

# The Purbeck Gazette



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Ilay Talks Of Afghanistan. Pg 22 - 23



Save Phoenix! Pg 34



The Prince Albert Team. Pg 16



Celebrating The Life Of Henry Searle. Pg 22



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## Editor's note...



Welcome to the October edition of your Purbeck Gazette! Autumn is finally here, tourist numbers have dropped off significantly, the days are getting slowly shorter and winter is beckoning. We're enjoying some fine sunshine as I write - let's hope that continues for a while yet as the leaves slowly begin to fall!

This month's edition is, as usual, crammed with a wide range of your letters, events, updates and opinions. In September, the Swanage community gathered together to celebrate and remember the life of Henry Searle, who tragically lost his battle against cancer in April this year. Hundreds of people gathered at Prince Albert Gardens on 5th September to enjoy music performed by local artists in memory of Henry. Read what the event organisers and Henry's amazing family have written on page 22.

We bring you a desperate appeal for help from Clive and Caroline France of Wareham Forest. Having been entirely surrounded by the horrific wildfire last year, this animal-rehabilitating couple rescued Phoenix the Owl from the flames and, after a long period of recovery and care, Phoenix was released and made her home in the original owl colony, close to the couple's home. Having survived the devastating fire despite the odds, Phoenix is now at desperate risk once more and the Frances' are appealing directly for YOUR help - please see page 34.

This month we also bring you an historic look at Afghanistan, written by Ilay Cooper, who toured the region some decades ago. What affects one, affects us all - our thoughts are with those now living under Taliban rule and we openly welcome those refugees who managed to escape and travel to the safety of the UK.

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The **NOVEMBER 2021** edition has a **deadline** of 8th October.

The **DECEMBER 2021** edition has a **deadline** of 10th Nov.

## Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by  
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



### Solar & Tidal Predictions - Oct '21

#### Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

\*\*\* - British Summer Time Ends

o80c

### Swanage Town Council Meetings - OCT 2021

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### Wareham Town Council Meetings - OCT 2021

PLEASE CONTACT THE COUNCIL DIRECTLY FOR INFORMATION

### Dorset Council

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

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

[www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/committees](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/committees) - you will be redirected to the same link called 'committee meetings and papers'.

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Sunset at Corfe Castle, by Richard Murgatroyd

## Contents

<b>ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>BUSINESS MATTERS</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>COMMUNITY MATTERS</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>COUNCIL MEETINGS</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>FEATURES</b>	
Blast From The Past - October 2011	42
John Garner writes - It's Never Straightforward	30
Gazette Gardening with Simon Goldsack	33
Growing For Gold In Wareham	12
Talking Of Afghanistan, by Ilay Cooper	24-25
National Coastwatch - Eyes Along The Coast	18
Prince Albert Memorial Finalised	16
Purbeck Film Festival	35
Quite Possibly The Best Folk Festival In The World?	38
Remembering Henry Searle	22
Save Phoenix!	34
Swanage Blues Festival	36-37
Telling It Like It Is - David Hollister writes	8
<b>FOOD - Godlingston Manor Kitchen Gardens</b>	<b>28-29</b>
<b>HEALTH &amp; BEAUTY</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>LETTERS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MOTORING</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>NATURAL MATTERS</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>TRADE ADVERTS</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>DIARY SPOTLIGHT</b>	<b>43</b>

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**DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER EDITION IS NOON, 8th OCT**



# 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](mailto: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.**

**NOVEMBER deadline: noon, 8th OCT**

## Overturn 111 Decision!

Dear Nico,

**It's an SOS - Save Our Service!**

The Friends of Swanage Hospital are horrified to discover that what we thought was a temporary measure during lockdown - locking our hospital doors and directing anyone coming to the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) to ring 111 first for an appointment - is to be a permanent arrangement.

The loss of a walk-in service is something we think the community will react very strongly to when it becomes widely known. So please, would you help us to launch a campaign to have this overturned? We need the evidence - we want anyone who has had recent experience of trying to get to MIU to let us know what happened. How long did you wait for 111 to answer? How long was the wait for an appointment? Did you actually get to our MIU or did you give up and go to A & E?

We hope people will email their stories to us at [membership@friendsofswanagehospital.org.uk](mailto:membership@friendsofswanagehospital.org.uk) or write to us: The Friends of Swanage Hospital, Queens Rd, BH19 2ES so we can challenge this change:

It's an SOS - Save Our Service!

Jan Turnbull, Chair, Friends of Swanage Hospital

## Urgent Paramedic Car Update

Dear Gazette Readers

So, what's happening about the Ambulance Car? The answer is we're waiting, as we have been for several months, to find out whether Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, the Dorset Health bosses, intend to proceed to some kind of engagement on whether the Car should be withdrawn. Why this is in question at all remains a mystery, as Dorset CCG promised Dorset Council in 2018 that Swanage Ambulance resources would be fully maintained.

However, residents need to be ready to make their views clear. So, look out for any news that 'engagement' has begun, and how you can do this.

Meanwhile we continue to rely on Dorset Council, which has a statutory duty to intervene where changes to health services will put lives at risk. The Car Paramedic attends over 400 'risk to life' call outs per year in Swanage alone.

So far at Dorset Council there have been three Health Committees in a row where residents have been denied a voice. At Health Scrutiny on 8th June, no notice was given that the Car was on the agenda. We were told that until a decision was made, we should take their concerns to Health Overview. However, at Health Overview on 6 July, and on 2 September, the Car was not on the agenda, questions raised by residents were knocked back, and Wareham and Swanage Councillors were cut short, or prevented from speaking at all.

Dorset Council say until Dorset CCG announce their consultation there is nothing they can do. However, Dorset CCG have not promised a consultation, and Health Overview does not meet again until 9 November. In order to ensure Health Overview do not miss their opportunity to comment early in the engagement process, surely setting up a subgroup ready to look at Dorset CCG's engagement plan when announced would be prudent, and allay fears?

The new petition to Dorset Council is approaching 3,000. 5,000 signatures would mean residents' concerns about the possible withdrawal of the Paramedic Car are heard at full council, so please sign and share widely: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/dorset-council-save-swanage-ambulance-car-1>

People continue to submit their stories of lives saved by the Car Paramedic, and to request posters and banners. As well as being featured on BBC

# The RED LION

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Solent, the Save Our Ambulance Car song has been sung at music events at the Bandstand and Prince Albert Gardens, including Henry Searle's tribute concert on 5 September, where 18-year-old Miro Vosper led the singing, and at the Trevor Chadwick Memorial, with singing led by Karen Grant.

If we all join in the chorus, perhaps they'll be able to hear us in Dorchester: <https://youtu.be/T2MrBsbO7cl>

Best wishes, Cllr Debby Monkhouse, Co-ordinator Save Our Ambulance Car campaign

## Thousands Of Scientists Wrong?

Dear Gazette,

Re: the letter from Mike Fry in your September edition, insisting that there is No Climate Emergency.

His argument (if you can call it that) is based on materials from a "Canadian-based, non-profit organisation run by 500 dedicated volunteers comprised mainly of active retired earth and atmospheric scientists, engineers and other relevant professional who think differently ... Until such time as the UN listens to science ...."

I imagine Mike is aware of the recent UN Climate Change Commission report, which makes clear the immediate and pressing dangers to human societies from climate change and ecological destruction.

The report is based on the work of many thousands of scientists across the world and represents the consensus of opinion (at least 97%) of opinion in the field, and at least 97% of all scientific (at least 97%).

The conclusion is that human activity is very largely, if not totally, responsible for the rapid increase in global warming and other aspects of climate change.

The key problem is getting serious action on the dangers facing us in the next decade is not the absence of convincing research. It's that the political and economic structures and organisations of modern capitalist societies are dominated by interest groups and ideologies which prevent serious changes.

The enormous changes in economic and social life from a global to a personal level needed to stop the destruction of our physical and social environment can only be achieved by a complete break from economic liberalism, globalisation, growthism and the dominance of the profit motive, above all other interests.

Fred Lindop, by email.

## Apocalypse For Beginners

Dear Editor,

With reference to Mike Fry's letter in the September issue of the Gazette: I was bemused as to what planet he's on. Whilst setting some credence to scientific data, it supplies very little.

Leonardo Da Vinci said that the only way to wisdom is found in observation; so, if there is no climate emergency, then why do wildfires and hurricanes keep appearing on our widescreen TVs almost every night? Climate Change is multi-faceted so here's just one:

Apocalypse for beginners. Droughts in the absence of precipitation result in wildfires such as never before seen in California, Southern Europe and Australia, in both hemispheres. They release the carbon sink stored within the forestry, thereby creating a cyclic domino system of global temperature increase.

The town of Paradise vaporised with the loss of 87 of its residents' lives, with 50,000 evacuated. Climate change is known as a fundamental cause of Polar ice caps glacial receding.

With the possibility of oceanic rise threatening major population areas and dwellings - New York, Tokyo, London and Swanage, to name but four. Salination of arable land could reduce food production for a global population of a projected increase of two billion by 2060.





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Planetary poles are moving, which could be the result of gyroscopic imbalance, changing the rotational axis of our mass in space. Should the Polar axis shift, which has occurred before, we would all be in it.

Since the birth of the Industrial Revolution, global temperature has accelerated to one that has remained reasonably constant for around eight thousand years. There is plenty of data to be found on that, relative to flood defences costing billions.

Given the unparalleled impact of climate change, surely, it is wiser to err on the side of caution, rather than what we might tell ourselves in complacency? Hopefully, this will be reflected in October's conference in Glasgow. Not just another jolly with delegates jetting in.

Good point on CO2. With the magic molecules of water to give us life on earth; however, we must do all we can to lessen our dependence upon fossil fuels in urgency of reducing emissions, meat-to-methane.

There are roughly 1.4 billion cars on planet Earth, which unlike plants, do not photosynthesize, and until we learn to treat the Earth as home.....

I remain, sincerely alarmed of Herston.

Myk Hamilton, by email.

## Give Maroons Back!

Dear Readers,

### The 'late' lifeboat maroons

One of the many endearing features of Swanage is the launch of our RNLI lifeboat down the iconic and photogenic lifeboat slipway.

As a child, the loud bang of the first maroon was the signal for my sister and I to run outside and spot the trail and explosion of the second maroon and then if we were lucky, run to the slipway to watch the 'exciting show' and marvel at the braveness and tenacity of the crew. My son and friends also enjoyed this experience.

Over a Bank Holiday weekend, a 'shout' was inevitable and on the first maroon many visitors would rush to the slipway and watch the launch. This increased the profile and voluntary contributions to the RNLI and became a lasting memory for our valuable holidaymakers.

For some time, I have not heard the maroons and consequently had forgotten about the lifeboat and those that crew it. On questioning a lifeboat attendant last weekend, we were informed that the maroons, though immensely popular, had amazingly been stopped for 'health and safety' reasons.

As the Swanage firework displays are all set off remotely – for health and safety reasons – why can't the lifeboat maroons be too?

Please give us back our maroons!

WG, by email



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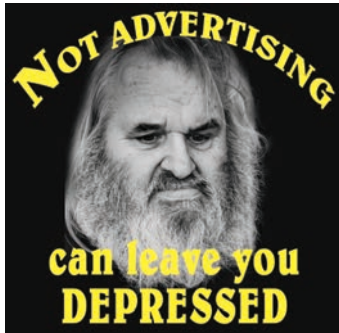
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## Robin Back Home By 19.22



Dear Readers,

After eighteen months of being confined to the Isle of Purbeck with a lost deposit for a foreign holiday, no hugs and the Waverley trips being cancelled, I decided to venture to the Isle of Wight by public transport.

I caught the 08:25 no 50 bus from Swanage Station and by 12:15 I was at Alum Bay. Everything ran to time and not many people were on the buses and trains. Wight Sky, the Lymington to Yarmouth ferry was packed. Although I had a through ticket and had arrived at Lymington at 10:30 I still had to book my sailing, so I had to get back to Yarmouth in plenty of time to catch the 16:05 ferry.

The walk back to Yarmouth was 5.74 miles and took three hours so I was back in plenty of time to check in for the ferry. Leaving Alum Bay there was a steep climb up Headon Warren. This was covered with heather and the climb was rewarded with excellent views of the Needles to the west and Colwell Bay to the east as well as Hurst Castle on the English coast.

Descending a flight of wooden steps to Widdick Chine there was a coastal walk along the promenade through Totland Bay to Colwell Bay. Fortunately, the tide was out and I was able to walk along the beach to Brambles Chine before continuing along the military road that links Fort Albert with Fort Victoria. Luckily it was easy to cross the main road to Yarmouth as it was closed to through traffic due to road works.

At Yarmouth the foot passengers were herded like sheep into a holding area while we waited for the cars to be loaded before boarding the ferry. I went straight into the restaurant for a £6 meal deal and managed to find a seat. Everything connected for the return journey enabling me to be back home at 19:22.

Yours sincerely, Robin Brasher, Swanage, by email

## Symbolism Of Roses

Dear Editor,

There are many things we should be glad to see pass from the Victorian times such as the workhouse being replaced with today's welfare state and today's advancement in medical treatments.

But one thing the Victorians were very good at was their knowledge and cultivation of roses. The Victorians assigned symbolic meanings to flowers, with many having been in knowledge from ancient times.

Both sexes consulted dictionaries to choose and interpret the appropriate flowers to send, wear and display. Different rose colours provided different meanings. That mania for flower dictionaries may have also passed, but the fascination with flower symbolism and the rose, in particular, still remains.

The red rose is one everyone knows and is regarded to mean passion and desire for all of us incurable romantics. While a white rose stands for a

fascination and new beginning that is often found at weddings and funerals.

A yellow rose stands for platonic friendship, to cheer up or congratulate a close friend. A pink rose is more versatile, they can be used on almost every occasion. A pale pink rose is a good choice for the beginning of a romance while becoming a darker shade as a romance becomes more established.

Historically, the red rose was associated with Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love. Myth holds that when her lover, Adonis, was wounded, she pricked her foot on the thorns of a white rose in her haste to run to him.

Her blood stained the roses red, turning the red rose into a symbol of incredible passion and romantic devotion.

I remain Editor, yours faithfully, Mike Fry, by email.

## Speed Limit Faults

Dear Readers,

### Speed limits

In David Hollister's article (September 2021), he referred to the Langton Hill junction A351 and the comments of Head of Highways including: 'extending the existing 30mph limit on the A351 in Swanage to go past the Langton junction to the north, replacing the current 40mph limit through the junction'.

The 40mph limit is currently replaced by a 30mph limit on Langton Hill and the National Speed Limit a little further on the A351 - not serving any useful purpose I would suggest, so a sensible proposal (why was it introduced in the first place?).

Similarly, traffic turning right from Ulwell Road on to Washpond Lane moves from a 30mph limit to National Speed Limit for maybe a couple of hundred yards before 30mph is applied for traffic continuing along Northbrook Road - which I would think most does. The National Speed Limit sign could be relocated to the third exit on the roundabout?

And finally, traffic coming into Corfe Castle from Wareham would have to reduce speed at the Norden roundabout but can continue at the National Speed limit (for a few hundred yards) until the NT car park at the bottom of the hill, when inevitably all vehicles will need to slow down to adhere to the 30mph limit there - why not have the 30mph limit at the top of the hill after leaving the roundabout?

Perhaps like me, other drivers can choose to drive at 30mph in these three places even though it's permissible to drive faster, rather than wait for any changes Highways may introduce.

Chris Wallis, by email.

## Haiti Collection Thanks



Dear Gazette,

Swanage and Purbeck Rotary is very grateful to the many who kindly supported our recent one day street collection for those affected by the devastating earthquake in Haiti (pictured, left).

Almost £1000 was raised to purchase Shelterboxes; an amazing result thanks to the Swanage community, visitors and Rotarians.

Maggie Hardy, International Committee Chair, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, by email.



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## Snagging List Lost?

Dear Gazette,

With reference to Bob Hufflett's letter in Septembers Gazette reference "New Lido in Swanage".

I reported this matter to the relevant authorities shortly after your report on the completion of this work in the Gazette last year.

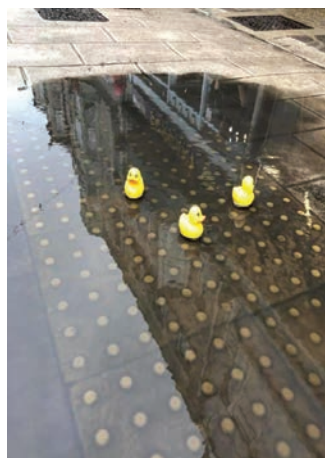
I was assured this problem had been noted and was on their snagging list.

I guess somebody has lost the snagging list, hoping the problem has gone away, which it clearly has not.

Good picture Bob.

Yours sincerely, John Dunster, Swanage, by email.

## Duck Pond Remains....



Dear Editor,

**Ref: A new lido for Swanage?  
Responding to letters, September 2021.**

*Pictured: August 2020 outside Hayman's in Swanage (same month/(year!))*

Update from Highways.....RE: Institute Road Swanage: "Thanks for this, we've been made aware and will organise remedial works with our construction team." Andrew Bradley, Project Engineer (Democratic), Highways, Dorset Council. 01305 224837, [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

So, Bob Hufflett (letters, September issue) you may be right!

Richard Cattermole, Swanage, by email.

## Plenty Of Space For All

Dear Gazette,

In a light-hearted response to 'Moaning Molloy's' criticisms of Durlston Country Park, I would like to point out that there are 320 acres for deer, badgers and other wildlife to roam, on-site caves for bats, free entry for humans and plenty of space to follow George Burt's maxim to: 'look round and read nature's open book'.

By joining the Friends of Durlston, one can benefit from reduced parking charges (a vital source of income for the Park), or, during the summer months, anyone not wishing to walk up, but with a bus pass, has been able to travel free of charge.

Yes, beauty is in the eye of the beholder! I find the new view point seating comfortable, unusual and unobtrusive, and the delightful new wooden seating in the Aviary Glade adds to the magical atmosphere there.

Come on, MM, please join the majority of us and bask in the wonderful place we can all enjoy, whether to wander in the meadows, stride along the coast path, or play in the woodlands.

It's a marvellous asset for Swanage.

Best wishes, Mary Bruce, Swanage, by hand

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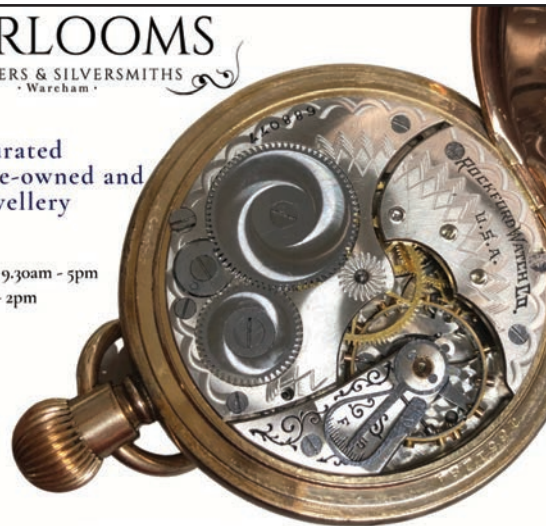
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# Community Matters

## TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

### Pretty Darned Disgusted

by David Hollister

I suppose I shouldn't be disappointed to receive so little reaction to last month's column on the subject of man's inhumanity to man – and total disregard of the way in which the world's leaders seem hell-bent on destroying our environment. On the subject of the apparent mass unanimous apathy shown by the Dorset Council when complaints are raised – the sort of complaint that starts 'we are paying the highest council, tax in the South of England yet our roads are crumbling, our rubbish often goes uncollected, our road markings are dangerously worn out, our road signs irreparably filthy, the police are woefully undermanned and underfunded' and so on.

Not a titter. Not even a tweet. All the councillors with whom I have raised these issues just bleat on about 'underfunding' and wring their hands hoping for some kind of sympathy or understanding.

Well, let's get it straight, shall we? Dorset Council Chief Executive Matt Prosser is on a total remuneration package of £227,000. Councillor Peter Wharf claims that Local Government reorganisation has reduced the County's overall wages bill and that 114 posts in the top four tiers have been removed. At a claimed saving of £7 million.

This is a saving of £7 million not to the Council tax payers but to Central Government who each time Dorset balances its budget – not an easy job is it, Gary! – just forget that this Conservative County put them into power and are unlikely to vote them out, so reduce the Central Government rates support grant. Again. This 'safe seat' is woefully underfunded simply because it's too safe, too elderly, and nobody has the guts to stand up on their hind legs and demand Dorset's fair share. Where are the protestors like they have in France?

I'm on a basic state pension of about £700 per month. My council tax is £240 per month. How does that equate? Should I cut down on luxuries like eating and local travel? What part of my extravagant lifestyle should I sacrifice in order that Matt Prosser can 'earn' £227,000p.a and that the other various 'Lead Members' can enjoy their £10,000 bonuses for holding offices when in the 'good old days' Councillors worked voluntarily on behalf of their electorate? Perhaps we should cut down on food, or clothing, or charitable giving, or turn off our water and electricity at the mains?

Hold on – I'm told that the answer to this country's problems is through the ballot box!!!! This has always been baloney and still is. You could tie blue ribbons around a wheelbarrow and it would get elected. So – wake up Dorset!!

I've always been vocal in demanding that our Health Service is preserved. But we stand to lose our ambulance car, they're now virtually closing the Swanage MIU to the point where in a couple of years the Government will close it on the grounds of lack of use (mark my words – cut out and keep!).

We can't see doctor without going through the 111 process to be 'triaged' – in other words, are you really ill or shall we see how ill you really are by keeping you on hold for an hour and then either making you drive to Poole (soon to be Bournemouth) all the time clutching that bleeding wound and worrying about the young family you've been obliged to leave at home alone, or alternatively dispatching an ambulance which right now is probably in Sherborne.

Wouldn't it be a great idea to have a rapid and mobile, expertly staffed ambulance car, and instant access to a local Minor Injuries Unit within a

couple of miles of home..... Oh, we've got that already.

I know that professionals somehow need to keep their heads below the parapet but really, isn't it time that the professionals in the five GP practices making up the Purbeck Primary Care network actually stood up and shouted out loud, through this magazine, through social media, or through the anodyne regular Dorset Healthcare publication that appears through our letterboxes?

JUST SAY SOMETHING! Even if it's only 'this isn't what I joined up to do'. Then maybe the Police Officers and Firefighters could do likewise in the face of the heavy-handed authority which keeps them all 'shtum'.

Come on – let's hear from you.....

Regular readers and listeners to my show on Purbeck Coast will know by now that I am an ardent supporter of CASH. In 2021, the move towards a cashless society is racing forward faster than ever. This is something we must all club together and push back against collectively across the UK at a local level. Nothing to do with Covid – it's sheer laziness on all our parts, yours and mine. Flashing the card is so easy. Yet cash for spending within stores and businesses gives you digital privacy, and also helps you to keep track of what you spend more easily. Cash also helps to protect the most vulnerable in our society and makes budgeting and charitable giving easier.

Cash cannot be confiscated by anyone electronically and remotely, something the tax office or government seem to be very keen to do these days and may happen even more so in the future.

If you'd like a full list of the reasons to keep cash, email me c/o Purbeck Gazette and I'll email it back by return. I'll also tell you how you can become a registered supporter of this campaign.

Finally. On August Bank Holiday Monday, knackered after our Village Fete, I wanted a small portion of chips. I went into a local fish and chip shop and was greeted with the question: "Have you booked?", to which I suggested that I only came in for a small portion of take-away chips and no, I hadn't booked. The hostile response was: "Well, it will take thirty minutes". Really? How long does it take to make a small portion of chips?

Unsurprisingly, the chip shop was empty. I then decided to take the Girl up on the notice which said: "Card only, no cash". Really? This is a provincial fish and chip shop in which there were no customers.

Said Girl then got very irate with me and said to me if that was my attitude then I was not welcome in the chip shop and could take my business elsewhere. I responded that I would clearly do so and I would not be back in her chip shop again.

Perhaps I should've reminded her that it's going to be a very long autumn and winter and they actually need locals. The chip shop is in Swanage, but I'm not allowed to tell you their name.

I've now gone to the bank and withdrawn a large amount of cash. If anyone doesn't want it, then I don't want to be their customer. I will continue to pay for my petrol and big-ticket items with my credit card but will no longer be forking out my card for items less than a tenner.

Actually, pretty damned disgusted.

But we live in times when smart people are silenced so that stupid people won't be offended.



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# Candles on the lake

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Reflect, remember and celebrate loved ones by taking part in our memory walk and floating candles on the lake event.

**Saturday 16th October**

**6pm – 8pm, The Ark, Poole Park**

Make a donation for your candle today on our website.



**Lewis-Manning  
Hospice Care**  
[lewis-manning.org.uk](http://lewis-manning.org.uk)

Charity Registration No.1120193

## Talbot Village Trust Provides Vital Funding

£35,000 awarded by grant-giving charity Talbot Village Trust has enabled Lewis-Manning Hospice Care to extend its essential services through the use of mobile clinics. The funding partially covered costs for a Mobile Lymphoedema Clinic for cancer patients based in Bournemouth, and fully funded a weekly clinic in Wimborne, focusing on general hospice care, family support and bereavement services for three months.

Jo Whale, Director of Clinical Services at Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, said: "Our patients and staff love the mobile clinic spaces, which allow us to provide our extraordinary hospice care, closer to home. Thank you again Talbot Village Trust for the funding to make this become a reality and expand to the Bournemouth and Wimborne areas, so we can help even more people in our community."

Lewis-Manning's Bournemouth mobile Lymphoedema clinic located at King's Park, Boscombe, helps cancer patients with lymphoedema manage the chronic condition. This new space is light, warm and has a friendly atmosphere, with the same clinical standards you'd find in the hospice. Patients will see the same reassuring faces each time, with the benefit of Lewis-Manning bringing their services closer to their homes.

The mobile clinic based at The Hamworthy Club, Wimborne offers a better breathing clinic every Wednesday, physiotherapy, complimentary therapy, plus family support and bereavement services. Both services have helped Lewis-Manning's patients reduce travel time while offering the same standards found in its hospice.

Nick Ashley-Cooper, 12th Earl of Shaftesbury and Chair of Talbot Village Trust, said: "The work Lewis-Manning do for the patients and families under its care is phenomenal, and has become an essential asset to the community over the years. The mobile clinics are a fantastic idea to bring expert care while ensuring patients have more time to spend with their loved ones, and we're so proud to have helped this come to fruition."

**To donate to Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, please visit: <https://lewis-manning.org.uk/donate-online/>**

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## Out Of The Blue

Dorset Police



**O**ctober, from the Latin 'octo' meaning eight, the eighth month in the Roman calendar, even when the year was changed to twelve months it kept its numerical name. Just as October kept its name we would like you to keep on sending us your comments and encourage more of you to get in touch, so if you can spare 5 minutes

please use this link and have your say: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PurbeckEmail>, by listening and acting upon what you have had to say enables us to target both our resources and patrol.

So, what have we been up to? Well, during the period August 06 2021 – September 08 2021, we dealt with a total of 609 occurrences in Purbeck, of which 181 were recorded crimes and resulted in 49 arrests. There were also 111 occurrences of road traffic collisions.

The local Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) have been busy training up volunteers for our Community Speed Watch teams; with new teams now operating in Langton Matravers and Corfe Castle. Community Speed Watch teams work under the authority of the Chief Constable and they are trained by officers within the NPT. Some of the teams in Purbeck took part in Dorset Police's day of action in September and were supported by our safety camera teams and No Excuse and NPT officers.

Community Speed Watch is an educational scheme to help people reduce speeding traffic through their local area. The scheme enables volunteers to work within their community to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding and to help control the problem locally. Volunteers use a radar speed detector to monitor the speed cars are doing. Volunteers then note the details of any vehicles exceeding the speed limit and pass this information back to Dorset Police where staff identify the registered keeper, and a letter advising them of their speeding is sent.

Vehicles whose drivers persistently come to attention are referred to

WORKING  
TOGETHER  
for a safer community

# PACT

## Partners And Communities Together

the No Excuse team for further consideration. This might be a visit by an officer to the home of the registered keeper, or for a driver with a poor driving history they could find themselves made an Operation Dragoon target which results in a greater level of attention by our No Excuse team of officers. For more information or to register as a Community Speed Watch volunteer please go to the Dorset Road Safe website [www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk](http://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk)

Finally, if you need to contact Dorset Police please call our Police Enquiry Centre by calling 101 or email [101@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:101@dorset.pnn.police.uk). Always call 999 in an EMERGENCY when there is a risk of HARM or a CRIME in progress. Alternatively, call the free CRIMESTOPPERS line on 0800 555 111. You can also use our website to report a number of issues, from full crime reports to lost property; just use the following link <https://www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online/>

Don't forget to visit us on our Facebook page Facebook.com/Purbeck-police and Twitter - @PurbeckPolice - we really value your support and comments. You can also see our latest priorities and up and coming events at <https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/purbeck/>

Why not register on Dorset Alert? By registering for the free Dorset Police community messaging alerts, you will receive information on, local crime and incidents where we believe that sharing information with you will help to prevent further offences occurring.

**Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team**

## The Launch Of The Dorset Greener Homes Initiative

**W**ith all the alarming news of extreme weather around the world, most people are looking at ways they can reduce their carbon footprint.

Around a quarter of our greenhouse gases are produced from our homes, mainly through heating.

This year - Dorset Climate Action Network (DCAN) - is running an open homes event on the last weekend of September and the first of October. Around forty-five homes are opening across Dorset for a day to showcase how we can live greener lives.

Some of these are new houses built with very high levels of insulation, heat pumps and ventilation systems. Others have been retro-fitted with extra insulation, solar panels and better windows.

Yet others are homes where people have made lifestyle changes - growing vegetables, wildlife friendly gardens, using cycles or electric cars, travelling less, reducing waste.

Some of the solutions are very ingenious, with energy saving measures from repurposed materials at very little cost, storing rainwater in IBC tanks and zoning the heating in their homes.

Sam Wilberforce, who has been organising open EcoHomes in West Dorset for eight years, said: "Our hosts have a huge repository of knowledge, enthusiasm and expertise on energy saving measures. Visitors have returned inspired and informed about what they can do in their own homes. Many of the visitors return next year as Greener Homes hosts to showcase what they have achieved."

Each of these homes have specific opening times, and some require prior booking.

Please see <http://dorset.greenopenhomes.net> for details of all the homes and booking instructions where required. The Dorset Greener Homes is running on the weekend of 2nd-3rd October 2021.

DCAN has received a grant from Dorset Community Energy to run this event. All those involved are volunteers.

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## Swanage's Platinum Jubilee Street Party Update



**C**an we remind all of those who bought tickets for the VE Party 2020, which was sadly cancelled due to Covid, that our cut off for refunds is the 31st October. You may of course use your tickets for the spectacular event being organised for the Queens Platinum Jubilee on the 3rd June, 2022, when we will again have a Tea Party for 600 in the Lower High Street in Swanage.

The cost of the tickets for next years event will be £5.00 each, but those with tickets from last year will not need to pay extra. Included in these 600 seats will be 50 seats allocated for those who suffer with food intolerances and who wish to bring their own food. There will be a charge of £3.00 a head for these seats.

Please contact Carolyn by email on: [podyfrog@aol.com](mailto:podyfrog@aol.com) regarding refunds.

**With thanks from the Platinum Jubilee Team**

*Pictured above: The Queen's Jubilee in Swanage, 2012. NJ.*

## The Town House

The Square, Corfe Castle. 07427 003500



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## Growing For Gold - Wareham's 'In Bloom' Competitions



July 15th was a busy day for Wareham's newly formed Wareham Community Growers (WCG) as we hosted a visit from judge Derek Beer, representing the South and South East in Bloom Competition.

Derek was escorted on a town centre walking route where he was delighted to view dazzling floral displays provided by Wareham Town Council, the local business community and residents, and to meet various representatives en route.

A driving route followed, with stops for the judge to meet local participants and WCG members, including Wareham's Almshouses, Hillyard Court, Bestwall Allotments and Northmoor Wildlife Haven. All within the SSEIB themes of 'Horticulture', 'Community' and 'Environment'.

Included enroute were two separate entries: the Wareham Cemetery (Churchyard of the Year awards) where Cllr Keith Critchley presented the immaculate gardens and the wildlife area on behalf of the Wareham Burials Joint Committee, and Wareham Railway Station (It's Your Neighbourhood' awards) where Cllr Beryl Ezzard presented the efforts of the Friends of the Station and Wareham Town Council to beautify this location.

Since the SSEIB judging, the Growers have also held our first local 'In Bloom' competition for residents and businesses in several categories. At time of writing, the SSEIB results have not been announced, however all will be revealed, including our local competition results, on September 24th at a WCG awards night in Wareham's Parish Hall.

Watch this space!

Rod Curtis, Chairman, Wareham Community Growers



### Making Memories - dementia friendly café and cinema at The Mowlem, Swanage

The COVID-19 pandemic has been an isolating experience for everyone in Purbeck and, in particular, for those living with dementia supported by their families and their carers. Meeting socially over a cup of tea or coffee, and watching a familiar film, is both stimulating and a great way to share memories and experiences with other people and their carers.

**Tuesday 5th October - Meet me in St Louis**  
**Tuesday 2nd November - Singing in the Rain**  
**Tuesday 7th December - White Christmas**

Refreshments are served from 10.00 am and the film screening is at 11.00am.

We are encouraging Purbeck residents with early onset dementia to join us for an enjoyable morning with their carer or family member.

The Mowlem operates a strict covid-secure setting. Please ask us about this when you visit.

Making Memories is supported by Dorset County Council, and between October and March, the project is running free of charge. A local door to door minibus pick up service is available on enquiry at The Mowlem Box office.

#### Enquiries and free tickets:

**Telephone:** 01929 422239 (Monday to Friday, 10.30 am-1.30 pm)

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## Swanage's Christmas Market



Well, we certainly missed our fabulous Christmas Market in Swanage last year! That means that this year's market will be even more welcome, with a wide range of stall holders and crafts people eager to set-up their stalls and welcome everyone to enjoy a traditional Christmas market celebration on Saturday 4th December.

Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, organisers of the annual market, are now taking bookings for stalls - if you would like to be part of this rather splendid affair, please do get in touch with Deirdre and get yourself booked in! All contact details are shown on our advert, below.

Word has it that the great man himself, Father Christmas, may be putting in an appearance, although of course, he is extremely busy and we never really know until much nearer the time if he will be able to stop off at Swanage during his busy rounds and spend some time with the children of our wonderful town! Here's hoping!!

The market will take over Station Road, Mermond Place and Commercial Road and will run from 10am until around 4pm. We have, of course, arranged for a bright, sunny day with just a hint of frost, so join us!



**Rotary**  
Swanage & Purbeck CIO 1188946

# Christmas Fair

## Sat 4th December

### DO YOU WANT A STALL?

If so, call Deirdre on: 07971 764823 or  
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## Wareham Town Council Update

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



### News from Wareham Town Council August

**T**he proposal to have a visitor information centre in the Corn Exchange was put on a back burner by the Councillors because it was expected to cost the Council about £10,000 a year. visitwareham.com is an engaging, useful resource.

The repairs to the roof at 2 Mill Lane were completed on time at a cost of £26,600 and the Town Hall roof repair cost £4,800. The Council will appoint a consultant to undertake the assessment and tendering process for the play areas.

Michael Tomlinson MP visited the Youth Centre to hear about the work that had gone on during the summer benefitting young people such as a holiday in Perranporth for young carers.

One year on, the relocatable housing units at Red Oak Court on the former Middle School site are allowing residents to live independently but with support on site.

The Council would like to hold a Platinum Jubilee event during the holiday Thursday 2nd June – Sunday 5th June. The Town Council office will accept ideas and offers of help.

Business at the Council meeting on Tuesday 14th December will be kept to a minimum to leave time for the Christmas Reception. This will have a restricted attendance due to Covid 19 but will include the Volunteers of the Years 2020 and '21 with their families or friends.

The Community Governance Review gives local councils the opportunity to submit alterations to ward or parish boundaries. Wareham Town Council has no wish to change the number of councillors or tweak parish boundaries.

The next Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd November at 7pm in the Council Chamber and is open to the public.

The Council's website is [www.wareham-tc.gov.uk](http://www.wareham-tc.gov.uk) and the 'phone number of the office is 01929 553006.

## Local Society Celebrates Fourth Birthday!



**W**hen Swanage resident, Dinah Johnson (pictured, left), set up The Handwritten Letter Appreciation Society to inspire and encourage everyone to write letters to each other again she had no idea what a magical journey it would take her on.

Now, with 626 members in 28 countries on all seven continents, the Society is going from strength to

strength. "There is still a great love for handwritten letters out there" explains Dinah. "We started a handwritten letter revival back in 2017 to ensure everyone got to experience the joy of writing and receiving letters and the response has been wonderful.

"This last year has seen a huge rise in people putting pen to paper again to send a letter, but it was a reminder of just how special it is to receive personal correspondence from our nearest and dearest, and even from strangers too.

"It's been lovely reflecting on the last four years of the Society and all the amazing things that have happened. People have really got onboard and been so enthusiastic about the idea behind it."

Some of the highlights have been connecting with so many like-minded people and organisations, attending local events and festivals to run letter writing activities, giving online talks to WI groups and businesses up and down the country, featuring in national newspapers, receiving encouraging letters from Stephen Fry, Dermot O'Leary and Dame Vera Lynn, going on

local, national and international radio stations, and of course spending time "up the Letter Writing Shed" in Dinah's Swanage garden whenever possible.

The Society celebrates its 4th birthday on 26th October. To find out more, or to join, visit the website at [www.thehandwrittenletterappreciationsociety.org](http://www.thehandwrittenletterappreciationsociety.org).





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*Becky Stares*

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# The Team Behind The Historic Resurrection Of Swanage's Prince Albert Memorial



Words by Robert Field

Prince Albert died on the 14th of December 1861 and by the following December, the Swanage Memorial to Albert the Good was made, erected and in place, making it the first memorial to be erected in his memory in the country.

At some time between 1925 and 1930 for reasons unknown, the top thirteen courses were taken down, stored and later re-used. In 1961 David Lewer, local historian and founder member of the Tithe Barn Museum (later the Swanage Museum) began his fight for the memorial, in this instance, to get it restored for its centenary. With the growth of Swanage, the memorial no longer made an impressive feature at the start of the town, he therefore also thought it ought to be re-erected in a more prominent position elsewhere.

The battle intensified when developers acquired the adjacent site and proposed the erection of Prince Albert Cottages. In giving planning permission, Swanage Urban District Council stipulated that the memorial should be retained or re-erected elsewhere at an agreed site. This of course never happened and the memorial ended up in the council yard before



going to Lander's quarry and eventually to Haysom's quarry at St Aldhelm's Head.

David Lewer continued his battle with letters to the press, the council and following the progress of the stones to ensure they survived. He also got quotes for the restoration of the monument in order to try to and get it re-erected at his preferred site in front of the Royal Victoria Hotel.

After forty-five years trying to get the monument re-erected, he died in 2005 at the age of 86 and left his invaluable archive of writings, photographs, press cuttings and letters to Swanage Museum.

This archive has been the basis of my own research into Prince Albert and the memorials that were

erected in his memory.

In 2017, a group was formed with the aim of getting the memorial restored and re-erected and it was at this point I became involved. David Lewer's files of letters and press cuttings were being used as a basis of the campaign and it was soon obvious that they needed to be digitised so that all members could have access to them at all times. This I began to do and, in the process, started to research other memorials. It was then that we realised the significance of the Swanage memorial being the first to be erected in his memory. Prince Albert was born on the 26th of August 1819, although our memorial gives the date as a week earlier, the 19th. The bicentenary of that date in 2019 gave us a date to aim for.

The Purbeck Gazette carried an article about the memorial in the October 2017 edition. Swanage Town Council were approached, and we presented our case for the re-erection of the memorial at the Council meeting on the 30th of October 2017.

From that, two further meetings were set up with the group and although the Council were willing to fund the fees for the planning application and site survey, the raising of the funds for its re-erection would be down to us. We had always felt that, as a voluntary organisation, any fundraising we undertook should be for the Museum itself.

We went ahead with a Pre-Planning application to Purbeck District Council for the re-erection of the memorial in Prince Albert Gardens that resulted in being offered a most unsuitable site and a refusal of a site meeting. By this time our approaches to possible funding bodies had drawn a blank and we began to run out of steam.

I had approached Nick Churchill about a possible article for 'Dorset Life' on the memorial and this eventually appeared in the March 2019 issue and was fortunately read by Michael Sloggett. Michael's father had bought a cottage near Peveril Point in the 1930s and he has been visiting Swanage on a regular basis since then. Having no children to leave his money to, he wanted to give something back to Swanage for the many happy times he has spent here. He also wanted to ensure it retained an essential part of its lost heritage.

He set up a meeting with the Mayor, the Swanage Development Trust, and me, representing the Museum. It was agreed that the Development Trust would take over the project with funding provided by Michael and an appeal through the Museum. This has resulted, two years later, with the memorial being restored and re-erected in a prominent position in Prince Albert Gardens. It has been achieved, as was the original, by using a local workforce and can now takes its rightful place as an essential part of the rich history of the town.

**Pictures:** Top of page: The original team, L-R: Jackie and Malcolm Todd, Dave Burt, Lew Fletcher, Dave Norman, Jan Marsh, Bob Field, John Patrick. David Haysom and Rob Pond (who were also involved) were unavailable to be there for the photograph. Left: The completed memorial in the sunshine, situated in Prince Albert Gardens, Swanage





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## Appeal To Landlords To Support Afghan Refugees

**Dorset Council appeals to landlords in support of the government's Afghan relocation scheme**

Dorset Council is urging private landlords and owners of second homes to come forward if they can provide suitable accommodation for the Afghan relocation scheme. The takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban has prompted a mass evacuation of Afghan citizens and a government relocation scheme has recently been announced to help eligible families remain safe following their service to UK troops and the UK government. Dorset Council has pledged to support the scheme, which is being funded by the UK government.

The council will not use accommodation, such as social housing, intended for Dorset families on the housing register or for people who are homeless. Dorset Council is seeking offers of additional privately owned, self-contained accommodation to house families under this scheme.

**Self-contained family homes needed** - The council is looking for a range of homes of varying sizes, particularly larger family homes that are available for at least twelve months. These need to be self-contained properties as opposed to offers of spare rooms or house sharing.

Cllr Graham Carr-Jones, Dorset Council's portfolio holder for Housing and Community Safety said: "Everyone will have seen the heart-breaking and distressing events currently unfolding in Afghanistan and Dorset Council is supporting the government's scheme to resettle eligible families safely in the UK. People are asking how they can help. The single thing we need right now is offers of suitable accommodation, but this needs to be balanced with existing high levels of demand for housing in our area.

**Tell us if you have a suitable property** - If you are a private landlord or own a second home and may be able to help with any of our housing needs, please contact: [afghanfamilieshousing@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:afghanfamilieshousing@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Dorset Council will work with property owners on all aspects of setting up the tenancy and support the family to settle in when they arrive. There will be central government assistance for initial rent and deposits until the families are settled. On arrival families will have a caseworker to provide support to settle in the home and local area.

### SWANAGE HOSPITAL - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**OUR AGM - Weds 20th October at 7pm.**  
Emmanuel Church Centre, Victoria Ave, Swanage.

It has been such a long time since we were able to meet you in person for our Annual General Meeting and we are really looking forward to welcoming you to The Emmanuel.

Come and welcome our new Matron, Annette Sanchez, and join us to hear all the latest news from your wonderful hospital.

SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE ENCOURAGED

### OUR AUTUMN FAYRE

**Sat 13th November, 11.30am - 2.30pm**  
The Centre, Chapel Lane, Swanage. BH19 2PW

As we are unable to hold our Autumn Fayre at the Hospital, we are very happy to invite you to join us at The Centre (behind Swanage Day Centre, High Street) for all of our usual delights; cakes, pickles, seasonal produce, and other goods to buy. Enjoy a tea/coffee and some home-made cake!  
See you there!

SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE ENCOURAGED





# National Coastwatch

## Eyes along the coast



### View from the Lookouts – October 2021

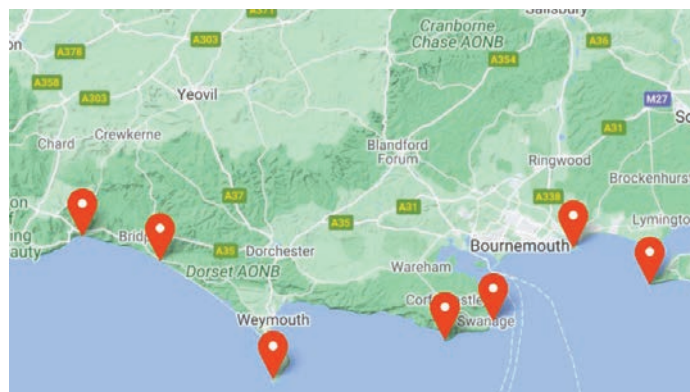
It's always good to receive good news and we were really pleased to hear that our colleagues at NCI Hengistbury Head had achieved "Declared Facility Status" (DFS). To achieve DFS, a station has to undergo a rigorous day long assessment to prove that it is operating to the standards and level of competence that the Maritime and Coastguard Agency expects of us. It's a credit to the team at Hengistbury Head that they managed to achieve this level during the current pandemic.



The lookout at Hengistbury Head is the latest edition to the chain of lookouts around our coast. Situated high above Poole Bay, it plays an important role in filling in the gap between the Swanage Station and the one above the Needles. Opening in 2018, Hengistbury occupies the old Coastguard Lookout, as do many of the stations around the coast. Along the West Hampshire and Dorset coast, we now have stations at the Needles, Hengistbury Head, Swanage, St Albans Head, Portland, Lyme Bay (Burton Bradstock) and Charmouth. These seven stations are able to keep a close watch on along the busy waters of the Dorset coast and the Solent.

The importance of having this chain of lookouts was highlighted during an incident at the beginning of September. Late in the afternoon of 2nd September, watchkeepers at Swanage logged a 24 foot motor cruiser passing the Lookout.

As it passed the Lookout, they were able to identify the name of the vessel as "Solitude". Weather conditions were fair, and the vessel seemed to be making good progress. The boat rounded Durlston Head and, shortly afterwards, the watchkeepers heard the vessel calling Solent Coastguard to say they were experiencing some engine issues. The Swanage watchkeepers quickly called St Alban's Head to keep an eye out for the vessel as it rounded Anvil Point. We work closely and one



station contacting the other to keep a lookout for vessels that may cause concerns is standard practice.

With the vessel now making slow progress, the St Alban's watchkeepers were tasked by the Coastguard to keep a visual watch on the vessel as it headed across Weymouth Bay towards the marinas at Portland and Weymouth. "Solitude" was making progress, but authorities were concerned as she had been given support by the Swanage Lifeboat on the previous day and there were a number of small children onboard. The vessel was kept under observation and as she seemed to be making satisfactory progress, the watchkeepers were stood down just before teatime. With incidents like this the Coastguard ask vessels to keep them informed when they arrive at their destination.

As night fell, it appeared that the boat had not arrived at its destination. The local marinas were checked, and, with no evidence of its safe arrival, the Coastguard asked the local Coastguard Rescue Team to carry out a shoreline search. This also failed to turn up any sign of the vessel and so the Weymouth lifeboat was launched along with the Coastguard rescue helicopter. By early morning on the Friday there was no sign of the vessel and so an urgent appeal was put out in the press and on social media for any information. This finally paid off and early on the Saturday morning, the vessel's owners contacted Solent Coastguard to say that they were safe and well.

Luckily there was a happy ending to the story, but the incident highlights the need to keep the Coastguard informed if there is a problem, especially if the problem has been resolved. A quick phone call or a radio message to say they had arrived in port could have saved considerable expenditure of time and resources.

I started this month's article with a note of congratulations, and I'd like to end with a note of thanks. Firstly, we'd like to thank all those water users who have heeded the Maritime and Coastguard Agency's request to use the NCI's radio channel, Channel 65, for their radio checks. Calling us rather than hailing the Coastguard on Channel 16 considerably reduces the pressure on them and allows them to concentrate on their main role of monitoring vessels and keeping our seas safe.

Secondly, we'd like to thank all those people who have supported our fundraising activities during the summer. NCI is a charity and receives no outside funding. Each station is responsible for its own fundraising and our coffers have been hit badly by the pandemic. To see people supporting us during events like our tea and cake sales is very heartening and makes us feel appreciated.

**This is NCI St Alban's Head and NCI Swanage looking forward to hearing your radio checks on Channel 65. NCI out.**

*Pictures: Top left: Dorset NCI Stations (top row L-R Charmouth, Lyme Bay, Portland. bottom row L-R At Alban's Head, Swanage, Hengistbury Head).*

*Left: Congratulations! NCI DFS assessors Ian Weston & David Crozier with Ed Essery and Peter Holway from the Hengistbury Head team on completion of their DFS assessment.*

*Top right: Map showing the West Hampshire and Dorset NCI Stations*



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## Household Collections Impacted By Driver Shortage

**National driver shortage impacts kerbside collections and litter bin emptying across Dorset**

The effects of the national HGV driver shortage, coupled with the continuing impact of the pandemic, are starting to be felt across Dorset Council's waste services as collection rounds feel the strain.

As recently reported in the national press, the impact of the driver shortage is being felt by councils across the country. In Dorset, some crews are regularly having to work overtime and often at weekends, which is not sustainable. These pressures also come on the back of a year of increased household waste amounts as more people stay and work from home.

Dorset Council senior officers recently briefed local MPs on the issues currently impacting waste collections, street cleansing and bin deliveries, in the hope that a long-term solution can be found.

Recruitment of drivers in Dorset has always been challenging, particularly due to high local housing costs, but the current widescale staff shortages across all depots are unprecedented. The Council currently has multiple vacancies for drivers and loaders across their waste services team, along with some absence due to sickness and others on planned annual leave.

All employees across waste services are working hard to ensure that key waste services continue to run throughout this challenging time. We are having to temporarily suspend or delay some garden waste collections so that crews can be redeployed to support vital rubbish, food and recycling collections.

Litter bins are also being emptied less frequently in some areas of the county, and new bin deliveries are also being delayed.

While we continue to work on tackling the problem, residents are being kindly asked to note the following: -

- Always report your missed collection, even if your whole street is affected. Our website has an automated system that will inform you what's happening with your bins and provide guidance on what to do next
- Please ensure your bins are out by 6am on your collection day. Some rounds are being carried out differently, meaning that we might turn up earlier or later in the day than usual
- If you find a litter bin is full, do not try to leave your litter on top/next to it or on the floor nearby – please take it home and place in your household bin. We also encourage people to report over-filled bins on the Dorset Council website
- If any garden waste collections have to be cancelled/stood down we will contact customers directly to advise them. As compensation for any garden waste collections you did not receive, we will automatically apply a discount to next year's subscription fee.
- Rubbish, recycling, garden and food waste can be dropped off free of charge at any of Dorset's household recycling centres, which are operating as normal.

Cllr Jill Haynes, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services, said: "Emptying the bins for almost 380,000 Dorset residents will obviously present challenges from time to time, and we are proud to provide one of the best kerbside collection services in the country under normal circumstances. But I'm afraid the current situation is both unprecedented and unsustainable.





"While we will continue to ensure that Dorset's waste is dealt with as best we can and do whatever is necessary to address local concerns, we need action to be taken by central government to address the national driver shortage and help to mitigate the continuing effects of the pandemic.

"I want to thank the hard-working waste services crews and admin staff, who are doing a brilliant job under very difficult circumstances, and assure them we are doing all we can to support our frontline staff while these problems persist."

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## Support For Veterans Affected By Afghan Situation

**W**ith over 58,000 military veterans in Dorset, Dorset Council is reminding current and former members of the Armed Forces, and their families, that support is available for them. Whether they served in Afghanistan, or in other conflicts, news of the withdrawal of military forces has significantly impacted on the wellbeing of many veterans and their families. Dorset Council is encouraging anyone affected to reach out for support.

**Organisations offering support** - At immediate risk of danger to life always call 999. All calls are free from a landline unless stated otherwise.

**nhs.net/opcourage** - Op Courage provides a service to ensure members of the Armed Forces community are supported to access services that provide health and social care support.

**Dorset HealthCare : Armed Forces** - Health and Wellbeing - Helping people in the Armed Forces Community access health and social care services across Dorset.

**veteransgateway.org.uk** - 0808 802 1212 - 24/7 first point of contact for all welfare needs. From healthcare and housing to employability, and more.

**combatstress.org.uk** - 0800 138 1619 - Specialist treatment and support for veterans from every service and conflict, focusing on those with complex mental health issues related to their military service.

**mind.org.uk** - 0300 123 3393 or text 'Shout' to 85258 - (calls cost 3p to 40p per minute) Mental health support and information.

**ptsdresolution.org** - 0300 302 0551 - (calls cost 3p to 40p per minute). Free, rapid and effective therapeutic support to Veterans, Reservists and family members.

**www.samaritans.org** - 116 123 - 24-hour support, seven days a week.

**www.ssafa.org.uk** - 0800 260 6767 - Welfare, health and support services, for the UK military's serving personnel, veterans, and their families.

**Veterans UK** - 0808 1914 218 - Part of the Ministry of Defence and offers free support for veterans and their families.

**Urgent Help For Veterans** - Signposts to organisations which can provide urgent help

**Age UK NSW Dorset** - 01305 269444 - Information and advice and a range of support services for the over 55s.

### Remember Afghanistan

Remember please Afghanistan  
Now conquered by the Taliban  
Remember how our soldiers died  
And how our politicians lied

Remember how we made a stand  
To make a fair and peaceful land  
Until our leaders stopped the war  
And left things as they were before !

Remember all the stranded ones  
Left to face the angry guns  
And, at home, the widowed wives  
The severed limbs and shattered lives

Remember still with dignity  
The sacrifice and bravery  
But wonder too, as millions call,  
' Was it really worth it all ? '

Finally remember please  
That now we've made more refugees  
So don't begrudge them safety here  
You loved them far, now love them near.

*Martin Hobdell, Swanage*

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## October's 5K Run For The Alzheimer's Society



**O**n Sunday October 17th at 10am "Together for Alzheimer's" 5k run/walk will take place in Wareham Forest. Local Pilates Instructor and Personal Trainer, Alex Eversden, said: "I am really excited that this is the 14th year we have organized 'Together for Alzheimer's'. It's always a fun event that attracts both club runners and family walkers. "The run will take place from Birchwood Tourist Park, Wareham, and will follow tracks around the Forest. If you are elsewhere, please feel free to join us virtually and send us updates and photos.

"All money raised will go to 'The Alzheimer's Society' which does fantastic work in helping those affected by dementia as well as research to find a cure for this devastating disease. It is close to my heart, so it would be wonderful if we could pull together and meet (or exceed) our target of £1000."

To enter the run we ask for £10 for adults, £5 for children or £25 for a family, on top of this sponsor forms are available if required for further fundraising or donations. If you would like more information on how you could take part, donate or help on the day, please contact Alex on 07769584820, email at: [getfitwithalex@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:getfitwithalex@yahoo.co.uk) or [www.facebook.com/togetherforalzheimers](http://www.facebook.com/togetherforalzheimers)

Donations can be made through:

[www.justgiving.com/togetherforalzheimers2021](http://www.justgiving.com/togetherforalzheimers2021)

Please dig deep and support us, any donation, however small is greatly appreciated.





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# Henry Searle - Remembered In Glorious Sun By His Community



On Sunday 5th September, the community of Swanage joined together at Prince Albert Gardens for a special, heartfelt day, commemorating the life of Henry Searle, son of Vicki and Jonathan Searle, who very sadly lost his fight with cancer on Sunday 4th April 2021, aged just twenty-five.

Hundreds of local people gathered together at the gardens to remember Henry and to celebrate his love of music. Numerous local musicians played during the day, including Henry's own band, 'In Terms of Us', Jo Jolly, Grant Cann, Galaxy Thief, Frankie Rudd, Ollie Thompson, Best Excuses, Catherine, Rosie and many more. Most of Henry's friends performed on the day. Below, we share with you words from some of those involved in organising 'HenryFest', as well as some words to you all, from Vicki, Henry's mother.

**From Lesley Paddy Founder and Trustee of Willdoes and most importantly, Will's Mum:** "It was a great honour to be involved with Henry memorial and an absolutely fitting way to remember a bright, vibrant person. We were overwhelmed by the support and kindness of the community. The sun shone and the people came to enjoy the most beautiful day.

"The feedback from the day was immense; even before the event was finished, the crowd wanted to know about next year. We are now hoping to make this an annual mini festival in support of the charities and to remember Henry and my son, Will. We welcome any feedback and suggestions for next year, but I would personally like to thank Vicki Seale and her team and all the amazing musicians for the tunes on the day.

"I know that Will would have loved the event as he loved his music and always wanted to go to a festival. Thank you, Lesley."

**Tash, representing Cancare, said:** "When Vicki asked Cancare to be involved in a memorial event for her beloved Henry, we were unaware of the positive impact it would have on our charity and the community. Although Cancare has been running for thirty-two years, not a lot of people know about us so this fabulous event enabled us to show and tell people who we are and what we do for those living with Cancer.

"On top of this, we raised £3484.17. This is an incredible amount of money and will be used to support others by providing financial assistance for travel expenses to appointments/ treatment, specialist equipment needs, wigs, respite care, alternative therapies, counselling and general advice."

**A representative of the local 'Save Our Ambulance Car' campaign said:** "We all felt that it was a privilege to be part of Henry's tribute. We are all touched by the sad loss of a young man from our community, and by Henry's family's support of the Ambulance Car at this difficult time. The event was full of life, it was not only attended by many people in their twenties, but they kindly provided so much of the music! It was fantastic.

"People came to our stall to sign the new petition to Dorset Council. We need 5,000 signatures to get the case for the Ambulance Car to full council, we're up to 2,700, with 700 signatures added since Henry's tribute. The money raised will fund posters, stakes, leaflets, banners, badges, booklets and help update the website. Should we need to look at taking a legal case, the money will help fund a barrister's opinion."

**From Vicki Searle, Henry's mother:**

"Thank you Cancare, #WillDoes and Save Our Ambulance Car, for all your kind words. To Swanage Town Council, Dorset SAG, to Nichola Watts, Lorna Lock and Swanage Railway, thank you for helping us get this event on the road. To all our family and friends who travelled and set up the day, thank you too. To all our families, and our friends, to Henry's friends - you have all kept us going through six years of trauma. Thank you. Thank you to all who came on the day and who helped us raise over £9400 for three great local charities. The L Henry Searle Memorial Concert held at Albert Gardens (Support4Henry), was where Henry played as a child, and where he enjoyed many local bands and DJs at many Swanage events.

"The day was just what we wanted in order to remember Henry. Thank you to all of ours and Henry's friends and family, and to the people of Swanage who supported him for the past six years and who then turned out in the glorious sunshine. It wouldn't have been successful without Reece Hannah and Will Rudge, who set up the sound and bands with their crew.

"To Henry's and our children's godfather and host, Brian Travers, who had many a challenging moment on the day - thanks Brian. To all the bands and performers who played for free and to Ben Bowerman and Galaxy Thief and Frankie Rudd for equipment and sound. Thanks also goes to the exceptional sound crew. Thanks to Margaret Corben and Corbens Estate Agents for ticket sales and their years of support. To Darren Strong and the fabulous Carnival Committee for marshalling on the day - thank you all.

"Thanks also to Becky Travers and Rose and to all the fantastic food stalls. To Will Rudge, Gina and Steve, to Nick Corben (First aider): we are extremely grateful. To Alfie O'Connell @Sign Incorporated for the absolutely fantastic banners - thank you! (A local service highly recommended!). Henry and his siblings were part of Swanage Drama group and we also raised £250 for them during the day."

"We as a family are truly heartbroken, and our lives have changed forever. Nothing can ever replace our beautiful, kind hearted, good looking, sweet soul, Henry. Our lives go on and our aim is to support all those who need help, and as a family, that's what we will do.

"If I have forgotten any thanks, my apologies. Thank you for all your support and generosity. We hope to make it an annual event for local charities - #HENRYFEST. We will keep you informed."



# Sport

## Gig Racing Is Back!



There's nothing a gig rower likes more than a race. After all, Cornish Pilot Gigs were designed hundreds of years ago to race out to sailing ships coming into the English Channel to put a pilot on board and be first in order to collect the valuable 'dues'.

In a normal year, Swanage Sea Rowing Club sends boats and crews to regattas all around the South West, including to the National Championships in Newquay each autumn and the World Championships in the Isles of Scilly every May Bank Holiday. We usually hold two of our own regattas: an Open Regatta in June and a Supervets Regatta for competitors aged 50 or over in October.

These events are colourful and fun, with dozens of brightly painted traditional boats lined up on the beach making a stunning sight. But, like all other sports, Covid has put a huge block on competition. All rowing was suspended during successive lockdowns, but whenever possible, it has resumed under strict safety protocols.

Our hope was to hold at least one of our regattas on a smaller scale, but the Covid restrictions thwarted all of our plans. So, as we could not race anyone else, we decided to race each other. Together with a few of our friends from Poole Gig Rowing Club, with whom we have very close ties, our men decided that, instead of their regular training session on a Thursday evening, they would hold 'The Doom Bar Challenge'. The much coveted prize was – a bottle of Doom Bar! Who could resist?

Crews from all ages and abilities were put together under a variety of silly names and the challenge began. Heats were held and the winners raced each other. The overall winners were The Blue Blazers who beat the Purbeck Pirates in a very closely contested final. We didn't ask how they managed to share out one Doom Bar around six of them (and their cox). There was a special prize for the Saturday Morning Masters, who came



a close second to an All Stars crew and earned themselves a whole bottle of Doom Bar each!

It was wonderful to experience the thrill of competition again, even for the spectators, and lots of visitors to the town watched the whole spectacle with interest (while eating their fish and chips on the Stone Quay!). It's what the club and the town are all about – coming

# Purbeck

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together as a community based on the sea. We hope to be hosting many more visiting crews soon, with a 'mini' regatta for local clubs in September and a Supervets Regatta in October. We are one of only two clubs to hold such regattas, and our last one in 2019 hosted crews from a staggering 25 clubs from Cornwall to London and all points in between. Many of our visiting crews have never been to Swanage before and we are always gratified by the delight they show in our lovely town.

We can't wait to get back to normal, but in the meantime, we continue to make rowing safe, fun and interesting, as well as very, very good for mind and body. If you are interested in joining us look at our web site [swanagesearowingclub.org.uk](http://swanagesearowingclub.org.uk) or Facebook Swanage Sea Rowing Club for further details.

*Pictured: The Closely Fought Final and The Saturday Morning Masters claim their prize*

## Swanage & Wareham Hockey Club - Crowdfunding

Like all clubs, the hockey club is suffering from the effects of Covid-19. Not playing for virtually a whole season had put the club on hold, but slowly things are returning back to normal. Training has resumed for all ages and abilities and matches for our two men's, two ladies and junior teams start at the end of September, after what seems like a long wait.

In order to get us back on track after additional expenses and the lack of fundraising opportunity, the club is setting up a crowdfunding campaign which will run for a month. The page address is: [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/swanageandwarehamhc](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/swanageandwarehamhc) and is live from September 25th. Time for some early Christmas shopping?

We are applying for Sport England to match fund this campaign and would really appreciate your support. You don't have to play hockey to help! Of course, get in touch if you do want to play, return to or try hockey!

We have lots of exciting offers and support from many local companies, some 'doing' gifts, like first aid courses, wildlife walks, coasteering and tennis coaching. Also treats like cream teas, roast dinner for two and other meal vouchers.

We were blown away by local generosity across the community, considering the tough times we have all been through. There are lots of offers and discounts to take advantage of at discounted 'buy it now' prices when this goes live, so please go and take a look and help us put our hockey opportunities back on track!

If you'd like any further information about our hockey club, getting involved or our crowdfunding [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/swanageandwarehamhc](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/swanageandwarehamhc) please go to our website: [swanageandwarehamhc.org.uk](http://swanageandwarehamhc.org.uk) where you can see all our news or contact us directly on: [secretary@swanageandwarehamhc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@swanageandwarehamhc.org.uk)



# Talking of Afghanistan

*We bring you a series of short essays by renowned author and historian, Ilay Cooper....*

The 1960s overland trips to India taught me that the proudest, most self-confident Asian states along that road were those which escaped foreign domination. Although Turkey, Afghanistan and Nepal had each been subjected to some form of intrusion, it had been too brief or too well opposed to instill in their middle classes (the people I communicated with) a sense of insecurity and inferiority. The environs of Constantinople were occupied after the First War as Attaturk rose to forge a Turkish republic. Incursions into Nepal taught the British that the Gurkhas were better on their side than against them.

As a buffer region, Afghanistan was fought over by Indian and Iranian Muslim monarchs. In the early 19th century, Punjab's Sikh kingdom nibbled away at the east of the country, taking the Khyber Pass and Peshawar. British India inherited their frontier and with it the hostility of tribal inhabitants along it, who remain semi-independent. With the Sikhs and British religion played its part. Merely a question of birth, not belief, Muslims are born Muslim, Sikhs, Sikhs and Christians, Christian. Each possesses the one true faith, teaching love, and each overflows with self-righteousness.

British invasions of Afghanistan were short-lived and variably disastrous, like the 1842 retreat from Kabul of which Dr Bryden was sole survivor – apart from some senior officers and Lady Sale, who became guests of the Afghan army as their Indian and British troops were slaughtered along the road. Afghanistan had several features on its side: a ferocious, intimidating landscape, little worth stealing and a martial population practiced in fighting each other but ready to coalesce against foreign, infidel invaders.

When Afghanistan's king invited Russian, not British, representatives to Kabul in 1878, the British declared war. My great grandfather served with the Engineers in that Second Afghan War, improving access by rebuilding the Khyber Pass road. Some of his local workers set upon him with a pick-axe: he survived, writing indignantly: 'they were Zakka Khels, with whom we were at peace.' His son, grandpa Ilay, came next. An officer in the Indian Army, in the 1920s he was posted to Razmak, near the frontier.

Families were not permitted, so Granny set up house nearby in a tented camp at Bannu. She recorded domestic, rather than periodic violent, incidents there. My father was in Quetta, guarding the frontier towards Kandahar, surviving the great quake of 1935 then, both still unmet, the following year my mother photographed the Khyber and its approach - the new Attock Bridge across the Indus and Emperor Akbar's massive Attock Fort. Pakistan's Army prevented me photographing them.

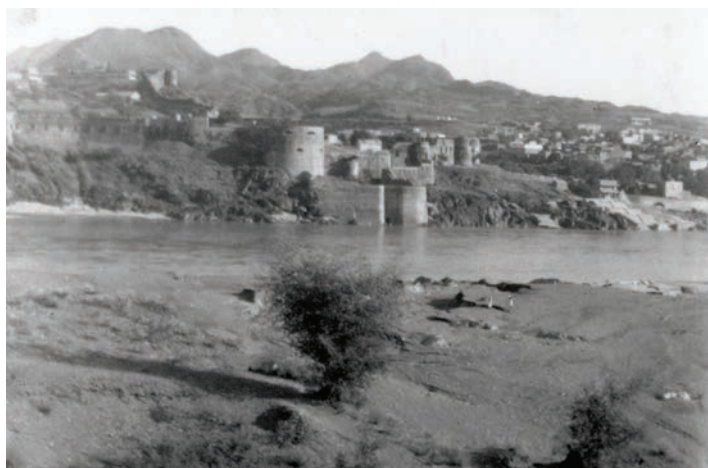
None entered Afghanistan. I was first. Tolerably peaceful by 1965, Afghanistan was becoming a tourist destination where I visited the great, doomed Buddha figures at Bamiyan. The King, Muhammad Zahir Shah, liberal but careful, relatively popular, encouraged gradual advancement and universal education. He could do it: infidels mustn't. The business population amicably exploited us Western youths with flea-filled doss houses, nicknacks, ill-cured Afghan coats, strings of polished stones and, of course, an increasing range of drugs. Eating places, strongly scented with mutton fat, served tea from pretty little, much-stapled tea-pots still bearing the Russian imperial eagle. A wise government played the Cold War game. Russians kindly, quickly built the highway from Herat to Kandahar; Americans kindly, more slowly, completed the stretch from Kandahar to Kabul. Through various adventures, I hitched or bussed along both. All was happy as long as the Cold War see-saw balanced.

In 1973, while the king was in Italy his cousin, Daoud, seized power and, hoping to be king, declared a Republic. The king abdicated to avoid civil war. In Delhi, I had acquired an Afghan visa before leaving homewards. At the frontier, officials, seeing a Royal Afghan Visa, threatened to return me to Peshawar for a Republican one. I claimed their Consul in Delhi had promised that border officials could simply cross out 'Royal' and put 'Republic', so that is what they did. A youth posted at the crossing was handing a flower to each arriving foreigner, a kind gesture, but not enough to make Daoud nice.

He still ruled in 1975, when I photographed Herat's 15th century Musalla complex of tomb and minarets then, suffering the shifts, stopped in a







white-washed, barrel-vaulted room in Kandahar. A dried rose hung on the wall and someone had written 'On est sur le toit – By LSD Airlines', to which I added 'On est sous la terre – By Heroin Metropolitain'. At dusk, a man passed below the window whistling 'the Camptown Ladies' and small tremors shook the night.

Recovered, I made for Quetta with a guitar American boy. Yesterday (26/8/21) the newsreader spoke of refugees crossing into Pakistan via the Spin/Chaman frontier post. That was the way we went, with forty men in their best for the Eid festival and three cycles, on the roof of a battered bus. A bald tyre exploded, the bus lurched but didn't fall and we all descended. While the crew changed wheels, men had me photograph them. We staggered on to Spin.

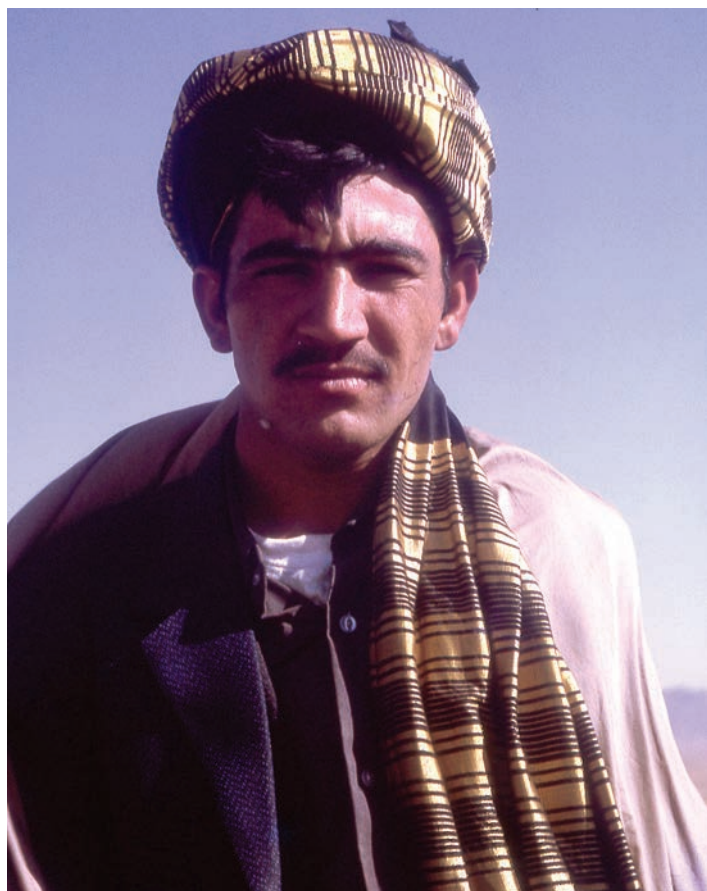
That year, with flights cheaper, I flew home from Delhi with Ariana Afghan Airlines. A little boy pointed out Hema Malini and Dharmendar, huge Bombay stars, amongst the passengers for Kabul. Daoud still looked down on the transit lounge but, unbalancing the see-saw, he turned to India to train his troops, to Shah-ruled Iran and the Gulf for money.

The Soviets, detecting a westward tilt, flirted with the Afghan Communist Party. Daoud and his family were bloodily murdered in a pro-communist coup and, touching down in Kabul in 1978, I found Saviour of the Nation, CP Chairman Tariki's photo on the wall. He was murdered within the year by a rival, who was killed soon afterwards by invading Russians come to stabilise their protégé government. No messing around with new roads now: Afghanistan became a Cold War battleground, its populace collateral damage.

Government brutality soon fuelled civil war. The Americans generously armed and funded an Islamic upsurge of Mujahadeen against the Russians. The resulting ten-year war sent a flood of refugees into Pakistan, where I was looking at wall paintings. I bought a refugee-made rug embellished with tanks, guns and 'kalashnikov'.

War helped the Soviet Union towards collapse. The Russians quit Afghanistan in 1989 but the Communist government staggered on until 1992, when Kabul fell to warlord Masud, whose son fights on. Najibullah, Communist head of state, was piously tortured to death by the Taliban, whose regime provided a base for Al Qaeda and the destruction of the Twin Towers. The Americans, instead of applying pressure from without, invaded Afghanistan with allies including the British, who should have known better.

Twenty years later, having created a corrupt West-leaning government, the foreigners left. They were surprised when it took a week for the Taliban to enter Kabul. Perhaps now, after so many failures, an Afghan government can give the country peace.



**PICTURES:** **Top facing page:** A horse-drawn tonga, seen from my doss-house, Herat, 1975. **Bottom left, facing page:** Khyber Pass from the Afghanistan frontier towards India by my great grandfather, James A. Ferrier c1880. **Bottom right, facing page:** The tallest of two defaced rock-cut Buddhas at Bamiyan in 1965. Both were destroyed by the Taliban in 2001.

**Top left this page:** 'The fort at Attock is really rather imposing'. My mother, then Mary Ferrier's caption for her 1936 photo. **Top right this page:** One of twenty tiled 15th century minarets, built at Herat by Gawhar Sahad - only five remained in 1975. **Bottom left:** Ilay on top of an Afghan bus from Kandahar to the Spin frontier in 1975. **Above:** A fellow traveller on the bus from Kandahar to Spin in 1975.



# Business



## Redmayne Bentley

### Post-Pandemic Investment Themes

The pandemic has clearly altered our day-to-day lives - in some obvious ways such as the changes in working, shopping and social habits, but in more subtle ways also. These changes will have been felt to varying degrees throughout the globe. As we slowly emerge from the pandemic, there are four areas of investment that the Redmayne Bentley Research Team have suggested may be of increasing significance in the years ahead. These had started to emerge as areas of interest pre-pandemic but are now even more relevant.

**The Future of Food** – there is a general move towards a more sustainable approach to food production alongside the need to feed everyone, so output will need to factor in an increasing population while protecting the environment, biodiversity and the climate, limiting water use and avoiding pollution. It is interesting to note that the raising of livestock accounts for 77% of global farmland usage but just 18% of the calories we consume, and that a third of the food produced is lost or wasted. Clearly, new and improved methods of farming and land use are required.

**Biotechnology** – the rapid production of COVID-19 vaccines has shown the progress that has already been made in this field and the huge potential for future developments using mRNA – messenger RNA. Moderna, for instance, was able to develop its vaccine with the use of mRNA within just two days, compared to the normal five to ten years. mRNA can also be used to produce targeted cancer and heart disease treatments and therapies for genetic disorders.

**Space & Technology** – the global improvements in connectivity, the internet and telecommunications could be a game changer as more of the world's population either gains access to communications for the first time or experiences significantly improved communications. Security services, satellites, space debris management, business software solutions and innovations such as 3D printing are also likely to develop further.

**Pets** – the pandemic has seen an increased number of households owning pets and they are increasingly becoming big business, with spending increasing on food, shampoos, pet wearables to monitor fitness, health and for theft prevention, vaccines, medicines, genetic tests and veterinary diagnostics.

I hope that this provides you with some food for thought for possible areas in which to be invested.

Until next month, take care and stay safe.

*This communication is for information only and does not constitute a recommendation to buy or sell the shares of the investments mentioned.*

**Kate Spurling, Investment Manager, Redmayne Bentley, Tel: 01202 714 450**

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### Landlords

If you are a landlord, it is important that you are aware of expenses you can and cannot claim from your rental income. As a rule, these expenses must be wholly and exclusively for the purposes of renting out the property in question. In some circumstances part expenses can be claimed where a proportion of expenses incurred relate to your property business.

Types of deductible revenue expenditure commonly paid for by a landlord include:

- General maintenance and repairs to the property (but not improvements).
- Water rates, council tax, gas and electricity.
- Insurance costs.
- Letting agent and management fees.
- Qualifying legal and accountancy fees.
- Direct costs such as phone calls, stationery and advertising for new tenants.

The tax relief on mortgage costs for residential landlords has been restricted to the basic rate of tax since April 2020. The Replacement of Domestic Item Relief allows landlords the ability to claim tax relief when they actually replace furniture, furnishings, appliances and kitchenware in a rented property. There are a number of conditions that must be met to claim the relief.

You should also ensure that you keep a record of any capital expenditure which has been incurred on an investment property. These expenses cannot be claimed as revenue expenditure against property income but can usually be offset against any Capital Gains Tax when selling a property.

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# Motoring

## Highways Assess Connectivity

As part of the Government's Road Investment Strategy (RIS2), Highways England will be assessing the current north-south connectivity between the M4 and south coast, with every north-south A road in scope. The study includes looking at road infrastructure such as the A350 through Wiltshire and Dorset as well as the A37 through Somerset and Dorset, the A338 through Wiltshire, Hampshire and Dorset and the A36 through Somerset and Wiltshire.

Transport assessments are also being carried out, led by the western gateway sub national transport body, to review train services from Weymouth to Waterloo and Weymouth to Yeovil, to develop a multi-modal overview of strategic transport. Findings from the RIS2 assessment will be shared with local authorities through the regional transport body when complete. The A350 is already recognised by Dorset Council as a primary strategic route, along with the A37, A354 and A35 between Bere Regis and Poole, all of which the council is responsible for maintaining.

**Medium-term solution** - It has been acknowledged for some time that the north-south routes within Dorset itself are no longer suitable for the volume and types of modern vehicles travelling on them. As part of a medium-term solution to alleviate some of the issues facing communities along the routes, £2.4m from the Government's National Productivity Investment Fund was used in 2018 to implement a route management scheme and carry out structural maintenance and improvements along the A350 and C13.

As part of this, an advisory one-way route was created to help improve the flow of HGVs travelling through the north Dorset area, using the A350 northbound, towards Shaftesbury, and the C13 southbound, towards Blandford. At the time, Dorset County Council assured residents that it would continue to lobby central Government for a long-term strategic route option to strengthen the transport network and support economic growth through the linking of Dorset ports and the M4.

Highways England is due to start its RIS2 assessment in September, which will hopefully be the first step towards a long-term solution for the current north-south connectivity issues.

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# From The Kitchen Garden...



## Apple & Blackberry Slice

By Regula  
Wright,  
Godlingston  
Manor Kitchen  
Garden

October is the month when things are finally calming down a bit and I'm usually glad to be able to slow down by now. Days are shorter and as much as I find it tricky to squeeze everything I want to do into daytime hours, my knees welcome a bit more sitting down.

This year's growing season has had many ups and also quite a few downs. I thought I got away not getting the dreaded blight and the day after I said it, it hit my polytunnels.

Luckily, I already had a good harvest so far, so it was easier to bear the disappointment. My sweet potato trial hasn't concluded at the time of writing and the pumpkins and winter squashes are still hiding under the foliage.

The chards and beetroots have been doing really well as have the brassicas so far. Cucs were and still are amazing, the onions and shallots were ok but nothing compared to last year's. And on it goes like every year, there are winners and losers, but as long as I can grow a good selection of nutritious produce over the season for my customers, I'm happy.

The best compliment I recently received from a customer who grows vegetables as well as tops up with a veg box every now and then from me. She told me, she'd never realised how much time, effort and patience went into growing vegetables until she had a go herself. I thought that was such a lovely thing to say and I was chuffed how appreciative she was.

So now is the time to make a plan for the autumn and winter ahead. Apart from ordering seeds, maintaining tools and re-skinning polytunnels, I need to pay attention to my waterproof footwear, jackets and trousers, as well as making sure I've got warm hats and work gloves all over the place - and no nibbly mouse has been making a home in them.

Generally, I don't mind the wet and cold weather; I'd rather be outside as long as I've got plenty of dry clothes on.

Of course, a hot cup of coffee with a good slab of cake is also important to get the work done.

### Apple and Blackberry slice:

#### Ingredients:

150 g self-raising flour  
150 g semolina  
150 g butter  
75 g sugar

#### Filling:

2 cooking apples (about 600g unprepared weight) peeled, cored and diced

150g (ish) fresh or frozen blackberries

2-3 tbsps sugar, or to taste

½ squeezed lemon

#### Method:

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Grease and line a 30 x 20 x 2cm baking tin with non-stick baking paper.

Put the apples, blackberries and sugar in a saucepan. Cover and simmer gently until soft, about 8-10 minutes. Remove from the heat and set aside to cool down.

Mix the flour and semolina. Melt the butter and sugar in a saucepan then stir the mix into the flour. Place half mixture in bottom of tin and spread blackberry and apple filling over base.

Cover filling with remaining mix, smooth the top and bake at 180 C for 30-35 minutes. Cut into squares and allow to cool in the tin.



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All accompanied with fondant potatoes & winter veg*

*Homemade Christmas Pudding with brandy sauce  
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pudding with a rich Grand Marnier sauce  
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Homemade tropical fruit salad served with  
vanilla bean ice cream  
Belgium chocolate mousse with baileys  
and mascarpone cream  
International cheese board with biscuits, bread  
and homemade chutney  
Coffee and petits four*



# Natural Matters

## It's Never Straightforward

*By John Garner*

It's a complicated world and it's getting more and more complicated, it seems. Very few things have a clear and no consequence outcome. I heard today that Brighton council have banned the use of harmful insecticides completely to control their weeds and this is a most admirable thing to do. There are so many alternatives these days that the use of harmful chemicals to control weeds is very hard to justify. Of course, there has been the inevitable backlash.

Pavements with weeds have been criticised as dangerous and unsightly. The first one I understand totally, the second is perhaps less of an argument. A bit of wild weed growth versus the contamination of the water supply and ground by toxic chemicals. You might have to get used to that and it's a pretty small price to pay.

Purbeck has just returned to some sort of normality in terms of visitor numbers and this presents its own issues and complications. But the local businesses will have had a great summer and one that was no doubt badly needed. At the time of writing, it's unclear as to the effect on public health here, but people need a holiday and we're blessed to live in such an area.

A few mad weeks but again, a fairly small price to pay for something approaching normality. Newquay in Cornwall has had a huge spike in infections due to the Boardmasters festival, but this has to be balanced against the restricted social lives that these young people have had to deal with over the last eighteen months. You can make an argument for more vaccinations, compulsory vaccinations, restrictions in numbers etc. But in reality, we are going to have to live with this virus. It's here to stay, unfortunately, and therefore we have to find practical solutions to these issues.

What we really don't want are decisions made on short term solutions. Banning harmful chemicals to control weeds is a great and hopefully long-term decision, but it will throw up other issues. However, if we consider the climate as by far and away the most important long-term issue affecting us all, then the less toxic issues it throws up have to be more liveable with than the previous alternative.

I have no issues with weeds. Any cursory glance at my garden shows you that and certainly nothing that can't be yanked up and composted given the inclination. But I do seem to have succumbed to the inevitable aging process in one particular way. I have become profoundly annoyed by litter.

A few weeks ago, to great media trumpeting, a list of the top litter offenders was published with the fast food and fizzy drinks companies spearheading the race to the top of a pretty awful list. I've said this before and have to assume I'm in the minority as no-one seems to really agree with me, but doesn't there come a point where personal responsibility takes over from the blame being squarely placed at the door of the companies that produce the packaging for their products?

Please don't misinterpret this as being in any way a defence of the big food companies. God knows they're responsible for a myriad of health-related issues. But if someone buys their product, drives off and eats it a few miles away and then just dumps it on the side of the road, surely the responsibility is elsewhere?

A friend of mine saw a group of people in a car, eating 'food' from a well-known fast-food company and literally one by one just dropping the containers and packaging out of the car window as they finished each piece. He watched and waited and then went up to the car, gathered up all the cartons and boxes and stuffed them back through the window, such was his anger. Now, I should say I can't condone his behaviour here as this was potentially very inflammatory, but I totally understand it.

The occupants of the car were horrified and initially abusive and he has no doubt that when they drove away swearing and gesticulating that they lobbed all the stuff out of the window again. But it does illustrate the point that there has to be some individual responsibility. You can provide all the bins you want to, but the punters have to still put the rubbish in the bin. It's really all about thinking about the long-term effects rather than just a short-term solution.

One of the people interviewed in Brighton said he's disgusted about the weeds. He'd lived there for many years and never seen it so bad. So, suggest some alternatives that aren't about destroying the weeds and everything else.

If this pandemic has taught us anything, it's that we are in it for the long term and need to find long term solutions. Even more so with the environment.

Some things aren't complicated. They just need to be approached with a decent perspective and some clear thinking.



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## New Cattle Grids To Support Purbeck Heath's Grazing Expansion

Work is underway to install seven cattle grids at RSPB Arne as part of an exciting Purbeck Heath's grazing project. The Purbeck Heaths are nationally and internationally important for rare and threatened wildlife and to ensure that these rare and threatened species can thrive, the naturalised grazing system at National Trust's Hartland Moor and Natural England's Stoborough Heath is being expanded to encompass RSPB Arne.

Internal boundary fences will be removed, with the new cattle grids keeping grazing animals contained, along with a new, pig-proof outer boundary fence. Dorset Highways started work installing the seven new cattle grids on Tuesday 31 August, working 7.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday – with the work taking around seven weeks to complete.

The installation work will also involve constructing a 'bypass road' adjacent to each of the new cattle grids, this will be a gated, paved area and ensure access for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility vehicles unable to cross the cattle grid.

Each cattle grid installation will take around two weeks, weather depending. Two gangs will be working on the project – one will be carrying out the 'bypass road' construction and the second team will be digging out and installing the cattle grid.

When the 'bypass road' is finished, gang one will move on to the next location and gang two will complete their works before moving on. This means that, after the initial first week, work will be taking place at two locations at a time.

Jack Wiltshire, Dorset Council Head of Highways, said: "We're proud to be part of this important project, which will protect and maintain this landscape for wildlife to thrive. We're doing what we can to minimise disruption to drivers and visitors to this popular area, but there will inevitably be some delays in journey time. Please look out for our road signs, which will be kept up to date as work progresses and advise drivers of any diversion or road narrowing in the installation areas."

The work will take place in the following order, with varying traffic management depending on the location:

**Cattle Grid D installation, Road closure (24/7) with diversion signed: Arne Road - Soldier's Road - A351.**

**Cattle Grid G installation, Traffic diverted around works at location.**

**Cattle Grid E installation Road narrowing, traffic to give and take.**

**Cattle Grid F installation Road narrowing, traffic to give and take.**

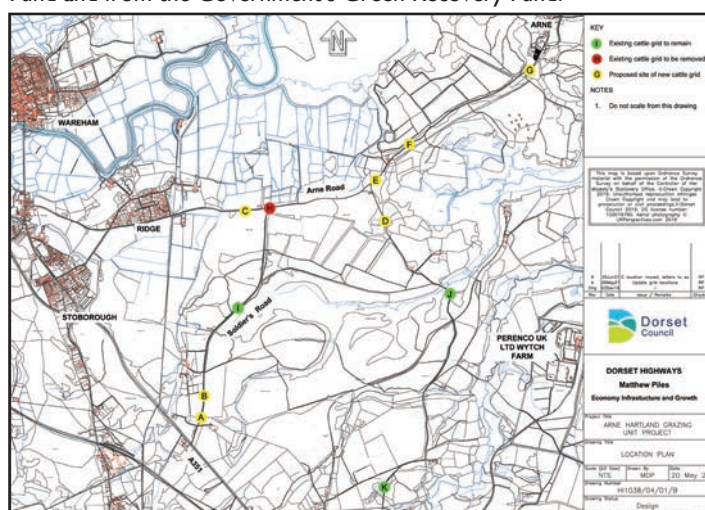
**Cattle Grid C installation Road narrowing, traffic to give and take.**

**Cattle Grid A & B installation Road closure (24/7) with diversion signed: Soldier's Road - Arne Road - New Road - B3075 Corfe Road - A351.**

**Cattle Grid H removal Road narrowing, traffic to give and take.**

The surfacing of the bypass roads will all be completed on the final day of the works and will be carried out using the same traffic management required at each site.

The Purbeck Heath's Grazing Unit project is a partnership of the RSPB, National Trust, Natural England and Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, funded by the Wytch Farm Landscape and Access Enhancement Fund and from the Government's Green Recovery Fund.





# DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



As autumn draws on, masses of Swallows and Martins can be seen gathering and feeding, in preparation for their long migrations, with the first Redwings starting to arrive from further north and large flocks of Skylarks and Pipits passing overhead. If you want to find out more about the miracle of bird migration, Stour Valley Ringing Group will demonstrate their scientific bird studies, which provides information on bird migration and population status on Saturday 2nd October, 8:30-9:30am, weather dependent, beside the Learning Centre.

A month of changeable weather, with the dampness producing a fantastic array of fungi in the woodland, including the weird Ear Fungus, especially seen on old Elder trunks, Wood Blewit with its slight slimy cap and pale purple colouring, plus the deadly (and to be avoided) Death Cap, a greenish tinge giving it away.

October sees the launch of our winter events programme – after a quieter summer, we are back with a bang, with something for everyone this month!

Guided walks include “Durlston Rocks!”, a “Park to Pier Walk” and “Orienteering for Beginners”, while for relaxation why not try ‘Calm on the Cliffs’ - an introduction to Forest Bathing.

Creative Workshops include: “Glass Engraving for Beginners”, “Draw like a Pro” with Mark Page; and “Workshop with Ilona Skladzien”, exploring working with tissue paper, while using

your sense of touch, smell, and hearing. The latter for non-sighted and sighted participants aged 15 and over, linking to what should be an amazing exhibition.

For Purbeck Film Festival we screen: ‘And then We danced’, ‘Aquarela’, ‘I Never Cry’ and ‘Taming the Garden’. All to be in the Fine Foundation Gallery, with tickets booked directly with the Film Festival: [www.purbeckfilm.com](http://www.purbeckfilm.com) with information on 07443 468850.

A new exhibition ‘RiverRun’ will be a great think to do on wetter days. Presented by Cape Farewell, it features the works of artists and scientists who have worked together to explore the River Frome, its wildlife, and effects we are having on it along with solutions. Featuring Drawings, sculpture, photographs, and poetry, with a presentation and discussion on the 2nd October. The contributors cover topics about environmental care and wildlife protection.

As our winter work programme gets underway, now is a great time to join our Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday work parties to do your bit for the environment, while making new friends, getting fit (oh and maybe eating cake!). Visit the volunteer pages on our website for details.

Visit the Durlston website: <https://www.durlston.co.uk/>

Visit the Seventhwave website: <https://7eventhwave.com/>

## Margaret Green Animal Rescue

### Fundraising

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who fundraises and supports us at Margaret Green Animal Rescue. We're always blown away by the fundraising ideas that you come up with and it's a great opportunity to get creative and try something new.

You could complete a sponsored walk, run a cake sale, organise a raffle or even take on a skydive!

We love to hear about what you're up to and will support you in any way that we can. Please see our website for more fundraising ideas and information: [www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk](http://www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk)

Remember to keep us updated with your fundraising plans by contacting: [comms@mgar.org.uk](mailto:comms@mgar.org.uk)

### Hop to the Shops!

Our Charity Shops offer great value items and there is always a bargain to be found! We have six shops in Swanage, Ferndown, Wimborne, Winton, Weymouth and Kinson.

Make sure you pop by and have a browse at the fantastic selection of stock available. All purchases go towards helping the animals in our care.

Our shops are looking for volunteers! Whether it's helping on the shop floor, serving customers or preparing stock, there is lots to get involved with and you can choose how many hours you would like to volunteer.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact the shops directly.

Contact details are available on our website: [www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk](http://www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk)







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# Gazette Gardening

## *Gardening to combat climate change*

### *with Simon Goldsack*



In view of the damning UN report on climate change released at the beginning of August, I think it is finally sinking in that the time for action is now. In these next few articles, I hope to provide a few tips how you can use your garden to help combat climate change and the degradation of bio-diversity.

#### **Lawn to Meadow**

Open areas within the garden such as lawns and patios are critical for good garden design. They provide space for seating, areas for family play, and they also allow you to get a bit of distance between the observer and the planting so a scheme can be fully appreciated.

Over many decades gardeners have aspired to have a lush green, weed free grass carpet for a lawn and in some situations, this may still be appropriate, but do you really need to have all the open areas in your garden that are put down to grass needed to within an inch of its life and offering nothing in terms of biodiversity?

If not, then by allowing your lawn or parts of it, to turn into meadow you will provide increasing numbers of flowers and cover for both you and insects to enjoy and more insects such as moths, butterflies, grasshoppers, crickets and beetles will encourage even more animals to visit you such as hedgehogs, bats, and birds. From a landscape and garden design perspective using meadows in a garden opens-up lots of potential to create interesting effects.

Here the controlled short cut grass and the longer flower rich meadow



instantly define the path and this juxtaposition between control and natural forms is a very useful tool in the modern natural garden. The addition of topiary in the second picture exemplifies this. Again control (topiary) and natural (meadow and trees).

You can grow all sorts of things in a meadow, and it doesn't have to be all native, although there are many wonderful native plants. Any flower suited to the soil conditions and aspect and that can cope with some competition can be tried.

#### **Five simple steps to turn lawn to meadow.**

- Stop applying weedkiller
- Stop applying fertiliser
- Reduce the nutrient by continuing to cut and remove the grass clippings in the first season
- Second season – stop mowing but at the end of the season cut down and remove all the clippings
- Introduce plug plants or scarify and over sow with flower seed

Much more information on establishing flower meadows can be easily found here: <https://www.wildflower.co.uk/advice/>

<https://www.bostonseeds.com/advice/wildflowers-seed/>



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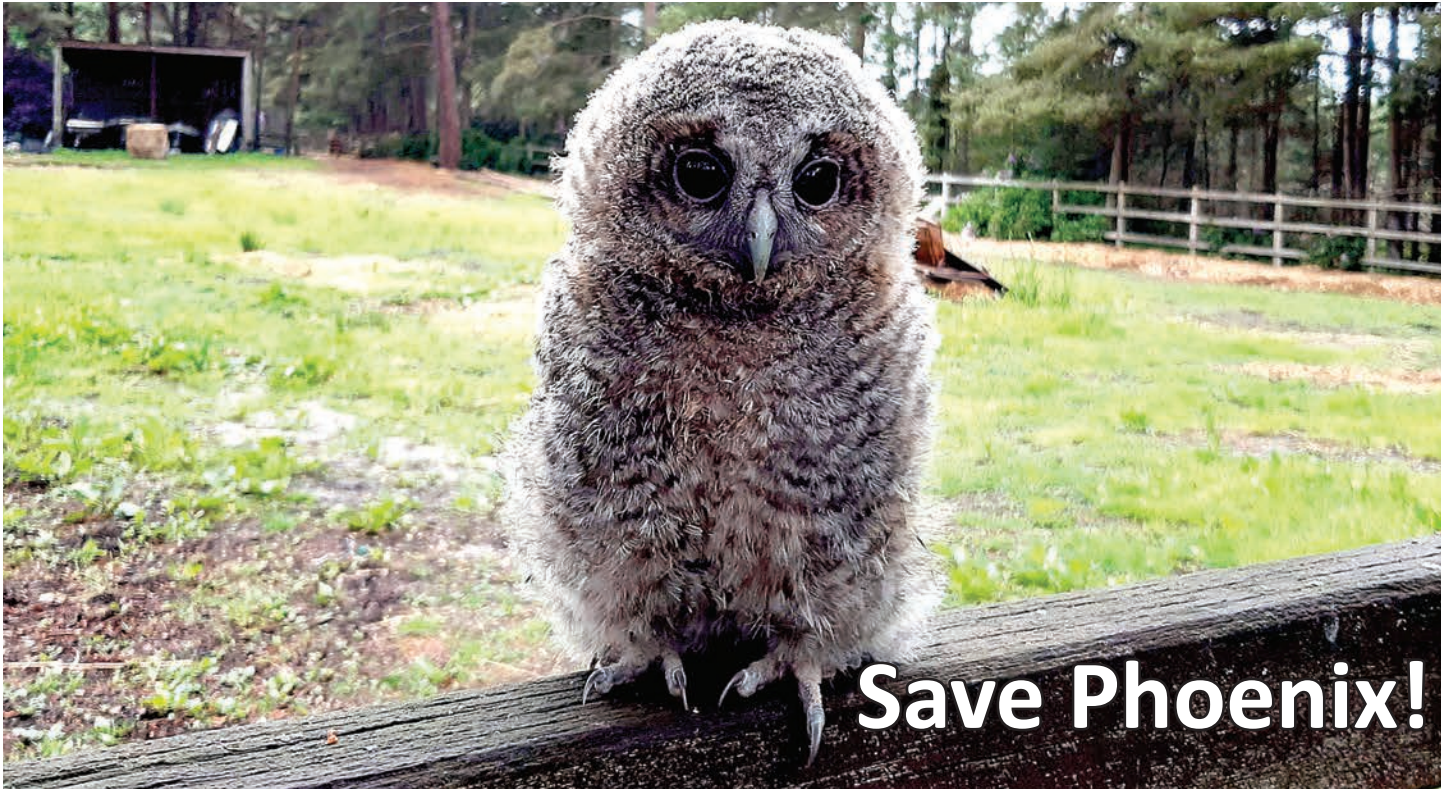
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**D**ear Gazette Readers,  
We moved to Wareham Forest four years ago and since being here, we have experienced a number of wildfires. By far the worst was in May 2020 when the fire came within 200 metres of our home and threatened us daily for three weeks.

During that time, we encountered various wildlife which came to our door to evade the choking smoke and flames. One night we were woken by our home being filled with smoke, so I ventured out to find the fire brigade who were parked along the road, but even with the most powerful torch, it was almost impossible to see through the smoke.

Eventually, I discovered a Landrover and crew to ask what was happening. They were a little surprised to see a man walking in the midst of a forest fire and even more surprised to hear that we lived there. The fire brigade then started monitoring carbon monoxide levels outside our home on an hourly basis as they were dangerously high.

We had become aware of the presence of owls in the wood next to our home as we were getting no sleep at that time but thought little of it until that smoky night and the events that followed. A couple of days later, we found a baby owl hiding in the raspberries.

She was in very poor condition, starving and weak. Her eyes and breathing had been clearly affected by the smoke. We also found at the bottom of the trees close by, dead owl chicks who had left their nests looking for food, after the parents had not returned in the smoke. We fed her and took care of her until she regained her strength and we called her Phoenix. It wasn't long before she was trying tentative flights around the garden.

We have considerable experience in animal behaviour and have brought up and released a variety of wild creatures. We were able to maintain her wildness to avoid her becoming domesticated and reliant on humans, although she became quite fond of us and still is to this day.

Month by month she grew and demonstrated her instinctive abilities to hunt and take care of herself until the day we realised it was time to release her back into the wild. What an emotional day that was and how happy we are that she chose to remain so close by.

Around our home, the Forestry Commission have a small mixed woodland of Scots Pine, Oak, Silver Birch and Willow which is where Phoenix now lives and was where she was born. When we step outside, she often calls to us but remains aloof in the safety of her trees.

The Forestry Commission plans to destroy this woodland area and reduce it to a bog - and they are about to start work. There are many other species that occupy this wood such as bats, adders and rare birds, and the colony of owls is back.

There are many other considerations which affect our home such as flooding as a result of the deforestation, but most important to us is that after all that Phoenix has survived, it would be wholly unjust to destroy her home.

We have informed the Forestry Commission of the presence of nesting owls in that woodland but still they plan to decimate the wood.

Poor Phoenix needs rescuing again, not from the inferno this time, from people! We now call to all residents who believe that animals have the right to live in their environment, without human interference, to join us in trying to protect Phoenix, her family and the other wild animals who call this small stretch of land 'home'.

Please write, lobby on-line and let the Forestry Commission know your thoughts on this wanton destruction. Help us to save Phoenix, her habitat and the animals she shares the land with. Having survived a terrible wildfire caused by negligent human activity, Phoenix deserves to be safe in her habitat from further negative human interaction.

Please support us in any way possible - we are the voice for those animals who are unable to vocalise their own needs and wishes.

The link to the forestry commission plans is below:

<https://www.forestryengland.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Purbeck%20Forest%20Plan%20Wareham%20and%20Gore%20Heath.pdf>

The plot of land in question is labelled 'c SP/BI/OK 56/56/10' on the above link (see page 6) and is coloured light pink. Page 5 details the extent of the proposed clearance area (Phoenix's home). You will see that there is already an extensive area of bog adjacent to this piece of woodland habitat.

Connect with us to help save Phoenix by email at: [savephoenix@yahoo.com](mailto:savephoenix@yahoo.com) Follow the campaign and see detail of Phoenix's life to-date on Twitter: @phoenixsave1 - please retweet and help us to save Phoenix!

**Clive** (pictured, below, with Phoenix) **and Carolynne France, Wareham**





# Arts & Entertainment

## The Welcome Return Of Purbeck Film Festival



Picture, above: Maiden – showing on 24 October at Durlston Castle

A slate of films to “bring joy and hope”: The Purbeck Film Festival opens again this month. From 22nd October to 6th November, the film charity will present an exciting and ambitious autumn programme that has been handpicked by the film festival committee. 65 screenings will take place in Purbeck and beyond in 22 venues during the October half term week and into early November.

For the first time in twenty years, The Mowlem will be a new screening partner, with the Water Tower in Swanage and Morden Village Hall hosting screenings for the first time. Andrea Etherington, Festival Chair said: “We’ve endeavoured to collate a stunning collection of films that bring joy and hope, whilst addressing the fundamental issues of the day. We hope these films will transport our audiences from their cinema seats to other worlds and enable them to see life through different eyes.”

Filmgoers will find a huge variety of events including must see film screenings accompanied by introductions and talks with very special guests; the Purbeck Shorts international short film competition with a panel of industry judges (submission closes at the end of this month); delicious meal and film evenings; matinees and classic Morning Movies with refreshments; and a live theatre performance on stage with cast and crew Q & A. The choice is vast and all in just over a single week.

Andrea added: “There are numerous themes running through this year’s festival from space films (Proxima, Indian Space Dream), honouring elders (The Father, Minari), amazing animations (Wolfwalkers, Minuscule) through to festival darlings (On the Waterfront starring Marlon Brando and A Street Car Named Desire). We have sourced films from seventeen different countries to show right here in Purbeck – films that would not now normally make it to the big screen.”

The film industry, like some other sectors, has been severely affected by the pandemic, with cinemas reporting their lowest ever admissions and even blockbusters being postponed from release schedules. Organisers



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of the Purbeck Film festival have made it clear that 2021 will be a vital year financially as it has not been eligible for the sizeable grants awarded to independent cinemas but is hugely optimistic that with valued support from the public they will be able to see the festival through challenging times and into 2022 when they will celebrate their 25th anniversary.

The Purbeck Film Festival is a not-for-profit registered charity and with the exception of a manager, is run entirely by a dedicated team of volunteers.

**For more information and to book tickets, visit the festival's new website [www.purbeckfilm.com](http://www.purbeckfilm.com)**

## ‘O Be Joyful’ As Choirs Return!

Many choirs and choral societies have been unable to sing together since March 2020 but now restrictions are lifting Wareham Choral Society is planning a return to music making in September 2021. Their Monday evening rehearsals at Lady St Mary’s Church will include the standard Christmas fare including carols and excerpts from Handel’s “Messiah” but also an exciting newly-commissioned work.

The “Dorset Jubilate” has been written for the Choral Society by composer Philip Singleton, and as well as the familiar words of the Jubilate, it incorporates settings of poems by local poet Thomas Hardy – “The Darkling Thrush”, and “The Oxen” which adds a Christmas feel to the piece due to be first performed on 4th December 2021 in a concert with Briantspuddle Singers.

Composer Philip Singleton says: “It is my sincere hope that the “Dorset Jubilate” should contain something to appeal to all... and what better to set than poems by Thomas Hardy? The Jubilate invites Christians to be joyful and to praise God, while Hardy’s poem “The Oxen” takes the form of a pastoral carol-like setting, and in “The Darkling Thrush” a lone wanderer on the point of despair finds solace in the song of an unseen

thrush – suggested here by solo trumpet. “The Dorset Jubilate” is scored for Choir, Soprano and Baritone Soloists, and trumpet, all supported by an important and exciting organ part. Philip has worked in close collaboration with Wareham Choral Society’s Musical Director, Hazel Ricketts, and John Challenger, organist of Salisbury Cathedral.

Hazel Ricketts comments that: “The results of this collaboration are obvious both in choral writing which is crafted to be approachable and singable for amateur singers and a dramatic organ part which compliments and supports the choir. However, the real joy is in the piece as a whole, and the way in which all elements fit together to make a new and exciting, yet still moving, choral work reflecting our mixed feelings at this strange time.”

Wareham Choral Society meets on Monday evenings at 7.30pm in Lady St Mary’s Church, Wareham, and Briantspuddle singers on Tuesdays at 7.30pm at Briantspuddle VH. Both choirs would welcome new members in all voice parts. For more information, please contact: 01929 552272 (Wareham Choral) or 01305 262575 (Briantspuddle).

**For further information on Philip Singleton, please visit: <https://composerphil.wixsite.com/home>**





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 Company' \* The Fabulous Duck Brothers \* The Geoff Garbow Band  
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\* Festival Finale with Hugh Budden & The Blue Chords and  
 Guests \* Closing Jam with Marky Dawson, Robert Hokum and a  
 multitude of musos who played at Bay View over the weekend

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## The Welcome Return Of Swanage's Blues & Roots!

Words by Steve Darrington

**H**ooray! Following a break of nineteen months due to you-know-what, the 34th Swanage Blues Festival is here from 30 September to 3 October 2021 – and it won't be a day too soon for many of us.

There may not be as many venues or as many visitors as usual but there is an amazing line up of talent as always. Many fans come here for a 'mix and match' weekend to suit their tastes in food, drink, accommodation and of course the wide variety of blues-based music on offer.

A special mention for the hosts of our festival, to whom we are most grateful: the White Horse welcomes the Milk Men and The Mustangs; the Grand Hotel hosts acoustic and electric shows under the guidance of ace harmonica man Hugh Budden; the Red Lion encourages beginners and seasoned performers to their open mic sessions and evening shows, while the White Swan has a wide range of entertaining acts.

Tawny's offer two evenings of great food and duos, the Old Stables brings back international Celtic and Blues star, Will Killeen, for a dazzling display of guitar and harmonica skills plus authentic blues wailing; the Black Swan provides Stompin' Dave's multi-instrumental talents somewhere to, well, stomp! and The Globe hosts local musician Geoff and his renowned Jams (sweet music not confiture).

For those interested in seeing more of the area, take a trip to the Greyhound at Corfe Castle, the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club or Herston Camping for more great live music.

Swanage Bay View's weekend has been put together by Robert Hokum and features his choice of acts from the Ealing Blues Festival, plus a Saturday night show with five rising stars who have come together especially for us as The Blues Roots Soul Collective.

Overall, there are many performers who command entrance fees of at least £10 for just one performance elsewhere. Our Support Wristbands are essential to keep the blues festivals going and are still only £10 from venues and retail outlets.

In order to keep information totally up to date, we're dispensing with printed festival programmes this time but there is relevant information and a schedule for free download from the website at: [www.swanage-blues.org](http://www.swanage-blues.org)

## M.U.S.I.C. For Charity At The Bandstand

**I** am pleased to report a very good result for charity from our first two events in August, under the new brand 'M.U.S.I.C.' This is an acronym for: 'Music Unlimited for Swanage Independent Charities'.

The first two events raised £806.00 for the Friends of Swanage Hospital and another sum for the 'Save Our Ambulance Car' campaign.

The next two concerts will be at the Swanage Bandstand\*\* on Saturday and Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> October, starting around noon and finishing late afternoon.

The music will be a mix of styles: rock 'n' roll, easy listening, jazz and swing, with several bands and individual performers during the day.

**\*\* Note: if wet weather, the events will be in a town centre venue – see posters for details.**

Further "M.U.S.I.C." dates will be announced shortly – during the winter months they will be held in the town centre (venue to be confirmed). Everyone will be welcome to turn up and enjoy the music – all the musicians will be local and are giving their time and skill for both the love of the music and to raise funds for charity.

All money raised will go to charity – the main charity for these concerts will be: The Friends of Swanage Hospital.

See our advert, on the right.

Andrew Cannon



Picture, above: Swanage Blues Festival, by DubbelXposure

# M.U.S.I.C.

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**SWANAGE BANDSTAND**

**2nd/3rd October**

**12-5pm**

**Or if wet: a local venue –  
look out for posters...**

**ALL WELCOME! COME ALONG, LISTEN, ENJOY!**



# Quite Possibly The Best Folk Festival In The World?

## *The joyful return of Purbeck Valley Folk Festival*

Words by Nico Johnson

**W**ith Covid restrictions lifted due to the impressive vaccination programme, the Purbeck Valley Folk Festival team forged ahead with the 2021 festival, as so many had hoped they would. Many international musicians were unable to attend, making this more of a UK-centred festival, with musical acts from all over the country travelling for what was for many of them, the first festival they'd played in months.

I've absolutely loved this festival since it's original conception, in a small barn in South Purbeck, many years ago now. Thanks to the sheer dedication of Catherine Burke and her father, Paul, this is a festival which has grown to suit its loyal audience and in honesty, it's developed into something truly remarkable and worthy of national accolades galore.

The Harmans Cross farm site is remarkably set out, with plenty of space to sit and soak up the atmosphere, activities aplenty and absolutely remarkable music hailing from all variations of 'folk' music. I'm personally not one for packed crowds, but in the atmosphere of this ultra-friendly festival, I am happiest in the throng of the Big Barn or the Long Barn, twirling and jumping to gloriously delightful music, surrounded by smiling and joyful faces of all description and age.

I struggle to describe just how joyous this year's festival was - remembering the sheer delight of sharing foot-stomping, dance-inducing music with a plethora of people hailing from around the country was something I hadn't realised I'd missed quite so much. Everywhere one looked, smiling faces grinned back - a mass of happy, overjoyed humans, from child to pensioner, delightfully enjoying everything the site offered. It certainly was an experience - and one which I am absolutely delighted to have partaken in.

Rather than naming the most impressive list of musicians, I've a message for every single one of them - you played absolutely blindingly. It was almost as if the world had paused due to some frightening pandemic and we all desperately needed reminding of the joyful nature of gathering together to watch amazing musicians sharing their talent with us or something.....!! Every single act I was treated to was mind-blowingly fantastic. Every musician played and sang in celebration of being able to gather together once more.

It was one of the happiest, friendliest, most superb weekends I've experienced for a long, long time - words almost fail to describe the uplifting nature of the whole weekend and the delight and happiness it gave to so many festival goers. To the organising team and all of the wonderful volunteers - you are just splendid. On behalf of all attendees this year - a HUGE thank you for sticking with it and bringing us one of the best festivals of the decade! What a feather in Purbeck's cap indeed.

Tickets for 2022 are on sale now - see: [www.purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk)



All pictures by kind permission of Phoebe Reeks



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# Health & Beauty

## Matron's Round Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column



**O**n Sunday 29th August, Maggie Hardy, Chair of the Friends of Wareham Hospital and a previous Matron at Swanage and Wareham Hospitals, was host of the Swanage Churches Together 'Thank you event' to the NHS and vaccination teams.

The event was held in beautiful sunshine and with fantastic support from the Phoenix Rock and Roll Band, Karen Grant, Swanage Town Crier, Andrew Fleming and Magician Kevin Burke and not forgetting the planning team. It was a very special afternoon at the recently refurbished Swanage Band Stand recognising the work of all in the NHS particularly over the last year.

Maggie Hardy said: "A highlight was having the support of past colleagues from Swanage Hospital; Mary Buck, pictured in blue, celebrates fifty years of NHS service and she is still nursing as a member of the Vaccination team!"

Mary Buck started her career as a nurse at The Bristol Royal Infirmary; she transferred to Swanage Hospital in February 1990.

At Swanage Hospital Mary has worked as Anaesthetic Sister in the

Day Surgery Unit, on the Stanley Purser Ward, in the Outpatient Unit, and worked Bank shifts in the Minor Injury Unit for many years.

In addition, Mary has achieved a long career in the St John Ambulance Brigade and has undertaken first aid duties at various events. Mary is a first aid instructor/examiner with St John Ambulance.

Mary and Maggie were accompanied by Sue Whitton (pictured in pink cardigan), who was Senior Sister in the Minor Injury Unit for many years plus is currently volunteering at the Wareham Vaccination clinic and Gillian Clarke (pictured sitting) who was a former Matron at Swanage Hospital.

Well done Maggie, congratulations Mary and thank you girls for all your volunteering!

**Until next time, Matron Annette Sanchez**



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by

Nichola Morgan

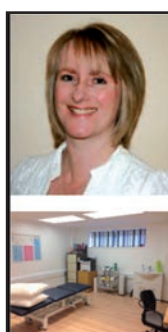
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## Dorset Care Record Celebrates New Milestones



**P**atient safety is being increasingly enhanced across Dorset thanks to the growth of the county's shared health and care record.

More than 40,000 patient records within the Dorset Care Record were viewed during August, enabling professionals to have the most up to date health and social care information.

More than 3,000 health and social care professionals have now completed the mandatory information sharing and security training, ensuring that the records are used correctly and stored safely.

All the partners, which include Dorset's acute hospitals – University Hospitals Dorset and Dorset County Hospital – two local authorities (Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council and Dorset Council), community and mental health provider Dorset HealthCare and Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, representing GPs, are providing a range of patient data to the DCR.

Elizabeth Williams, consultant gastroenterologist at University Hospitals Dorset, was the 3,000th professional to complete the training. She sees a range of patients from across the county and believes the Dorset Care Record will help her know more information about the patients she is treating. "I hope to be able to find more information on my patients and use it effectively," she said.

Andy Cowling, DCR Head of Service, said the DCR was not only growing but providing better, more convenient patient care through digital innovation.

Mr Cowling said the introduction of a new system for primary care information for Dorset, introduced earlier this year, had opened up information and data held within GP practice IT systems for use across health and social care.

"The service makes GP medication information available to all appropriate clinicians when and where they need it to support direct patient care, leading to improvements in both care and outcomes."

Three years after accepting its first demographic information, the DCR will soon pilot its patient health record myDCR. This will enable people in Dorset to view their record, record and monitor health goals and actions, share data with health and social care professionals and receive clinic letters from hospitals about discharge information and appointments.



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# Blast From The Past!

## This month, A Decade Ago...

Our October 2011 edition began with an Editor's note reminding readers to prepare for winter, having experienced a super-cold winter the year before, with local temperatures sinking as low as -10 degrees celsius. Readers were reminded to get boilers checked, buy-in scarves and hats and get the fuel for the woodburners chopped in readiness! Still good advice today, although it has been a while since we've experienced very cold winters now.

The recession which had hung over the country in 2011 was deepening as we approached the winter of 2011. Several local shops had closed due to higher footfall in the summer months, accompanied by much lower spending. Many other outlets were seriously struggling to stay afloat, so we encouraged our readers to support local businesses as livelihoods really did depend on local support.

Today, as I write in 2021, we are in much the same position, albeit for differing reasons. The economy is seriously struggling after over a year of Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. As we head into winter once more, ten years on, our message remains the same - support local businesses or lose them. Once lost, many of them may not be replaced, so remember that if you spend locally, that money stays within the local economy. Purchase everything from large national retailers and your money leaves the Purbeckian economy altogether, making us all poorer and less viable as a community in the long run.

In our October 2011 edition, the debate over the proposed Eneco wind farm off the Jurassic coastline raged on. Residents complained about the visual impact which would be wrought as a result of the proposed plans in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Light pollution was also a consideration, with the turbines needing a 360-degree 'anchor light' - on each of the 150-240 turbines suggested. Reader, Don Butler, asked if it would be permissible to situate a wind farm on the Great Barrier Reef and suggested that the proposals to erect a wind farm here would be a risk to our World Heritage site status.

Reader, Sue Godfrey, mooted the point that if Dorset didn't want wind power in its backyard, then someone else would have to have it in theirs. Sue suggested that if residents did not want the wind farm, they should instead 'campaign fiercely to reduce energy consumption' or agree to have a nuclear power station on the coastline instead. We do continue to bear in mind that for many of us growing up in Purbeck, we did so alongside the nuclear power station at Winfrith....

Our October 2011 letters pages also featured another highly emotive topic and one which remains as emotive and relevant today - that of the plight of refugees wishing to relocate to the UK. At the Gazette we have always maintained a non-biased standpoint and have tried to give voice to many different members of our community, each with their own opinion. In October 2011, we had many responses to a letter written by Tony King, who had previously written in to blame Britain's woes on immigrants. Several incensed readers responded, detailing the reasons why they strongly disagreed with Tony's point of view. Andrew Fleming pointed out that factually, the then decline was the fault of the bankers and the resulting financial crash.

Andrew also wrote that: 'People come to work in Swanage from all over the world to fill vacancies that the local population cannot or will not fill.' I wonder if Andrew had any inkling as to how pertinent his words would be, ten years on, after the Brexit decision and the vacating of so many EU staff? Pubs, shops, cafes and restaurants locally are struggling to maintain opening hours and services today as a result of a staggering shortage of staff. Several local pubs are simply not able to open as usual as I write. Andrew also wrote to ask Tony what he would advocate with regards to Andrew's wife - who came to Swanage from Russia, via Germany.....

Finally for letters, a Mrs Trellis of North Walls in Wareham penned a letter with regards to the P.I.S.S. club of Wareham (Purbeck Independent Simpletons' Society) holding their sand judging meeting with the S.H.I.T. association of Stoke-on-Trent, as covered in the September 2011 edition of the Purbeck Gazette:

"Dear Nico, I very much enjoyed your piece in the September issue on the meeting of P.I.S.S. (Purbeck Independent Simpletons Society) that you attended. I understand that the gentlemen of the society, plus Hugh Elmes, have been invited to attend a special joint meeting of the Wareham Independent Nude Dancers (W.I.N.D.) next month. This will take place in Westport House. It will replace the scheduled Council Meeting, and will be known as 'An evening of all P.I.S.S. and W.I.N.D.', although it is doubtful that anyone will notice the change. Yours, Mrs Trellis, North Walls"

The Wareham-Hemsbach town twinning group celebrated their 25th



anniversary, publishing a report on their 2011 celebratory visit to Hemsbach (pictured, above). Thirty-six members travelled and stayed with twinning members in Hemsbach, enjoying a warm welcome at the Town Hall. The anniversary buffet saw 130 members gather together to enjoy speeches, presentations, a scrumptious feast and some lively Irish music, followed by a nostalgic slide show of the twinning history.

Swanage Conservative Club announced their celebration of one hundred years in their current premises on 5th October 2011 and published some historical information pertaining to the building and the early days of the club opening on the current site. Congratulations on your upcoming one-hundred-and-ten-year anniversary!

Campaigners fighting for a new 'Swanage Free School' met with the Department for Education and reported that their proposals for a new secondary school in Swanage had been shortlisted for approval by the DfE, meaning that the school had moved one step closer to opening in September 2013, as planned. A staggering 281 applications had been received by the DfE, so the shortlisting was an amazing achievement for the campaigners fighting for secondary education to remain in Swanage.



# 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 NOV is noon, 8th October

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.

## OCTOBER 2021

# WEEKLY EVENTS

Please call prior to attending events listed to ensure they are still on!

### EVERY MONDAY

- 09.00 U3A Table Tennis Group meet at Harmans Cross VH.
- 09.30 Under 2.5 years old group. Till 11am. at Parish Hall, Wm.
- 09.45 Toddler Club URC, Sw. Till 11.15
- 10.00 Table Tennis Club Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093
- 10.30 Flowers with Liz at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com
- 13.00 Play and Learn at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Till 2.45pm
- 13.00 Under 1s and Tums at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 3pm
- 14.00 Pins and Needles at Harmans Cross VH.
- 14.00 Swanage Digital Champions. Support people in the community to use the internet and gain basic online skills. Booking essential on 01929 423485.
- 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 All Saints Church Hall, Ulwell, Sw. Transport available. Call Mrs Daphne Saville on 01929 425241 ffi.
- 16.00 Colour Me Happy. Adult colouring session at Swanage Library. Drop in.
- 16.45 Soccer Skills Sw FC First Sch chldn £1 Till 5.45. 425175
- 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 Village Quire rehearse at Wm URC Church. New/visiting singers (no audition necessary). String & wind players also welcome. Ffi: 288045 or 480737.
- 19.30 Wareham Art Club Workshop at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
- 19.30 Wm Folk Dance Club Stoboro' VH. All welcome. 552763/551029
- 19.30 Swanage Air Cadets meet at Air Training Corps HQ, Court Road, Sw. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 20.00 DARTS at the RBL Club, Sw.
- 20.00 Herston Hall Management C'ttee Bingo

### EVERY TUESDAY

- 09.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
- 09.30 Isle of Purbeck Arts Club. Painting and sketching. At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Till 1pm. Outdoors in summer. Ffi: Gina on 421689.
- 09.30 Well Baby Clinic at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 11.30am.
- 09.30 Kiddies Corner Mother & Toddler Group (term time only) No fee - donations welcome. Purbeck Gateway Church. 551415
- 09.30 Wareham Art Club Workshop at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
- 10.00 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 103 High St. 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. Until 12 noon.
- 10.30 Adult Line Dance Class. FREE taster session at D'Urberville Centre, Wool. Till 11.30am with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadiebelius@gogglemail.com
- 10.30 Employment Hub at Swanage Library. Until 12.30pm. Book via Skills and Learning on 01202 262300.
- 10.30 Swanage Walking for Health Group starter walks (15-30mins). Start from the Mowlem Shelter on Swanage Seaford. 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.
- 11.30 New Adult Latin American & Ballroom Dance Class for beginners. FREE

taster session at D'Urberville Centre, Wool. Till 12.30pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadiebelius@gogglemail.com

- 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 Swanage Town Walk. Local historian takes walks lasting 90 minutes. Meet outside the Museum in the 'Square'. No charge but voluntary contributions welcome.
- 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: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 19.00 New Adult Line Dance Class. FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 8pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadiebelius@gogglemail.com
- 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.
- 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 Belvedere Singers rehearsal at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Victoria Avenue, Sw. BH19 1AZ. Parking on-site. Till 9.30pm. All singers welcome! 425074.
- 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
- 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.
- 10.30 Books and More - at Swanage Library. Reading & discussion group.
- 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](http://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 A Place Of Welcome at 103 High St. 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. Until 12 noon.
- 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. Till 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 [warehamcroquetclub@hotmail.com](mailto:warehamcroquetclub@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](http://www.purbeckworkshop.org) 07757 776907. Email: [richris95@gmail.com](mailto:richris95@gmail.com)
- 11.00 Sensory Play for 1-4yrs old at Bovington Centre, until 12 noon.
- 11.30 New Adult Line Dance Class. FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 12.30pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: [donnadibelius@gogglemail.com](mailto:donnadibelius@gogglemail.com)
- 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)
- 13.00 New Adult Latin American & Ballroom Dance Class for beginners. FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 2pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: [donnadibelius@gogglemail.com](mailto:donnadibelius@gogglemail.com)
- 14.00 Swanage Town Walk. Local historian takes walks lasting 90 minutes. Meet outside the Museum in the 'Square'. No charge but voluntary contributions welcome.
- 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](mailto: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](mailto: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
- 10.30 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 Informal Lesbian Social Group meets each Friday for fun, laughter and to make new friends. Ffi, contact Karen by email at: [outinpurbeck@gmail.com](mailto:outinpurbeck@gmail.com)
- 19.30 Short tennis for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till 9.30pm. £3.
- 20.00 Sw Youth Centre Live Bands (as advertised) Till 10pm.
- 22.00 Sw Youth Centre Late Session (Yr 9+) till 11.59pm (members free)
- EVERY SATURDAY**
- 08.00 Purbeck Runners meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 4/5 mile run.
- 09.00 Sw CC U11 - U15 Practice till 10.30
- 09.30 Sw CC U9 & U10 Practice & Kwik Cricket till 10.30
- 10.00 Tea, coffee and home-made cakes in the Parish Hall on Wareham Quay during the Community Market. Til 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.
- 11.00 Lego and Megablok Mayhem at Swanage Library, until 12 noon.
- 20.00 Herston OAP Committee Bingo at Herston Hall, Sw
- EVERY SUNDAY**
- 09.00 Purbeck Runners meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 8+ mile run.
- 10.00 Arts and Crafts Market at the Mowlem in Swanage. A wide range of local art for sale, including pottery, glass, cards, fabric and much more! To book your table, or for more information, call Tony on 01929 421321.
- 10.00 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!
- 19.00 Alcoholics Anonymous Wareham. Until 8.15pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Call 07855 536039 or email: [warehamsunday@gmail.com](mailto:warehamsunday@gmail.com) for details of meeting location and so on.

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