanage GP via e-consult, fill out travel forms and self-refer for Physiotherapy treatment, all via our website! We can't emphasise enough the importance of you registering for online access.

Important change to Prescribing

From the 21st March 2020 the next phase of improving prescribing efficiency and security will be implemented by NHS Digital Services. All prescriptions must be electronic and not on paper by this date.

So those patients who haven't yet nominated a pharmacy must do so. We know some of you like to drop in your scripts and collect from us but this is the least efficient & secure way of getting your prescription.

All requests should go via your pharmacy & ideally not the surgery so that queries will be dealt with via communication between the pharmacist & the surgery. All of the local Pharmacists have a repeat prescribing service that you can sign up to.

This will ensure a complete 'virtual' paper trail, reduce error, prescription fraud and ensure you get your script in a timely manner. The online prescribing system ETP is secure. If you've not done so yet pop into the surgery to nominate your preferred pharmacy. Bring some ID with you and you can sign up for online access at the same time. Thank you.

Patients are loving our new e-Consult service as they can consult online from the comfort of their own home or busy work desk. With routine GP appointments at a premium this exciting and convenient service could help you get advice about a health concern from a Swanage GP without

having to come into the surgery!

Patients who submit their symptoms online will get a response within 48 hours (Mon-Fri) from a Swanage GP. The service also offers around the clock NHS self-help information, signposting to services & a symptom checker. To use e-Consult please click on: <https://swanagemedical.webgp.com/>

Up to date contact details

It is so very important that we are able to contact you quickly with essential health information from your Doctor. Please, when changing circumstances, include the surgery on your list of priority organisations to advise so we have your new address and telephone contact details.

Coronavirus: What to do.....

In the unlikely event that our community is affected we have the following advice which is very important. If you have been to China or travelled via that country, and whether you are feeling well or unwell, please **DO NOT** come to the surgery and instead ring 111 for up-to-date advice.

Coming to the surgery will infect others.

We are still recruiting

We currently have a vacancy for a GP (Partner or Salaried). If you know anyone who may be interested, please spread the word.

For more information please see our website: <https://www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Current-Vacancies>

Your opinions are important and can lead to change at the practice. Please use our 'Friends and Family' touch screen to tell us what you think.

For more information about our services view www.swanagemedical.org.uk or pick up a copy of our latest Newsletter from reception.

Talk About Mental Health - Today

How talking about her mental health saved a Dorset woman's life

Natasha Evans, from Hamworthy, was just an ordinary person who found herself trapped in a dangerous downward spiral of despair and depression. "My illness made me believe that no one would be able to help me. I thought that the only way out was by suicide. I now see that had I have acted out that plan, I would have missed out on so much and it would have been such a tragedy."

But she found her way to recovery by reaching out for help and is urging others to open up about their mental health. She said: "If you are the person who is experiencing suicidal thoughts, or feeling like you can't cope, please tell someone. That is half the battle, once someone knows and they can help you, it gets that much easier afterwards."

Natasha, 33, first realised her mental health was deteriorating in the autumn of 2018. Initially, a mixture of medication and coping strategies – such as mindfulness and distraction techniques – helped relieve some of the pressures she felt.

But in January last year, her feelings intensified, and she wanted to end her life. Her partner made an emergency appointment with her GP, who not only listened to Natasha but also got in touch with Dorset HealthCare's Community Mental Health Team at Alderney Hospital in Poole. She was

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offered an appointment with a psychiatrist there the following day. That meeting was the real beginning of her recovery. Opening up about her feelings made her feel better, and the psychiatrist said they would work together to find the right treatment.

Just over a year on, Natasha is in a much better place. Keen to help others struggling with similar issues she faced, she is going to start working for Dorset HealthCare as a mental health support worker.

If you are experiencing mental health problems and need advice or support, contact Connection, Dorset's 24-hour helpline for people of all ages, on 0300 123 5440.

For more information about the range of services available to people in, or approaching, mental health crisis, go to www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/access-mental-health

Sport

Swanage Walking Football Club

An Interview With Ricky Scott.....

Name: Ricky Scott. Age: 32. Location: Swanage, Dorset. Walking Football Club Name: Swanage Walking Football Club. Favourite Position: Goalkeeper.

Could you start by telling us a little about your background such as if you were a sporty person when you were younger, and how long you had a break from playing sports before you got involved with Walking Football?

"I am originally from County Durham. Before the age of 29, I played 11-a-side, 7-a-side and 5-a-side football weekly. I was a competitive Ballroom and Latin dancer and I played Baseball for County Durham. I moved to Dorset in November 2016 and my plan was to do all my hobbies down here but unfortunately in February 2017 I was diagnosed with MS. It took me until May 2019 to find my feet and join Swanage Walking Football Club."

How long have you played Walking Football? "I have played for eight months now."

Why did you first get involved with Walking Football? "After falling ill, I struggled with my mind as well as my body, going from being a really active person to doing nothing was a hard thing to take and I was feeling really down. Eventually I found walking football thanks to my Mam up north seeing a Facebook post."

How many times a week do you take part in Walking Football sessions? "I try to take part in two sessions a week."

Can you let the readers know about your Walking Football sessions in regards of which age group are they for, are they male only, female only or unisex sessions? "Tuesday Mornings is mixed, Tuesday evenings is Women only and Thursday evenings is Men only. Women's is 18+. Men's has an over 50s team and an over 60s team, but disabled people under that age are also allowed. Age groups are only for the League. When we practice, we all mix together."

When you play a game of Walking Football do you play to the WFA, WFS or FA rules and why did your club decide to follow those rules of the game? "FA rules I believe."

Describe the buzz you get having the opportunity to play a team sport again at your age? "Being part of a team again has made me feel a lot happier within myself and given me a chance to meet new people. I am much younger than most, but everyone makes me feel very welcome and I can call them all friends."

What one or two things do you currently do in your training sessions that you think are important to avoid injury? "A good warm up/cool down and sticking to the rules should keep you out of trouble."

Have you played competitive Walking Football, if so which tournaments / leagues? "Yes, I played for the over 50s in the Bobby Moore charity cup in the summer and now play for the over 60s in the Dorset walking football league."

Has your diet changed since you have started playing Walking Football? If so, what is different? "No, I haven't changed anything."

Do you feel fitter and healthier since you have started playing Walking Football and if please describe how? "I do feel happier, so it has given me a healthier mind frame, but it does take a lot out of me physically every time I play which leaves me poorly for a day or so afterwards."

Can you describe any injuries you have suffered when playing Walking Football and can you let the readers know how they were caused? "As a goalkeeper I get a lot of bruises from diving around plus being on

blood thinners doesn't help with that. Blocking the ball also gets me a ball in the face and a few bumps every now and again."

Do you always have a club member present who has had first aid training at your games and training sessions, and is there a defibrillator available if needed? "Yes, we always have a first aid trained person on site for home, away and training. I believe there is a defibrillator and the coastguard station is across the car park from our home ground."

Has your social life changed since you started playing, and if so in what way? "Yes, I have a new set of friends from the team. We all get along and are always having a laugh on our message board."

What are your best and worst memories of playing Walking Football? "Best memories - Winning all six of our matches so far this season and watching the over 50s winning both of their games. Also winning 2019 Men's player of the year. Worst memory was scoring an own goal in the last few seconds to lose one of our games in the Bobby Moore cup."

How else has playing Walking Football affected your life? "It has brought my competitive side back out which I love."

What do you like most about Walking Football? "I think it has to be working as a team. We are a tight group and when things aren't going our way, we are good at pulling it together and turning things around."

What do you like least about Walking Football? "Losing."

Do you find it difficult NOT to run and what advice could you give someone in how to remain at walking pace? "I can't even manage to walk for long periods that's why I play in goal so it hasn't really bothered me."

What are your goals for the future when playing Walking Football? "I would like to carry on playing for Swanage as long as possible. But I would like to help push the fact that walking football isn't just for older people. Disabled people have the same right to play it and I think people forget that."

"I get excluded from tournaments because of my age, yet the Dorset Football League allows two disability players in each A squad for the over 50s and 60s. When the over 60s get invited somewhere, I would like that to include me as I am part of that team."

What advice would you give to someone who would like to play but is nervous about approaching a club or attending a Walking Football session for the first time? "Just give it a shot. You will never know unless you try it and if it's not for you then you don't do it again but at least you can say you tried it."

What do your friends and family think about you playing a sport again at your age? "They are very happy I am playing football again."

What are the costs involved in order for you to play Walking Football for foot ware, kit and weekly session fees? "First session is free then £3 per session after that. You need to buy own foot wear, shin pads and training gear but if you play in the League your strips will be supplied."

Anything else you'd like to share? "Again, I would just like to say that Walking football isn't just for older people. As a young disabled person, I found it hard to come to terms with my illness and I believe that walking football and the people in and around it have made me feel much better about myself."

"I have seen others in the same boat as me and I believe every team should push that people like me are welcome."

Swanage Cricket Club Update

Winter training is well underway for the Swanage CC junior teams with sessions on Saturday mornings and Tuesday evenings at The Swanage School.

As we gear up for the season, adult training has recently begun on Friday evenings.

The coming season sees Swanage putting in teams at all age groups, from U8s to U15s. We will be starting a new group for younger children once we return to outdoor training.

Our older juniors will be getting more opportunities to make the transition to adult cricket as we are entering a Saturday 3rd XI for the first time.

Our women cricketers have been training on Saturday mornings and have also been taking part in an indoor league – another first for the club.

They started the season in fine style winning their first game by 88 runs.

For all the latest news please visit our website:- www.swanagecricketclub.co.uk or contact timswanagecricket@gmail.com

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 APRIL is noon, 9th MAR

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.

MARCH 2020

- Sun 1st
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- 10:00 **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Creech Heath (Purbeck) where we will be cutting small pine and scrub to help maintain this heathland. We welcome new people and should have a bonfire to brew up at break times. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.
- 11:00 **Discover Sailing! At Swanage Sailing Club.** Open Day. Ffi: swanagesailingclub.org.uk
- 14:00 **David Cella & Maria** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Mon 2nd
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- 19:30 **Sandford Heritage Community Group** presents 'Returning Ospreys to Dorset' a talk by Olivia Cooper of Birds of Poole Harbour, Sandford Labour Club, Keyworth Drive, Sandford BH20 7BD. Entrance by donation of £2. Ffi: www.sandfordheritage.org
- Tue 3rd
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- 14:00 **Swanage Poets Meet** at the art workshop in Commercial Road (just past Chococo). Everyone who writes poems, or just loves poetry, is welcome. We meet monthly. Ffi: sdm.early@gmail.com
- 19:00 **Wareham Town Council Meeting** In the Council Chamber at the Town Hall. Ffi: 01929 553006 or www.wareham-tc.gov.uk
- Wed 4th
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- Thu 5th
* **Swanage Blues Festival** 60 gigs, 40 bands, 15 indoor venues Ffi: swanage-blues.org
- 10:00 **Swanage Painting Club Coffee Morning** At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Coffee and Cake. Try various mediums, all materials provided. Entrance FREE.
- Fri 6th
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- * **Swanage Blues Festival** 60 gigs, 40 bands, 15 indoor venues Ffi: swanage-blues.org
- 11:00 **Raising the Official Purbeck Flag** At Swanage TIC, Shore rd.
- 19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory classroom, Church Hill for: Illustrated talk 'New Zealand - South Island' with Simon Parvin. Visitors welcome. ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 426268
- 20:00 **Dave Manning** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sat 7th
* **Bluebird Coach Tour Bavaria's Winter Forest** - unspoilt beauty on Czech border. Ffi: 01305 782353
- * **Swanage Blues Festival** 60 gigs, 40 bands, 15 indoor venues Ffi: swanage-blues.org
- 09:00 **King George's 5K A free informal 5k walk, jog or run**, Victoria Ave, Swanage. All welcome. Ffi: Pete Smith 07876 567584.
- 20:00 **Striking Clock** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- 20:00 **The Churchfitters** At Harman's Cross Village Hall. Tickets £13 from www.harmancrosshall.co.uk and 01929 289209.
- Sun 8th
* **Swanage Blues Festival** 60 gigs, 40 bands, 15 indoor venues Ffi: swanage-blues.org
- 14:00 **The Last Inkling** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Tue 10th
14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's Meetings** All Saints Church Hall Swanage 2pm till 4pm FFI - T. Lander 01929 425970 or D. Peters 01929 551962
- Wed 11th
12:30 **Christian Aid Lunch** at the Parish Hall The Quay Wareham, suggested minimum donation £5. Traidcraft Fairtrade Stall will also be available.
- 14:00 **Stoborough WI Meeting** at Stoborough VH, West Lane, BH20 5AJ. Speaker: Dr Crickmore on Women's Health. Visitors welcome. Contact stoboroughwi@hotmail.com.
- 19:30 **Movie Night** - Hotel Mumbai at The Isle of Purbeck Golf Club.
- Thu 12th
10:00 **Terrarium Workshop** At Burngate Stonecarving Centre. Building Closed Jar Terrarium, £42 pp, all included. Ffi: www.terrafic.co.uk
- 10:00 **Dorset Highways Drop-In Session** At The Town Hall, Swanage.
- Fri 13th
19:30 **Purbeck Railway Circle** Meets at Harmans Cross Village Hall. "The Devon Belle". A presentation by Ken Mumford. Refreshments and railway raffle. Doors open 7pm. Ffi 421 913.
- 19:30 **Carnival Ambassador Comp and Disco** At Swanage Bay View. Open to all youngsters aged 8-14 years old.
- 20:00 **Philip Clouts Trio** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sat 14th
* **Bluebird Coach Tour The Freedom of London**, no ties, go as you please. Ffi: 01305 782353
- 10:00 **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Greenlands, Studland (Purbeck) where we will be cutting gorse and removing a fence to help maintain heathland. We welcome new people and provide brew-ups at break times. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.
- 20:00 **Andreas Tophoj & Rune Barsland** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sun 15th
10:00 **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Greenlands, Studland (Purbeck) where we will be cutting gorse and removing a fence to help maintain heathland. We welcome new people and provide brew-ups at break times. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.
- 10:00 **Kingston Maurwood College Open Morning** Dorchester DT2 8PY. Ffi: 01305 215215
- 14:00 **The Road not Taken** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Tue 17th
17:30 **Purbeck Business & Community Group 'Show Case'** at the Pines Hotel, Swanage.
- Wed 18th
14:30 **Studland History Group** Meets in the Village Hall for a short AGM followed by "Studland Worthies. No 1. May Worley Morton". Joyce Meates. All welcome. Ffi the secretary 01929 439245.
- Thu 19th
14:30 **Purbeck Ass'n of the National Trust** At Carey Hall, Mistover Rd, Wm. 'From Barbados to Dorset'. Local historian Jane Ferentzi-Sheppard takes us through the history of the Drax family. All welcome. £3 incl refreshments. Ffi 01929 427300.
- Fri 20th
19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory classroom, Church Hill for: Two competitions:- Jubilee Cup - Prints 'Open' and Ward & Purbeck - 'architecture' Judge: Rob Barron Visitors welcome. ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 426268.
- 19:30 **Quiz Night** At The Isle of Purbeck Golf Club. £1 entry.
- 20:00 **Cory Sez nec & Amadou Diagne** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sat 21st
* **The Great Swanage Spring Clean** Part of the national 'Keep Britain Tidy' initiative. Encouraging Swanage residents to 'do their bit' to tidy up pavements and housefronts, communal areas by removing litter and weeds, or to assist a neighbour who is unable to. Organised litter picks meet at Main Beach car park Saturday 0800, 1030 and 1400 hrs, Sunday 1030 and 1400 hrs.
- 09:30 **Alexander Technique Workshop** Ffi: itmalexandertechnique.org or 07798 791985.
- 20:00 **Lewis Clarke & The Essentials** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sun 22nd
* **The Great Swanage Spring Clean** Part of the national 'Keep Britain Tidy' initiative. Encouraging Swanage residents to 'do their bit' to tidy up pavements and housefronts, communal areas by removing litter and weeds, or to assist a neighbour who is unable to. Organised litter picks meet at Main Beach car park Saturday 0800, 1030 and 1400 hrs, Sunday 1030 and 1400 hrs.
- * **Mother's Day** At The Italian Kitchen Ffi: 01929 550990.

- * **Mothering Sunday Roast** At The Village Inn, Ulwell. Booking essential on 01929 427644.
- * **Mothering Sunday Carvery** At The Grand Hotel, Swanage. Book a table on 01929 423353.
- 12:00 **Mother's Day at Kingston Country Courtyard.** Afternoon tea buffet, booking recommended. £12.50 per person or add £4 for processio additional.
- 12:00 **Mothering Sunday** at Seventh Wave Durlston Castle, booking recommended. 2 Course Sunday Roast, Under 12's £10.50, Adults £19.50, Mum's only pay for main!
- 12:00 **Mother's Day at Isle of Purbeck Golf Club** Sitings at 12 noon and 3pm. " Courses £22.50, 3 Courses £26.50, booking essential.
- Wed 25th
- 12:30 **Lady St Mary Handbell Ringers** At the United Reformed Church Church St Wareham. All welcome
- Thu 26th
- 19:30 **Movie Night - Alita** At The Isle of Purbeck Golf Club.
- Sat 28th
- 10:00 **Terrarium Workshop** At Burngate Stonecarving Centre. 'Hanging Landscape Globe', £35 pp, all included. Ffi: www.terrafic.co.uk
- 19:30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** At St Mary's Church, Swanage. Musical Grand Tour of Europe.
- Sun 29th
- 10:00 **Theatre Skills Taster Day** At Corfe Castle Village Hall. Adults £15, children free with accompanying adult. Bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee provided. Booking essential on 07904 929989.
- 14:00 **Beans on Toast Live acts** at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- 19:30 **Richard Digance** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage.
- Tue 31st
- * **Swanage Regatta & Carnival Charity Nominations** Please apply in writing if you'd like to nominate a Charity and good cause by 31st March 2020. Apply to: Kevin Langdon, Swanage Regatta and Carnival, 192 Kings rd West, Swanage. BH19 1HT or email secretary@swanagecarnival.com

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 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
- 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, Church St, Wm. Till 9. New singers always welcome.
- 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: cc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 20.00 **DARTS** at the RBL Club, Sw.
- 20.00 **Herston Hall Management C'ttee Bingo**
EVERY TUESDAY
- 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.
- 09.30 **First Steps Parent & Toddlers' Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 11.30am during term time. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours.
- 10.00 **Men & Women's Mixed 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.
- 10.20 **Adult Dance Classes.** Modern Line dance. Until 11.20am. At The D'Urberville Centre, Wool. Ffi: 01202 243803 or see: www.purbeckdancestudio.co.uk
- 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 **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 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
- 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
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night** (Yr 8+) Till 10
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club** Practice till 8.30pm
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840
- 19.00 **Wareham Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: cc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 19.30 **Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.
- 19.30 **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.
- 19.00 **Give Rugby A Try! FREE!** at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until 9pm. Over 18s only. Call John C. on: 07970 500357 Ffi.
- 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 **Adult Dance Classes.** Modern Line dance. Until 11.30am. At St Edward's Church hall, Swanage. Ffi: 01202 243803 or see: www.purbeckdancestudio.co.uk
- 10.30 **Play and Learn at Kids of Wool** (BH20 6DY) until 12 noon.
- 13.00 **Studland Toddler Group** at Studland Village Hall until 2.30pm.
- 14.00 **Herston Senior Citizens** meet Herston Hall, Jubilee Rd, Sw. All welcome
- 14.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 3pm. With Penny at the Mowlem Community Room, Sw. Ffi 07969925502
- 14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
- 15.00 **Extend Exercise Class**, now at Morton Village Hall. To improve strength, balance and flexibility. All welcome. Donations welcome. Ffi: 471490.
- 16.15 **Swanage Football Club U-7s** Training til 5.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 17.15 **Swanage Football Club U-9s** Training til 6.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm
- 18.00 **Table Tennis** at Harmans Cross Village Hall. All ages & abilities welcome. Coaching given. Till 8pm or later. Ffi: 424591
- 18.30 **Sw & Wm Hockey Club Junior (6-14yrs)** Training, Wm Sports Centre. Until 7.30pm. Email: swanagewarehamhockey@outlook.com
- 19.00 **Wm Bridge Club** at the Library, South St. 552046
- 19.00 **Swanage Depression Support group.** We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month at the Lower Hall, Salvation Army, Kings Rd East, Sw. BH19 1ES, until 9pm. Ffi: Nick on: 07766352062 or email: nickviney@hotmail.com or call Mary on: 01929426896.
- 19.00 **Wareham Depression Support group.** We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at Not Just Sundaes, South Street, Wareham. BH20, until 9pm. Ffi: John: 01929556315 or 07871 727278 or email: johnoneil905@yahoo.co.uk
- 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 **Give Rugby A Try! FREE!** at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until 9pm. Under 16s-18s only. Call John P. on: 07725 567541 Ffi.
- 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
- 19.30 **Sw & Wm Hockey Club (13+ years)** Training, Wm Sports Centre. Till 9pm. Email: swanagewarehamhockey@outlook.com
- 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 **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
- 09.30 **Adult Dance Classes.** Latin American & Ballroom dance. Until 10.30am. At the Wareham Scout & Guide Hut, N. Bestwall Rd, Wareham. BH20 4HX. Ffi: 01202 243803 or see: www.purbeckdancestudio.co.uk
- 10.00 **Wyvern Savings & Loan Credit Union** opens until 12 noon at Not Just Sundaes, South Street, Wareham, opposite the Library. A secure place to save and loans available at fair rates. Call in for a cuppa and a chat, or call 01305 268444.
- 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.
- 13.00 **Wareham Area Men's Shed** meets at Purbeck Connect, Sandford Lane, Wm. Ffi: call Chris on 554758, Harold on 792591 or Mike on 288045
- 13.30 **Toddler Group.** All Saints' Church, Sw. 423937. Till 3pm (Term times)
- 14.00 **Wareham Happy Cafe.** Friendly conversation, talks, activities and some fun to put a spring in your step! Everyone welcome. Held at the Not Just Sundaes Cafe in South Street, Wareham. BH20 4LU. From 5th March 2020 onwards. FREE. Until 3.30pm.
- 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 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at Purbeck New Wave Gallery, 25 Commercial Rd, Sw. BH19 1DF. 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 40s 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 David Fawcett, 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 **Wareham Area Men's Shed** meets at Purbeck Connect, Sandford

- Lane, Wm. Ffi: call Chris on 554758, Harold on 792591 or Mike on 288045
- 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.
- 10.30 **Do you want to volunteer in Swanage?** Meet the team at the Volunteer Bureau in Swanage Library! Until 12.30pm.
- 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
- 14.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
- 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
- 18.00 **Purbeck Youth Choir** at the United Reformed Church Hall, Sw. 8-18 years old. Till 7pm. Ffi: Jay Buckle on: 07947 866945
- 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.
- 19.45 **Alcoholics Anonymous Wareham.** Talk and tea from 19.15, meeting from 19.45 until 21.00. At Wareham Day Centre, 21 Bonnets Lane, Wareham. BH20 4HB. If you think you may have a problem

with alcohol, you are welcome. You can learn about living sober from people who do. The first Friday of each month is also open to professionals and friends/family of problem drinkers. Ffi: 01202 296000.

- 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.
- 10.00 **Give Rugby A Try! FREE!** at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until noon. Under 6s-16s only. Call Claire on: 07799 842225 Ffi.
- 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.
- 19.00 **Quiz Night** with cash prizes at the Red Lion, High Street, Swanage. All welcome - come along and see if you can win the prize pot!



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GREAT SWANAGE SPRING CLEAN

SATURDAY 21ST & SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

Swanage Landers, part of Litter-Free Purbeck, has agreed to lead the *Great Swanage Spring Clean* on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd March 2020. This will support the national 'Keep Britain Tidy' initiative, *The Great British Spring Clean*, which runs from 20th March to 13th April 2020.

Our aim is to encourage residents and organisations within Swanage to safely 'do their bit' to tidy up pavements, kerbs, house-fronts and communal areas by removing litter, weeds and detritus - the sand, muck & other stuff that gathers on pavements.

WHAT CAN YOU SAFELY DO?

Residents and homeowners are encouraged to safely support a general tidy up around the property where they live, or to assist a neighbour who is unable to 'do their bit'. This could extend to a communal area, a path or a ginnel. We encourage those who are unable to physically help out to offer refreshments to those who are getting involved.

Swanage Landers and Swanage Beach Buddies will arrange formal group litter pickings as part of this initiative.

Swanage Landers 'Task Teams' will tackle a number of deeper cleans across the Parish over the weekend.

For litter picking sessions, Swanage Landers will meet at the Main Beach Car Park, Victoria Avenue, BH19 1PW

Please do come along on: **SATURDAY 21 MARCH: 0800, 1030 & 1400 hrs OR SUNDAY 22 MARCH: 1030 & 1400 hrs**

Contact us by email: frank@herstoncross.co.uk

.....Pledges of help have already been received from Ideal Skip Hire, Moonfleet Cars, Nixons Hardware & Swanage Town Council. Can YOU pledge to help the Swanage Spring Clean?.....